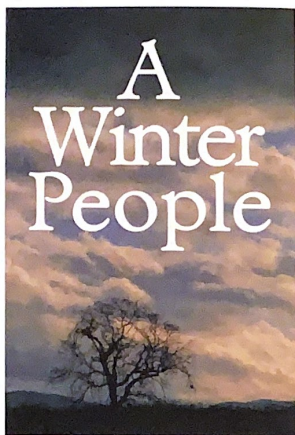


MARK TAPER FORUM'S
Asian Theatre Workshop

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April 29 - May 28 Music Center Annex



by **Chay Yew**

A middle-aged chanteuse, Madam Chia, returns from London to her family estate in the heartland of China during the last days of the nationalist government. Together with her daughters, Mei, who has lived her entire life managing the estate, Swee, who longs for escape from her marriage, and Liang, who finds solace in the ideology of Communism, they confront the loss of their home, family and life. A portrait of a nation in transition, A WINTER PEOPLE is a poetic, haunting play inspired by Chekhov's THE CHERRY ORCHARD. Commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum.

Monday, April 29 / 8pm



BIG HEAD

by **Denise Uyehara**

Award-winning performance artist/writer Denise Uyehara will read and perform

excerpts from her new work-in-progress, BIG HEAD. BIG HEAD links the memory of the World War II internment of Japanese Americans with the present-day mistreatment of those suspected of being "the enemy." This interdisciplinary piece is inspired by letters her great uncle composed in 1942 on his twentieth birthday while incarcerated at Rohwer Relocation Center in Arkansas, and takes a look at the violation of individual civil liberties in recent times. A non-linear montage of image, monologue and movement, "Big Head" evokes the mysteriously winding path of collective memory, and how individuals interpret their past to provide hope for the future. Uyehara conceived this performance before September 11 of last year, but has only now been able to develop it more fully. "I began to look at my personal responsibility that comes with legacy," she says, "I asked myself how could I apply something that happened to my relatives over half a decade ago to my world today, and where do I stand? This is my response."

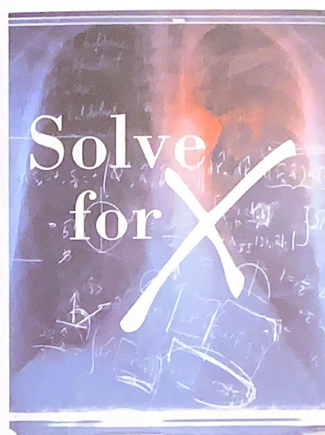


After the Ruins of Kabul

by **Lida Abdullah**

AFTER THE RUINS OF KABUL is "handfuls of damaged words thrown against the sky that weave a momentary place of hiding." Performer Lida Abdullah's concern for the continuing dispossession and lack of media coverage of refugees worldwide is rooted in her personal experience fleeing her homeland of Afghanistan, moving to India, Germany and finally the United States. Through KABUL, she hopes to resurrect the ghosts who have followed her over the years, those who have left their indelible messages in her mind. "Once you have lived as a refugee," Abdullah says, "Once you have lost family, home and even language, you are always ready; you are careful in what you love, knowing that, yes, it can happen again."

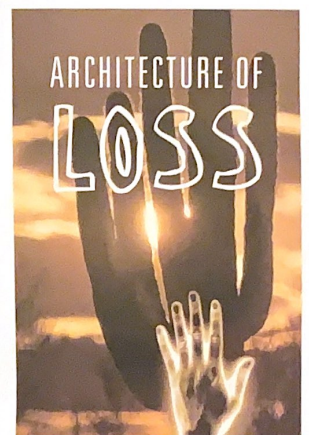
Both on Monday, May 6 / 8pm



by **Judy Soo Hoo**

Solving for X has never been a problem for Hannah, a mathematics teacher, until she meets Theo and his son Henry. When she enters into this family dynamic, an unnatural attraction ensues and explodes in the most unexpected ways. In this witty and sensual play, solving the mysteries of life and love has never been so complicated. Commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Workshop.

Monday, May 13 / 8pm

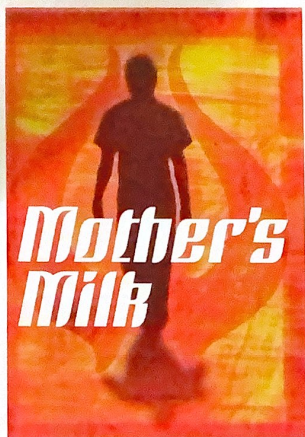


by **Julia Cho**

In the middle of the Arizona desert, a young boy disappears. Greg, his father, returns to the family he left behind years ago to find out what happened. But no one is happy to see him — not Catherine, his ex-wife, not Carmie, his daughter, and not his father-in-law, Richard, who hardly remembers him. Each member of the family has his or her own version of the events leading up to David's disappearance. As this devastatingly brutal and beautiful play renders each of their stories, the only thing that becomes clear is that the ten-year-old boy who vanished is far from the only thing they lost. Commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Workshop.

Monday, May 20 / 8pm





Mother's Milk

by **Derek Nguyen**

Darkly comic and surrealistic, MOTHER'S MILK centers on Sweet, a Vietnamese immigrant, who is confined to a wheelchair and her son, Goat, who yearns to escape his familial obligation of tending to his demanding mother. When Goat, an aspiring sculptor, suddenly falls for a washed-out prostitute, Sweet resorts to drastic measures to keep her only living relative at home.

Commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Workshop

Tuesday, May 28 / 8pm

All readings are free and open to the public. Reservations 213-972-3010

at the
Music Center Annex
Rehearsal Room C
601 West Temple Street (at Grand Avenue)
in Downtown Los Angeles

ATW READINGS SPRING 2002

SINCE its inception in 1995, the Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Workshop has been dedicated to commissioning, developing and producing new and provocative Asian American theatre, and providing a public forum for theatre artists.

ATW's play reading features new plays by established and emerging Asian American playwrights. Some of our past readings include Julia Cho's 99 HISTORIES, David Henry Hwang's BONDAGE, Cherylene Lee's ARTHUR AND LEILA, Han Ong's CHANG FRAGMENTS, Sung Rno's CLEVELAND RAINING, Diana Son's STOP KISS, Alice Tuan's LAST OF THE SUNS and Elizabeth Wong's CHINA DOLL.

Many of these plays have subsequently been produced at the Joseph Papp Public Theater, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, East West Players, Asian American Theatre Company, Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, and Northwest Asian American Theatre Company, among others.

Join us for another exciting season of new Asian American play and performance readings.

CHAY YEW
Director of Asian Theatre Workshop

MARKTAPERFORUM

Gordon Davidson, Artistic Director/Producer
Charles Dillingham, Managing Director
Robert Egan, Producing Director
Douglas C. Baker, General Manager
Corey Madden, Associate Artistic Director
Chay Yew, Director of Asian Theatre Workshop

This program is made possible through grants from the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and The Shubert Foundation.
Additional support for Center Theatre Group's 2001-2002 new play development is provided by the California Arts Council, and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.



All readings are free and open to the public. For reservations call 213-972-3010

Address: Services Requested

Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Workshop
Center Theatre Group at The Music Center
601 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

MARK TAPER FORUM'S
Asian Theatre Workshop

READINGS



April 29 - May 28 Music Center Annex