

THEATER  
**MU**



**YOU SHALL HEAR ME:  
STORIES FROM BEYOND**

October 1 - November 3, 2021  
Available Online



# THE HONEST WITCH

WRITER / DIRECTOR **Eric Sharp**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR **Adelin Phelps**

NARRATOR **Tina Chilip**

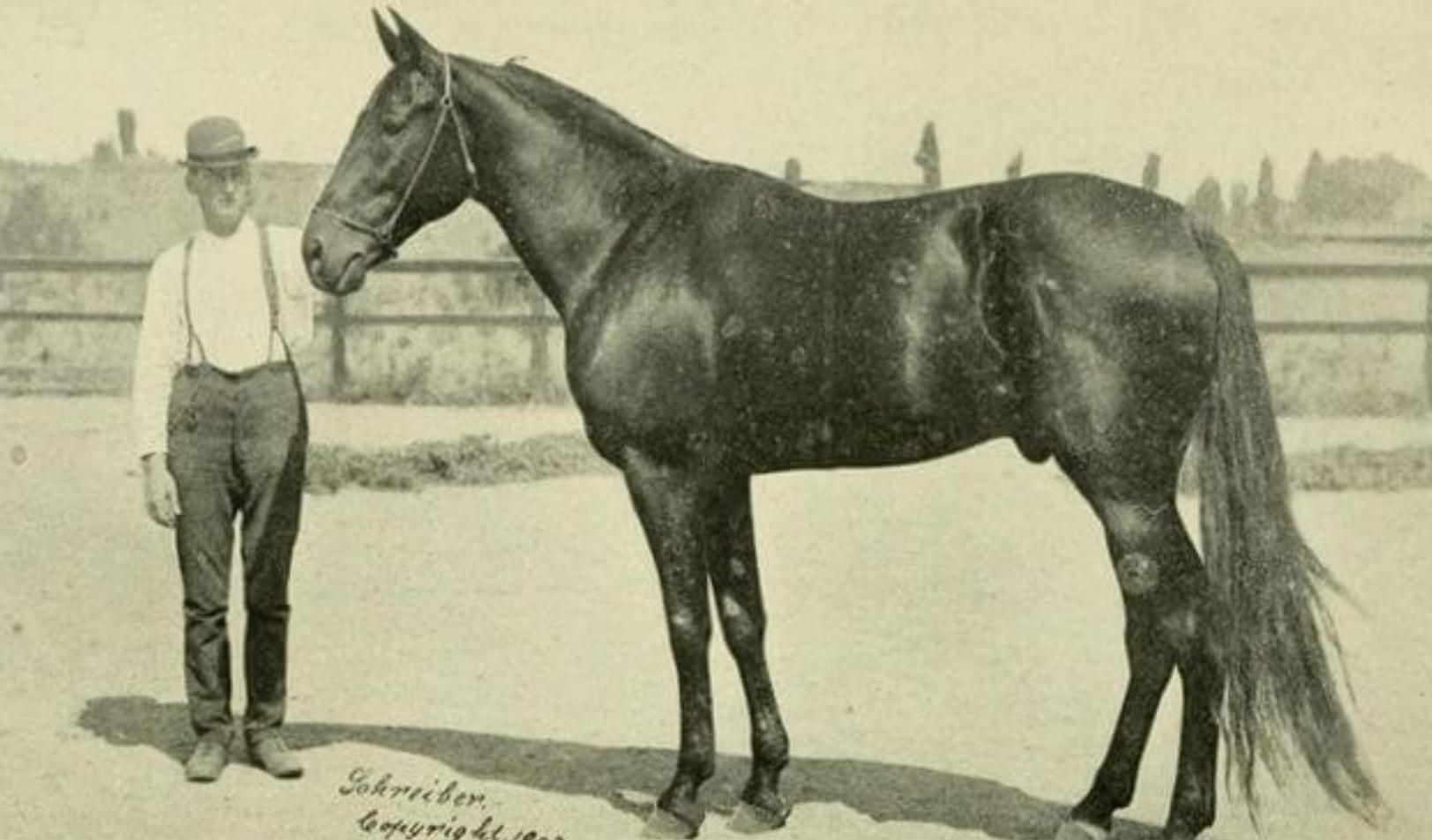
SOUND DESIGNER & ENGINEER **Mark Sweeney**

LANGUAGE CONSULTANT **Joanne Jongsma**

## **Synopsis**

18th century Korea... Twilight smoke fills the air as Magistrate Lee decrees that all witches are banished from Namwon Prefecture. When a mysterious woman on horseback arrives at the gate with a prophecy, the lines between past and present, good and evil, witch and shaman begin to blur.





# BONES OF A HORSE

WRITER **Isabella Dawis**

DIRECTOR / LINE PRODUCER **Eric Sharp**

NARRATORS **Anna Hashizume** and **Alex Galick**

SOUND DESIGNER & ENGINEER **Mark Sweeney**

UNDERSTUDIES **Dexieng Yang** and **Rich Remedios**

## **Synopsis**

As WWII rages in the Pacific, Bill, a Nisei serviceman, takes a walk near the frigid Minnesota River. On leave from the Japanese language school at Camp Savage he happens upon the unmarked grave of Dan Patch, the most famous racehorse who ever lived. This chance encounter with the horse's spirit leaves Bill and his family changed for generations to come.





# THE NEW KID

WRITER **Katie Hae Leo**

DIRECTOR **Lily Tung Crystal**

NARRATOR **Suzie Juul**

SOUND DESIGNER & ENGINEER **Mark Sweeney**

LINE PRODUCER **Eric Sharp**

UNDERSTUDY **Katie Bradley**

## **Synopsis**

Suburban Indiana, 1987. Yoon doesn't usually ride the bus. She remembers the teasing, the bullying she's endured as the only Asian kid in the seventh grade – and today's trip home is no different. When a stylish but unfamiliar boy stands up for her, Yoon decides to take a chance, following the stranger down a path she's never known.





# REVOLUTION SHUFFLE

WRITER **Bao Phi**

CO-DIRECTORS **Eric Sharp** and **Rich Remedios**

NARRATORS **Denise Hạnh Huỳnh** and **Eric Sharp**

SOUND DESIGNER & ENGINEER **Mark Sweeney**

LINE PRODUCER **Eric Sharp**

UNDERSTUDY **Oanh Vu**

## **Synopsis**

A not-so-distant future. The wasting disease has ravaged the planet.

POC survivors unlucky enough to avoid becoming zombies are forcibly interned, charged with maintaining gigantic metal hammers.

Armed with weapons and memories from before, two Vietnamese American warriors look down the long hill toward the camp, weighing their odds in pursuit of something better.





**ERIC SHARP** he/him  
(series creator, writer, director, producer)

Eric is thrilled to be telling stories in a new way with his family at Theater Mu. As an actor he has appeared onstage nationally and internationally at the Guthrie Theater, Ten Thousand Things, The Jungle Theater, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Live Action Set, Atlanta's Alliance Theatre, and the Toronto and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals. He played Mowgli in *The Jungle Book* at CTC, and the young Dalai Lama on multiple tours of TigerLion Arts' *The Buddha Prince*. His one act play *Strange Lands* premiered at Theater 45°. A member of the Artistic Advisory Committee at Theater Mu, Eric wrote and starred in the world premiere of *Middle Brother*, appeared in *Today is My Birthday*, *Hot Asian Doctor Husband*, *Charles Francis Chan, Jr...*, *Two Mile Hollow*, *Yellow Fever*, *Twelfth Night*, *FOB: The MN Chinese Restaurant Tour*, *Into the Woods*, *Ching Chong Chinaman*, and *Immigrant Journey Project*, among many others. Eric recently directed the educational video series *The Remix* with Theater Mu. Look for him onstage this winter in the Guthrie's *A Christmas Carol* and next summer in the Mu/Jungle Theater co-production of Lauren Yee's *Cambodian Rock Band*. [www.WorkSharp.org](http://www.WorkSharp.org)

**THEATER 45°**  
(series co-producer)

Theater 45° uses the theatrical experience to deepen the many facets of being human. They intend to present stories that engage the spiritual side of the human person regardless of – but not ignoring – religious experience. These stories are rooted in questions and not answers. As a community of story-tellers and story-receivers, we strive to give an experience of collaboration, intersectionality and honoring the many voices that get pushed to the margins. We will present stories that are meant to nurture transformation and deepen how we navigate our encounters with those that we may consider to be others.

**MARK SWEENEY** he/him  
(series sound design & engineering)

Mark is a Minneapolis based composer, writer and theatre-maker whose scores have been called 'Alluring' (Star Tribune) and 'Beguiling' (City Pages). He is a founding member of Perpetual Motion Theatre Company (Toronto International Fringe Festival) and Catalog Models (sold-out run, 2014 Minnesota Fringe Festival), and previously a company member of Umbrella Collective where he workshopped his musical 'A Squid Has Three Hearts'. He's performed with Actors Theatre of Minnesota, Artistry, The Twin Cities Improv Festival, HUGE Theatre, and toured with Troupe America. He is the creator of Twin Cities Song Story, a podcast exploring the process of creating music for the Minnesota stage. He holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Millikin University and was a participant of the Nautilus Music Theatre Composer-Librettist workshop.





**ISABELLA DAWIS** she/her  
(writer, *Bones of a Horse*)

Isabella is a performer and playwright. As a librettist, she holds a 2021-23 Composers and the Voice Fellowship with the American Opera Project in NYC. Isabella's previous performances with Mu include *peerless* (opposite sister Francesca), *The Mikado*, *Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them*, *Filipino Hearts*, and *The Walleye Kid*. As a bookwriter/lyricist, her work with composer Tidtaya Sinutoke includes *Half the Sky* (Weston-Ghostlight New Musical Award, 5th Avenue Theatre Digital Radio Play/First Draft Commission, Theater Mu's New Eyes Festival, Theater Latté Da's NEXT Festival, O'Neill Center Residency, Rhinebeck Writers Retreat) and *Sunwatcher* (The Civilians' R&D Group, Goodspeed Johnny Mercer Writers Grove, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater Global Forms Festival, Tofte Lake Center National Emerging Artists Program, Weston Playhouse's Songs for Today). Further credits/support: 24 Hour Plays Viral Musicals, Musical Theatre Factory, the Kurt Weill Foundation's Lotte Lenya Competition Songbook, New York Theatre Barn, the Bushwick Starr, Broadway Buskers, Central Square Theater, the Skeleton Rep, and the Schubert Club. B.M. summa cum laude, piano performance, University of Minnesota; Classical Voice, New England Conservatory. [www.isabelladawis.com](http://www.isabelladawis.com)



**KATIE HAE LEO** she/her  
(writer, *The New Kid*)

Katie was born in Bucheon, South Korea and raised in Indiana. She is a writer and performer based in Saint Paul, Minnesota, whose creative work explores the multiple intersections between the adopted body and notions of race, gender, place, home, and (dis)ability. Her poetry and essays have appeared in journals such as *Asian American Literary Review*, *Kartika Review*, and *Water-Stone Review*. She has performed in venues such as Theater Mu, Dreamland Arts, Asian Arts Initiative (Philadelphia), Phoenix Art Museum, and University of Regina (Canada). Her awards include the James Wright Prize for Poetry, a Gesell Award for nonfiction, two Pushcart Prize nominations, and a Spark Leadership Award from the Coalition of Asian American Leaders. Katie is currently working on a young adult novel, initially supported by a Mirrors and Windows Fellowship for Indigenous writers and writers of color working in youth genres, from The Loft Literary Center. She holds an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Minnesota. She is honored to be part of this project for Theater Mu, one of her artistic homes. [www.katiehaeleo.com](http://www.katiehaeleo.com)

**BAO PHI** he/him  
(writer, *Revolution Shuffle*)

Bao is a spoken word artist, published poet, and children's book author. This audio story was adapted from a short story and novel in progress originally published in Octavia's Brood Science Fiction Stories from Social Justice Movements, (ed. Adrienne Maree Brown and Walidah Lmarisha). A performance poet since 1991, Bao is a two-time Minnesota Grand Slam champion and a National Poetry Slam finalist. His first collection of poetry, *Sông I Sing*, published by Coffee House Press, is taught in classrooms across the United States, and enjoyed rave reviews, including the New York Times which stated "In this song of his very American self, every poem Mr. Phi writes rhymes with the truth." His first children's book, *A Different Pond*, illustrated by Thi Bui, was published by Capstone Press in August of 2017, earning six starred reviews, a Caldecott Honor, and was named among the best books of the year by Kirkus, Washington Post, Huffington Post, Publishers Weekly, and many others. His second children's book, *My Footprints*, illustrated by Basia Tran, was also published by Capstone in 2019. He was named by Minneapolis Monthly as Best Author 2016, and an Artist of the Year and Author of the Year by City Pages, 2017 and 2018. [www.baophi.com](http://www.baophi.com)



**LILY TUNG CRYSTAL** she/her  
(director, *The New Kid*)

Lily is an actor, director, and Artistic Director of Theater Mu. After taking the helm of Theater Mu in 2019, Tung Crystal directed Jiehae Park's *peerless*. Soon after, she initiated the creation of virtual events, such as TwentyPho Hour PlayFest, Mu-tini Hour, and Mu's recent live mainstage film-theater production of Susan Soon He Stanton's *Today Is My Birthday*, which she also directed. Other productions include: *Chinglish* and *Flower Drum Song* at Palo Alto Players and the world premiere of *Two Mile Hollow* at Ferocious Lotus. For all three shows, she was named a Theatre Bay Area Award finalist for Outstanding Direction. Tung Crystal is a 2016 YBCA 100 honoree, named by Yerba Buena Center for the Arts as a "creative pioneer making the provocations that will shape the future of culture."



**RICH REMEDIOS** he/him  
(co-director, *Revolution Shuffle*)

Rich is an actor, director and acting teacher. His acting credits include Broadway productions of *An Inspector Calls* and *Love! Valour! Compassion!* and has performed at regional theaters around the country. Film and television work include *The Public Domain* and *To Say Goodbye, Drop Dead Diva*, and recurring roles on *All My Children* and *As the World Turns*. Directing credits include *The Pillowman* (Theatre Coup d'Etat) and the world premiere of *Trust* by John Woehrlé (Lab Theater). He teaches acting at Augsburg University and in his studio, Remedios Creative LLC-Twin Cities Actor Training.





**TINA CHILIP** she/her  
(narrator, *The Honest Witch*)

Off-Broadway: *Mothers* (Playwrights Realm), *Fiasco's Twelfth Night* (Classic Stage Company); *Golden Child* (Signature Theater); *House Rules*, *Flipzoids* (Ma-Yi); *A Dream Play* (NAATCO). Regional: Old Globe, Huntington Theatre, Guthrie, Hudson Valley Shakespeare, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Portland Center Stage, Berkeley Rep, Cincinnati Playhouse, Syracuse Stage, Trinity Rep, and others. Recent TV work include guest appearances in *Law & Order: SVU* and *FBI: Most Wanted*. Other TV: recurring roles in *Marvel's Jessica Jones* and *It's Bruno* (both NETFLIX); *The Good Fight*, *Elementary*, *Deception*, *Madam Secretary*, *Royal Pains*. Training: MFA, Brown/Trinity Rep. Member, The Actors Center. [www.tinachilip.com](http://www.tinachilip.com)



**ALEX GALICK** he/him  
(narrator, *Bones of a Horse*)

Alex is excited to be working with Theater Mu again. Past productions include *Into the Woods*, *A Little Night Music*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Purple Cloud*. He works frequently locally with Stillwater Zephyr Theatre, and has also regionally worked with The Swine Palace in Baton Rouge, The Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and the Tony award winning Utah Shakespeare Festival. You can also see him in upcoming indie features *Hair-Trigger*, and *Accidental Family*. A Macalester College graduate, Alex is also a graduate of Louisiana State University's M.F.A. Acting Program.



**ANNA HASHIZUME** she/her  
(narrator, *Bones of a Horse*)

Anna is a Japanese-American singer-actor based in the Twin Cities. She is comfortable on both theater and opera stages. She has worked with companies such as Artistry Theater, Theater Latté Da, Theatre Elision, Open Eye Theatre, and Minnesota Opera. In 2017 she was a Schubert Club Competition Winner. TRAINING: M.M., University of Minnesota; B.S.O.F, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Anna also teaches voice in the Twin Cities and hosts a podcast called Thank You Places which can be found on most streaming platforms. [www.annahashizume.com](http://www.annahashizume.com) @annahashizume





**DENISE HANH HUYNH** she/her  
(narrator, *Revolution Shuffle*)

Denise is an artist, educator, and researcher. Her performance work has been shared with theaters, museums, universities, literary readings, and public community spaces. She is a Voices of Our Nation Arts (VONA) Foundation alum whose poetry has appeared with publications such as diaCRITICS, Coffee House Press, and Public Art Saint Paul. Denise is currently a PhD Candidate in Education with a focus in arts, culture and teaching. Experiences of miseducation & opportunities we lack to understand our ancestors & ourselves deeply motivate her research & practice.



**SUZIE JUUL** she/her  
(narrator, *The New Kid*)

Theater Mu: *The Sex Show* (Lead Actor); *A Little Night Music* (Anne Egerman); *Into the Woods* (Little Red Riding Hood). Chanhassen Dinner Theater: *The Music Man*, *Grease* (Jan - vacation replacement). Artistry: *Candide* (Cunegonde), *Mary Poppins* (Valentine, u/s Mary Poppins), Really Spicy Opera Co.: *The Last Five Years* (Cathy). Walking Shadow: *Yalonde De Polignac* (Marie Antoinette). Ordway: *The Sound of Music* (Nun, u/s Liesel); *Pirates of Penzance* (Kate, u/s Mabel); *A Christmas Story*. Frank Theatre: *Threepenny Opera* (Polly Peachum). Casting Spells Productions: *Disenchanted* (Sleeping Beauty). Second Fiddle Productions: *Titanic the Musical* (Alice Beane). TV/Film: *Whirl/Sparkhouse* (Ada). Training: B.A. in Theatre, Augsburg University.



**ADELIN PHELPS** she/her  
(assistant director, *The Honest Witch*)

Adelin is a Minneapolis based stage, film and voice over artist. She has worked and created with the Guthrie Theater, New Dawn Theatre Company (company member), Transatlantic Love Affair (core and founding member), History Theatre, Park Square Theatre, Girl Friday Productions, Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company, Carlyle Brown & Company, Theater Latté Da, Theatre Forever, Dark & Stormy Productions, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Frank Theatre, and more. Adelin received her B.A. in Theatre Arts from Coe College and studied with The Actors Workout, Guthrie Theater from 2010–2018. She is committed to advocating for anti-racist theater practices and the dismantling of white supremacy. She stands in solidarity with her BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ community. To learn more about her, visit [adelinphelps.com](http://adelinphelps.com).



# ***You Shall Hear Me: Stories from Beyond* is made possible thanks, in part, to our season sponsors**

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## About Theater Mu

As one of the largest Asian American theater companies in the nation, Theater Mu produces great performances born of arts, equity, and justice. Founded in 1992, Mu tells stories from the heart of the Asian American experience, presenting a fusion of traditional and contemporary artistic influences, which range from classics to up-and-coming voices in our community. Theater Mu's continuing goal to celebrate and empower the Asian American community through theater is achieved through mainstage productions, emerging artist support, and educational outreach programs. Theater Mu was named a Regional Cultural Treasure by the McKnight and Ford foundations through a national initiative which honors organizations that have made a significant impact on our cultural landscape over decades.

Theater Mu is a member of the Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists as well as a member of the Twin Cities Theatres of Color Coalition, proudly standing alongside New Native Theatre, Pangea World Theater, Penumbra Theatre, and Teatro Del Pueblo.

## The Meaning of "Mu"

Mu (pronounced MOO) is the Korean pronunciation of the Chinese character for the shaman/artist/warrior who connects the heavens and the earth through the tree of life.

## Support Mu

Artists are a vital part of our communities and many have been out of work since the beginning of the pandemic. That's why we are committed to employing as many artists as possible for our virtual events, educational programming, and corporate trainings. Donate today and join us in supporting artists during these challenging times. [theatermu.org/support](https://theatermu.org/support)



# Theater Mu Staff

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The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Playwright in Residence

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755 PRIOR AVE N, #107  
SAINT PAUL, MN 55104

[THEATERMU.ORG](http://THEATERMU.ORG)

INFO@THEATERMU.ORG

651-789-1012



@THEATERMU