





KILLER'S HEAD THE UNSEEN HAND

Written by Sam Shepard

Directed by Darrell Larson

STARRING

The Unseen Hand

Matt Curtin, Jordan Morgan, Andrew Morrison, Chris Payne Gilbert, Carl Weintraub

Killer's Head

Magnus Jackson Diehl, Chris Payne Gilbert, Steve Howey, Jeff Kober, Darrell Larson, Jonathan Medina, Jordan Morgan, Dermot Mulroney

Scenic Designer Song Yi Park COSTUME & PROP DESIGNER
Denise Blasor

LIGHTING DESIGNER Bosco Flanagan

Sound Designers
Mitch Greenhill
Bo Powell

Stage Manager Jacob Price

Original Music by Mitch Greenhill Assistant Director Ashlee Bell Caress Produced by Ron Sossi and Bo Powell

KILLER'S HEAD and THE UNSEEN HAND runs from January 25 through to March 8, 2020 Play running time is approximately one hour and forty-five minutes.

Killer's Head and The Unseen Hand are performed without an intermission.



The Odyssey is supported in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs, and Los Angeles County Arts Commission

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.





CAST

(In order of appearance.) The Unseen Hand

BLUE	Carl Weintraub
WILLIE	Matt Curtin
CISCO	Jordan Morgan
KID	Andrew Morrison
SYCAMORE	Chris Payne Gilbert

CAST

The Killer's Head

Steve Howey (Jan. 25-26), Chris Payne Gilbert (Jan. 31-Feb. 2),

Dermot Mulroney (Feb 7-9, Feb. 14-16), Magnus Jackson Diehl (Feb. 20-23),

Jeff Kober (Feb. 28-March 1), Darrell Larson (Feb. 5),

Jordan Moraan (March 4), Jonathan Medina (March 6-8)

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 1969 I was a nineteen-year old film and theater student at UCLA. A woman, to whom I'm extremely grateful, handed me a play by Sam Shepard, and my head exploded. After reassembling most of the pieces I was determined to do this guy's plays for the rest of my life and here I am, having done just that. Around this same time, Sam himself was writing the play you are about to see, and a passel of other wildly imaginative, preternaturally accomplished, verbally dextrous and deeply mysterious plays. The Unseen Hand is a blend of genres—westerns, science fiction, teen romance, social satire—what we'd call these days a 'mash-up.' I have taken a run at this play before—sometime in the last century—and we, audiences and actors, had a lot of fun. It was an hallucinatory romp, but now, in our troubled times, the prescience and seriousness of the play is impossible to miss. This is a play about masculinity gone deeply wrong, what we'd call "toxic" today—making 'robbing, raping and killing' amusing entertainment, not to mention heroic, attacking any young boy who doesn't fit the standards of maleness set by the culture—and, clearly, this deadly habit is poisoning our culture, bringing us to the brink of what Willie, the Space Freak, calls 'mass suicide.' Can we avert it? Can we get past this infantile version of what it means to be human? Can we save our world? This play is a ceremony designed to heal us, to take a small step toward finally growing up, so as to get past this trap we've laid for ourselves. Yeah, I know, it's a tall order, and kinda pretentious of me to make these grandiose claims, but it's a step—and still a lot of fun. As for Killer's Head, it seems pretty clear how this elegiac, tragic and very beautiful stage-poem is a fitting opening to the evening. The more I've heard it over the years, the more I think it is one of Sam's greatest works. Hope you agree...

-Darrell Larson, January 21, 2020

WHO'S WHO IN THE UNSEEN HAND



MATT CURTIN

Willie

A recent graduate of the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television, Matt is so incredibly stoked to make his Odyssey debut in *The Unseen Hand!* His recent work includes productions of *The Mineola Twins* (Kenny) directed by Judy Moreland and *The Sparkling City of Omar Mazen* (Omar) by Jack Feldstein at the Blank Theatre. In addition to acting, Matt is also an active screenwriter and playwright, whose short film *Be Home*

Soon made it to the semi-finals of the Create The Writers' Room's Write in Color Challenge. Matt's original musical theatre company, Dually Noted Theatre Co. is in its fifth year and still going strong. Enjoy the show! And Marilyn, if you're watching, this one's for you!



JORDAN MORGAN

Cisco/Mazon

Jordan is an actor from Trumann, Arkansas and a graduate of the University of Arkansas: J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences with a BFA in theatre. This is Jordan's first show at the Odyssey Theatre and his first play in Los Angeles. Previous credits include *Macbeth* (Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre), *Blood Brothers* (Lifetime Movie Network) and *The Shop* (Veteran Entertainment Television). He'd like to thank his family and

friends for their continued support and the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble for this opportunity. Follow his artistic endeavors @ jordanmitchellmorgan.



ANDREW MORRISON

Kid

Andrew Morrison is a multi-talented actor, singer and dancer. He stars as *Diamond* in the feature film *Creatures of Necessity* directed by Christian Khazadi and due for a release in early 2020 by the Gestalt Effect. Andrew performed throughout Chicago with the Steppenwolf Theatre Ensemble, Second City and iO, before planting roots in L.A. He currently dances ballet with the Colburn Conservatory and performs improvised comedy at The Pack Theatre. During his first year in L.A., Andrew performed in two musicals set in 1800's London, including *The*

London Rose, the first musical written about and performed by a transgender character, earning 2019 Producers' Encore Award at Hollywood Fringe. Andrew's diverse casting is found throughout his breadth of credits, from roles on prime time television, including *Shameless* and *Empire*, to stage performances from Shakespeare to Arthur Miller. Andrew is enjoying his journey toward Broadway starting with the remarkable artists of the Odyssey Theatre.



CHRIS PAYNE GILBERT

Sycamore/Mazon

Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde (Minetta Lane), Walking off the Roof (Signature - dir. Darrell Larson), Kilt (Directors Co), Through Fred (Playwrights Horizons), to whom it may concern (GAle GAtes), Freesailing (WTF), All My Sons (Geffen Playhouse), Beggars in the House of Plenty (Theatre-Theater-dir. Larry Moss), The Pavilion (Malibu Playhouse). Chris' television credits include Lucifer, Chance, Suits, 10 Items

or Less, Dexter, and Sex and the City, and he can be seen upcoming in season 6 of Bosch. His film credits include Broken Hearts Club and Refuge, written and directed by the late Mark Medoff. Chris is a founding member of the Obie Award-winning experimental theatre company Mad Dog. He would like to express his honor and gratitude to Mr. Shepard and Mr. Larson, and dedicate this performance to his wonderful family, IA, King, Eli, Franklin and TT. I love you guys.



CARL WEINTRAUB

Blue

Carl is happy to be back at the Odyssey after a thirty-eight year hiatus, during which he performed on such stages as the Mark Taper Forum, LATC, The Cast, The Freemont Center Theatre, The Hudson, TheatreWorks in Palo Alto, plus numerous television, and a few movies. Carl studied with the venerable Lou Palter and began his acting career at San Diego's The Old Globe Theatre in 1973. He is the founder and artistic

director of We Tell Stories theatre for young audiences, and is the only artist (as opposed to educator) to have received the BRAVO Award, presented by the L.A. Music Center, honoring Outstanding Arts Education. As a traveling storyteller, Carl was the first to perform on the stages of the Skirball Museum and The Getty Center. He currently produces BackStory, a bi-monthly storytelling event at the Victory Theatre in Burbank.

WHO'S WHO IN KILLER'S HEAD



MAGNUS JACKSON DIEHL

Mazon

Magnus was born and raised in Ojai, California. He went to State University of New York Purchase and graduated with a BFA in filmmaking. He went on to study acting after college at the William Esper Studio in NY. He now resides in Burbank where he is pursuing an acting and filmmaking career. And yes, Magnus is his real name-his great grandfather's name and not a stage name.



STEVE HOWEY

Mazon

Steve currently stars on Showtime's award-winning series, *Shameless*, as Kevin "Kev" Ball, the owner of a local bar and the friend and neighbor of hopeless alcoholic and troublemaker Frank Gallagher, played by Emmy and Golden Globe-nominated actor, William H. Macy. His numerous television credits include a recurring role on *Seal Team*, *Dead to Me*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Jennifer Falls*, *New Girl*, and *Psych and Reba*, which

was the first series regular role of his career. Howey's film credits include Netflix's *Game Over* and *Man!* (alongside Adam Devine, Anders Holm and Blake Anderson for producers Scott Rudin, Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg), *Stuber* opposite Kumail Nanjiani, Warner Bros' *Something Borrowed* with Kate Hudson and John Krasinski, and 20th Century Fox's *Bride Wars* with Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway.



JEFF KOBER

Mazon

Theatre credits include Rules of Seconds at LATC, The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance at The Rubicon, Where the Great Ones Run at Rogue Machine, Flags at the Odyssey, J for J with John Ritter and Jenny Sullivan at multiple theatres, as well as many others. TV includes recent recurring roles on Truth Be Told, Sneaky Pete, NCIS: Los Angeles, Shameless, The Walking Dead, Sons of Anarchy and The New Girl and many others. His new series Big Dogs will be released shortly. Film work includes Leave No Trace, Sully, Beauty Mark (Best Actor,

LA Film Festival), Tank Girl and the upcoming Topology of Sirens, Block Island, directed by Tony Glazer, and Lie Exposed, which he also wrote and for which he did the wet collodion portrait photography. Jeff teaches Vedic Meditation from his center in Studio City as well as in New York, Seattle, Chicago, Montana, Mexico City, Chihuahua, and in India.



JONATHAN MEDINA

Mazor

Jonathan was last seen onstage as Hamlet/Claudius/Horatio/Ghost in 6th Act's HAMLET at New American Theatre. Theater: Zenobio in Mexican Day (Rogue Machine); Alejo in The Conduct of Life (Hero Theatre); Film / TV: Tommy Ortiz on The Purge: Season 2, The Laundromat, WestWorld, The Brave, NCIS: NOLA, Colony,

Shameless, Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders.



DERMOT MULRONEY

Mazor

Dermot was twenty-four when he first worked with Sam Shepard in Richard Ford's *Bright Angel* (Billings, Montana 1988). Sam was fourty-four. Next, Sam cast Dermot alongside River Phoenix, Richard Ford and Alan Bates in *Silent Tongue* (Roswell, NM 1992), the second of the two films Sam directed. In his only professional stage appearance to date, Dermot played Mazon in *Killer's Head* in the original Signature

Theater production directed by Darrell Larson (New York, 1997). Dermot worked with Sam two more times: Baltasar Kormakur's *Inhale* (Sante Fe, NM 2008) and Tracy Letts' *August:Osage County* (Pawhuska, OK 2013). Dermot can currently be seen in *The Righteous Gemstone* (HBO) and *Messiah* (NetFlix), and has starred in scores of other films and television shows over his 35-year career. This 2020 Odyssey Theater production of *Killer's Head* marks Dermot's Los Angeles theatre debut. For now.

SAM SHEPARD (1943 - 2017)

Playwright

Sam Shepard's first New York plays, Cowboys and The Rock Garden, were produced by Theatre Genesis in 1964. For several seasons, he worked with Off-Off-Broadway theatre groups including La MaMa and Caffe Cino. Eleven of his plays won Obie Awards, including Chicago, The Tooth of the Crime and Curse of the Starving Class. Other award-winning plays include Fool for Love, True West, A Lie of the Mind and Buried Child, for which he won a Pulitzer Prize in 1979. In 1986 Shepard was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters and received the Gold Medal for Drama from the Academy in 1992. He was inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame two years later. As a writer and director, he filmed Far North and Silent Tongue. As an actor, he appeared in numerous films, including The Right Stuff, Days of Heaven and Resurrection. His final works of prose, The One Inside and Spy of the First Person, were published in 2017, the year of his death.

DARRELL LARSON

Director/Mazon

DARRELL LARSON has directed and/or acted in many plays of Sam Shepard including in LA: Cowboy Mouth, Mad Dog Blues, The Unseen Hand, Action; in NYC: Action, The Sad Lament of Pecos Bill, Killer's Head and Curse of the Starving Class (all at Signature Theater) and Simpatico. He also directed two plays of Denis Johnson's: Psychos Never Dream at Campo Santo in San Francisco and Shoppers Carried by Escalators into the Flames in NYC. As an actor he created the role of Coyote in Murray Mednick's Coyote Cycle at Padua Playwrights' Festival; Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors at the Vineyard Playhouse (also directing); and a one-man show, The Confessions of Doc Holiday, in LA and NYC (also adapted). Film credits include Mike's Murder, Twice in a Lifetime, Stepmom, Frances, Rachel Getting Married, The Manchurian Candidate and literally hundreds of television shows going back decades: Law and Order; Law and Order:SVU, Gunsmoke, Bonanza, Heartbeat (series regular) and so on. Since returning to LA in 2013 he has appeared in Paternus at Rogue Machine Theatre, The Hilary Game for Padua Playwrights' (written and directed by Guy Zimmerman); Shades of Disclosure, (with QueerWise at the Skylight); Ben and Llana, (Circle X); The Gary Plays (by Murray Medick, Padua/Open Fist), Clearwater, (written and directed by Guy Zimmerman, Padua/Bootleg), and Strindberg's Dance of Death (directed by Ron Sossi, Odyssey).

SONG YI PARK

Set Designer

Song Yi has experience in theatrical, scenic and production design in theatre and film, with an extensive background in architecture, interior, and display design. Her scenic designs include Jacqueline Wright's *Driving Wilde* (2019) at Theater of Note in Hollywood, *Through the Leaves* (2018) and *The Seagull* (2017) at CalArts. Song Yi was an assistant scenic designer on CNP production Fore! (2017) and an assistant art director for K-Pop music video, Sistar's *Shake It* (2015), and commercials in Korea. She earned a Master's in design and production from California Institute of the Arts in 2019 and an Undergraduate Degree in industrial design, specifically space design from Hongik University, Seoul, South Korea.

DENISE BLASOR

Costume Designer

Denise is a Puerto Rican director, actress, artist & designer. She was artistic director of the multi-cultural theatre alliance LADiversified Theater Company where she served as executive producer, director, designer, adapter and performer. She was a founding member of Latin Actors and a Few Others, KOAN and ELAC Theater, and is now associate artistic director of Bilingual Foundation of the Arts. Plays designed include Fefu and her Friends, Lysistrata Unbound, MACBETHX5, Cristo Vive, A Taste of Honey, Tempest Redux, Jacques Brel, Life Is A Dream, Pedro Infante y La Viuda Triunfante, The Greeks, La Posada Magica, Ivona, Princess Of Burgundia, Faust, Wild in Wichita, The Good Woman Of Setzuan, Cumbia De Mi Corazon, The Wide Wide Sea and No Exit. She's appeared extensively on stage as an actress, recently in The Abuelas at the Antaeus Theatre Company and The Madres at Skylight Theatre and Victory Theatre in Chicago. She plays Doña Rosa in Snowfall and is currently directing the passion play Cristo Vive with original music by Laurent Eyquem at the historic Orpheum Theatre downtown Los Angeles.

BOSCO FLANAGAN

Lighting Designer

Bosco has designed lights for theatre on four continents, winning awards from Edinburgh (Best of Fest) to New York (Fringe Festival award) and Los Angeles (LA Weekly awards). He currently designs in L.A., and his work continues to take him all over the world. Recent work includes Much Ado About Nothing, Romeo and Juliet and Snow Geese for ISC in Griffith Park, Violence, Johnny Got His Gun, The Happiness Project, Harlequino, 1984 and A Midsummer Night's Dream and The New Colossus (World Tours) for the The Actors Gang. Naked, Tempest Redux for the Odyssey Theatre (2017 Stage Raw Award for Light Design), and Mine Eyes Have Seen and Bog Of Cats for Theatre Banshee. MacBeth In Rhythm for Shakespeare Center and Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy and SOS for Wallis Annenberg, Lysistrata Unbound for the Odyssey Theatre and Titus Andronicus, Julius Caesar, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Twelfth Night for ISC in the Park. 1984 at The Actors Gang.

MITCH GREENHILL

Sound Design and Original Music

Broadway: An Almost Holy Picture at the Roundabout Theatre, starring Kevin Bacon and directed by Michael Mayer. Regional: Mark Taper Forum, Arena Stage, South Coast Rep, La Jolla Playhouse, Huntington Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, Trini-

ty Rep, San Jose Rep, Alley Theatre and Pasadena Playhouse. Six albums as recording artist and about a dozen as producer, including a Grammy-winner for Doc Watson. Film: Walter Hill's *The Long Riders* and Todd Haynes' *Safe*. Featured performer at festivals and venues from Vancouver BC to Newport RI to Wilkesboro NC to Cambridge UK. President of FLi Artists/Folklore Productions, a three-generation family business devoted to traditional and vernacular music. Mitch is thrilled to reunite with Darrell Larson, who got him into this business with another Sam Shepard play, back in the late Pleistocene Epoch.

BO POWELL

Sound Design and Associate Producer

Bo is a theatre director and producer based in Los Angeles. He has been working at the Odyssey since last year and has very much enjoyed his time here. He has been assistant director and sound designer for the past two shows that Bart Delorenzo has directed at the Odyssey, Hir by Taylor Mac and Loot by Joe Orton. Most recently he was assistant director for In Circles and he will be the assistant director for A Day In The Death of Joe Egg opening in May. Outside of the Odyssey Bo is currently producing and designing the Los Angeles premier of PUFFS or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic by Matt Cox at The MAIN in Santa Clarita, opening January 10th. During the day he is a casting director for Rich King Casting, currently working on season one of Perry Mason for HBO. Check out all of his work, including producing, stage managing, lighting and casting at bojamespowell.com

ASHLEE BELL CARESS

Assistant Director

Ashlee is an award-winning actor/singer, published poet, director and photographer. She moved with her family from New York City to los Angeles two years ago to continue her journey in the arts. As an artist, Ashlee focuses on raising mental health awareness and humanizing homeless people, who have often been misrepresented. She is currently working as an actor in L.A, and you can catch her on an upcoming animated show to be released on Netflix in 2020. She is also writing and producing her first short film, inspired by the legendary tale of John Henry. Ashlee is so grateful to be a part of the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble family and is so proud of the incredible *The Unseen Hand* and *Killer's Head* cast and crew.

Ashleebellcaress.com

JACOB PRICE

Stage Manager

Jacob is an Arkansas native and a recent graduate from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith, where he studied theatre with a concentration in stage management. He has earned a stage management award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for his work on *The Night of the Iguana* in 2017. This is Jacob's third project working at the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble; his first show was the L.A. Times Critic's Choice *Fefu and Her Friends*. He wants to thank all of the special people in his life who have supported him.

RON SOSSI

Artistic Director/Producer

Ron received the LA Weekly Career Achievement Award in 2013. He has also received the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Margaret Harford Award for "demonstrating a continual willingness to experiment provocatively in the process of theatre" and the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Ron Link Award for "consistent quality of direction." Recent OTE directing projects include Faith Healer, The Dance of Death, Beckett⁵, My Sister, Oedipus Machina, Theatre in the Dark (LA Weekly nomination Best Production of the Year), Way to Heaven (LA Weekly and LADCC nomination for Best Production of the Year), Adding Machine: A Musical, The Arsonists (LA Weekly nomination for Best Direction) Sliding Into Hades (Best Production of the Year, LA Weekly), Kafka Thing!, Far Away and The Threepenny Opera. Ron has led the Odyssey throughout its 50-year history.

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Scenic Artist	Chris Bell
Master Electrician	Danny Felix
Light & Set Crew	Robert Fox
Prop Crew	Robert Fox

Publicist		Lucy Pollak
hotography		Enci
Graphic Design	er	Fred Baxter
		Eric Ekman
romotional Vid		Meghan O'Brien
	Saxophone m	usic recorded by Paul Fleisher
,	Very special thanks to Stuart & Lillie	Scudder for their generous support of this project.
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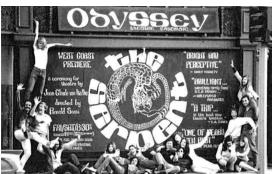
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Support the **ODYSSEY THEATRE ENSEMBLE** Today!

Hooray! Here we are, together again, beginning another half-century... the Odyssey's 51st season! Though a good part of 2020 will be dedicated to completing our unique "Circa '69!" retrospective (Faith Healer, Loot, Fefu and Her Friends, In Circles, Shepard's The Unseen Hand, The Serpent and A Day In The Death of Joe Egg), these 60s/70s chestnuts will be joined by an all African-American version of Inge's Picnic, a new Caryl Churchill play and a few surprises not yet announced.

Noteworthy is the fact that the Odyssey and theater in general still forge ahead, in spite of the lure of the many types of media now available. In essence nothing yet matches the charm and power of live artists, present and performing their thoughts, emotions and actions right in front of you in an intimate 99-seat space. As a line from The Serpent says

"Suddenly...
This moment,
Here, now
I am here,
And you.
In this place, now
We are together."

UP NEXT

LA VIE EN ROSE

An evening of French Chansons from Edith Piaf to Michel Legrand, Léo Ferre, Jacques Brel and more.

Staring Julia Migenes

Directed by Peter Medak March 12 - April 11, 2020

2020 DANCE FESTIVAL

L.A. Companies include:
String Theory
L.A. Contemporary Dance Company
JA Collective & Slauson Rec
Rebecca Lemme & Acts of Matter
Victoria Marks
January 4 - February 9

THE UNSEEN HAND

Written by Sam Shepard
Shepard's science fiction-Western-pop culture
melodrama/fantasy is a haunting protest against the
dehumanizing tendencies of modern societies and a
powerful affirmation of the human spirit.

January 25 - March 8

THE SERPENT

Imaginative, perceptive and entertaining, *The Serpent* is a celebration of life as seen through the Book of Genesis.

Written by Jean-Claude van Itallie

Directed by Ron Sossi

March 7 - May 3

A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG

One of the groundbreaking plays of the Sixties, "Joe Egg" is an incisive, wonderfully theatrical examination of the private language of a marriage, and the ways that it enriches and destroys.

Written by Peter Nichols

Directed by Robin Larsen

May 2 - June 28

PICNIC

William Inge's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Picnic* opens at the Odyssey in a striking new production helmed by award-winning director John Farmanesh-Bocca.

May 30 - July 26, 2020

ESCAPED ALONE

Written by Obie Award-winning playwright
Caryl Churchill
This magnificent new play unleashes an intricate,
elliptical, acutely female view of the apocalypse.
Opens in Fall of 2020

FABULATION or the Re-Education of Undine

A delightful, sharp and very funny play about social and racial identity.

Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage.

Opens in 2020

For information on how you can become an Odyssey member and supporter, or to renew your support to the theatre please call our box office at 310-477-2055 ext. 2 or go online at odysseytheatre.com

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