LAWRENCE HELMAN PUBLIC RELATIONS – E MAIL - <u>lhelman@sbcglobal.net</u> M - 415- 336- 8220 (Do Not Publish this #)

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LINK TO EPISODES:	https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2
PRESS PAGE:	https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2
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SCHEDULE BY DATE:	https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-schedule
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www.twitter.com/SFTroupers

The San Francisco Mime Troupe Announces Their 62nd Season of Free Political Musical Theatre as Radio Plays Replacing Live Performances with: *TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE* A Series of Radio Play Podcasts

The Tony and OBIE award-wining San Francisco Mime Troupe (SFMT) is once again coming to the airwaves with its second summer of radical radio and audio web series! With COVID-19 still an unprecedented global pandemic, and with the health and safety of our audiences in mind, SFMT has once again decided to cancel their traditional Summer musical tour in the parks. Refusing to be absent or silent, the SFMT is enthused to display their unique theatrical style by producing its second summer of serialized radio plays: **Tales of the Resistance, Volume 2: Persistence**

Mime on Radio???

The Tony Award-Winning SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE Presents Their 62nd Season with *TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE* A Series of Radio Play Podcasts in 2 Genres: Adventure! & Mystery! As well as the return of the "*Little Jimmy*" series, and a new series "*Eyeball on History*!" Special single episodes will also include Sci-Fi and Musical genres, and discussions with the activists & artists! <u>Featuring Special Guest Artist Francis Jue</u>! Sun. July 4 thru Sept. 5, 2021 (released weekly)

Can the revolution be social distanced? Find out this Summer (2021) with the San Francisco Mime Troupe (SFMT) as they present **TALES OF THE RESISTANCE**, **VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE** - A New Series of Radio Play Podcasts (audio only) of original political comedy audio plays, broadcast

weekly, each written and performed by SFMT veterans and newcomers. Individual episodes will be about 29 min. long, and presented as podcasts and can be listened to here: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2</u> and on radio stations across the country in addition to Spotify, Soundcloud, Apple Podcasts, and YouTube.

In the spirit of its six-decade tradition, the SF Mime Troupe will be passing the *virtual hat* for these free radio play performances. Audience members may listen to **TALES OF THE RESISTANCE**, **VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE** free of charge but are encouraged to make a donation to help cover the productions costs. Online donations are gratefully accepted and can be made at: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2-donate</u>

<u>CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING – by Date</u> (all shows on Sundays) <u>https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-schedule</u>

- July 4, 2021 MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIES! "The Tale of the Black FOX" & "EYEBALL ON HISTORY" July 11 - JAILBREAK! "Passion...For Justice" & "LITTLE JIMMY"
- July 18 We Keep Us Safe: A Discussion on Racial Equity and Police Violence
- July 25 MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIES! "The Tale of the Black FOX!" Part 2 & "LITTLE JIMMY"
- Aug. 1 JAILBREAK! "A passion...for justice!" PART 2 & "LITTLE JIMMY"
- Aug. 8 "What Were You Thinking?" & EYEBALL ON HISTORY! "1790"
- Aug. 15 "Collision at the Intersectionality"
- Aug. 22 "Hobos in Space"
- Aug. 29 Housing for All: A Discussion on Homelessness
- Sept. 5 "michaelgenesullivan@icloud.com"

EPISODE DESCRIPTIONS:

Sun. July 4, 2021

MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIES, "The Tale of the Black FOX".

As a Black woman, Angelica had to work hard to be a commentator at a conservative TV station, and her series of editorials - "I'll Be Right Black" is doing well. Everything seems to be going fine... if only that tattered woman in the parking lot would stop trying to tell her a secret... Cast: Velina Brown (*Angelica Phenex*), Keiko Shimosato Carreiro (*Eido Kawakami*), Andre Amarotico (*TV Director*), Jarion Monroe (*Brad Asteroth & Archibalds*), Michael Gene Sullivan (*Narrator*).

EYEBALL ON HISTORY! "The Ten Point Program" Cast: **Amos Glick** (*Chip Banister*), **Michael J Asberry** (*Bobby Seale*), **Michael Gene Sullivan** (*Huey P. Newton*).

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Cast: Francis Jue (Cheng Jūn), Rotimi Agbabiaka (Sanka), Andre Amarotico (Thor HammerSäck), Lisa Hori-Garcia (Proud Boy), Cassie Grilley (Proud Boy), Velina Brown (Proud Boy), Marissa Ellison (Proud Boy), Brian Rivera (Cop & Mr. Sumulong).

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Cast: Jarion Monroe (Johnny Toddson) Amos Glick (Bud), Marissa Ellison (Madison), Velina Brown (Mrs. Adams), Michael Gene Sullivan (Irate Parent), Lisa Hori-Garcia (Enid & Hosanna), Hugo E Carbajal (Mr. Novack, Jaime & Miguel).

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Aug. 22, 2021

"HOBOS IN SPACE" In the near future, the Celestial Empowerment flees a dying Earth for a better, brighter future among the stars. "Hobos in Space" follows the struggles of the Hapless Outcasts of Bureaucratic Obsolescence as they attempt to rejoin their new society. Can they survive in the underbelly of this luxury space utopia? Can dashing Captain Bacay and kind Counselor Dara help them get what they need? Or, will they all remain adrift in the vast emptiness of space?

Cast: Brian Rivera (*Captain Bacay*), Cassie Grilley (*Counselor Dara*), Andre Amarotico (*CEO Starman & Perry Patetic*), Wilma Bonet (*Beatriz de la Paz*), Hugo E Carbajal (*Augie Rosales*), Marissa Ellison (*Voice of the Computer, OMG*).

Sept. 5, 2021

"Back To The Way Things Were" An original musical! Don't we all wish we could just go back to normal? Back to the way things used to be - before Covid, before the floods and wildfires, before we had Nazis rioting in the streets and in the Capitol, before the news was full of racist cops and sexually abusive men and greedy corporatists, and before four years of a honey-baked ham-brained criminal in the White House? Doesn't that sound nice... or does it? Before we try to revive the good old days maybe we should ask - was the old normal really that good? Was it good at all? Well we created a musical about that! So settle back as we present a trip down reality lane with "Back To The Way Things Were".

Cast: Michael Gene Sullivan (*Ralph*), Velina Brown (Alice), Cassie Grilley (Zoe), Lisa Hori-Garcia (*Tanya*), Andre Amarotico (*Unmasked Man & Media Voice*), Marissa Ellison (*McBurger in the Box Employee*), Brian Rivera (Dennis & Media Voice), with Hugo E Carbajal (Environmental Activist), Jarion Monroe (*Jeff Bezos, Media Voice, & Defendant*), Amos Glick (Media Voice), Lizzie Calogero (Media Voice), Marie Cartier (Media Voice & Climate Change Protester), and Francis Jue (Media Voice).

Some episode will include shorts include:

LITTLE JIMMY is a series of shorts in the style of educational dramatizations, featuring elementary school student Little Jimmy as he tries to understand the twists and turns of society. Like Capitalism, and Voting, and Institutionalized Racism in our justice department and Police Brutality. It's a lot for a little guy to take in!

EYEBALL ON HISTORY. In the style of the "You Are There" series, EYEBALL ON HISTORY takes the listener back to some of the key moments in revolutionary history that are normally overlooked. The series will begin with: "1966, and the Writing of the Ten Point Program of the Black Panther Party."

In addition to "Episodes", there will be some broadcasts which will be community discussions.

July 18, 2021

We Keep Us Safe: A Discussion of Police Violence

A year after the murder of George Floyd, national sentiments around reforming and defunding the police are swinging back to their levels before BlackLivesMatter protests swept the nation in summer 2020. The majority of Americans still oppose diverting funding from police departments. Where do we go next? We'll hear from guests who have worked successfully to reallocate budgets toward community-based interventions in health and wellbeing. How do racial justice and economic transformation go hand-in-hand? - Discussion hosted by **Kari Barclay**. Audio engineering by **Will McCandless**.

Aug 29, 2021

Housing is a Right: A Discussion on Homelessness

In major cities across the country, residents have been forced out of their home at alarming rates, even before the pandemic. How do seemingly progressive cities still struggle to provide housing for all, and what are activists doing to help? Building on our previous episode, *Hobos in Space*, this discussion takes a look at housing and equity in San Francisco. We'll talk to Mime Troupe collective member Marie Cartier about her artistic process and scholar Erin McElroy about their work mapping evictions in the Bay Area and their new book, *Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas.* - Discussion hosted by **Kari Barclay**. Editing by **Will McCandless**.

Individual episodes will be about 29 min. long, and presented as podcasts and can be listened to here: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2</u> and on radio stations across the country in addition to Spotify, Soundcloud, Apple Podcasts, and YouTube.

TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE:

A New Series of Radio Play Podcasts

Written by:	Michael Gene Sullivan, Marie Cartier, and Ellen Callas
Music & Lyrics	Daniel Savio
Directors:	Velina Brown, Keiko Shimosato Carreiro and Michael Gene Sullivan
Sound & Audio Engin	eering: Taylor Gonzalez
Audio Engineering:	Will McCandless
Musicians:	Dylan Jennings - Wind; Chris Lauf - Percussion; Jewell McMillon;
	Bass; David Rokeach - Percussion; Patrick Byers – Woodwinds; Danie
	Savio - Kevboard

Stage Manager: Karen Runk; Tour Mgr/Booking: Marissa Ellison; Publicity: Lawrence Helman; Poster Design: Lawton Lovely. Virgo Graphics by permission of John Chamberlin estate.

CAST:

TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE:

A New Series of Radio Play Podcasts features cast members:

Rotimi Agbabiaka, Andre Amarotico, Michael J. Asberry, Wilma Bonet, Velina Brown, Ellen Callas, Lizzie Calogero, Hugo E Carbajal, Michael Carreiro, Marie Cartier, Marissa Ellison, Amos Glick, Cassie Grilley, Lisa Hori-Garcia, Jarion Monroe, Brian Rivera, Keiko Shimosato Carreiro, Michael Gene Sullivan, and special guest Francis Jue!

All actors appear in accordance of agreements with SAG-AFTRA.

To arrange an interview with writers, actors, or anyone from the SF Mime Troupe Collective, please call or e-mail publicist Lawrence Helman at 415-336-8220 <u>lhelman@sbcglobal.net</u>

TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE:

A New Series of Radio Play Podcasts plays July 4 - Sept. 5, 2021

Partial list of Radio Stations & Organizations airing (additional outlets TBA):

- KSFP (102.5FM San Francisco) www.sfpublicpress.org/ksfp/ "Civic" Podcast KSFP – Every Sun starting July 4, 9-10AM & Every Sat starting July 10, 5-6PM
- KALW (91.7FM San Francisco) <u>www.kalw.org</u> Corana Radio Theater – Starting July 8, 1-2PM
- **KTDE** (100.5FM Mendocino County) <u>www.ktde.com/</u> Every Sun starting July 4, 8PM
- WPFW 89.3 (Washington, DC) <u>www.wpfwfm.org/radio/</u> Your Rights at Work – Every Thur starting July 8, 1:30PM
- KACR LP (Alameda, CA) <u>www.alamedacommunityradio.org/</u> Schedule TBA
- KGLP (Gallup, NM) www.kglp.org/

Will air 2 episodes in 1 hour slots, every two weeks, 4PM. Starting July 17 and ending Sept. 11

- KNYO 107.7FM (Fort Bragg, CA) <u>www.knyo.org/</u> Every Fri starting July 9, 9:30PM
- KKUP 91.5FM (Cupertino, CA) <u>www.kkup.org/</u> Every Sun starting July 11, 5PM – except the 3rd Sun of the month

For a complete schedule and more information, visit **www.sfmt.org** or call **415-285-1717**. Additional info on SFMT and community organizations is available at <u>www.sfmt.org</u>

Principal Character Breakdown:

For "MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIES":

Angelica Phenex (Velina Brown) is a Black woman with a future! Her conservative commentary, "I'll Be Right Black" has millions of viewers, and as long as she stays on the "right" side of the news there is no telling how high she can climb. She has the brains, the style, and - most importantly for her Bosses - the skin tone to undercut any Black Live Matter analysis of America. She's on her way to prime time...but first she needs to be able to leave the building without being harassed by that homeless Asian woman who keep screaming something about saving her...

Brad Asteroth (Jarion Monroe) A conservative news executive with a taste for the finer things in life...and is used to getting them. A product of the best schools and the worst ethics, Brad has skin and gender privileged his way up the ladder, and is now looking for something to catapult him further up the corporate food chain. And perhaps his latest discovery, Black conservative commentator Angelica Phenex, will be his ticket. If he can keep his hands off her...

Eido Kawakami (Keiko Shimosato Carreiro) Who is the seemingly unhinged woman screaming about salvation in the parking lot of the local FOX affiliate? She is wearing the tattered clothes of homelessness, yet there is a sharp glare in her eye that tells a story of a fierce, clear mystery. If only someone will listen...

Narrator (Michael Gene Sullivan) The revolutionary voice that screams JUSTICE! in your head...

For "JAILBREAK!":

Cheng Jūn (Francis Jue) is an ANTIFA activist, committed to the undermining and overthrow of capitalism in the United States. While a passionate fighter for justice Cheng is baffled by why he, of all people, now sits in jail. Unlike some of his fellow protestors he scrupulously follows all the laws (he is a law student,) has never given the fascists legal reason to arrest him, and he is especially baffled when he's accused of being a leader of ANTIFA - a non-organization with no leaders! Who could have accused him? But at least being arrested gave him the chance to fall into the eyes of the fabulous, hot Sanka. But is that the smoke he smells from their burning love, or is it just...FIRE!

Sanka, (Rotimi Agbabiaka) Queen of the Divas, and Diva of the Queens, is the Black drag empress of your dreams and of Mitch McConnell's nightmares. What does she want? Justice! When does she want it? Yesterday! Smart as a whip and not afraid to use one, Sanka fearlessly calls out hypocrisies from the highest to the lowest. Jailed for graffiting "GOD IS

GAY" on the oldest church in town (using cruelty free and irony rich pastels) Sanka shares a cell with a man who might become the love of her life - if he could just shut up about the evils of Capitalism long enough to kiss them!

Thor Hammersäck (Andre Amoratico) is the Founder/Fuhrer of WILF - White Insurrectionists for Liberty and Freedom! (Real Name Arnold Tweedlefluff, occupation: Part-time oboist.) Hammersäck is the Proudest of Boys, the more ardent Keeper of Oaths, and the Q-anoniest of Q-anators. He advocates violence to end the oppression of White Men like himself, and promises the Mighty Wrath of his Hammersack will fall on all the Commies who are the only possible reason he was not picked for the local philharmonic!

Q: Why do you call yourself a Mime Troupe if you talk and sing?

We use the term "mime" in its classical and original definition, "The exaggeration of daily life in story and song." It is a form of popular theater that is as old as the marketplace itself. From the ancient Greek and Roman farces to the Renaissance commedia dell'Arte to modern Chinese Opera, using archetypes comically to illustrate people's issues is a time-honored worldwide tradition. Our broadly drawn characters are instantly recognizable allowing the audience to immediately engage in the action. Our work is political satire and anything but silent.

News - SF Mime Troupe 2021:

MimeCasts: The MimeCast is a series of biographical podcast interviews of current and veteran members of the Tony and OBIE award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe which focus on their personal stories before their time with SFMT, their development as artists, and their lives in general. https://www.sfmt.org/the-mimecast

TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE A New Series of Radio Play Podcasts has been made possible by contributions from San Francisco Arts Commission, Grants for the Arts of San Francisco, Fleishhacker Foundation, The Don Stevens & Nicole Bilotti *Laugh & Love* Fund, Zellerbach Family Foundation, and Individual Donors.

Bios: https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-bios

(Selected Bios text at the end of this release.)

SF Mime Troupe History:

Founded in 1959 by R.G. Davis, as an experimental project of the Actors' workshop, the San Francisco Mime Troupe's early works were...silent, (but not pantomime) avant-garde pieces that today would be called performance art. By the early sixties, the SF Mime Troupe began performing spoken plays with character archetypes drawn directly from the Commedia dell'Arte. Continuing in the broad styles of popular theater, the SFMT's productions became overtly political.

In 1965, the city's Recreation and Park Commission revoked the troupe's performance permit, on grounds of "obscenity". Refusing to allow his company to be censored, on August 7, 1965, R.G. Davis attempted to perform *II Candelaio* in Lafayette Park, loudly announcing to his audience: "Today for your appreciation, we perform an arrest," as Davis was swept up by the police for performing without a permit. The ensuing court case, argued by Marvin Stender, established the right of artists to perform uncensored in the city's parks. The SFMT has opened a new show in the parks every summer since.

In 1965, future rock impresario Bill Graham, then the company's business manager, organized his first rock dance/light show at the Fillmore Auditorium as a bail benefit for the SFMT.

In 1965, Davis, Saul Landau, and a racially mixed group of actors created A MINSTREL SHOW, OR CIVIL RIGHTS IN A CRACKER BARREL, using a historically racist form to attack racism in both its redneck and liberal varieties. The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) sponsored performances around the country; the Troupe began its life as a touring company.

In 1970 Davis left the SFMT, and the company became collectively run: instead of a single Artistic Director the SFMT - a company dedicated to telling the stories of workers - committed itself to being run by its workers. They then began a series of experiments with industrial-era popular theater forms: melodrama and its descendants: science fiction and spy thriller.

Adding music, songs, and physical comedy the Mime Troupe's style solidified and its national and global popularity increased. In addition to performing, the Troupe has taught workshops on both the SFMT "style" and its unique method of collaborative playmaking. For 30 years, the SFMT's **Summer Workshop and Internship program** has attracted primarily college aged students but is open to everyone from mature high school age students on up to older adults. Its students come from across the country and around the world to train with us. The SFMT also has 2 longtime annual youth theater components. The 25-year-old **Youth Theater Project (YTP)** which brings students from underserved communities to the SFMT's studio to study playmaking with veteran troupers. And its **Young California Writer's Project** (at Balboa High School) sends a veteran SFMT writer into local schools to teach the art of activist playwriting.

In 1987, the Troupe's Brechtian style of guerrilla theatre earned them a special Tony Award for *Excellence in Regional Theater*. The Troupe has since been nominated for and received multiple awards, including OBIE, Drama-Logue, Bay Area Drama Critic Circle, and Theatre Bay Area awards -most recently for its 2015 production of its critically-acclaimed tragic farce, FREEDOMLAND. In its 50 years the Troupe has performed at The Israel Festival (1990), The Festival of People's Theater (Canada, 1991), The Asian People's Theatre Festival (Hong Kong, 1996), The Kwachon International Open Air Theatre Festival (Korea, 1998), The International Festival of Theatre Action (Belgium, 1998), the Festival of Verbal Heroes (Germany, 2001), as well as performances in France, Nicaragua, Columbia, Cuba, Off-Broadway, The Kennedy Center for the Arts, and in tours across the USA. However, the Bay Area parks still remain the Troupe's home stage.

To listen to the entire **2020** Radio Play series **TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 1** visit: https://www.sfmt.org/mime-troupe-radio

Calendar Editors:

LINK TO EPISODES: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2</u>

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Cast: Brian Rivera (Cop), Francis Jue (Cheng Jūn), Rotimi Agbabiaka (Sanka), Cassie Grilley (Proud Boy), Jarion Monroe (Brad Asteroth & Archibald), Velina Brown (Angelica Phenex), Keiko Shimosato Carreiro (Eido Kawakami), Michael Gene Sullivan (Narrator).

Aug. 22, 2021

"HOBOS IN SPACE" In the near future, the Celestial Empowerment flees a dying Earth for a better, brighter future among the stars. "Hobos in Space" follows the struggles of the Hapless Outcasts of Bureaucratic Obsolescence as they attempt to rejoin their new society. Can they survive in the underbelly of this luxury space utopia? Can dashing Captain Bacay and kind Counselor Dara help them get what they need? Or, will they all remain adrift in the vast emptiness of space?

Cast: Brian Rivera (Captain Bacay), Cassie Grilley (Counselor Dara), Andre Amarotico (CEO Starman & Perry Patetic), Wilma Bonet (Beatriz de la Paz), Hugo E Carbajal (Augie Rosales), Marissa Ellison (Voice of the Computer, OMG).

Sept. 5, 2021

"Back To The Way Things Were" An original musical! Don't we all wish we could just go back to normal? Back to the way things used to be - before Covid, before the floods and wildfires, before we had Nazis rioting in the streets and in the Capitol, before the news was full of racist cops and sexually abusive men and greedy corporatists, and before four years of a honey-baked ham-brained criminal in the White House? Doesn't that sound nice... or does it? Before we try to revive the good old days maybe we should ask - was the old normal really that

good? Was it good at all? Well we created a musical about that! So settle back as we present a trip down reality lane with "*Back To The Way Things Were*".

Cast: Michael Gene Sullivan (*Ralph*), Velina Brown (Alice), Cassie Grilley (Zoe), Lisa Hori-Garcia (*Tanya*), Andre Amarotico (*Unmasked Man & Media Voice*), Marissa Ellison (*McBurger in the Box Employee*), Brian Rivera (Dennis & Media Voice), with Hugo E Carbajal (Environmental Activist), Jarion Monroe (*Jeff Bezos, Media Voice, & Defendant*), Amos Glick (Media Voice), Lizzie Calogero (Media Voice), Marie Cartier (Media Voice & Climate Change Protester), and Francis Jue (Media Voice).

Some episode will include shorts include:

LITTLE JIMMY is a series of shorts in the style of educational dramatizations, featuring elementary school student Little Jimmy as he tries to understand the twists and turns of society. Like Capitalism, and Voting, and Institutionalized Racism in our justice department and Police Brutality. It's a lot for a little guy to take in!

EYEBALL ON HISTORY. In the style of the "You Are There" series, EYEBALL ON HISTORY takes the listener back to some of the key moments in revolutionary history that are normally overlooked. The series will begin with: "1966, and the Writing of the Ten Point Program of the Black Panther Party."

In addition to "Episodes", there will be some broadcasts which will be community discussions.

July 18, 2021

We Keep Us Safe: A Discussion of Police Violence

A year after the murder of George Floyd, national sentiments around reforming and defunding the police are swinging back to their levels before BlackLivesMatter protests swept the nation in summer 2020. The majority of Americans still oppose diverting funding from police departments. Where do we go next? We'll hear from guests who have worked successfully to reallocate budgets toward community-based interventions in health and wellbeing. How do racial justice and economic transformation go hand-in-hand? - Discussion hosted by **Kari Barclay**. Audio engineering by **Will McCandless**.

Aug 29, 2021

Housing is a Right: A Discussion on Homelessness

In major cities across the country, residents have been forced out of their home at alarming rates, even before the pandemic. How do seemingly progressive cities still struggle to provide housing for all, and what are activists doing to help? Building on our previous episode, *Hobos in Space*, this discussion takes a look at housing and equity in San Francisco. We'll talk to Mime Troupe collective member Marie Cartier about her artistic process and scholar Erin McElroy about their work mapping evictions in the Bay Area and their new book, *Counterpoints: A San Francisco Bay Area Atlas.* - Discussion hosted by **Kari Barclay**. Editing by **Will McCandless**.

Individual episodes will be about 29 min. long, and presented as podcasts and can be listened to here: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2</u> and on radio stations across the country in addition to Spotify, Soundcloud, Apple Podcasts, and YouTube.

LINK TO EPISODES: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/talesvol2</u>

PRESS PAGE: https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2

PRESS PHOTOS: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-photos</u>

AUDIO PROMO: https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-audio

SCHEDULE BY DATE: <u>https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-schedule</u>

SF MIME TROUPE SCHEDULE SUMMER 2021 – TALES OF THE RESISTANCE, VOLUME 2: PERSISTENCE

CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING – by Date (all shows on Sun.)

https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-schedule

July 4, 2021 - MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIES! - "The Tale of the Black FOX" & "EYEBALL ON HISTORY"

- July 11 JAILBREAK! "Passion...For Justice" & "LITTLE JIMMY"
- July 18 We Keep Us Safe: A Discussion on Racial Equity and Police Violence
- July 25 MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIES! "The Tale of the Black FOX!" Part 2 & "LITTLE JIMMY"
- Aug. 1 JAILBREAK! "A passion...for justice!" PART 2 & "LITTLE JIMMY"
- Aug. 8 "What Were You Thinking?" & EYEBALL ON HISTORY! "1790"
- Aug. 15 "Collision at the Intersectionality"
- Aug. 22 "Hobos in Space"
- Aug. 29 Housing for All: A Discussion on Homelessness
- Sept. 5 "Back To The Way Things Were"

Bios: https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-bios

SCRIPT & DIRECTION:

Michael Gene Sullivan (Head Writer, Director, Actor, SFMT Collective) Michael Gene Sullivan is an Actor/Director/Resident Playwright/Teacher, has performed in, written, and/or directed over thirty SFMT productions since 1988, and has been SFMT's Resident Playwright since 2000. As an actor Michael has also worked appeared onstage at ACT, Theatreworks, The Magic Theatre, Marin Theater, California Shakespeare Company, Denver Center Theatre Company among others, and in addition to his work at SFMT Michael has also directed with African American Shakespeare Company, TheatreFirst, and the SF Shakespeare Festival. As a writer Michael has written or co-written dozens of shows for the SF Mime Troupe, most recently *Treasure Island, Tales of the Resistance*, and the activist adaptation of the Dickens classic *A Red Carol.* Michael's non-SFMT scripts include his *The Great Khan* (San Diego Rep, 2022), his all-woman political farce *Recipe*, (Central Works, winner of the Israel Baran Playwriting Award,) and his award-winning one person show, *Did Anyone Ever Tell You - You Look Like Huey P. Newton*? His critically acclaimed stage adaptation of George Orwell's *1984* opened at the Actors' Gang Theatre under the direction of Tim Robbins in 2006, and has since been produced across the USA, as well as Europe, Asia, Australia, Central and South America, and has been translated into Spanish, Ukrainian, Russian, Catalan, and Dutch. Michael is also resident teacher of SFMT's Young California Writers Project, and has taught playwright and acting for the American Conservatory Theatre. For complete bio click <u>here</u>.

Marie Cartier (Writer, Actor, SFMT Collective) has been working with the SF Mime Troupe since 2012. Born and raised in SF, her theater practices encompass a variety of roles. She created props for Mime Troupe shows from 2016 to 2019, and was also Scenic Painter and on the writing team for *Treasure Island*. You can hear the original commercials she wrote in each episode of SFMT's first-ever radio play series *Tales of the Resistance* from 2020. She wrote, co-produced and performed in the yearly circus cabaret, *Saturnalia: A Raunchy Circus Christmas* from 2017 to 2019, as a founding member of Bow & Arrow: A Circus Theater Collective. She has also written short pieces for Three Girls Theatre, taught and painted at NCTC, and been board operator (but never bored) at Oasis. While art remains virtual, you can check out her paintings and other visual art <u>HERE</u>. Marie just recently received her Masters in Social Work from CSU East Bay! mariecartier.weebly.com

Ellen Callas (Writer, Actor, General Manager, SFMT Collective) A native Chicagoan who cut her teeth on Second City, Ellen co-founded, in 1976, Hit and Run Theater, a political sketch comedy troupe that toured rural northern CA for many years. Since joining the SFMT in 1986, she has worked as a writer on *Ripped Van Winkle, Secrets in the Sand, Rats,*

Back to Normal, Escape from Cyberia, Revenger Rat, Soul Suckers, Eating It, 1600 Transylvania Ave, Doing Good, Posibilidad 2012- the Musical!, Treasure Island and Tales of the Resistance. As an actor (Rats), director Making a Killing and as production, company & stage manager for various productions including the int'l. collaboration and Asian tour of *Big Wind*. She also served as company manager for ACT's long running production of *Angels In America: Parts I & II*. She is committed to mentoring future activist artists and from its beginning has been an enthusiastic teacher and occasional project director of company's 24-year-old Youth Theater Project. Ellen credits her ability as an improviser for helping to navigate the rocky road of non-profit political theater.

Daniel Savio (Composer/Lyricist, Musician, SFMT Collective) started his professional theater career playing for the SF Mime Troupe, participating in the tours for *GodFellas* ('06) and Making a Killing ('07), and returned for *Freedomland* ('15), *Schooled* ('16), *WALLS* ('17), and *Seeing Red* ('18). In 2018 he joined the Collective and has since become the Troupe's resident lyricist, writing lyrics for *Treasure Island* ('19), and serving as composer/lyricist for the Troupe's first ever radio play *Tales of the Resistance* ('20). Daniel was co-composer/lyricist, with SFMT vet Bruce Barthol, of the play FSM ('14, Stagebridge Senior Theater), written by fellow SFMT vet Joan Holden. Daniel also composed the scores of four musicals for young audiences at Stagebridge, all with book and lyrics by Josiah Polhemus. He composed original music for an early production of Lauren Yee's *A Man, His Wife, and his Hat* ('11, AlterTheater). Daniel plays keyboards for The 808 Band, winner of the 2011 North Bay Bohemian Award for Best Hip Hop Band, which has backed many hip hop and reggae performers including KRS-ONE, MC Radioactive, and Robert Herrera. He has performed as an improv pianist with the Perennials, the Antic Witties, the Un-Scripted Theater Company, 6th Street Improv!, and the Midnight Matinee. Daniel has a BA in Music from the UC Santa Cruz and has studied with Bay Area composer Michael Kaulkin.

Velina Brown (Director, Actor, SFMT Collective) directed the SFMT 2020 Season production Tales of the Resistance, a 10 episode radio series the SFMT created due to the pandemic in lieu of our usual park tour for which we won Best of the Bay. Velina is a principal performer for the SF Mime Troupe. She's played the Devil in Deal With the Devil, Veronique in Veronique of the Mounties, she's played Condoleeza Rice three times, and was both an actor and Contributing Lyricist on GodFellas and Making a Killing. Velina's most recent shows with the Troupe include Tales of the Resistance, Red Carol, Walls: No Human is Illegal, Schooled, Ripple Effect, For The Greater Good: Or the Last Election, Red State, Too Big to Fail, and Posibilidad: Or Death of the Worker for which she won a Bay Area Critics Circle Award for Best Principal Actress. Velina has toured France with Word for Word, Spain and Portugal with Brooklyn based ensemble Barbez in support of their new album For Those Who Came After: Songs of the Resistance from the Spanish Civil War http://importantrecords.com/imprec/imprec455. Other credits include California Shakespeare Theatre, New Conservatory Theatre, A.C.T., Berkeley Repertory Theatre, SF Playhouse, Denver Center Theatre Company, Theatre Rhinoceros, Shotgun Players, Center Repertory Theatre, Central Works, Lorraine Hansberry Theater, Theatreworks as well as film (Bee Season with Richard Gere, Playing it Cool with Chris Evans and Milk with Sean Penn) and television (Trauma, Party of Five, Shaughnessy Iron Marshall, Nash Bridges, Final Witness). Velina is the founder and owner of the "Business of Show Biz," which offers career planning consultations and workshops for theater artists. She also writes a popular column of the same name for Theater Bay Area and is a contributing author of TBA's ATLAS(Advanced Training Leading Artists to Success) Manual. Velina was given the Getting Played: Equity in the Entertainment Industry Award at Stanford University, and has been was honored as one of TBA's "35 Faces," artists who've made significant contributions to the Bay Area theater community. www.velinabrown.com.

Keiko Shimosato Carreiro (Director, Actor, SFMT Collective) was born in Cambridge Massachusettes. Keiko holds a BFA in Interdisciplinary Arts and an MA in Multimedia from the University of Iowa. She arrived in SF with the Horse Drawn, Caravan Stage Company of Canada. She has been an actor, designer and director for the SF Mime Troupe since 1987. Keiko has designed costumes for many Bay Area Theater companies including, Berkeley Rep, S.F. Shakespeare in the Parks, The Asian American Theater Company, African American Shakespeare Company, Crowded Fire and Custom Made Theater as well as the Mime Troupe. She has appeared in many productions at Bay Area Theaters including, Berkeley Rep, The Aurora, The Magic Theater, Center Rep, ACT, Life on the Water, and of course the SF Mime Troupe. She directed *City for Sale* and *Gotta Getta Life* for the SFMT, and *Cowboy versus Samurai* for the Asian American Theater Company. For her portrayal of Grace in Philip Kan *Gotandas' The Sisters Matsumoto* at Center Rep she was nominated for a Shellie Award as best actress in a leading role. In 2018 she received an award for Meritorious Achievement in Costume Design from the ACTF Theater Festival, for *Three Sisters* at St. Mary's College. In 2020, Keiko co-founded a new Theater Company: "Kunoichi Productions", www.kunoichiproductions.org. Their aim is to create original interdisciplinary works with a Japanese Aesthetic, speaking to a Diverse audience. Keiko will also be teaching at Hollins University (virtually this year), as a Guest Professor for their Summer Graduate program.

CAST:

Rotimi Agbabiaka (Actor) is an actor, writer, director, and teacher who uses humor, glamor, and drama to upset the status quo. Most recently, Rotimi originated the role of Salima in *House of Joy (*California Shakespeare Theatre) and the role of Cellphone/Narrator in *If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be a Muhfucka* (Playwrights Horizons, NYC). Other acting credits include Tom Waits' *Black Rider* (Shotgun Players), *Father Comes Home From the Wars* ... (Yale Repertory Theatre/American Conservatory Theatre) *Bootycandy* (Brava Theater, Theatre Bay Area award), originating the role of Boy in *runboyrun* (Magic Theatre), and several shows with the Tony Award-winning SF Mime Troupe. As a playwright, Rotimi penned the solo shows *Homeless*, *Type/Caste* (Theatre Bay Area award), and *MANIFESTO*, and the musical, *Seeing Red*—co-written with Joan Holden and Ira Marlowe. Rotimi teaches acting, movement, and play creation to students from pre-school through college and has presented work at museums (the deYoung), in parks (with We Players), in forests (with Detour Dance/Work More), on street corners (with Jess Curtis' GRAVITY), and on nightlife stages around the world (as alter ego Miss Cleo Patois). <u>www.rotimionline.com</u>

Andre Amarotico (Actor) is returning for a fourth summer with the Mime Troupe. Andre studied theater at Stanford University, where he received the Evelyn M. Draper Prize for Performance and the Muses Prize in the Arts and Classics. Recent theatrical appearances include *Neighborhood Stories* (a drive through theatre experience) where he was featured in a new work by Pulitzer nominated playwright Amy Freed. He also performed as "The Man" in a live streamed version of *Turn of The Screw* at 6th Street Playhouse. You can hear him in last year's season of the SF Mime Troupe's *Tales of the Resistance* as Greg and various others. Other theatre credits include Anthony in Sweeney Todd (6th Street Playhouse), Christopher Wren in The Mousetrap (Ross Valley Players), Bones in Treasure Island (SFMT), Kenickie in Grease (Mountain Play), Romeo in Romeo and Juliet (Throckmorton Theatre), Smith in An American Ma(u)I (BACCE), Joe in Seeing Red (SFMT), and the title roles in Hamlet and Macbeth (Stanford). He received a TBA nomination for outstanding featured actor in The 39 Steps (Ross Valley Players).

Michael J. Asberry (Actor) is thrilled to return to the Mime Troupe following his appearance as The Gravekeeper in last year's *Tales of the Resistance Series*. He most recently appeared in *The Matchmaker* at A.C.T. Other theatre credits include Aurora Theatre; Profile Theater; Best of Playground Festival; Center REPertory Company; Sacramento Theatre Company; Shotgun Players; Z Space; San Francisco Shakespeare Festival; Alter Theater; Artists Repertory Theatre; Lorraine Hansberry Theatre; TheatreWorks; African-American Shakespeare Co. and the 6th Street Playhouse; Film appearances include *San Andreas, Mr. Incredible and Pals, Chasing Rodriguez,* and *Portable Storage.* TV credits include *Chance* (Hulu), *Trauma* (NBC), and *Nash Bridges* (CBS). Asberry has recorded voiceover spots for Pixar Animation; Pine Sol, Sweetos, General Motors, and Electronic Arts.

Wilma Bonet (Actor) actor/director and a past SFMT collective member, has directed several SF Mime Troupe's summer shows *"Treasure Island"*, *"Ripple Effect"*, *"2012 the Musical"*, *"Possibilidad or Death of a Worker" and "Too Big To Fail"* all written by Michael Gene Sullivan. Her voice over work includes working on Pixar's *COCO* and SFMT's *A RED CAROL* as the Ghost of Christmas Present and Brava's *THE PALACIO SISTERS* by Cristina Garcia. Before the pandemic Ms. Bonet appeared in Ricardo Perez Gonzalez's Glickman Award winning play *"Don't Eat the Mangos"* at the Magic Theatre. She has appeared in numerous plays on stages including Aurora Theater, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, American Conservatory Theatre, the Mark Taper Forum, El Teatro Campesino, SF Mime Troupe, and the Denver Center Theatre Company. Her film and TV credits include *COCO, What Dreams May Come, 8MM, Underwraps, Jack, Radio Flyer*, and *Nash Bridges*.

Velina Brown (Director, Actor, SFMT Collective), SEE ABOVE.

Ellen Callas (Actor, Writer, General Manager, SFMT Collective), SEE ABOVE.

Lizzie Calogero (Actor) is a past SFMT Collective member and SFMT regular; last year she played Doctor Janis & Red in *Tales of the Resistance (22020)* and has appeared in *Treasure Island, Walls, 2012 the Musical, Too Big to Fail,* and *Red State* over the years. With roots in the UK, she has performed in plays around the Bay Area, with SF Shakespeare Festival, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre, SF Playhouse, Center Rep, and Symmetry Theatre among others.

Hugo E Carbajal (Actor) joined SFMT Collective in 2014. Last seen on the Troupe stage in *Freedomland*. He began his involvement with the SF Mime Troupe as a mask designer for the production of *2012: The Musical!* Later, he performed in SFMT's *Oil & Water*. He has also performed with Bay Area companies such as Cal Shakes, Cutting Ball, Bay Area Children's Theatre, Shotgun Players, Stagebridge, Marin Theatre Company, Alter Theater Ensemble, Shadowlight, and TeatroVision. Hugo is currently living in LA and has been spotted on TV shows such as *Brooklyn Nine, SWAT, Good Girls*, and *Scandal* among others. Follow *@HugoECarbajal* on Twitter and Instagram!

Michael Carreiro (Actor, SFMT Collective) began his relationship with the San Francisco Mime Troupe in 1998 as a volunteer and student of the summer workshop. He became a collective Member in 2000 and performed/toured with the company from 2000-2006. During that time he was also the Technical Director. Michael is happy return to work with his friends on *Tales of the Resistance, Volume 2: Persistence*. Michael was last seen in *American Maul* at BRAVA Theatre, produced by, Black Artists Contemporary Cultural Experience.

Marie Cartier (Writer, Actor, SFMT Collective), SEE ABOVE.

Marissa Ellison (Actor, Tour Manager) born and raised in Wisconsin, Marissa has been a theater-lover since her 3rd grade debut as an orphan in Annie. Her relationship with the SF MimeTroupe began in the summer of 2017, when she spent her summer as a workshop student with SFMT; after which, she got brought on as the Tour Manager for the summer show. Since making the move to SF, Marissa spends her days working as a special education paraeducator for SFUSD, and has even gotten the chance to lend her voice towards SFMT's *Tales of the Resistance* Radio Series.

Lisa Hori-Garcia (Actor, SFMT Collective) has been a principal performer and collaborator with the SF Mime Troupe since 2004 in such shows as: Freedomland, Seeing Red, Posibilidad or Death of The Worker, Too Big To Fail, Schooled, and Doing Good to name a few. In 2016, she received a TBA Nomination for Best Principal Actress in a Musical for her performance in the SFMT's hard-hitting show Freedomland. Lisa is also the program director and lead teacher of both the SF Mime Troupe's Youth Theater Project (YTP) and SFMT's summer intensive theater workshop. When not acting or teaching at the SFMT, Lisa has worked with other Bay Area companies, such as Cal Shakes, The Magic Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Campo Santo, Word for Word and in ACT's Men on Boats and The Great Leap. She was a former Ensemble Member & Production Manager with New WORLD Theater in Amherst, MA and received her BA from Smith College and MFA in Acting from the USC. www.lisahorigarcia.com

Amos Glick (Actor) has been able to create a career out of acting like an idiot and refusing to grow up. Highlights include: *Le Reve, Reveria* (Acting Coach & Clown Act Conceptor - The Municipal Circus Of Bucharest), *Graeme Of Thrones* (Nat'l Tour), *Piff The Magic Dragon's Piffmas Pifftacular*, Impro Studio, Fraudway LA, The SF Mime Troupe, The SF Shakespeare Festival, The New Pickle Family Circus, BATS Improv & True Fiction Magazine. Film: Popovich: The Road To Hollywood, The Village Barbershop, Opal, Around The Fire. TV: *WandaVision, Agents Of Shield, Just Roll With It, Nash Bridges.* Hobbies include making music, ice/street hockey, bluegrass and the Grateful Dead. He wrote, produced and starred in the award-winning short film *A Man Wakes Up.* Visit <u>www.amosglick.com</u>

Cassie Grilley (Actor) was born and raised in San Francisco and has grown up watching the SF Mime Troupe. She received a B.A. in Drama from UC Irvine. Cassie was last seen as Lucy/White Witch/Susan in THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE with Bay Area Children's Theatre and Tracy Turnblad in HAIRSPRAY with Bay Area Musicals.

Francis Jue (Actor) - Francis was born in San Francisco, CA, the sixth of nine children. He grew up in the Richmond District of San Francisco and attended St. Ignatius College Preparatory high school, taking part in the school's drama program. He received his B.A. degree at Yale University. He appeared on Broadway in *M. Butterfly, Pacific Overtures,* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Other favorite theatre credits include *Cambodian Rock* Band (Lucille Lortel Award, Drama Desk nomination), Soft *Power* (Outer Critics Circle Award, Drama Desk, Lortel, and Grammy noms), *Wild Goose Dreams* (Obie Award), *Yellow Face* (Obie and Lortel Awards, Drama Desk and Drama League noms), *Love's Labour's Lost, Coraline, Falsettoland, A Language of Their Own, The Language Archive* (Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award), *King of the* Yees (BATCC), *In the Next Room…* (AriZoni Award), *Cabaret* (BATCC), *Red, Kiss of the Spiderwoman* (Drama-Logue Award), *A Midsummer Night's Dream.* Film/TV: *Joyful Noise, "Madam Secretary," "New Amsterdam," "Hightown,"* "Good Wife," "Law & Order: SVU." Proud member of Actors' Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and UK Equity.

Jarion Monroe (Actor) most recently appeared as King Arthur in *Spamalot* at Marin Shakes, and has recently been seen as Jack in Berkeley Rep's *Imaginary Comforts,* Fezziwig in ACT's *A Christmas Carol,* and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* at Marin Shakes. His 50-year career includes all the major theaters in the Bay Area, as well as South Coast Rep, Yale Rep, Arizona Rep, Teatro ZinZanni, off Broadway theaters, and the Oregon Shakespeare Theater. His favorite role in film was as Not-Professor X in *The Internship,* and he was in one of the first *Seinfeld* Tshows and one of the last *Frasier* shows. He won the Natalie Wood Award when he was at UCLA, and was once knocked downstairs by Michael Landon in Bonanza, and literally knocked out by his "father", Strother Martin, in the same episode.

Brian Rivera (Actor) performed last summer with the SFMT in *Treasure Island*. His past work with the SFMT also includes *Doing Good* (2005) and *Posibilidad, or Death of the Worker* (2010). He made his Broadway debut in the Tony Award-winning revival of *The King & I* at Lincoln Center & subsequently the first national Broadway Tour. Brian's credits include the US Premiere of *The Orphan of Zhao* at ACT & La Jolla Playhouse. His other Bay Area credits include *Major*

Barbara at ACT, Yellowjackets at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, and American Nigh at CA Shakepeare Theater. Brian studied at Oxford U. through BADA and earned his B.A. in Drama from SF State U.

Keiko Shimosato Carreiro (Director, Actor, SFMT Collective), SEE ABOVE.

Michael Gene Sullivan (Head Writer, Actor, SFMT Collective). SEE ABOVE.

MUSICIANS:

Patrick Byers (Musician) first started gigging in San Francisco and the Bay Area with the swing and ska revival scenes of the late nineties. He earned his Jazz Performance degree from Sonoma State University, then expanded to performing a wide range of music, touring nationally and beyond. As the music industry changed and touring became less sustainable, his focus switched to becoming an in-demand session musician, as well as adding a multitude of instruments to his vocabulary.

Dylan Jennings (Musician) is a multi-instrumentalist woodwind musician who plays an eclectic assortment of music with bands all across the Bay Area. He grew up in ska, punk, and jazz music and found his way to SF from Riverside, CA 6 years ago to further expand his musical experience and skill as a musician. He currently plays in groups such as Lagos Roots Afrobeat Ensemble, Bicicletas por la Paz, Sapphire Lung, and other notable groups in the Bay Area.

Chris Lauf (Musician) grew up in Canberra, Australia where he studied drum set and percussion under Colin Hoorweg and Gary France. After moving to the US in 2002, he studied jazz at UC Santa Cruz under George Marsh. Bringing groove, sensitivity, excitement, and delicious sonic textures to whatever musical context he finds himself in, Chris has performed across the Bay Area in musical theater and a wide variety of other musical projects. Chris is a proud alum of SF Mime Troupe's 2019 'Treasure Island' production and is very excited to be back with the Troupe with Tales.

Jewell McMillon (Musician) is a bassist, singer, songwriter, educator, and mathematician from the Bay Area, CA. From a young age she always loved singing and tinkering on the piano. Her earliest musical influences were gospel music and soul and R&B from the 60's - 80's. As she got older, she fell in love with many other styles of music including hip-hop, funk, jazz, pop, and alternative - most of which have Black American Music, BAM, at their roots. In all this music the basslines would call out to her, beckoning her to learn them, and so began her love and study for the bass guitar. These days Jewell can be found holding down the groove in many Bay Area live music settings playing funk, hip-hop, soul, and jazz. She has played at Bay Area staples such as The Chapel, The Starry Plough, Milk Bar, The Legionnaire and many more. The year 2020 brought her first experience with band leading and performing some of her own original music.

David Rokeach (Musician) has performed/recorded with Ray Charles; Aretha Franklin; Mavis Staples; Patti LaBelle; Mariah Carey; Celine Dion; Shania Twain; Joe Henderson; Grammy, Tony, Emmy, and Oscar winner Rita Moreno; Mark Murphy; Steve Miller; Carole King; Wilson Pickett; Ernestine Anderson; Sonny Simmons; Calvin Keys, Taj Mahal and many others. He has played the Broadway shows *Jersey Boys, Les Miserables, Ragtime, Ain't Nothin' But The Blues,* and *Love Janis*. He has also worked extensively in film and TV. David is a faculty member at Stanford University, He has been a faculty member at The Jazzschool in Berkeley, Lafayette Summer Music Camp and Jazz Camp West. He started working with the SF Mime Troupe in 1982!

Daniel Savio (Compser/Lyricist, Musician, SFMT Collective), SEE ABOVE.

Additional Bios: https://www.sfmt.org/press-talesvol2-bios

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