



53rd Season • 506th Production
JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE / MARCH 5-26, 2017

South Coast Repertory

Marc Masterson
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Paula Tomei
MANAGING DIRECTOR

David Emmes & Martin Benson
FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

presents

ORANGE

by Aditi Brennan Kapil

Michael B. Raiford
SCENIC DESIGN

Denitsa Bliznakova
COSTUME DESIGN

Jaymi Lee Smith
LIGHTING DESIGN

John Nobori
SOUND DESIGN

Mike Tutaj
PROJECTION DESIGN

Lyuben Dimitrov
ILLUSTRATOR

Kimberly Colburn
DRAMATURG

Joshua Marchesi
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Joanne DeNaut, CSA
CASTING

Kathryn Davies
STAGE MANAGER

Directed by

Jessica Kubzansky

Joan and Andy Fimiano
Honorary Producers

ORANGE was commissioned by South Coast Repertory as part of SCR's CrossRoads Initiative,
with funding from the Time Warner Foundation.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In order of appearance)

Leela *Pia Shah*
All the Women *Anjali Bhimani*
All the Men *Karthik Srinivasan*

SETTING

Orange County, California.

LENGTH

Approximately 90 minutes, with no intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Assistant *Natalie Figaredo*
Assistant Director *Tory Davidson*
Combat Consultant *Ronnie Clark*
Costume Design Assistant *Megan Knowles*
Assistant Lighting Designer *David Aaron Hernandez*
Stage Management Intern *Thomas Nagata*
Light Board Operator *Dan Gold*
Sound Board Operator *Sam Levey*
Video Technician *Vincent Quan*
Automation Operator *Emily Kettler*
Dresser *Jessica Larsen*
Additional Costume Staff *Rebecca Clayton*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Perry Mansfield New Works Festival, Liz Engleman and Mixed Blood Theatre

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.

Please refrain from unwrapping candy or making other noises that may disturb surrounding patrons.

Videotaping and/or recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

Electronic devices should be turned off or set to non-audible mode during the performance.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the theatre.

OrangeCoast

Media Partner

Aditi's Journey to Orange

by Kimberly Colburn

Orange is the result of Aditi Brennan Kapil's CrossRoads commission. CrossRoads is a program, funded by the Time Warner Foundation, that offers a commission to a playwright to come to Orange County and explore its wonderful diversity, and then to write a play somehow inspired by their experiences. The resulting play doesn't necessarily have to have anything to do with Orange County (Vietgone, by Qui Nguyen, was also a CrossRoads commission and doesn't even mention Orange County!), but Kapil chose to tackle a personal subject through the lens of an Orange County adventure. The resulting play features a couple of notable Orange County locations, but the play's development process was a journey on its own. As is typical of many of the plays that SCR commissions, it had a number of readings and workshops before rehearsals began for the production.

July 29- August 1, 2013: Initial residency

Kapil's four-day whirlwind included extensive exploration of Orange County, from seeing the City of Orange circle to a tour of San Juan Capistrano. She met with a number of community members, including the staff of SAHARA (South Asian Helpline And Referral Agency), and SCR staff with ties to the local punk scene.



Brennan, third from right, visits SAHARA.

May 31, 2014: First draft turned in

Kapil turns in her first official draft (before her deadline, even!).

August 22-24, 2014: First excerpt for public showing

Kapil had a four-day workshop with other CrossRoads writers, and all presented 15-minute excerpts of what they worked on. Kapil included several scenes from throughout the play in order to present a sense of the whole. This was an invited audience of CrossRoads community members—people and organizations who had donated their time to meet with playwrights during the CrossRoads residencies. The workshop and the excerpt were directed by Jessica Kubzansky, which was the starting point of her collaboration with Kapil and continued through every reading until the production.



Director Jessica Kubzansky works with Kapil during the CrossRoads residency.

November 14, 2014: One-Day Reading

In order to hear the new draft that came out of what Kapil had learned in her initial workshop, SCR gathered a group of actors to read it aloud after a few hours of rehearsal. At the time, the play was titled *These Are My Drawings of Orange County*.

April 25, 2015: PPF reading

From Kapil's original three-actor inspiration point, the play grew to include five actors in order to encompass the spectrum of characters. For this reading, the play was titled: *Orange: an illustrated play*.



Assaf Cohen, Anjali Bhimani, Pia Shah, Monika Jolly and Manu Narayan in rehearsal for SCR's 2015 Pacific Playwrights Festival reading of *Orange*.

June 24, 2015: In-house workshop

Kapil took what she learned from the PPF reading and continued to refine the play, but she still felt something about it wasn't quite right.



Kapil working on her play at Mixed Blood Theatre with actor Annelise Ahmad.

November 6, 2015: Turned in new draft

She returned to her original instincts and revised the play back to three actors.

November 11-December 4, 2016: Mixed Blood Theatre production

Due to scheduling conflicts, Kapil's hometown Minneapolis theatre, Mixed Blood, asked for permission to produce the play first and SCR agreed. Directed by Mixed Blood Artistic Director Jack Reuler, the cast and creative team were entirely different from those who had participated in the play's development and production at SCR—the only exception being dramaturg Kimberly Colburn.

June 12, 2016: Perry-Mansfield New Works Festival

SCR was invited to send a project in process and sent *Orange*—already scheduled for the following season, with Kubzansky directing.



L-R: Marc Masterson, Kapil, Kimberly Colburn, Jessica Kubzansky, Anjali Bhimani, Karthik Srinivasan and Pia Shah.

March 5-26, 2017: SCR production

Artist Biographies



ANJALI BHIMANI

All the Women

appeared at SCR previously in the Pacific Playwrights Festival reading of *Orange*. On stage, she was seen most recently as Safia Das in the world premiere of D. Tucker Smith's *Roof of the World* at Kansas City Repertory

Theatre. On Broadway, she appeared as Bollywood diva Rani in *Bombay Dreams* and as Myrrha and Others in Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses*. Her other theatre credits include *The Jungle Book*, *The Odyssey*, *Mirror of the Invisible World* (Goodman Theatre), *The American Pilot* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Comedy on the Bridge* and *Brundibar* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre) and more. Her television credits include PR maven Wendy in the new series "Cassandra French's Finishing School," "NCIS: LA," "Silicon Valley," "Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders," "The Sopranos," "Shark," "Law & Order: SVU," "Flight of the Conchords," "Dog With a Blog," "The Fosters," "Modern Family" and many more. She can be seen in the film *Miss India America*, as former pageant queen and pageant organizer Pinky Matthews, and the upcoming film *Trafficked*, starring Ashley Judd. Bhimani also is the voice of the hero Symmetra in the epic game *Overwatch* by Blizzard Entertainment. More at www.AnjaliBhimani.com and @sweetanj (Twitter/IG).



PIA SHAH

Leela

is making her SCR debut. She portrayed the character of Leela in readings of *Orange* at the Pacific Playwrights Festival, CrossRoads and the Perry Mansfield New Works Festival. She has been featured in other new

works including *The Fit* by Carey Perloff (directed by Casey Stangl at Kansas City Repertory); *Basketcases* by Cheryl West (directed by Robert Egan, Seattle Repertory); *Dry Land* by Ruby Rae Spiegel (directed by Adrienne Campbell Holt, Ojai Playwrights Conference); *Wild Blue* by Jen Silverman (Theatre @ Boston Court); *Sweet Home* by Lina Patel (Circle X Theatre Company); *Body Politic* by Jessica Goldberg (Goddard College); *Noms de Guerre* by Jacqueline Wright (Pasadena Playhouse); and *A Nice Indian Boy* by Madhuri Shekhar (East West Players). Her television and film credits include Disney's *Planes*, *8 X 10 Tasveer* (Bollywood), "Grey's Anatomy," Mar-

vel's "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.," "Mercy," HBO's "The Wonderful Maladys" and PBS' "PIA." She co-wrote the film *Grass*, which won Best Narrative Feature at the Austin Asian American Film Festival, and a nomination for Best Actress at the Los Angeles Pacific Asian American Film Festival. She is a graduate of American Conservatory Theater's Summer Training Congress and The William Esper Studio. She attended Johns Hopkins University and holds an MFA from USC's School of Dramatic Arts. @piajune



KARTHIK SRINIVASAN

All the Men

makes his SCR debut. His other theatre credits include *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* (Geffen Playhouse) and *Shiv* (also by Aditi Brennan Kapil at The Theatre @ Boston Court). His television credits include "How I Met Your Mother," "NCIS: LA," "Shameless," "The Bold & The Beautiful" and "Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders." One of his films, *The Tiger Hunter*, is currently wrapping up the festival circuit and is due for a 2017 release. He holds a degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Tech, where he stumbled into acting while taking an elective he needed to graduate. Originally from New Delhi, Srinivasan is passionate about spreading his love of the Hindi language and does so by teaching it occasionally. He is honored to be a part of *Orange* and thanks his cast, crew and family for the support. Follow him @KarthikVasan and online at KarthikiIsHere.com.

PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR AND DESIGNERS

ADITI BRENNAN KAPIL (*Playwright*) is a writer, actress and director of Bulgarian and Indian descent. She was raised in Sweden and resides in Minneapolis. Her play *Love Person*, a four-part love story in Sanskrit, American Sign Language and English, received the 2009 Stavis Playwriting Award. *Love Person* was produced in a National New Play Network (NNPN) rolling world premiere at Mixed Blood Theatre, Marin Theater Company and Phoenix Theatre. Her play *Agnes Under the Big Top, a tall tale* was selected as a 2009 Distinguished New Play Development Project by the National Endowment for the Arts' New Play Development Program hosted by Arena Stage. *Agnes Under the Big Top* premiered at Mixed Blood Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre and Borderlands Theater as part of an NNPN rolling world premiere. Kapil's *Displaced Hindu Gods* trilogy consists of *Brahman/i: A One-Hijra Stand-Up Comedy Show*; *The Chronicles of Kalki*; and *Shiv*. These internation-

ally produced plays, based on the Hindu trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, premiered at Mixed Blood Theatre, and *Brahman/i* and *The Chronicles of Kalki* received an unprecedented double nomination for the James Tait Black Prize from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. In the 2016-17 season, she has premiered *Orange* at Mixed Blood Theatre and a revisionist comedy, *Imogen Says Nothing*, at Yale Repertory Theatre. In addition, she is working on commissions from La Jolla Playhouse and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. She is the Mellon Playwright-in-Residence at Mixed Blood Theatre, an artistic associate at Park Square Theatre, a Core Writer at the Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis and a resident playwright at New Dramatists. aditikapil.com

JESSICA KUBZANSKY (*Director*) is the co-artistic director of The Theatre @ Boston Court and an award-winning director who works nationally. Her recent directing work includes Jeanne Sakata's *Hold These Truths* (Portland Center Stage); *Stupid F**king Bird* (ACT, Seattle); Luis Alfaro's *Mojada*, *A Medea* (The Theatre @ Boston Court at The Getty Villa); the New York premiere of Sheila Callaghan's *Everything You Touch* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater at the Cherry Lane Theatre); *R.I.*, her own three-person *Richard II* (The Theatre @ Boston Court); and world premieres of Stefanie Zdravec's *Colony Collapse*, *EYT*, Michael Elyanow's *The Children*, Jordan Harrison's *Futura*, Laura Schellhardt's *Courting Vampires*, Salamone/McIntyre's musical *Gulls*, Mickey Birnbaum's *Bleed Rail*, Carlos Murillo's *Unfinished American Highwayscape #9 & 32*, Jean Claude Van Itallie's *Light*, Cody Henderson's *Cold/Tender*, as well as *Camino Real* and *Mother Courage* (all at Boston Court). Among her other directing credits are James Still's *I Love to Eat* (Portland Center Stage); *Macbeth* (Antaeus Theatre Company); *The 39 Steps* (La Mirada); *Pygmalion*, *Mauritius* (Pasadena Playhouse); *Hamlet* with Leo Marks, *The Winter's Tale* and Jen Haley's *Breadcrumbs* (Theater 150); *Glass Menagerie*, *Toys in the Attic*, *Heartbreak House* (The Colony Theatre); Julia Cho's *The Language Archive* (East West Players); Sheila Callaghan's *Kate Crackernuts* (24th Street Theatre); and more. Her favorite SCR directing credits are *The Stinky Cheese Man* and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. Kubzansky has received numerous awards including the LA Drama Critics Circle Award for Sustained Excellence in Theatre.

MICHAEL B. RAIFORD (*Scenic Design*) is a scenic and costume designer based in Austin, Texas. He previously designed *Going to a Place where you Already Are*, *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Death of a Salesman* at SCR. His national and regional theatre and opera credits include Geva Theatre (Rochester, NY), The Cleveland Play House, Opera Boston, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Central City Opera, Aurora Theatre Company, PlayMakers Repertory Company, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Ford's Theatre (Washington, D.C.), The New Victory Theater (New York) and Actors Theatre of Louisville. At Actors Theatre, Raiford designed more than 20 shows including a dozen world premiere productions at The Humana Festival of New American Plays. In Austin, he has designed at

Ballet Austin, Austin Lyric Opera, Rude Mechanicals, ZACH Theatre and Hyde Park Theatre. In addition, he recently directed *Blast*, *The Music of Disney* for a national tour of Japan. Raiford received his MFA from University of Texas at Austin, where he also taught design for 10 years. He is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. To see more of his work, visit flickr.com/photos/michaelraiford/sets.

DENITSA BLIZNAKOVA (*Costume Design*) is happy to make her debut at SCR. Her work has been seen nationwide at venues including the Geffen Playhouse, Old Globe Theatre, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, San Diego Opera, Cleveland Play House, A Noise Within, New Repertory Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival and The Falcon Theatre. Bliznakova just finished a production of *Long Day's Journey Into Night* at the Geffen Playhouse and she has upcoming projects at Mark Taper Forum. She also has costume design and stylist credits for film and music videos. Her work has been nominated for Outstanding Costume Design for the LA Stage Alliance Ovation Award and the Colorado Theatre Guild Henry Award. She is a professor in the School of Theatre, Television and Film at San Diego State University and is also the head of the MFA Design and Technology program. Bliznakova is a graduate of Parsons School of Design and Brandeis University. Her work may be viewed at Denitsa.com.

JAYMI LEE SMITH (*Lighting Design*) is thrilled to be at SCR again after working on *All the Way*, *Vietgone*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Stinky Cheese Man*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *Lucky Duck* and *Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business*. She has been designing around the country for the last 16 years at theatres such as Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Dallas Theater Center, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Alley Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Goodman Theatre, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, The Court Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, Hartford Stage, Alliance Theatre, Getty Villa, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Repertory and Lookingglass Theatre Company. Her work also has been seen in China, Italy, Spain, Scotland and Ireland. Her awards include the 2003 Michael Merritt/Michael Maggio Emerging Designer Award, a 2014 Column Award, a 2016 Sage Award and a 2010 Joseph Jefferson Award. She currently is a professor of lighting design and associate head of design at UC Irvine. Her website is jaymismith.com.

JOHN NOBORI (*Sound Design*) is a California-based sound designer and composer. His work has been heard in plays produced by such organizations as Cornerstone Theater Company, The Getty Villa and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. His other recent credits include The Lewis Family Playhouse's production of *The Secret Garden* and Native Voices' production of *They Don't Talk Back*. He has been nominated for several awards for excellence in sound design and is the recent recipient of an Ovation Award for his work on *The Golden Dragon* at The Theatre @ Boston Court. He earned his BA at University of California, Irvine.

MIKE TUTAJ (*Projection Design*) joins SCR for the first time with this production of *Orange*. Based in Chicago, Tutaj has been designing projections for theatre and live performance for more than 15 years. His Chicago credits include productions with Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Court Theatre, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Writers' Theatre, The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Second City, Paramount Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Marriott Theatre, TimeLine Theatre and Northlight Theatre. His off-Broadway credits include *Ride the Cyclone* (MCC Theater), *Wilderness* (EnGarde Arts) and *Tomorrow Morning* (York Theatre). His regional credits include productions with Indiana Repertory Theatre, The Alliance Theatre, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Center Stage, Syracuse Stage, Virginia Stage Company, Children's Theatre Company, City Theatre Company and Theatre Squared. Tutaj is an artistic associate with TimeLine Theatre Company and served as adjunct faculty at Columbia College Chicago. miketutaj.com

LYUBEN DIMITROV (*Illustrator*) is a California-based Bulgarian artist who moved to the U.S. at the end of 1999. He works as an artist/ animator in the Los Angeles area. His credits include art for series on the Adult Swim network, as well as animation for commercials and post-production companies like Roger, Stardust, Gentleman Scholar, State Design and many others. He earned his MFA at the Krastyo Sarafov National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts in Sofia, Bulgaria.

KIMBERLY COLBURN (*Dramaturg*) is South Coast Repertory's literary director and co-director of the Pacific Playwrights Festival. Her recent dramaturg work has included the recent world premiere productions of *Going to a Place Where you Already Are* by Bekah Brunstetter and *Future Thinking* by Eliza Clark. Formerly, she was the literary manager at Actors Theatre of Louisville, where she was the dramaturg for the world premieres of *Partners* by Dorothy Fortenberry, *The Roommate* by Jen Silverman and *Dot* by Colman Domingo, among others. Prior to that, she was the associate literary director at SCR and was the dramaturg for world premieres of *The Long Road Today* by José Cruz González, Zoe Kazan's *Trudy and Max in Love* and *A Wrinkle in Time* adapted by John Glore, among dozens of other productions and readings. She has worked with companies including Los Angeles Opera, Sledgehammer

JOAN AND ANDY FIMIANO (*Honorary Producers*) are dedicated philanthropists and community leaders who share a passion for great theatre. Their support of *Orange* represents the fifth production they've underwritten at SCR, having previously served as Honorary Producers of *One Man, Two Guvnors* (2015), *The Tempest* (2014), *The Light in the Piazza* (2014) and *The Fantasticks* (2013). Of their support, Joan says: "We are thrilled to be involved once again this season; whether it's a new play or a classic, SCR never fails to deliver a memorable, top-notch production." Season subscribers to both the Segerstrom and Julianne Argyros stages, the Fimianos also are also major contributors to SCR's Legacy Campaign and have provided leadership underwriting to the theatre's Gala over the past five years. SCR is deeply grateful for their enthusiasm and generosity.

Theatre, Oregon Contemporary Theatre, Critical Mass Ensemble, Artists at Play and Native Voices at the Autry.

KATHRYN DAVIES (*Stage Manager*) previously stage-managed *The Roommate*, *All the Way*, *Future Thinking*, *Red, Vietgone*, *OZ 2.5*, *The Whipping Man*, *Tartuffe*, *Reunion*, *Trudy and Max in Love*, *Ivy+Bean: the Musical*, *The Motherf**ker with the Hat*, *How to Write a New Book for the Bible*, *Sight Unseen*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, *In the Next Room or the vibrator play*, *Doctor Cerberus*, *Ordinary Days*, *Our Mother's Brief Affair*, *The Injured Party*, *The Brand New Kid* and *Imagine* at SCR. Her favorite credits include *Dividing the Estate* at Dallas Theater Center; *La Bobème* at Tulsa Opera; *The Mystery of Irma Vep* at The Old Globe; *Daddy Long Legs* at Laguna Playhouse; *Tosca* and *La Fille du Régiment* at Opera Ontario; *Of Mice and Men* at Theatre Calgary/CanStage/Neptune Theatre; *The Dresser* at Manitoba Theatre Centre; *Skylight* at Tarragon Theatre; *To Kill a Mockingbird* at Citadel Theatre/Manitoba Theatre Centre/Theatre Calgary; and *The Designated Mourner* at Tarragon Theatre and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Davies also has worked as head theatre representative at the Toronto International Film Festival, Dubai International Film Festival, AFI

Support for the exhibition is provided by the Alison Baker Frenzel Trust, Valaree Wahler, Anonymous, Pam and Jim Muzzy, Pamela Schmider, and the Museum Council in honor of its 55th Anniversary.

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Fest, TCM Film Festival, Los Angeles Film Festival and as team leader at Sundance.

MARC MASTERSON (*Artistic Director*) is in his sixth season with SCR. Under his leadership, SCR has expanded community initiatives and world premieres including CrossRoads commissions with *Vietgone* and *Orange* and the Diálogos project in Santa Ana. In recent years, SCR productions have transferred to some of the leading theatres in the country including Manhattan Theatre Club, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and The Shakespeare Theatre. His recent directing credits include *All the Way*, *Going to a Place where you Already Are*, *Zealot*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Eurydice* and *Elemeno Pea* at SCR, *As You Like It* for the Houston Shakespeare Festival, *The Kite Runner* at Actors Theatre of Louisville and the Cleveland Play House. He served for 11 years as artistic director of Actors Theatre of Louisville and produced the Humana Festival of New American Plays, where he produced more than 100 world premieres, expanded audiences and the repertoire, deepened arts education programs and spearheaded numerous community-based projects. His other Louisville directing credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *The Tempest*, *Mary's Wedding*, *The Crucible*, *Betrayal*, *As You Like It*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Macbeth*. The world premieres he directed at the Humana Festival include works by Lisa Dillman, Wendell Berry, Craig Wright, Eric Coble, Adam Bock, Gina Gionfriddo, Melanie Marnich, Charles Mee and Rick Dresser. He served as artistic director of City Theatre in Pittsburgh for 20 years and was founder and chairman of the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Alliance. He has served as a theatre advisory panel member for the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as numerous foundations. He won the Man of the Year Vectors Award, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pittsburgh New Works Festival.

PAULA TOMEI (*Managing Director*) is responsible for leading the overall administration of SCR. She has been managing director since 1994 and a member of SCR's staff since 1979. She is a past president of the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for theatre. In addition, she served as treasurer of TCG, vice president of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) and as a member of the LORT Negotiating Committee for industry-wide union agreements. She represents SCR at national conferences of TCG and LORT; is a theatre panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the California Arts Council; site visitor for the NEA; and has been a guest lecturer in the graduate schools of business at Stanford and UC Irvine (UCI). She teaches a graduate class in nonprofit management at UCI and was appointed by the chancellor to UCI's Community Arts Council. She is

also on the board of Arts Orange County, the county-wide arts council, and the board of the Nicholas Endowment. She graduated from UCI with a degree in economics and pursued an additional course of study in theatre and dance.

MARTIN BENSON (*Founding Artistic Director*), co-founder of SCR, has directed nearly one-fourth of SCR's productions. In 2008, he and David Emmes received the Margo Jones Award for their lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and fostering the art and craft of American playwriting. They also accepted SCR's 1988 Tony Award for Outstanding Resident Professional Theatre and won the 1995 Theatre L.A. Ovation Award for Lifetime Achievement. Benson has received the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Distinguished Achievement in Directing an unparalleled seven times for George Bernard Shaw's *Major Barbara*, *Misalliance* and *Heartbreak House*; John Millington Synge's *Playboy of the Western World*; Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*; Sally Nemeth's *Holy Days*; and the world premiere of Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Wit*, which he also directed at Seattle Repertory Theatre and Houston's Alley Theatre. He has directed American classics such as *A Streetcar Named Desire* and has distinguished himself in staging contemporary work including the critically acclaimed California premiere of William Nicholson's *Shadowlands*. He directed revivals of Beth Henley's *Abundance* and Horton Foote's *The Trip to Bountiful* and Samuel D. Hunter's *The Whale and Rest* (world premiere); *The Whipping Man* by Matthew Lopez and *The Roommate* by Jen Silverman (west coast premiere). Benson received his BA in theatre from San Francisco State University.

DAVID EMMES (*Founding Artistic Director*) is co-founder of South Coast Repertory. He received the Margo Jones Award for his lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and to fostering the art of American playwriting. In addition, he has received numerous awards for productions he has directed during his SCR career. He directed the world premieres of Amy Freed's *Safe in Hell*, *The Beard of Avon* and *Freedomland*, Thomas Babe's *Great Day in the Morning*, Keith Reddin's *Rum and Coke* and *But Not for Me* and Neal Bell's *Cold Sweat*; the American premieres of Terry Johnson's *Unsuitable for Adults* and Joe Penhall's *Dumb Show*; and the Southland premiere of *Top Girls* (at SCR and the Westwood Playhouse). Other productions he has directed include *Red, New England, Arcadia*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Woman in Mind* and *You Never Can Tell*, which he restaged for the Singapore Festival of Arts. He has served as a theatre panelist and onsite evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as a panelist for the California Arts Council. After attending Orange Coast College, he received his BA and MA from San Francisco State University and his PhD from USC.



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 Scenic, Costume, Lighting and Sound Designers in LORT theatres are represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829, IATSE.



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