

Celebrating our 30th Birthday!

Word for Word
and Z Space present:



HOME



by George Saunders

“...you sent me, now bring me back.”

Directed by Sheila Balter
April 5 through 29, 2023





This season – our 30th! – we’re thinking a lot about belonging. Whether it be home, country, family – where and how do we belong? The stories we’ve chosen to present this year investigate these questions. George Saunders’ character Mikey, returns from fighting for the U.S. to a home that doesn’t trust him and which he can’t quite trust. Or Greg Sarris’ Salvador – born in California, raised in Mexico – where does he belong? Who is he, really? What defines us? And how do we participate in our communities, our world?

Word for Word was built by a community of women. In 25 plus years of making art together, we’ve also created a family. In 2019, we expanded that family, inviting long-time collaborators to help redefine what our Word for Word community is and can be. Our new Core Company is exploring questions of belonging and participation together.

As theater slowly builds back from the pandemic, we at Word for Word and Z Space are also considering how we belong and participate in our world. How can we engage more fully with our diverse communities? How can we make the best possible organization for our artists and staff?

We look forward to collaborating with artists and audiences again and to the insights we’ll glean from exploring this season’s stories together. A BIG thanks to all who have joined us in these explorations and supported and sustained our work – especially to Susan Harloe and the Charter Group, the new Core Company members, the Z Space staff, and of course, you, our audience. Here’s to continuing to explore for many more years to come.

– JoAnne Winter, Word for Word Artistic Director

ARTISTIC RISK

30 YEARS

Z SPACE + WORD FOR WORD





Definition of home: “...a place of refuge”, “... a safe haven and a comfort zone,” “...the place where you feel you belong.” In today’s world of millions of displaced people everywhere, there is hardly a more relevant topic. Saunders takes it on through the story of returning veteran Mikey, whose family is suspicious and afraid of him, as he looks for somewhere to land. Sometimes Mikey is scary, yet we root for him all the way. Saunders’ “Home” is deeply compassionate, even as he manages to skewer – often hilariously – the social and economic injustices in our world.

I first encountered Saunders through the mind-blowing story “Pastoralia” and thought, “Who is this guy?” I’ve since learned he is one of the most humble, thoughtful, and big-hearted humans alive, in addition to being a brilliant writer. He generously referred to Word for Word as “A national treasure.” Well, right back atcha, George! It has been an absolute honor to work on this beautiful story.

— Sheila Balter, Director



THANKS

George Saunders, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, the San Francisco Mime Troupe, Z Space Staff, Word for Word Core Company, Theatre of Yugen (Miwa Kaneko & Kyoko Yoshida), Howard Brownstein, Janna Ullrey, Jim Cave, Stephanie Hunt, Joel Mullennix, David Moore, Dodds Delzell, Gendell Hing-Hernández, Ryan Tasker, Susan Harloe, Patricia Silver, Edie Flores, Jomar Tagatac, Patrick Simms, Kelley Ho, Anthony Doan, Molly Benson, Paul Finocchiaro, Abigail Pañares, Andre Amarotico, Jed Parsario, Jay Yamada, Carolina Morones, Anne Yumi Kobori, and Ken Love.

HOME



by George Saunders

Directed by Sheila Balter

This performance lasts approximately 1 hour
with no intermission.

CAST

Tre’Vonne Bell

Ryan, MiiVOX Clerk 2 & 3, Ensemble

Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe⁺ Ma

Robert Ernst^{*} Harris

Norman Gee^{*}

Ryan’s Dad, Sheriff, Ensemble

Lisa Hori-Garcia^{*+}

Renee, Ensemble

Brennan Pickman-Thoon^{*}

Evan, MiiVox Clerk 1 & 4, Ensemble

Brian Rivera^{*+} Mikey

JoAnne Winter^{*+}

Ryan’s Mom, Ensemble

Used with generous permission of the author. “Home” was first published in *The New Yorker*, June 13 & 20, 2011. It is also part of Saunders’ short story collection *The Tenth of December*.

PRODUCTION

Stage Manager: **Karen Runk***
Assistant Stage Manager: **Theodore Cordano**
Production Manager and Lighting Design: **Jim Cave⁺**

Sound Design: **Cliff Caruthers****
Costume Design: **Callie Floor****
Assistant Costume Designer: **Nolan Miranda**
Choreographer: **Christy Funsch**
Fight Choreographer: **Julianna Rees**
Dramaturg: **John M. Meyer, Ph.D.**
Scenic Design: **Mikiko Uesugi****

Scenic Painter: **Cayla Ray-Perry**
Lead Electrician: **Brittany Mellerson**
Master Carpenter: **David Gardner**
Lead Production Technician: **Daniel Hall**
House Technician: **Zephaniah Bensaid**

Additional Scenic Painters: **Adeline Smith, Emily Yoder**
Electricians: **Olivia Vasquez, Margaret Linn,**
and **Lance Odell**
Stage Carpenter: **Loid M. Loid**

Press Agent: **David Hyry & Associates**
Graphic Design: **Randall Ann Homan**
Promotional Photography: **Cabure Bonugli**
(**Shot in the City Photography**)
Production Photography: **Jay Yamada**
Videography: **Lorenzo Fernandez-Kopec (LFKMedia)**

*Member, Actors' Equity Association

**Member, United Scenic Artists

+Member, Word for Word Core Company

Word for Word's 2023 season is
generously sponsored by Federated
Indians of Graton Rancheria



DRAMATURG



Dramaturgs provide the director, cast, and crew of a production with vital knowledge, research, and interpretation about the theatrical work so that they are in turn better equipped to do their jobs. Word for Word worked with dramaturg John M. Meyer, Ph.D. who supplied us with a variety of materials, from interviews with the author, to stories on the use of psychedelics to treat PTSD, as well as his own experience as a veteran of both the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. If you'd like to dive more deeply into any of these topics, please visit zspace.org/home-dramaturgy to peruse some of these materials.



WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

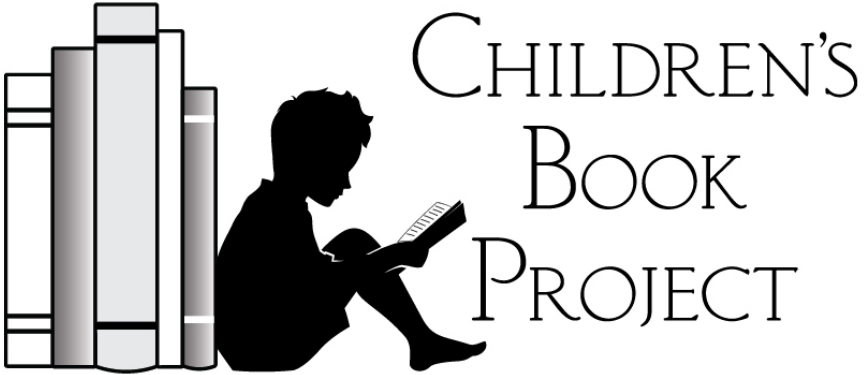
We are proud to have Nick Morrison from the Wounded Warrior Project as our post show speaker on Saturday, April 15.

The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) began in 2003 as a small, grassroots effort providing simple care and comfort items to the hospital bedsides of the first wounded service members returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Today, through their direct programs in mental health, career counseling, and long-term rehabilitative care, along with their advocacy efforts, they improve the lives of millions of warriors and their families. To learn more and support visit woundedwarrior.org.

We acknowledge that Z Space resides on the ancestral and unceded land of San Francisco, California, the traditional land site of the Ramaytush (Rah-My-Toosh) Ohlone (Oh-lo-Nee) people. We pay respect to the traditional custodians of these lands and offer our gratitude to their elders past, present, and future.

Please support the Sogorea Te' Land Trust.

Sogorea Te' Land Trust is an urban Indigenous women-led land trust based in the San Francisco Bay Area that facilitates the return of Indigenous land to Indigenous people. Learn more at sogoreate-landtrust.org.



Word for Word is proud to support the Children's Book Project, which provides books to children, advancing equity in literacy, learning, and life. Bring a new or gently used children's book to donate during the run of the show, and we'll buy you a drink (one drink per donor). Currently, they particularly need Spanish language books. Learn more about this great organization at childrensbookproject.org/give-books.



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BIOGRAPHIES

AUTHOR & DIRECTOR

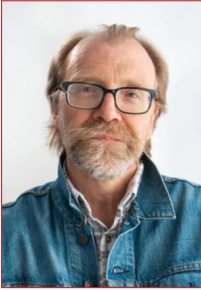


Photo: © Zach Krahmer

George Saunders is the author of 12 books, including *Lincoln in the Bardo*, which won the 2017 Man Booker Prize for best work of fiction in English, and was a finalist for the Golden Man Booker, in which one Booker winner is selected to represent each decade from the 50 years since the Prize's inception. The audiobook for *Lincoln in the Bardo*, which featured a cast of 166 actors, was the 2018 Audie Award for best audiobook.

His stories have appeared regularly in *The New Yorker* since 1992. The short story collection *Tenth of December* was a finalist for the National Book Award and won the inaugural Folio Prize in 2013 (best work of fiction in English) and the Story Prize (best short story collection).

Saunders has received MacArthur and Guggenheim Fellowships, the PEN/Malamud Prize for excellence in the short story, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2013, he was named one of the world's 100 most influential people by *Time* magazine. He has appeared on *The Colbert Report*, *Late Night with David Letterman*, *All Things Considered*, and *The Diane Rehm Show*.

Saunders was born in Amarillo, Texas and raised in Oak Forest, Illinois. He has a degree in Geophysics from the Colorado School of Mines and has worked as a geophysical prospector in Indonesia, a roofer in Chicago, a doorman in Beverly Hills, and a technical writer in Rochester, New York. Since 1997, he has taught, in the Creative Writing Program at Syracuse University.



Sheila Balter (Director) is a Word for Word Core Company member whose last directing credit for the company was *Retablos: Stories From a Life Lived Along the Border* by Octavio Solis (Jim Cave, co-director). Other credits with the company include *Holiday High Jinx: Stories* by Damon Runyon, E.B. White, and Joseph Mitchell, *In the Garden of the North American Martyrs* by Tobias Wolff, *4 Adverbs* by Daniel Handler, *The Islanders* by Andrew Sean Greer (LitQuake & France Tour), *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, and *The Kugelmass Episode* by Woody Allen (City Arts & Lectures). She has directed for Encore Theatre Company, Brava for Women in the Arts, and California Shakespeare Theater. Sheila also works as a Bay Area actress, teacher, and coach.

GOING
TO
FRANCE



Word for Word takes Home to France in May!

ANGERS May 10–11, Université Catholique de l'Ouest, Sponsored by the English-Language Library of Angers
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PARIS May 16, Théâtre le Ranelagh
Sponsored by the Ecole Jeannine Manuel and The American Library in Paris
Reservations: americanlibraryinparis.org/wfw



BIOGRAPHIES

CAST



Tre'Vonne Bell (Ryan, MiiVOX Clerk 2 & 3, Ensemble) is an Oakland based actor rooted from the sunny coast of Long Beach, CA. He is ecstatic to be working with the illustrious Word for Word company for his second stint! Known more commonly as Tre', his most recent works have been *Boys go to Jupiter* with Word for Word, *In the Red and Brown Water* at UC Berkeley, as well as understudying for California Shakespeare Theater's production of *Lear* and for Berkeley Repertory Theatre's production of *Wintertime*.

He has also appeared in *Exit Strategy* (Aurora Theatre Company); *Kill, Move, Paradise* (Shotgun Players); and *American Prom* (Colorado Springs Theatreworks).



Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe (Ma) is an accomplished actor, director, and writer, working in the Bay Area for 30 years. The founding artistic director of the award-winning ensemble Black Artists Contemporary Cultural Experience (BACCE), she has directed and produced 10 critically acclaimed productions for the company. She has acted, directed, and toured with the San Francisco Mime Troupe and was a member of the Black Lab at LATC.

She has directed at Trinity Rep, Capitol Rep, Southern Rep, Carpetbag Theatre, The Mark Taper Forum, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, WaterTower Theatre, Curious Theater, SF Playhouse, Magic Theatre, TheatreWorks, and Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, receiving accolades from Dallas' Rabin Awards and Backstage's Dean Goodman Award for Excellence. Edris has appeared as an actor in productions throughout California and in Nigeria. She was a core member of Rhodessa Jones' *Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women*. Her solo plays *Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of Academic Clarity and Inclusion* and *There are Women Waiting* are published in the anthologies *solo/black/woman*, and *Black Medea*, respectively. She holds an MFA in Theater from the University of Iowa and is a member of the Goddard College faculty.



Robert Ernst (Harris) is co-founder of the Blake Street Hawkeyes and the Iowa Theater Lab. He has performed on stages big and small in his 51 years in the Bay Area and started performing original solo works in 1973 in the Hawkeye Warehouse space in Berkeley. Selected shows include *Road* at Eureka Theater, *The Time of Your Life* at A.C.T./Seattle Rep, *Speed of Darkness* and *People's Temple* at Berkeley Rep, *Red State* at San Francisco Mime Troupe, *Play Land* and *The Joy of Going Somewhere Definite* at Magic Theatre. His original work, *Catherine's Care*, was nominated for a Critic's Circle Award for Best Play and his pocket opera, *The John*, was on the Bay Guardian's Best of the Year list. He received Dramalogue awards for Best Director and Best Production for *Tokens*. Bob also performed non-stop, according to The Guinness Book of World Records rules, for 24 hours and one minute. Previous credits with Word for Word include the full production *Rime of the Ancient Mariner*; podcasts of *14 Mission* and *Home*; and "Exactly!" *They Said*, Word for Word's Short Story Festival. He co-created the original piece, 'currently,' in a collective process with Tamalpais High students. He is currently creating several projects for Fall '23.



Norman Gee (Ryan's Dad, Sheriff, Ensemble) is thrilled to join the Word for Word crew yet again. A Bay Area stalwart, he recently performed with the San Jose Stage Company, and last summer with the San Francisco Mime Troupe. Founder of Oakland Public Theater, Norman creates a "different kind of Black Theater," expanding cultural notions to encompass often invisible roles of African Americans. Next up is *The Baldwin Centennial Project*, premiering August 2024.



BIOGRAPHIES

CAST



Lisa Hori-Garcia (Renee, Ensemble) is thrilled to be back in San Francisco performing with Word for Word as a “new” company member. Most recently, Lisa was in the world premiere, immersive theatrical production of David Byrne’s *Theater of the Mind* at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts in Colorado. She is an actress, director, Word for Word’s *Youth Arts* teaching artist, and for the last 20 years has been a collective member with the Tony-award winning, political theater company, the San Francisco Mime Troup. Lisa has also worked with many other theater companies in the Bay Area, most recently: *Monument, or Four Sisters* and *The Gangster of Love* (Magic Theatre), *As You Like It* (California Shakespeare Theater), and *Men on Boats* and *The Great Leap* (American Conservatory Theater). Lisa received her BA from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts and MFA in Acting from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California. She is a member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA and is proud to be a core company member of Word for Word. lisahorigarcia.com



Brennan Pickman-Thoon (Evan, MiiVOX Clerk 1 & 4, Ensemble) is thrilled to return to Word for Word! Recent credits include *Boys Go To Jupiter* (Word for Word); *A Christmas Carol* (American Conservatory Theater); *Mother of the Maid* (Marin Theater Company); *The Gentleman Caller* (NCTC); *Timon of Athens, Phèdre* (Cutting Ball Theater); *Hamlet, Measure For Measure* (Marin Shakespeare Company); *Metamorphoses, The Good Book* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre, u/s). Pickman-Thoon is a faculty member at American Conservatory Theater and Berkeley Repertory Theatre. He won the 2019 SFBATCC Award for Actor in a Principal Role and is a member of AEA. For more information, please visit brennanpickmanthoon.com.



Brian Rivera (Mikey) is proud to be back performing with Word for Word, of which he is a core company member. He has previously performed in Word for Word’s sold out, extended run of Amy Tan’s *Immortal Heart* and the school tour of *The Master Maid*. Other Bay Area credits include *The Orphan of Zhao* at A.C.T. and La Jolla Playhouse, Berkeley Rep’s *Yellow Jacket*, Cal Shakes’ *American Night*, and many tours with the San Francisco Mime Troupe, including *Posibilidad, or Death of a Worker*. Brian made his Broadway debut in the Tony Award winning revival of *The King & I* at Lincoln Center, playing The King of Siam several times. He can be heard in *Tales of Resistance*, a series of San Francisco Mime Troupe radio play episodes (available at sfmt.org). Brian is pleased to announce his first audiobook co-narration, Jennifer J. Coldwater’s *Holland, My Heart* on Audible. He is a member of Campo Santo Theater and an associate of the San Francisco Mime Troupe. Brian recently won The Charles Dean Award for Excellence in Bay Area Theater Performance. He is a proud member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA. IG: [@brianmrivera](https://www.instagram.com/brianmrivera)



JoAnne Winter (Ryan’s Mom, Ensemble) is Word for Word’s Artistic Director. She is thrilled and astounded to be celebrating 30 years of Word for Word! In 1993 Winter co-founded Word for Word Performing Arts Company with Susan Harloe and the amazing Charter Group – her sisters. With them, she has had the pleasure of helping to produce many, many productions, readings, and student projects, and in 2019/2020 of welcoming in the new Core Company members, who are continuing the Word for Word way, while informing and expanding it. The thrill continues! Thank you to all who have made the work of this company possible over the years. And special love and gratitude to Ben, Jack and Adrian.



BIOGRAPHIES PRODUCTION

Karen Runk (Stage Manager) moved to San Francisco with the intention of only staying for a few months...Over two decades later she's still here! This is largely due to the talented folks at the SF Mime Troupe and thanks to Golden Thread Productions where she has been a Resident Artist since 2018 (aka the before times)—but mostly it's due to rent control! Runk has also stage managed with Golden Thread Productions, Magic Theatre, SF Shakes, Intersection for the Arts, African American Shakespeare Company and the SF Mime Troupe.



Theodore Cordano (Assistant Stage Manager) is a recent graduate from Loyola University New Orleans with a BA in Theater Arts. He has been working behind the scenes since high school as a jack-of-all-trades with a mastering of stage management, sound, and video editing. Ted would like to thank his family, teachers and Z Space for the opportunity to work on this show as the ASM.



Jim Cave (Production Manager & Lighting Design) has worked with Word for Word for over 20 years as lighting designer, director and production manager. Most recently, he co-directed *Rime of the Ancient Mariner* with Delia MacDougall and *Retablos* with Sheila Balter. Jim is a Core Company Member of Word for Word.



Cliff Caruthers (Sound Design) is a Bay Area based sound designer and composer with over 20 years of experience in the field of theater sound design. He has created music and soundscapes for over 300 productions near and far, including *Frankenstein* at Guthrie Theatre, *1984* at Alley Theatre, *Caucasian Chalk Circle* for American Conservatory Theatre, *TRAGEDY: A Tragedy* for Berkeley Repertory Theatre, *Man in Love* for

Kansas City Rep, and *A Clean House* for TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, where he was Resident Sound Designer for seven years. In 2007 his work on *Fighter Airplanes* for Cutting Ball Theater was featured at the Prague Quadrennial in 2007. His work on *Earth: A Primer* was featured at the Experimental Gameplay Workshop at the Game Developers Conference (GDC) in 2015. He designed sound for Word for Word's *Stories by Alice Munro* in 2015. He has received several Bay Area Critics Circle awards, including most recently in 2019 for *Detroit '67* at Aurora Theatre Company. Mr. Caruthers is co-curator of the San Francisco Tape Music Festival and serves as Member Representative to the Western Region Board of United Scenic Artists Local 829.



Callie Floor (Costume Design) (she/hers) has designed for many theaters since coming to the Bay Area in 1987, including A.C.T., Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, Magic Theatre, San Francisco Mime Troupe, California Shakespeare Theatre, West Bay Opera, Zaccho Dance Theatre, and San Francisco Opera Merola Program. She is very happy to return to Word for Word, having last designed costumes for *Retablos* in 2020. She earned her BFA from the University of Utah and her Higher

Diploma in Theatre Design from the Slade School of Fine Art, University College, London. She is the resident designer for California Revels.



BIOGRAPHIES

PRODUCTION



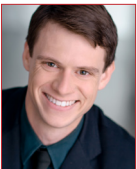
Nolan Miranda (Assistant Costume Designer) (he/him/they) is thrilled to be working again with Word For Word and Z Space. He is a graduate of The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising with a degree in Fashion & Costume Design. He has been costuming San Francisco productions since 2009. Recent notable design work include: *The Red Shades: A Trans Super Hero Rock Opera*, *Shoshana in December*, and *Fiddler on The Roof*. Nolan

was born and raised in the Philippines and has lived in the Bay Area since the year 2000. In addition, he is a co-founder and owner of Bab Boi, a catering company specializing in playful Filipino eats.



Chisty Funsch (Choreographer) is the Artistic Director of Funsch Dance. She has created over 13 full-length works and has been presented nationally and internationally. She was named one of “25 to Watch” by Dance Magazine in 2014 and was a Fulbright Scholar of choreographic research at the Escola Superior de Dança in Portugal in 2019. This is her third project with Word for Word. Visit funschdance.org.

Julianna Rees (Fight Choreographer) is delighted to join Word for Word’s production of *Home*. Julianna is a producer, director, writer, and actor. She adapts literature for the stage, writes music, and devises stage combat. She began her professional acting career with seasons at the California Shakespeare Festival and Shakespeare Festival Los Angeles. Julianna teaches in the fashion department at California College of Art and this spring is a guest adjunct professor at UC Berkeley. She is co-program director at Tamalpais High School’s Conservatory Theatre Ensemble, where she produces 55 nights of theater per season and has directed over 30 productions. Julianna attended Crossroads School for the Performing Arts, UC Berkeley, and l’Université de Paris IV, where she studied philosophy, film, and semiotics. She coaches social media influencers with up to six million followers.



John M. Meyer, Ph.D. (Dramaturg) works as a researcher and as a playwright-performer in Austin and New York. His work as a playwright and an actor has been featured in the *Austin Chronicle*, *The Austin American-Statesman*, KUT radio, the BBC online, *The Scotsman*, and *The List*. His stage play *American Volunteers* won the 2010 Mitchell Award at the University of Texas and subsequently made the long list for the Dylan Thomas Prize in the United Kingdom. His research explores competition

within military hierarchies, especially during the Second World War. He served in the United States Army and deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan.



Mikiko Uesugi (Scenic Design) has designed several productions for Word for Word, including *Stories By Tobias Wolff*, *Immortal Heart* by Amy Tan, and *4 Adverbs* by Daniel Handler (also directed by Sheila Balter). Recent theater credits include *Colonialism is Terrible, but Pho is Delicious* and *Wives* for Aurora Theater Company and *Monument, or Four Sisters (A Sloth Play)* for Magic Theatre. She has also designed for Shotgun Players, Crowded Fire, TheatreWorks, A.C.T. MFA Program, and Berkeley

Repertory Theater, among others. She is a resident artist at Golden Thread Productions, was selected for the NEA/TCG Career Development Program for Designers, and is a recipient The Isadora Duncan Dance Award.



BIOGRAPHIES PRODUCTION



Cayla Ray-Perry (Scenic Painter) was born and raised in San Jose. She has been painting professionally for more than 10 years. Cayla dabbles in photography, graphic design, and fiber crafts such as embroidery, crochet, and cross-stitch. Cayla is deeply inspired by her six summers working as a camp counselor and finds time to work with youth and teens whenever possible by teaching theatrical design. When not working, you can find her exploring the outdoors, completing a jigsaw puzzle or reading a book while snuggled on the couch with her wife and doggo, Otis.

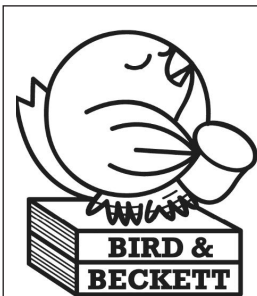


Daniel Hall (Lead Production Technician) is a Korean, Queer, Bay Area artist. Working as the Lead Production Technician for Z Space, Daniel has also worked as Master Electrician for SF Shakespeare festival for two seasons and does freelance work as a sound and lighting technician. He has previously worked on sound design with NCTC on *PReP Play*, *Gently Down the Stream*, *Sugar in Our Wounds*, and *A Picture of Two Boys*.



Zephaniah Strand Bensaïd (House Technician) (it/they) is a stage manager, circus educator, writer, and in this case a house tech. Their background is in circus, but they're always looking to learn new things! You can find Zeph in the tech booth, behind a follow-spotlight, or at their laptop, working on stories and TTRPGs about haunted houses, climate change, and transcendence.

David Hyry & Associates (Press Agent) has represented hundreds of artists over the past 25 years at theaters ranging from the Magic Theatre to the American Conservatory Theater. David Hyry has specialized in the launching and positioning of artists, organizations and festivals with public relations, media planning, marketing, and advertising both nationally and internationally. DH & A has represented noted artists and organizations including Bill Irwin, Spaulding Gray, Rinde Eckert, Whoopi Goldberg, Diamanda Galas, Anne Bogart, Paul Dresher, George Coates Performance Works, Goethe Institut, Italian Cultural Institute, and Teatro Di Roma.



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We are so grateful to all Z Space and Word for Word donors who have made gifts of any size. Thanks to your generosity, Z Space continues to work towards our mission of empowering artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and community in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work. We are honored to list the donors below who have contributed \$100 or more from **January 1, 2022 through March 9, 2023**.

A SPECIAL THANKS to those who have directly supported this production of *Home*. Their generosity has brought this show to life. Look for a ★ symbol next to their names.

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Kris Gentemann
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Miye Goishi & Dara Schur in honor of
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Michael Hoch & Katharine Daugherty
Emery Hudson on behalf of
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Shelby Kelemen
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Marci Seville
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Veronica Clifford-Carlos
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Phoenix Song
Sara Spearin on behalf of Dynamo Donut
Gary Stanford, Jr.
Joan Grant Sullivan
Peggy Wallace
Nicholas Wellington & Lee Safran
Deborah Westler
Ellen Widess
Tobias & Catherine Wolff
Rita Wong



FRIENDS OF Z

A special thanks to our Friends of Z who contribute under \$100 a year AND make up the largest segment of our donor family. There truly is no gift too small and every bit helps to empower artistic risk and keep our mission alive. THANK YOU!

CORPORATE MATCHES

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ESTATE & LEGACY GIFTS

Z Space is grateful to the following individuals for generously remembering Z Space and Word for Word in their estate plans:

- Constance Bernstein
- The Nina Kivelson Auerrbach Trust
- Gail Sinquefield

Z Space is grateful to have been the beneficiary of legacy gifts from the estates of:

- Lauren Alexander
- Cherylene Lee
- Patty Wolfe Philanthropic Fund



Make a gift and unlock donor benefits!

- Access to quarterly THANK YOU newsletter (\$1+)
- Invitation to annual Theater Tour Event (\$250+)
- Thank you note from a Z Space Artist (\$500+)
- Invitation to Meet and Greet with the Word for Word Core Company (\$1,000+)
- Invitation to attend an Open Rehearsal (\$2,500+)
- AND MORE!

As a 501(c)3 non-profit, Z Space relies heavily on the generosity of our donor family as ticket sales cover less than 5% of our total costs. To make a tax-deductible gift, please speak to a member of our Front of House team or contact Development and Marketing Coordinator Jessie Wong at 415.508.5970 or jwong@zspace.org.

For a complete list of our donor benefits please visit zspace.org/donorbenefits.



Z SPACE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

Z Space is extremely grateful for the generosity of the following institutional supporters who have provided Z Space with funding and assistance between January 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023. Their partnership is essential and covers roughly 60% of our operating costs which allows Z Space to keep ticket costs low, provide subsidized or free performance space, and bring short stories to life with elegant theatricality.

California Arts Council

California Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities
(American Rescue Plan Act of 2021)

El Rio

Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

Florence Gould Foundation

Club Fugazi Experiences

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National Endowment for the Arts (American Rescue Plan)

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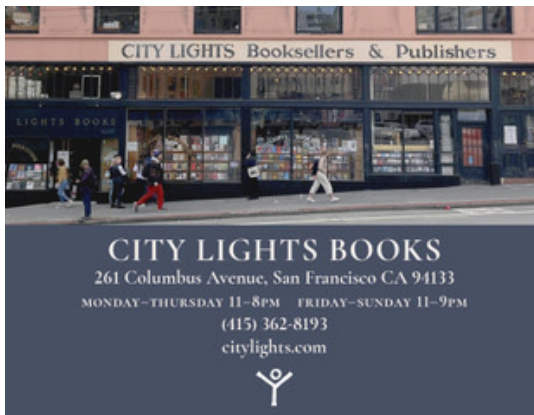
Shubert Foundation

The Smart & Final Charitable Foundation

MUFG Union Bank Foundation

Harold L. Wyman Foundation

Zellerbach Family Foundation





About Word for Word

The mission of Word for Word is to tell great stories with elegant theatricality, taking exciting works of fiction from the page to the stage. We believe in the power of the short story to provide solace, compassion, and insight into our daily lives.

Word for Word was founded by Susan Harloe and JoAnne Winter.

Word for Word Core Company

The Word for Word Core Company is a group of talented theater professionals as well as avid readers. The Core Company works with the artistic leadership of Word for Word in planning and creation of a season through attendance at monthly company meetings and annual retreats. Company Members read and suggest stories for production, whether in podcast form or on stage; help with fundraising; and contribute to audience growth and engagement.

Core Company Members

JoAnne Winter,* Co-Founder and
Artistic Director

Rotimi Agbabiaka

Sheila Balter*

Molly Benson

Jim Cave

Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe

Jeri Lynn Cohen* (1959-2021)

Paul Finocchiaro

Vanessa Flores

Rosie Hallett

Gendell Hing-Hernández

Lisa Hori-Garcia

Stephanie Hunt*

Amy Kossow,* Literary Manager

Delia MacDougall*

Joel Mullennix

Wendy Radford*

Brian Rivera

Nancy Shelby*

Patricia Silver*

Ryan Tasker

Joan Walton (Emeritus)

*Charter Member, meeting monthly since Word for Word's founding in 1993

Word for Word's Author Council

Greg Sarris, Honorary President

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Amy Tan

Tobias Wolff



About Z Space

Z Space empowers artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and community in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work. Keystone initiatives include New Work, a development, production, and presentation program that supports artists and ensembles from conception to realization of unique works; Word for Word, a resident theater company that transforms works of literature verbatim to the stage; Youth Arts, an arts education program promoting literacy and creativity; and the curated rental and residency programs which open our venues for use by a variety of other artists and arts groups.

Z Space Staff

Hillary Bray

Director of Development

Andrew Burmester

Marketing Director

Jim Cave

Production Manager, Word For Word

Clara Fulks

Audience Experience Manager

Daniel Hall

Lead Production Technician

Neil Higgins

Business Manager

Gendell Hing-Hernández

Associate Producer, Word for Word

Shafer Mazow

Executive Director

Colm McNally

Director of Technical and Production

Nikki Meñez

Curatorial Director

Amy Prosser

Youth Arts Program Coordinator

JoAnne Winter

Artistic Director, Word For Word
Director, Youth Arts

Jessie Wong

Development & Marketing
Coordinator

Z Board

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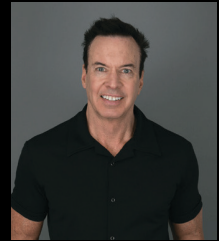
Dan Shuwarger

Gary Stanford, Jr., Vice President

Word for Word thanks the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria for being our 2023 Season Sponsor



The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) and their Tribal Chairman, Greg Sarris, have been a part of Word for Word, almost from its inception. In 1994 we produced a story from Greg's book *Grand Avenue*, a novel about contemporary, urban American Indians and other marginalized people who live in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County. This led to many more wonderful collaborations over the years, most recently between our arts education program, Youth Arts, and FIGR's youth summer camp programs. This summer will be our sixth providing arts programming for the Native youth of Sonoma County!



Greg Sarris
Author and Chairman
of Federated Indians
of Graton Rancheria



FIGR's organic garden
L-R: Heather Knoll and
Michael Zigler.
Photo: Jenna Brager

Greg Sarris was instrumental in helping his people, the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo of Northern California, gain federal recognition. On Dec 27, 2000, the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria became the last tribe in the United States to be restored by an act of Congress. FIGR went on to use the opportunity and reparations from that recognition to create the Graton Resort and Casino in Rohnert Park. In addition to providing programs and services to Tribal Citizens to realize their dreams of self-sufficiency, the resort itself has a forward thinking design, with sustainability in mind. The employees receive some of the best pay and benefits for service workers in the county, and the Tribe has created an organic garden onsite at the resort that feeds local elders.

To learn more about FIGR's generosity to their community, their good works in the broader world, and Word for Word's partnership with them, please visit zspace.org/figr-sponsorship.

A special thanks to Landis Communications. landispr.com



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COMING UP AT Z SPACE



Word for Word's Off the Page staged reading series is the public's first look at pieces we are considering for upcoming productions. With a public staged reading of a short story, we invite audiences to see the steps of our process of bringing a work from the page to the stage in the Word for Word style.

- **June 12**, 7pm, American Bookbinder's Museum: "The Secret Source" by Ben Okri, directed by Rotimi Agbabiaka
- **July 17**, 7pm, Z Below: "Come Softly to Me" by David Gilbert, directed by Delia MacDougall
- **October 30**, 7pm, Z Below: "How Fear Departed the Long Gallery" by E. F. Benson, directed by Wendy Radford
- **December 4**, 7pm, Z Below: "Carried Away" by Alice Munro, directed by Jim Cave (Rights Pending)

Information and reservations at zspace.org/offthepage

Citizen

Written by Greg Sarris

Directed by Gendell Hing-Hernández

October 18-November 12, 2023



Word for Word returns this fall with a full production of a story by long time company friend and collaborator Greg Sarris. "Citizen" tells the tale of Salvador, born in the U.S., raised in Mexico, son of an American Indian mother and a Mexican father. He has returned to California to find his mother, or rather, her grave. Working in the fields and ranches around Santa Rosa, he meets his mother's family, encountering both kindness and opportunism, as well as glimmers of hope. An American citizen, who speaks no English, Salvador procures his proof of citizenship and begins to discover his true identity and what it means to belong.

Check zspace.org for show information and news about tickets.

ARTISTIC RISK

30 YEARS

Z SPACE + WORD FOR WORD



30th Birthday Party

November 16, 2023

A fundraiser for Z Space and Word for Word

Come celebrate 30 years of Z Space and Word for Word with artistic guests and collaborators from our past, present, and future. It'll be out of this world!

Tickets on sale soon at zspace.org

We hope you will consider making a gift in honor of our 30th Birthday by scanning the QR Code here. We look forward to celebrating with you soon!



Visit us at zspace.org



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