

# THE ACTORS' GANG

Tim Robbins, Artistic Director    Greg Reiner, Managing Director  
presents

George Orwell's

# 1984

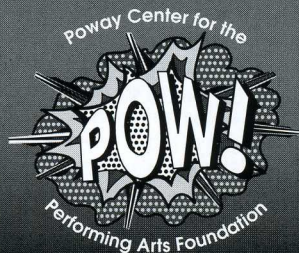


IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH

FREEDOM IS SLAVERY

WAR IS PEACE  
WAR BREEDS PROGRESS

new adaptation of Orwell's classic



8 pm Saturday, February 24, 2007

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Poway Center for the Performing Arts  
15498 Espola Road | Poway, California  
[www.POWAYARTS.org](http://www.POWAYARTS.org)

# THE ACTORS' GANG

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Presents

George Orwell's

# 1984

Adapted by **Michael Gene Sullivan**

Directed by **Tim Robbins**

Scenic Design	Richard Hoover & Sibyl Wickersheimer
Costume Design	Allison Leach
Lighting Design	Bosco Flanagan
Sound Designer	David Robbins
Stage Manager	Vanessa Noon

## CAST

Brent Hinkley	<i>Winston</i>
Nathan Kornelis	<i>O'Brien</i>
Justin Zsebe	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Party Member, Winston</i>
Shana Sosin	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Party Member, Julia</i>
Andrew Wheeler	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Party Member, Syme</i>
Colin Golden	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Party Member, Parsons</i>

## CREW

Mia Torres	Technical Director
Maura McGuinness	Lighting Director
Judith Torres	Company Manager
Donna Jo Thorndale	Assistant Company Manager
Victoria Robinson	Props Coordinator
Michelle Souza	Props Assistant
Mary Eileen O'Donnell	Props Assistant
Elizabeth Weisbaum	Costume/Wardrobe Assistant

The Actors and Stage Managers in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

*There will be one 20 minute intermission*

Presented by special arrangement with the estate of Sonia Brownell Orwell and AM Heath and Co, Limited.

1984 was commissioned in part by Kingsbury Hall, University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

# BIOGRAPHIES

**GEORGE ORWELL**—a pen name for Eric Blair (Author)—Born in India to the British Raj, Orwell knew from the age of five or six that he would be a writer, which meant that he had to read literature. But when he was 13 and studying at Eton in England, they didn't teach literature, so he apprenticed himself to the masters of English prose who most appealed to him, including Swift, Sterne and Jack London. At 19 he joined the Indian Imperial Police, but soon came to realize that besides taking time from becoming a writer, it meant supporting a political system in which he no longer believed. He hungered to "escape from...every form of man's dominion over man" (*Road to Wigan Pier*, 1937).

At 24 Orwell returned to England to a grubby little apartment in a poor district and set about to teach himself how to write while at the same time changing himself from Eric Blair, old Etonian English colonial policeman, into George Orwell, classless antiauthoritarian. He received a commission from the Left Book Club to examine the conditions of the poor and unemployed, which resulted in *The Road to Wigan Pier*. The commissioners were not pleased with what he had written about the English class system and English socialism, particularly that English socialism was the province of the middle class who spout phrases like "proletarian solidarity," but who are put off by the decent folk Blair/Orwell had come to know as the salt of the British earth. In 1936 he went to Spain to report on the civil war. In Barcelona he experienced the evaporation of class distinctions and saw that there was hope for a socially aware world, only to be shocked when the end of the war brought a "return to normal," and he became *persona non grata*. These experiences convinced him that, while there was hope, there also was something in human nature that sought out violence, conflict and power over others. In 1938 he contracted tuberculosis and, when World War II broke out, was rejected for service as physically unfit. Still, he did his bit and after the war moved his family to a remote island off the coast of Scotland where he created his two most enduring works, *Animal Farm* and *1984*.

**BRENT HINKLEY** (*Winston*) is a founding member of the Actors' Gang and currently serves as its Associate Artistic Director. Mr. Hinkley ap-

peared in over 25 productions with "the Gang," including the title role in *Woyzeck*, Trigorin in *The Seagull* and the New York/London runs of *Embedded*, and also directed several award winning "Gang" productions, including *Underneath the Lintel* and *Blood! Love! Madness!* He performed in Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage* at the La Jolla Playhouse and Berkeley Repertory and will soon be directing *The Women of Lockerbie* by Deborah Brevoort at the Actors' Gang. Television and film appearances include the Sidler on "Seinfeld," "C.S.I.," "The Closer," "Monk," "Gilmore Girls," "E.R.," "The West Wing," "X-Files," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," Ed Wood, *Falling Down*, *Silence of the Lambs*, *Bob Roberts*, *Jacob's Ladder* and *Say It Isn't So*. Mr. Hinkley resides in Los Angeles with his wife, Kate, and their six-year-old son, Declan.

**NATHAN KORNELIS** (*O'Brien*) has lived and worked in Los Angeles for seven years, appearing mostly on the stage, although he has made several film and television appearances, as well. In 2004, Nathan went to New York and London with the show *Embedded*, written and directed by Tim Robbins. Nathan is also a writer, photographer and musician.

**JUSTIN ZSEBE** (*1st Party Member*) joined the Actors' Gang after completing his MFA in acting from UCLA's Department of Theater, Film and Television. He worked in various theaters in Milwaukee, Chicago, New Orleans, Shanghai and now in your hometown. He thanks you for supporting the arts.

**SHANA SOSIN** (*2nd Party Member*) With film, television and theatre credits ranging from popular series ("Cold Case") and acclaimed independent films (*Live!*) to world-renowned theatre companies (The Actors Gang), Shana has established herself as an actor's actor. In the realms of both drama and comedy her projects have won accolades. Her comedic turn in the film *Partner(s)* was screened at the US Comedy Arts Festival and two of her dramatic roles received special honors: *The Stranger* was awarded an Eastman Kodak New Filmmaker Award and *Luna Butterfly* was screened at the prestigious Outfest Film Festival in Los Angeles.

**ANDREW E. WHEELER** (*3rd Party Member*) has been a member of The Actors' Gang for nearly

# BIOGRAPHIES

ten years and performed over 20 roles with "the Gang," including *Tartuffe*, *Embedded* and *Drums in the Night*. He directed *Holidays on the Sea: The Island of Holiday Ghosts*. Film/TV credits include *Embedded* and *Lonely Hearts*, co-starring John Travolta and Salma Hayek.

**COLIN GOLDEN** (*4th Party Member*) earned his BFA at the University of Southern California and also trained at the Voce Intensive in Vancouver, B.C. In addition to The Actors' Gang, he is affiliated with the Namaste Theater Company and the Laboratory for Enthusiastic Collaboration, with whom he developed and toured *The Values Americans Live By*. Although long an admirer of the company's work, this is his first show with "The Gang," and he hopes you enjoy it.

**VANESSA J. NOON** (*Stage Manager*) stage managed the touring productions of *The Exonerated*, *Embedded* and *The Guys* for The Actors' Gang. She also worked at several theatres around California, including South Coast Repertory, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, The Mark Taper Forum, The El Capitan Theatre and Shakespeare Festival/Los Angeles. She is a resident stage manager at Universal Studios, Hollywood, where she works on the WaterWorld Stunt Show, Terminator 2 3-D, and Fear Factor Live. Her work also includes special events such as the *Pearl Harbor* Movie Premiere onboard the USS John C. Stennis, Disneyland's 50th Anniversary, The 2002 Anaheim Angels World Series Victory Celebration and television shows like "America: A Tribute to Heroes" telethon, "The Teen Choice Awards," "The Apprentice" and "The Academy Awards."

**MICHAEL GENE SULLIVAN** (*playwright*) is the head writer for the Tony award winning San Francisco Mime Troupe where he has written, performed in and/or directed over 20 productions. Outside the Troupe he has won awards for acting and directing and has worked with American Conservatory Theater, Denver Center

Theatre Company and the Berkeley and San Jose Repertory Theaters. He toured nationally and internationally. Michael also is resident playwright for the Magic Theatre's Young California Writer's Project.

**TIM ROBBINS** (*Director*) has a long list of notable film credits as an actor, and a career highlighted by writing, producing and directorial accomplishments. His most recent roles were in Phillip Noyce's *Catch a Fire*, Steven Spielberg's *War of the Worlds* and Isabel Coixet's *Secret Life of Words*. In 2003, Robbins starred in

*Mystic River*, for which he won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor. Other memorable roles include his performances in *The Shawshank Redemption*, *The Player*, *Bull Durham*, *Jacob's Ladder*, *Bob Roberts*, *The Hudsucker Proxy*, *Short Cuts*, *High Fidelity* and *Five Corners*.

In addition to his Academy Award, Robbins has won the Best Actor Award at the Cannes International Film Festival and The Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actor for *The Player*. In 2003 Robbins won a Golden Globe Award, a SAG Award, and a Critic's Choice Award for Best Supporting Actor for *Mystic River*. He was nominated for a Golden Globe

Award for Best Performance by an Actor for *Bob Roberts* and by the Screen Actors Guild for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor for *The Shawshank Redemption*. As a director Robbins distinguished himself with *Cradle Will Rock*, which he also wrote and produced, winning The Best Film Director honors at the Barcelona/Sitges Film Festival and the National Board of Review Award for Special Achievement in filmmaking. *Dead Man Walking*, which he also wrote and produced, won multiple awards, including The Humanitas Award and four awards at The Berlin Film Festival, the Oscar for Best Actress for Susan Sarandon, an Oscar nomination for Best Director and a Golden Globe nomination for Best Original Script. His first film, *Bob Roberts*, won the Bronze award for Best Film at the Tokyo International Film



Brent Hinkley as Winston.

