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## BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF LLOYD SUH'S *THE FAR COUNTRY*

Directed by Jennifer Chang, *The Far Country* is a breathtaking account of immigration, identity, and memory

Berkeley Rep's Peet's Theatre March 8 – April 14, 2024

BERKELEY, CA (January 25, 2024)—Today, **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** announced the cast and creative team for the West Coast premiere of Pulitzer Prize finalist **Lloyd Suh's** *The Far Country*, performing at **Berkeley Rep's Peet's Theatre** (2025 Addison St., Berkeley) from **Friday, March 8 through Sunday, April 14, 2024**. <u>Press night will be held on Wednesday, March 13 at 8 p.m.</u> Single tickets (\$22.50–\$134) are on sale now and can be purchased online at <u>berkeleyrep.org/shows/the-far-country/</u> or by phone at **510-647-2949** (Tue–Sun, 12–7 p.m.). *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice*.

Following a critically acclaimed debut in New York, *The Far Country* returns to its roots in a triumphant West Coast premiere. In the wake of the Chinese Exclusion Act, Moon Gyet has arrived at San Francisco Bay's Angel Island Immigration Station with an invented biography and a new name, both given to him by a man who made the same arduous crossing several years earlier. But passage to San Francisco — and the dream of a better life for future generations — commands a very high price. Spanning two countries and three generations, Lloyd Suh's breathtaking account of immigration, identity, and memory has been called "Artful...an act, loving and sorrowful, of reclamation" by *The New York Times*.

"I'm incredibly proud to bring Lloyd's beautiful play home to the Bay Area," said Berkeley Rep Artistic Director **Johanna Pfaelzer**. "It is an honor to share this story with our community, in this magical, complicated place that has inspired and compelled people from all over the world to leave their countries of origin to seek opportunity, safety, and home."

"I'm thrilled to be making my Berkeley Rep debut with such a deeply meaningful project as *The Far Country*," adds **Director Jennifer Chang**. "It is an honor to bring visibility to the stories and the history of Asian Americans in the Bay Area, to share them with the Bay Area community — especially because I grew up here and continue to have family and roots here. Lloyd Suh is a really special voice and collaborator in the American theatre and I'm grateful to be working with him again."

The cast of *The Far Country* includes (*in alphabetical order*) **Tommy Bo**, **Feodor Chin**, **Andrew Ge**, **Alex Hsu**, **Kina Kantor**, **John Keabler**, **Whit K. Lee**, **Tess Lina**, **Sharon Shao**, and **Aaron Wilton**.

The creative team for *The Far Country* includes **Lloyd Suh** (Playwright), **Jennifer Chang** (Director), **Wilson Chin** (Scenic Design), **Helen Q. Huang** (Costume Design), **Minjoo Kim** (Lighting Design), **Fan Zhang** (Sound Design), and **Hsuan-Kuang Hsieh** (Projection Design).

In connection with *The Far Country,* Berkeley Rep will offer numerous events that will give patrons the opportunity to get closer to the action:

- Friday, March 15 at 6:45 p.m. Community Salon with performance by Del Sol Quartet and The Last Hoisan Poets in the Narsai David Courtyard
- Friday, March 22 at 7 p.m. Community Salon with performance by Bay Area Independent Chinese Dancers and 2K Ave in Michael's Second Act bar
- Friday, March 22, immediately following the performance Postshow discussion guided by members of Berkeley Rep's artistic team in Michael's Second Act bar
- Thursday, March 28, immediately following the performance Postshow discussion guided by members of Berkeley Rep's artistic team in Michael's Second Act bar
- Friday, March 29 at 6:45 p.m. AAPI Heritage Night with special performances and light bites in the Narsai David Courtyard
- Tuesday, April 2, immediately following the performance Postshow discussion guided by members of Berkeley Rep's artistic team in Michael's Second Act bar
- Wednesday, April 3, immediately following the performance Postshow Community Dialogue with Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation and other panelists in Michael's Second Act bar

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of **BART** and **Peet's Coffee**, Berkeley Rep's official season sponsors. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to recognize the support at the season sponsor level from **Stephen and Susan Chamberlin**; **Yogen and Peggy Dalal; Bruce Golden and Michelle Mercer; Frances Hellman and Warren Breslau**; **Wayne Jordan and Quinn Delaney**; **Gisele and Kenneth F. Miller**; **Jack and Betty Schafer**; **The Strauch Kulhanjian Family**; and **Gail and Arne Wagner**.

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## **ABOUT BERKELEY REP**

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Berkeley Rep shows have gone on to win 8 Tony Awards, 9 Obie Awards, 11 Drama Desk Awards, 1 Grammy Award, 1 Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. The Berkeley Rep School of Theatre engages and educates some 20,000 people a year and helps build the audiences of tomorrow with its nationally recognized teen programs. Berkeley Rep's bustling facilities—which also include the 400-seat Peet's Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, The Medak Center, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley—are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at <u>berkeleyrep.org</u>.