

POTIKER
THEATRE
21+ 22 SEASON
LIVE!

\$10 STUDENT | \$20 GENERAL

MAY 3 @ 7 PM (PREVIEW)
MAY 5-6 & 12-14
@ 7:30PM



theatre

HELLS CANYON

BY KEIKO GREEN

DIRECTED BY VANESSA STALLING

PRESENTED IN THE WAGNER NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

UC San Diego
ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Theatre and Dance

theatre.ucsd.edu

Hells Canyon

by Keiko Green

directed by Vanessa Stalling

CAST

Ariel	Sabrina Liu
Ben	Spencer McCabe Hunsicker
Claire	Abby Leigh Huffstetler
Doug	Noah Keyishian
Tommy	Josiah Rey Cajudo
Claire (Understudy)	Miriam Edwards

CREATIVE TEAM

Production Stage Manager	Karina Ortega
Scenic Design	Michael Wogulis
Lighting Design	Bryan Ealey
Sound Design	Salvador Zamora
Costume Design	Grace Wong
Assistant Stage Managers	Haley Baugher, Yulin "Lisa" Fang, Joseff Paz
Assistant Director	Xiaoyu (Mary) Liu
Assistant Director & FX Operator	Sabina Fritz
Assistant Lighting Designers	Benjamin Diaz & Stephaney Knapp
Assistant Scenic Designer	Russell Chow
Assistant Costume Designer	Ty Nii
Assistant Sound Designer	Cristin Huffman
Production Assistant	Kali Boston

ABOUT THE PLAY

A seven-month pregnant Ariel Wong arrives at a cabin, nestled deep in the Eastern Oregon mountain range for a weekend away with a group of friends. As hidden resentments surface and tensions rise, the gang turns their attention to an unseen force outside, attempting to break through the front door. In this horror-thriller, Ariel must come to terms with a long history of conflicts, big and small, before they manifest into an unstoppable darkness.

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THE PLAYWRIGHT

Keiko Green is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter, performer. Her plays range from coming-of-age comedies to large-concept horror and everything in between, exploring the unexpected connection between people from different backgrounds, as well as the internal tensions held within our bodies. She also sometimes writes fart jokes! Her plays have been developed and/or produced by the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, the Kennedy Center, National New Play Network, the Old Globe, ACT Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Playwrights Realm, Cygnet Theatre, Theatre Mu, and Actors Express. She holds commissions from ACT Theatre and the Old Globe. As an actor, Keiko has performed at the Denver Center of Performing Arts, Seattle Repertory Theatre, ACT Theatre, and the National Asian American Theatre Company, among others. She holds a BFA from NYU's Experimental Theatre Wing and will receive her MFA in Playwriting from UC San Diego this June. Keiko is represented by the Gersh Agency and Anonymous Content.

THE DIRECTOR

Vanessa Stalling is Area Head of Directing and Associate Professor at UC San Diego's Department of Theatre and Dance. She is also the director and adaptor of the Jeff Award winning play *United Flight 232*. She was the Associate Artistic Director of Redmoon Theater in Chicago, a Michael Maggio Fellow at The Goodman Theatre, has been recognized as one of The Fifty People Who Really Perform for Chicago, and was an honored finalist of the Women in the Arts & Media Coalition Collaboration Award. Recent productions include *The Great Leap*, at Asolo Rep, *Titanic (Scenes from the British Wreck Commissioner's Inquiry, 1912)*, at The Court Theatre, and *Roe*, at The Goodman Theatre.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hells Canyon is a horror film for the stage. It will make you laugh, cry, scream, and most importantly, think. The characters in the play are haunted by a heinous moment of racial violence against people of Chinese descent, the Hells Canyon Massacre. As violence ultimately stems from fear, it makes sense that each character is grappling, in one way or another, with their own personal fears. And in this world, the longer violent histories are unaddressed and covered over, the more they fester and infect us all - earth, plant, animals, and people.

CONTENT WARNING

graphic violence; issues with pregnancy; atmospheric effects - haze and flashes of light

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thank you to Naomi Iizuka, Deborah Stein, MJ Sieber, Emmalias and the incredible T&D production staff

THE CAST

Josiah Rey Cajudo (Tommy) is a first-year MFA student. He is from Menifee, CA and holds a BA in Theatre, Film, and Digital Production with a concentration in Acting as well as a minor in Music from the University of California, Riverside. UC San Diego credits: *Everybody*; Recent Credits: *Sound of Music* (La Sierra University), *Can't Dance Crew* (DTH Pictures), *The Little Mermaid* (Performance Riverside) UCR Credits: *20:20 Vision*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Birthmark*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Two Mile Hollow* (staged reading)

Abby Leigh Huffstetler (Claire) is a second-year MFA student. She holds a BFA in Performing Arts from SCAD: The University for Creative Careers. Her post-graduate training has earned her certifications in five weapons within The Society of American Fight Directors, recognizing her achievements as an Actor Combatant. UC San Diego credits: *Twelfth Night*, *End Days*, *Uncle Vanya*. Regional credits: *Streetcar Named Desire* (RTC); *Miles For Mary* (GHCTC); *How to Defend Yourself* (Humana Festival of New American Plays); *Dracula*, *The Many Deaths of Nathan Stubblefield* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Free Free Free Free* (Exponential Festival); *Noises Off* (Rome Little Theatre). Film credits: *Dirt*, *CBGB*. Huffstetler is a former Actors Theatre Professional Training Company Acting Apprentice.

Spencer McCabe Hunsicker (Ben) Is a second-year MFA student from Tampa, FL and holds a BFA in acting from BYU. UC San Diego credits: *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Diety*, *Twelfth Night*. Regional credits: *Mary Stuart* (Pioneer Theatre Company); *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Noorda Center); *Daddy Long Legs* (Hale Center Theatre Orem); *This is Our Youth* (SLC Fringe) *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night* (SLC Fringe) *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night* (Creekside Theatre Festival). BYU credits: *Servant of Two Masters*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Crucible*, *The Mill on the Floss*, *The Mousetrap*, *Company*.

Noah Keyishian (Doug) is a second-year MFA student from Bloomfield, New Jersey. UC San Diego credits: *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, *Prepared*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*. Theater credits: *Are You There?* (Humana Festival of New American Plays); *Tell the Truth*; *A Christmas Carol*; *Dracula*; *The Brief History of Francois Le Chou Chou* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); and *Favors* (Manhattan Repertory Theater). Film credits: *Happy Yummy Chicken*; *That Thing I Had That One Time*; *Status-Driven*; *Sasquatch*; *Separation Celebration*; *Wax Lover's Playlist*.

THE CAST *cont.*

Sabrina Liu (Ariel) is a second-year MFA student. She is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and holds a BA in Government and Psychology with minors in Inequality Studies and Theatre from Cornell University. Regional Credits: *Electra* (National Women's Theatre Festival). UC San Diego credits: *Everybody, End Days, Town Hall, Twelfth Night*. Cornell credits (selected): *The Wolves, Tartuffe, The Awakening of Spring, Bad Jews, Baltimore, Eurydice*. This upcoming summer, you can see her in *In Every Generation* by Ali Viterbi at the San Diego Repertory Theatre.

Miriam Edwards (Claire Understudy) is originally from Lexington, Virginia and holds a BFA in Music Dance Theatre from BYU. Theatre credits include: *Mary Stuart* (Margetts Theatre), *Christmas Carol* (Hale Center Theatre Orem), *Company* (Nelke Experimental Theatre), *The Crucible* (Margetts Theatre), *Mr. Helmer's Wife* (Nelke Experimental Theatre).

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Haley Baugher (Script PA/Assistant Stage Manager) is a second-year transfer student from San Jose, CA. She is currently studying to receive a BS in Psychology with a minor in Theatre. UC San Diego credits: *Napoli!* (PA)

Kali Boston (Production Assistant) is a third year theatre major/psych minor at UCSD, originally from Boston, Massachusetts. Her lens in theatre is that of racial justice and feminist work when she directs, acts and playwrights. UC San Diego credits: *In the Red and Brown Water*; Recent credits include: *A Chorus Line* (Rickie Walters), *1LIFE* (Ensemble), *We Were Kids* (Director), and *Weirdo, or Make Nice* (Director).

Russell Chow (Assistant Scenic Designer) is an undergraduate electrical engineering student. UC San Diego credit: *Balm in Gilead* (ALD).

Benjamin Diaz (Assistant Lighting Designer) is an undergraduate student. He directed his own play *LULL* at the Arthur Wagner Theater. UC San Diego credits: *Napoli!* (AD). Recent acting credits: *Oedipus El Rey, Our Town, Waiting for Lefty* (Chula Vista Southwestern College).

THE CREATIVE TEAM *cont.*

Bryan Ealey (Lighting Designer) is a second-year MFA student from Houston, TX, and a Board Member for NobleMotion Dance Company (Houston). He holds a BA in Drama from Prairie View A&M University (Texas). He has toured across the country in concert venues such as The Fox Theatre (Detroit) and Madison Square Garden (New York), worked as an Audio Engineer and Lighting Designer at House of Blues - Houston and Lighting Director for River Pointe Church in Richmond, Texas. Previously, he was the Dance Technical Director at Sam Houston State University. UC San Diego credits: *Uncle Vanya*, *Men on Boats*, *Miles for Mary* (SD), *New Directions '21*, *Uncle Vanya*.

Yulin “Lisa” Fang (Assistant Stage Manager) is a second-year undergraduate mathematics and economics major and theatre minor. UC San Diego credits: *Sotoba Komachi* (PA). Muir Musical credits: *American Idiot* (PA). She is excited to have had the opportunity to work on this production and want to thank the amazing cast and crew!

Sabina Fritz (Assistant Director & FX Operator) is a third-year undergraduate theatre and dance double major. UC San Diego credits: *Napoli!*, *Men on Boats*, *New Directions '21*, *As You Like It*, *winterWorks '20*, *Balm in Gilead*.

Cristin Huffman (Assistant Sound Designer) is a first-year ICAM music major with a minor in theatre. She is very excited to be working on her first graduate production! Muir Musical credits: *American Idiot*, *A Chorus Line*, *Showcase Under the Stars* (SD). Company 157 credits: *Casa*, *Dying Art* (SD)

Stephaney Knapp (Assistant Lighting Director) is a second-year undergraduate theatre major. UC San Diego credits: *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* (ALD).

Xiaoyu (Mary) Liu (Assistant Director) is a second-year theater major. She's an international student from Shanghai, China. She's most interested in directing and acting in the theater space. She worked as the assistant director in *Sotoba Komachi* last fall, and performed in Company 157's show, *A Night of Tens*, and Chinese Drama Club's experimental production, *BlueBeard*, in the winter quarter. She's also involved in *Voyager* (Scripps Onstage, 2021) and *The Kettle Overflows Past Midnight* (mini film, 2022)

THE CREATIVE TEAM *cont.*

Ty Nii (Assistant Costume Designer) is a third-year undergraduate student at UC San Diego. They are an Asian American, Non-Binary person originally from Arizona. They are a multi-disciplinary artist with a range of experience and skills. Their previous work with UCSD includes *Peerless* (Director), *Trojan Women* (ASM/Editor) and *Exotic Deadly (Or the MSG Play)* (Assistant Director). Other work includes *Nothing as It Dreams* (Director/Editor, Company 157), *Rot* (Playwright, Company 157), *Big Fish* (Editor, Muir Musical).

Karina Ortega (Production Stage Manager) is a first-year MFA student from Anthony, New Mexico. She received her BA in Theatre Arts from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, NM. After graduating in 2019, she interned at The Hippodrome Theatre in Gainesville, Florida as an Assistant Stage Manager. Selected credits include: 2019-2020 season at The Hippodrome Theatre, *Othello: The Remix* (Scaffolding Theatre Co.), *RENT*, and *My Fair Lady* (American Southwest Theatre Company).

Joseff Paz (Assistant Stage Manager) is a fourth-year undergraduate theatre and education studies double major from Fontana, California. UC San Diego credits: *Sotoba Komachi*, *Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles*, *Balm in Gilead*, *In the Red and Brown Water* (ASM), *Prepared* (ASM, WNPF '21), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (ASM), *Much Ado About Nothing* (PA), *The Jefferson Middle School Monthly* and *The Gradient* (Crew, WNPF' 19), *Everybody Black* (Costumer). Upcoming: *UCSD Honors Thesis in Performance*.

Michael Wogulis (Scenic Designer) is a second-year MFA student from Laguna Beach, California. He holds a BA in both Theatre and Communications from UC San Diego, having graduated in June of 2020. UC San Diego credits include *New Directions* (Scenic Design), *Town Hall* (SD), *winterWORKS* (SD), *The Nether* (SD) *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play* (SD), *Much Ado About Nothing* (SD), *Dry Land* (SD), *Our Town* (SD), *Balm in Gilead* (ASD), *Peer Gynt* (ASD), and *A Raisin in the Sun* (ASD).

Grace Wong (Costume Designer) is a third-year undergraduate theatre major from Arcadia, CA. UC San Diego Credits: *Everybody* (ACD), *Peerless*, *Trojan Women: A version*, *Epiclese*, *Exotic Deadly*, *Mojada*, *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, *The Underground* (ACD). Other Credits: *Loves Labours Lost*, *Les Miserables*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Giver* (Arcadia Stage).

THE CREATIVE TEAM *cont.*

Salvador Zamora (Sound Designer) is a second-year MFA student and producer, born and raised in Southern California. He holds a BA in Interdisciplinary Computing and the Arts Major from UC San Diego. UC San Diego credits: *Everybody*, *Men on Boats*, *Peerless Meladi Thive and Her Words of Comfort*, *winterWORKS*, *Town Hall*, *Heap* (ASD), *Letters from Cuba* (ASD), *Balm in Gilead* (Sound Coordinator), *Classical Women* (SD & Composer), *Joshua* (ASD, WNPF '18).

KUMEYAAY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

While we await an official land acknowledgement agreed upon by Kumeyaay elders, the Inter-Tribal Center and other campus participants, we offer these thoughts: For millennia, the Kumeyaay people have been a part of this land. This land has nourished, healed, protected and embraced them for many generations in a relationship of balance and harmony. As members of the UC San Diego community we acknowledge this legacy. We promote this balance and harmony. We find inspiration from this land; the land of the Kumeyaay. We thank Michael Miskwish, a Kumeyaay historian and professor of our neighboring university SDSU, for these words.

In saying these words, it is also important to reflect on what a land acknowledgment is. At its best, a land acknowledgment is a relational and situated practice. An acknowledgment should be more than words and should be a step towards creating better, more meaningful relations with the land and its original inhabitants (human and non-human). So, it is important that we name whose territory we are on (we are on unceded Kumeyaay territory at UCSD) and that this naming be accompanied by a reflection on the relation we hold to this land. The word uncended is important since Indigenous people have not willingly given the land. We cannot tiptoe around this historical truth or the role we play in it.

As storytellers we can play a role with our bodies and our words in holding space for this historical truth and in forging new stories on this land. We hope that this land acknowledgment sends us on that journey in a good way.

ALSO ON STAGE

*FIFTY BOXES
OF EARTH*

WRITTEN BY
ANKITA RATURI

DIRECTED BY
CAMBRIA HERRERA

*LIMP WRIST
ON THE LEVER*

WRITTEN BY
PRESTON CHOI

DIRECTED BY
ROSIE GLEN-LAMBERT

*PROMITHES,
PROMITHES*

WRITTEN BY
AGYEIWAA ASANTE

DIRECTED BY
EMILY MOLER

*NONNA KILLS
THE PRESIDENT*

WRITTEN BY
MILO CRAMER

DIRECTED BY
EMILY MOLER

SPRING LABS

NEW AND
EXPERIMENTAL WORKS BY
STUDENT CREATORS

NEW DIRECTIONS

DIRECTED BY
YOLANDE SNAITH

FEATURING
UNDERGRADUATE DANCERS

BAAL

WRITTEN BY
BERTOLT BRECHT

DIRECTED BY
MADISON MAE WILLIAMS