

# CIRCLE THEATRE

*Professional, contemporary plays in an intimate setting*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **You don't want to miss this! Stream Circle Theatre's digital reading of George Orwell's *1984*!**



**What:** George Orwell's *1984*  
Adapted for the stage by Michael Gene Sullivan

**Where:** Online! This digital recording will be presented through Vimeo.

**When:** Thursday, October 29, 2020 – Thursday, November 4, 2020 at 8pm (CT)

**How:** The reading will be streamed through Vimeo and you can reserve your ticket(s) using code **1984** at checkout. Visit [www.circletheatre.com/1984](http://www.circletheatre.com/1984) to make your reservation today! After you've made your reservation, you will receive an email the day before your selected performance that will include a link to the video recording.

- more -

## About the Play

Based on the iconic classic dystopian novel by George Orwell and adapted for the stage by Michael Gene Sullivan, **1984** brings us the story of Winston Smith, who lives in the state of Oceania—a nation where fervent, unquestioning patriotic zeal is expected of every citizen, having rebellious thoughts is a crime, and where the love for anything but The State is treason. A ferocious and provocative adaptation of one of the most prescient works of literature of the last century.

*\*Adult language & subject matter\**

## Actors

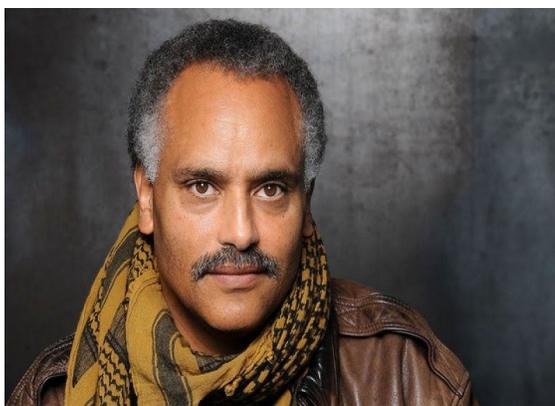
The recording will feature our original cast: **Alex Branton\*** as Winston Smith, **Greg Holt\*** as O'Brien, **Sydney Lo** as Party Member #2, **Randy Pearlman\*** as Party Member #4, **Mitchell Stephens** as Party Member #3, **Tony Thorn** as Party Member #1, and **Taylor Staniforth** reading stage directions.

*\*Member of Actors' Equity Association*

## Production Team

Circle Theatre's production team for this recording include **Matthew Gray** (Director/Video Editor), **Liz Stevens** (Stage Manager), **Bob Lavallee** (Scenic Design), and **Murell Horton** (Costume Design).

## About the Author



**Michael Gene Sullivan (Playwright/Adaptor)** - Michael's plays have been produced at theaters throughout the United States, in Greece, Spain, Columbia, Argentina, England, Canada, and Mexico, as well as at the Melbourne International Arts Festival, the International Festival of Verbal Art (Berlin), and the The Hong Kong Arts Festival. Michael is a Resident Playwright for the Playwrights Foundation, a 2017 Playwriting Fellow for the Djerassi Arts Foundation, and since 2000 has been Resident Playwright for the Tony and OBIE award-winning (and despite its name never, ever silent) San Francisco Mime Troupe, where he has written or co-written over 30 plays, each year creating a new comedy, drama, or musical dissecting a current burning political

issue. Michael's non-Mime Troupe plays include the award winning all-woman farce *Recipe*, his critically acclaimed one person show, *Did Anyone Ever Tell You-You Look Like Huey P. Newton?*, and his award-winning stage adaptation of George Orwell's *1984*, which opened at Los Angeles' Actors' Gang Theatre under the direction of Academy Award winning actor Tim Robbins. *1984* has since toured nationally and internationally, and been published in two languages.

## About the Director



**Matthew Gray (Director)** has worked both locally and nationally as an actor, director, and designer. At Circle he directed *Dex and Julie Sittin' in a Tree* and *Something Intangible*. Some of his favorite local directing credits include: *A Kid Like Jake*; *Pluck the Day*; *Humpty Dumpty* (Second Thought Theatre); *Macbeth* (Kitchen Dog Theater); *A Christmas Carol*; *The Shape of Things* (Dallas Theater Center). Other local theatres where Matthew has worked include: Casa Mañana, Dallas Children's Theater and Classical Acting Company, which he founded and served as Artistic Director with his wife Emily for four seasons. Prior to his time in Dallas he lived and worked regionally and in New York for the (Off-Broadway) Pearl Theatre Company, The Flying Machine, Soho Rep, The Samuel Beckett Theatre, Interart Annex – 53rd St. Theatre, The Chelsea Playhouse, Theatre 22, and 5th Street Theatre. Matthew is beyond delighted to be directing again after most recently directing *Our Town* and *A 3D Adventure* at Circle Theatre.

## About Circle Theatre

Founded in 1981 by Rose Pearson and Bill Newberry, Circle Theatre is currently producing its 39th season of live theatre in Fort Worth. Circle Theatre's mission is the advocacy of contemporary plays rarely seen in this community. Circle is committed to presenting professional, innovative theatre in an intimate setting. The Theatre is partially supported by the City of Fort Worth; the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County; the Texas Commission on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Further support comes from the Amon G. Carter Foundation; Communities Foundation of Texas; Ann L. and Carol Green Rhodes Charitable Trust - Bank of America, NA; Del Shores Foundation; the Sid W. Richardson Foundation; and The Shubert Foundation, Inc. To read Circle Theatre's full history visit: <http://circletheatre.com/about/history>.

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