

# Asian Theatre Workshop Fall 1997



I Remember Mapa  
Songs of Belief  
Side Effects  
Hidden  
Compositions  
In Search of Dog  
Bad Sex with Bud Kemp  
In Her Own Words

It's Asian  
It's Asian  
It's American  
It's American  
It's Theatre  
It's Theatre



**I REMEMBER MAPA**  
 Performed and Written  
 by Alec Mapa  
 Directed by Chay Yew

September 18 - 28  
 Call 213-660-0366 for  
 tickets and show times

Back by popular demand, this award-winning actor and comedian will once again perform his hilarious, wickedly funny one-man show which chronicles his true life experiences in the mainstream industry. A limited engagement!

Produced by the Mark Taper Forum's Asian Theatre Workshop and East West Players.

APAF Benefit Performance is September 18 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50.00. All proceeds support ATW's programming.



# Asian Theatre Workshop

## Fall 1997 Calender

### SONGS OF BELIEF

Performed by Zar Acayan  
 Monday, September 15 at 8 p.m.

In this intimate cabaret, noted musical theatre actor/performer Zar Acayan shares with us his very personal song book. From the pop music of Whitney Houston and U2; to Marvin Hamlisch and the Carpenters, Acayan revisits and interprets these familiar songs that have continually touched him, filled him with affirmation, inspiration, awe and belief. Listen to Acayan's assured, angelic voice as he possesses and claims these songs as his own in this special evening with accompanist Michael Sartar!



### SIDE EFFECTS

Performed and Written by Dawn Saito  
 Monday, September 22 at 8 p.m.

Performer/writer Dawn Saito makes her Los Angeles debut with a stirring and surrealistic solo piece about isolation and fantasy. Two compelling stories collide in this work: one is the true life tale of a Japanese Imperial Army officer, who, for more than 30 years after Japan's surrender in World War II, lived in seclusion on a Philippines island, while continuing his allegiance to what he believed was an on-going war; the other is a portrait of a lonely contemporary woman who is trapped in a household kitchen, mundanely serving the needs of her job, husband and family. Crossing effortlessly between the boundaries of reality, time and illusion, Saito employs a clever theatrical narrative and Japanese Butoh dance to explore the constraints of allegiance and loyalty to an illusive power.



### HIDDEN

Performed and Written by Leslie Ishii  
 Monday, September 29 at 8 p.m.

In this highly provocative piece of documentary theatre, activist and actor Leslie Ishii uncovers the hidden truths of mental health issues that surround Japanese Americans born in the internment camps during World War II. She posits this mental disability to the world of silence, humiliation and shame derived from the "camp" experience, an experience in which many internees continue to live with today. Against the backdrop of racism in the post-war mental health institutions, Ishii explores and portrays the difficult and arduous lives of many courageous individuals through their pain, struggles, secrets and lies.

### IN HER OWN WORDS

Performed and Written by  
 Jeannie Barroga and Chungmi Kim  
 Tuesday, October 21, at 8 p.m.



Through dynamic poetry and performance pieces, renowned playwrights/poets Jeannie Barroga and Chungmi Kim explore the many faces of the Asian American female. In a language that is at once muscular, beautiful, spare, terse and painful, these wordsmiths have composed a symphony of words dedicated to the Asian woman.

### COMPOSITIONS

Performed and Composed by Nathan Wang  
 Monday, October 6 at 8 p.m.



It can be sweet and alluring. It may be threatening and eerie. Or it can be majestic and evocative. For too long, musical accompaniment and scoring in the theatre have often gone unnoticed. The first in our theatre music series, award-winning veteran composer Nathan Wang will illuminate the music that has kept us at the edge of our seats and moved us to hum along in the theatre. He will perform his body of musical work, written especially for theatre, television and film. Come listen and surrender to Wang's haunting and lush scores and songs that have long captured the hearts and imaginations of theatre audiences. Wang will also be joined by some very special musical guests in this one-night only concert.

### IN SEARCH OF GOD

Performed and Written by Steve Park  
 Monday, October 13 at 8 p.m.



Actor/comedian Steve Park embarks on a mythic journey exploring God, country and self in his tantalizing solo work. Utilizing mask work, music and dance, Park recovers his indigenous roots as a Korean man born and raised in America. On his journey of self-discovery, Park confronts our country by deconstructing pre-existing notions of God and exploring more personal avenues toward the Divine. An event not to be missed!

### BAD SEX WITH BUD KEMP

Performed and Written by Sandra Tsing Loh  
 Monday, October 20 at 8 p.m.



All great sexual performances resemble one another, but each coital failure is dismal in its own way. At least that's what solo performer, columnist and local wit Sandra Tsing Loh sets out to argue in her new one woman show of clever monologues that are about ... bad sex. These painfully funny and astute insights allow you take stock of your own adult life where you discover there is that one person you regret ever having experienced skin to skin, especially when lying alone in late nights, you think of them, and wince. BAD SEX premieres at Second Stage, New York in April 1998.

All performances are at EastWest Players  
 424 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles  
 (1/2 block east of Virgil in Silverlake).  
 Reservations required.  
 All performances are free.

THE ASIAN THEATRE WORKSHOP is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts; the California Arts Council; Los Angeles County Arts Commission; City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department; and the Music Center Unified Fund. ATW is also funded and supported in part by the Asian Pacific American Friends of Center Theatre Group.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN FRIENDS (APAF) OF CENTER THEATRE GROUP was established in 1986 to broaden participation of Asian Pacific American artists in mainstream theatre and audience involvement in all facets of programming and new work development.

### MARKTAPERFORUM

Gordon Davidson  
 Artistic Director/Producer

Charles Dillingham  
 Managing Director

Robert Egan  
 Producing Director

Douglas Baker  
 General Manager

Corey Madden  
 Associate Artistic Director

Chay Yew  
 Director, Asian Theatre Workshop

call the atw hotline 213.972.7267 for reservations

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