



**KOA THEATER
PRESENTS**

**AN OAK TREE
BY TIM CROUCH**

AUG 6-22

**780 S. BERETANIA STREET
WWW.KOATHEATER.COM**

KOA
THEATER

KOA Theater Presents

AN OAK TREE

by Tim Crouch

Directed by

Alex Munro

Performed by

Kevin Keaveney
Adam LeFebvre
Jeff Gere
Albert Ueligitone
James Duggins
Katie Doyle
Lurana O'Malley
Shervelle Bergholz
Jason Kanda
Rob Duval

Music by

Dhevhan Keith
Noah Faumuina
Brodie Kinder
Oil in the Alley
Andy Dewald & Phillip Foster
Guy James

Sound Design by

Stu Hirayama

Poster by

Michael Hall

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

There is a kind of magic to this show, a tantalizing allure of the unknown. True, the entire play is scripted, every word accounted for in a tight and brilliant script, but we don't really know how it's going to unfold on any given night. The only sure thing is the intoxicating promise of possibility at every moment throughout each performance.

It is very hard to pin *An Oak Tree* to any one theme or concept. That's probably by design. We ask our guest performers to remain open to the experience, to allow the words to flow through them as they encounter the text during the performance. Watching the guest performers interpret the play in real time is easily one of my favorite things about this show. They make choices and then (re)calibrate those choices as new information arrives. Yet, as we tell them before the start of every performance, everything they say and do is correct. In this show, there is no right or wrong, no agenda being forced upon our guest performers. We only wish to honor and respect the potential that awaits anew each night.

Therefore, this is not the show for me to share my interpretation with you through a director's note. To do so would deny you the same freedom and openness we grant our guest performers. Instead, I give you the same assurance we gave tonight's guest performer when they arrived at the theater: however you interpret this play, whatever you take away from this experience, trust that it is correct. In this show, there is no right or wrong – only infinite possibilities.

- Alex Munro

GUEST ARTIST LINEUP

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Guest Performer: Adam LeFebvre
Music by: Dhevhan Keith

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Guest Performer: Jeff Gere
Music by: Noah Faumuina

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Guest Performer: Albert Ueligitone
Music by: Brodie Kinder

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Guest Performer: James Duggins
Music by: Noah Faumuina

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

Guest Performer: Katie Doyle
Music by: Oil in the Alley

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Guest Performer: Lurana O'Malley
Music by: Oil in the Alley

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

Guest Performer: Shervelle Bergholz
Music by: Andy Dewald & Phillip Foster

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

Guest Performer: Jason Kanda
Music by: Noah Faumuina

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

Guest Performer: Rob Duval
Music by: Guy James

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

Kevin Keaveney (Hypnotist) received his drama training at Yale University and spent 15 years as an actor in NYC, where he helped found the NY Strindberg Festival, and appeared Off- and Off-Off Broadway in numerous productions, working with Obie-winning companies Target Margin, Elevator Repair Service, EnGarde Arts and Little Theater. Since then, he has played roles as diverse as Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird* (DHT), Randall McMurphy in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (MVT), The Poet in *An Iliad* (KOA), and Mark Rothko in *Red* (TAG), among many others. Oahu directing credits include: *Hate Mail*, *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, *Men on Boats*, *Marjorie Prime*, and *we, the invisibles* (all at KOA); *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Stage Kiss* (both MVT); *The Best Man* and *True West* (both at TAG). He is the Artistic Director and founder of Kailua Onstage Arts, and has about as generous and patient a family as anyone could ask for.

Adam LeFebvre (Father) may have only performed in one other KOA production before this, but he has a wealth of experience on various local stages across O'ahu, including Diamond Head Theater, Manoa Valley Theater, and The Actor's Group. His acting has earned him several awards, including Po'okela awards for his roles in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *The Pillowman*. Adam had a speaking role in *Hawaii Five-0* and, in addition to acting, sings in a barbershop quartet.

Jeff Gere (Father) is a visual artist, shadow puppeteer, and kinesthetic aerobic storyteller. Born on Halloween, Jeff is the retired 'Drama Specialist' for Honolulu's Parks Department (30 years!) He toured lots in Asia, Hawaii, & the west coast before Covid, then produced videos for the National Storytelling Network. Yes, there's LOTS of Jeff on YouTube, & at www.jeffgere.com.

Albert Ueligitone (Father) is originally from American Samoa and studied Theater at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa. He has appeared on *Hawai'i Five-0*, *Magnum P.I.*, *Marvel's Inhumans*, and the films *Winter for the May Queen*, *Tropical Bliss*, *Hae Hawai'i*, and *Haole*. He has performed onstage at Kumu Kahua, Kennedy Theater, and Hawaiian Mission Houses. Based in Honolulu, Albert also works as a storyboard artist for film and TV.

James Duggins (Father) lost a bet of dubious legal standing to Kevin back in 2014; a goat, hot tub, and a can of Barbasol shaving cream was involved, I dare not tread any deeper. In lieu of the \$52.43 I owe him, he offered me the opportunity to earn my freedom back if I perform in this show. Who am I to refuse such an offer? Having played Johnny Appleseed in my 2nd grade production of "Johnny Appleseed Goes West", my leathery tassels and verbal performance was stellar, my dance routine, however, was far from perfect. Either way, I'm hoping to perform marginally better than this piece of wood I have on my desk...you can bet on that!

Katie Doyle (Father) was born in NYC and moved to O'ahu over 30 years ago and is proud to be one of only two CSA casting directors currently living and working in Hawaii. She is best known for her casting work on feature films such as *Hobbs & Shaw*, *Midway* (Artio nominated), the *Jurassic World* franchise, *Triple Frontier*, both *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle* and *Jumanji: The Next Level*, Tim Burton's *Big Eyes*, and the Amy Schumer/Goldie Hawn comedy *Snatched* (Artio nominated). So far this year, Katie completed all the local casting for: the HBO limited series *The White Lotus*, directed and written by Mike White; two Hallmark movies and a Paramount feature film shooting on Oahu. Katie grew up in the television, theatre and film industries where her acting projects in NYC and LA ranged from theatre, to commercials, to "Daytime Dramas", to television series, to feature films. She is a SAG-AFTRA member, a Teamster with Local 996 and a member of the Casting Society of America, the only professional organization for Casting Directors. She is a graduate of Vassar College.

Lurana Donnels O'Malley (Father) is Professor of Theatre at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa where she teaches in the areas of theatre history, research, and directing. She is the author of *The Dramatic Works of Catherine the Great: Theatre and Politics in Eighteenth-Century Russia* and is currently researching a book about Black pageant dramas of the 1930s. Recent directing credits include *Indecent* (Open Home Performance Network), *June is the First Fall* (Kumu Kahua Theatre), and *The Spitfire Grill* (Kennedy Theatre). Passions include dance and snorkeling. Lurana is the daughter of New Orleans artist Johnny Donnels.

Shervelle Bergholz (Father) is an aspiring writer, actor, dancer and director. She has been in theater for many years first, in Alabama, and then, here in Hawaii. She began performing in the Anniston Community Theater more than 20 years ago and, since then, her love for the performing arts has only grown! Once she relocated to Hawaii, she performed in *Ragtime* (DHT), *The Colored Musuem* with Jeanne Herring and *Intimate Apparel* with Evolve Theatre, among many other performances. In addition, Shervelle is a competitive ballroom dancer. She competes in International Latin ballroom dances which include the Paso Doble, ChaCha, Rumba, Samba and Jive and also, Smooth Ballroom dances which include Waltz, Viennese Waltz, Tango, Argentine Tango and Foxtrot. Most recently, Shervelle had her directorial debut in which she directed *Flyin' West* by Pearl Cleage for Evolve Theatre. This experience was so exhilarating for her that she decided to start her own production company called W.o.W. Productions. Through this company, Shervelle hopes to continue to hone her skills as an actor, singer dancer, performer and director while bringing productions that are engaging, exciting, and enlightening.

Jason Kanda (Father) is a 20-year veteran of Honolulu's theatre scene with acting credits at Kumu Kahua, Hawai'i Shakespeare Festival, The Actor's Group, Hawai'i Theatre Center, Hawaiian Mission Houses, Honolulu Theatre for Youth, and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Kennedy Theatre. His most recent stage appearance was as Tesman in HSF's *Hedda Gabbler* in 2018. More recently, he appeared online in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* for HSF and in Susan Soon He Stanton's *Untitled TMT Project* for Kumu Kahua. He is thrilled to be making his KOA debut.

Rob Duval (Father) is an actor and director. Some of Rob's favorite roles include Dr. Treves in *The Elephant Man* (MVT), James in *Time Stands Still*, Jean-Francois Millet in *Is He Dead*, Artie in *The House of Blue Leaves* (all at HPU), Jack/Stephanie in *Leading Ladies* (DHT), Van Gogh in *Inventing Van Gogh* (HRT), and Philip the Bastard in *King John* (HSF). You may find him as a Guest Star in seasons two and eight of *Hawaii 5-0*, season one of *Magnum P.I.*, and in the Lifetime movie, *Special Delivery*. He also recently filmed episode four of *Doogie Kamealoha, M.D.*, coming soon to Disney +. Rob holds a Bachelor's degree in Theatre and a Master's degree in Acting, both from UCLA. He enjoys teaching Theatre and Musical Theatre at 'Iolani School.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Alex Munro (Director) is on track to graduate this December with his PhD from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa where he previously earned his Master of Fine Arts in Directing. Previous directing work includes *Time Stands Still*, *#MeToo Monologues: Stories for Healing*, *The Christians*, and *Where Words Once Were* at Hawai'i Pacific University; *Equus*, *The Elephant Man* (co-directed with Paul Mitri), and *The Legend of Georgia McBride* at Manoa Valley Theater; *very still & hard to see* at UHM; and, *Eurydice* with All the World's a Stage. Alex occasionally performs on stage and screen, including as Peter in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and a small role in the season nine finale of *Hawaii Five-0*. Alex currently works as the program manager for HealthCAST, a simulated patient program that supports healthcare education at UHM.

REHEARSAL ACTORS

We send our deepest appreciation to:

- ◆ Phillip Ikaika Foster
- ◆ LeGrand Tolo Lawrence
- ◆ Denise Aiko-Chinen
- ◆ Robert Torigoe
- ◆ Catherine Ann Restivo- Romito
- ◆ Braddoc DeCaires
- ◆ Christine Chang
- ◆ Allan Y. Okubo
- ◆ Marshall Camden
- ◆ Christine Lamborn
- ◆ Michael “Donut” Donato

These generous individuals shared their time, talent, and trust with us during our rehearsal process. Their feedback was vital in the overall shape and direction of this show. We could not have done it without you – thank you for being part of our production!

SPECIAL THANKS

Ahnya Chang
R. Andrew Doan
Pat Mosher
Kylee Munro
Chris Teves
Charles Wade
Ken & Trissa Walter
Kumu Kahua Theatre
Manoa Valley Theatre
Paliku Theatre