

**SIERRA MADRE** *Playhouse*  
presents

# MR. YUNIOSHI



WRITTEN, DIRECTED AND STARRING  
**J. ELIJAH CHO AS MICKEY ROONEY**  
PRODUCED BY  
**DAVID STIDHAM AND ARI STIDHAM**

August 4-13 | Tickets: [SierraMadrePlayhouse.org](https://SierraMadrePlayhouse.org) or 626.355.4318

## CAST

Mickey Rooney.....J. Elijah Cho

**There will be no intermission.**

**There will be a short talkback after the performance.**

## SERIES UNDERWRITERS

Ward Calaway

David Gordon

**The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this presentation is strictly prohibited.**

**Please turn off all electronic devices.**

Sierra Madre Playhouse acknowledges that it is located on the land of the Gabrielino-Tongva and Kizh people, who historically inhabited the area around present-day Sierra Madre.

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....J. Elijah Cho  
*Mr. Yunioshi* Producers.....Ari Stidham, David Stidham  
Choreographer.....Jasmine Ejan  
Interim Artistic Director.....Gary B. Lamb  
Production and Stage Manager; Lighting Design.....Jeanne Marie Valleroy  
Technical Director.....Todd McCraw  
Associate Company Manager; Program & Graphic Design.....Berrie Tsang  
Publicist.....Philip Sokoloff

## BIOGRAPHIES



**J. Elijah Cho (Writer/Director/Mickey Rooney)** (he/him) is a writer/actor in Los Angeles by way of Tampa, FL. Upon graduation from the University of South Florida in Tampa, he performed theatre in the area with theatre companies including Jobsite, Stageworks, Hat Trick, and Tampa Rep. Cho appeared as the character Wonderboy in two seasons of the AMC series *Halt & Catch Fire*. He has also

performed his one-man show, *Mr. Yunioshi*, at the Hollywood and New York Fringe Festivals. Social Media: @jelijahcho

**Ari Stidham (Producer)** (he/him) most notably starred as Sylvester on *Scorpion* on CBS for four years. His theatrical credits include full-scale Los Angeles productions of *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Julius Caesar*, and most recently Theresa Rebeck's *Mauritius*. Stidham's festival premieres include credits at the NY New Filmmakers' Fest and Fangoria Fear Con with an

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Executive Producer credit on Sundance-premiering NYT Critic's Pick *Clara's Ghost*.

**David Stidham (Producer)** (he/him) is a Film Licensing and Distribution Executive whose films include Louis L'Amour's *The Sacketts*, Peter Fonda's *Idaho Transfer*, *Choices* starring Demi Moore, and *The Outsider* starring Grainger Hines & Ted Markland. As Executive Director of the Santa Susana Theater Company & Thousand Oaks Repertory Company he produced classics, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Christmas Carol* to high school and colleges in Ventura County CA. David is currently producing *Bucket of Blood: The Original Beatnik Musical* based on the 1959 Roger Corman film of the same name.

**Jasmine Ejan (Choreographer)** (she/her) seeks to empower, inspire and uplift the world through art. Recent choreography credits include Netflix's *American Pie: Girls Rule*. Her dance short, *Zonule of Zinn*, recently premiered this spring 2021 at the Muckenthaler Museum in Fullerton, CA. She has choreographed musicals such as *Working*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Urinetown*. From running away with the circus (Dream World Cirque), jumping out of a tiger cage in a magic show (CW's *Masters of Illusion*) to performing in Bollywood films (*Tie the Knot*, *Highway 5*), favorite performing credits include Celine Dion's *A New Day*, singing with Celine on *Tonight Show*; performing with Lyric Opera, City Ballet LA, Las Vegas Contemporary Dance (founding member) and Channel Islands Ballet Co. Jasmine has also appeared in the *American Music Awards*, *World Music Awards*; *Kimmel!* and *Conan*. She has also performed with Elton John, Tyga, Ciara, and Van Halen. Over 25 regional musicals, Nat'l/China tour: *Cathy Rigby is Peter Pan* (Tiger Lily). Jasmine has appeared on *Bold and The Beautiful*, *Young and the Restless*, *Legion of Extraordinary Dancers/The*

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*LXD*, in films, commercials (Apple, Nike, Cricket Wireless). Jasmine also roller skates (Dua Lipa - *Don't Start Now*- *Live in LA* and for the last five years as a roller-skating snow bunny in *Debbie Allen's Hot Chocolate Nutcracker*. Jasmine also teaches ballet at Art of Acting Conservatory in Los Angeles. Creator of artisan soaps and lube: @Soaptimystic @Blowpaste. - B.A. in Dance/UC Irvine. M.Ed./UNLV [JasmineEjan.com](http://JasmineEjan.com)

**Gary B. Lamb (SMP Interim Artistic Director)** is currently performing *A COMPLETE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN MUSICAL... IN 90 MINUTES OR LESS* for Parson's Nose Theater which he helped write and create. This summer he is directing French Stewart (*3rd ROCK* and *MOMS*) as well as his wife Vanessa Stewart as *MACBETH* and Lady Macbeth for Shakespeare @ The Castle (S@TC) in Ohio. Gary directed *CHARLOTTE'S WEB* and *EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD* here at SMP, for which he received a Scenie Award for Directing and Choreography (and for which Cate Caplin also won a Choreography award for choreographing the very funny Nutcracker Ballet in that show). Gary has done his share of Shakespeare roles over the years as well as directing many different productions. Gary was Co-Artistic Director for Crown City Theater for 12 years for whom the production of *CABARET* he directed, ran for 6 months and was listed as Best Production by BitterLemons and Broadwayworld as well as grabbing Scenie Awards for Outstanding Production, Ensemble, and Direction of a Musical. Gary has written, produced, acted and directed for professional live theater going on 42 years and has been seen on TV and film as well as having written and directed several short films. He's a songwriter and has an album of country music out called *Beyond Repair* by G.B. Lamb.

**Todd McCraw (SMP Technical Director)** moved here from NYC where he spent 28 years working in all aspects of theater tech, in nearly every theater

## BIOGRAPHIES

in NYC. He is head rigger for Fly-By-Night Dance Theater. He rigs for many other silk acts, trapeze acts & other theatrical productions. Todd spent four years in Big Apple Circus, assisting world-famous horse trainer & performer Katja Schumann. Todd is starting a new production company, “Mad Cackle Productions”, that focuses mainly on stand-up comedy, live music, and all aspects of live entertainment. As SMP’s Technical Director, Todd is responsible for all aspects of the technical demands for each show. Todd has been involved in all mainstage productions at SMP since *The Glass Menagerie* in 2016.

**Berrie Tsang (SMP Associate Company Manager)** has been working for Sierra Madre Playhouse since June 2019, and has worked in some sort of capacity in every SMP production since then. She coordinates SMP’s management, marketing, social media, outreach, fundraising, group sales, and whatever else is needed. She also works as an in-house photographer/videographer and graphic designer, and has previously worked as a Properties Designer and Production Assistant for past SMP productions such as *The Joy Luck Club*, *Virtual Off the Page* Reading Series, and *You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

**Jeanne Marie Valleroy (SMP Production Manager and Mr. Yunioshi Stage Manager and Lighting Designer)** has been working as a production manager, stage manager, projection, sound and lighting designer all over the Los Angeles area. Some of her favorite shows she has designed: *Love, Dolly* (Sierra Madre Playhouse), *Assassins* (Long Beach Landmark Theater), *Billie! Backstage with Lady Day* (Sierra Madre Playhouse), *Spring Awakening* (Windward School). Some of her favorite shows she has stage managed: *Cowboy Elektra* (Rogue Artists Ensemble), *The Joy Luck Club* (Sierra Madre Playhouse), *EINSTEIN!* (Santa Monica Playhouse and Sierra

## BIOGRAPHIES

Madre Playhouse), *Princess Magic* (The Complex), *I Carry Your Heart* (Bootleg Theater), *Solve It Squad Returns* (Tin Can Brothers), *My Mañana Comes* (The Fountain Theater), *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* (Long Beach Playhouse).

## THE SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE

CEO.....David Gordon  
Associate Company Manager.....Berrie Tsang  
Interim Artistic Director.....Gary B. Lamb  
Technical Director.....Todd McCraw  
Production Manager.....Jeanne Marie Valleroy  
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## THE SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE

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Instagram: [@sierra.madre.playhouse](https://www.instagram.com/sierra.madre.playhouse)

YouTube: [Sierra Madre Playhouse](https://www.youtube.com/SierraMadrePlayhouse) (@sierramadreplayhouse)

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SMP thanks the following members of The Circle of Angels for their generous contributions in support of our work. The gifts listed were received between January 1, 2021 and May 26, 2023.

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David Gordon

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Your gift is deeply appreciated by all of us here at SMP, to report a misspelling or omission, please contact [Info@SierraMadrePlayhouse.org](mailto:Info@SierraMadrePlayhouse.org)



## COMING UP AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE IN 2023



### ***Stories @ The Playhouse:***

#### ***In the Blink of an Eye***

**Produced by Alicia Sedwick**

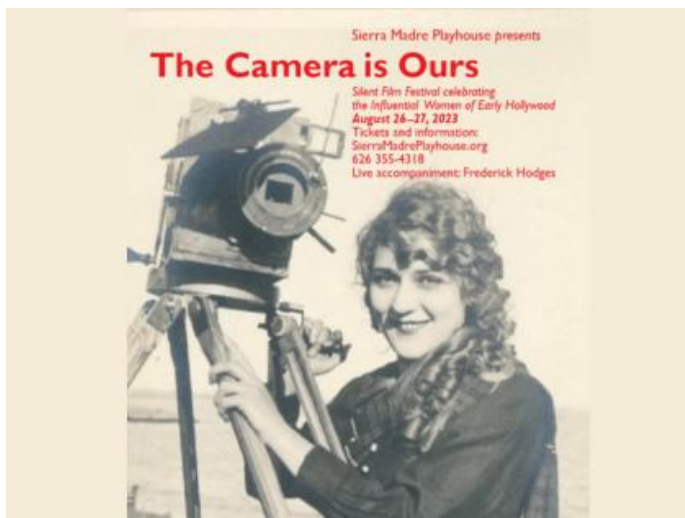
**and Elizabeth Sampson**

**Monday, August 7 at 7 pm**

The latest event of our ongoing series of true personal storytelling, which will be a narrative deep dive into the personal experiences of seven people

sharing critical moments that changed their lives, and humorous anecdotes that shaped their perspective. Storytellers include Brian M. Cole, Leonard R. Garner Jr., Susan Isaacs, Torie Osborn, Steven Shehori, Emerson Thomas-Gregory, and Kathleen Wilhoite, with music by Patrick Joseph Rieger.

**ASL Interpreters will be present at this event. More info and tickets [here](#).**



### ***The Camera Is Ours***

#### **Silent Film Festival**

**Saturday, August 26 and**

**Sunday, August 27**

Celebrate the influential women of early Hollywood with silent films made before and after the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment (August 26, 1920)! It's a weekend of silent film

fun (5 events total) at Sierra Madre Playhouse, which began life as a silent film venue in 1924. **All events feature live piano accompaniment by Frederick Hodges. More info and tickets [here](#).**

## COMING UP AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE IN 2023



### ***The Right Is Ours!***

**September 8 – October 8**

We are proud to be presenting the **world premiere of this brand-new musical** about the extraordinary friendship of two very different women, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, whose efforts spurred the creation of the Women's

Suffragist Movement and ignited the spark that won women the right to vote. **More info and tickets [here](#).**



### ***A USO Christmas Show***

**November 24 – December 23**

Sierra Madre Playhouse's Patsy Cline, Cori Cable Kidder, returns for her own original WWII-era military-themed holiday concerts!

Fans of Sierra Madre Playhouse's productions of *Always...Patsy Cline*

(2015) and *A Patsy Cline Holiday Concert* (2022) won't want to miss Cori performing military and holiday classics of the 40s in these USO-style concert performances, with live musical accompaniment by Sean Paxton on piano and a 3-piece band. **More info and tickets [here](#).**

**More information about and tickets to all of our events can be found at [SierraMadrePlayhouse.org](http://SierraMadrePlayhouse.org) or by calling our box office at 626.355.4318**