

PAN ASIAN REPERTORY THEATRE

Tisa Chang, Artistic Producing Director

Presents

NO-NO BOY

Written by Ken Narasaki

Adapted from the Novel by John Okada

Directed by Ron Nakahara

June 18th – June 26th

at the Burke Theatre in Washington, DC, the Studio Theatre (Theatre Row), NYC,
and Flushing Town Hall, Flushing, NY

(New York, NY) – **Tisa Chang**, Artistic Producing Director of PAN ASIAN REPERTORY THEATRE, announces for its 39th season a special limited run of **NO-NO BOY** by Ken Narasaki, directed by Ron Nakahara, and based on the groundbreaking novel by John Okada. Set in the aftermath of WWII as Japanese Americans return to the West Coast and called “eloquent...elegant and searing” by LA Weekly, **NO-NO BOY** will run from June 18-19 at the Burke Theatre in Washington, DC (701 Pennsylvania Ave.); June 21-25, 2016 at the Studio Theatre at Theatre Row in New York City (410 W. 42nd Street); and June 26 at Flushing Town Hall in Flushing, NY. Official opening in Washington DC will be June 18 at 7:00pm and in New York on June 21 at 7:30pm.

NO-NO BOY follows Ichiro as he returns to Seattle following his release from prison. Ken Narasaki’s vivid adaptation depicts resettlement of Japanese Americans after WWII and resolution by family and a community in transition.

- *The Burke Theatre, Washington, DC: Sat., June 18 at 7:00pm and Sun., June 19 at 2:30pm*
- *The Studio Theatre at Theatre Row, NYC: June 21-25, Tues. through Sat. at 7:30pm with a matinee on Weds. at 2:30pm.*
- *Flushing Town Hall, Flushing, Queens: Sun., June 26 at 4:00pm.*

Ken Narasaki says “Even today, the term [“no-no boy”] can spark bitter explosions amongst people who remain angry about the kinds of real life-or-death decisions they and their generation were forced to make...”

Tisa Chang says “**NO-NO BOY** is especially topical in this election year, where questions of allegiance and what it means to be an American are asked again.”

NONO BOY is supported, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Pan Asian would also like to thank the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles and Martha Watanabe and Christine Chen in Washington, DC for outreach.

The cast of **NO-NO BOY** features Leanne **Cabrera**, Don **Castro**, Chris **Doi**, Scott **Kitajima**, Glenn **Kubota**, Karen Tsen **Lee**, Claro de los **Reyes**, Shigeko Sara **Suga**, Hansel **Tan**, and Tony **Vo**. Stage Managers are Elis C. **Arroyo** and Miriam **Hyfler**.

Playwright **KEN NARASAKI**'s plays include the recent adaptation of **NO-NO BOY**, award-winning plays **INNOCENT WHEN YOU DREAM** (winner 2006 Kuma Kahua Pacific Rim Award), and **THE MIKADO PROJECT** (co-written with Doris Baizley – winner, 2008 Kuma Kahua Pacific Rim Award), and **GHOSTS AND BAGGAGE**. As an actor, he starred in **ZWEI PROFIS** for German television, and appeared in Lane Nishikawa’s **ONLY THE BRAVE**; he’s also appeared in nearly 60 plays, including **PO BOY TANGO**, **A WINTER PEOPLE**, **THEORY OF EVERYTHING**, in Chicago, Los Angeles, Singapore, New York, Seattle, San Francisco, Sacramento, and elsewhere.

Director **Ron Nakahara** has been an actor/director in New York City since 1979 and was designated a Senior Artist with PAN ASIAN REPERTORY THEATRE in 1987 and is an Artistic Associate for the company. Ron has directed one-woman shows at Don't Tell Mama and The Duplex, and has worked extensively with and directed the Asian-American performance group *SLANT* at La MaMa ETC, and NYSF Public Theatre. His other directing credits in New York include NAATCO, and Ensemble Studio Theatre. His regional credits include The Studio Theatre (Washington, DC), Hartford Stage Co., Fulton Opera House (Lancaster, PA) where his production of *MISS EVER'S BOYS* won him a best director award, Honolulu Theatre for Youth, New York State Theatre Institute, Hangar Theatre (Ithaca,) Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Virginia Stage Company (Norfolk,) and Actor's Theatre of Louisville. In addition, Ron has also directed for New York University and Virginia Commonwealth University. He has served on several NEA panels and was one of the first recipients of an NEA/TCG Directing Fellowship. He is a member of SDC, SAG-AFTRA, and AEA.

The team : sets by Sheryl **Liu** (*A DREAM OF RED PAVILIONS*), lights and projections by Douglas **Macur**, costumes by Kate **Mincer** (*SHANGHAI LIL'S*), sound by Ian **Wehrle** (*SAYONARA*); Stage Combat Michael G. **Chin** and Jeff **Mousseau**, Tour Consultant.

Performances of **NO-NO BOY** are on:

The Burke Theatre in Washington, DC: Saturday, June 18 at 7:00pm and Sunday, June 19 at 2:30pm.

The Studio Theatre at Theatre Row in New York City: June 21-25, Tuesday through Saturday at 7:30pm with a matinee Wednesday 2:30pm.

Flushing Town Hall: Sunday June 26 at 4:00pm.

Tickets for performances at The Burke Theatre in Washington, DC are **\$75 for Opening Night** on Saturday, June 18 and **\$39** on Sunday, June 19 and can be purchased by calling 212-352-3101 or online at <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/957369>.

Tickets for performances at The Studio Theatre at Theatre Row in New York are **\$77.25 for Opening Night** and **\$41.25** for all other performances and can be purchased by calling 212-239-6200 or online at www.telecharge.com. For instructions on how to receive discounts for groups, seniors and students, call 212-868-4030.

Tickets for the performance on Sunday, June 26 at Flushing Town Hall are free admission and open to the community.

ABOUT PAN ASIAN REPERTORY THEATRE

Founded 39 years ago, **PAN ASIAN REPERTORY THEATRE** is the East Coast's most veteran producer of Asian American theatre dedicated to providing a professional forum to Asian American and minority artists. Led by **Tisa Chang**, PAN ASIAN REP has opened doors for many who enjoy careers in film, television and on Broadway. **Daniel Dae Kim, Lucy Liu, Tina Chen, David Henry Hwang and Philip Kan Gotanda** are some of the alumni artists who have collaborated with PAN ASIAN REP over the years. The company has been invited to many international theater festivals including Edinburgh, Singapore, Cairo and Johannesburg. It was the first professional theater from the United States to be invited to the Havana Theatre Festival in 2003. As noted by *Variety Magazine*, "...the aesthetic mission and professional chops of the PAN ASIAN REPERTORY THEATER are admirable." PAN ASIAN Programs are made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; City Council member Gale Brewer; Shubert, Fan Fox, Leslie R. Samuels and Lucille Lortel Foundations; The New York Community Trust, and the 21st Century ILGWU Heritage Fund. Educational programs are supported, in part, by Con Edison.

LISTINGS INFORMATION:

PAN ASIAN REP's **NO-NO BOY** tour runs June 18 – 26, 2016 at The Burke Theatre in Washington, DC (701 Pennsylvania Ave.), The Studio Theatre (410 W 42nd Street at Theatre Row), and Flushing Town Hall in Flushing, NY (137-35 Northern Blvd.) For more information about Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, visit www.panasianrep.org.