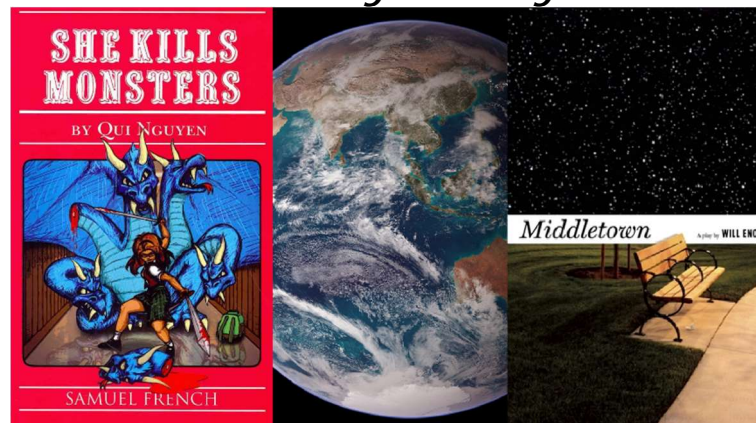


Our Pay-What-You-Can

2019 Winter Staged Reading Series



She Kills Monsters

By Qui Nguyen, directed by Ben Grubb

1 night only, Monday January 7th, Live Oak Theatre, 8 p.m.

Short Plays by Lori-Parks and Lashof

By Suzan Lori-Parks and Carol Lashof

Directed by Susannah Wood

1 night only, Monday January 14th, Live Oak Theatre, 8 p.m.

Middletown

By Will Eno, Directed by Lana Palmer

1 night only, Monday January 21st, Live Oak Theatre, 8 p.m.

Coming up next at Live Oak Theatre

TheatreFirst's second production of their 2018/2019 season

The Last Sermon of Sister Imani

by Cleavon Smith, Directed by Michael Gene Sullivan

performances February 14th-March 10th 2019

www.theatrefirst.com

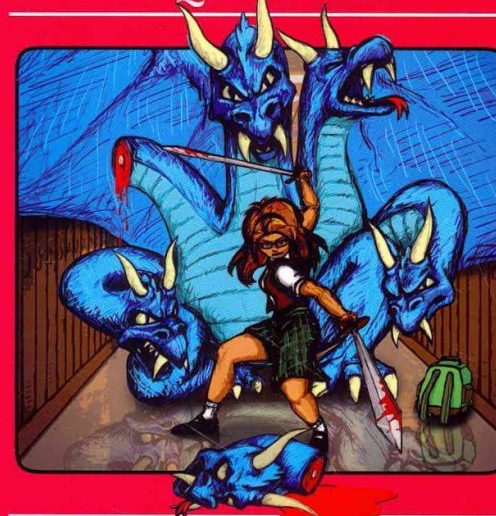


AE thanks **University Cleaners**
1319 University Ave
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SHE KILLS MONSTERS

BY QUI NGUYEN



SAMUEL FRENCH

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley
2019 Winter Staged Reading Series

She Kills Monsters

By Qui Nguyen

Directed by Ben Grubb

8 p.m. Monday January 7th
Live Oak Theatre, Berkeley

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Qui Nguyen is a playwright, TV/Film writer, and Co-Founder of the OBIE Award-winning Vampire Cowboys of NYC. His work, known for its innovative use of pop-culture, stage violence, puppetry, and multimedia, has been lauded as "Culturally Savvy Comedy" by The New York Times, "Tour de Force Theatre" by Time Out New York, and "Infectious Fun" by Variety.

Scripts include *Vietgone* (2016 Steinberg Award, 2016 LADCC Ted Schmidt New Play Award, 2016 Kennedy Prize Finalist); *She Kills Monsters* (2013 AATE Distinguished Play Award); *Soul Samurai* (2009 GLAAD Media Award nom); *Begets*; *Krunk Fu Battle Battle*; and the critically acclaimed Vampire Cowboys productions of *The Inexplicable Redemption of Agent G*, *Six Rounds of Vengeance*, *Alice in Slasherland*, *Fight Girl Battle World*, *Men of Steel*, and *Living Dead in Denmark*.

For tv/film, Qui's written for AMC, SYFY, PBS, and Marvel Studios, where he is an alumni of the Marvel Studios Writers Program. He currently writes for Netflix and Walt Disney Animation Studios for tv and film, respectively.

Notable honors include a 2016 Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing in a Preschool Animated Program (Peg+Cat), a 2015 NY Community Trust Helen Merrill Playwriting Award, and a 2014 Sundance Institute/Time Warner Fellowship. He's currently under commission by South Coast Rep/Manhattan Theatre Club (The Vietgone Saga), The Geffen, Center Theatre Group/The Goodman, The Atlantic, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

He is a proud member of the WGA, The Dramatists Guild, The Playwrights Center, Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Ma-Yi Writers Lab and an alumnus of New Dramatists and Youngblood.

His company, Vampire Cowboys, often credited for being the pioneers of "geek theatre", holds the unique distinction of being the first and currently only professional theatre organization to be officially sponsored by NY Comic Con.



Tim Bishop (Dungeon Master/Stage Directions) is a geek by day, and avid theatre goer by night. He loves the magic that can happen in a small space, with a few actors, telling a well written story.

www.timbishop.com.

Logan Beyer (Shadow Puppets) is an AmeriCorps Construction Crew Leader with Habitat for Humanity and a 2017 graduate of Duke University. Logan is excited to make her debut as a puppeteer in *She Kills Monsters*. As a person who generally talks too much, Logan is excited for the personal growth shadow puppeting requires. She danced when she was younger, and brings a single game of D&D experience to the stage. Logan is still amazed that her limited skill set found a useful role in the world of community theater, and is really just excited to be included!



Ben Grubb (Director) has acted with **Actors Ensemble** for the past decade in plays such as *True West*, *Passion Play*, and *Panhandle*. Previous directing credits include *Speed-the-Plow*, *The Wager*, and *Billy Bishop Goes to War*.

Don't miss the our main stage production, the first of our 2019 Season (our 62nd!)



at All Out Comedy Theater as well as EXIT Theatre. Sara-Jean has been an ongoing performer in ShotzSF. She is thrilled to be performing in this year's Winter Staged Readings for **Actors Ensemble of Berkeley**.



Molly Hanes (Kaliopé) is a former opera singer who completed her BM at the University of Houston and her MM and DMA coursework at the University of Cincinnati CCM. She enjoyed her musical pursuits so much and was met with such rapturous acclaim that she became a software engineer. Additional hobbies include powerlifting, petting dogs, and pretending to be a wizard online with other grown adults.



Patrick Glenn (Orcus) used to be into Dungeons and Dragons, but decided to move on to weirder things once Lord of the Rings made it all mainstream. He settled on acting. The rest of his time is spent at batting cages or bars.



Sarah Hadassah Negrón (Vera/Evil Gabbi) loves performing more than she loves most people, places, or things! A newcomer to the Bay Area, Negrón has acted for the Exit Theatre's SF Olympians Festival and Custom Made Theatre Company's Undiscovered Works Series. When she's not acting, she's either taking dance classes or nerding-out to horror films

and true crime podcasts.



Amanda Ramos (Narrator/Farrah/Evil Tina) returns to the **AE** staged reading series after playing Hilda in *Lady From the Sea* last year. Favorite productions include *Queering My Lobster* (Killing my Lobster), *In The Heights* (Saint Mary's College), and *Arcadia* which she is currently performing at Shotgun Players. She thinks Dungeon Masters are amazing artists, and applauds

all those who revel in geekery.

About Actors Ensemble of Berkeley

Actors Ensemble (**AEB**) has been around the block (and just around the corner from you) since 1957, making us the longest-running stage company in Berkeley. Since 1965 we have performed primarily at Live Oak Theatre in North Berkeley. Recently we have also taken the opportunity to bring the magic of theatre to John Hinkel Park, the site of many wonderful performances from the forerunner of Cal Shakes, Shotgun Players, Women's Will, and others over the years. Now we are presenting a special show at Mountain View Cemetery, followed by a staged reading of "Fox Among the Hens" at Oddfellows Hall in Berkeley, "The Skin of Our Teeth" back at Live Oak Theatre in January. We hope you enjoy the show – come back and see us again!

As Berkeley's only true community theatre company, we depend on our volunteers to bring their energy and creative vision to each play we produce. If you would like to volunteer in our theatre, give us a call or send us an email! We'd love for you to play a part in our next show!

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley
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Check out www.AEofBerkeley.Org and subscribe to our email list for

- Staged Readings
- Audition Notices
- Two-for-One Nights and Other Discounts – and More!

Board of Directors

Crystal Brown, Michael R. Cohen, Robert Estes, Norah Foster, Jane Goodwin, Bob Gudmundsson, Martha Luehrmann, Meryn MacDougall, Meira Perelstein, Emmy Pierce, Vicki Siegel, Jerome Solberg, Jeff Trescott, Ian Wilcox, Susannah Wood.

She Kills Monsters **by Qui Nguyen**

Cast

Tilly..... Carly Van Liere
 Agnes.....Ariel Dunn
 Chuck.....Mark Velednitsky
 Miles.....Victor Schutz
 Lilith.....Sara-Jean Bartky
 Kaliope.....Molly Hanes
 Orcus.....Patrick Glenn
 Vera.....Sarah Negrón
 Steve.....Elliot Voz-Wolff
 Narrator.....Amanda Ramos
 Dungeon Master/Stage Directions.....Tim Bishop
 Shadow Puppets.....Logan Beyer

Staff

DirectorBen Grubb
 Producer & Publicity & Program.....Jerome Solberg
 Front of House.....Michael Cohen, Vicki Siegel, Jeff Trescott

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

This production is performed with permission from Samuel French. Made possible by a TBA Cash Grant and with the cooperation of Jon Tracy and the rest of TheatreFirst.

Cast and Crew Biographies



Carly Van Liere (Tilly) moved home to the Bay Area in September 2018 after earning her BFA in Acting from the University of Michigan. She was most recently in Cinnabar's production of *The Great God Pan*, directed by Taylor Korobow in Petaluma. You can find her at www.carlyvanliere.com



Ariel Dunn (Agnes) is a Bay Area native who has been acting since she was in high school and has an A.A in Acting from Los Medanos College. This is her debut performance with the **Actors Ensemble of Berkeley** and she is excited to be working on such a fun and geeky show. Ariel has starred in such plays as the *Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Hand to God*, *Laundry and Bourbon* and *The Foreigner*. When she isn't acting on a stage you can

find her at your nearest convention center dressing up as popular characters from various video games and television shows.

Mark Velednitsky (Chuck) is a graduate student at UC Berkeley. He always rolls a natural 20.



Victor Schutz (Miles) is thrilled to be in his first Actors Ensemble of Berkeley productions. He spends his days lighting Visual Effects for movies, and suiting up for the Motion Capture stage whenever he can. "Thanks to my wife and kids for enjoying and encouraging this theater based life we have and to my sister Lisa for inspiring my love of theater."



Sara-Jean Bartky (Lilith) is an actor, singer, improviser, sketch writer, and director hailing from New Jersey. Sara-Jean was a lead in *San Francisco, I Love You!* at The Shelton Theater in San Francisco. In the last few months, she starred in the short independent films, *Tension* and *EastBay*. Sara-Jean has performed as part of the improvisational group, FingerHands, at All Out Comedy Theater, La Peña Cultural Center, and in Drake's Dealership's comedy show, *What the Duck?*.

She also performed at Pan Theater as a member of Sunday Brunch. She recently performed in the sketch comedy show, *The Doctor Is In*