



# INNOCENT WHEN YOU DREAM

a new play by Ken Narasaki

Directed by Alberto Isaac

World Premiere • October 6-28, 2007  
**ELECTRIC LODGE**

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES:

## I have only three things to say:

First off, any resemblance between these fictional characters to any persons, living or dead, is completely coincidental. Seriously. Sure, I stole liberally from my own experience for the present day hospital scenes, but from the beginning, these characters sort of dictated who they wanted to be, and of course, the requirements of both drama and the Muses changed all the characters (and the story) beyond recognition. My sisters are all very nice, sweet people who would never try to kill their husbands in a parking lot, and the one sister who's still single warned me that this better not put a crimp in her social life, so let me just say that she would never try to kill any dates, boyfriends or potential husbands in any parking lot at any time. The story that takes place in the past, of course, is entirely fictional, inspired only by a single thought dropped by a maiden aunt that made me think of how little we know even the people we love.

The second thing is this: They say it takes a village to raise a child, and if I can steal that thought, I must say that it takes a community to make a play. We have had so much help from so many people, including all the artists who are virtually donating their time and talent (the pittance they're getting probably doesn't even cover gas), as well as the various organizations and our community partners (Keiro Senior Services, the Rafu Shimpō, EWP, and JANM), and the scores of individuals who've given donations of time, money, labor, and skill (including some of you in the audience tonight) so that we could present this play to you. It's been a labor of love, but like all such labors, we've been repaid a hundred-fold by all the love and support of our communities—artistic, ethnic, and actual.

Finally, I want to express my deep gratitude to my father, who was a 442 vet and worked tirelessly for his community; he taught us all the value of individual expression and gave us all the courage to speak—and to the rest of his generation, who endured so much to give us and the ensuing generations the opportunity to speak.

—Ken Narasaki

Timescape Arts Group  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH Keiro Retirement Center,  
Rafu Shimpō AND The Japanese American National Museum

PRESENTS

THE PREMIERE OF A NEW JAPANESE AMERICAN PLAY

# INNOCENT WHEN YOU DREAM

BY Ken Narasaki

DIRECTED BY Alberto Isaac

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

*Dan* : Sab Shimono\*  
*Frank/Bartender* : John Miyasaki  
*Grace* : Sharon Omi\*  
*Joy* : Emily Kuroda\*  
*Merv* : Ken Narasaki\*  
*Doctor Park* : Mike Hagiwara\*

SET DESIGN Mina Kinukawa COSTUME DESIGN/PROPS Ken Takemoto  
LIGHTING DESIGN Christopher M. Singleton SOUND DESIGN Dennis Yen  
STAGE MANAGER Darlene Miyakawa\* ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Juliet Wong  
CHOREOGRAPHY Mike Hagiwara FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHY Tom Atha

October 6-28, 2007  
ELECTRIC LODGE

This production is sponsored by a generous grant from the Durfee Foundation  
and the goodwill and generosity of our great friends and family.

\*Appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

[www.myspace.com/innocentatelectric](http://www.myspace.com/innocentatelectric)

CAST



Sab Shimono



John Miyasaki



Sharon Omi

**SAB SHIMONO** (*Dan*) has been on Broadway multiple times, including *Mame* and *Pacific Overtures*. He's appeared in dozens of films, including *Gung Ho*, *The Wash*, *Presumed Innocent*, *Come See The Paradise*, *Waterworld*, *The Big Hit*, *Paradise Road*, *The Shadow*, *Suture*, *Southland Tales*, *Sensei*. He recently completed filming the TV movie *Ben 10*, and *Old Dogs* with Robin Williams and John Travolta. He co-starred in the feature film, *Robot Stories*, written and directed by Greg Pak, which garnered global praise. TV credits include *2 ½ Men*, *Friends*, *Seinfeld*, *M.A.S.H.*, and many more. He voiced the role of "Uncle" for five seasons on Fox's *Jackie Chan Adventures*, and is the voice of "Chow Lo" in Disney's *Mulan*. Recent theatre work includes *Happy End* at ACT, as well as Philip Kan Gotanda's *After the War*. Sab's work with writer/director Philip Kan Gotanda includes *Avocado Kid*, *Fish Head Soup*, and *Sisters Matsumoto* at East West Players in Los Angeles, the world premiere of *The Wind Cries Mary* at San Jose Repertory Theater, with a second production at East West Players, *Manzanar*, and the feature film, *Life Tastes Good*, as well as off-Broadway productions of *Yankee Dawg You Die*, *The Ballad of Yachio* and *The Wash* for which Sab garnered the 1990 & 1991 New York Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Actor. He continues to remain very active in local, regional, Broadway, and Off-Broadway theater. He has been honored

on numerous occasions with awards from LA Weekly and Dramalogue for outstanding performances, and received a 1975 Clio award for Best Actor.

**JOHN MIYASAKI** (*Bartender/Frank*) has been the Artistic Director for hereandnow theatre company for the past 18 years and for Teatro Nueva Alma since its inception in 1998. Directing credits with these two companies include: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Pinoy/Pinay Style*, *Fentor*, *A Nickle's Worth*, *Boba Stories*, *Layover In LA*, *Cries Of The Soul*, *New Traditions*, and *Sin Titulo*, along with their current nationwide touring shows. His other directing credits include: *Letters to a Student Revolution*, *Taiko Project*, and for the past two years he has been the director for the East West Players Children's Tour, *Asian Pacific Tales*. He has also appeared on stage at the Mark Taper Forum, Hollywood Bowl, East West Players, Los Angeles Theater Center, The Ivy Sub-Station and The Alley Theater (Houston). Other theatre credits: *Webster Street Blues*, *A Chorus Line*, *Pinoy In Space*, *Chikamatsu's Forest*, *Talk Story*, *Into The Woods*, *The Birds*, *The Avocado Kid*, *Manzanar*, *The Medium*, *The Fantasticks*, *Mishima*, *Richard III*, *Tartuffe*.

**SHARON OMI** (*Grace*) has worked extensively in theatre, film, and television, appearing in plays at the Ahmanson, the Mark Taper, South Coast Repertory, American Conservatory Theatre, the



Mike Hagiwara



Ken Narasaki



Emily Kuroda

Berkeley Repertory Theatre, East West Players, the Eureka, the Magic and the Asian American Theater Company, among many others. Her favorite roles include Sonya in *Uncle Vanya*, Hana in *And The Soul Shall Dance*, and Sara in *Ghosts and Baggage*. She has also appeared in the films *Constantine*, *Yellow*, *Terminal USA* and *Only the Brave* (among others). Thanks to Rosie for being such a sweet daughter and to Ken for writing this play and making this journey possible.

**MIKE HAGIWARA** (*Dr. Park*) has appeared in more than fifty shows locally and nationally. Some of his favorites include: *Pacific Overtures*, *the Seagull*, *Company*, *And the Soul Shall Dance*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Manzanar*, *Leilani Hibiscus*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Grapevine*, *A Jivebomber's Xmas*. His recent Television and Film credits include *ER*, *My Name Is Earl*, *Side Order Of Life*, *Las Vegas*, *Strong Medicine*, *Surrender Dorothy*, *Skip Tracer*, *Redline*, *Only The Brave*, *Would I Lie To You*, and *Redrum*. Mike has been the voice of Safeway Supermarkets in Hawaii for more than eight years. His voice can be heard in cartoons and video games such as *Jimmy Neutron Boy Genius*, *Avatar*, *Duckman*, *Mucha Lucha*, *Lara Croft Tomb Raider*, *Happily Ever After*, *Marvel Legends*, *Drakes Fortune*, and *The Wild Bunch*. As a Director or Choreographer, his recent projects include *Peanuts*, *Manzanar*, *Nisei Widows Club* (*Holiday*

*On Thin Ice*) *The Camp Dance*, *Tim's 10th*, *Stew Rice*, *A Jivebomber's Xmas*, and the film *Day Of Independence*. He would like to dedicate his performances of *Innocent When You Dream* to the Nisei who struggled, fought and endured to give him the opportunity to follow his dreams.

**KEN NARASAKI** (*Merv*). East West Players, Singapore Rep, the Theatre @ Boston Court, the Asian American Theater Company, the Berkeley Rep, the San Jose Rep, the San Francisco Shakespeare Company, the Mark Taper Forum, the Japan America Theatre, the Sacramento Theatre Company, Thick Description, hereandnow, the Sundance Institute, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music, as well as many others. He's also appeared in a variety of TV and film projects, including the recent *Only the Brave*, and a starring role as a Japanese detective in a German TV series.

**EMILY KURODA** (*Joy*). Theatres: EWP, Actor's Co-op, La Jolla Playhouse, Playwright's Arena, The Public, BAM (NYC), South Coast, CTG, Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, Singapore Rep, LA Women's Shakespeare, LA Free Shakespeare, Huntington Theatre (Boston), and LATC. Recent TV: *Gilmore Girls*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *State Of Mind*, *King Of Queens*, *Six Feet Under*. Recent Films: *Sensei*, *Shopgirl*, *Stand Up For Justice*, *Stranger Inside*, *Minority Report*, *Heartless*, *Worth Winning*, *Dad*, *About Love*.

## CREATIVE TEAM

**ALBERTO ISAAC** (*Director*). Award-winning director Alberto Isaac is happy to be directing another Ken Narasaki play. He previously directed Ken's *Ghosts and Baggage* at LATC. Other productions he has directed *Yankee Dawg You Die*, *Woman From The Other Side Of The World*, *The Maids*, *Hughie*, *Performance Anxiety*, *Yellow Fever* (East West Players), *The Trojan Women* and *Claim to Fame* (Lodestone Theatre), *Insomnia* (Strasberg Institute), *Performance Anxiety* (East LA Actors Company) and *Chickencoop Chinaman* (Asian American Theatre Company), winning three DramaLogue awards and One L.A. Drama Critics Circle award for outstanding direction. As an actor, he has appeared in various regional theatres and on film and TV.

**KEN NARASAKI** (*Playwright*) *Ghosts and Baggage*, premiere at LATC, directed by Alberto Isaac. *Innocent When You Dream* was read at EWP, the Japanese American National Museum, Theatre Mu (Minneapolis) the Asian American Repertory Theatre (San Diego), and Pan Asian Repertory in New York City, and won the 2006 Kumu Kahua Pacific Rim Playwriting Award; this is its world premiere. *The Mikado Project* (in collaboration with Doris Baizley) premiered this past spring at Lodestone Theatre Ensemble and was recommended by the Los Angeles Times, the LA Weekly, and Backstage West.

**EMILY KURODA** (*Producer*).

**IRMA ESCAMILA** (*Technical Consultant*) is presently working on Cedar Grove OnStage's new production of *Show Me Some Stuff* by Dan Kwong.

**ALAN MURAOKA** (*Producer*). After working for more than 20 years in the entertainment industry first as a theatrical set designer, then art director, presently production designer for feature film and television, Alan is honored to have the opportunity to contribute to Ken's new play as a first time producer. Previous credits as a theatrical designer include productions with The Old Globe Theater, San Diego, Michigan Opera, June Opera Festival and the Julliard School. Feature film production design credits include *BaadAsssss* and *Edmond*. As an art director: *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Liberty Heights*, *Ghost World* and *Washington Square*.

**JULIET WONG** (*Assistant Director*). Warm thanks Alberto, Emily, Sharon, Ken and all at Timescape. Recent credits: *Chorus*, *Trojan Women* (Lodestone Theatre Ensemble); associate producer, assistant director/co-stage manager, *The Mikado Project* (Lodestone); writer, performer: *Collaboratory III* (Great Leap); *Mary, Better Luck Tomorrow* (Trailing Johnson/MTV/Cherry Sky Films); associate producer, *Spotlighting* (Trailing Johnson Productions.)

**MINA KINUKAWA** (*Set Designer*). Mina is excited to be working with this talented group again! Her recent design credits include: *Anon*, and *Thursday* (Echo Theatre Company), *Dead Bride Running* (The Underground Theater), *Stew Rice* (East West Players), *Arlington* (Company of Angels), *Three Sisters* (HapaLis Productions), *Marriage of Figaro* (Pepperdine University), *Living Out* (University of Redlands), and *American Monsters 2*, *Golden Hour*, *The Mikado Project*, and *Trojan Women* (Lodestone Theatre Ensemble). Her film

credits include: *Blood: The Last Vampire*, *The Informers*, *Love on a Leash*, *Mafiosa* (TV pilot), *Freedom Rock* commercial for Robot Chicken (TV).

**CHRISTOPHER SINGLETON** (*Lighting Designer*) is the Resident Lighting Designer for the Stephanie Feury Studio, Lodestone Theatre Ensemble, and involved with Comedy Central Stage. Christopher discovered his passion for theatre arts in kindergarten when he was a clown in Keys School's production of *Barnum*. He discovered the art of lighting design at Loyola Marymount University, where he graduated from in 2004. Since starting his journey, Christopher has designed the lights for over sixty shows all over the United States. Some of his most recent projects include *Clue* (Mercury Theater Productions), *Trojan Women* (Lodestone Theatre Ensemble), *Eddie*, *Kill the President* (Stephanie Feury Studio), *Merrily We Roll Along* (Chromolume Theatre Ensemble), and *The Best Man* (W Productions).

**DENNIS YEN** (*Sound Designer*) is excited to be a part of another Ken Narasaki project. He is happy to be working with Alberto, again (this is the third of 3 projects this year, so far!). He is currently scoring a few films, a documentary and a couple videos. Dennis Yen enjoys referring to himself in the third person. He would like to thank May, Ken, Sharon, Emily and Alberto for their continued support.

**KEN TAKEMOTO** (*Costume Designer/Property Master*) is a native of Hawaii, retired from LAUSD after 34 years of sharing his passion for art as a teacher. For the last 17 years, he has devoted his expertise and talents to performing arts as an actor, costume designer and property master. Ken is the recipient of Dramalogue awards for his costume design for *Cabaret* and *Twelfth Night O'wateva* (EWP). He has appeared on stage in *Sisters Matsumoto*, *Follies* and *Taste Of Kona Coffee*. Ken is also the recipient of an EWP Rae Creevey Award for Outstanding Service. Recent TV credits include *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and Hertz and Prudential Life commercials. Recent films: *The Island* and *Just Like Heaven*.

**DARLENE MIYAKAWA** (*Production Stage Manager*) made working on this project one of her birthday wishes, so it was a happy surprise to receive a call a few days after blowing the candles. She has worked primarily in theater and opera as a stage manager and producer. Some of her credits include: Long Beach Opera, Shakespeare Festival/LA, Theatreworks/Palo Alto, Marin Theatre Company, Opera San Jose, Teatro Vision, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and Oakland Public Theater. Darlene is a member of AEA, SMA, and AGMA.

**TOM ATHA** (*Fight Choreographer*) has been choreographing fights, directing plays, and acting in film and theatre professionally for thirty years. Tom teaches acting at East Los Angeles College.

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Ken Narasaki  
*Playwright*  
Alberto Isaac  
*Director*  
Emily Kuroda, Sharon Omi,  
Alan Muraoka  
*Producers*  
Sandy Kenyon, John Flynn  
*Timescape Arts Group Producers*  
Irma Escamilla  
*Consulting Producer*  
Mina Kinukawa  
*Set Designer*  
Ken Takemoto  
*Costume Designer/Props*  
Christopher M. Singleton  
*Lighting Designer*  
Dennis Yen  
*Sound Designer*  
Darlene Miyakawa  
*Production Stage Mgr./Board Op.*  
Juliet Wong  
*Assistant Director*  
Mike Hagiwara  
*Choreographer*  
Tom Atha  
*Fight Choreographer*  
Penelope Hsu  
*Medical Consultant*  
Mimi Ison  
*House Manager/Box Office*  
Sharon Omi  
*Group Sales/Marketing*  
Andrea Apuy  
*Publicist*  
Rodney Kageyama  
*Ambassador of Good Will*  
Debbie Nagata  
*Hospitality*  
Christopher Komuro  
*Graphic Designer*  
Emily Kuroda, Mike Palma  
*Photographers*  
Dori Quon  
*Costumes*  
Susan Vance, Debbie Nagata  
*Opening Night Coordinators*  
Meg Bodi  
*Master Electrician*  
Ping Wu, Luis Delgado,  
Katie Cadle, Greg Watanabe  
*Electricians*  
Greg Watanabe, Michael Sun  
Lee, Michael Hornbuckle  
*Muscle*

## SPECIAL THANKS

Sandra Kenyon and John Flynn  
at Timescape Arts Group,  
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Michael Seel/Theatre @ Boston  
Court, Nic Cha Kim and  
Stephanie Jo Chang at Lodestone  
Theatre Ensemble, Helen Ota,  
Maureen Keekiesen, Craig  
Maeda, and Tony Jones, Suzanne  
Toji of Feast from the East, Jim  
Ishida, Ping Wu, David Johann,  
Jason Fong, Zar Acayan.

To Irma Escamilla and Francois  
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generously supplying libations for  
our Opening Night celebration.

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tirelessly marketing this play  
to the Japanese American  
Community.

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for the unbounded hospitality  
and generosity.

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venture.

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everything but the kitchen sink  
AND their marketing support.

## DONORS

Sharon's Auntie  
*who didn't want to be named in the  
program (you know who you are.)*

Lynn and Brian Arthurs

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