

ARGYLE ROAD PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# THE RED DRESS

WRITTEN BY TANIA WISBAR

DIRECTED BY KIFF SCHOLL<sup>∞</sup>

STARRING

REBECCA LARSEN\*, LAURA LIGUORI,  
SHANTI REINHARDT\*, J.B. WATERMAN, DYLAN WITTROCK

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER  
ARGYLE ROAD  
PRODUCTIONS

PRODUCER  
VICTORIA WATSON,  
THEATRE PLANNERS

PRODUCER  
RACQUEL LEHRMAN,  
THEATRE PLANNERS

SCENIC DESIGNER  
PETE HICKOK

COSTUME DESIGNER  
SHON LE BLANC

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
KELLEY FINN

PROJECTION DESIGNER  
NICK SANTIAGO

SOUND DESIGNER  
DAVID B. MARLING

COMPOSER  
KAREN MARTIN

PROPERTIES DESIGNER  
RYAN HOWARD

GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
AFK DESIGN

CASTING DIRECTOR  
FERNE CASSEL

PUBLICIST  
LUCY POLLAK

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER  
ED KRIEGER

ASST. STAGE MANAGER  
SHARON LOGAN

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER  
DANNY CRISP\*

TIME: 1924-1936  
PLACE: BERLIN, GERMANY

\*Appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.

<sup>∞</sup> The Director is a member of SDC, the Stage Directors' Union



## FROM ARGYLE ROAD PRODUCTIONS...

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Argyle Road Productions is a multi media company involved in theater, film, audio production and publishing. Its first produced play was *The Birthday Present 2050*, written by Tania Wisbar and directed by Jonathan Sanger. It was presented at the Skylight Theater in Los Angeles to great acclaim. The company has also produced a book of the play and an audio recording, both available on Amazon.

Argyle is currently developing the motion picture, *Tap Dancing in a Drowning Pool*, written and to be directed by Sherry Hormann in 2018.

*The Red Dress* is Sanger/Wisbar's 2nd stage play collaboration.

## FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT...

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The play *The Red Dress* is derived from a short paragraph in the 1939 manuscript written by my mother, Eva Kroy Wisbar, after she arrived in New York City as a refugee from Nazi Germany. This manuscript was discovered in the Harvard University Library basement in 1999, 60 years after it was written. My mother passed away before a German professor researching Harvard basement files would call me in 1999 saying he had found Eva's manuscript detailing the Nazi takeover of the German film industry. Also in the manuscript were details of her marriage to my father before the marriage was destroyed by Nazi racial policies. There have been countless important articles, films, books, plays about the Holocaust, but very few that cover the period of 1924 to 1936 after Hitler's rise to power but before the dreadful consequence of Hitler's policies are fully implemented. Our characters cannot know the future, even as it slowly becomes clear that they will have to fight for their love to survive. The unfolding of this tragic era between 1924 and 1936, during which Germany's fragile democracy erodes to be replaced by a tyranny that in small and then huge steps adopts genocide as legal government policy, is the focus of this play. The play deliberately stops in 1936. There is still time to save the world from looking into the mirror and seeing reflected the image of total evil. *The Red Dress*, I hope, takes a close look at the high cost of accepting the slow erosion of human and humane rights on national and often on international levels.

It is urgent that here and now, we recognize that our stubborn belief that our democracy will survive no matter how often and in how many large and small ways, words and actions we recklessly betray its gifts, assures us we will lose all we hold priceless.

—Tania Wisbar, Los Angeles, October 2017

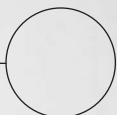
## CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

<b>LAURA LIGUORI</b> .....	<b>ALEXANDRA SCHIELE</b>
<b>DYLAN WITTROCK</b> .....	<b>OFFICER DIETER KELLER</b>
<b>REBECCA LARSEN*</b> .....	<b>SYBIL STEIN</b>
<b>J.B. WATERMAN</b> .....	<b>FRANZ WEITREK</b>
<b>SHANTI REINHARDT*</b> .....	<b>RACHEL</b>

## CAST BIOS

(In Alphabetical Order)



### REBECCA LARSEN\* (SYBIL STEIN)

Rebecca Larsen is an actress, writer and director living in Los Angeles. Rebecca was a pre-med student before transferring into the Actor Training Program at the University of Utah, and spent many years performing comedy improv. In Los Angeles, Ms. Larsen found a home at Sacred Fools Theatre where she co-curates the New Works Development program which shepherds writers through their re-writing process. Ms. Larsen writes and directs (mostly) sketch comedy, and co-wrote and performed in *Thanks a Lot! My Gratitude*, a one-woman cabaret comedy for the 2016 Hollywood Fringe Festival, also directed by the inimitable Kiff Scholl. Los Angeles Theatre credits include: *Different Words for the Same Thing* (CTG at the Kirk Douglas Theater); *Skullduggery*, *Occupation*, *Watson*, *La Bete*, *Forbidden Zone* (Sacred Fools); *Wreck of the Unfathomable*, *A Mulholland Christmas Carol* (Theatre of NOTE). Television: "Masters of Sex," "Desperate Housewives," "The Exes," "House MD," and "Veronica Mars." [www.reblarsen.com](http://www.reblarsen.com)



### LAURA LIGUORI (ALEXANDRA SCHIELE)

*"You can't help it. An artist's duty, as far as I'm concerned, is to reflect the times."* –Nina Simone. Laura Liguori grew up in Scottsdale Arizona. She classically trained at the Oxford School of Drama in Oxford England, and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. This past summer, she starred in *The Gary Play Series* (6 Play Cycle) written by award winning playwright Murray Mednick. Other recent stage credits also include the role of Marilyn Monroe in the new play *-Marilyn Madness and Me-* that premiered at the El Portal Theatre in Hollywood, as well as starring in the world premiere play entitled *Between Pretty Places*, which premiered in Los Angeles and New York. Recent TV and film credits include: "Hollywood Girl: The Peg Entwistle Story" (Peg), "Boogie Dilemma" (AMAZON), "Suburgatory", "Growing Up Fisher", "Love Lust and a Room Key", and "Ugly Betty." Laura Liguori is currently managed by NEXT Management (Theatrical), and AQUA Talent Agency under Courtney Peldon. My performance is dedicated to Eva Theresa Wisbar.



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**SHANTI REINHARDT\* (RACHEL)**

Shanti is a Los Angeles based playwright and actress. She was just seen in her most recent play, *OTIS*, which premiered at Pacific Resident Theatre's Co-op this year. She is a graduate of The American Conservatory Theatre and BADA in Oxford, England. Her theatre credits include The American Conservatory Theatre, The Groundlings Sunday Show, Los Angeles Theatre Center, John Anson Ford Theatre, Pacific Resident Theatre, Theatre of NOTE, Powerhouse Theatre, Highways and The Evidence Room. Film credits include: "The Marrying Man", "Captain Ron", "The Temp", "Fatal Instinct" and "Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss." Shanti is a proud member of Pacific Resident Theatre and Theatre of NOTE. She is grateful to Tania Wisbar, Kiff Scholl and the cast and crew for giving her the opportunity to join them in this very special project. Thank you to David and Kainoa for all their love and support.



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**J.B. WATERMAN (FRANZ WEITREK)**

J.B. Waterman has loved working with Tania and Kiff on such an exciting new piece of theatre. He was last seen at the Odyssey Theatre just a month ago playing Mortimer in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Some other credits include *Hamlet-mobile* at the Hollywood Fringe Festival as Hamlet, *Dragon Play* at the Chance Theatre, *The Curse of Oedipus* at Antaeus, and *Women* at the Hollywood Fringe. He has performed in many films including, most recently "Five Pilgrims" and the upcoming "Mia, Tia and Tim". He feels so lucky to be in this play and to perform for you tonight.



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**DYLAN WITTROCK (OFFICER DIETER KELLER)**

Dylan Wittrock has performed at the Hollywood Bowl with A Noise Within theater company, the Chicago Theater in Chicago, IL, and busked the streets of the Royal Mile at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. After exploring other fields and graduating with a BA in Spanish from the University of San Francisco, Dylan moved to New York City to pursue acting, where he studied with the Atlantic Theater Company. *The Red Dress* is his first theatrical production since he returned to Los Angeles last year. Other credits include roles in the series "Power", and "Feud: Bette and Joan", films "The Submarine Kid," and "Finding Silverlake" and the webseries, "Liked".



## PRODUCTION TEAM

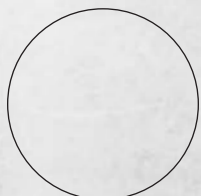
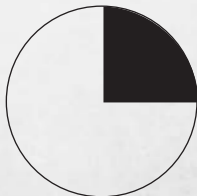
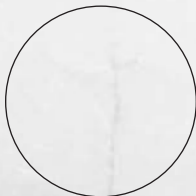
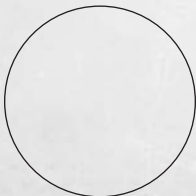


### KIFF SCHOLL (DIRECTOR)

Proud member of SDC, and rescue dog lover, Kiff's recent productions include *Future Sex, Inc.*, *Dinner at Home Between Deaths*, and *Moon Over Buffalo* (2014 BroadwayWorld nominee). Other critically acclaimed productions include *La Bête* (with Rebecca Larsen) and world premieres *A Mulholland Christmas Carol*; *Middle Savage*; *Act a Lady*; and *Don Giovanni Tonight*, *Don Carlo Tomorrow* at Sacred Fools, about which the *LA Times* wrote "Director Kiff Scholl has few peers at keeping us intrigued." His shows have garnered seven *Backstage* Garland awards, five *LA Weekly* awards, a GLAAD nomination and an Ovation award. Scholl was listed as "one of LA's emerging and accomplished stage directors" by the *LA Weekly*. Other favorites include Theatre Planners' *Sona Tera Roman Hess*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Our House* (with JB Waterman), *Expecting to Fly*, and *All My Sons*, as well as *The Poseidon Adventure-The Musical!*, Circle X's *10 Minute Play Fest*, and *Kill Me, Deadly*, *The Fan Maroo* and *Shake* at Theatre of NOTE. An award-winning filmmaker, his feature "Scream of the Bikini" won numerous awards, including a Maverick Movie Award for Best Director (now on Amazon, and in Japan, where it's known as "Spy Mission"). His films include "11/11/11" (Netflix), "Surprise" (premiering on Dekkoo, January '18), and the political satire web-series he co-wrote and directed, *Medicare Mermaids* [www.MedicareMermaids.com](http://www.MedicareMermaids.com). As an actor, Kiff has been in lots and lots of commercials, as well as on "Criminal Minds", "Reno 911!", "Untold Stories of the ER", "Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss" (with Shani Reinhardt), "11/11/11", "Girls Will Be Girls 2012" and a lead on the hilarious "Be Cool, Scooby Doo" (Cartoon Network). Thanks to Tania and Jonathan for this opportunity. [www.KiffScholl.com](http://www.KiffScholl.com) - Twitter: @afkiff

### TANIA WISBAR (PLAYWRIGHT)

Tania was born in Berlin, Germany. Her mother, Eva Kroy Wisbar was a music and art magazine publisher, her father Frank Wisbar, one of Germany's best known film directors. They immigrated separately during the Nazi era to America. Arriving in Hollywood, Frank Wisbar produced and directed the first filmed series made for television *Fireside Theater*. Tania's first job at the age of 11 to earn allowance was to read magazine stories for Frank and summarize those that might fit into the format of *Fireside Theater*. Eva moved to Washington, D.C. as a Pentagon based U.S. Air Force Intelligence Officer before accepting an assignment to go back to Germany to interview newly released German soldiers imprisoned at the end of WWII by the Soviets. Returning to the United States to go to college Tania has degrees in Theatre Arts, in Speech Pathology and in Special Education. She is the founding President and CEO of B.E.L.I., a day program for developmentally disabled adults with a large dance troupe that performs throughout each year in Los Angeles. For 14 years Tania was also the editor and reporter of a small beach town weekly newspaper.



### **VICTORIA WATSON (PRODUCER, THEATRE PLANNERS)**

Victoria is a seasoned producer and general manager focusing on Los Angeles productions. She is a veteran of Broadway, national tour companies, and a long list of local productions. Formerly Associate Producer and Director of Operations at Pasadena Playhouse, Victoria joined Theatre Planners, a local for-hire production company, in 2012. At the start of 2017 she created a branch of her own called Theatre Planners Tours, which focuses on taking local productions out on tour and festival runs.

### **RACQUEL LERHMAN (PRODUCER, THEATRE PLANNERS)**

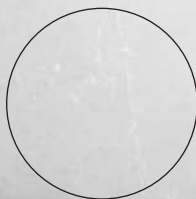
Racquel is the founder and managing director of Theatre Planners, her own theatre production firm which has been serving the Los Angeles theatre scene for over ten years. She graduated from NYU-Tisch School of the Arts and lived in NY for many years producing theatre. Theatre Planners has since developed into a very busy and successful outlet for actors, writers, producers and theatre companies. Doing everything from producing, consulting, marketing and more, Racquel loves to make productions a reality and help to keep the theatre scene in LA alive and strong. Racquel is also the owner of The Lounge Theatres and manages the Zephyr Theatre. To learn more about Racquel and Theatre Planners, go to [theatreplanners.com](http://theatreplanners.com)

### **PETE HICKOK (SCENIC DESIGNER)**

Pete Hickok is a Scenic Designer, Production Designer, and Sculptor based out of Los Angeles. His most recent scenic design projects include *Farragut North* at the Odyssey Theater, *Die, Mommie Die!* at Celebration Theater, and *Crimes of the Heart* at the International City Theater in Long Beach. He was also recently production designer for "Medicare Mermaids" among his other ventures curating and exhibiting in the contemporary art world. He was nominated for a 2016 Ovation Award for his design of *Rio Hondo* at the Theater of NOTE.

### **SHON LE BLANC (COSTUME DESIGNER)**

Shon Celebrates 32 years designing costumes in California and across the country. He has designed shows for The Fountain Theatre, The Colony Theatre, 3D Theatricals, Odyssey, Matrix, Theatre 40, Hudson, No Ho Arts, The El Portal, Open Fist theatre co, Civic light Opera of South Bay Cities, Ogunquit Playhouse (ME), Sierra Madre Playhouse, The Rubicon, Actors Co-Op, Greenway Court, and Kentucky Shakespeare (KY) just to name a few. His designs were recently featured in the national touring company of *I Love Lucy, live on Stage*. Last January he designed *Showboat*, at Kentucky Opera. And he returned to Ash Lawn Opera in July for his 5 th season, designing *South Pacific*. Shon has taught Costume Design for the Academy of Art in SFO, is a multi Award winning Costume Designer, with multiple Ovation, Drama Critics Circle, LA Weekly and Garland awards and nominations. He is the Managing partner of The Costume House, located in North Hollywood, California where the costumes for tonight's show were created.



## **KELLEY FINN (LIGHTING DESIGNER)**

Design credits include *Farragut North* (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), *The Last Vig* (Zephyr Theatre), *Please Don't Ask About Becket* (Theatre Planners), *West Side Story* (Taylor Performing Arts Center), and *Big Fish* (Agoura PAEC). Assistant design credits include the "NHL All Star Weekend," "Macy's Super Bowl Kickoff Spectacular," "Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival," and the "Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show." Kelley holds her MFA from SUNY Purchase and her BA from University of West Florida.

## **NICK SANTIAGO (PROJECTION/VIDEO DESIGNER)**

Nick Santiago has worked for numerous universities and theatre companies including Skylight Theatre (*Forever House*, *Church & State*, *Obama Ology*), Rogue Machine (*A Permanent Image*, *Luka's Room*, *Honky*), USC (*Trojan Women*, *On the Town*), Pasadena Playhouse (*Ham*), and LA LGBT Center (*The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life Revisited*). He received an Ovation nomination and a LA Drama Critic's Circle award for his work on Rogue Machine's *A Permanent Image*. [www.nsantheadesign.com](http://www.nsantheadesign.com)

## **DAVID B. MARLING (SOUND DESIGNER)**

Over the past 27 Years David has added his sound character in many live productions and independent films. Dave received an Ovation Award for the breathtaking *Napoli Millionaria* at the Road Theatre Company. He received his 2nd Ovation Award for the mysterious *The Woman In Black* at the Road Theatre. Dave has received a Sound Design Award from the NAACP and *Back Stage* Garland Award for the dynamic *Gem Of The Ocean* at the Fountain Theater. He is also a Professor of Theater Sound Design at Pepperdine University. David loves creating soundscapes of all sizes and loves to be challenged by a production to come up with sounds that fit the action. To achieve this, he uses sound effects, tones/drones even music under the scene to set a tone to complete the experience and make you "FEEL." For more information check out the website [WavMagicAudio.com](http://WavMagicAudio.com) or you may call (818) 370-8556

## **KAREN MARTIN (COMPOSER)**

Karen Martin studied classical piano in London with Marina Horak (who trained under Nadia Boulanger) and orchestration with Hungarian composer Peter Sander. She obtained an MFA in Music Composition from CalArts, where her mentor was the composer and Pulitzer Prize winner, Mel Powell. Her compositions have been featured on radio broadcasts and she has performed them in concert in Austria, England, and Italy. Karen composed and produced the multimedia production *Nowhere Did I Leave Footprints*, which premiered at the Los Angeles Theater Center (LATC). She also scored several independent stage productions including *The Birthday Present 2050*. She scored several films, including "Outside", which won Best Sci-Fi Film at ComicCon. Her film scores have been nominated as finalists at the Moondance Film Festival. She has also scored film projects for Showtime and ABC, and collaborated with visual artists for European internet magazines. She was selected as a Fellow to the Sundance Composers Lab.

## **RYAN HOWARD (PROPERTIES DESIGNER)**

Ryan is a Los Angeles based designer of costumes and props for both original works of theater and dance. Most recently he designed costumes for Rachel Epling's original choreographic work *etched in us*. He also recently designed props for a production of *Bernhard* at UCSB. Ryan is currently designing costumes for a new work by Psychopomp Dance Theater under the direction of Shenandoah Harris. Ryan Howard is a graduate from the University of California Santa Barbara where he got his B.A. in Theater with a Concentration in Design.

**DANNY CRISP\* (PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER)**

Work highlights include: *The Last Wig* (Zephyr Theatre) starring Oscar-nominee Burt Young; *The Color Purple* (Celebration Theatre) starring *American Idol* finalist La Toya London; and the US premiere of Mark Ravenhill’s *Pool (No Water)*. Frequent collaborator with LA Contemporary Dance Co, LA Dance Resource Center, Emmy-nominated choreographer/director Doriana Sanchez, and “So You Think You Can Dance” Season 2 finalist Donyelle Jones. Danny was the Dance Production Coordinator at AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts for 4 seasons and continues his relationship there as stage manager, guest speaker, and student mentor. Proud member of Actor’s Equity Association. [www.danielryancrisp.com](http://www.danielryancrisp.com)

**SHARON LOGAN (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)**

Sharon Logan was born in Brescia, Italy and moved to Columbia, SC in 2000. While in South Carolina she was a member of her high school’s dance company, Ebony, SC Shakespeare Company, Carolina Ballet Company, and Columbia City Jazz. She trained under Julia Moisseva, Marissa Freeman, Anna Dragoni, Stacey Calvert, Dale Lam. She recently graduated from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy of the Performing Arts with a Bachelor’s in Dance Theatre. Sharon had the pleasure of playing an Indian in Cabrillo Music Theatre’s show *Peter Pan*. She is very excited to to be a part of this production with such a great cast.

**ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS**

Assistant Producers.....Erica Lawrence and Misha Riley  
Dance Captain.....Sharon Logan  
Properties Master/Stagehand.....Ryan Howard  
Dresser .....Patrice Johnson  
Wigs/Hair.....Amanda Walter  
Associates to the Executive Producers.....Julie Honadel and Mike Jones

**SPECIAL THANKS**

The Odyssey Theatre, The Lounge/Zephyr Theatres, Story consultant: Erik Hansen, Film Department: University of New Orleans, Maria Hansen Elac, and to our voice actors, Curt Bonnem, Aviva Pressman, Kiff Scholl and others.



Congratulations to  
the cast and crew of  
***The Red Dress***

our thanks  
BELI Dance Troupe