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## **Alley Theatre Presents *The World is Not Silent***

***This multilingual world premiere explores communication and connection***

HOUSTON, TX - The Tony Award®-winning Alley Theatre and Artistic Director **Rob Melrose** announce the cast of *The World is Not Silent*. Directed by **Marya Mazor**, **Don X. Nguyen**'s semi-autobiographical play explores how language divides and unites us.

"Can a play about astrophotography and Vietnamese sign language be hilariously funny and deeply moving? If Don X. Nguyen is the playwright, it certainly is," remarked **Melrose**. When *The World is Not Silent* was part of our 2022 Alley All New Festival, the audience was dazzled by what a beautiful and funny play it was and I knew we had to do the world premiere. I'm excited and proud to have it in our season."

**Nguyen**, known for his cosmic exploration of intimate human connection, shared his insights, "After participating in two Alley All New Festivals, I'm thrilled to return once again to the Alley for the world premiere of *The World is Not Silent*. This play explores a semi-autobiographical relationship with my father, my home country of Vietnam, and my love of astrophotography. It's the most personal play I've ever written and I'm a little nervous but mostly excited to share this premiere with the adventurous and ever-enthusiastic Houston audience."

*The Word is Not Silent* cast includes **Mai Le** (*High School Play*, *Clue*) as Linh, **Long Nguyen** (CBS's *NCIS-LA*, AMC's *Lodge 49*) as Dau, and **Tony Aidan Vo** (Netflix's *Teenage Bounty Hunters*) as Don. Both Mai Le and Long Nguyen were in the Alley All New reading in 2022.

The creative team includes Scenic Designer **Mikiko Suzuki MacAdams**, Costume Designer **Sara Ryung Clement**, Lighting Designer **Jennifer Fok**, Sound Designer **Melanie Chen Cole**, Projection Designer **Victoria Beuray Sagady**, Fight Director & Intimacy Specialist **Adam Noble**, Stage Manager **Edward Khris Fernandez**, and Assistant Stage Manager **Laura Pilar Gutierrez**.

**SPONSORS:** *The World is Not Silent* is generously sponsored by Ken and Mady Kades (Honorary Producer). Alley Theatre is supported by the 2023-24 Season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of Alley Theatre, and Hampton Inn and Homewood Suites Downtown Houston, the official hotels of Alley Theatre.

**TICKETS:** Performances of *The World is Not Silent* begin **Friday, March 22 to Sunday, April 14** in the Neuhaus Theatre. Tickets are now on sale, starting at \$51. Discounted tickets are available for military,

seniors, educators and any student, regardless of age, with a valid ID for designated performances in designated sections. Tickets can be ordered online ([alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org)) or by phone (713.220.5700).

**CONNECT WITH US:** @alleytheatre, #AlleySilent

**ABOUT ALLEY THEATRE:**

Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Artistic Director Rob Melrose and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley is committed to developing and producing theatre that is as diverse as the Houston community. The Alley produces up to 11 plays and nearly 400 performances each season, ranging from the best current work and classic plays to new plays by contemporary writers. Home to a full-time resident company of actors and expert artisans in all theatre crafts, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, directors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as visiting artists.

Alley Theatre performs at the Meredith J. Long Theatre Center which is comprised of two state-of-the-art theatres: the 774-seat Hubbard Theatre and the 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre. The Alley reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance, education, and community engagement programs.

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