

Dear friends,

Happy 2023! And welcome to Kim's Convenience.

It's already shaping up to be an auspicious year. We recently learned that TheatreSquared has been selected for a highly competitive 2023 American Institute of Architects NY Design Award, as well as for the 2023 USITT Architecture Award. Entering its fourth year, our beautiful new home is still turning heads nationwide.

And, hot off the presses, Lincoln Center Theater has just announced that *Flex*, by Candrice Jones, will receive a major production in New York less than a year after TheatreSquared's world premiere right here in the West Theatre. It's the second show in just three years to jump from T2 to that storied stage.

"Straight from New York?" "Direct from Broadway?" These days, it's "straight from Northwest Arkansas."

We're thrilled you're here with us to see it first—remarkable theatre, made here.

Enjoy the show!

Martin Miller, *Executive Director* 

Martin Miller

Robert Ford, Artistic Director



# CONVENIENCE

#### CREATIVE TEAM

NELSON EUSEBIO# EILEEN RIVERA YOU-SHIN CHEN^ LUX HAAC MARIE YOKOYAMA^ CONNOR WANG<sup>^</sup> MEGAN SMITH\*

Director

Associate Director Scenic Designer Costume Designer Lighting Designer Sound Designer Stage Manager

#### CAST

ESTON J. FUNG\* **BRANDON JONES\***  Juna Alex/Mike/Mr. Lee/Rich

NATALIF KIM Janet KAREN TSEN I FE\* Umma **GREG WATANABE\*** Appa

#### **UNDERSTUDIES**

SARAH TAN TREY SMITH

FIOR TAT

**EMY HERRERA** 

Janet & Umma

Alex/Mike/Mr. Lee/Rich

#### ADDITIONAL CREATIVES

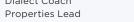
JENNIFER MCCLORY SCOTT N. RUSSELL MORGAN HICKS Q LIM **BRODIE JASCH** 

Associate Costume Designer Fight Choreographer

Intimacy Coordinator/Director

Dialect Coach

1st Assistant Stage Manager 2nd Assistant Stage Manager





<sup>\*</sup> Member, Actors' Equity Association ^Member, United Scenic Artists, Local 829 #Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society



**Brandon Jones** 



Eston J. Fung



Natalie Kim



Karen Tsen Lee



**Greg Watanabe** 



**Nelson Eusebio** 



Eileen Rivera

### TIME PERIOD

#### SETTING

Toronto, Canada. Kim's Convenience Store.

#### **RUN TIME**

90 minutes with one 15-minute intermission.

Kim's Convenience debuted on July 6, 2011 at the Toronto Fringe Festival, having secured a slot by winning the Festival's New Play Contest. It was directed by Ins Choi.

ESTON J. FUNG (Jung) is an actor based out of New York City. Theatre credits: A Dream Play (NAATCO), Caught u/s (Firefly Theater & Films/ Think Tank Art Gallery), Intersections (Guthrie Theater). Selections from Yale School of Drama: Ubu. Midsummer Night's Dream, Othello, Fucking A, Our Lady of 121st Street, Salt Pepper Ketchup, The Commencement of William Tan. TV and Film credits include: The Flash, Tell Me A Story, Happy!, Instinct, Royal Pains, Nickelodeon's Gym Teacher: The Movie. Education: Circle In The Square Theatre School and Yale School Of Drama.

**BRANDON JONES** (Alex/Mike/Mr. Lee/Rich) makes his TheatreSquared debut. His credits include Orsino in Twelfth Night (KC Rep); Lt. Cutting in Valley Forge (First Flight Theatre Co.); Nash in War Words (NY Rep); Marine in In The Soundless Awe (New Light Theater Project): Brother Boxer in The Amen Corner (Classic Stage Company); David in The Sting of White Roses (NC Black Rep); Pete/ John in ReEntry (Actors Theatre of Louisville); King in The Mountaintop (Capital Rep) and various roles at New York's The Actors Company Theatre, where he is an ensemble member. Television credits include Danny in Same Same (Webseries). He holds an BFA in acting from the University of Cincinnati - College Conservatory of Music.

NATALIE KIM (Janet) makes her TheatreSquared debut. Her credits include Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven (Young Jean Lee), HOLY CRAB! (Ensemble Studio Theatre), various performances with Ensemble Studio Theatre, readings and workshops with Ma-Yi Theatre, New Dramatists, The Lark. Most recently Natalie workshopped UNICORN written by playwright Kevin Artigue in association with New Dramatists and Playwrights Horizon. Television credits include: Law & Order, The Blacklist and Madam Secretary. Natalie is also a standup comedian and was chosen as a resident at St. Nell's Comedy Residency in Williamsport, PA open to women+, non-binary folks, and other people of marginalized genders working in any humor-related field\*.

KAREN TSEN LEE (Umma) makes her TheatreSquared debut. Off-Broadway she appeared as Van Pham Tran in Trial By Water (Ma-Yi Theater) by Qui Nguyen, and No Foreigners Beyond This Point by Warren Leight, and as Maria in Twelfth Night (Leviathan Theater). With Pan Asian Repertory Theatre: as Ma in No-No Boy based on the book by John Okada on the impact of the Japanese community after the Japanese-American incarceration, Kimiko in Tea - WWII Japanese war brides and their life in America by Velina Hasu Houston, as Karen in Letters to a Student Revolutionary, and as Nora in A Doll's House (Norris Shimabuku Award). Regional credits include Golden Child (Seattle Repertory), Joy Luck Club (Long Wharf), Macbeth (Shakespeare Theatre), A Christmas Carol (McCarter Theater), No Foreigners... (Baltimore Center Stage). Film credits include The Lennon Report, Rock the Paint, A Father's Son, Fabled, Made in Chinatown, and Tender Ears. Television credits include all Law & Orders, House of Cards, Kaleidoscope with Rufus Sewell. She is a graduate of Hunter College, City University of New York City.

GREG WATANABE (Appa) makes his TheatreSquared debut. On Broadway he appeared in Allegiance. Other credits include Off-Broadway appearances in Ballad Of Yachiyo (Public Theater) and Golden Child (Signature Theater). Regionally, he performed in Cambodian Rock Band (Victory Gardens, City Theatre, Merrimack Rep.), Romeo and Juliet (OSF), The Summer Moon (A Contemporary Theater, South Coast Rep), Extraordinary Chambers (The Geffen Playhouse), The Happy Ones (South Coast Rep), and Hold These Truths (Virginia Stage Company). Recently he appeared in *Our Town*, and The Great Leap at Asolo Rep. Some television credits include Madam Secretary, Criminal Minds, Curb Your Enthusiasm, and Reno 911.

MELSON T. EUSEBIO III (Director) makes his TheatreSquared debut. He is the Associate Artistic Director at Kansas City Repertory Theatre. His recent directing credits include Twelfth Night (KCRep); The Mystery

of Irma Vep (Repertory Theatre of St. Louis); Kim's Convenience (Westport Country Playhouse), It's a Wonderful Life: a live radio play (Baltimore CenterStage); Of Mice and Men (Rehabilitation Through the Arts). Member: LCT Director's Lab, SDC. Nelson has been a resident artist at Target Margin Theatre Institute, Mabou Mines, and Ensemble Studio Theatre. Film credits include INS & Outs (Red Phone) and YIELD (Leviathan Lab). Nelson is a former U.S. Marine. He holds an MFA in Directing from Yale.

**EILEEN RIVERA** (Associate Director)

performing in *Tiger Style!* last year.

returns to TheatreSquared after

Other regional acting credits include Twelfth Night (Kansas City Rep), Men on Boats; The White Snake; It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play (Baltimore Center Stage), Tiger Style! (Olney Theatre, Maryland), Vietgone (Studio Theatre, DC), The Hour of Great Mercy (Diversionary, San Diego), The Long Season (Perseverance; Juneau, Alaska), The Comfort Team (Virginia Stage Co.). Off-Broadway acting credits include Beast (New York Theatre Workshop), *Dogeaters* (The Public), A Fable (Rattlestick), King Lear (Cherry Lane Mentor Project), Sides: The Fear is Real (Culture Project). Television acting credits include Law & Order; Law & Order: Criminal Intent (NBC), and an upcoming series on Apple TV+. Her advocacy group Asian American Performers Action Coalition (AAPAC) won a 2022 Honorary Tony award for Excellence in the Theatre. Her BFA in Acting is from Boston University.

**YOU-SHIN CHEN** (Scenic Designer) makes her TheatreSquared debut. Her design credits include NEW YORK: Off-broadway: Mrs. Murray's Menagerie (Lucille Lortel Awards Outstanding Scenic Design -ArsNova), Wolf Play (World Premiere, SohoRep), Monsoon Season (NYC & Edinburgh), The Emperor's Nightingale, Lessons In Survival. Troy Anthony's The Revival: It Is Our Duty (The Shed). REGIONAL: Red Velvet (Shakespeare Theater Company, DC); Mlima's Tales (Repertory Theatre at St Louis); Walden (Connecticut Critics Circle Awards for Outstanding Scenic

Design -TheaterWorks Hartford); New Age (Milwaukee Rep). OTHER: With the feath3r theory: The Kill One Race (Playwrights Horizon, NYC), Wednesday (New York Live Arts), UGLY part 1 & UGLY part 3 Blue (2021 ImPulsTanz, Vienna International Dance Festival & 2022 Kampnagel International Summer Festival, Germany). Daryl Roth Creative Spirit Award at The Lilly Awards, USA exhibition at 2019 Prague Quadrennial inclusion. Assistant professor at Muhlenberg College, PA. She holds an MFA in scenic design from Tisch, New York University.

**LUX HAAC** (Costume Designer) makes her TheatreSquared debut. Select credits include: 53% Of (Second Stage Theater); Between Two Knees (Yale Repertory Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival); Songs About Trains (Radical Evolution/ Working Theatre/New Ohio Theatre); Yoga Play, Ragtime (PlayMakers Repertory Company); Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (Arizona Theatre Company); Kamloopa (WAM Theatre); I and You, Annapurna (Syracuse Stage); The Thanksgiving Play (Repertory Theatre of St Louis); Eureka Day (Colt Coeur/ Walkerspace); and Native Gardens (Syracuse Stage, Geva Theatre Center, Portland Center Stage). Lux is a member of USA 829, All My Relations Collective, and Wingspace Theatrical Design. MFA: NYU/Tisch.

MARIE YOKOYAMA (Lighting Designer) makes her TheatreSquared debut. Select credits include Rinaldo (Minnesota Opera); Rake's Progress (Juilliard); Searching for Mr. Moon (Portland Stage); Mystery of Irma Vep (St. Louis Rep); Testmatch at (American Conservatory Theater San Francisco); Tiny Beautiful Things (Merrimack Repertory Theatre); Do You Feel Anger (Vineyard Theatre); and Pillowtalk with Kyoung's Pacific Beats. She is the Associate Artist for the Redhouse Arts Center where she has designed Macbeth, Fences, God of Carnage, On Golden Pond, and Ragtime.

**CONNOR WANG** (Sound Designer) makes his TheatreSquared debut. On Broadway, Connor has worked as an assistant designer on Hadestown

and The Cher Show. Recent credits include How To Dance In Ohio (Syracuse Stage); Disney Princess The Concert (US Tour); Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood Live (US Tour); Where You'll Find Me: An Evening with Jason Gotay, An Evening with Amber Iman, and An Evening with Ali Stroker (Audible/Minetta Lane). Additional assistant designs include *Hamilton* (US tours), TINA: The Tina Turner Musical (US Tour), and The Devil Wears Prada (Broadway in Chicago). Connor holds a BFA in Sound Design from The Theatre School at DePaul University.

**MEGAN SMITH** (Stage Manager) makes her TheatreSquared debut. Select credits include Off-Broadway: Usual Girls by Ming Peiffer, Ordinary Days (Roundabout Theater Company); The Scottsboro Boys (Vineyard Theatre). Regional: Kim's Convenience, Skeleton Crew, In the Heights, Romeo and Juliet, Grounded, Lettice and Lovage, What the Butler Saw, The Invisible Hand, Art & Red (in Rep), Bedroom Farce, The Liar, David Copperfield, Finian's Rainbow (Westport Country Playhouse); Radio Golf, Dancing at Lughnasa and The Bridge of San Luis Rey (Two River Theater); The Bridge of San Luis Rev (Miami New Drama); Tiny Beautiful Things (Long Wharf Theater); The Scottsboro Boys (The Guthrie Theater).

**ROBERT FORD** (Artistic Director) is an award-winning playwright, novelist & musician who helped found TheatreSquared in 2005, and since then has co-produced 90 plays and musicals and facilitated the development of over 60 new works. T2 most recently revived his play My Father's War, which premiered at T2 in 2008. With Amy Herzberg, he coadapted two versions of A Christmas Carol for T2. T2 has produced several of his plays, including Fault, The Spiritualist, The Fall of the House (also Alabama Shakespeare Festival—Edgar Award nominee), Look Away, 'Twas the Night, and adaptations of Great Expectations and It's a Wonderful Life. His critically acclaimed first novel, The Student Conductor, was a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers pick. He holds a MMus degree from Yale and

MFA's in acting from Rutgers and in playwriting & screenwriting from the University of Texas at Austin.

MARTIN MILLER (Executive Director/ Producer) joined T2 in 2009, and has since produced more than 100 plays and developmental works, grown the theatre's annual budget from \$160K to \$7M, and expanded its audience twentyfold. He managed the design, construction and fundraising for T2's new 50,000-square-foot theatre center. He established the National Stages Program, a consortium of theatres offering reciprocal member benefits, and has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and Theatre Communications Group. As associate producer for Chicago Shakespeare Theater, he oversaw many projects including commissioning the bilingual Romeo v Juliet from Karen Zacarías, as well as tours and transfers of works by the Second City and Q Brothers. He holds a BA from Carleton College and MFA in Arts Leadership from The Theatre School, DePaul.



## INS CHOI (Playwright)

was born in Korea but grew up and currently lives in Toronto. Canada with his wife and two children. Some of his theatre acting credits include Banana Boys, lady in the red dress (fu-GEN); Hamlet, The Odyssey, Comedy of Errors, The Taming of the Shrew. All's Well That Ends Well (Stratford Festival): Alligator Pie and Death of a Saleman (Soulpepper). As a writer, his debut play, Kim's Convenience, won the Best New Play award and the Patron's Pick at the 2011 Toronto Fringe festival. It then launched Soulpepper Theatre Company's 2012 season, toured across Canada, and was adapted into a TV series of the same name on the CBC and Netflix for 5 seasons. Ins was a writer, executive producer and co-creator of the TV series. He has also written a solo show called Subway Stations of the Cross: Songs, Stories and Spoken Words and was part of the collective that created Alligator Pie. re(birth): ee cummings in song, Window on Toronto (Soulpepper); 2000 Candles (Brookstone). His new play, Bad Parent, is being produced by Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre for the fall of 2022 at PTE in Winnipeg, The Cultch in Vancouver and at Soulpepper in Toronto. He's also developing various TV and film projects.

## **THEATRESQUARED YOUTH ACTING CLASSES**

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5-6pm

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SATURDAYS IMPROVISATION 10-llam

> ACTING 11:05am-12:05pm

ACTING 10-Ilam

5-6pm

ACTING

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\* Advanced Classes require previous attendance in a class or approvaal by instructor



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Casting Assistant

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Production Technician **Emily Johnson** 

AUDIO

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Sound Supervisor

Seasonal Stage Managers

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Dear friends.

What makes a community distinctive?

It's our landmarks, certainly. Our public libraries, the natural landscapes we've committed to preserve, and cultural anchors like TheatreSquared. But these places can only exist, and thrive, because of people—the ongoing choices of people who care.

"Care" is an action. To those who've chosen to go above and beyond the price of their ticket to help us offer tickets community members who would otherwise be unable to attend—thank you. To everyone listed here, whose charitable giving helps us bring free performances to nearly 25,000 students every year, thank you.

We cannot say it enough: thank you so much.

Beyond creating great plays in this space, we're building a community and a legacy at TheatreSquared—together. With your help, we'll continue to help make Northwest Arkansas distinctive, for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Todd Simmons, T2 Board President



#### **WHY SUPPORT T2?**

Just 35% of TheatreSquared's annual budget is funded by ticket sales. Your generosity allows T2 to provide:

#### REMARKABLE LIVE THEATRE

In our intimate space, great theatre performances are just feet away. Each play is newly envisioned and staged for diverse audiences here in Northwest Arkansas.

#### **EDUCATION FOR YOUTH**

More than 20,000 students experience T2's performances and residencies each year—from Fayetteville to Mena, Bentonville to Searcy, Southeast Missouri to the Arkansas Delta.

#### NORTHWEST ARKANSAS' HOME FOR PROFESSIONAL THEATRE ARTISTS

T2 is one of only two professional theatre companies in the state presenting a year-round season. Artists are compensated on a national scale. Broad access to a professional theatre supports a higher quality of life for everyone working and living in Northwest Arkansas.

#### **3 EASY WAYS TO MAKE YOUR GIFT**

theatre2.org/give | 479-445-6333 | P.O. Box 4188, Fayetteville, AR 72702

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These community members have given generously to support T2's work on stage and in schools, providing the margin of excellence that sets T2's work apart. *Reflects contributions received as of January 9th, 2023.* 

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Join us with your gift to close out TheatreSquared's ambitious commitment to a state-of-the-art home for professional theatre in our region—and help us guarantee the future of this award-winning cultural and educational anchor for decades to come.

Gifts of all sizes, pledged over three years, will ensure the vitality of this exceptional community resource. From artist's patio bricks, to seat sponsorships, to room naming opportunities, you can help close the gap and be recognized for the next century in this remarkable cultural space—winner of the 2020 American Architecture Award, the AIA New York State Honor Award, Interior Design Best of Year Award, and the 2021 International Architecture Award.

For giving levels, continuing updates, and information on the campaign, visit OURNEXTSTAGE.ORG.

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