

**Kunoichi Productions Presents**

**In Collaboration with Theatre of Yugen**

# Never Mind



An issei woman's attempt to erase her past...

**Dec. 8th-11th & 15th-18th 2022**

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– Never Mind is approximately 75 minutes with no intermission –

## CAST

IRENE ..... Anne Yumi Kobori  
JIMMY ..... Michael Carreiro  
MASTER MU ..... Yuki Goto  
GHOST OF IRENE'S GRANDFATHER ..... Ron Munekawa

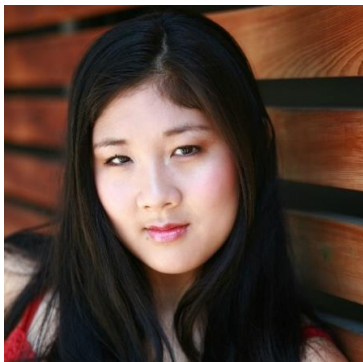
## PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR/COSTUME DESIGNER ..... Keiko Shimosato Carreiro  
DIRECTOR ..... Nick Ishimaru  
PLAYWRIGHT ..... Ai Aida  
LIGHTING DESIGNER ..... Allen Willner  
STAGE MANAGER ..... Annie Tillis

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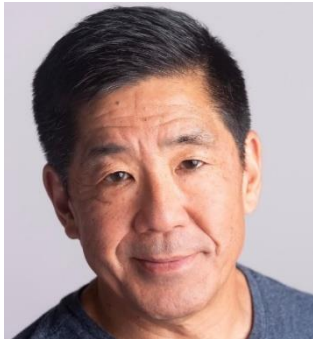
## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



Anne Yumi Kobori



Yuki Goto



Ron Munekawa



Michael Carreiro

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## BIOS

**Keiko Shimosato Carreiro** (Director/Costume Designer) is a member of the San Francisco Mime Troupe Collective. Her critically acclaimed costumes have been seen throughout the Bay Area, at the Mime Troupe, Berkeley Rep, Shotgun Players, Crowded Fire to name a few. As an actor she has appeared on stages across the Bay Area including the Berkeley Rep, The Aurora, the Magic, A.C.T. and most recently Center Rep, and of course the San Francisco Mime Troupe.

**Nick Ishimaru** (Director) is a co-founder of Kunoichi Productions. Prior to working with Kunoichi, he served as the Artistic Director of Theatre of Yugen from 2016 to 2020. He holds a BA in Performing Arts from Colorado State University, where he directed a *kabuki* adaptation of *Macbeth*, a Masters in Drama from San Francisco State University, and did additional doctorate work at the University of Hawaii. He has trained in *noh* and *kyōgen* for over 10 years with Theatre of Yugen and Theatre Nohgaku and the Kita school *noh* master Oshima Teruhisa in Tokyo. Ishimaru has also studied *kabuki*, *jingju* (Beijing Opera), and *nihon buyo* (traditional Japanese dance). He also has led master classes for all levels from elementary school through university and has presented work at conferences and university lectures both in the Bay Area and internationally.

**Ai Aida** (Playwright) is a Japanese-born playwright, illustrator and multidisciplinary theater-maker who is a winner of the Austin International Poetry Festival and the Leonard Isaacson Award Browning Monologue Contest, a finalist of the B3 Theater Festival of Shorts, B-Street Theater's New Comedy Play Festival and Pick of the Vine Competition; a semifinalist of the 44th/45th/46th Bay Area Playwrights Festivals and the Beverly Hills Julie Harris Playwright Award Competition. Ai's plays have been produced or staged-read at the Aurora Theater, Brava Theater, Shelton Theater, Exit Theater, San Francisco Olympians Festival, Z-Space, Piano Fight, Theatre of Yugen, Fringe Festivals, Breach Once More 9x9 Festival, Green House Festival and Mile Hight Theater. She holds an MA in Creative Writing and an MFA in Playwriting from San Francisco State University where she taught Creative Writing.

**Anne Yumi Kobori** (Irene) is a Japanese-American theatre artist. Recent writing projects include Braided at CalShakes, A.C.T.'s *Neo Symposium*, The Window Affair with PlayGround Festival, and the Pear Slices festival with Pear Theatre, where she is a Playwrights' Guild member. Short plays include: *The Art of Suffrage* (Best of PlayGround 25), *Coward's Flame*, *Wish and Rue*, *Give Me the Sky* (MondayNight PlayGround), *Simulation* (Pear Theatre), and *Roses in the Desert* (Dragon Theatre). Her full-length plays *Seeds* and *Every Day Alice*, and her adaptation of Chekhov's *The Seagull*, have premiered with Utopia Theatre Project. Select performance credits: title role in *Hamlet* (Silicon Valley Shakespeare), Celia in *As You Like It* the musical (SF Shakespeare), Henrietta in *The Hollow* (City Lights Theater), and Masha in *Three Sisters* immersive (Utopia Theatre Project). Anne is currently writing *Apertures of Love in Times of War* with the PlayGround Playwrights Residency Program. [www.anneyumikobori.com](http://www.anneyumikobori.com)

**Michael Carreiro** (Jimmy) As a Collective Member of The San Francisco Mime Troupe, Michael toured with the company from 1999 to 2006. He joined the Troupe again in 2019 for The 60th Anniversary Show and in 2021 in "Tale of the Resistance". He is proud to have worked with The Shotgun Players, New Conservatory Theatre, Theatre Rhinoceros, and Black Artist Contemporary Cultural Experience.

**Yuki Goto** (Master Mu) is a Japanese-born actor, director, and theatre educator. He is one of a lucky few who studied the Suzuki Method of actor training under the tutelage of the seminal director Tadashi Suzuki. Yuki explores intercultural endeavors of Western and Asian Theatre in his works. He has directed a number of acclaimed productions fused with Kabuki, Noh, and Butoh techniques. Among them, *Rashomon* and *Clytemnestra* won the Harold Awards in New York. He is also a professor of Theatre Arts at San Francisco State University, where he teaches stage movement, directing, and Japanese theatre. As an actor, Yuki has performed with the Theatre of Yugen and other groups. His last role was Kamishibai Man in the Zoom production of *The True Tale of Princess Kaguya* by the Kunoichi Productions. He is thrilled to be a part of this first in-person live performance of the same organization.

**Ron MuneKawa** (Ghost of Irene's Grandfather) is pleased to be making his first appearance with Kunoichi Productions in *Never Mind*. Ron originally got his start in theater through dance and has appeared throughout the Bay Area in shows such as *42nd Street*, *Crazy for You*, *Damn Yankees*, *White Christmas* and *A Chorus Line*. Most recent roles include Sam Kimura/Ojii-chan, *Allegiance*, (Palo Alto Players); Gold Monk, Lucia Fuentes (Playground Productions); Ojii-chan, *Braided*, (In The Margin/Theatre of Yugen); The Emcee, *Swingposium* (San Jose Taiko); Yasuichi Hikedra, *Harlem Canary/Tokyo Crow* (Montalvo Arts Center); Mr. McQueen, *Urinetown* (Skyline College); and Isamu, *You'll Never Look At Mt. Fuji The Same Again* (Playwrights' Center of San Francisco).

**Allen Willner** (Lighting Design) has been designing lights for over two decades for a diverse array of music, theater, and dance artists and companies including: Arizona Theater Company, Axis Dance Company, Zaccho Dance Theater, Lorraine Hansberry Theater, Shotgun Players, We Players, inkBoat and Erika Chong Shuch. Awards include: TBA Lighting Designs: We Player's "*Beowulf*", Shotgun Players "*Eurydice*", Theater of Yugen's "*This Linger Life*", SF Playhouse "*The Obligation*". Bay Area Critics Circle Lighting Design "*God's Ear*", Isadora Duncan Dance Design Awards for inkBoat's "*Line Between*", inkBoat's "*Heaven's Radio*" and Deborah Slater Dance Theater's "*Private Life*".

**Annie Tillis** (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be returning to the actual stage with the Kunoichi Productions family! Tillis has been spotted in or around the booth for a wide array of live performances around the Bay Area, including circus, straight theatre, musical theatre, dance, and devised work. She has accepted her starving artist lifestyle and openly admits her addiction to the performing arts. If not in a dark windowless room, one can often find her lounging in the sun, drinking a glass of wine, or dancing through life. She would like to thank all those who support her and her trying addict lifestyle, including her husband, her family and friends, and her cat. Thank you for supporting live theatre, we are excited to have you here!

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## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Theatre of Yugen, San Francisco Mime Troupe, Kyoko Yoshida, Miwa Kaneko, Matthew Snelham, Theater Bay Area, The Bay Area Women's Theatre Festival, Erin Merritt, Juicy D Light, Rev. Henry Adams, Julian Carreiro, Michelle Carter, Anne Galjour, Amy Mueller, Gary Graves