The Play About the Baby is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Edward Albee’s The Play About the Baby was produced in New York City by Elizabeth Ireland McCann, Daryl Roth, Terry Allen Kramer, Fifty-Second Street Productions, Robert Bartner, Stanley Kaufelt in association with the Alley Theatre.

Originally produced in the United States by the Alley Theatre, Gregory Boyd, Artistic Director; Paul R. Tetreault, Managing Director.

This project is supported in part by grants from The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

The Road Theatre Company is a subsidiary of The Other Side of the Hill Productions, Inc., a 501-C3 Non-Profit Corp.
Dear Road family, old and new:

We welcome you to Season 26 of one of the more “dangerous” theatres in Los Angeles. The Road is over a quarter of a century old, but stronger than ever, and even more dedicated to bringing new works to the Los Angeles stage. We thank you for your trust, your support and your loyalty, and we promise to challenge, provoke, and inspire in 2016/17. With the nation ever more fractured in an election year, we chose to present a selection of plays that explore the notion of identity: who we are alone, and who we are together. To that end, the Road is extremely proud and grateful to be given the rights to Edward Albee’s *The Play About the Baby*, granted by the playwright himself, and to present it with the team that last year brought you Sharr White’s extraordinary drama, *The Other Place*.

*The Play About the Baby* delves deeply into identity in this autobiographical, elusive, dark psychological vaudeville pastiche of humor, menace and memory. What is real for me may not be real for you. Can we change our memories, our realities, our games……ourselves and have relationships with each other? Hysterical and frightening, with references to his other plays, “Baby” sets forth a puzzle within a puzzle that can only be set in a home that is the theatre itself.

Coming up this season, this excursion into identity examines violence and race in Bruce Graham’s *White Man on the Bus*, the experience of immigrants in the U.S. in Jeff Augustin’s gorgeous *Little Children Dream of God*, and a return to family identity in the wildly funny and moving *The Lyons*, by Nicky Silver.

Our goal is to entertain, to illuminate, to open the door to real dialogue about how our society finds itself 25 years after the Road first opened its doors. Who are we now? Who are we alone? And most importantly, who are we together. As always, we welcome you to take this journey with us and we applaud you for your adventurous spirits!

Sincerely,

Taylor Gilbert, Founder/Artistic Director
Sam Anderson, Artistic Director
One Road. Two Destinations.

Subscribe Now to Our 26th Season!

EDWARD ALBEE’S
THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY
In this rarely produced dark comedy by one of America’s greatest playwrights, a young couple who are madly in love with each other, have a child, the perfect family, that is, until a mysterious older couple steal the baby.

WHITE GUY ON THE BUS
By Bruce Graham
A wealthy white businessman and a struggling black single mom ride the same bus week after week. As they get to know each other, the threads that tie them together unravel in a complex web of moral ambiguity, revenge, and racial biases.

LITTLE CHILDREN DREAM OF GOD
By Jeff Augustin
Having braved a perilous journey to escape her native Haiti, Sula is determined to forge a better life in America for her unborn son. She soon finds safety in an apartment building that shelters refugees in need — but Sula knows she can’t outrun her demons forever.

THE LYONS
By Nicky Silver
Rita Lyons is dealing with a dying husband. When their grown children gather to say goodbye, they learn that despite being a family, each of them is utterly isolated. Afraid of closeness and of solitude, they are propelled into foreign territory — human connection.

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Bitter Lemons: One of the Top 10 Seasons of the Year

L.A Times Critic’s Choice - The Other Place by Sharr White

NoHo Fringe Festival - Best Stage Play (Drama) – Homefree by Lisa Loomer

Huffington Post Top 10 L.A. Theatre Productions - The Other Place by Sharr White

L.A Weekly “GO!”
Homefree by Lisa Loomer
The Other Place by Sharr White

Stage Raw Top 10
The English Bride by Lucile Lichtblau
Things Being What They Are by Wendy MacLeod

Stage Raw Award Nomination
Leading Female Performance – Taylor Gilbert, The Other Place

Stage Scene L.A. Scenie Awards
One of L.A.’s Top 8 Intimate Theatres
Outstanding Drama (Intimate Theatre) – The Other Place by Sharr White
Outstanding Comedy (Intimate Theatre) – Mud Blue Sky by Marisa Wegrzyn
Direction of a Drama (Intimate Theatre) - Andre Barron, The Other Place
Direction of a Comedy (Intimate Theatre) - Mary Lou Belli, Mud Blue Sky
Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role - Drama (Intimate Theatre) Taylor Gilbert, The Other Place
Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role - Comedy (Intimate Theatre) Carlyle King, Mud Blue Sky
Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role - Drama (Intimate Theatre) Sam Anderson, The Other Place
Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role - Drama (Intimate Theatre) Danielle Stephens, The Other Place
Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role - Comedy (Intimate Theatre) Amy Tolsky, Mud Blue Sky
Star-marking Performance in a Play - Alex Smith in Mud Blue Sky

SAGE Award
Best Performance in a Drama – Taylor Gilbert, The Other Place

Broadway World Nominations
Best Direction of a Play (Local) – Andre Barron, The Other Place
Best Lead Female Performance in a Play (Local) – Taylor Gilbert, The Other Place

Robby Awards
Best Actress in a Drama – Taylor Gilbert, The Other Place

Ticketholder Awards
Best Production of 2015 - The Other Place, directed by Andre Barron,
Over two decades ago, a group of theatre artists came together to form The Other Side of the Hill Productions, Inc. – a.k.a. The Road Theatre Company. A non-profit corporation that produces theatre under the membership company guidelines provided by the Actors’ Equity Association, The Road Theatre Company has amassed an impressive list of awards throughout its 25-year history:

- 4 Stage Raw - Recommended/Top 10 Production
- 9 Los Angeles Drama Critics’ Circle Awards
- 15 Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Awards
- 11 L.A. Weekly Awards
- 39 Back Stage West Garland Critics Citations Awards
- 6 Robby Awards
- 67 Valley Theatre League Artistic Director Achievement Awards
- 16 “Critic’s Choice”- Los Angeles Times
- 24 “Pick of the Week/Recommended/Go”- L.A. Weekly
- 19 “Critic’s Pick”- Back Stage West

Additionally, The Road Theatre Company has received a special commendation from Council member Tom LaBonge and the City of Los Angeles for providing 25 years of theatre excellence in Council District 4; the Back Stage West Landmark Award for Sustained Excellence in Theatre; the prestigious Los Angeles Drama Critics’ Circle Margaret Harford Award for Sustained Excellence in Theatre and was recently cited as “one of the Best Companies of the Decade” by LA Weekly.

For a complete list of our history of award-winning plays, visit RoadTheatre.org.
Kimberly Alexander
Sam Anderson
Steve Apostolina
Chelsea Averill
Deana Barone
Andre Barron
Al Bernstein
Alison Blaize
Amber Bollinger
Verity Branco
DeJean Brown
Courtney Buchan
Crash Buist
Cody Bushee
Jennice Butler
Anna Carini
Janet Chamberlain
Blaire Chandler
Lisa Cirincione
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Chad Coe
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Jordan Essoe
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Aaron Fentress
Gina Ferranti
Jennifer Finch
Tom Fiscella
Keelia Flinn
Arielle Fodor
Brent Foshee
Mia Fraboni
Kris Frost
Laura Gardner
Monique Gelineau
David Gianopoulos
Taylor Gilbert
Michelle Gillette
Carole Goldman
Chelsea Gonzalez
Maurie Gonzalez
Zeljka “Z” Gortinski
John Gowans
Cynthia Gravinese
Lina Green
Don Grigware
Chet Grissom
Wali Habib
Kyle Hall
Helen Harwell
Ann Hearn
Patricia Herd
Richard Herd
Liz Herron
Meeghan Holaway
James Holloway
Stephen Tyler Howell
Ann Hu
Kara Hume
Kate Huffman
Suzanne Hunt
Brian Ibsen
Barry Jenner
Christine Joelle
Carl J. Johnson
Darryl Johnson
Donna Simone Johnson
Scott Key
Ivy Khan

Carlyle King
Nora King
Melissa Kite
Tom Knickerbocker
Elizabeth Knowelden
Shelby Koceee
Ken Korpi
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Aaron Stevenson
Amy Stoch
Hannah Mae Sturges
Jack Sundmacher
Ben Theobald
Amy Tolsky
Mandy June Turpin
Gwen Van Dam
Kieren van den Blink
Michael Thomas-Visgar
Geoffrey Wade
Tim Wardell
Miles Warner
Allan Wasserman
Lila Waters
Deverill Weekes
Bryna Weiss
Jessica Wierzba
Tiffany Wolff
Blake Young-Fountain
Bettina Zacar
Ken Zavayna
Bernie Zilinskas

Taylor Gilbert, Artistic Director/Founder
Sam Anderson, Artistic Director
Scott Alan Smith, Associate Artistic Director
Meagan Daine, Managing Director
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Donna Simone Johnson
Kevin Shipp
Ann Hearn

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Taylor Gilbert  (Founder/ Artistic Director)  Taylor recently played Juliana Smithton in the acclaimed production The Other Place by Sharr White at The Road. She is celebrating her 26th season as Founder and Artistic Director of The Road Theatre Company. Producing credits include more than 60 critically acclaimed productions for The Road Theatre Company. Directing credits include the award-winning In The Name of the People, Mooncalf, My Last Confession, The Chisholm Trail Went through Here and Slumber Party. As Co-Director (with Ken Sawyer): Hitler’s Head, Homefires. Awards: As a Producer, over 130 regional theatre awards, including: the Margaret Harford Award for Sustained Excellence in Theatre, the 2002 Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Award (Best Production of a Small Play) for The Woman in Black and 2010 Certificate of Commendation from the City of Los Angeles for contributing 20 years of award-winning theatre to the community. For complete list visit: www.RoadTheatre.org.

Sam Anderson  (Artistic Director) Sam is the artistic director of The Road Theatre Company, a position he shares with founder Taylor Gilbert. Road Theatre Acting credits include: The Other Place, The Bird and Mr. Banks (Los Angeles Drama Critics’ Circle Award – Best Actor), Napoli Millionaria (Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Award – Best Actor) and Madagascar. Rogue Machine: Blackbird (Los Angeles Drama Critics’ Circle Award – Best Actor, LA Weekly Award - Best Duo Performance). Road directing credits include Clete Keith’s The Different Shades of Hugh, Theresa Rebeck’s The Water’s Edge, Stacy Sims’ As White As O, and Shove by Mark Eisman (LA Weekly Directing Nomination.) Film & Television audiences know him from 35 years of performances, including his recent recurring turn as the evil Lee Paxton on Justified, Bernard on Lost, Dr. Kaysen on E.R. (SAG Award, Best Ensemble), Holland Manners on Angel and the films Water for Elephants, Forrest Gump, La Bamba, Frankie Go Boom, Breaking the Girls and the recently release horror thriller from Fox, Devil’s Due. Upcoming Sam stars in Modern Love and the A&E pilot, Damien due in 2016. Sam holds an MA in American Lit/ Creative Writing, as well as his theatre degrees. He teaches a professional acting class combining scene study, improv, monologues and audition technique. He is also a graduate of The Grantsmanship Institute and studied Horticulture at Descanso Gardens. He is most proud of his 22-year old twin theatre graduates, Elizabeth and Ben.
MISSION STATEMENT

• Present plays not previously available to the Los Angeles public by producing works which introduce socially and/or politically relevant voices and thoughts to the American stage;

• Introduce younger audiences to the world of live theatre through our main-stage productions, workshops, and free weekly reading series;

• Continue our outreach programs to seniors and at-risk groups;

• Further establish our resident company as a leader and champion of new works in Los Angeles and the nation.

the CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Girl............................................ Allison Blaize
Boy............................................. Philip Orazio
Man............................................ Sam Anderson*
Woman....................................... Taylor Gilbert*

* Member of Actors’ Equity Association

Time: Then and Now.
Place: A Chamber Play
Intermission: There will be one 10 minute intermission.

Andre Barron (Director) Andre is an award-winning resident director at The Road Theatre Company. Most recently he directed (National Tour) *Ted E* by ventriloquist/comedian David Strassman for Puppetronics Inc. At The Road Theatre Company: West Coast Premiere *Broken Fences* by Steven Simoncic (Stage Raw Top 10), LA Premiere *The Other Place* by Sharr White (Broadway World Nominee - Best Director, Critic’s Choice LA Times & LA Weekly Go!) LA Premiere *Things Being What They Are* by Wendy MacLeod (Stage Raw Top 10). Summer Playwrights Festival: *After Us The Savage God, Boy Friends, Mid-Century Modern, Missed Connections* and *The Cocktail Party Effect*. Barron also directed *The Fourth Estate* by Colin Mitchell, a fundraiser with Edward Asner and Ed Begley Jr. =--At The Blank Theatre: *Downsizing and What We Talk about..* for Young Playwrights Festival.

Other acclaimed productions: West Coast Premiere *Dreams Of The Washer King* by Christopher Wall (LA Weekly Go!) & LA Premiere *The Ice-Breaker* by David Rambo, *Rosen's Son* by Joe Pintauro (Critic’s Choice LA Times), *Bedside Companion, A Death In Bethany* at Theatre 40. World Premiere Fernando Richardson’s *Treacherous Brain* by Monica Trasandes (Critic’s Choice Backstage West & LA Weekly Go!) at The Open Fist, *Some Of My Parts* by Dari Lallou Mackenzie for United Solo Theatre Fest at Theatre Row in NYC.

Barron is slated to direct West Coast Premiere *Little Children Dream Of God* by Jeff Augustin at The Road later this season.
**Allison Blaize** (Girl) is so excited to make her debut with the Road Theatre! She received her BA in theatre from the University of New Orleans and continued her degree at AMDA Los Angeles. Upon graduating, Allison traveled nationally with Universal's *Purge Breakout*. Her most recent theatre credits included *No Place to Be Somebody* (Robey Theatre), *Wet Hot American Summer: the Play* (Garage Theatre), *The American Clock*, and *Rx*. She is thrilled, humbled and grateful to be a part of the this talented cast and crew.

**Philip Orazio** (Boy) was born raised in Portland, OR where he studied acting at University of Portland. From there, he received his Master’s in Acting from the University of Houston. Some of his favorite roles include Marc Antony in *Julius Caesar*, Richard in *Ah, Wilderness!*, and Truffaldino in *Servant of Two Masters*. Philip has also been seen on networks such as Lifetime, Oxygen, Discovery, and TNT. A special thank you to his friends and family. Especially Emilly, who has been unwavering in her support. We’ve only just begun.

**Sam Anderson** (Man) is Artistic Director of the Road with Taylor Gilbert, founder. He appeared with her in last season’s hit *The Other Place*. He is a 2-time LA Drama Critics Circle award winner, and recipient of a Leading Actor Ovation Award, a SAG Award as part of the “E.R” ensemble, and he also directs. His 38 year lm/TV career includes such classics as *LOST, Forrest Gump, Justified*, and 200 more credits on IMBD. com. He teaches acting at the Road.
Taylor Gilbert (Woman) most recently played Juliana in The Road’s acclaimed production The Other Place (Robby Award for Best Actress in a Drama). Other Road Theatre acting credits include: Sovereign Body (The Eddon award for Best Lead Performance 2014), Balm in Gilead, Why Things Burn, Vig, Pirates, Akela, Merlin, An American Romance, White People (LA Weekly nominee Best Actress), A Mislaid Heaven, The Seventh Monarch, The Pagans, Oroboros, Backwards in High Heels, And Neither Have I Wings to Fly, Madagascar (Ticket Holder Award- Best Actress in a Play). Film acting credits include: Spiderman (1 & 2), Hancock, The Island, Twister, Tucker, The Dead Pool, The McMartin Trials.

Anna Carini (Co-Producer) I’m an actor, playwright and screenwriter. The bulk of my career has been in Chicago where I’ve worked with numerous theaters including Steppenwolf, Lookingglass, Victory Gardens, and Chicago Dramatists where I am an Associate Artist. My resume includes commercial, VO, film, television and stage work. In addition, I’m a founding member and the Artistic Director of SiNNERMAN Ensemble, a storefront theater company formed by graduates of the School at Steppenwolf in Chicago. I’m now based in Los Angeles and a proud member of The Road Theatre.

Chet Grissom (Co-Producer) Road member since 2004, Artistic Board member since 2009. Road work: Co-producer of 2015’s The Other Place and The English Bride, also 2005’s The End of the Tour. Acting – 2016’s Birder, 2015’s Things Being What They Are, 2012’s That Good Night, Finding Fossils, 2009’s The Bird and Mr. Banks, and 2006’s Swimming. Over 65 TV credits, most recently Fresh off the Boat and How To Get Away With Murder.

Emma Pauly (Rehearsal Stage Manager/Co-Producer) is a new member of The Road and a recent graduate of the University of Chicago. She is a Theater and Performance Studies major (honors) and a Classics minor whose theater credits include Iron Bridal Feast, Medea, Mostellaria, The Bacchae, and An Apology for the Course and Outcome of Certain Events Delivered by Doctor John Faustus on This His Final Evening with the UChicago Classical Entertainment Society, as well as The Tempest, No Exit and Lysistrata with other organizations.
Jacob Smith (Asst. Director) graduated with a cum laude theatre degree from Cornell College, after studying at the University of Iowa. Los Angeles directing credits include: Ligature Marks, Boy Gets Girl, Landscaping the Den of Saints, and The Birthday Boys. Jacob has loved this experience, and is thankful to The Road and Andre for this opportunity to get involved with such a talented group. And huge thanks to his family and to Liz for the constant love and support.

Maurie Gonzalez (Stage Manager) has been working with the Road Theatre Company for 13 seasons now, and has had the great pleasure to be the stage manager, light, sound and projection Op. on many wonderful productions. The Road is like her home away from home. She likes to say she was born to do theatre; her mother was always on stage, when she was 4 months pregnant with Maurie, she played Lori in Oklahoma. Maurie’s children grew up in the- atre. She’s so glad to be part of this amazing group of talented people.

Sarah B. Brown (Scenic Design) is a Scenic Designer and Art Director who started her career in New York. She has spent the last year in Los Angeles, after graduating with an MFA in stage design from SMU in Dallas. Her most recent work includes Art Direction for The Runner, a new competition game series and A Lovely Day, a short horror film. While in Dallas Sarah’s design credits include Bonnie and Clyde with Water Tower Theatre, Belleville with Second Thought Theatre, and Susannah, Richard III, The Women, Assistance, and Top Girls.

Lily Bartenstein (Lighting & Projection Design) is a scenic, lighting and projection designer based in Los Angeles. Recent work includes Campo Maldito (scenic designer, People of Interest), Hydrogen Jukebox (projection designer, CSULA), The End Times (projection designer, Playwrights’ Arena/Skylight Theatre), Criers for Hire (props and projection designer, East West Players), Venus (scenic designer, UCSD), and Ether Dome (associate projection designer, La Jolla Playhouse, Hartford Stage, Huntington Theatre) among others. Lily received her MFA from the University of California San Diego, and BA from the University of Chicago. www.lilybartenstein.com
Joseph “Sloe” Slawinski (Sound Design & Original Music Composition) is a multi-award winning sound designer. He is the resident sound designer for The American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles. He is also the resident sound designer for Theatre Forty in Beverly Hills. He would like to thank the incredible and amazing Gabriela Griego for her continuous support during all of his creative endeavors. He is proud to be part of this great production.

Michele Young (Costume Design) Recent LA productions include: John is a Father, Birder, Broken Fences, The Mongoose, Homefree, The Other Place for The Road Theatre; Luka’s Room, Where The Great Ones Run for Rogue Machine Theatre; Lay Me Down Softly, By The Bog of Cats, Brendan for Theatre Banshee; The Whipping Man, The Immigrant for WCJT; and Day Trader at Bootleg Theatre. Currently resident costume designer at Theatre 40, productions include Perfect Timing, Double Door, Kin, 7 Stories, Flare Path, Remembrance. LA Opera including Pagliacci and The Ghosts of Versailles. Matthew Bourne’s Sleeping Beauty at the Ahmanson, Annie at the Pantages. NY – Ethel Sings at Walkerspace, Soho Rep. Recognized as Costumer Designer of The Year by StageSceneLA for the fourth consecutive year. Film, Linkin for Toscars 2013 festival, and the award winning Pepper. Michèle began her career as a film production manager in London, her hometown. She is also a photographer, graphic designer, art teacher and long-time advocate for the arts in education.

Bettina Zacar (Prop Master) became a member of the Road Theatre company in 1999. She has won a Valley Theatre League Artistic Director Achievement (ADA) Award for stage management and honored with an LA WEEKLY best actress nomination and a best ensemble WIN for the World Premier of Tom Jacobson’s The Friendly Hour. Bettina recently appeared on the Road stage in Smoke and Mirrors originating the role of Trixie, The Different Shades of Hugh as an understudy for Diane, in The Butcher of Baraboo as the understudy for Midge and Sevenly, and in Sovereign Body as an understudy for Zoe. “Honestly I’ve lost track of how many productions I’ve worked on behind the scenes; such as prop design, but trust me its a lot”. More recently she has set her focus on writing, and had a play selected for the Summer Playwrights Festival 6.

Special thanks to The Department of Cultural Affairs of the City of Los Angeles, Mr. Ian Bryce, Taylor Gilbert, Sam Anderson, Darryl Johnson, Carlyle King, Scott Alan Smith, Chet Grissom, Donna Simone Johnson, Ann Hearn, Kevin Shipp, Maurie Gonzales, Jacob Smith, Emma Pauly, Meagan Daine, David Elzer, Chuck McCollum, Albie Selznick, Melissa Kite, Bjorn Johnson and all those who generously purchased a theatre seat, our gracious Donors, The Road Theatre Corporate Board, and those members of The Road Theatre Company who tirelessly go above and beyond the call of duty.
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