



under the artistic direction of:  
PHILIP W. CHUNG  
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**LODESTONE THEATRE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF "CLAIM TO FAME"**

**Isaac Ho's Newest Work Tells A Tale of An All-Asian American Comedy Troupe That Finds Comedy Isn't Always Funny**

PHILIP W. CHUNG  
TERRY HONG  
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CHIL KONG  
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STEVE LEE  
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RAMSEY ANN NAITO  
QUAN PHUNG  
JULIAN CHANG ZOLKIN  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Los Angeles, CA June 9, 2004 – Lodestone Theatre Ensemble presents the world premiere of "Claim To Fame," which will run July 24 through August 29, 2004 at The Whitefire Theater, 13500 Ventura Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA, 91423. Veteran theatre director Alberto Isaac will direct "Claim to Fame". The cast includes Feodor Chin, Janis Chow, Charles Kim, Yi Lin, Eddie Mui, Janet Song, DC Wolfe, Leonard Wu and Phil Young.

"Claim To Fame" follows the exploits of an up-and-coming sketch comedy troupe and chronicles their first steps toward success. All the while, internal politics and personal relationships collide as the troupe navigates through a maze of botched dinner parties, strip clubs, county jails and Internet hell. Their trip to the stars is a brash, reckless ride with toxic consequences.

"A lot of Asian American writers are trying to be cultural in some fashion, to separate from the pack and find a niche among mainstream audiences," says Ho. "With 'Claim' I wrote a story about fellowship, love, hate and jealousy. The characters just happen to be Asian American."

Ho's previous play "Along for the Ride" won the SF Weekly Black Box Award for Best Play in 1997. He was also a recipient of the AT&T/Asian American Arts Foundation Grant for Theater and is currently the Resident Lighting Director for Lodestone.

"Lodestone has brought a wealth of talent to the table for this project and I am proud to be a part of it," says "Claim" director Alberto Issac. "I like the idea of an Asian American theatre group doing a play about an Asian American theatre group. More importantly I like how this play shows how people are people, regardless of color."

Isaac directed such productions as "Yankee Dawg You Die," "Woman From The Other Side Of The World," "The Maids," "Hughie," "Performance Anxiety," "Yellow Fever" (All At East West Players), "Insomnia" (Strasberg Institute), "Ghosts And Baggage" (Los Angeles Theatre Center), "Performance Anxiety" (East La Actors Company) and "Chickencoop Chinaman" (Asian American Theatre Company), winning three DramaLogue awards and One L.A. Drama Critics Circle award for outstanding direction.

Lodestone's last production, "When Tigers Smoked Long Pipes" (co-produced with Orphans Theater Company and the Victory Theatre), recently garnered several awards including Backstage West's Garland Award, The Maddy Awards and the L.A. Weekly Theater Award.

In its mission to develop, create, promote and present edgy, compelling and impassioned works that bridge communities through truthful and entertaining artistry, Lodestone Theatre Ensemble has made great leaps in redefining contemporary Asian American theatre. Founded in 1999, this is the start of Lodestone's Fifth Anniversary as one of Los Angeles' most acclaimed theatre companies.

Show times are 8pm Thursday through Saturday and 2pm Sunday at the Whitefire Theater, 13500 Ventura Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA, 91423. The production runs from July 24-August 29, 2004 with low-priced previews on July 22 and 23. Tickets prices are \$15 for general admission and \$13 for students and seniors. Group rates of \$11 each are available for reservations of ten or more. Tickets for the July 24 opening night gala is \$25 and includes a post-show reception. For more information or to make reservations, call the Lodestone Theatre hotline 24 hours a day at (323) 993-7245. You can also find more information on the show by visiting [www.lodestonetheatre.org](http://www.lodestonetheatre.org).

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ARTISIC DIRECTORS

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