



alterTHEATER

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altertheater.org
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ASSOCIATE ARTISTS

Rotimi Agbabiaka
Ann Brebner, *in memoriam*
Hugo E. Carbajal
Robert Ernst
Marvin Greene
Jeanette Harrison
Craig Jessup
Sullivan (Matt) Jones
Duca Knezevic
Gwen Loeb
Will Marchetti
Frances Lee McCain
Will McCandless
ZZ Moor
Carla Pauli
Cathleen Riddley
Patricia Silver
Emilie Talbot
Danielle Thomsen
Justin Warner
Michael Ray Wisely
Ignacio Zulueta

2016/2017 ALTERLAB WRITERS

Larissa FastHorse
Margo Hall
Andrew Saito

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Coyote, *honorary*
Sharmila Devarajan
Mary Edwards, *secretary*
Jeanette Harrison
Bill Papendick, *treasurer*
Laura Falk Scott
Jean Taylor, *president*

THE ANN BREBNER LEGACY FUND



On January 13, 2017, our beloved Ann Brebner died peacefully in her home. A titan of the American film and a pillar of AlterTheater is gone. In our grief we are determined to honor her and build upon her legacy of fierce, lyrical, and thought-provoking art.

It is therefore my profound privilege to announce that AlterTheater is dedicating **all** 2017 donations to the Ann Brebner Legacy Fund.

Toward the end, Ann was increasingly frail. Yet, even with her challenges, in the last conversation I had with her a week before she passed away, Ann asked how Star Finch's new AlterLab play was going. I was moved beyond words to know that somehow Alter was still on her mind and in her heart.

Those of you who are longtime AlterTheater supporters know that Ann was a fixture in our audiences. The same woman who cast and organized the first reading of *Star Wars*, directed major works on Bay Area and East Cost stages, and built the legacy of the Mill Valley Film Festival – that same force of nature was passionately committed to the mission of AlterTheater. She was

immensely proud that it was her play that was the first AlterLab play to premiere at AlterTheater...and her play was named one of the Top Five of 2013 by the *Marin Independent Journal*. Her sure hand as a director enhanced many Alter plays, such as Lynn Nottage's *Intimate Apparel*, a production which still holds the AlterTheater box office ticket sales record.

Ann loved to come back and see our shows over and over, see how the actors grew in their roles, how it changed. Whether she directed the show, wrote the show, or simply helped nurture it along, she was deeply invested in every performance of every AlterTheater play.

Ann entered her ninth decade as Alter was entering its ninth year. As part of the celebration, Ann and I set up the Ann Brebner Legacy Fund. (I wanted to call it the Ann Brebner Living Legacy Fund. In her pithy way, Ann told me that the name wasn't very forward-thinking.) The Ann Brebner Legacy Fund supports the AlterTheater program that Ann cared most about: the development and production of new plays through the AlterLab.

Until just a couple months before her death at the age of 93, Ann was still writing prolifically. She found playwriting later in life and felt that AlterLab gave her the perfect combination of support, critique, and accountability. AlterLab met monthly in Ann's house, and many years' worth of writers – several of whom have gone on to lauded national careers – remember with great fondness and gratitude the time they spent writing with Ann, hearing her plays, and getting her insightful feedback on their scripts.

Ann Brebner left an indelible mark on AlterTheater and the American stage. The Ann Brebner Legacy Fund honors that legacy and works to carry it forward. With your help, we hope to raise \$100,000 which will be restricted to supporting Ann's beloved AlterLab program for the next four years. As Ann said, "It would make me very sad if it went away."

Please join us in making sure the AlterLab program to which Ann gave her heart and soul continues into the future. While the world will never be the same without Ann, we can build a new generation of fiercely determined playwrights and breathtaking stories. None of us can know for sure, but we think Ann would have liked that very much.

Thank you for your time, support, and generosity.

Warmly,

Jeanette Harrison

executive director

P.S. Your tax-deductible donations can be made online at altertheater.org or by check (payable to AlterTheater) mailed to:

AlterTheater, PO Box 150659, San Rafael, CA 94915-0659

CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT WITH ALTERLAB:

- A new commission by Larissa FastHorse, author of *Landless*. Larissa explores her rural South Dakota roots in a new comedy, tentatively entitled *Cow Pie Bingo*.
- Award-winning actor, director, and playwright Margo Hall writes about a black woman who's raising her teenage brother in a universal story of family and a specific story about being black in America today.
- Andrew Saito, former Mellon Foundation playwright at Cutting Ball Theater, explores minimalism.

We look forward to seeing you at the theater!

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