



## American Repertory Theater

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[americanrepertorytheater.org](http://americanrepertorytheater.org)

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### American Repertory Theater Announces Cast and Creative Team for *Endlings*

**World Premiere by Celine Song and Directed by Sammi Cannold  
Begins Three-Week Run February 26**

[Images available for download here.](#)

**Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T) at Harvard University**, under the leadership of Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Berger, announces the cast and creative team for *Endlings* by **Celine Song**. Directed by **Sammi Cannold** and featuring **Wai Ching Ho, Emily Kuroda, Jiehae Park, and Jo Yang**, *Endlings* begins previews Tuesday, February 26; opens Friday, March 1; and closes Sunday, March 17, 2019 at the Loeb Drama Center in Cambridge, MA.

On the Korean island of Man-Jae, three elderly “haenyeos”—sea women—spend their dying days diving into the ocean to harvest seafood. They have no heirs to their millennia-old way of life. Across the globe on the island of Manhattan, a Korean-Canadian playwright, twice an immigrant, spends her days wrestling with the expectation that she write “authentic” stories about her identity. But what, exactly, is her identity? And how can she write about it without selling her own skin? This daring new play by **Celine Song** (Amazon’s “The Wheel of Time,” Public Theater’s 2016-2017 Emerging Writers Group) journeys beneath the waves under the direction of **Sammi Cannold** (*Violet* at A.R.T., *Forbes* 30 Under 30).

“I wrote *Endlings* thinking it was going to be the last play I’d write,” said Song. “Theater had broken my heart so many times, so this time I wrote whatever I wanted, even if it was unproducible. When the A.R.T. said it would take a risk on this play, it restored whatever faith I had in theater.”

“When I first read *Endlings*, I fell in love instantaneously with its audacity and knew it would require a fearless theater to realize Celine’s thrilling vision for this story,” said Cannold. “I’ve had the good fortune of working on nine productions at the A.R.T. and have seen time and again the theater’s undying commitment to audacious, boundary-breaking work, so I can’t imagine a more perfect home for *Endlings*’ premiere.”

## ENDLINGS CAST

The *Endlings* cast features:

- **Wai Ching Ho** as haenyeo Han Sol (Madam Gao from the Marvel TV universe, “Fresh Off the Boat,” and *Henry VI* with the National Asian American Theatre Company)
- **Emily Kuroda** as haenyeo Go Min (“Gilmore Girls” and *Tiger Style!* at the Huntington Theater Company)
- **Jiehae Park** as playwright Ha Young (Haruki Murakami’s *SLEEP* at BAM Next Wave Festival and others, *Every Angel is Brutal* at Clubbed Thumb, and the author of *peerless*, which premiered at Yale Rep and was recently produced at Boston’s Company One Theatre)
- **Jo Yang** as haenyeo Sook Ja (*Comfort Women* at Urban Stages and “The Affair”)
- **Miles G. Jackson** as White Husband (*Hand to God* at TheatreWorks Hartford and *Typhoid Mary* at Barrington Stage Company)

The *Endlings* cast also includes **Matt DaSilva**, **Mark Mauriello**, **Andy Paterson**, and **Keith Michael Pinault**. **Kate Pak** is the understudy for the roles of Han Sol, Go Min, and Sook Ja.

## ENDLINGS CREATIVE TEAM

- **Celine Song**, Playwright (*Tom & Eliza*—semifinalist for the American Playwriting Foundation’s 2016 Relentless Award, *The Feast*, and *Family*; 2017/18 Playwrights Realm Writing Fellow; Member of the Public Theater’s 2016/17 Emerging Writers Group and Ars Nova’s 2014/15 Play Group)
- **Sammi Cannold**, Director (*Violet* at American Repertory Theater, *Ragtime* on Ellis Island, associate director of *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* and *In the Body of the World* at the A.R.T. and beyond, one of *Forbes Magazine*’s 30 Under 30 in Hollywood & Entertainment, Class of 2019)
- **Jason Sherwood**, Scenic Designer (*ExtraOrdinary* at the A.R.T., “Rent: Live” on FOX, musician Sam Smith’s world tour)
- **Linda Cho**, Costume Designer (*Anastasia*, *A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder*—Tony Award, and *Lifespan of a Fact* on Broadway)
- **Bradley King**, Lighting Designer (*Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* at the A.R.T. and on Broadway, for which he received the Tony Award; *O.P.C.* at the A.R.T.)
- **Elisheba Ittoop**, Sound Designer (*Eve’s Song* at The Public Theater and *The Niceties* at the Huntington Theatre Company, MTC, and the McCarter Theatre Center)
- **Kate Lumpkin, CSA**, Casting Director (*Cleopatra* at Chelsea Music Hall, *Afterglow* at The Davenport Theatre)

Production Support of *Endlings* is provided by **Allison Johnson**. Additional Production Support is provided by **Amy Brakeman** and **Hee-Jung and John Moon**. Education and engagement support is provided by **Bank of America**.

## **TICKETING INFORMATION**

Tickets start at \$25 and are available now online at [americanrepertorytheater.org](http://americanrepertorytheater.org), by phone at 617.547.8300, and in person at the Loeb Drama Center Ticket Services Offices (64 Brattle Street, Cambridge). Discounts are available to Subscribers, Members, groups, students, seniors, Blue Star families, EBT card holders, and others.

## **PERFORMANCE DATES**

### 7:30PM

February 26, 27, 28

March 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

### 2PM

March 2\*, 3, 6\*, 9\*, 10, 16\*, 17 (\*Post-performance discussions)

### 11AM

March 13 (Post-performance discussion)—SOLD OUT

**Press Performance:** Friday, March 1 at 7:30PM

**ASL Interpreted performances:** Wednesday, March 13 at 7:30PM and Sunday, March 17 at 2PM

**Open Captioned performances:** Thursday, March 14 at 7:30PM and Saturday, March 16 at 2PM

**Audio Described performances:** Friday, March 15 at 7:30PM and Saturday, March 16 at 2PM

## **ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER**

**American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University** is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work in Cambridge and beyond. A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director in 2008. Under the leadership of Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Borger, A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries of theater by producing transformative theatrical experiences, always including the audience as a central partner.

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for *All the Way* (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for *Pippin* (2013) and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and sixteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards.

A.R.T. collaborates with artists around the world to develop and create work in new ways. It is currently engaged in a number of multi-year projects, including a collaboration with Harvard University's Center for the Environment that will result in the development of new work over several years. Under Paulus'

leadership, the A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been an incubator for local and emerging artists and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, the A.R.T. catalyzes discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members, acting as a conduit between its community of artists and the university. The A.R.T. has trained generations of theater artists through its Institute for Advanced Theater Training, and also plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate concentration in Theater, Dance & Media.

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages more than 5,000 community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

Through all of these initiatives, A.R.T. is dedicated to producing world-class performances in which the audience is central to the theatrical experience.

**#EndlingsART @americanrep**

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