

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

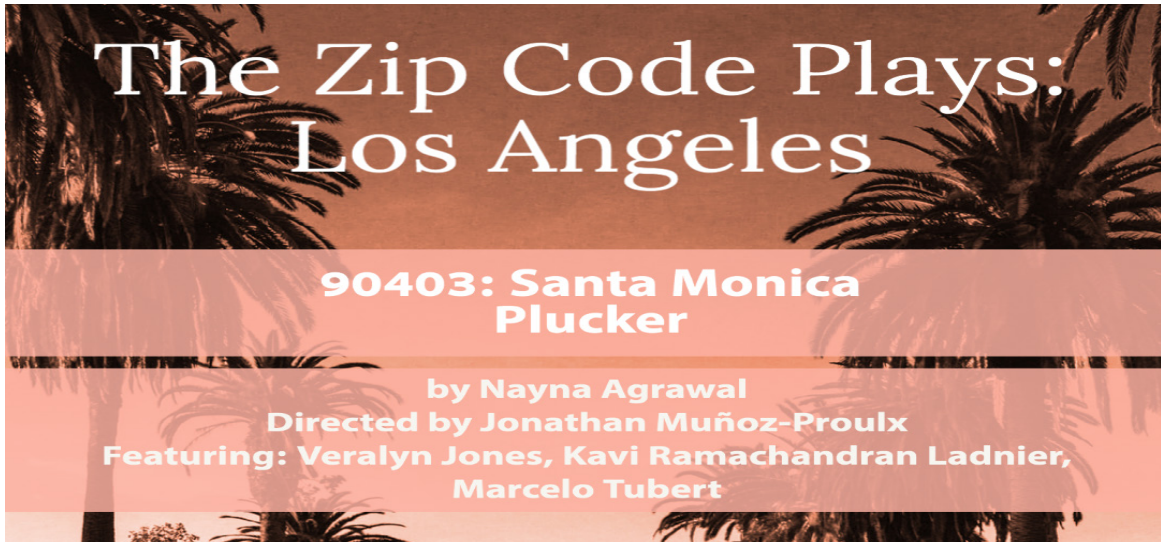
Sound Editor

Adam Macias

Dramaturg

Ryan McRee

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Sponsored by Evie & John DiCiaccio

Mina never should have eaten that piece of fruit overhanging from a tree in her neighbor's garden. Now she's on trial before the Flora & Fauna Committee, defending the Pluckers from the Harvesters in this satirical look at the haves and have-nots in a tiny corner of the Westside.

Company - The Zip Code Plays



Veralyn Jones



Kavi Ramachandran
Ladnier



Marcelo Tubert

ARTIST BIOS

ACTORS

VERALYN JONES (F & F COMMITTEE/JURIST/FOREPERSON): At ANTAEUS: *Wedding Band: A Love/Hate Story in Black and White*, *You Can't Take It With You*; Classicsfests readings: *Metamorphoses*, *The Trojan Women*, *The Rover*, *Along the River*, *Almost Winter*, *The Life of Galileo*, *Caesar and Cleopatra*, *The African Women*. Other theater: A Noise Within Resident Artist: *Gem of the Ocean* (Ant Ester), *Argonautika* (Hera), *Mad Woman of Chailot* (Mme. Josephine/Dr. Jardin). Regional: Mark Taper Forum, South Coast Repertory, Denver Center, The Old Globe, Kirk Douglas. Local: Theatre @ Boston Court, Odyssey Theatre Ensemble, LA Women's Shakespeare Company, Lower Depth Theatre. International: *The Father* (Stockholm, Sweden). TV/Film: *Nana*, *S.W.A.T.*, *The Unit*, *Parenthood*, *ER*, *Home Invasion*, *Southland*, *Threat Matrix*, *Brooklyn South*, *City of Angeles*, *The Young and the Restless*. Artistic Associate Producer at Lower Depth Theatre.

KAVI RAMACHANDRAN LADNIER (MINA): Kavi is excited to join Antaeus for *The Zip Code Plays* as Mina in *Plucker*. She has been keeping busy this quarantine in *Get Me to the Zoom On Time* (Skylight Theatre Live); *Privilege* (Rogue Machine Theatre's Around The Clock); and starred in Aarti Mann's two-person short film *Augury* with her daughter Leela. Kavi starred in the short *No Man's Land*, which premiered at the Dances with Film Festival in August 2020. In spring 2019, Kavi starred Off-Broadway in the World Premiere of *Hatefck* at the WP Theatre with Sendhil Ramamurthy, directed by Adrienne Campbell-Holt. In fall 2019, Kavi was part of *Miss Lily Gets Boned* (West Coast Premiere, Rogue Machine Theatre, Scenic Award: Outstanding Ensemble in a Comedy-Drama). TV: Recurring roles on *Just Add Magic: Mystery City* (Amazon); *Heroes* (NBC); *General Hospital*; *Mira*; *Royal Detective* (VO); *Criminal Minds*; *CSI:NY*. Theater: *Pentecost* (Yale Rep); *FreeOutgoing* (EastWest Players); *The Suppliant Women* (Getty Viila/RM); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Henry V* (Kingsmen Shakespeare). Film: *Boris and the Bomb* (feature, producer/lead); *Karma Calling*; The Indian National Award-winning film *Janani*; *LBEM* (starring, with Constance Wu), and is shopping her TV pilot *Hindju*. Most important role to date... mother to Leela. Member of the Antaeus Playwrights Lab. B.F.A., NYU. #ConversationsWithKavi KaviLadnier.com

MARCELO TUBERT (ALDERMAN CAL): founding member of ANTAEUS in 1991, performed in *Three Days In The Country*, *Henry IV Part One*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Wood Demon*, *The Man Who Had All the Luck*, *Trial by Jury*, *Patience*, *Of Mice and Men*, to name a few. Other Theater: Mark Taper Forum, Yale Rep, Milwaukee Rep, The Old Globe, The Colony Theatre, New Mexico Rep, Taper Too, and Ojai Playwright's Festival. He received an Ovation award for *San Fran Scapin*, adapted from Moliere's *Scapin*. Marcelo's TV/Film/VO credits can be viewed on IMDB or marcelotubert.com. Argentinian born, Marcelo and his multi-talented wife Lori are the proud parents of two amazing daughters, Emily, and Sarah. His philosophy: Live Simply, Remain Grateful!

CREATIVE TEAM

NAYNA AGRAWAL (PLAYWRIGHT): Featured in Variety's "100 Writers to Watch" (2015), Nayna is a former NYC analyst, DC policy writer, SF international aid director, and a touring dancer. Her plays have been staged and produced in numerous cities including: New York, LA, Seattle, and Chicago. She is the recipient of an East West playwright scholarship and a Moving Arts Theater playwright fellowship. In 2017, Nayna was a semi-finalist or finalist with the O'Neill Conference, PlayPenn, Screenwriters Colony and Harold Clurman playwright-in-residence program. In 2018, Nayna was a semi-finalist with the WB TV Writers' Program, a Sesame Street Writers Room fellow, a Notable Writer with the New York Television Festival and a Kenyon Conference full-scholarship recipient. She recently penned her first TV episode for an upcoming Netflix animated series, a Disney Jr. animated series, and has been awarded a development deal with Sesame Street. Currently, she is a staff writer on ABC's new show *The Baker and The Beauty*. Born in Florida, raised in Virginia, and originally from India, Nayna has studied five languages, visited 22 countries, and worked in four industries. She received her B.S. in Economics and English at the University of Virginia, and her M.F.A. at Northwestern University. She suffers from Asian Girl Guilt Syndrome, *Law & Order: SVU* rerun marathon binges (from which she has developed restless leg syndrome), and a tendency to misspell the word "syndrome."

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".

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.

JONATHAN MUÑOZ-PROULX (DIRECTOR): Jonathan is an Ovation Award-nominated director and is Director of Cultural Programming at A Noise Within. He serves on the Latinx Theatre Commons National Advisory Committee, is a member of the LA STAGE Alliance Ovation Rules Committee, and is a nominator for The Kilroy List. Muñoz-Proulx has previously served as Artistic Assistant at East West Players, Vice Chair of the Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights, and Associate Producer of Skylight Theatre. He has adjudicated on grant panels for the California Arts Council and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission. Muñoz-Proulx was elected to the 2017 Emerging Arts Leaders Los Angeles Leadership Council, where he served as Programming Committee Co-Chair. He has worked with Center Theatre Group, LA Philharmonic / Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles STAGE Alliance, Boston Court Theatre, Garry Marshall Theatre, The Industry, Company of Angels, 24th Street Theatre, Playwrights' Arena, Pacific Resident Theatre, Chalk Rep, Ensemble Studio Theatre / LA, Bootleg Theater, After Hours Productions, Fever Events, Élan Ensemble, and Watts Village Theatre Company. Muñoz-Proulx has served as adjunct faculty to the USC MFA in Acting program, and he is the current Edgerton guest artist in residence at Occidental College.

90403: Santa Monica

ZIP code 90403 covers an almost entirely residential area of Santa Monica. The diagonal rectangle is bordered to the southwest by the Pacific Ocean, to the northeast by Centinela Ave, to the northwest by Montana Ave and to the southeast by Wilshire Blvd. The neighborhood is 83% white, and compared to the national average it's comprised of an extremely large proportion of singles and an extremely small number of families. The 1.43 square mile area has a population of nearly 25,000 and the median home value is approximately \$920,000, which is relatively high compared to the median home value of \$650,000 in L.A. County as a whole.

Santa Monica was launched by two entrepreneurs: mining industrialist Colonel Robert S. Baker and silver mine owner and Nevada Senator John P. Jones. They founded the city in 1875, plotted the layout, and donated some of the land for public use (the 26-acre plot that now makes up Palisades Park was donated by Jones). The city was incorporated in 1886, and the first commercial buildings appeared on Second Street in the 1880s and spread to Third Street in the 1890s. Senator Jones built his famous "Miramar" mansion (later to make way for the Miramar Hotel) on Ocean Avenue; while no longer standing, the spot is marked by the Miramar Moreton Bay Fig Tree. The naming of the city is supposedly connected to the Kuruvungna Springs, a sacred site for the original Tongva inhabitants that still survives today beneath a 150-year-old Mexican Cypress on the campus of University High School. Father Juan Crespi, a Franciscan missionary who catalogued Junipero Serra's exploration of California, had remarked that the springs reminded him of Saint Monica's tea tears for her wayward son Augustin. This story inspired Baker and Jones in choosing a name.



Santa Monica Pier, 1929. Credit: Geoff Hagins

In 1896, electric trolleys began running between Santa Monica and Los Angeles, and the city benefited from a real estate boom caused by low rates from competing railroad companies. The current Santa Monica pier, which is today the only remaining amusement pier on the West Coast, was opened in 1909 to great fanfare; it was expanded in 1916 to include the amusement park that remains today. In the mid-1910s it appeared that Santa Monica would become a hub for the movie business with the opening of several studios, but they soon fled inland to avoid the coastal fog. In the 1920s, Douglas Aircraft brought extensive commercial growth to Santa Monica, and the first around-the-world flight in 1924 was flown by Douglas Cruisers from the city. The Depression slowed Santa Monica's growth, but it was somewhat kept afloat by offshore gambling ships. The beginning of WWII put a lot of people back to work at Douglas Aircraft, which had aircraft contracts with the U.S. military. The surge in population from the wartime production led to another real estate boom. The completion of the Santa Monica Freeway in 1966 failed to uphold its promise of commercial prosperity by actually driving consumers away to inland shopping centers. An attempt to re-vitalize the retail sector led to the creation of an outdoor pedestrian mall on Third Street, but it failed to achieve any real success until Frank Gehry designed Santa Monica Place, which breathed new life into the commercial area. The Third Street Mall was then re-designed and became the Third Street Promenade, which has enjoyed considerable success and become a model of successful city planning. It has also become a model for neighborhood advocacy and preservation, as the residents of Santa Monica saved the Santa Monica Pier from multiple rounds of slated construction in the 70s and 80s and revitalized it to become one of the city's most adored attractions to this day.



The Gehry Residence on 22nd Street. Credit: Creative Commons

A significant landmark in the 90403 ZIP code is the house of Frank Gehry himself. The 22nd Street home was originally an extension of an old Dutch Colonial home that Gehry had bought in 1977. He used unconventional materials, such as chain-link fences and corrugated steel, to build outward from the original house and create a sort of enclosure. Some architects today consider it to be one of the first Deconstructivist designs—a label that Gehry himself denies—because of its somewhat transparent nature. Gehry stripped parts of the house to reveal the framing, exposing joists and wood studs, and rather than meld one cohesive design he drew attention to the new and old elements of the house and sought to distinguish them from one another. He further renovated it in 1991 to meet the needs of a growing family, and in 2019 moved his family to a larger complex he had designed on Adelaide Street, also in Santa Monica. Gehry said of the original house:

“I loved the idea of leaving the house intact... I came up with the idea of building the new house around it. We were told there were ghosts in the house... I decided they were ghosts of Cubism. The windows... I wanted to make them look like they were crawling out of this thing. At night, because this glass is tipped it mirrors the light in... So when you're sitting at this table you see all these cars going by, you see the moon in the wrong place... the moon is over there but it reflects here... and you think it's up there and you don't know where the hell you are...”

Allegedly the house has been quite unpopular with neighbors, but that hasn't changed the fact that the house attracts amateur appreciators and fellow architects to appreciate the facade as a fusion of a modern art piece and functional architecture.



The Farnam House. Credit: Atlas Obscura

Another quirky residence that respectful passers-by can appreciate is the Farnam House. Owners Aziz and Louise Farnam spent 14 years decking out the exterior and interior of their house with mosaic tiles, glossy, glittering surfaces, and a kaleidoscopic mixture of colors and easter egg objects re-purposed and utilized in the design. The house has become famous both to residents and beyond; the house won a TLC contest for interesting houses in California in 2013. Like the Gehry house, there are rumors that it has at times been unpopular with neighbors, but has become a community staple with others.

Other artistic sites include the Miles Memorial Playhouse, located in Christine Emerson Reed Park. Gifted to the city by civic leader J. Euclid Miles in memory of his daughter Mary, the playhouse is dedicated to the young men and women of Santa Monica, and has been a source of entertainment to the community since 1929. The building was designed by noted architect John Byers, who designed many celebrity homes in Los Angeles, in a Spanish Colonial Revival style. The Idaho Gate, another notable architectural landmark, can be found at the Idaho Ave entrance to Palisades Park. The Craftsmen-style masonry gates feature decorative tile insets by Pasadena-based artist Ernest Batchelder. The original architects of the gates are unknown, but renowned architects Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene have been put forth as candidates.