

L.A.  
THEATRE  
WORKS

LATW

SUSAN A. LOEWENBERG, PRODUCING DIRECTOR

PROGRAM  
2023 SEASON



what you are now  
by sam chance

directed by anna lyse erikson

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# CAST

(in alphabetical order)

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Carie Kawa .....        | Pia      |
| Tess Lina .....         | Chantrea |
| Joe Ngo .....           | Darany   |
| Samantha Quan .....     | Siobhan  |
| Mark Jude Sullivan..... | Evan     |
| Greg Watanabe .....     | Narrator |

## Directed by Anna Lyse Erikson

The original song “*What You Are Now*” is by Him Sophy, founder of the Him Sophy School of Music in Pnomh Penh.

Special thanks to Professor Craig Woodson and Dr. Terry Miller for their recording of “*The Sorrowful King*” from “*Roots of Rhythm.net.*”



*What You Are Now* is part of L.A. Theatre Works’ *Relativity Series* of science-themed plays. Lead funding for the *Relativity Series* is provided by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, bridging science and the arts in the modern world.



### Additional season funding provided by:

City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs  
Los Angeles County Department of Arts & Culture  
National Endowment for the Arts  
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation



*What You Are Now* was prepared for audio by Mark Holden for The Invisible Studios, West Hollywood.

## Bios



**CARIE KAWA** (*Pia*) is a Los Angeles-based actress known for her recurring role in the Peacock series *Joe vs Carole*, starring Kate McKinnon and John Cameron Mitchell. Her anchoring lead performance in the supernatural cult-horror film *While Mortals Sleep* attracted attention when it premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. She's also known for bringing her unique point of view to popular dramas like *Little Fires Everywhere* and Ryan Murphy's *Ratched*, as well as comedic roles in the Jim Carrey-led series *Kidding*, and *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*. Praised by *The New Yorker Magazine* as "beguiling" and by *Backstage* as "electrifying," Carie's theater chops earned her an MFA from The Academy for Classical Acting in Washington, D.C. and two national tours with The Acting Company, a Tony Award Honoree. Local theater appearances include *King Charles III* at Pasadena Playhouse and the world premiere of *Ladies* at Boston Court Theater.



**TESS LINA** (*Chantrea*) is excited to be a part of telling this story, *What You Are Now*. She previously worked with LATW on the national tour of *SEVEN*. She has been fortunate to work on both sides of the Mississippi, as well as across the pond. In SoCal, her credits include the Mark Taper Forum, La Jolla Playhouse, and Laguna Playhouse. She has also performed regionally at the Guthrie Theatre, San Jose Rep, Indiana Rep, and notably at the Denver Center and the British tour of *Tantalus*, a co-production with the Royal Shakespeare Company, directed by Sir Peter Hall and written by John Barton. Tess has served as Associate Artistic Director of Shakespeare Orange County, where she was both producer and artist, appearing in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, and *Antony and Cleopatra*, and also was assistant director of *Henry IV Part 1*. Film and TV credits include: *How to Get Away with Murder*, *S.W.A.T*, *Revenge*, *House*,

*CSI, CSI: Miami, NCIS, and Danika* with Marisa Tomei. She is a graduate of Juilliard and a proud mother of two young boys.



**JOE NGO** (*Darany*) is an Obie Award winning Actor, Writer, and Musician who most notably originated, and developed the role of 'Chum' in Lauren Yee's *Cambodian Rock Band* (Directed by Chay Yew, Music by Dengue Fever) with productions at South Coast Repertory Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and Off-Broadway at the Signature Theatre in NYC. Regional: *White Snake* (Center Stage/

Baltimore), *King of the Yees* (ACT/Seattle, Center Stage/Baltimore), *Vietgone* (Studio Theatre, DC). TV: *Crashing* (HBO). V/O: *Funan* (gKids) As a writer; his work is primarily geared towards solo performance/devised theatre and include: *Words, Words...* (Leviathan Labs, BarnArts/BarnFest NYC). Education: MFA (UW Seattle) [Joe-Ngo.com](http://Joe-Ngo.com)



**SAMANTHA QUAN** (*Siobhan*) Theatre credits include: *Poor Yella Rednecks* (South Coast Rep); *Vietgone* (South Coast Rep, MTC); workshops of *To Red Tendons*, *Peerless*, *Hannah and the Dread Gazebo*, *Red Flamboyant*, *American Hwangap* (Ojai Playwrights Conference); *Monument: Or Four Sisters (A Sloth Play)* (Boston Court New Works Festival), *B.F.E.* (Just Add Water Festival); *Masha No Home* (Ensemble Studio

Theatre); *An Infinite Ache* (The Globe Theaters). Television Credits include: *Home Before Dark*, *Elementary*, *NCIS*, *The Mentalist*, *Blue*, *Suburgatory*, *Castle*. Film credits include: *4 Wedding Planners*, *Sake Bomb*, and *Good Grief*.



**MARK JUDE SULLIVAN** (*Evan*) is excited to return to L.A. Theatre Works, where he has performed in *Spill*, *Act One*, *Amadeus*, *The Whipping Man*, *The Liar*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Recent L.A. theatre credits include: *Tilda Swinton Answers an Ad on Craigslist* (Celebration Theatre - LA/ Laurie Beechman Theatre - NY/ Edinburgh Fringe Festival), *Good Grief* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Casa Valentina* (Pasadena Playhouse), *Immediate*

*Family* (Mark Taper Forum), *A Mere Conception*, *Private Eyes*, *Lobby Hero*, and *Betrayal* (InHouse Theatre), and *Mary's Wedding* (Malibu Playhouse). Broadway: *To Be or Not To Be* (Manhattan Theatre Club). NY: *The Dining Room* (Keen Company - Drama Desk Award), *Surface to Air* (Symphony Space). Regional: *The Whipping Man* and *The Sisters Rosensweig* (Old Globe Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Actors Theatre of Louisville), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Shakespeare Theatre Company), *Measure for Measure* and *Melissa Arctic* (Folger Shakespeare Theatre), *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Studio Theatre), *Big Death*, *Little Death* and *After Ashley* (Woolly Mammoth Theatre), and *The Master and Margarita* and *Family Stories* (Rorschach Theatre). Film: *Bear With Us*. TV: ABC's *Scandal*, ABC's *For the People*, CBS's *Why Women Kill*, Lifetime's *Sinfulidelity*, YouTube Red's *Sing It!*, ABC's *Pan Am*, and CBS's *As The World Turns*.



**GREG WATANABE** (*Narrator*) recently made his Broadway debut in *Allegiance* and was recently seen in *Cambodian Rock Band* at Victory Gardens, The City Theatre Pittsburgh, and Merrimack Repertory Theatre. Other appearances include world premiere productions of *The Ballad Of Yachiyo* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Public Theater-New York), *The Summer Moon* (A Contemporary

Theater, South Coast Repertory Theatre), *The Happy Ones* (South Coast Rep, L.A. Drama Critics Circle nomination for Best Featured Performance) and *Extraordinary Chambers* (The Geffen Playhouse, Ovation nomination for Best Featured Actor). Other appearances include *Golden Child* (Signature Theater), *Yellow Face* (Mo'olelo

Performing Arts Company, San Diego Theater Critics Circle nomination for Outstanding Lead Performance in a Play).



**ANNA LYSE ERIKSON** (*Director/Senior Producer*) is Producer at L.A. Theatre Works, having served as senior producer, casting director, and literary manager for over 100 L.A. Theatre Works live recordings, in-studio recordings, and tours. Producing highlights: *A Walk in the Woods* (Earphones Award 2019, Audiofile Magazine's Best Audio Books 2019), *Disgraced* (Audie Award Nominee 2018), and the critically acclaimed

2014-15 National Tour of *In the Heat of the Night*. Directing credits include: Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (L.A. Theatre Works), Circle Mirror Transformation (The Workroom), *A Night with Tennessee Williams* (University of Colorado-Boulder), *Rose* (University of Missouri-Columbia). She was previously a founder and Artistic Director of VAGABOND, Director of Development for the Morgan-Wixson Theatre, Director of Outreach and Development for Independent Actors Theatre, and a casting director and producing consultant for various commercial, film, theatre, and audio drama projects. Anna Lyse received a B.A. in Theatre Performance from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and an M.A. in Theatre History, Theory, and Criticism from the University of Colorado-Boulder, both with highest honors.



**SAM CHANSE** (*Author*) plays include *What you are now* (Ensemble Studio Theatre/Sloan and The Civilians, LATW), *Disturbance Specialist* (National Asian American Theatre Company/The Public Theater's *Out of Time*), *Trigger* (Lark Venturous Fellowship), *Fruiting Bodies* (Ma-Yi Theater), and *Monument, or Four Sisters (A Sloth Play)* (Magic Theatre). A past fellow at MacDowell and Sundance Theatre Institute, her work

has also recently been developed with Ars Nova (*P.S.*), 24 Hour Plays, En Garde Arts, and Playwrights' Realm, and is published by Kaya Press (*Lydia's Funeral Video*) and TCG (*The Kilroys List*). Other residencies and commissions include La Jolla Playhouse,

Workshop Theatre, New York Stage And Film, SPACE, Djerassi, and SF Arts Commission. In television, she's a member of WGA and currently writes on ABC's *The Good Doctor*; as an educator, she's taught at various schools and organizations, including Columbia University, New York University, Performing Arts Workshop, and University of Rochester. A native New Yorker, she lived in San Francisco for several years, when she served as artistic director of Kearny Street Workshop and co-director of Locus Arts, and developed work as a writer and performer at Bindlestiff Studio and other artistic homes. She's a proud resident playwright of New Dramatists and member of the Ma-Yi Writers Lab.

**SUSAN ALBERT LOEWENBERG** (*Producing Director*) is founder and Producing Director of L.A. Theatre Works, a non-profit media arts and theatre organization. Ms. Loewenberg has produced award-winning radio dramas, plays, and films in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and London. Under her supervision, LATW has created the largest library of plays on audio in the world, garnering numerous awards from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Writers Guild, The American Library Association, Publishers' Weekly, and others. Ms. Loewenberg also serves as host and is the Executive Producer of LATW's nationally distributed syndicated radio series, "L.A. Theatre Works," broadcast on NPR stations nationwide. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, she has served on innumerable boards and panels, including the National Endowment for the Arts, California Arts Council, The Fund for Independence in Journalism in Washington D.C., and was co-chair of the League of Producers and Theatres of Greater Los Angeles. From 1996-2002, Ms. Loewenberg served during the Clinton administration on the Board of Directors for Federal Prison Industries, a presidential appointment, and served for several years as a member of the regional panel of the President's Commission on White House Fellows. She is a former member of the Board of Directors of The Center for Public Integrity having served 20 years, and a Fellow of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities at USC. Ms. Loewenberg is the author of a number of articles that have appeared in American Theatre Magazine, The Los Angeles Times, and various professional journals.

**RONN LIPKIN** (*Senior Radio Producer*) After graduating from Haverford College with a BA in Music History, Ronn worked as a staff announcer and production director for WYSP-FM in Philadelphia, helping to create the legendary rock station's distinctive sound. He later moved to KLSX-FM in Los Angeles and worked as a staff announcer, recording engineer and producer, creating award-winning radio commercials for national and regional clients. For L.A. Theatre Works, he serves as music supervisor for live productions, lead podcast and radio producer, and curator for the company's audio library. He is also an editor and creative consultant for a number of leading audiobook publishers.

**MARK HOLDEN** (*Studio Owner*) has over two decades of experience producing, recording and mixing various creative projects in studios, on sets, and on live stages. He has designed, recorded and mixed over 250 plays, live shows and national tours for L.A. Theatre Works, the BBC and dozens of production houses, arts organizations and podcast companies. As a composer and producer, Mark understands that communication and comfort are essential to a creative space, which is why he created The Invisible Studios in West Hollywood, CA. This commercial production and post-production environment is home base for the many projects overseen by Mark and his team. Using his adapting, consulting and project management experience, he helps both new and established dramas take flight in the audio drama renaissance. Most recently Mark directed and produced *Dust: Horizons* for *Gunpowder & Sky*. He has composed for radio, film, and television such as scoring the award-winning feature film *Out in the Dark*. Additionally, he has written, produced, and engineered for several genres of music and worked with some of the biggest names in commercial and creative voice talent. Mark currently serves as board chair of Rogue Artists Ensemble: [rogueartists.org](http://rogueartists.org). Learn more about Mark and his team at: [theinvisiblestudios.com](http://theinvisiblestudios.com).



**JEFF GARDNER** (*Foley Artist*) has performed live sound effects with LATW over the last ten seasons. Highlights include: *Amadeus*, *American Buffalo*, *As You Like It*, *Under Milk Wood*, *August: Osage County*, *The Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat* as well as touring nationally with *Judgment at Nuremberg*. Jeff is an actor/sound designer born and raised in Los Angeles. Sound design credits: include *Blues For An Alabama Sky* (Mark Taper Forum), *Native Son*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Picnic* (Antaeus Theatre Company); *Punkplay*, *Trevor* (Circle X Theatre); *American Saga: Gunshot Medley*, *Les Blancs*, *Honky* (Rogue Machine); *The Wolves*, *The Cake*, *Dry Land* (Echo Theater), as well as *Seven Guitars*, *A Raisin In The Sun*, *The Madwoman of Chaillot* (A Noise Within). Acting credits include: *The Liar*, *Macbeth*, *King Lear* (Antaeus Theatre Company); *Little Women* (Kennedy Center, National Tour); *Henry V* with Harry Hamlin (The Shakespeare Theatre); *Our Town* with Calista Flockhart, and *The Seagull* with Gwyneth Paltrow and Christopher Walken (Williamstown Theatre Festival). Jeff has also toured with his award-winning solo show, *Kill Your Television* for the Seattle Fringe and Hollywood Fringe Festivals.

### SPECIAL THANKS

**CHARLES CARROLL** (*Recording Engineer, Editor, and Mixer*) for The Invisible Studios, West Hollywood

**DAVID WILSON & CHARLES CARROLL** (*Sound Design*)

**TITO H. SALAZAR** (*The Invisible Studios Coordinator*) Certified Covid-19 Compliance Officer.

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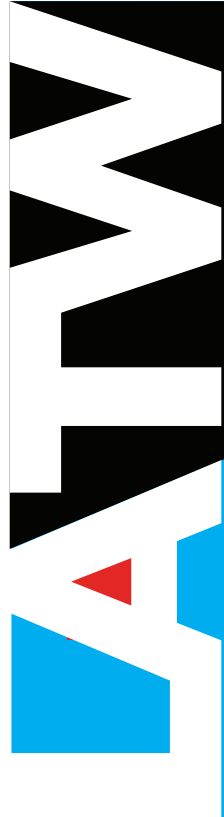
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