

Note from Producers

The specific purpose of Athena Theatre is to provide a supportive and creative environment for artists (actors and the technical crew team), where we take risks, try new things, consider new approaches. To provide theatre we are proud of and passionate about, sending a message of strength in women. Please visit athenatheatre.com for more information.

*Athena Theatre Company was created by Véronique Ory and Elizabeth Welsh in November 2002. Athena Theatre's debut production was *TWO ENCOUNTERS*, "Birdbath" and "Ferryboat" by Leonard Melfi. These selected one-act plays explore the theme of what it means and what it takes for people to ultimately connect in a large and often isolated world. Written in the 1960's, Melfi is adept at flashing a mirror at human interaction and connectedness that still rings true in today's modern world. The plays ran for six weeks at the Tamarind Theatre in Hollywood.*

Meet the Creative Team

Beth Henley (Playwright)

Henley's first professionally produced play, *CRIMES OF THE HEART*, was the co-winner of the 1979 Great American Play Contest sponsored by the Actors Theatre of Louisville. *CRIMES OF THE HEART* then moved to New York where it won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best American Play of 1981. Henley's other plays include *THE WAKE OF JAMEY FOSTER* (1982), *AM I BLUE* (1982), *THE MISS FIRECRACKER CONTEST* (1984), *THE DEBUTANTE BALL* (1985), *THE LUCKY SPOT* (1986), *ABUNDANCE* (1990), *CONTROL FREAKS* (1992), *SIGNATURE* (1995), *L-PLAY* (1996), and *IMPOSSIBLE MARRIAGE* (1998). In addition to her stage plays, Ms. Henley has written a number of screenplays including the acclaimed film version of *CRIMES OF THE HEART* which was nominated for an Academy Award and featured Diane Keaton, Jessica Lange, Sissy Spacek, and Sam Shepard. Other screenplays by Henley include *MISS FIRECRACKER* starring Holly Hunter, Mary Steenburgen, and Tim Robbins, and *NOBODY'S FOOL* starring Rosanna Arquette and

Eric Roberts. She also collaborated on *TRUE STORIES* (1986) with Steven Trobolowsky and David Byrne, the lead singer of the Talking Heads who directed and starred in the film.

Elizabeth Welsh (Director)

Elizabeth is excited to work with such a talented and dynamic cast. Some of her previous directorial work includes "BIRDBATH," "FERRYBOAT," *AGNES OF GOD*, *THE CHILDREN'S HOUR* and *THE ODD COUPLE (FEMALE VERSION)*. A special thanks goes to Greg for all of his love and friendship.

Kevin Jordan (Stage Manager)

Kevin's latest Stage Managing job was for *TWO ENCOUNTERS*. Since this fulfilling experience, he has been hooked in. In addition to being the technical mastermind for Athena Theatre, he is also the owner of NetKruzer Technologies- an independent web design company. He is an innovative programmer, who has done web design and programming since 1997. He also holds a B.S. in Computer Science from Cal Poly Pomona. He would like to thank Ginger and sTeVo for their selfless qualities.

Shannon Kaposy (Costume Designer)

Shannon is currently attending Cal State Long Beach as a Technical Theatre Major. She began her Costume Design Career a CSULB Classics Department production of *MAJOR BLOWHARD*, in March 2003. She also had the pleasure of working with Véronique and Elizabeth as Lighting Designer for *TWO ENCOUNTERS*. She looks forward to her next Costume Design for CSULB's, *THE BACCHI*. Peace, Love, and Bananas baby!!!