



Actors Ensemble of Berkeley
2019 Fall Staged Reading Series

Jizo
by Jane Goldsmith

Directed by Gary Green. Old Finnish Hall, Monday Oct. 21st, 2019, 8 p.m.

Jizo, in Japanese tradition, is the well-loved form of the Bodhisattva, a being in Buddhist mythology, who compassionately refrains from entering nirvana in order to save others and guide and protect them as they pass into and out of earthly life.

Jane Goldsmith (Playwright) is a Bay Area playwright, screen writer, and published novelist. Her plays were staged at Cal State Summer Arts Festival and have received semi-staged readings at various venues.

Gary Green (Director) In addition to directing multi-age casts, Gary Green has directed productions featuring very talented senior actors associated with Stagebridge and Rossmoor. He created an acting class for intermediate-level English language learners, which he teaches at University Village in Albany. Gary is delighted and grateful to work with Actors Ensemble of Berkeley, Jizo playwright Jane Goldsmith, and a wonderfully gifted cast.

Geoffrey Colton (Jeff) Most recently seen in Livermore as Archdeacon Frollo in *Hunchback of Notre Dame* and in Hayward as Van Helsing in *Dracula*, for over 50 years Geoffrey has performed Shakespeare, musicals, Gilbert & Sullivan, revues and plays – including *Relatively Speaking* with AEB in 2014. Also a composer, he has written incidental music for recent productions of *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Irina Dianova (Sarah, Imam) is thrilled to be taking part in the AE Fall 2019 Staged Reading Series. She has previously performed with companies including Theatre Lunatico, Ninjaz of Drama, Theater of Others, and Dreams on the Rocks. Irina can next be seen as Mrs. Dilber in Coastal Rep's production of *A Christmas Carol*, Dec. 6-22 (Half Moon Bay). Irina is endlessly grateful for the love and support of her family and friends!

Emily Keyishian (Callie, Buddhist Monk) is a local actor and artist. She has performed in theaters throughout the Bay Area and the East Coast, where she is originally from. You can see her in Town Hall Theatre's production of *The Cherry Orchard* in February. She is thrilled to be working with Actors Ensemble.

Patricia Kilroe (Narrator, Sound Operator) teaches writing and dramatic literature at California College of the Arts. She is also active in dream studies, which on occasion involves enacting dreams theatrically. Patricia is excited to be part of her first Actors Ensemble production.

Jen Halsing (Cynthia, Rabbi) is delighted to join the cast of *Jizo* for Actors Ensemble of Berkeley's 2019 Fall Staged Reading series. She has appeared in the following North Carolina Theatre productions: *Ragtime*, *A Chorus Line*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Deepest love and gratitude to Dave.

Simon Patton (Caleb, Priest) is appearing for the first time with Actors Ensemble, despite having done theatre in the Bay Area for two decades. When not on stage he spends his time helping colleagues search for some of the missing 90% of the Universe.

Baki Tezcan (Death/Trickster) is thrilled to be part of another staged reading with the Actors Ensemble after his appearances in *What in the World?* and *Middletown* in January.

Our Fall 2019 Staged Reading Series

Mondays during "A Particle of Dread: Oedipus Variations"
8 p.m. Old Finnish Hall, 1819 10th Street, Berkeley, 94710

Oct. 21st – *Jizo* by Jane Goldsmith, directed by Gary Green

Oct. 28th – *Lysistrata* by Ellen McLaughlin, directed by Kayla Kaufman

Nov. 4th – *A Man For All Seasons*, by Robert Bolt, directed by Gabriel Ross