



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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"Ingeniously constructed . . . a novel blend of twisty whodunnit, family mystery, immigrant tale, and memory play" —*The New Yorker*

**AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER ANNOUNCES
FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF
OBIE AWARD–WINNING BAY AREA PLAYWRIGHT CHRISTOPHER CHEN'S
*THE HEADLANDS***

This striking, thought-provoking 21st-century noir explores the hidden power of stories untold and the flawed narratives we tell ourselves.

A.C.T.'S Toni Rembe Theater
*** February 9–March 5, 2023 ***

SAN FRANCISCO (December 15, 2022)—Today, **American Conservatory Theater** (A.C.T.) announced the full cast and creative team for the West Coast premiere of Obie Award-winning Bay Area playwright Christopher Chen's ***The Headlands***. Directed by Tony Award winner and A.C.T. Artistic Director **Pam MacKinnon**, this striking, thought-provoking 21st-century noir explores the hidden power of stories untold and the flawed narratives we tell ourselves. *The Headlands* will perform at A.C.T.'s Toni Rembe Theater (formerly the Geary Theater – 415 Geary St., San Francisco) **February 9–March 5, 2023**. Press night for *The Headlands* will be held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023. Tickets (\$25–\$110) and are available at the A.C.T. Box Office at 415-749-2228 or online at www.act-sf.org.

For true crime fan Henry Wong, his father's unexplained death is the ultimate cold case. But as he digs into the SFPD evidence, he's haunted by the myths and misdirections of his own family history. How did his parents really meet? What's behind the detective's warnings about the case? And what is hidden in the Marin Headlands? After its acclaimed world premiere at New York's Lincoln Center Theater in 2020, *The Headlands* comes home to San Francisco in a brand-new production.

"I am excited to explore this deeply personal story of family, memory, and The City all in the spirit of a true SF noir," said **MacKinnon**. "Moral ambiguity and the chase of the American Dream abound. Chris Chen has written a play for our moment, and we have assembled a fantastic cast of actors to bring his story to life."

"I am thrilled beyond measure to be bringing *The Headlands* to A.C.T., and to be working with Pam MacKinnon to bring it to life," adds **Chen**. "*The Headlands* is my love letter to San Francisco, the city I spent my entire life in—from birth, up to right now. To share this play with my hometown—a place I feel so deeply in my bones—will be one of the most personally meaningful moments of my career."

The cast for *The Headlands* includes (in alphabetical order): **Keiko Shimosato Carreiro** (Pat/Older Leena), **Sam Jackson** (Jess), **Charles Shaw Robinson** (Walter/Detective), **Erin Mei-Ling Stuart** (Leena), **Jomar Tagatac** (Tom), **Phil Wong** (Henry), and **Johnny M. Wu** (George).

The creative team for *The Headlands* includes: **Pam MacKinnon** (Director), **Alexander V. Nichols** (Scenic & Projection Designer), **Lydia Tanji** (Costume Designer), **Wen-Ling Liao** (Lighting Designer), **Leah Gelpe** (Sound Designer), **Byron Au Yong** (Composer), **Ben Chau-Chiu** (Assistant Director), and **Natalie Greene** (Intimacy Coach).

In connection with *The Headlands*, A.C.T. will offer numerous **InterACT events**—many of which are presented free of charge—that will give patrons opportunities to get closer to the action while having an entire night out at the theater. Visit act-sf.org/interact to learn more about subscribing to these events throughout the season:

- **Drinks & Drama Friday:**
Friday, February 10, 6 p.m.
Join us for a party before the show with a local DJ, drink specials, and more!
- **Audience Exchanges:**
Tuesday, February 21, 7 p.m. | Sunday, February 26, 2 p.m. | Wednesday, March 1, 2 p.m.
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **Pride Night:**
Wednesday, February 22, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance
A revamped pre- and post-show party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community
- **Open Captioned Performance:**
Saturday, February 25, 2 p.m. performance
At this performance, the dialogue will be displayed on a screen at the front of the stage on house left. To purchase seats in the best viewing section, please use code CAPTION when ordering.
- **Tasting Night:**
Tuesday, February 28, 6:30 p.m.
Meet fellow theatergoers and get to know one of our local vendors at this hosted event before the show.
- **PlayTime:**
Saturday, March 4, 12:45 p.m.
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with the artists who make it happen at this interactive theater workshop.

The Headlands is being produced with support from the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

A special thank you to *The Headlands* production sponsors: Company Sponsors **Donald J. and Toni Ratner Miller**; Executive Producers **Abby and Gene Schnair**; **Jay Yamada**; **Neil and Elsa Pering**; Producers **Carlotta and Robert Dathe**; **Luba Kipnis and David Russel**; Associate Producers **Paul Angelo and Cindy Low**; **Linda K. Brewer**; **Marielle Ednalino and Ken Lamb**; **Marmor Foundation/Drs. Michael and Jane Marmor**; **Lee and Carolyn Snowberg**; **Richard and Julia Geist**; and Benefactors **Helen and Roger Bohl**; **Sally and Toby Rosenblatt**.

A.C.T. would like to acknowledge its Season Presenters **Barbara Bass Bakar**; **Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson**; **Kathleen Donohue and David Sze**; **Priscilla and Keith Geeslin**; **Michael P. N. A. Hormel**, in loving memory of **James C. Hormel**; **Kenneth and Gisele Miller**; **Barbara Ravizza and John S. Osterweis**; **Toni Rembe and Arthur Rock**; **Robina Riccitiello**; **Mary and Steven Swig**; and Company Sponsors **Anonymous**; **Ray and Dagmar Dolby Fund**; **Linda Jo Fitz**; **Frannie Fleishhacker**; **Kevin and Celeste Ford**; **Jo S. Hurley**; **Fred M. Levin**, in honor of **Nancy Livingston Levin**, **The Shenson Foundation**; **The Marymor Family Fund**; **Donald J. and Toni Ratner Miller**; **Deedee McMurtry**; **Gerine Ongkeko**; **David and Carla Riemer**; **Patti and Rusty Rueff**; **Jay**

Yamada; Kay Yun and Andre Neumann-Loreck. Additional support provided by **San Francisco Grants for the Arts;** and **The Shubert Foundation.**

Official Media Sponsor: ***San Francisco Chronicle***

Official Hotel: **The Westin – St. Francis**

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FACT SHEET FOR *THE HEADLANDS*

WHAT:

For true crime fan Henry Wong, his father's unexplained death is the ultimate cold case. But as he digs into the SFPD evidence, he's haunted by the myths and misdirections of his own family history. How did his parents really meet? What's behind the detective's warnings about the case? And what is hidden in the Marin Headlands? After its acclaimed world premiere at New York's Lincoln Center Theater in 2020, *The Headlands* comes home to San Francisco in a brand-new production.

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WHERE:

A.C.T.'s Toni Rembe Theater (415 Geary St., San Francisco)

WHEN:

February 9–March 5, 2023.

Press night: Wednesday, February 15, 2023

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesdays–Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Fridays at 8 p.m.

Saturdays at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Sundays at 2 p.m.

INTERACT EVENTS:

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TICKETS & INFORMATION:

415-749-2228 | act-sf.org

\$25–\$110

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice

PRESS:

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