

LTA January Staged Readings

January 23, 24, 25, and 26, 2024

\$10 at the door night of the performance.

Cash, check, or credit card / No advance reservations.

No charge for LTA Members & Council Members

January 23 at 8 pm - ***Charles Francis Chan Jr.'s Exotic Oriental Murder Mystery***

Written by Lloyd Suh and Directed by Jacqueline Youm

Produced by Eleanore Tapscott

In 1967, Berkeley grad student Frank Chan and his artist-activist girlfriend Kathy Ching are staging a revolution. Amid the backdrop of ongoing war in Vietnam and a peak in the Civil Rights movement, they devise a wild, impulsive theatrical trip through the history of Asians in America, from the ancestral railways of their forebears to the shameful legacy of Charlie Chan stereotypes, all in pursuit of establishing a brand-new political identity they've decided to call "Asian America." This play is a harmless sing-song orientalist minstrel show that ends in a grotesque carnival of murder!!!

January 24 at 8 pm - ***Milk Like Sugar***

Written by Kirsten Greenidge and Directed by Jacqueline Youm

Produced by Eleanore Tapscott

It is Annie Desmond's sixteenth birthday and her friends have decided to help her celebrate in style, complete with a brand new tattoo. Before her special night is over, however, Annie and her friends enter into a life altering pact. When Annie tries to make good on her promise to her friends, she is forced to take a good look at the world that surrounds her. She befriends Malik, who promises a bright future, and Keera, whose evangelical leanings inspire Annie in a way her young parents have not been able to do. In the end Annie's choices propel her onto an irreversible path in this story that combines wit, poetry, and hope.

January 25 at 8 pm – ***The Taming***

Written by Lauren Gunderson and Directed by Jessie Roberts

Produced by Eleanore Tapscott

Tweeting, pandashrews, and undying giddiness for James Madison—what else could you expect to find at a Miss America pageant? In this hilarious, raucous, all-female "power-play" inspired by Shakespeare's *Shrew*, contestant Katherine has political aspirations to match her beauty pageant ambitions. All she needs to revolutionize the American government is the help of one ultra-conservative senator's aide on the cusp of a career breakthrough, and one bleeding-heart liberal blogger who will do anything for her cause. Well, that and a semi-historically-accurate ether trip.

January 26 at 8 pm – ***The Ice Front***

Written by Eric Samuelson and Directed by Jessie Roberts

Produced by Eleanore Tapscott

It takes courage to pretend to be someone you are not in order to be who you are. The traitorous takeover of Norway by the Nazis during WW2 was not well received by the vast majority of the Norwegians; especially the acting community. The actors of the Norwegian National Theatre find themselves in an uneasy truce with Nazi cultural authorities during the German occupation. Distrust rises to defiance when they are forced to perform a Nazi propaganda piece, conscience comes face-to-face with The Final Solution. Several of the actors were murdered. The remainder were either imprisoned, or forced to flee to neutral Sweden, where they waited out the war. After the war, laws were changed in Norway to allow the execution of traitors. Those responsible for the invasion and the betrayals paid with their lives.