



The Zip Code Plays: Los Angeles

Celebrate the culture and history of the diverse neighborhoods of Los Angeles with *The Zip Code Plays: Los Angeles*, a series of six original audio plays, each set in a different L.A. ZIP code.

Featuring

Bernard K. Addison, Tony Amendola, Gigi Bermingham, Jon Chaffin, Dawn Didawick, Nike Doukas, Bo Foxworth, Harry Groener, Veralyn Jones, Luis Kelly-Duarte, Kavi Ramachandran Ladnier, Adrian LaTourelle, Abby Marks, Catia Ojeda, Lloyd Roberson II, Marcelo Tubert, Marlow Wyatt

Written by members of the Antaeus Playwrights Lab

Nayna Agrawal, Angela J. Davis, Alex Goldberg, Deb Hiett, Steve Serpas, Khari Wyatt

Directed by

Julia Fletcher, Jonathan Muñoz-Proulx, Ann Noble, Carolyn Ratteray, Steven Robman, Bernadette Speakes

Hosted by

Ramón de Ocampo

Audio Producer, Sound Designer, and Foley Artist

Jeff Gardner

Original Music by

Ellen Mandel

Sound Editor

Adam Macias

Dramaturg

Ryan McRee

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The Zip Code Plays: Los Angeles

91352: Sun Valley Salvage

by Steve Serpas
Directed by Julia Fletcher
Featuring: Gigi Bermingham & Jon Chaffin

Sponsored by Debra Thomspson & Lawrence Riff

In an auto junkyard, former voice teacher Martha, now nearly blind with retinitis pigmentosa, awaits a volunteer to help her locate a part for her 1998 Subaru Impreza WRX so she can take one last drive. When Billy arrives, coincidence, empathy, and music make for a very special afternoon.

Cast - 91352: Sun Valley - Salvage



Jon Chaffin



Gigi Bermingham

Artist Bios

ACTORS

GIGI BERMINGHAM (MARTHA): At ANTAEUS: *Native Son, Cloud 9, Picnic, The Liar, The Seagull, Tonight at 8:30, Mother Courage, Pera Palas, Trial By Jury*. Directed *You Can't Take It With You*. Gigi received the 2013 L.A. Stage Alliance Ovation Award for Leading Actress in a Play for her portrayal of Maria Callas in *Master Class* at International City Long Beach; and for her solo comedy *Non-Vital Organs* received the L.A. Drama Critics Circle Natalie Schafer Award and an Ovation for Solo Performance. Gigi has also performed at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, La Mirada, Pasadena Playhouse, Old Globe, Rubicon, MainStreet, Skylight, Blank, Odyssey, Theatre@Boston Court, Playwrights' Arena, and New York's Public Theatre. TV appearances include: *Jane the Virgin, Marvel: Agents of Shield, Scandal, Mistresses, Chasing Life, Days of Our Lives*. Film: *Save the Date* and Rob Reiner's *Alex and Emma*. Web: *Kittens In A Cage* and *The Britishes*. gigibermingham.com

JON CHAFFIN (BILLY): At ANTAEUS: *Native Son*. Other Theater: *King Hedley II* (The Matrix Theatre Company - LADCC Award Nomination: Best Ensemble), *God of Carnage* (Alliance Theatre), *The Dumb Waiter* (PushPush Film & Theater). Film/TV: *The Haves and the Have Nots, Snowfall, Hawaii Five-O, Stitches, Army Wives, House of Payne, The Red Road, Blindspotting, 96 Minutes, Altered*. Jon is also a writer, having penned four screenplays, numerous poems, monologues and short stories. He received his B.A. from Fort Valley State University. He is also a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, and is a native of Atlanta, Georgia.

CREATIVE TEAM

RAMÓN DE OCAMPO (SERIES HOST): At ANTAEUS: *Measure for Measure; Henry IV, Part One* (Hal), *The Curse of Oedipus* (Oedipus), *Macbeth* (Banquo), *The Malcontent* (Mendoza), *King Lear* (Edgar), *Tonight at 8:30, Pera Palas*. Other LA: *Girl Most Likely To, Sick* (Playwrights Arena); *Dogeaters, Much Ado About Nothing, Neva* (Kirk Douglas). Regional: NY Public, Delacorte, Kennedy Center, EST, Signature, Lincoln Center Lab, NJSF, Ojai, O'neil, Yale, South Coast Rep, La Jolla Playhouse, Ma-Yi, etc. Film: *Happy Endings, xXx: State of the Union, Hamlet*. TV: Recurring roles on: *12 Monkeys, The West Wing, Medium, Killer Instinct, Sons of Anarchy*. Guest Star on *NCIS: New Orleans, Castle, Bones, CSI, NCIS, and Gang Related*. B.F.A., Carnegie Mellon. Awards: OBIE Award; Princess Grace Award. Narrator of more than a hundred audiobooks including the best selling *This is Where I Leave You* and the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series. He has won 8 AudioFile Audiobook Awards including "Best Voice".

JULIA FLETCHER (DIRECTOR): Julia has been a theater professional for more than 35 years. She received her training at the Advanced Training Program of the American Conservatory Theatre. She has worked in new play development, as an adapter of the works of Shakespeare, as a director, an Equity stage manager, and a master teacher. She was also the Founding Artistic Director of the Pacific Resident Theatre in Los Angeles. As an actress, she has performed with some of the nations leading theatre companies, including the American Conservatory Theatre, The Old Globe, Intiman Theatre, ACT in Seattle, San Jose Rep, Antaeus Theatre Company, the Geffen, the Pacific Conservatory of Performing Arts, and the Pittsburg Public Theatre.

JEFF GARDNER (AUDIO PRODUCER, SOUND DESIGNER, FOLEY ARTIST): At ANTAEUS: *Eight Nights, The Abuelas, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Diana Of Dobson's, The Cripple Of Inishmaan, The Little Foxes, Native Son, The Hothouse, Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, Picnic, Wedding Band*. Other Theater: Geffen Playhouse,

The Kirk Douglas Theatre, The Wallis Annenberg Center, A Noise Within, Boston Court Pasadena, Circle X Theatre, Echo Theater, Rogue Machine Theatre, Skylight Theatre, IAMA Theatre, Odyssey Theatre, The Colony Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre, Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, and Williamstown Theatre Festival. An Ovation Award-winning sound designer, Jeff can be seen at L.A. Theatre Works, where he regularly performs live sound effects, and is the resident sound designer for the Westridge School in Pasadena. jeffthomasgardner.net

ADAM R. MACIAS (AUDIO EDITOR): At ANTAEUS: *Eight Nights*, *The Abuelas*, *Native Son*. Other theater: *Native Son* (Kirk Douglas Theater, Block Party 2019); *Les Miserables*, *Beauty and The Beast* (Video Designer & Sound Designer - Arcadia Performing Arts Center); *She Loves Me* (Sound Designer - Actor's Co-Op); *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*, *The Giver* (Video Designer, Sound Designer, & Composer - Arcadia Performing Arts Center); *Rope*, *A Walk In The Woods*, *Cat's Paw* (Sound Designer & Composer - Actor's Co-Op Theatre); *Fuente Ovejuna* (Sound Designer & Composer - CSULA Arts and Letters). adamrmacias.com

ELLEN MANDEL (COMPOSER): is a composer of art songs and theater music. She has written songs to poems by e.e. Cummings, Seamus Heaney, W.B. Yeats, Glyn Maxwell and more, sung by Todd Almond, Daniel Neer, and Jessica Crandall, and music for over 70 plays from Shakespeare to Stoppard.

RYAN McREE (DRAMATURG): At ANTAEUS: *Measure for Measure*, *Eight Nights*, *The Abuelas*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *The Little Foxes*. Other Theaters: as Assistant Director: *Two Fisted Love* (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), *bled for the household truth* (Rogue Machine Theatre), *Stupid Kid* (Road Theatre Company), *The Kentucky Cycle* (USC School of Dramatic Arts). As Director: *Gilberto* (New Opera West), *Royalton and 5th* (Skylight Theatre Fresh Brews), *The Woman Is Perfected* (Hollywood Fringe Festival), *Equus*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Six Degrees of Separation* (Aeneid Theatre Company). Training: B.A. Theatre/ Narrative Studies, USC.

STEVE SERPAS (PLAYWRIGHT): Steve is a playwright and storyteller whose work has been developed by American Blues, Antaeus Theatre Company, The Blank Theatre Company, CAP 21, Chicago Dramatists, Eclipse Theatre Company Chicago, Ensemble Studio Theatre Los Angeles, June Lake Theatre Festival, Manhattan Rep, Moving Arts, Playwrights Horizons, Prop Theatre, The Road Theatre, Santa Monica Rep, Sacred Fools, Shattered Globe, Strawdog, and Victory Gardens. His recent work includes *Next Wave*, presented at LACMA in Moving Arts' Theatre at the Museum evening and *When You're Lost*, presented at the 2019 June Lake Theatre Festival. Previous work includes the web series *Before We Go to Sleep*, official selection in the 2015 HollyWeb Festival, and EST-LA's 2013 workshop production of *The Last Look Back*. West coast credits include *Xenogenesis*, Garland Award for Best Play from Backstage West, presented at the Eclectic Theatre Company. He is a contributor to EST-LA's spoken word series *True Story* and the spoken word competition Write Club Los Angeles. Other credits include *Andrea Lane* (EST-LA's 2012 WinterFest) and *Dogtown* (Eclipse Theatre: Jeff Award-Best Sound). Affiliations include: Member, Playwrights Lab, Antaeus Theatre Company; Member-Alum, The Playwrights Union of Los Angeles; Resident Playwright Alum, Chicago Dramatists. A Baton Rouge native, Steve studied Dramatic Writing at NYU/Tisch's Dramatic Writing Program and acting at The Theatre School/DePaul University. Publications include *Waning Crescent Moon* (Samuel French) and *Xenogenesis* (Chicago Plays).

Historical Information

91352: Sun Valley

Sun Valley is a neighborhood in Los Angeles city proper, in the northeast San Fernando Valley, bordered by Burbank, North Hollywood and Valley Glen to the south, Shadow Hills, Pacoima, and Lake View Terrace to the north, and Panorama City to the west. The 91352 ZIP code has a population of nearly 48,000 within 11.67 square miles. The population is majority white with a sizable Latinx minority. The median home value is about \$338,000 with a median income of just below \$49,000. The population has a significantly larger-than-average number of single parents, and the population of children under 18 is large compared to the national average. Part of Sun Valley is also located in the 91605 ZIP code, and the total population of the neighborhood is about 56,000.



Roscoe Hardware in Sun Valley, 1949. Credit: Los Angeles Public Library.

Situated at the base of the Verdugo Mountains, Sun Valley is located on what was originally a Tongva/Fernaneño Native American village called Wixánga, named after the prickly pear cacti native to the area. The area was settled by white Americans when the Southern Pacific Railroad was constructed through the east San Fernando Valley in 1876, linking Northern and Southern California. The small town of Roberts was established when Roberts' General Store sprang up in the area, which was used as a post office and water-tank station. In 1896 the community changed its name to Roscoe, supposedly after either a train robber or one of the workers on the train when it was robbed; the true story remains unclear. By that time only seven families lived there. California Highway 99 opened in 1915, and the city was annexed by the city of Los Angeles in the 1930s. World War II brought a new wave of manufacturing to the area, and a suburban community sprang up. In 1950, the name of the neighborhood was changed to Sun Valley by residents and local businesses. In 1995, La Tuna Canyon became its own neighborhood separate from Sun Valley.

One major feature that has marred the beauty of the area is the high number of junkyards in Sun Valley. In the 1980s there were over fifty junkyards in the neighborhood; a local businessman joked that it was the “auto-wrecking capital of the state.” One of these junkyards, the Aadlen Bros. Wrecking Yard, became locally famous for being a location in over 200 movies and TV shows, and props and set pieces from its many years of shooting were strewn all over the property (including “Bruce,” one of the models used for the shark in *Jaws*). After 53 years of business, Aadlen Bros., otherwise known as the “U Pick Parts” junkyard, closed in 2015. At its peak, over 25,000 cars were dismantled and crushed there per year, with as many as 100 cars per day streaming in during the Great Recession’s cash-for-clunkers buyback deal. Though the number of junkyards in Sun Valley has been on the decline, the landscape is still pockmarked by landfills and the neighborhood is a major source of waste disposal for Los Angeles. Community pride is high among locals, but the scars of the auto and real estate boom of the 1960s can still be felt. As the population of the San Fernando Valley began to explode, the fallout needed somewhere to settle.

Despite its difficulties, Sun Valley boasts a number of attractive features and landmarks. The Pink Motel, a retro 50s-style motel built in 1946, is an eye-catching roadside attraction off San Fernando Road. The motel has been featured in a number of movies and TV shows, including Netflix’s *GLOW*, *Dexter*, *Drive*, *The O.C.*, and *Westworld*. In La Tuna Canyon, the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants serves as a nursery and gallery that features and fosters education around California native plant life. For those interested in architecture, the Stonehurst Recreation Center Building is an example of stonemason Daniel Lawrence Montelongo’s 1920s construction on what is now known as the Stonehurst Historic Preservation Overlay Zone—a neighborhood of 92 homes built out of local river rock. The Community building was saved from demolition when local residents petitioned to have it designated a historical landmark in 1977. And for hikers, the 2.25 mile La Tuna Canyon Trail ascends 975 feet and offers beautiful views of the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriel Mountains.



The Pink Motel. Credit: David Cantu