

RANGE OF LIGHT PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS

THE WORLD PREMIERE OF

TWO FISTED LOVE

WRITTEN BY DAVID SESSIONS

DIRECTED BY JULES AARON

STARRING:

SERENA SCOTT THOMAS

**ROBERT BELLA, JASON DOWNS, PAULA LAFAYETTE,
LAURA LONG, LYNNE OROPEZA, JACOB OSBORNE,
RENE RIVERA, DAVID SESSIONS**

Assistant Director **Ryan McRee**

Set Design **John Iacovelli**

Lighting Design **Brian Gale**

Sound Design **Cricket S. Myers**

Fight Choreographer **Jamie Cline**

Stage Manager **Morgan Wilday**

Publicist **Susan Gordon**

Photographer **Jessica Drossin**

Set Construction **Will Lidderdale**

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Caroline Connors Serena Scott Thomas
Maggie Navarro Lynne Oropeza
Kevin Singleton David Sessions
Maria Paula Lafayette
Justin Jacob Osborne
Andy Wainwright Jason Downs
Rachel Laura Long
Dr. Ryan Robert Bella
Robert Navarro Rene Rivera

Place & Setting

Atherton, California and various locations in Silicon Valley

Act One

Early Summer 2008

Act Two

Early Fall 2008

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Dedication

George Sessions (1938 - 2016)

Environmentalist, philosopher, mountaineer, humble seeker of wild places.

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Two Fisted Love is a dark comedy which links the corporate horrors of Silicon Valley and Wall Street with the decline of an American family.

"There's your spirit of the age--being in the business of winning elections - corrupting a once true democracy, and manipulating the masses into believing they're thinking for themselves, That, may friends is how significant people cast their vote. Consolidation of personal wealth yields consolidation of power"

-- Robert, Two Fisted Love

CAST



ROBERT BELLA (*Dr. Ryan*) has worked as an actor, director, writer, and producer in film, television, and theater. Television credits include: Writer/Producer on *Castle* (ABC) and *The Following* (FOX). Film credits include: Director/Producer of *Colin Fitz Lives!* (IFC Films); Post-Production Supervisor/Consultant for Amblin Partners on: *The Post*, *Ghost in the Shell*, *The Girl on the Train*, *Lincoln*, *War Horse*, and *The Help*. Bella started out in the theater where he has worked on over 100 plays and was a Founding Member of the Atlantic Theater Company. Bella has taught classes on: Directing,

Script Analysis, Performance Technique, On-Camera Acting, and Audition Skills for schools such as: ATC, NYU, Harvard, and Indiana University in the United States; NIDA, AFTRS, and the Actor's Centre in Australia; and The International Institute of Performing Arts in France.



JASON DOWNS (*Andy Wainwright*) graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, and has performed on stage and screen for over 30 years. Some of his credits include John Waters' *Hairspray*, *Clara's Heart* with Neil Patrick Harris, *Racing Daylight* with Melissa Leo and David Strathairn, and most recently, guest starring roles on *NCIS: Los Angeles* and *NCIS: New Orleans*. He toured with the National Players production of *The Tempest* as Caliban, has played Romeo in repertory, Lorenzo off Broadway, and most recently starred as

Lenny in *The Homecoming* at Pacific Resident Theatre for which he was awarded Best Supporting Actor by BroadwayWorld. He was also signed as a recording artist with Jive Records, releasing two albums and five singles, one of which was a Top 20 hit overseas resulting in a European Tour. Jason is grateful to his fellow producers, David and this amazing cast for giving him the opportunity to join them in this very special project.



PAULA LAFAYETTE (*Maria*) is a Brazilian actress based in Los Angeles. With a BFA in Theatre and vast experience on screen, Paula has acted in over 20 plays and has guest starred in some of the most popular Brazilian soap operas. In 2008, Paula enrolled at the New York Film Academy and had her first experience acting in a foreign language. Seeking new opportunities, Paula moved to Australia and made her first international appearance on the national hit TV show *Wonderland* and the popular crime show *Deadly Women*. In 2016,

Paula permanently moved to Los Angeles and was immediately cast in the James Franco production of the feature film *Dark Hours: Roxana*, and, just recently, snatched up one of the lead roles in the upcoming short film *Ashes* directed by the prolific Brazilian TV star and producer Edson Celulari. Paula is fluent in Portuguese and has

been working consistently as a dubbing artist, lending her voice to numerous characters from international soap operas, cartoons, TV series and feature films like the Netflix hit *The Incredible Jessica James*.



LAURA LONG (*Rachel*) was born and raised in Port Royal, Virginia. As a teenager, she was chosen to be a part of the prestigious Governor's School of Performing Arts at the University of Richmond where she began her studies in theatre. Within that time, she was awarded "Best Actress" by the Virginia Theatrical Association in 2009 and 2010 for her stage work. She continues her career here in Los Angeles, working in commercials, television and film. She is best known for her role as Rebecca Franks in AMC's historical drama *TURN: Washington Spies*. Laura's greatest passion lies in humanitarian aid as an advocate and youth mentor working locally with the non profit, Red Eye Inc, as well as abroad aiding in the refugee crisis. She is thrilled to return to the stage and be a part of this production at The Odyssey.



LYNNE OROPEZA (*Maggie Navarro*) Fresh from a heartfelt hiatus, Lynne Oropeza marks *Two Fisted Love* as her long-anticipated return to the boards — her most treasured place for “doing the actor's work.” Oropeza has appeared in, produced, and choreographed numerous critically acclaimed stage-plays and films. A company member of West Coast Ensemble in Hollywood for over twenty years, favorite theatre projects include appearing with Oscar-nominee Carrie Snodgrass in *The Manchurian Candidate* (American premiere), producing Harold Pinter's *Old Times* (LA Times Critics Choice), and choreographing *Junk Bonds* (award from the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays). Among various film projects, Oropeza produced *In the Shadows* (2006 Reel Women's Film Festival winner, “Best Of”) and *Hope Abandoned* (2003 Atlanta Film Festival nominee, Outstanding Directing.) Recent appearances include a waltzing-Old West-Townswoman-Robot in the HBO series *Westworld*, a chain-smoking nurse in the FX series *Baskets*, and Goldie Hawn's photo-double in the 20th Century Fox motion picture *Snatched*. Oropeza holds a degree in filmmaking from University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts and lives in Los Angeles. Lynne dedicates this role to two very special women: beloved aunt Gail Uebersetzg Siebert; and gifted actress & tango dancer, Veronica Alicino.



JACOB OSBORNE (*Justin*) grew up in Vermont and then went on to study acting at Yale University and Oxford. He recently performed in a night of short plays with Write Act Repertory, and his screen credits include *Home Invaders* (Lifetime), *White River Tales* (American Film

Institute) and the sci-fi series *Aptitude* (37 Laines). He also writes and stars in the political comedy web-series *Vague Liberals* and is about to begin shooting a new romantic comedy pilot. Jacob is grateful the Odyssey, David, and the rest of this talented team for giving him the opportunity to be a part of telling this story.



RENÉ RIVERA (*Robert Navarro*) Theater: *The King of the Desert* (one man show by Stacey Martino), *Boleros for the Disenchanted*, The Goodman Theater. *True West*, Portland Center Stage. *Henry VI Pt. I, II*, The Public Theater. Film: *Wilde Salome*. *Disturbia*. *The Salton Sea*. *Before Night Falls*. Television: *Enchanted Christmas*. *Agent X*. *Chop Shop*. *Hamlet*. Rene is a graduate of The Juilliard School, and a member of The Actors Studio. Thank you Stacey, Ava, Luna, and JaiRafael, for making life so beautiful! And let us never forget those who are homeless, that we may help them in any way possible - food, clothes, recyclables. They have dreams too.



DAVID SESSIONS (*Kevin Singleton*) Most recently played Ronald Reagan in *Hunger: In Bed With Roy Cohn* at the Odyssey (directed by Jules Aaron). Other theater credits include the premier of David Knapp's *A Bed Facing North* at the Court Theatre, *Marchbanks* in Candida with Orson Bean & Alley Mills at the Pacific Resident Theatre, Fyedka in *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Starlight Theatre, and Mona in *Fortune and Men's Eyes* at the Coast Playhouse. Film & Television credits include: *Project Metalbeast* with Barry Bostwick, *Mail Call* with Lee Ermey, and *Shootout*.



SERENA SCOTT THOMAS (*Caroline Connors*) is an English actress born in Nether Compton, Dorset. She played Princess Diana in the docu-drama *Diana: Her True Story* and subsequently earned a regular role in *Nash Bridges*. She landed a supporting role in the risqué comedy *Relax, It's Just Sex* before being picked up for the Bond film *The World Is Not Enough*. She could also be seen regularly in the haunted-hospital drama *All Souls* as Dr. Nicole De Brae, as well as many American television credits including roles in *Wicked Games*, *Hostage*, *Brothel*, *Inherent Vice*, *Rizzoli & Isles*, *Nip/Tuck*, *NCIS*, and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Serena returned to England to play roles on the West End, like *Three Sisters* by Chekhov and *As You Desire Me*, made famous by the 1932 Greta Garbo film of the same name. Serena has a daughter named Tallulah and enjoys competing in marathons and ultra-marathons.

PRODUCTION TEAM

DAVID SESSIONS (*Writer*) David studied playwriting at the HB Studio under Uta Hagen, and for many years under the watchful eye of Gar Campbell at the Pacific Resident Theatre. Other full-length plays include: *The Sorcerer of Dobu*, *The Irrefutable Negation*, and *Treason*. He is incredibly grateful to the many people who aided in the development of the play, including – Marilyn Fox, (the actors of the Monday night Masters class at PRT who workshopped many of the scenes), Orson Bean, Alley Mills, Ron Sossi, Beth Hogan, Jules Aaron, and of course the incredible cast and crew. Thank you and God bless.

JULES AARON (*Director*) Winner of over 40 Awards for direction over the country, including Bay Area Awards, Philadelphia Theatre Awards, Utah Theatre Awards, many Drama-logue Awards, Garland Awards, L.A. Drama Critics Awards, etc. Directed: South Coast Repertory, Utah Shakespearean Festival, Public Theatre (New York), Actors Theatre of Louisville (Humana Festival), Philadelphia Theatre Company, Soho Rep (New York), Pasadena Playhouse, Falcon Theatre, Lonny Chapman Theatre, Capital Rep, ICT, McCoy/Rigby, among many others. Had the pleasure of working with many lovely actors including Julianne Moore, Don Cheadle, Michael Learned, Ralph Waite, Mercedes Ruehl. Most recently, award winning productions *Separate Tables* and *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily* played at Theatre 40. Mr. Aaron was challenged and pleased to be brought in ten days ago to shape Mr. Session's challenging and important play, *Two Fisted Love*. This production is dedicated to the brave and talented cast, and, as always, Dale.

RYAN MCREE (*Assistant Director*) is a recent graduate of USC, where he studied Theatre, Narrative Studies, and Screenwriting, and was Senior Arts and Culture Editor at USC Annenberg Media and co-founder of the Aeneid Theatre Company. Directing credits: *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Equus*; producing credits: *The Secret In the Wings*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *The Miser*, *Rabbit Hole*. Recent Assistant Director credits include *The Kentucky Cycle* at USC, *Stupid Kid* at the Road Theatre Company and *bled for the household truth* at Rogue Machine Theatre.

JOHN IACOVELLI (*Scenic Designer*) Broadway: *Peter Pan* (Emmy Award), *The Twilight of the Gods*. National Tour: *Camelot*. Regional: *Fences* at the Long Warf Theatre and The McCarter Theatre, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *MaRainey's Black Bottom* at the Taper and *Gem of the Ocean* at Seattle Rep. For Center Theatre Group: *Waiting for Godot*, *Temptation*, and *Endgame*. Over 300 productions—Geffen Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, Pasadena Playhouse, Berkeley Rep, Denver Center. Resident Designer for Joe Stern at The Matrix Theatre. International: *A Slight Ache in Barcelona*, *Casablanca in Beijing*, and *Oedipus* at Colonus in Delphi. Film: Production Designer on *Ruby in Paradise*; Art Director on *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids*. TV: *The Old Settler*,

Babylon 5, Ed, Resurrection Blvd., Lincoln Heights. MFA: NYU Tisch. Awards: LADCC for Career Achievement. Website: www.iacovelli.com

BRIAN GALE (*Lighting Designer*) Recently - *The Roommate, Ivy & Bean* at South Coast Repertory, *Model Apartment* at The Geffen, *Carrie The Musical, God Of Carnage* at La Mirada, *Disgraced, Red* at San Diego Repertory, *Hugh Jackman One Night Only* at the Dolby Theater, Lighting & Projection Design for *Sleepless In Seattle: The Musical*, Lighting for *Twelve Angry Men, Intimate Apparel* and *The Heiress* at Pasadena Playhouse. Lighting and Projection *Waiting For Godot*, Lighting for *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* and *Harps' and Angels* at The Mark Taper Forum. Projection Design for *Eurydice*, Lighting Design for *Doctor's Dilemma* at A Noise Within. Lighting and Projection for LA Opera's complete *Ring Cycle*. Numerous productions for The Public Theater, Berkeley Repertory, Seattle Repertory and South Coast Repertory. 24 years with the Walt Disney Company, Brian continues to consult on Disney Theme Parks, Shows and Special Events worldwide. Mr Gale is a member of IATSE USA Local 829.

CRICKET S. MYERS (*Sound Designer*) On Broadway, Cricket earned a Tony Nomination and a Drama Desk Award for her design of *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*. In Los Angeles, she has earned 20 Ovation Nominations, as well as winning The Kinetic Award for Outstanding Achievements in Theatrical Design. Regional designs include La Jolla Playhouse (*Guard at the Taj, Sideways, The Nightingale*), The Ahmanson (*50th Anniversary Celebration, Sunshine Boys*), The Mark Taper Forum (*Bent, Steward of Christendom, The Price, Bengal Tiger, Lieutenant of Inishmore, Joe Turner's Come and Gone*), South Coast Rep (*Doll House Part 2, The Siegel, The Fantastics, Elemeno Pea, Zealot*), The Kirk Douglas Theater (*Endgame, Twist Your Dickens*), Pasadena Playhouse (*Stoneface, Real Women Have Curves*), and the Geffen Theater (*Underneath the Lintel, Sex with Strangers, Wrecks, Some Girls*). Other L.A. theaters include The Ricardo Montalban Theater (*I Only Have Eyes for You*), East West Players (*Next to Normal, Tommy*), Ghost Road Theater Company, and The Celebration Theater. www.cricketsmvers.com

MORGAN WILDAY (*Stage Manager*) began stage managing on the westside nearly ten years ago at Pacific Resident Theater in Venice, CA where some of her favorite past productions include *Henry V* (Ovation Award winner, Director of a Play, Guillermo Cienfuegos), *An Evening with Orson Bean, Eccentricities of a Nightingale, The Homecoming*, and *Cigarettes and Chocolate* by Anthony Minghella. Other recent productions include John Patrick Shanley's *French Waitress and Other Plays* (The Triptych Group), *Black Comedy* (Morgan-Wixson Theatre), and *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble). She would like to thank David and Cori for their support, Ryan for his unfathomable constancy, and the cast for their tremendous dedication to this process.

SPECIAL THANKS

Cori Sessions, Susan Gordon Public Relations, Jamie Cline, Jessica Drossin, Veronica Alicino, The Wallis Annenberg Center, Will Lidderdale and The Ruskin Theatre, Rogue Machine Theatre, Ron Sossi, Beth Hogan, The Odyssey Theatre Ensemble, Pacific Resident Theatre, Marilyn Fox, Alley Mills, Orson Bean, and Gar Campbell