

### EVENTS CAENDAR CONTINUED:

Monday, Feb. 22 *post-show* – You Call That Theatre? A discussion between independent artists and leaders of companies dedicated to devised work, ensemble and cool theatre. Join us following the evening's show to learn more about their creative process. Guests include, Sean Cawelti, Estela Garcia, Traci Kato-Kiriyama, Kennedy Kabasares, and Nancy Keystone.

Friday, Feb. 26 *pre-show* – Political Poster Making led by artist Dewey Tafoya. Join us before the show, at 7pm, to make your own political statement.

Friday, Feb. 26 – *post-show* – Free, late-night screening of "High Noon!" We won't give it away, but the 1952 Western, starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly, is intimately entwined with AMERYKA! Join us after the performance with a bag of popcorn, a drink and a comfy chair and let's watch a movie!

Saturday, Feb. 27 – *pre-show* – A Conversation with Adam Michnik (link). The courageous Polish historian, essayist and former dissident will share his experiences as a contemporary revolutionary who speaks truth to power. Do not miss his rare visit from Poland. Join us before the show, at 7pm.

Monday, Feb. 29 *pre-show* – Los Angeles Artist Mixer! Hard-working theatre artists, join us at 7pm for free snacks and good company before the performance.

Saturday, March 5 *pre-show* – Enjoy live jazz with Richard Velzen Trio, before the performance, starting at 7pm.

Check our Facebook and @CriticalMassPG for updates.

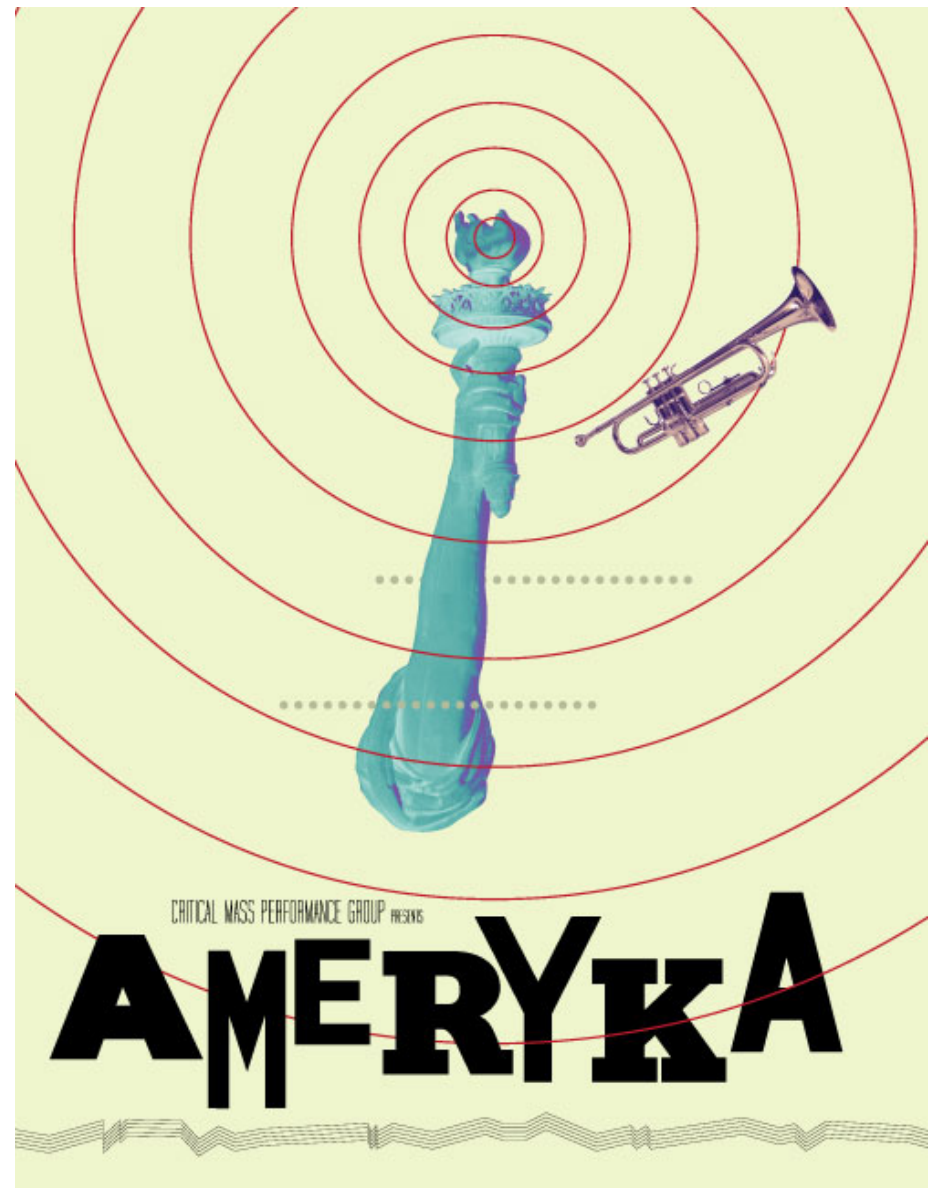
For more information, check our web site: [www.criticalmassperformancegroup.com](http://www.criticalmassperformancegroup.com)

### DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED!

*Critical Mass Performance Group is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization. CONTRIBUTIONS for the charitable purposes of Critical Mass Performance Group, must be made payable to Fractured Atlas only and are TAX DEDUCTIBLE to the extent permitted by law. [www.fracturedatlas.org](http://www.fracturedatlas.org)*

Follow us on FACEBOOK, TWITTER & INSTAGRAM - @CriticalMassPG  
#AMERYKAcmpg

WESTERN AMERYKAŃSKI: POLISH POSTER ART AND THE WESTERN,  
(Kevin Mulroy, ed.), provided the initial inspiration for this project



February 5-March 6, 2016  
Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles

Critical Mass Performance Group presents  
**AMERYKA**  
 a world premiere

written and directed by Nancy Keystone  
 created in collaboration with Critical Mass Performance Group  
 original music & sound design by Randy Tico  
*Critical Mass Performance Group presents a world premiere:*

ENSEMBLE:

CURT BONNEM\* .....Thomas Jefferson  
 RUSSELL EDGE\* .....William J. Casey  
 RAY FORD\* .....Gene Jefferson  
 LORNE GREEN.....Curtis Brown  
 DREW STAFFORD HARPER\* .....Tadeusz Kościuszko  
 DANIELLE K. JONES\* .....Ewa  
 CHRISTOPHER SALAZAR\* .....Chief Little Turtle  
 NICK SANTORO\* .....Agent Weller  
 VALERIE SPENCER\* .....Anna Walentynowicz

*\*Appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.*

SWINGS: Giovanni Adams, Adam Burch

scenic designer: Nancy Keystone  
 lighting designer: Elizabeth Harper  
 costume designer: Lena Sands  
 assistant costume designer: Hannah Lawton  
 projections designer: Hsuan-Kuang Hsieh  
 properties designer / house manager: Amanda Rountree  
 technical director: Max Oken  
 production manager/assistant director/guy who does things: Turner Munch  
 dramaturge: Tom Bryant  
 production stage manager: Julia Colbert Ruiz  
 assistant stage manager: Lisa De Los Angeles  
 audience engagement director: Jesus Reyes  
 key art: John Viet-Triet Hoa Nguyen  
 publicity: Ken Werther Publicity  
 producer: Hayley Waters

**EVENTS CALENDAR:**

During our run at The Shakespeare Center, we've planned some special, pre and post-show ancillary events, each with a topic fundamental to the making of AMERYKA. The events are free with your ticket so come learn what inspires, motivates and drives our work!

**Throughout the run:**

In partnership with the Center for the Study of Political Graphics are honored to host an exhibition of important political posters from the Polish Solidarity and American civil rights movements.

Friday, Feb. 12 *post-show* – A vital conversation about the current state of Polish civil rights, democracy and the LGBT community, with Polish scholars, authors and activists Pawel Leszkowicz, Tomasz Kitilinski, and Sophie Lesinska, and author, performer and curator of LA Public Library's ALOUD series, Louise Steinman, This conversation will begin immediately following the performance.

Saturday, Feb. 13 – *pre-show* – Enjoy live jazz with Richard Velzen Trio, before the performance, starting at 7pm.

Saturday, Feb. 13 *post-show* – You're Producing What? A discussion between artists and producers dedicated to producing bold theatre in Los Angeles. Guests include Mark Seldis and Katharine Noon of Ghost Road Company, Guy Zimmerman of Padua Playwrights, and Nancy Keystone of Critical Mass Performance Group. This conversation will begin immediately following the performance.

Friday, Feb. 19 – *pre-show* – Political Poster Making led by artist Dewey Tafoya. Join us before the show, at 7pm, to make your own political statement.

Friday, Feb. 19 – *post-show* – Free, late-night screening of "High Noon!" We won't give it away, but the 1952 Western, starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly, is intimately entwined with AMERYKA! Join us after the performance with a bag of popcorn, a drink and a comfy chair and let's watch a movie!

Saturday, Feb. 20 – *pre-show* – Enjoy live jazz with Richard Velzen Trio, before the performance, starting at 7pm.

Monday, Feb. 22 – *pre-show* – Los Angeles Artist Mixer! Hard-working theatre artists, join us at 7pm for free snacks and good company before the performance.

**Ken Werther:** Has been a staple in the Los Angeles performing arts community since 1982. Public relations, producing, directing. As producer: *All Your Hard Work*, *The Good Boy*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Queer Classics). Assistant director: *Stop the World, I Want To Get Off* (Musical Theatre Guild), *The Women of Brewster Place* (Celebration Theatre), *The Woodsman* (Coeurage). For a listing of PR activities, visit [www.kenwerther.com](http://www.kenwerther.com).

**Lena Sands:** Is a costume designer, puppet artist and scenographer. Recent designs in Los Angeles: *Talking to Terrorists* (HCLAB), *Riot/ Rebellion* (LATC), *Paradise by Design* (CalArts CNP). Lena's designs have performed at REDCAT, Juilliard, Remy Bumppo, the Women's Interart Center, the Irish Art Center, Curtis Institute of Music, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and film festivals nationally. Lena is inspired by performance's capacity to question and incite as global matters hold increasing influence. Lena received her MFA in Design for Performance from CalArts.

**Hannah Athena Lawton:** Is a costume designer and craftsperson for theater, dance and film. Recent credits for the stage include: assistant costume design for *Talking to Terrorists* (HCLAB) and costume design for *Echo* (B. Dunn Movement, the Multicultural Arts Center in Boston). Hannah recently received her BFA in Costume Design from the California Institute of the Arts.

Lighting developed through workshops by Adam J. Frank, Jeremy Pivnick & Francois-Pierre Couture. Costumes developed through workshops by Sarah Brown & Sybil Mosely.

AMERYKA is made possible, in part, by the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award program, United States Artists Hoi Fellowship, Center for Cultural Innovation Investing in Artists Grant, Network of Ensemble Theatres Micro Fest. AMERYKA was developed, in part, with assistance from the Orchard Project, a program of The Exchange ([www.exchangenyc.org](http://www.exchangenyc.org)).

#### ANGEL DONORS:

Dana Stevens • Susan & Gary Jones  
Alison Gerber • Jennifer Cotteleer • Jeffrey Johnson

Some of the text in AMERYKA is taken from or inspired by:

Louis Armstrong, Walter Benjamin, Dave & Lola Brubeck, Steve Coll, Penny von Eschen, Carl Foreman, Frank Fox, Timothy Garton Ash, Thomas Jefferson, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Mariusz Knorowski, Tadeusz Kosciuszko, Ewa Kulik, Chief Little Turtle, Helena Luczywo, Adam Michnik, Kevin Mulroy, Gary B. Nash & Graham Russell Gao Hodges, Shana Penn, Ks. Jerzy Popieluszko, Ronald Reagan, Tomasz Sarnecki, Anna Walentynowicz, Booker T. Washington, and official U.S. and Polish government documents and transcripts.

**CRITICAL MASS EXPRESSES DEEP GRATITUDE to:** Adam Mickiewicz Institute, Luis Alfaro, Chris Anthony, ARC Pasadena & John Pennington, Chris Beach, Dan Beaumont, Karolina Bondaronek, Mary Chellany, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland & Consul General Mariusz Brymora, Malgorzata Cup, Ben Donenberg & the Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, Andrew Eiden, Robert Faggen, Scotty Farris, Witold Fraczek, Alexandra Giron, Samuel Hoi, Matt Holzman, Alex Hunter, Tomasz Janowski, Vladek Juskiewicz, Kinetic Lighting, Joanna Klass, Klub P.I.E., Kristof Konrad, Alf LaMont, Aubree Lynn, Patti McGuire, Andrea Marks, Carolina Montenegro, Kevin Mulroy, Tomasz Nosinski, Bodahn Oppenheim, Marina Oliva, Jordan Peimer, Yosi Sargent, Malgorzata Sikorska-Miszczuk, Jennifer Skinner, Dorota Sobstel, Darek Swiatkowski, Wojtek Szaszor, Mark Valdez, Loc Waters, Carol Wells & The Center for the Study of Political Graphics, Christopher Wojciechowski, Lucy Wojciechowski, Michael Schlitt, Alexa Rose, The Teenies.

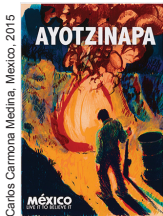
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## Center for the Study of Political Graphics

Reclaiming the power of art  
to educate and inspire  
people to action

#### UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS:



#### *Ayotzinapa: A Roar of Silence*

Opening reception Thursday,  
February 18th, 5-8 PM

Social and Public Art Resource Center  
685 Venice Blvd.  
Venice, CA 90291

On display through March 27



#### *Too Hot to Handle: International Graphics on Global Warming, Pollution, & Climate Justice*

Coming to downtown Los Angeles in May 2016

[cspg@politicalgraphics.org](mailto:cspg@politicalgraphics.org)  
[www.politicalgraphics.org](http://www.politicalgraphics.org)

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**THANK YOU** to our wonderful collaborators who have been on the journey with us in previous workshops, and whose spirits and ideas are embedded in this project: Sarah Brown, Francois-Pierre Couture, Kacy-Earl David, Mark Doerr, M.C. Earl, Adam J. Frank, Richard Gallegos, Jeffrey Johnson, Casey McGann, Michael Matthys, Matthew Floyd Miller, Sybil Mosely, Wes Myers, Nikhil Pai, Jeremy Pivnick, Christopher Rivas, Darrett Sanders, Jeremy Shranko, Nathan Singh, Doug Sutherland, Joe Tower, Patrick Wenk-Wolff.

### About Critical Mass Performance Group

#### Named Best Theatre Company for 2013 by the LA WEEKLY

Founded by Nancy Keystone, Critical Mass Performance Group is a Los Angeles-based collaborative ensemble that has been developing new works and adaptations of classic texts since 1985. Known for its exuberant theatricality and historical-poetical subject matter, the ensemble was named 2013's Best Theatre Company by the LA Weekly. Our most recent, full-scale production was *Alcestis*. An adaptation of Euripides' play, it was developed at Getty Villa Theatre Lab, premiered at The Theatre @ Boston Court, and was named one of 2013's "10 Best Plays" by the LA Weekly, and "2013 Theatre Highlights" by LA Stage Times; it won "Best Adaptation" award from LA Weekly, LA Drama Critics Circle, and Arts In LA, and was nominated for 5 other awards. Other recent work includes *Apollo*, an epic trilogy exploring the U.S. space program, its relationship with Nazi rocket scientists, and the surprising intersection with the Civil Rights Movement. *Parts 1 & 2* premiered at CTG's Kirk Douglas Theatre in 2005, won a Garland Award for Best New Play, was named one of the Top 10 Plays of 2005 (LA Alternative Press). *Apollo [Part 3]: Liberation* premiered at Portland Center Stage in 2009 where the entire trilogy was produced. It is prominently featured in *The Creative Spirit: An Introduction to Theatre* by Stephanie Arnold (McGraw-Hill, 2011). In 2000 CMPG premiered *The Akhmatova Project*. Inspired by the life and writing of Russian poet, Anna Akhmatova, it was named one of "10 Best Productions" by LA Times, and garnered 4 LA Weekly nominations including Best Production, winning the Choreography award. Other CMPG productions: *Bread: An Exploration Of The Staff Of Life* (interactive performance, commissioned by Cornerstone Theater Company, 2011); *365 Days/365 Plays-Week 47* by Suzan Lori-Parks (2007, site specific, Angels Gate Cultural Center); Keystone's adaptation of *Antigone* (2001, Portland Center Stage); Shakespeare's *Measure For Measure* (1991, "10 Best Productions" by LA Reader, toured Santa Barbara, Ojai, Los Angeles, in alternative spaces); Aphra Behn's *The Rover* (1990, site specific, Hollywood Rec Center); *Dr. Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe (1988, site specific, Joseppi's Bar, Santa Barbara); *Baal* by Bertolt Brecht (1985, first CMPG production). CMPG is a member of Network of Ensemble Theatres.



**Julia Colbert Ruiz:** Has been working with Critical Mass for two years, and is thrilled to be a part of the world premiere of *Ameryka!* Julia has stage managed for Cornerstone Theater Company, Heretick Theatre Lab, and was most recently involved in The Industry's *Hopscotch*. She would like to thank the *Ameryka* team for their hard work, supportive energy, and enthusiasm.

**Lisa De Los Angeles:** A recent graduate from The University of California, Santa Barbara, where she studied Film and Media Studies, and Theater Production and Design. Her recent credits include Location Sound Recordist for *Lift Off: Behind the Scenes of Launch Pad*, a documentary that is being featured in this year's Santa Barbara International Film Festival; and Assistant Sound Designer for Yussef El Guindi's new work, *The Talented Ones*. Lisa would like to thank Randy Tico, Nancy Keystone, and Critical Mass Performance Group for this challenging and inspiring opportunity.

**Jesus Reyes:** Mr. Reyes is a co-founder and Creative Artistic Director of East LA Rep and Program Manager of Community Partnerships at Center Theatre Group. As Program Manager he has spearheaded the design and implementation of The Shop Project, a community-based initiative to provide residents of Boyle Heights access to theatre, including programming at partner sites, such as city libraries, and CTG's costume shop. From 2009-2014 Mr. Reyes was an Arts Commissioner for the Los Angeles County Arts Commission representing the first district. He was a recipient of the TCG Future Leaders mentorship grant and the British Council's Cultural Leadership International fellowship.

**Max Oken:** Is a carpenter, producer, and director, based out of Los Angeles. Max has been building and designing sets professionally since he was a teenager. His love for carpentry and dedication to the arts has brought him all over the world. He can be seen working at Center Theatre Group, Musical Theatre West, Pasadena Playhouse, and the Rogue Machine Theatre. Max is a Graduate of UC Irvine.

**Tom Bryant:** Work with Nancy Keystone includes; *Apollo* by Nancy Keystone. Work with other playwrights includes: *All the Way*, *The Great Society*, *The Kentucky Cycle*, *Lewis and Clark Reach the Euphrates* by Robert Schenkkan; *The Most Deserving* and *How the World Began* by Catherine Treishmann; *The Wind Cries Mary* by Phillip Kan Gotanda; *Discovery of America* by Arthur Kopit; *The Mandrake Root* by Lynn Redgrave; Film development work includes projects for HBO, BBC, and Disney. Teaching: Professor of Theater at Crafton Hills College. Education: BA San Francisco State University, MFA in directing, Carnegie-Mellon University.

**Randy Tico:** Also with Nancy Keystone and Critical Mass Performance Group are *Alcestis*, *Apollo* (Garland award and Ovation award nomination) *Antigone* (Drammy Award), *The America Play*, *The Akhmatova Project*, *Dr. Faustus*, *The Rover* and *Measure For Measure*. Recent plays as composer include *Othello*, *Anna Karenina*, *The Amazing Cymbeline*, *The Imaginary Invalid* and *Snow Falling on Cedars* directed by Chris Coleman for the Portland Center Stage. Further credits as composer/sound designer are *Hamlet*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Mother Courage* director Jessica Kubzansky, *Untitled IV* by Ruth Markofsky and *The Talented Ones* Risa Brainin and *In the Red and Brown Water* Shirley Jo Finney.

**Elizabeth Harper:** Union affiliation, United Scenic Artists Local 829  
Theatrical design: *Immediate Family* (Mark Taper Forum), *Throw Me on the Burnpile* and *Light Me Up* and *A Raisin in the Sun* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Reunion*, *Venus in Fur*, and *tokyo fish story* (South Coast Rep), *The Twentieth-Century Way* and *Stupid Fucking Bird* (The Theatre @ Boston Court), *Play Dead*, *Wait Until Dark*, and *Good People*. (The Geffen Playhouse). Industrial and Event Design: Microsoft, Ubisoft, Universal Studios, On-Live, Comedy Central, and Spike TV. Elizabeth is a five-time Ovation Award nominee and NAACP award nominee. Education and Affiliation: Guest Instructor, California Institute of the Arts; MFA, Tisch School of the Arts, NYU.

**Hsuan-Kuang:** Is a multimedia artist and video designer. She has been cooperating with theater artists, musicians, choreographers and filmmakers. As a video designer, her currently stage works include: *Until Until Until...*, directed by Edgar Arceneaux, which won Performa 15, Malcolm McLaren Award; The Glue Factory Project- *Parallel Lives* by Corning Works, rated as the Top Ten (2/10) Dance Events of 2014 by Pittsburgh Post Gazette; new opera *Afterword* by Sean Griffin, invited to Ostrava Days in Czech Republic; *Circle Jerk* by Robert Cucuzz, and among others.

**Amanda Rountree:** Is thrilled to return to CMPG for the world-premier of *Amerika*. Theatre: Director: *Julius Caesar*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *The Glass Menagerie* (Torrey Theatre at Biola University), *Guys and Dolls*, *Seussical*, *Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Buena Park Youth Theatre); Stage Manager: *My Children! My Africa!*, *The Littlest Angel* (Actor's Co-op), Stage Management Intern: *A Flea in Her Ear* (A Noise Within); Other: Assistant Director (*Ionescopade* at Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), Production Assistant (*Oleanna* with New Threads Theatre Company); Education/Training: BFA in Painting/Drawing from Biola University. Stage Management EMC.



## Ensemble Biographies

**Giovanni Adams:** He was recognized by StageSceneLA for his performance in *The Recommendation* at IAMA Theatre Company. He joined the casts of *Sunny Afternoon* (Gangbusters) and the LA Drama Critics Circle award winning and Ovation nominated *One Night in Miami* (Rogue Machine). He has participated in the Bay Area Playwrights Festival and the Writer's Workshop Retreat at Center Theatre Group. Stage credits: *Bela Lugosi's Dead* (IAMA), *Miss Julie* and *King Lear* (Yale Repertory Theatre). Film credits: *In the Dark*, *Fatal Instinct*, *Nina*, *Criminal Minds*, *Zach Stone is Gonna Be Famous*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Gary UnMarried* and the leading role of Hustle in *Hustle vs. Heartache*. Giovanni was born in Jackson, MS and received his BA from Yale University.

**Curt Bonnem:** Is excited to make his Critical Mass debut with *Amerika*. Recent roles: Sherlock Holmes at Actor's Co-Op, *Cookie & The Monster* (LA Fringe winner,) and the upcoming *Mirette* at Lewis Family Playhouse. Curt is a member of the acclaimed company Sacred Fools: *Absolutely Filthy* (LA/NY Fringe & LAWeekly winner); *THE Behavior of Brodaus* (StageRaw winner); *A Kind of Love Story* (LAWeekly winner.) Other: Frank Sinatra in *Louie & Keely* (Ovation/LAWeekly winner) at the Geffen; cult hit *The Beastly Bombing* (LAWeekly winner); *Lovelave* (LAWeekly winner); *Exorcistic* (LAFringe winner) and *Cookie & The Monster* (LAFringe winner.) Love to Sparkles.

**Adam Burch:** Hails from the Bay Area and graduated from UC San Diego. He also studied at the British American Drama Academy's Mid-summer in Oxford program. He has appeared in theatre productions in and around Los Angeles including at A Noise Within, The MET Theatre, The Prod. Co., and most recently with the Actor's Co-op in their Ovation Nominated Production of *Pride and Prejudice*. [www.adamburch.net](http://www.adamburch.net) for more info.

**Russell Edge:** With Critical Mass: *Measure for Measure*, *The Akhmatova Project*, *Apollo*, *365 Plays*, *Alcestis*; Other Los Angeles productions include *Loves Labours Lost*, *Towering Inferno The Musical*, *Hot City*, *Romeo and Juliet*; Regional Theatre: *Richard III*, *The Rivals*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Mr. Roberts*, *A Midsummers Night Dream*, *Loves Labours Lost*, *Henry IV* (Parts I and II), *MacBeth*, *Taming of the Shrew*. Film includes: *Charlie Wilsons War*, *Changeling*; TV includes *ER*, *West Wing*, *Castle*, *Agent Carter*, *Cold Case*, *Las Vegas*.

**Ray Ford:** Regional credits include: *Apollo* at Portland Center Stage, *Taming of the Shrew* at Westport Playhouse, *King Lear* at Yale Rep, *Blues for an Alabama Sky* at Cincinnati Playhouse, *Hole in the Dark* at City Theatre, *God's Heart* and *Angels in America* at Trinity Rep, *The Colored Museum* at the Alliance Theatre, *Love Suicides* at La Mama ETC, *Hollis Mugley's Wish* at The Public Theater and *Alcestis* at Boston Court. Television/Film: *Brother to Brother* (Special Jury Prize Winner at Sundance), *Touch*, *Switched at Birth*, *Jane Doe*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *So Notorious*, *Man Up*, *Good Luck, Charlie*, *Don't trust the B in Apt. 23*, *Jessie*, *Game Shakers*, *Divorce* and the animated series *High School USA*.

**Lorne Green:** A member of SAG, is a native of Philadelphia who grew up in Los Angeles. Past CMPG and Nancy Keystone projects include, *The America Play*, *The 365 Play Project*, *Apollo*, *Alcestis*, and *The Noir Series*. He has a background in long form improvisational theatre and has performed in film, television, and numerous commercials. Lorne is grateful to his Critical Mass company members and Nancy for enriching him with awe and wonder throughout the years. He wishes to thank his wife Rachel for her unwavering love and support that allows him to continue to grow and flourish each day.

**Drew Stafford-Harper:** Drew is a freelance journalist and sometime actor. He is honored to be joining Nancy Keystone and the Critical Mass family for the premier of this whimsical and urgently relevant piece. For the past decade Drew has split his time and work between Portland (where he first met Nancy on *The Last Five Years* at Portland Center Stage), NYC, and Cairo. He likes Los Angeles so much however, that he's staying. Someone should hire him.

**Danielle K. Jones:** Selected LA theater: *Doris in Peace in Our Time* (Antaeus - dir. Casey Stangl), *Beth in Little Women* (Antaeus' ClassicsFest – dir. Cameron Watson), *Sonya in The Wood Demon* (Antaeus' ClassicsFest – dir. Frank Dwyer), *Dark Play, or Stories for Boys* (nom. Best Actress Garland Award – Boston Court – dir. Michael Michetti), *Ophelia in Hamlet* (Theater 150 – dir. Jessica Kubzansky), *Wendy in Book of Tink* (Disney Modular Theater/CalArts – dir. Josh Chambers), *Alcestis* (Theater @ Boston Court and Getty Villa – dir. Nancy Keystone), and *Ameryka* in workshop form (South Coast Repertory Theater, Diavolo, Shakespeare LA, Bootleg Theater, PIETER, NET Microfest – dir. Nancy Keystone). Danielle holds a BFA Acting from California Institute of the Arts, and is a member of SAG, Equity, Critical Mass Performance Group, Antaeus' A2 Company, and 8 Sided Films. She is thrilled to be appearing in CMPG's *Ameryka*.

**Christopher Salazar:** Appeared as Benedick at The Old Globe in *Much Ado About Nothing*, dir. Rob Melrose. LA credits include the title character in *The Misanthrope* (Classical Theatre Lab), Jack Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (A Noise Within), Edwin in *Our Lady of 121st Street* (The Victory) and Man 1 in *Candide* (Sacred Fools), Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* (SCLA) NYC credits: World premiere of *Thieves* (The Public Theater), *Hamlet* (Gorilla Rep). Regional credits: Barter Theatre, The Barnstormers Theatre, & the American Shakespeare Center. Television: *Jane*, *The Virgin* (recurring) Mr. Salazar holds an M.F.A. in Acting from The Old Globe/USD and a B.A. in Dramatic Arts from UNC-Chapel Hill. (AEA, SAG-Aftra) [www.ChristopherJSalazar.com](http://www.ChristopherJSalazar.com)

**Nick Santoro:** Has been a member of the CMPG ensemble since 2007 when he joined the group with the project APOLLO, but has known Nancy most of his life. Honored to be part of a hard working group as this!

**Valerie Spencer:** Founding member--CMPG shows: *Ameryka*, *Alcestis*, *Apollo*, *Antigone*, *The Akhmatova Project*, *Bread*, *365 Days/365 Plays*, *The Rover*. Also: *How to Disappear Completely and Never Be Found* (Boston Court). Valerie has appeared in many works of video art by the renowned Bill Viola, including *Going Forth By Day* (Guggenheim) and *The Quintet of Remembrance* (Metropolitan Museum of Art), and has worked as a voice actor for over 20 years. Now that her daughter has flown the coop, she's dipping her toes into screenland once more. Recent short films: *The Moment I Was Alone* (Best Supporting Actress nominee, Idyllwild Film Fest), *Rosethorn*. [www.valerie-spencer.com](http://www.valerie-spencer.com)

### Crew Biographies

**Nancy Keystone:** Is a director, multi-disciplinary artist, and the artistic director of Critical Mass Performance Group. She functions as the ensemble's chief investigator, writer, director, and designer. As a freelance artist she has directed and designed dozens of award-winning theatre productions and opera around the country including at Portland Center Stage, Center Theatre Group, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, Long Beach Opera, Actors Express, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. Among many honors, Keystone is the recipient of a 2014 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a United States Artists Hoi Fellowship (2011), a Theatre Communications Group Alan Schneider Director Award (2003), and she has been named one of LA Times' "Faces To Watch." She received a BA in Theatre Arts from UCLA and an MFA in Directing from Carnegie Mellon University. She is on visiting faculty at UCLA, and is a frequent university guest lecturer. [www.nancykeystone.com](http://www.nancykeystone.com)