

# Making a Killing

## DIRECTION & SCRIPT

**Ellen Callas, Director**, discovered early the multiple hat theatrical model by staging original puppet shows in her post-war Chicago neighborhood. To a Greek, the marriage of politics and theater was a natural. So after discovering improv through Second City workshops, she co-founded, in 1976, Hit and Run Theater, a political sketch comedy troupe that performed and toured Northern California for over a decade. She joined the Mime Troupe in 1986 and has since worked as a writer on *Ripped Van Winkle*, *Secrets In the Sand*, *Rats*, *Back to Normal*, *Revenger Rat Meets the Merchant of Death*, *Escape to & from Cyberia*, *Eating It*, *1600 Transylvania Avenue* and *Doing Good*.

**Michael Gene Sullivan, Head Writer/Actor**, joined the Mime Troupe in 1989. Since then he's performed in, directed, and/or written over twenty Mime Troupe productions. He's also appeared at American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Denver Center Theatre Company, Lorraine Hansberry Theater, Theatreworks, the Berkeley and San Francisco Shakespeare Festivals, and performed his one-person show "Did Anyone Ever Tell You - You Look Like Huey P. Newton?" in San Francisco, New York, and Vancouver. Michael is also Playwright in Residence for the Magic Theatre's Young California Writer's Project, teaching writing in high schools. His adaptation of George Orwell's novel "1984" opened at the Actor's Gang Theatre in Los Angeles in 2006, directed by Tim Robbins. It is currently touring nationally and internationally.

**Jon Brooks, Writer**, is back for his second year writing for the Mime Troupe. Brooks' one-act play, "*November 2001*," was produced at last year's San Francisco Fringe Festival. In 2004, his full-length play "*The Button*" ran for two weeks at The Bloomington Playwrights' Project in Bloomington, Indiana; and his one-act play "*Better Than Hitler*" was produced for the Bay One Acts Festival in San Francisco. His short play "*Small, Medium, Large*" has been produced in Rhode Island, North Carolina, and San Francisco. Mr. Brooks received an MFA in Fiction from Brooklyn College.

## PERFORMERS

**Victor Toman, Actor/Props Master**, was born and raised in Oregon City, Oregon. After completing his B.A. in Dramatic Arts from the University of Oregon, Victor moved to San Francisco. He joined the Mime Troupe in 1997 and has appeared as a principal actor in *GodFellas*, *1600 Transylvania Ave*, *City For Sale*, *Eating It*, *Mister Smith Goes to Obscuristan*, *Showdown at Crawford Gulch*, *Damaged Care*, *The Independent Female* and *Revenger Rat*. In addition he has choreographed most of the Troupe's musical numbers since 1997. In 2005 he had the honor of directing *Doing Good*. He has also performed locally with El Teatro de la Esperanza, Berkeley Repertory Theater, The Joe Good Performance Group, The Dance Brigade, Intersection for the Arts, and Elbows Akimbo to name a few. Outside the area he has performed with The Caravan Stage Company in Toronto, and Mixed Blood Theatre in Minneapolis. Victor also enjoys teaching in the Mime Troupe's annual Youth Theater Project and Summer Workshop.

**Velina Brown, Actor**, is a veteran actor, singer, and director, who has performed nationally and internationally. She is long time member of the Tony and Obie Award winning San Francisco Mime Troupe, and was most recently seen in the Troupe's audience and critically acclaimed *GODFELLAS*. Other theatre credits include *ACT* (Christmas Carol, Insurrection, Machinal, A Streetcar Named Desire...), Berkeley Repertory Theatre (People's Temple), The Denver Center (John Brown's Body), as well as work with Oregon Cabaret Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, TheatreWorks, The Willows, the Magic, Word for Word, Thick Description, Lorraine Hansberry, 42nd Street Moon, and others. Velina is also an experienced film and television actor, and has done extensive commercial voice over and commercial print work. She is a member of SAG, AFTRA, AEA and was on the Bay Area Advisory Committee to Equity for five years. Velina created "The Business of Show Biz," her career consultation for actors, to help others learn from her own experience making a living as a theatre professional in the Bay Area for the past twenty years. For more information, please visit <http://www.bussinessofshowbiz.com>

**Ed Holmes, Actor**, has been performing and teaching in the Bay Area for the past thirty four years. He has performed with the Berkeley Mime Troupe, Antenna Theater, Fratelli Bologna, SF Opera, Oakland Symphony, the Dick n Dubya Show ([www.dickndubya.us](http://www.dickndubya.us)) and has been a performing/ directing member of The San Francisco Mime Troupe for the past twenty one years. For the past five years Ed has performed 'Sub Human', a one man show about his days in the Navy, in bars, VFW halls and small theaters. As Bishop Joey he is head of the First Church of the Last Laugh (world's oldest religion and world's largest church-saintstupid.com) and has led the annual Saint Stupid's Day Parade, every April 1st, in San Francisco for the past 29 years. Ed has taught mime and theater movement at ACT, CSUH, Mills, Dreamworks, Pacific Data Imaging, and Sony animation studio. USN, mm2(ss); CSUH,BA theater; Mills College, MA dance. No reasonable offer refused.

**Lisa Hori-Garcia, Actor**, joined the Mime Troupe in summer 2004 for the production *Showdown at Crawford Gulch* and was selected for collective membership later that year. She received her BA from Smith College and upon graduation started her first professional theater job with New WORLD Theater in Amherst, Mass. Since moving to San Francisco, Lisa has performed with Asian American Theater Company, the Magic Theater, Woman's Will, Impact Theater, and Word for Word, to name a few. Lisa's two biggest undertakings in 2007(so far) have been: stepping up to the position of Project Director for the 11th annual Youth Theater Project, *Living Hope*, and adopting her new love, Flower...

**Kevin Rolston, Actor**. In *OPAL*, an independent film about the famed naturalist writer Opal Whiteley, Kevin can be seen typing and taking zealous notes. He is also a mentor with the juvenile hall playwriting outreach program, EACH ONE REACH ONE. Other theatre work: the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey (company member 2000-2003), the Magic Theatre, PCPA Theaterfest, CenteRep, the SF Playhouse, foolsFury, Word for Word and the New Federal Theatre.

**Pat Moran, Composer/Lyricist/Musician**, began his involvement as a composer and musician with the Troupe during the 2005 summer production *DOING GOOD*. Recent theater credits include musical direction, composition and performance for *The Quixote Project* and *Roccoco Risque*. Pat has been seen performing regularly in a wide variety of musical settings, including the 9 piece Southern Soul band *LORD LOVES A WORKING MAN*; Gamelan Sekar Jaya's Angklung Ensemble (traditional and modern works for Balinese orchestra); *MOEKESTRA!* (experimental large group conducted improvisation), and *Les Croque-Notes* (French chansons).

#### **Michael Pinkham, Musician**

**Daniel Savio, Musician**, has been studying, performing and composing music for nearly 20 years. In 2004 he received his BA in Music Theory at the University of California at Santa Cruz, where he served as Musical Director and Keyboardist for *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* and for the three-year run of *The Midnight Matinee*, a long-form musical improv comedy troupe. In February 2007 he played in the band for *Catherine's Care*, an original production written by Robert Ernst for San Rafael's Alter Theatre. In Summer 2006 Daniel performed with the San Francisco Mime Troupe as substitute keyboardist for two shows of *GodFellas*. He is very excited to be the Mime Troupe's full-time keyboardist this year.

#### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

**Jon Wai-keung Lowe, Set Designer**, returns to the Troupe after designing scenery for *Showdown at Crawford Gulch* and scenery/lights for this year's Youth Theater Project, *Living Hope*. Other design credits include the world premiere of Nicky Silver's *Past Perfect* (Theatre Rhinoceros), work with solo artist David Mills in SF and NYC, and Ed Holmes' *Sub-Human* at the 2004 Fringe Festival. As artistic director of the Visible Theater, Jon adapted, directed, and designed */Green Bamboo Hermitage/*, winning Best Adaptation and a Best of the Fringe encore. He is currently developing */Breaking the Cassia Bough/*, a musical based on Kun opera.

**Keiko Shimosato, Costume Designer**, joined the Mime Troupe in 1987, after doing the Troupes' revival of "*The Dragon Ladys' Revenge*". She has designed, directed and acted in almost every summer show since then. Keiko has performed and designed for many Bay Area Theater Companies including, Berkeley Repertory Theater, S. F. Shakespeare Festival, Word for Word, The S.F. School of Circus Arts, The Magic Theater, and Shotgun Players.

**Michael Carreiro, Scenic Design/Technical Director**, came to the Mime Troupe in 1998 as a volunteer and student in the summer workshop. He became a collective member in 2001 after working for two years as Technical Director. He has constructed, structurally designed and performed in all main stage shows since, including *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*, *Veronique of the Mounties*, *Showdown at Crawford Gulch*, *Doing Good*, and *Godfellas* (design only).

**Karen Runk, Stage Manager**, moved to SF with the intention of only staying for a few months. Ten years later she's still here! This is largely due to the talented folks at the Troupe. Doing the math you'll discover she first experienced the Troupe by stage managing two '97 youth projects, *Revenger Rat Meets the Merchant of Death* and *Inside Out*. After which she ran screaming into the arms of the Magic Theatre and there she stayed, contently for two years. The Troupe then wooed her back for their '99 Summer Production *City For Sale*. Still under the Troupe's spell she's stage managed a plethora of their summer shows and has only managed to escape, successfully, one full summer back in '02 when she worked with SFShakes.

**Will McCandless, Sound Engineer**, returns to the Mime Troupe for a second year. Will does sound design and engineering at several Bay Area theatres. Recent design credits include *How the Other Half Loves* (Center REP), *David Copperfield* (ACT Conservatory), Mamet's *The Water Engine* (Custom Made Theatre Co.) and *Living Hope* (San Francisco Mime Troupe's Youth Theatre Project). Recent engineering credits include *Rust, Pleasure and Pain*, *Luminescence Dating*, and *Moving Right Along* (Magic Theatre) and the *First Look* series (ACT @ the Zeum). Will is also on the technical staff at ODC Theater as a sound engineer and lighting technician.

**Peggy Rose, General Manager**, joined the Mime Troupe in 1992 as Business Manager. For the next ten years, she stayed connected on a part-time basis as Financial Manager. She served full-time as General Manager from 2001 to 2006, and has returned this year for a short stint. She has a BA from Allegheny College in English Literature and now lives in Bolivia.