# Kirk Douglas Theatre 2013/14 Season



St. Jude

UNCLE HO TO UNCLE SAM

**RODNEY KING** 



DouglasPlus
Three Solo Shows in Repertory

## St. Jude

Written and Performed by Luis Alfaro Directed by Robert Egan World Premiere

## Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam

By Trieu Tran with Robert Egan Performed by Trieu Tran Directed by Robert Egan

## Rodney King

Created and Performed by Roger Guenveur Smith

September 14 - October 6, 2013

Part of RADAR L.A., An International Festival of Contemporary Theater, presented by REDCAT and CalArts in association with Center Theatre Group

FIRST SEASON PRODUCTION

### The Black Suits

Music and Lyrics by Joe Iconis Book by Joe Iconis and Robert Maddock Directed by John Simpkins World Premiere October 27 — November 24, 2013 SECOND SEASON PRODUCTION
Gate Theatre production of
Barry McGovern in

#### I'll Go On

By Samuel Beckett
From Molloy, Malone Dies and
The Unnamable
Texts selected by Gerry Dukes
and Barry McGovern
Directed by Colm Ó Briain
January 10 – February 9, 2014

THIRD SEASON PRODUCTION

# different words for the same thing

By Kimber Lee Directed by Neel Keller World Premiere May 4 – June 1, 2014

SEASON BONUS OPTION The Second City's

# A Christmas Carol: Twist Your Dickens!

By Peter Gwinn and Bobby Mort Directed by Marc Warzecha December 8 – 29, 2013



# Inspiring Our Future

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Ahmanson Theatre

Mark Taper Forum

Kirk Douglas Theatre

Michael Ritchie, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Edward L. Rada, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Gordon Davidson, FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

presents

the World Premiere of

# St. Jude

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY

## Luis Alfaro

DIRECTED BY

## Robert Egan

SCENIC DESIGN BY

LIGHTING DESIGN BY

SOUND DESIGN BY

Takeshi Kata

Lap Chi Chu

**Adam Phalen** 

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

#### Elle Aghabala

St. Jude is performed without an intermission.

St. Jude Performances: Saturday, September 14 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, September 15 at 8 p.m.; Thursday, September 19 at 8 p.m. (Opening); Friday, September 20 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, September 21 at 4 p.m.; Tuesday, September 24 at 8 p.m.; Thursday, September 26 at 9 p.m.; Saturday, September 28 at 8:30 p.m.; Sunday, September 29 at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 1 at 8 p.m.; Friday, October 4 at 9 p.m.; Saturday, October 5 at 4 p.m.; Sunday, October 6 at 7 p.m.

St. Jude is a **DouglasPlus** presentation, and is part of **RADAR L.A.**, An International Festival of Contemporary Theater, presented by REDCAT and CalArts in association with Center Theatre Group.



**LUIS ALFARO** is a Los Angeles-based writer whose newest play, *Mojada*, received its world premiere at Chicago's Victory Gardens Theatre this summer. His other recent plays include a Greek trilogy: *Bruja*, an adaptation of *Medea* (Magic Theatre, San Francisco; Borderlands, Tucson), *Oedipus el Rey* (Getty Villa; Magic Theatre; Theatre @ Boston Court; Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Washington, D.C.; Miracle Theatre, Portland; and Victory Gardens); and *Electricidad*, an adaptation of *Electra* (with 26 productions, including the Goodman Theatre and Mark Taper Forum). Upcoming works to be performed include *Alleluia the Road* (Campo Santo Theatre Company, San Francisco) and *Aesop in Rancho Cucamonga* (Lewis Family Playhouse, Rancho Cucamonga). Alfaro is the 2013 Joyce Foundation Fellow. He is the 2013-15 Mellon Writer-in-Residence at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon, and the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. He teaches at the University of Southern California.

St. Jude was developed at the Ojai Playwrights Conference, Robert Egan, Artistic Director.

## September 14 – October 6, 2013 Kirk Douglas Theatre

Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, PDAs, beepers and watch alarms. The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.



Ahmanson Theatre

Mark Taper Forum

Kirk Douglas Theatre

Michael Ritchie, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Edward L. Rada, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Gordon Davidson, FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

presents

## **UNCLE HO TO UNCLE SAM**

BY

## Trieu Tran with Robert Egan

PERFORMED BY

## Trieu Tran

DIRECTED BY

## **Robert Egan**

SCENIC DESIGN BY

LIGHTING DESIGN BY

ORIGINAL SOUND DESIGN BY PROJECTION DESIGN BY

Takeshi Kata

Lap Chi Chu

**Brendan Patrick Hogan** 

Lara Kaminsky

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

#### Elle Aghabala

Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam is performed without an intermission.

Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam Performances: Tuesday, September 17 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, September 21 at 8:30 p.m.; Sunday, September 22 at 8 p.m. (Opening); Wednesday, September 25 at 8 p.m.; Friday, September 27 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, September 28 at 4 p.m.; Sunday, September 29 at 7 p.m.; Wednesday, October 2 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, October 5 at 8:30 p.m.; Sunday, October 6 at 4 p.m.

Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam is a **DouglasPlus** presentation, and is part of **RADAR L.A.**, An International Festival of Contemporary Theater, presented by REDCAT and CalArts in association with Center Theatre Group.



TRIEU TRAN earned his B.A. in Performing Arts from American University. He has appeared in numerous theatrical productions including in the role of Alan Strang in Equus (LADCC nomination) with George Takei, the title role in Oedipus The King, The Legacy Codes (Dean Goodman Award) with TheatreWorks, Rashomon, As You Like It, Henry IV, Part One (Hotspur), and the title role in Richard III. He is also a frequent participant at the Ojai Playwrights Conference. His film work includes Trade Of Innocents, Tropic Thunder, The Chaos Factor, Desperation, How High, Hancock and Last Call, and he has a recurring role on the HBO series The Newsroom.



ROBERT EGAN (Co-Creator and Director of Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam; Director of St. Jude) is the Artistic Director/Producer of the acclaimed Ojai Playwrights Conference. Prior to Ojai he was the Producing Director of the Mark Taper Forum for 20 seasons, where he founded and produced 15 seasons of the New Work Festival and directed Made in Bangkok, Closer, Hedda Gabler, Arcadia and Ten Unknowns, among many others. Robert also directed the world premiere of The Film Society at LATC, Coq Au Vin for Naked Angels, and Chinese Friends for Playwrights Horizons. Other directing and producing credits include major productions ranging from world premieres to Shakespeare at theatres across the country and Europe.

Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam was developed at the Ojai Playwrights Conference, Robert Egan, Artistic Director.

September 17 – October 6, 2013 Kirk Douglas Theatre



Ahmanson Theatre

Mark Taper Forum

Kirk Douglas Theatre

Michael Ritchie, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Edward L. Rada, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Gordon Davidson, FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

presents

# RODNEY KING

CREATED AND PERFORMED BY

## Roger Guenveur Smith

LIGHTING DESIGN BY

ORIGINAL SOUND DESIGN BY

José López

**Marc Anthony Thompson** 

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Kirk Wilson

Rodney King is performed without an intermission.

Rodney King Performances: Wednesday, September 18 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, September 21 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. (Opening); Thursday, September 26 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, September 28 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, September 29 at 4 p.m.; Thursday, October 3 at 8 p.m.; Friday, October 4 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 5 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, October 6 at 1 p.m.

Rodney King is a **DouglasPlus** presentation, and is part of **RADAR L.A.**, An International Festival of Contemporary Theater, presented by REDCAT and CalArts in association with Center Theatre Group.



ROGER GUENVEUR SMITH, actor, writer and director, adapted his Obie Award-winning solo performance of A Huey P. Newton Story into a Peabody Award-winning telefilm. For CTG he has created and performed Juan and John, The Watts Towers Project, Iceland and Christopher Columbus 1992. At Bootleg Theater, Roger has presented Rodney King, Who Killed Bob Marley?, In Honor of Jean-Michel Basquiat, Frederick Douglass Now, Patriot Act and, with Mark Broyard, Inside the Creole Mafia (LA Weekly Production of the Year). He directed Radio Mambo: Culture Clash Invades Miami (Ovation Award) and the acclaimed The Mountaintop. He has appeared in eight films with Spike Lee, the HBO series K Street, and American Gangster, for which he was nominated for the Screen Actors Guild Award.

September 18 – October 6, 2013 Kirk Douglas Theatre

### Who's Who

LAP CHI CHU (Lighting Design for St. Jude and Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam). Regional design at Mark Taper Forum, Geffen Playhouse, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, The Goodman Theatre, The Shakespeare Theater. New York design credits include The Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, Signature Theatre, Second Stage Theatre and PS122. Awards have included the L.A. Drama Critics Circle Angstrom Award for Career Achievement in Lighting Design, an Ovation Award, multiple Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards, a "Drammy" for best lighting, as well as a Lucille Lortel nomination. Mr. Chu is on the lighting design faculty at California Institute of the Arts.

BRENDAN PATRICK HOGAN (Original Sound Design for Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam) is a designer, composer and musician in Seattle, WA. He is the resident sound designer at ACT where he has designed over 30 productions since 2009. Favorite designs for ACT include The Ramayana, Double Indemnity, Yankee Tavern and Mary Stuart. Other designs and compositions for stage include Red (Seattle Repertory Theatre/Arizona Theatre Company), Chamber Cymbeline (Seattle Shakespeare Company), God's Ear and RoboPop! (Washington Ensemble Theatre) and This Wide Night (Seattle Public Theatre).

LARA KAMINSKY (Projection Design for Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam). Lara Kaminsky is a manager, producer and designer with an extensive background in multidisciplinary project direction, creation and implementation. She has worked in video and film production, video editing, art direction and design. Her theatre credits include 5th Ave Theatre, ACT, Seattle Children's Theatre, Village Theatre and Arizona Theatre Company. She has a deep passion for the power of art to transform lives and loves working on performances with this in mind. Lara designed projections for the world premiere of *Uncle Ho to Uncle* Sam in Seattle and is thrilled to be able to work, once again, with Robert Egan and Trieu Tran on this amazing production.

TAKESHI KATA (Scenic Design for St. Jude and Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam) CTG: Other Desert Cities, November, Bones, Two Unrelated Plays by David Mamet, Palomino. L.A.: American Buffalo, Coney Island Christmas, The Seafarer, Boston Marriage (Geffen). N.Y.: 3 Kinds of Exile, Through a Glass Darkly, Storefront Church, The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow (Atlantic

Theater Company), Adding Machine (Minetta Lane), Barrow Street Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, Vineyard, Rattlestick. Regional: Alley, American Players Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Goodman, Hartford Stage, Long Wharf, Old Globe, Resident Ensemble Players, Steppenwolf, Yale Rep. He is an Assistant Professor at University of Southern California, School of Dramatic Arts.

JOSÉ LÓPEZ (Lighting Design for Rodney King). Theatre Highlights: Solomania! (Kirk Douglas Theatre); Black Butterfly..., Carpa Clash (Mark Taper Forum); Passion, Golden Child, A Widow of No Importance (East West Players); Loot (South Coast Rep.); Everyman in the Mall, Twelfth Night, Or As You Were (Cornerstone). Regional: The Watts Towers Project, Walker Art Center; Gaytino!, Black Butterfly... (Kennedy Center), Culture Clash's The Mission (La Jolla Playhouse). International: Guanyin: She Who Sees the Cries of the Universe (Hong Kong Cultural Center); Theory of Everything, Red (Singapore Rep.). Projection: Pasadena Playhouse District, Hollywood Forever Cemetery, San Gabriel Mission, Bradbury Building, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, Plaza de la Raza. Public Art: Artist for MTA Goldline Maravilla Station. Awards: Durfee Artist Fellowship, Brody Visual Artist Fellowship, NEA/TCG Design Fellowship.

ADAM PHALEN (Sound Design for St. Jude). Some recent shows include 9 Circles at the Bootleg Theater, Other Desert Cities at the Mark Taper Forum, The New Electric Ballroom and The Word Begins at Rogue Machine Theatre, and Titus Redux at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. Mr. Phalen is the resident sound designer and technical director for the Ojai Playwrights Conference and is the Head of Audio at Center Theatre Group's Kirk Douglas Theatre. Other shows include — Center Theatre Group: The Paris Letter, Flight, ¡Gaytino!, Live From The Front, Taking Flight, Of Equal Measure, Taking Over, Eclipsed, Bones; Gangbusters Theatre: Hamlet, Woyzeck, Julius Caesar; Theatre of Note: Film, Kill Me, Deadly; South Coast Rep: Against Oblivion.

MARC ANTHONY THOMPSON (Original Sound Design for Rodney King) is a reluctant singer and indolent songwriter; an autodidactic musician, composer, sound designer and filmmaker. He has collaborated with a wide range of genre defying citizens from Philip Glass and Spike Lee to Bruce Springsteen and The Roots. With his internationally based nucleus

— Chocolate Genius Incorporated — Mr. Thompson has released five discs of songs centered on the themes of Life, Death and The Quest for the Perfect Postprandial. Mr. Thompson resides in the town of Hudson, NY, with his wife, children and a dog named Plus

**ELLE AGHABALA** (Production Stage Manager for St. Jude and Uncle Ho to Uncle Sam) is thrilled to be back at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. New York: Epitaph for George Dillon, The Time of Mendel's Trouble, The Bubble. National Tours: 2004 Gymnastics Tour, Annie. Las Vegas: Hairspray, Avenue Q, Phantom — The Las Vegas Spectacular, Hans Klok: The Beauty of Magic, Blue Man Group. Center Theatre Group: Ain't Misbehavin'. Eclipsed, Palestine, New Mexico, The Wake, An Evening with Sutton Foster, Venice, Circus INcognitus, The Author, The Cripple of Inishmaan, Juan and John, The Method Gun, This, A Raisin In The Sun, November, as well as numerous readings and workshops.

KIRK WILSON (Production Stage Manager for Rodney King). Roger Guenveur Smith refers to Rodney King as not so much a play or performance piece, but a prayer. When Rodney Glen King died on Father's Day 2012, Roger, in an attempt to address his own grief, as well as that of countless others, approached a small group of artists to create something, anything, in hopes of better understanding the world's "first reality TV star." It's with great honor, gratitude and pride that I've been included on this journey. My life's forever changed because of it, for without great works of art, how else are we to learn the truth about ourselves? To "Let it go, Glen. Let it go."

MICHAEL RITCHIE (Artistic Director) is in his eighth season as Center Theatre Group's Artistic Director, and has led over 130 productions to the Ahmanson, Taper and Douglas stages since his arrival in 2005. From 1996 to 2004 Michael was the Producer of the Williamstown Theatre Festival and prior to that he was a Production Stage Manager in NYC. At CTG, he premiered six musicals that moved to Broadway — The Drowsy Chaperone (which won 13 Tony Award nominations), Curtains (eight Tony nominations) 13, 9 to 5: The Musical, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson and Leap of Faith. He has produced 33 world premieres including the musicals Minsky's, Venice and Sleeping Beauty Wakes, and the plays Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo (a Pulitzer Prize finalist that also moved to Broadway), Water & Power and Yellow Face, and he presented a broad range of plays

and musicals ranging from Dead End to The Black Rider to Edward Scissorhands to blockbusters such as God of Carnage, Mary Poppins, Jersey Boys and August: Osage County. In addition, Michael inaugurated CTG's New Play Production Program, designed to foster the development and production of new work.

**EDWARD L. RADA** (Managing Director) returned to Center Theatre Group in 2011 after previously serving as CTG's Chief Financial Officer for 12 years (1996 – 2008). Rada spent three years (2008 - 2011) as President of the Music Center Foundation, a non-profit corporation that holds and invests the endowment and reserve funds for the Music Center and its resident companies (including CTG). Prior to his years at CTG, he was the Director of Finance at The Old Globe in San Diego and principal of Rada & Associates, an accounting firm that specialized in entertainment-related non-profit organizations and theatrical productions. He is a graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles with numerous postgraduate coursework and credentials. He currently serves on the board of directors for Entertainment Industry Foundation, Theatre @ Boston Court, and United Support of Artists for Africa/USA for Africa, among other affiliations. He also serves on the board of trustees for the pension, health and welfare and 401(k) plans of I.A.T.S.E. Local 33 Stagehands Union.

**DOUGLAS C. BAKER** (*Producing Director*) is now in his 23rd season at CTG. Previously, he managed Broadway and touring productions including Tru, Born Yesterday, The Gospel at Colonus, Annie, A Chorus Line, Working, The Wiz, and Legends!, which premiered at the Ahmanson Theatre in 1986 and starred Mary Martin and Carol Channing. Doug is a member of the Achievement Hall of Fame of Chagrin Falls Schools in Ohio and a graduate of Albion College. He is an active member of the Broadway League, the Independent Presenters Network and is a proud member of the Association of Theatrical Press Agents and Managers. In May 2013 Doug received The Broadway League's prestigious Outstanding Achievement in Presenter Management Award.

**KELLEY KIRKPATRICK** (Associate Artistic Director). Since arriving at CTG in 2005, Kelley has produced over 40 productions at the Ahmanson Theatre, Mark Taper

Forum and Kirk Douglas Theatre, many of which have gone on to future lives on Broadway, off-Broadway and beyond. In addition to producing shows across CTG's three stages, he has had the privilege of collaborating with numerous local and national artists to commission and develop new works.

GORDON DAVIDSON (Founding Artistic Director) led the Taper throughout its first 38 seasons, guiding over 300 productions to its stage and winning countless awards for himself and the theatre — including the Tony Award for theatrical excellence, Margo Jones Award, The Governor's Award for the Arts and a Guggenheim fellowship. The Kentucky Cycle and Angels in America (Part One) won the Pulitzer in consecutive years and, in 1994, three of the four plays nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play were from the Taper (Angels in America won). In 1989 Gordon took over the Ahmanson and, in 2004, he produced the inaugural season in the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

# See all three of our Douglas Plus artists and their works

Call **213.628.2772** or purchase online at **CenterTheatreGroup.org**.

### Thank You

From **Trieu Tran** — Much gratitude and appreciation to CTG for this opportunity to share our story. Love and admiration to my coconspirator, Robert Egan, whose brilliance, guidance and support and fearlessness have given me — voice. For my father.

Roger Guenveur Smith would like to thank the Bootleg Theater.

#### **Technical Crew**

Costume Consultant	Candice Cain
Assistant Set Designer	Victoria Tam
Assistant Lighting Designer	Joey Guthman
Assistant Master Electrician	Aaron Staubach
Light Board Programmer	Dean Wright
Production ElectriciansJuan	Lozano, Lunchbox
Wardrobe Supervisor	Christian Svenson
Deck Supervisor	Victor Cobos
Video Technician	Ryan Tirrell
Assistant Head of Audio	Corwin Evans
Prop Assistant	Sarah Steinman
Scenic Artist	Katie Polebaum

#### **Electrics Crew**

Randy Bosh, Katrina Coulourides, Juan Lozano, Lunchbox, Justin Preston, Boston Stergis, Ryan Tirrell, Erin Whitcomb, Dean Wright.

#### **Carpentry Crew**

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#### Credits

Additional costume support provided by Center Theatre Group Costume Shop. Production photography by Craig Schwartz.

#### Website

CenterTheatreGroup.org
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The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.



The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, an independent national labor union.



Center Theatre Group is a member of the American Arts Alliance, the Broadway League, Independent

Producers' Network (IPN), LA Stage Alliance, League of Resident Theatres (LORT), National Alliance for Musical Theatre (NAMT) and the Theatre Communications Group (TCG).

Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, PDAs, beepers and watch alarms. The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

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SEAN PINTO Database And Web	nager	
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Center Theatre Group would like to thank its exceptional staff for their ongoing commitment, dedication and extraordinary efforts.