



# NEW PAGES LAB

## SUMMER 2020 ZOOM READING SERIES

# VELINA HASU HOUSTON

# OUT OF FRAME

THE  
READING

SUN MAY 17

3PM TO

4:30PM

## THE PLAY

What is the price of art, sex, and the creative imagination? Especially when they crash together? Weaving history with fiction, **OUT OF FRAME** explores these questions through a mythical princess, an Edo Period master artist, a contemporary museum intern, and a present-day man suffering from toxic masculinity. The play is inspired both by Hokusai's famous *Tako to Ama* painting that has spawned today's Internet tentacle erotica and the Japanese legend of Princess Tamatori.

## THE PLAYWRIGHT

**VELINA HASU HOUSTON** is an internationally celebrated writer with over 28 literary commissions. Her writing includes theatre, musical theatre, film, television, essays, poetry, and journalism. In New York, US nationwide, and globally, her work has been produced at notable institutions; and she has written film and television work-for-hire including for Columbia Pictures and PBS. Honored by the Kennedy Center, Smithsonian Institute, Rockefeller Foundation, Japan Foundation, Wallace Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Theatre Communications Group, and others, she founded graduate studies in playwriting at the USC School of Dramatic Arts, where she is Distinguished Professor, Director of Dramatic Writing, and Resident Playwright. A Fulbright Scholar, she served on the U.S. Department of State's Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission for six years. Her archives are with the Library of Congress and Huntington Library. She is published by TCG, *Los Angeles Times*, Dramatists Play Service, *The Dramatist*, Smith & Kraus, Temple University Press, University of Texas Press, University of Massachusetts Press, YouthPLAYS, and others. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Writers Guild of America-West, Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights, and League of Professional Theatre Women.

**PLAYWRIGHTS' ARENA**  
playwrightsarena.org

**PLAYWRIGHTS' ARENA**, under the leadership of artistic director **JON LAWRENCE RIVERA**, is a professional theatre company dedicated to discovering, nurturing and producing bold new works for the stage written exclusively by Los Angeles playwrights.

**RSVP TO [PLAYWRIGHTSARENA.LANEWPLAYS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PLAYWRIGHTSARENA.LANEWPLAYS@GMAIL.COM)**

**NEW PAGES LAB** is a reading series designed for playwrights to encourage the development and refinement of their new work.

THIS IS YOUR THEATER  
**OWN IT**

ORIGINAL WORKS FOR ADVENTUROUS MINDS



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