

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Cast and Creative Team Announced for the World Premiere of Lloyd Suh's *Bina's Six Apples*** *The production and cast will transfer to the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta following its CTC run*

**Minneapolis, Minn.**—Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is proud to announce the cast and creative team that will bring to life the world premiere of *Bina's Six Apples* written by **Lloyd Suh** and directed by **Eric Ting**, running January 9 through February 13, 2022. This is a co-production with the **Alliance Theatre** in Atlanta and will transfer to their mainstage March 11-27, 2022. The cast includes **Olivia Lampert** as Bina, **Albert Park** as Father, **Sun Mee Chomet** as Mother, **Elizabeth Pan** as Hamee, **Joseph Pendergrast** as Jinsoo, **Shelli Delgado** as Youngsoo, and **Jayden Ham** as Boy. The creative team includes Scenic and Lighting Designer **Jiyoun Chang**, Costume Designer **Junghyun Georgia Lee**, Composer and Sound Designer **Fabian Obispo**, and Movement Director **Marcela Lorca**. **The full cast and creative list, along with their bios, is below.**

"It's such a thrill to be returning to CTC, after premiering *The Wong Kids* there in 2013," reflects Playwright **Lloyd Suh**. "*Bina's Six Apples* is rooted in family lore. It is inspired by my parents, in what they experienced as children during the Korean War, but it is equally inspired by my kids – not just in the remarkable differences in how they're growing up, but in the similarities, too. My greatest ambition for the play is that it speaks to both generations: their emotions, their imaginations, their sense of discovery and journey towards empathy. The play was written for young audiences, of course – but also for their parents and grandparents."

Bina's family grows the finest apples in all of Korea. But when war forces her to flee her home, Bina is alone in the world with just six precious apples to her name. Can these meager possessions help her find her family? Join Bina on her adventure that ranges from the heartbreaking to the humorous. Encountering new challenges at every turn, Bina is forced to rely upon her apples and their meaningful legacy as she begins to discover the power of her own resilience. Often mesmerizing, always heartwarming, Bina realizes she's not the only one on a difficult quest for a place to call home.

*Bina's Six Apples* runs January 9 through February 13, 2022 on the Cargill Stage. Tickets can be purchased at [childrenstheatre.org/binas](http://childrenstheatre.org/binas) or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400. Ticket prices currently range from \$15-\$63.

### ***Bina's Six Apples***

Written by Lloyd Suh

Directed by Eric Ting

A Children's Theatre Company Original World Premiere Production

A co-production with the Alliance Theatre

January 9-February 13, 2022

Cargill Stage

Ages 9 and Up

### **CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM**

Scenic and Lighting Designer | **Jiyoun Chang**  
Costume Designer | **Junghyun Georgia Lee**  
Composer and Sound Designer | **Fabian Obispo**  
Movement Director | **Marcela Lorca**  
Original Dramaturg | **Miriam Weisfeld**  
Associate Lighting Designer | **Marie Yokoyama**  
Stage Manager | **Chris Schweiger**  
Assistant Stage Manager | **Kenji Shoemaker**  
Howard University Stage Management Fellow | **Cortney Gilliam**

## **CAST**

Bina | **Olivia Lampert**  
Father, Boatperson | **Albert Park**  
Mother, Merchant | **Sun Mee Chomet**  
Hamee | **Elizabeth Pan**  
Jinsoo, Soldier | **Joseph Pendergrast**  
YoungSoo, Another Mother | **Shelli Delgado**  
Boy | **Jayden Ham**

## **UNDERSTUDIES**

Bina | **Malia Berg**  
Boy | **Zakarin Ratsabout**  
Mother, Merchant, Hamee, Youngsoo, Another Mother | **Michelle de Joya**  
Father, Boatperson, Jinsoo, Soldier | **Clay Man Soo**

## **Tickets**

The Ticket Office is accessible by phone two hours prior to most performances. These posted hours are subject to change.

**Email:** [tickets@childrenstheatre.org](mailto:tickets@childrenstheatre.org) (inquiries only, no ticket processing)

**Phone:** 612.874.0400

**Website:** <https://childrenstheatre.org>

Subscription packages are available. Please see website for complete details: [childrenstheatre.org/open](https://childrenstheatre.org/open)

**ASL/AD Performances: Friday, February 4, 2022, 7pm**

**Sensory Friendly Performance: Friday, February 11, 2022 at 7pm**

## **Performance Dates**

Sunday, January 9, 2022, 7pm (Preview)  
Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 7pm (Preview)  
Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 7pm (Preview)  
Thursday, January 13, 2022, 7pm (Preview)  
Friday, January 14, 2022, 7pm (Opening Night)  
Saturday, January 15, 1pm and 5pm (Opening Weekend)  
Sunday, January 16, 1pm and 5pm (Opening Weekend)

Wednesday, January 19, 7pm

Thursday, January 20, 7pm

Friday, January 21, 7pm

Saturday, January 22, 11am and 3pm

Sunday, January 23, 1pm and 5pm

Thursday, January 27, 2022 7pm

Friday, January 28, 2022, 7pm  
Saturday, January 29, 11am and 3pm  
Sunday, January 30, 1pm and 5pm

Thursday, February 3, 2022, 7pm  
Friday, February 4, 2022, 7pm (ASL/AD Performance)  
Saturday, February 5, 11am and 3pm  
Sunday, February 6, 1pm and 5pm

Thursday, February 10, 2022, 7pm  
Friday, February 11, 2022, 7pm (Sensory Friendly Performance)  
Saturday, February 12, 2022, 11am and 3pm  
Sunday, February 13, 2022, 1pm and 5pm (Closing Performance)

## ***Bina's Six Apples Bios***

### **CREATIVE**

#### **Director**

**Eric Ting** (he/they) is an Obie Award-winning director and Artistic Director of California Shakespeare Theater. Recent credits include *Between Two Knees* (OSF); *The Good Person of Szechwan* (Cal Shakes); and *Parable of the Sower: The Opera*. Upcoming: *Between Two Knees* (Yale Rep); and *King Lear* adapted by Marcus Gardley (Cal Shakes).

#### **Playwright**

**Lloyd Suh** (he/him) is the author of *The Chinese Lady*; *Charles Francis Chan Jr.'s Exotic Oriental Murder Mystery*; *American Hwangap*; and more, including *The Wong Kids in the Secret of the Space Chupacabra Go!* which premiered at CTC in 2013.

#### **Composer and Sound Designer**

**Fabian Obispo** returns to CTC where he designed *The Beggars' Strike*. Recent Off-Broadway credits include his musical *Felix Starro*; *The Chinese Lady*; *Sea Wall/A Life*; and *Teenage Dick*. He recently wrote the music for the PBS documentary *20 Years of Asian American Playwriting*. He is a recipient of the Barrymore and the Berkshire Theatre Critics Award.

#### **Movement Director**

**Marcela Lorca** (she/her) is Artistic Director of Ten Thousand Things Theater. She has directed and/or choreographed plays at the Minnesota Orchestra, Guthrie Theater, McCarter Theater, Milwaukee Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Syracuse Stage, Mixed Blood, Goodman, DC Shakespeare, and Juilliard Drama School. She is a founder of the GEX and the UMN/Guthrie B.F.A. Actor's training programs. Marcela is the recipient of the 2019 Zelda Fichandler Award. [marcelalorca.com](http://marcelalorca.com)

#### **Scenic and Lighting Designer**

**Jiyoun "Jiji" Chang** (she/her) is a New York designer. Credits: *Marry Wives* (Delacorte Theatre); *Slave Play* (Nominations for Tony, Drama Desk, Henry Hewes); *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow Is Enuf* (The Public); and *Marys Seacole* (Henry Hewes Nom, LCT3). More credits at Second Stage Theater, Roundabout, ATC, NYTW, BAM (Obie Award), MCC, Signature, Guggenheim, Berkeley Rep, Cal Shakes, Guthrie Theatre, The Old Globe, OSF (Falstaff Award), Studio Theatre. She sends special thanks to David and Eva.

#### **Costume Designer**

**Junghyun Georgia Lee** is a Korean-born, NYC-based designer. She designed for New York Theatre Workshop, Ma-Yi, Public, Soho Rep, The Play Co., Alley Theatre, Hartford Stage, Long Wharf Theatre,

Guthrie Theater, Huntington Theatre Company, Indiana Repertory Theater, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Alliance, and Syracuse Stage. She is a member of New Neighborhood, a multimedia and theatre group. M.F.A., Yale School of Drama. [junghyungeorgialeedesign.com](http://junghyungeorgialeedesign.com)

### **Stage Manager**

**Chris Schweiger** has worked at CTC for almost 20 years, and she most recently worked with the Moab Music Festival in the beautiful wilderness of Utah. She has also worked at Arena Stage, Seattle Children's Theatre, The Ordway, Guthrie Theater, Mixed Blood, New Victory Theater, Alpine Theatre Project, and Perseverance Theatre. She graduated from Northwestern University and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Mongolia.

### **Assistant Stage Manager**

**Kenji Shoemaker** (he/they) is excited to be a part of his first show with Children's Theatre Company. Kenji works as both a Stage Manager and a Props Designer and has worked with several Twin Cities organizations including Full Circle Theater, Theater Mu, Pillsbury House Theatre, and Stages Theatre Company.

### **Howard University Stage Management Fellow**

**Cortney Gilliam** (she/her) has a B.F.A. in Theatre Arts Administration from Howard University. She has worked at Sundance Institute in the Summer Theatre Labs as well as interned for the AT&T Performing Arts Center in Dallas, Texas. She is currently the Howard University Stage Management Fellow at Children's Theatre Company.

## **CAST**

### **Bina**

**Olivia Lampert** is making her CTC debut! Favorite credits include *The Sound of Music* (Blue Water Theatre Company); *Honk JR.* (Wayzata School Theatre); and *Shapeshift* (promotional video). Olivia has trained with Just for Kix, Stages Theatre Company, and All Things Musik (voice, ukulele). She would love to thank everyone who supported her and hopes that you enjoy the show!

### **Father, Boatperson**

**Albert Park** is thrilled to be at CTC. Select theatre credits: *The Supreme Leader* (Dallas Theater Center); *Man of God* (Geffen Playhouse); *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* (South Coast Repertory); *Cambodian Rock Band* (City Theatre Company/Merrimack Repertory); *Yoga Play* (MOXIE Theatre); *Vietgone* (East West Players); *The Oldest Boy* (San Diego Repertory); *The Winter's Tale* (The Old Globe); *Extraordinary Chambers* (Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company); *The Odd Couple* (North Coast Repertory); *Flower Drum Song* (SDAART/La Jolla Playhouse). Select film credits: *Borrowed Light*; *Last Summer of Nathan Lee*. He especially thanks CTC, the cast, and crew. Albert is eternally grateful to Jenny, Felix, Henry, and Coral. He is represented by CESD.

### **Mother, Merchant**

**Sun Mee Chomet** is happy to be a part of this project as it is close to her own birth family's story. The experience of displacement due to war is part of the story of so many people in Minnesota, the country, and the world. Sun Mee is grateful to CTC for commissioning and producing this play, Lloyd Suh for crafting such a personal work-of-art, and Eric Ting for realizing its vision.

### **Hamee**

**Elizabeth Pan** (she/her) is honored to make her debut at CTC. Past theatre includes: *Calligraphy* (Theateworks Silicon Valley); *Dogeaters* (Center Theater Group); *Film Chinois* (Grove Theater Center); *@thespeedoffake* (Playwright's Arena); and *The Winter People* (Theater@BostonCourt). Elizabeth trained at American Conservatory Theatre and the Royal National Theatre. [www.elizabethpan.com](http://www.elizabethpan.com), IG: @thereallizpan

### **Jinsoo, Soldier**

**Joseph Pendergrast** (they/them) is making their Children's Theatre Company debut and has performed in most theatres in Atlanta including *Alice Between*; *Ever After* (The Alliance); *Frankenstein's Funeral* (Found Stages); *In the Heights* (The Aurora); *Spring Awakening* (Serenbe playhouse); *Head Over Heels* (Actor's Express); and *Lyle the Crocodile* (Synchronicity Theatre).

### **Youngsoo, Another Mother**

**Shelli Delgado** (she/her) is making her Children's Theatre Company debut. Recent regional credits include Alliance Theatre, Aurora Theatre, Horizon Theatre Company, Warehouse Theatre, and Actor's Express. TV/Film: *The Vampire Diaries* and *Doom Patrol*. She holds a B.A. in both Theatre and English from the University of Georgia. Black Lives Matter. Stop Asian Hate. IG: @shellidelgado

### **Boy**

**Jayden Ham** is excited about his CTC debut. In his spare time, Jayden plays piano, violin, and Roblox with his friends. He often visits Korea and loves Korean food and culture. A native of Minnesota, Jayden lives in Woodbury with his mom, dad, and Rocky Bear, his puppy.

### **Understudies**

#### **Bina**

**Malia Berg** has enjoyed performing with theatre companies such as Children's Theatre Company, Merrill Arts Center, and the Zephyr Theater in productions such as *Spamtown, USA* (CTC); *Disney's Freaky Friday*; *Little Women*; *Madeline's Christmas*; *101 Dalmations* (MAC); *Midsummer Night's Dream*; *Madagascar*; *Mulan*; *Little Mermaid*; *Annie*; and *Charlotte's Web* (Zephyr Theater).

#### **Boy**

**Zakarin Ratsabout** is thrilled for his CTC debut with the cast of *Bina's Six Apples*. Zak has danced with Lundstrum Performing Arts and Cypherside Dance School. In his free time, Zak enjoys producing music on his computer.

### **Mother, Merchant, Hamee, Youngsoo, Another Mother**

**Michelle de Joya** (she/her/they/them) is an AAPI Actor, Playwright, Acrobat, and Educator. Their past credits include *Sherwood* (Yellow Tree Theatre); *Chicago* (Theater Latté Da); *The Brothers Paranormal* (Theater Mu/Penumbra Theatre); *The Wolves* (The Jungle Theater); and more. They have a B.F.A. from the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater Acting Program. [facebook.com/dejoya.michelle](https://www.facebook.com/dejoya.michelle)

### **Father, Boatperson, Jinsoo, Soldier**

**Clay Man Soo** (he/him) is making his debut at CTC! He has performed with Guthrie Theater, Great River Shakespeare Festival, Theater Mu, Pangea World Theater, SD Shakespeare Festival, among others. Upcoming shows at Park Square Theatre and Tiger Lion Arts. He holds a B.A. at Gustavus Adolphus College. [www.claymansoo.com](http://www.claymansoo.com)

**Children's Theatre Company (CTC)** is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for young people and serves a multigenerational audience. It creates theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire for more than 250,000 people annually. CTC is the only theatre focused on young audiences to win the coveted

Tony Award® for regional theatre and is the only theatre in Minnesota to receive three Tony® nominations (for its production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*). CTC is committed to creating world-class productions at the highest level and to developing new works, more than 200 to date, dramatically changing the canon of work for young audiences.

CTC's engagement and learning programs annually serve more than 93,000 young people and their communities through Theatre Arts Training, student matinees, Neighborhood Bridges, and early childhood arts education programs. ACT One is CTC's comprehensive platform for access, diversity, and inclusion in our audiences, programs, staff, and board that strives to ensure the theatre is a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. [childrenstheatre.org](http://childrenstheatre.org)

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