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**LODESTONE THEATRE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS THE OPENING NIGHT OF
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF *SOLVE FOR X***

Judy Soo Hoo Weaves A Compelling Story of Love, Passion, Betrayal and Tea.

LOS ANGELES, CA – Lodestone Theatre Ensemble proudly presents the opening night of the world premiere of *Solve For X*, running March 19-April 24, 2005 at GTC Burbank (1111-B West Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91506). Written by Judy Soo Hoo, directed by Jeff Liu and produced by Vic Chao and Nic Cha Kim, *Solve for X* stars Roger Fan (*Better Luck Tomorrow*, upcoming *Annapolis*), Elaine Kao (*Red Doors*), Emily Liu (upcoming *Only The Brave*), Kipp Shiotani (upcoming *Only The Brave*) and Kelvin Han Yee (*24*).

Solve For X is a sensual, poetic story about Hannah, a savvy, young math teacher who marries an older tea mogul with a college-aged son. Hannah develops forbidden attractions and finds that unraveling the equation of life and love has never been so hard. *Solve For X* tells a powerful tale of loneliness, betrayal and searching...

"How does one solve for love, if X is the indeterminable factor in the equation of two people?" asks Playwright Judy Soo Hoo. "For me this is not a 'logical' play, but one that asks what is hidden in the human heart?" *Solve For X* was commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum and developed in its Asian Theater Workshop and New Work Festival and further developed at the Cleveland Playhouse in its Next Stage Festival of new plays.

Judy's plays include *29 1/2 Dreams: Women Walking Through Walls* (Co-Collaborator), *Twice-Told Christmas Tales*, *Refrigerators*, *Texas*, *Beastly Beauties of American Monsters* and *Solve for X*. She is a recipient of the EWP/AT&T New Voices Play Awards, Yukon Pacific New Play Award and PEN/WEST Emerging Voices Fellowship. Excerpts of her plays have been published in *The Best Male Stage Monologues*, *The Best Stage Scenes* (Smith and Kraus) and *Bold Words: A Century of Asian American Writing* (University of Rutgers Press). Her play, *Refrigerators*, was read at the New Eyes Festival at Theatre Mu in Minneapolis in Summer 2004. She is the literary manager at East West Players and a resident playwright at Lodestone Theatre Ensemble.

"*Solve For X* is about the nature of love, about how the laws of the human heart haven't really changed from mythological to modern times. We search for the perfect combination, and if we are lucky enough to find it, we must do everything possible to keep the spark alive," says Director Jeff Liu. "Even then, it may not be enough. Tragic, yet deeply romantic, this is a wonderful piece of new writing, which I'm very proud to be premiering for Lodestone."

Jeff Liu received his MFA from UCLA and is the Resident Director at Lodestone Theatre Ensemble. He is director of 3 previous Lodestone productions, including the inaugural production of *Texas, Murderabilia* (from *American Monsters*) and *Terminus Americana* (Ovation Award nominee for Best World Premiere). Jeff's credits also include *Paper Angels*, *FOB*, the Noh play *Matsukaze*, *The Art of Waiting* and *Exit The Dragon*. The feature film he co-wrote, *Charlotte Sometimes*, was nominated for two IFP Spirit Awards.

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. Showtimes are 8pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 2pm on Sundays. Tickets for the March 19th Opening Night Gala with a post-show reception are \$25. For more information, call the Lodestone Theatre Ensemble hotline at (323) 993-7245 or visit www.lodestonetheatre.org. *Solve For X* by Judy Soo Hoo is a visiting production at GTC Burbank.

Lodestone Theatre Ensemble is an Asian American theatre company with a mission to develop, create, promote, and present edgy, compelling and impassioned works that bridge communities through truthful and entertaining artistry.

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