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30 YEARS OF TRUTH & THUNDER

2017 - 2018

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893 YAKUZA

30 Years of Truth and Thunder is funded and supported in part by VORTEX Repertory Company, the National Endowment for the Arts, a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts, and by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department.



FEARLESS THEATRE EXCHANGE
EST. 1988

Generic Ensemble Company
and
The VORTEX
present

893 | YA-KU-ZA

By Daria Miyeko Marinelli

Directed by kt shorb and

Jesus I. Valles

January 26 - February 10, 2018

Live-stream Howlround.tv Friday, February 2 8pm

ASL-interpreted Saturday, February 3 8pm

“Industry Night” Wednesday, February 7 8pm

VORTEX Connects Post Show Discussions TBA

Stage Management

Margaret Jumonville

Lighting Design

Aaron Curry

Costume Design

Jana Zek

Scenic Design

Iman Corbani

Sound Design

Jess O’Rear

Fight Choreography

Chris Tacderas

Assistant Lighting Designer/Master Electrician

Chris Clark

Lighting Technician

Alex Hanna

Backstage Crew

Matthew J. Schulz

Special Effects

Amelia Turner

Light Board Operator

Amy Lewis

ASL-Interpreters

Tim Ervin and Monica Kurtz

VORTEX Managing Director

Melissa Vogt

VORTEX Business Manager

Krystle Kelley

VORTEX Technical Director

Brandi Alexander

VORTEX Producing Artistic Director

Bonnie Cullum

CAST

Aya Mia King

1 kt shorb

Voice over by Amane Tanaka

Scenic Construction

Saray de Jesus Rosales, Brandi Alexander, Alex
Cogburn, Megan Kemp, Elaine Jacobs

Gratitude List

John Racioppo, Patrick Anthony, Tamara Farley,
Melissa Vogt, University of Texas at Austin Theatre
and Dance, KJ Sanchez, Katherine Wilkinson,
Rebecca Rossen, Jose Lozano, Dillon Yruegas, Helen
Parish, Gabriel Ramirez at The Grand Barbershop.
Our deepest gratitude to Violent Crown for the use of
the weapon. Our actors thank you for keeping them
safe!

Director’s Note

Generic Ensemble Company makes the invisible
visible through bold, socially relevant, body-centered
theatre. Until now, we have primarily done that
through devised work--tackling oft-urgent political
matters with collective discourse and resistance.
Sometimes, we must intensify our direct engagement
with the urgency and direness of our times. And
sometimes, to be more effective in that engagement,
we must shift our perspectives to seek respite,
change, and fresh outlooks.

This is GenEnCo’s first “well-made” play. It marks
an attempted shift in perspective. From the first draft
Daria shared with me, I was drawn to the language
and story-telling of these two characters. Moreover,
as a fellow Japanese American, I was interested in
how gender and border-crossing intermeshed with
quintessentially Japanese themes surrounding the
infamous organized crime world of the Yakuza.

893 is a kind of realistic fantasy of a world few know
but somehow parallels more familiar worlds. How
great is it that as people of color we can fantasize
about our world and others? Why not show Asian
Americans embodying Asian martial arts? Sometimes
the most inspiring acts are sparked by flicks of the
wrist or a curl of the lip. Perhaps that can begin here.

--kt shorb

BIOS

Chris Clark (Assistant Lighting Designer, Master Electrician) is a second year undergraduate student at UT Austin. Having decided to pursue technical theatre a year ago, he has since been involved in productions on and off campus, including previous work with Teatro Vivo. He is excited to be on his second GenEnCo production.

Iman Corbani (Scenic Designer) is a graduate of Concordia University in Montreal, Québec. She worked as a freelance designer for a year before joining the M.F.A in Design and Technology program at the University of Texas at Austin. Recent credits include *Anonymous* (UT Theatre and Dance), *When New Orleans Becomes a Brown Sea*, *105* and *Intro to being here* (The Cohen New Works Festival, 2017). She is thrilled to be working on *893 | YA-KU-ZA*, which will be her first design at The VORTEX.

Aaron Curry (Lighting Designer) is a freelance designer and graduate assistant at UT-Austin. Recent credits include *Fall For Dance*, *Building the Wall*, and the upcoming production of *Enron* (UT Theatre and Dance), *Regional: South Pacific* (Arizona Broadway Theatre), *The Danube*, *The Messenger* (Hangar Theatre, NY), *Das Barbecü*, *A Little Night Music*, *Urinetown*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* (The Barnstormers, NH). Member, TCG. Member, USITT. aaroncurrydesigns.com

Margaret Jumonville (Stage Manager) is a director and stage manager working in opera and theater, currently pursuing a DMA in Opera Directing at UT Austin. She recently directed Mozart's *Così fan tutte* for Butler Opera Center in October and stage managed their production of *Die Zauberflöte* in April.

Mia King (Aya) is a dancer, writer, and violinist currently in her third year as a student at UT, where she is double majoring in Theatre and Advertising. Her theatre credits include *She Kills Monsters* and *Pride & Prejudice & Perms* (Round About Players) and *The King and I* (ZACH Theatre).

Daria Miyeko Marinelli's (Playwright) plays include *105* (Cohen New Works Selection), *The One You Feed*, *We Are Samurai* (DC Metro Arts Best Play), *Untameable* (NYIT Award Nominee), *A Departure*, *Excipio*, and *893 | Ya-ku-za*. Ms. Marinelli is from Hartsdale, NY and is now an MFA Playwriting Candidate at the University of Texas at Austin. www.DariaMiyekoMarinelli.com.

Jess O'Rear (Sound Design) is a PhD candidate in Performance as Public Practice at UT Austin. Previous sound credits include GenEnCo productions *Collection* (2017) and *Scheherazade* (2017).

Matthew J. Schulz (Backstage Crew) is a theatre creator hailing from Waverly, Iowa. Schulz is currently working on his Masters of Music in Opera Directing, from the University of Texas at Austin. He is thrilled to be working alongside the talented and creative individuals that have brought this wonderful production to fruition!

BIOS

kt shorb (Director/1) is a director, writer, and performer. Directorial work includes: *Scheherazade*, *The Mikado: Reclaimed*, *Robin Hood: An Elegy*, *Radio Kaduna*; and *A Tortoise Walks Majestically On Window Ledges*. Forthcoming work includes the all-Latinx, devised show based on the opera, *Carmen*, to be presented at the Dougherty Arts Center in May 2018. They are pursuing a PhD in Performance as Public Practice at the University of Texas at Austin.

Chris Tacderas (Fight Choreographer) is a practicing martial artist, musician and theater practitioner. It is his focus and passion in life to find and bring to life the connections between the three. He would like to thank the entire Yakuza team for allowing him to share in creating a wonderful show that he hopes you enjoy as much as he did making it.

Amelia Turner (Special Effects) is a local actor, painter, yogi, makeup artist and general fool. She studied makeup at the College of Santa Fe and Makeup First LLC in Chicago. She has designed makeup and special effects for many shows in Austin over the last decade, including *MilkMilkLemonade* (Shrewd's Austin), *Changelings* (The VORTEX), *Mikado: Reclaimed* (GenEnCo), *Hold Me Well* (Shrewd's Austin), *A Perfect Robot* (The VORTEX), *Persephone* (The VORTEX), *Vampyress* (The VORTEX), and most recently *Henry IV* (Hidden Room Theatre). She occasionally helps with film makeup and special effects, but always prefers the challenges live theater presents. She is grateful to be a part of such an incredible team.

Jesus I. Valles (Director) is a Mexican storyteller, performer, and educator working in Austin, Texas. Jesus is a proud VORTEX company member and is delighted to return to The VORTEX with GenEnCo; this time as a co-director. Jesus is eternally grateful to the entire team of this production for their trust.

Jana Zek (Costume designer) is a costume designer, seamstress, performer, and artist. On screen she has designed costumes for local indie films including *Every Tuesday* (dir. Belcher), *Petals & Stems* (dir. Week), and *Nana's Secret Recipe* (dir. Shah). Other credits with GenEnCo: *Scheherazade* (prop designer & asst stage manager) and *Collection* (costume & prop designer).

Key Players

Producing Artistic Director: Bonnie Cullum
Managing Director: Melissa Vogt
Business Manager: Krystle Kelley
Development Director: Heather Barfield
**Box Office Manager and
Keeper of the Butterfly Sanctuary:** Alex Cogburn
Butterfly Bar Manager: Shannon Mott
Butterfly Bar Asst. Manager: Jesse Foster
Butterfly Bar Head Mixologist: Lindsey Rock
Associate Artistic Directors:
Rudy Ramirez, Heather Barfield
Technical Director: Brandi Alexander
Production Stage Manager: Tamara L. Farley
Web Mistress: Kimberley Mead
ASL Coordinators: Monica Kurtz, Tim Ervin



Patrizi's
est. 1948

Artistic Ensemble

Andy Agne, Jason Amato, Patrick Anthony, Hayley Armstrong, Pixie Avent, Heather Barfield, Toni Bravo, Betsy Bromley, Alex Cogburn, Jennifer Coy Jennings, Teresa Cruz, Bonnie Cullum, Mick D'Arcy, Anderson Dear, Trey Deason, David DeMaris, Sandie Donzica, Lindsey Ervi, Tim Ervin, Tamara L. Farley, Steven Fay, Pam Fletcher Friday, Eryn Gettys, Ann Marie Gordon, Shannon Grounds, Adam Gunderson, Michelle Haché, Annie Kim Hedrick, Jonathan Itchon, Elaine Jacobs, Karen Jambon, Olivia Jimenez, Valerie Johnson, Krystle Kelley, Megan Kemp, Delanté Keys, Matrex Kilgore, Content Love Knowles, Monica Kurtz, Justin LaVergne, Amy Lewis, Lorella Loftus, Tyler Mabry, Gabriel Maldonado, Chelsea Manasser, Talena Martinez, Kimberley Mead, Aisha Melhem, Shannon Mott, Emerald Mystiek, Helen Parish, Matthew Patterson, Heidi Penix, Errich Petersen, Nathan Porteshawver, Rudy Ramirez, Mindy Keenan, Jennifer Rogers, Chad Salvata, Sergio R. Samayoa, kt shorb, Vikki Schwarz, Andrea Smith, Suzanne Smith, Shannon Stennis, Ebony Stewart, Roy Taylor, Amelia Turner, Jennifer Underwood, Jesus I. Valles, Melissa Vogt, Patricia Wappner, Jessica WebsterLove, Dillon Yruegas



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*Naugh-Tea and Nice:
Sex in the Theatre
Yesterday, Today, and
Tomorrow*

*An intergenerational panel and discussion
Hosted by Annie Sprinkle and Bonnie Cullum
with special guests Madison Young, Micah
Gause, and more*

For Mature Audiences -- 21 and over.

Saturday, February 24, 2018 4-6 pm

Followed by the performance of
Madison Young's *Reveal All Fear
Nothing: A Journey in Sex, Love, Porn
and Feminism* at 8pm



Join **Annie Sprinkle** (High Priestess of EcoSexuality) and **Bonnie Cullum** (High Priestess of The VORTEX) for High Tea at *Naugh-Tea and Nice*, complete with lovely homemade cakes and succulent fruits, as they host an intergenerational panel and discussion looking at the evolution of sex in theatre. This multi-generational panel also features Madison Young, Micah Gause, and other special guests discussing their work and sex in the theatre.

Performance Park

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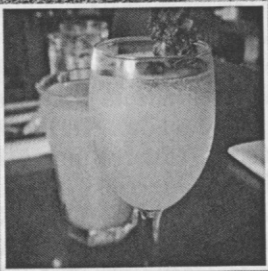
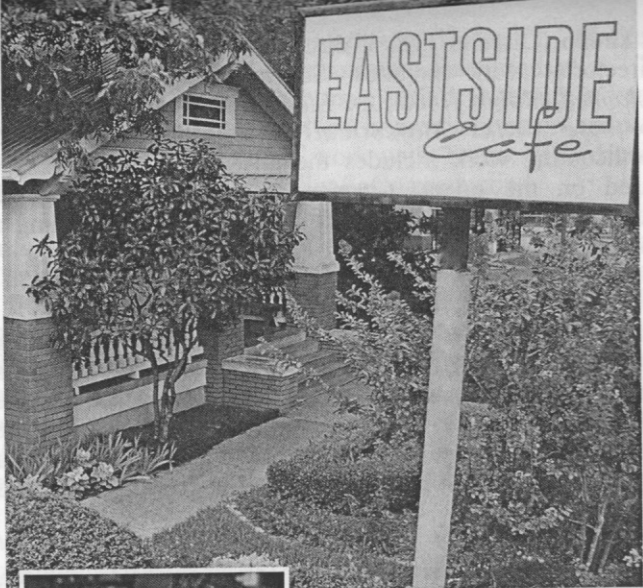
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songs in the bar, seek entry to the **Magician's
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THE BUTTERFLY BAR

VORTEX Mission

We conjure and navigate the storm of imagination with urgent, unashamed art that dares to dream the world in which we want to live. This magic emanates from our cultural harbor, embraces diverse communities, breaks down barriers, and opens channels for vital exchange.

About The VORTEX

- ❖ Incorporated 1988
- ❖ Artist-owned and operated year-round Cultural Arts Harbor
- ❖ Revered around the world as a haven for alternative performance
- ❖ Local and national leaders in creating and presenting world premieres, cutting-edge plays, ritual theatre, musical theatre, and opera
- ❖ Lighthouse workshops develop artists and new work
- ❖ Gender-Inclusive and Multicultural casting
- ❖ Generating discourse about the issues of our time
- ❖ Strong, dedicated artistic ensemble
- ❖ Hundreds of Awards and nominations for excellence
- ❖ Tuition-free Summer Youth Theatre since 1991
- ❖ ADA-Accessible Facility
- ❖ ASL-Interpreted Performances
- ❖ The Butterfly Bar – Cocktails, Beer, and Wine
- ❖ Beautiful, breezy Garden and Deck for productions and events
- ❖ Butterfly Garden certified by The North American Butterfly Association
- ❖ The VORTEX composts all organic waste!
- ❖ The VORTEX has always recycled!
- ❖ Platinum Member of Austin Green Business Leaders
- ❖ Part of the City of Austin's Zero Waste Initiative
- ❖ Member of the Network of Ensemble Theatres, Theatre Communications Group, and Austin Creative Alliance
- ❖ Recipient of 5 NEA Grants since 2010
- ❖ Founding Member of Manor Road Merchant's Association