



Lodestone

THEATRE ENSEMBLE

SOON-TEK OH
FOUNDER/ ARTISTIC
DIRECTOR EMERITUS

To: Theater Editor
For Immediate release

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LODESTONE THEATRE ENSEMBLE'S WORLD PREMIERE OF *REFRIGERATORS*

Lodestone completes its third year with a unique look at people and their possessions

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Following the critical success of Matt Pelfrey's *Terminus Americana*, the Lodestone Theatre Ensemble closes its third season with the world premiere of *Refrigerators* by the award-winning playwright Judy Soo Hoo. Directed by Jennifer J. Yun, *Refrigerators* will run for four weeks, starting April 5th 2002 as part of East L.A. College's Artist-In-Residence Program.

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Refrigerators is an insightful look at the relationship between people and their possessions. On the hottest day in December, three Asian American women – Apple, Grace, and Crystal – meet in a department store in search of the perfect refrigerator. In today's world, where women are taught to juggle the needs of family, lovers, and themselves, fighting for the perfect model is everything.

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The company comes full circle with this production since their flagship production of Judy Soo Hoo's *Texas*. Co-founder and co-artistic director Chil Kong states, "In many ways, *Refrigerators* reflects the long journey we've made in the past three years and reminds us of the very reason why we took the challenging steps to launch Lodestone."

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During its short existence, Lodestone has made a tremendous impact on the changing face of Asian American theatre, and this latest production reflects that evolution. Director Yun says, "I was drawn to *Refrigerators* because Judy Soo Hoo, the playwright, tells Asian American stories outside the traditional boundaries of what we've come to know as 'Asian American Theater.'"

A resident playwright of Lodestone, Judy Soo Hoo was one of the co-collaborators of *29 Dreams: Women Walking Through Walls* and the author of *Twice-Told Christmas Tales*, produced by East West Players. She is a recipient of the PEN/WEST Emerging Voice Fellowship, and *Refrigerators* was a winner of the East West Players AT&T New Voices Playwriting Award and. Excerpts of her plays have been published in the *Best Men's Stage Monologues*, *Best Stage Scenes*, and *Bold Words: Century of Asian American Writing*.

Jennifer J. Yun recently moved to Los Angeles from Seattle where she directed *Jerry* and *The Vagina Monologues*. A veteran of theatre for over nine years, she has directed several regional productions in Chicago and Seattle, including *The Red Slippers*, *To Catch A Tiger*, and *Christine Hedlund's Graduation*. Yun also worked on the Broadway production of *James Joyce's The Dead* and the Seattle production of *The Dying Gaul* at the Intiman Theater. In addition to her theatrical credits, she was involved in the independent films *I'm Not Rappaport* and *A Price Above Rubies* and directed the short film, *Stream*.

Performances of *Refrigerators* are April 5-28, 2002. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30 pm, Sat mat. at 2:30 pm, Sun. at 7:30 pm. No matinee on April 6th. Tickets: \$ 13 for general, \$11 for seniors & students, \$9 for groups (10+). At the East L.A. College Auditorium, 1301 Ave. Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park. For tickets or general information, call the Lodestone Theatre hotline at (323) 993-7245, 24 hours a day, seven days a week or visit our website at www.lodestonetheatre.org.

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