Appalachian State University's Performing Arts Series Presents

L.A. THEATRE WORKS:

IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014 8PM

SCHAEFER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS BOONE, NC



Starring in alphabetical order

RYAN VINCENT ANDERSON	Virgil Tibbs
MICHAEL HAMMOND	Sam Wood
KALEN HARRIMAN	Melanie Purdy/Noreen Tatum
TRAVIS JOHNS	Pete/Klan 1
JAMES MORRISON	Chief Gillespie
DARREN RICHARDSON	Ensemble
TOM VIRTUE	Ensemble

Directed by Brian Kite

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

The taking of photographs or the use of any kind of recording device is strictly prohibited.

JOHN BALL'S IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT was commissioned and produced by Godlight Theatre Company, New York, NY. Joe Tantalo, Artistic Director. **www.godlighttheatrecompany.org**.

Play contains strong language, including racial slurs that are authentic to the time period being portrayed.

This performance is funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the North Carolina Arts Council.

Program Notes

In 1967, the major motion picture *In the Heat of the Night* opened in movie theatres across the country, and audiences watched with mouths agape as a forty-two year old Sidney Poitier made history on the silver screen. The film, based on John Ball's 1965 novel of the same name, was one of the first to address serious issues facing our nation during the height of the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. It dealt head-on with the one thing that was on every American's mind during that time: **race.**

The Civil Rights Act had been signed into effect three years prior to the film's release, marking the end of segregation in schools, restaurants, bathrooms, businesses, and public transportation. But despite these legal changes, discrimination and mistrust between races in America was at a boiling point. Many white people resisted integration—and they rose up, violently, in protest. Other white Americans followed the non-violent teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., supporting the de-segregation and fair treatment of their African-American brothers.

In the Heat of the Night gave a voice to the thoughts and feelings of those white Civil Rights supporters and to black people across America, who often kept their opinions hidden in fear of the power wielded by those in opposition.

Audiences who saw *Heat* in their local movie theatres had never before seen a character like the protagonist Virgil Tibbs (played by Sidney Poitier in the film). College-educated, well dressed, a respected police officer from California, and a **black man**, 'Virgil' was a product of the Civil Rights Movement who may never have been written into existence were it not for the efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his non-violent movement for racial equality.

Argo, Alabama, where the story of *Heat* takes place, is a fictional town, but the white townspeople's hesitant feelings towards Virgil saturated many American cities during the 1960s, especially in the South. Violent discrimination against African-Americans—including church bombings, police brutality, riots—occurred all too frequently. The most horrific source of this racial aggression was the Ku Klux Klan. Just as in *Heat*, KKK members were often respected members of the community—policeman, mayors—who got away scott-free with terrifying acts of racial violence.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968—just six days before *In the Heat of the Night* was awarded five Oscars at the 1968 Academy Awards Ceremony. The story of *In the Heat of the Night* reached virtually every American in some form or another during the 60s and 70s. The film was later adapted into an award-winning television series that ran for seven seasons.

Over the past half century, we've made progress. But today, undertones of racial inequality and discrimination saturate American media and culture. There are moments in this story that are uncomfortably familiar to us today. And in many ways, *In the Heat of the Night* seems more timely than ever.

L.A. THEATRE WORKS MISSION AND BACKGROUND

Under the leadership of Producing Director, Susan Albert Loewenberg, L.A. Theatre Works (LATW) has been the foremost radio theatre company in the United States for more than two decades. LATW plays are broadcast weekly in America on public radio stations, daily in China on the Radio Beijing Network, streamed online at www.latw.org and aired on additional international outlets including the BBC, CBC, and many other English language networks. LATW has single-handedly brought the finest recorded dramatic literature into the homes of millions. The company records the majority of its productions in Los Angeles before an enthusiastic and loyal audience of season subscribers. Works by Arthur Miller, Tom Stoppard, Lillian Hellman, Athol Fugard, Joyce Carol Oates, Wendy Wasserstein, Neil Simon, David Mamet, Lynn Nottage and others have been performed and recorded by LATW with casts of the most critically acclaimed film and stage actors. On the road, LATW has delighted audiences with its unique live radio theatre style performances in over 300 small towns and major cities, including New York, Boston, San Francisco, Washington and Chicago, Beijing and Shanghai. An LATW performance is immediate, spontaneous, and features a first-rate cast, live sound effects, and a connection to the audience rarely felt in a traditional theatre setting.

Today, LATW's Audio Theatre Collection includes more than 500 classic and contemporary titles—the largest library of its kind in the world. Much lauded, the L.A. Theatre Works Audio Theatre Collection is available to the public in CD, digital download, app and eBook formats through its website, and retailers such as Amazon, iTunes and Audible.com. The Collection is also available in over 11,000 libraries and has received awards from the Audio Publishers Association, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Publisher's Weekly, Writer's Guild of America, American Library Association, GRAMMY® Awards and many others. Additionally, over 3,000 high schools nationwide use the recordings and accompanying study guides to teach language arts, literature, history and civics through LATW's *Alive & Aloud* educational outreach program. LATW's newest initiative, *The Play's the Thing* for Higher Education, makes over 300 digitized works from the collection available to universities and colleges across the country for use in a variety of disciplines. For more information on these programs, LATW's Audio Theatre Collection, national radio broadcast information and other exciting projects, visit **www.latw.org**.

FOR L.A. THEATRE WORKS:

Producing Director: Susan Albert Loewenberg

Director: Brian Kite

Managing Director: Vicki Pearlson Business Manager: Gary Starr

Associate Producer: Anna Lyse Erikson

Tour Managers: Kalen Harriman and Darren Richardson

Production Stage Manager: Caitlin Barbieri

Projection Designer: Sean Cawelti

Composer, Recording Engineer, Sound Designer & Editor: Mark Holden, The Invisible

Studios

Composer: Michael Lopez, The Invisible Studios

Lighting Designer: Dan Ionazzi Costume Designer: Carin Jacobs

Set Designer: Rich Rose

Associate Director of Development: Devon Brand

Graphic Designer: Dennis Ramirez Senior Radio Producer: Myke Weiskopf Post-Production Coordinator: Ronn Lipkin E-Commerce Manager: Brandon Ribota Publicity & Public Relations: Lucy Pollak

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L.A. Theatre Works 681 Venice Boulevard Venice, CA 90291

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BIOGRAPHIES

RYAN VINCENT ANDERSON (Virgil Tibbs) an actor/writer/director from Queens, NY residing in L.A., is thrilled to make his L.A. Theatre Works debut. THEATER: HAMLET, LOVE'S LABOURS LOST, THE WINTER'S TALE, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, HAMLET (Independent Shakespeare Company); MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (African-American Shakespeare Company); IN THE RED AND BROWN WATER (Marin Theater Company); QUEENIE PIE (Long Beach Opera); CLYBOURNE PARK (PCPA); EURYDICE (A Noise Within); YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (Antaeus Theatre Company); THE OLD SETTLER (International City Theater); DEATH AND THE KING'S HORSEMAN, OUR TOWN, CLAY CART, HENRY IV (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); as well as others. FILM: Feeding Mr. Baldwin; TV: "Young and the Restless," "Eagleheart"; VOICE OVER: World of Warcraft, DiabloIII, Audiobooks. Recently Ryan wrote and directed a play titled OUT/SIDE which was chosen for the inaugural Paul Robeson Play Festival with the Robey Theatre Company in Los Angeles. Ryan received his MFA in acting from California Institute of the Arts. Visit www. ryanvanderson.com for more info. Thank you Mom and Dad for your continued love and support!

(cont.) →

MICHAEL HAMMOND (Sam Wood) is excited and honored to be a part of L.A. Theatre Works' National Tour of IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT. A recent graduate of the MFA acting program at UC San Diego, Michael grew up in Silver Spring, MD and graduated from Brown University with a BA in Biology. After graduation, he moved to a ranch in Wyoming, where he built fences, stables, and roofs, and rode some valiant steeds. He then returned to Washington, DC, where he performed briefly before moving to San Diego. His regional credits include HIS GIRL FRIDAY and CAR PLAYS: SAN DIEGO (La Jolla Playhouse); JULIUS CAESAR and ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL (Shakespeare Theatre DC); THE TORCH-BEARERS (Williamstown Theatre Festival); A DEVIL AT NOON (Eugene O'Neill Theater Center); SOLID GOLD CADILLAC and SUPERIOR DONUTS (u/s) (Studio Theatre DC); STAGE DOOR (American Century Theater); and ROCKY HORROW SHOW (Kensington Arts Theater). His UCSD credits include SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, GRAPES OF WRATH, IN THE CROWDING DARKNESS, TONIGHT WE IMPROVISE, and SPRING AWAKENING. He's done readings at the Kennedy Center, the Theatre Lab/Woolly Mammoth Theatre, and the DC Shorts Film Festival. In addition to UCSD, he has trained at the Williamstown Theatre Festival, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Connecticut, and the Studio Theatre Acting Conservatory in DC. Michael wants to thank the entire theater community at UCSD as well as his loving and supportive family – Mom, Dad, Liz and Lucy – for everything they've done the past few years, including enduring those long flights from the east coast. I hope you enjoy the show!

KALEN HARRIMAN (Melanie Purdy/ Noreen Tatum) makes a happy return to LATW where she recently graced the mic in THE OTHER PLACE. A recent addition to the Los Angeles community, she has also been seen alongside Brian Dennehy in THE STEWARD OF CHRISTENDOM (Center Theatre Group). Regional credits include Writer's Theatre (Chicago), Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, Riverside Theatre in the Park, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. TV Credits: "Chicago Fire" (NBC).

TRAVIS JOHNS (*Pete*) stage work includes the World Premiere of ATLANTA: THE MUSICAL (Geffen Playhouse); the West Coast Premiere of NATIONAL PASTIME (Fremont Centre Theatre); THE EXONERATED (Playhouse West); THE DIVINERS (Santa Monica Playhouse); TAKE ME OUT (Ensemble Theatre Company). Films include: *Imagine* (opposite Al Pacino); *Swelter* (opposite Alfred Molina); *Sound of My Voice; Adventures of Power* (opposite Jane Lynch), and most recently, playing the lead role in *Sex & Violence: Or A Brief Review of Simple Physics*. A partial list of TV credits include: "Ray Donovan," "2 Broke Girls," "The Mentalist," "Sons of Anarchy," and "Justified." As a writer, Johns has had several screenplays optioned, including *Jack Daniel*, the bio-pic of the legendary Tennessee whiskey maker. Johns was raised in Elizabethton, Tennessee, graduated from Wake Forest University, and resides in Los Angeles, CA.

JAMES MORRISON (Chief Gillespie) will best be remembered as 'Bill Buchanan' in Seasons 4-7 of FOX's Emmy winning "24." He began his acting career as a clown and wire walker in the circus in the mid-1970s and went on to spend two years as an apprentice with the Alaska Repertory Theatre in his hometown of Anchorage. James has worked with L.A. Theatre Works on JULIUS CEASAR, RUBY MCCOLLUM, THE RAINMAKER and GREEK. He has done over one hundred plays at theatres including The McCarter Theatre, the La Jolla Playhouse, the Mark Taper Forum, the LA Stage Company, the Old Globe, and the Pasadena Playhouse. He received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Performance for his role in EL SALVADOR. He was in London's West End premiere of Emily Mann's STILL LIFE, which also received a Fringe First Award at The Edinburgh Festival. Film credits include I am I, The Jazz Funeral, Raspberry Magic, Catch Me if You Can, The One, Falling Down, Abilene, Wilderness Survival for Girls and Jarhead. In addition to dozens of guest starring TV roles, he's also held series regular or recurring roles in "Those Who Kill," "Revenge, "Private Practice," "HawthoRNe" and "Space: Above and Beyond." James is also the director/producer of the documentary film, *Showing Up: A* Conversation About the Audition, a singer/songwriter and yoga teacher.

DARREN RICHARDSON (Various) Originally from London, Darren's most recent L.A. Theatre Works productions include TOP SECRET: THE BATTLE FOR THE PENTAGON PAPERS which toured China and was the first American play performed at the Beijing National Theatre, and the US national tours of THE GRADUATE and PRIDE AND PREJUDICE. Other LATW productions include THE BROWNING VERSION, PHOTOGRAPH 51, THE LIFE OF GALILEO, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, ARCADIA, THE IMAGINARY CUCKOLD, THE BUNGLER, THE MISANTHROPE, HAMLET and ROMEO AND JULIET. His BBC radio work for Jarvis & Ayres productions includes two series of KICKING THE HABBIT; Ayckbourn's A SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS and HENCEFORWARD, SHADOWLANDS, THE HORSE, KEEP YOUR PANTHEON, P.G. Wodehouse's UNCLE FRED IN SPRINGTIME, ENGLAND THEIR ENGLAND, ON HER MAJESTYS SECRET SERVICE, Shaw's YOU NEVER CAN TELL and most recently AIR FORCE ONE. Theatre in LA includes: WHAT THE BUTLER SAW (The Odyssey); THE REAL THING (ICT Long Beach); A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL (The Odyssey); ALFIE (The Met) and ABIGAIL'S PARTY (The Odyssey). TV and film includes "Lost," "Fastlane," Soccer Dog - European Cup and the award-winning shorts "Offside" and "Nebraska." He has been on the small screen many times in commercials from England to Australia and all stops in between! His vocal talents have been lent to many of Hollywood's top grossing films. He is honored to be back onstage with his L.A. Theatre Works family!

TOM VIRTUE (*Various*) is a frequent TV guest star, having appeared in over two hundred and fifty episodes of television. He has been a series regular on "The Building," "The Bonnie Hunt Show," the popular Disney Channel program, "Even Stevens" and most recently played Reverend Stone on ABC Family's "The Secret Life of the American Teenager." His recent film appearances include *Iron Man 3, Hitchcock, The Guilt Trip and Transformers 3: Dark of the Moon.* A graduate of Northwestern University's School of Speech, Tom has performed Off-Broadway for the Hudson Guild and in Chicago with The Practical Theatre, which led to his being hired by The Second City's Mainstage Company. He is the recipient of a Joseph Jefferson Award for his theatre work in Chicago, and has received the L.A. Theatre Award for his stage work in Los Angeles. He has acted in over a dozen plays for L.A. Theatre Works including the original U.S. Tour of TOP SECRET: THE BATTLE FOR THE PENTAGON PAPERS and its two recent tours to China.

MATT PELFREY (Adaptor) is a film, theatre and television writer. He is Co-Artistic Director of Furious Theatre Company. His plays have been produced around the country and overseas and include COCKROACH NATION, TERMINUS AMERICANA, AN IMPENDING RUPTURE OF THE BELLY, PURE SHOCK VALUE, FREAK STORM and recently the stage adaption of IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT. His plays are available from Original Works Publishing, Broadway Play Publishing, and Samuel French. He is the winner of the Actor's Theatre of Louisville's Heidman Award, a Backstage Garland Award for playwriting and was nominated for an LA WEEKLY playwriting award and a Los Angeles Ovation award. He worked as a staff writer on the MTV drama "Skins." His screenplay *Survivalism* was included on the 2011 Blood List and currently has Gina Carano attached to star. His screenplay *The Find* is set up with Michael Bay attached as executive producer and Mark Palansky (*Penelope*) directing. He received his BA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State and his MFA in Playwriting from U.C.L.A.

BRIAN KITE (Director) has directed across the United States and abroad. He is the Producing Artistic Director of La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts where his credits include their critically acclaimed productions of LES MISÉRABLES, MISS SAIGON, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, DINNER WITH FRIENDS, STEEL MAGNOLIAS starring Cathy Rigby, DRIVING MISS DAISY starring Michael Learned and David Auburn's PROOF. He is the recipient of the Los Angeles Ovation Award for Best Direction of a Musical for his production of SPRING AWAKENING. He staged the first production of MISS SAIGON to ever play in China when his show closed the Macau International Music Festival, and he directed TOP SECRET: THE BATTLE FOR THE PENTAGON PAPERS, for L.A. Theatre Works, which toured throughout mainland China. The production was the first U.S. production of a play at Beijing's National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA). Other L.A. Theatre Works productions include their National Tours of THE GRADUATE and PRIDE AND PREJUDICE. Prior to that, he helmed a production of CABARET in Bermuda under the patronage of the Queen's Governor and other recent credits include three Los Angeles revivals, THE GLASS MENAGERIE, J.B., and THE CRUCIBLE, as well as the West Coast premiere of Václav Havel's THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. He directed the Philadelphia production of Glenn Wein's GRANDMA SYLVIA'S FUNERAL and worked with Tony Award-winning

director Daniel Sullivan on The Geffen Playhouse's production of HEDDA GABLER starring Annette Bening. He directed over 20 productions at French Woods Festival in New York where he was the Director of Theater Programs for over 7 years. Brian is currently a member of the directing faculty at U.C.L.A.'s School of Theater, Film and Television, serves as the Chair of the LA Stage Alliance's Board of Governors, and is the Artistic Director of the award-winning Buffalo Night's Theatre Company.

SUSAN ALBERT LOEWENBERG (Producing Director) is founder and Producing Director of L.A. Theatre Works, a non-profit media arts and theatre organization. Ms. Loewenberg has produced award-winning radio dramas, plays and films in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and London. Under her supervision, LATW has created the largest library of plays on audio in the world, garnering numerous awards from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Writers Guild, The American Library Association, Publishers' Weekly and others. Ms. Loewenberg also serves as host and is the Executive Producer of LATW's nationally distributed syndicated radio series, "L.A. Theatre Works," broadcast on NPR stations nationwide and in China daily on The Radio Beijing Network. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, she has served on innumerable boards and panels, including the National Endowment for the Arts, California Arts Council, The Fund for Independence in Journalism in Washington D.C., and was co-chair of the League of Producers and Theatres of Greater Los Angeles. From 1996-2002, Ms. Loewenberg served during the Clinton administration on the Board of Directors for Federal Prison Industries, a presidential appointment, and served for several years as a member of the regional panel of the President's Commission on White House Fellows. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of The Center for Public Integrity, and a Fellow of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities at USC. Ms. Loewenberg is the author of a number of articles that have appeared in American Theatre Magazine, The Los Angeles Times and various professional journals.

ANNA LYSE ERIKSON (Associate Producer) manages the casting, artistic hiring, play selections, rights acquisitions, and overall live production for L.A. Theatre Works' live and in-studio recordings and tours. Anna Lyse holds an M.A. in Theatre History, Theory and Criticism from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a B.A. in Theatre Performance from the University of Missouri. She was a University of Missouri Research Scholar, a Tom Berenger Acting Scholar, and a recipient of numerous university fellowships. She has adapted and produced 2 original productions around her scholarly research into the life and work of Tennessee Williams, and her published Master's Thesis deals with the recurring artist figure in Williams' work. She previously was Director of Outreach for the Independent Actors Theatre of Columbia Missouri. Ms. Erikson is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Mortar Board (Friar's Chapter).

CAITLIN BARBIERI (*Production Stage Manager*) Caitlin is very happy to be a part of her second L.A. Theatre Works national tour. After graduating from CSU Long Beach with a BFA in Film Production she rediscovered her love for live theater and has been a part of it ever since. She also stage manages at Universal Studios Hollywood and The El Capitan Theatre. Some of her favorite credits include THE 39 STEPS, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, and GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS. Caitlin would like to thank her family and friends for all of their support.

SEAN CAWELTI (*Projection Designer*) graduated from the University of California Irvine with his BA in Drama with honors in Directing and studied puppetry at Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. Sean has won awards for his work as a designer, director and playwright, honored with a UNIMA Citation of Excellence for GOGOL PROJECT and was a 2013 finalist for Center Theatre Group's Sherwood Award as a director. He was selected by the City of Los Angeles' Cultural Affairs Department to travel to Brazil for two months to study woodcarving and Candomblé, a religion born of African and Catholic traditions. Sean is the founding Artistic Director of Rogue Artists Ensemble, a multi-media, puppet and mask company in Los Angeles. His directing work has been seen at the Getty Villa, South Coast Repertory, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, The Geffen Playhouse and the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta. He has designed puppets, masks, props and video for theater, music videos, museums, concerts and arena shows including the recent Kanye West Yeezus world tour. More info – www.seancawelti.com

MARK HOLDEN (Music Composer, Recording Engineer, Sound Designer & Editor) has two decades of experience recording and mixing various projects in studios, on sets and on live stages. He has designed, recorded and mixed over 200 radio plays for clients such as L.A. Theatre Works, the BBC and independent production companies. As a musician and music producer, Mark understands that communication and comfort are essential to a creative space, which is why he created The Invisible Studios in West Hollywood, CA. This boutique recording/mixing environment is home base for the many projects overseen by Mark and his team. Mark has also composed for radio, film and television; most recently scoring the award winning feature film *Out in the Dark*. Mark has also engineered and produced for several genres of music and worked with some of the biggest names in commercial and creative voice talent. Learn more about Mark and his team at theinvisiblestudios.com.

MICHAEL LOPEZ (Music Composer) Michael Lopez, born in Madison Wisconsin, graduated from the University of California Irvine with a degree in music composition. He has worked with numerous artists at UEG, the management section of EMI, helping to insure the artists are well represented. An all-around musician, Michael's specialties include pop rock, alt rock, hip hop and R&B, and funk. Past clients include Natusol, Paulie Pesh and the Vitals, Clarke, Red 5 Standing By, and many more. Through his composing partnership with Mark Holden, he has collaborated on feature film scores, Music for BBC drama, and several LA Theater Works projects. His style and passion speak through his music.

DAN IONAZZI (Lighting Designer) Daniel Ionazzi returns to L.A. Theatre Works where he designed the tours of PRIDE AND PREJUDICE and THE GRADUATE. His work has also been seen at Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Arena Stage, South Coast Repertory Theater, Denver Center Theatre Company, Berkeley Rep and the Geffen Playhouse. His design for the New York production of THE JACKSONIAN recently garnered a Lucille Lortel nomination. He designed the lighting installation for TEATRO ALLA MODA for the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and TRAJECTOIRE and CATAPULT for the dance company Diavolo. His design work can also be seen in the 4-D cinematic experience, Beyond all Boundaries, at the National World War II Museum. Daniel is Production Manager for the Geffen Playhouse, a member of the faculty of the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television and Director of Production for the Department of Theater. He is the author of **The Stage Management Handbook** and **The Stagecraft Handbook**.

CARIN JACOBS (Costume Designer) has been designing costumes around the OC/LA area for over 15 years. Her work can be seen in many genres including theatre, film, live stage shows and professional cheerleading. Projects include; Arizona Cardinals Cheerleading uniforms (seen at the 2009 Superbowl), "Operation Spy Girl" stunt show for Six Flags Chicago, the feature film Saving Lincoln and most recently LEGALLY BLONDE at Cabrillo Musical Theatre, an Ovation award nominee for Best Musical. A highlight of her career was having the opportunity to work with Julie Taymor and the creative costume design team on "The Lion King" in Los Angeles. In addition to her freelance design work, Carin also teaches costume history and design at The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, and California State University, Dominguez Hills. She holds a B.A. in Art History from UCLA and an M.F.A. in Theatre from Cal State Long Beach. Carin loves her career and feels like one of the luckiest people in the world to be making a living creating art.

RICH ROSE (Set Designer) As the resident scenic designer at the award winning Back Alley Theater in Los Angeles for many years, Rich designed approximately 30 productions including JACQUES BREL IS ALIVE AND WELL..., FOUND A PEANUT (DramaLogue and LA Weekly awards for scenic design) and DAYS AND NIGHTS WITHIN. More recent credits include a gala memorial tribute night for film producer, and founder of PARTICIPANT MEDIA, Jake Eberts (Gandhi, Dances with Wolves, The Year of Living Dangerously), consulting with the Los Angeles County Arts Commission on the multi-million dollar renovation of the historic John Anson Ford Theater stage in Hollywood, and the scenic designs for LANIE KAZAN PRESENTS THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK, and the La Mirada Theatre "Onstage" productions of SPRING AWAKENING and FLOYD COLLINS. A Professor in the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television, Rich is the author of books on computer-aided design, drafting, and sketching for the stage.



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