

# Emma Y. Lai

Director/Writer/Producer  
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## **DIRECTING**

THE GARDEN* ( <i>wp musical</i> )	Hannah Bakke	Childrens' Theatre Company T.A.T. (Minneapolis, MN)	2024
DEVoured* ( <i>wp</i> )	Liqing Xu	Southern Theatre/Playwrights' Center (Minneapolis)	2024
BALLBOYS* ( <i>workshop</i> )	Mahoney Brothers	TBA, (Minneapolis, MN)	2024
ANNA MAY WONG: PERSONA ( <i>reading</i> )	Kai Xing Mun	Frank Silvera Writers Workshop, The Billie Holiday Theatre, Zoomcatchers (NYC)	2024
YELLOW MIRRORS ( <i>workshop</i> )	Liqing Xu	Playwrights' Center (Minneapolis, MN)	2023
MURDERED TO DEATH	Peter Gordon	Phipps Center for the Arts (Hudson, WI)	2023
PRIMARY ( <i>wp</i> )	Alex Church	Minnesota Fringe Festival (Minneapolis, MN)	2023
THE LAST SLAVE IN AMERICA ( <i>reading</i> )	Sarah Grace Goldman	Picnic Basket Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)	2022
SOMEWHERE OVER THE PACIFIC ( <i>wp</i> )	Sabrín Diehl	Picnic Basket Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)	2021
YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN ( <i>virtual</i> )	John Gordon, Clark Gesner	Firefly Musical Productions (Minneapolis, MN)	2021
NEXT TO NORMAL	Brian Yorkey, Tom Kitt	Firefly Musical Productions (Minneapolis, MN)	2020
THE LAST FIVE YEARS	Jason Robert Brown	Firefly Musical Productions (Minneapolis, MN)	2020
SPRING AWAKENING	Steven Sater, Duncan Sheik	Carved Out Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)	2019
DR. NAJYA'S GREATEST INVENTION* ( <i>short</i> )	Atlese Robinson	Chicago Avenue Project at Pillsbury House Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)	2024
DUCK MILKSHAKE ( <i>short</i> )	Kurt Engh	Running Errands Festival (Minneapolis, MN)	2023
JAKE & MAX ( <i>short</i> )	Vanessa Brooke Agnes	Running Errands Festival (Minneapolis, MN)	2023

## **SELECT ASSOCIATE/ASSISTANT DIRECTING**

AN AMERICAN TAIL ( <i>wp</i> )	Itamar Moses, Michael Mahler, and Alan Schmuckler	dir. Taibi Magar; Childrens' Theatre Company (Minneapolis, MN)	2023
COWBOY BOB ( <i>wp</i> )	Molly Beach Murphy, Jeanna Philips, and Annie Tippe	dir. Annie Tippe; Alley Theatre (Houston, TX)	2023
A CHRISTMAS CAROL	Charles Dickens	dir. Addie Gorlin-Han/Joe Haj; Guthrie Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)	2023
YOUR OWN PERSONAL EXEGESIS ( <i>wp</i> )	Julia May Jonas	dir. Annie Tippe; LCT3 at Lincoln Center (NYC)	2022
VIETGONE	Qui Nguyen	dir. Mina Morita; Guthrie Theater	2022
MORRIS	juliany taveras	dir. Heidi Stillman; Childrens' Theatre Company	2023
MICKLEWHITE...( <i>wp</i> )			
THE CHINESE LADY	Lloyd Suh	dir. Eric Sharp; OpenEye Theatre (Minneapolis, MN)	2023
THREE SISTERS	Chekhov; Madeleine George	dir. Sara Holdren; Two River Theater (Red Bank, NJ)	2022
THE HOMBRES ( <i>wp</i> )	Tony Meneses	dir. Annie Tippe; Two River Theater	2022
RADIO GOLF	August Wilson	dir. Brandon J. Dirden; Two River Theater	2021
RADIANT BABY ( <i>workshops</i> )	Stuart Ross, Debra Barsha	dir. Stephen Brackett; Two River Theater	2021
HEAVEN	Joe Chvala, Chan Poling	dir. Joe Chvala; Flying Foot Forum/Park Square (St. Paul, MN)	2019

(wp) = world premiere

\*=upcoming

### **FELLOWSHIPS/OTHER THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE**

Directing Fellow	HELLS CANYON; Theatre Mu (MN)	2024
Playwright	Women's Playwright Collective; Staten Island Shakespeare Co.	2024
Playwright	MANIFEST DESTINY PlayLab Finalist; Pipeline Theatre Co. (NY)	2024
Playwright	WHO YOU KISS FOR FUN ( <i>reading</i> ); Jersey City Theatre Center	2023
Producer	MARY'S WONDROUS BODY; The Birth Play Project (MN)	2023
Directing Observer	THE FEMALE POPE; National Alliance for Musical Theatre (NY)	2022
Playwright	Mu Playwrights Cohort; Theatre Mu	2022
Assistant Sound Designer	THE CHINESE LADY; OpenEye Theatre (MN)	2023
Artistic Assistant	Two River Theater (NJ)	2021/2022
Artistic Director/Founder	Picnic Basket Theatre	2021-current
Producer	AQUELARRES ( <i>wp</i> ); The Birth Play Project (MN)	2021
Casting Intern	Telsey+Company (NY)	2020
Directing Intern	Childrens' Theatre Company (MN)	2019

### **EDUCATION**

BA in Theatre Arts, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

*Talvin Wilks, Joel Sass*

Writing for Television

*Ryann Weir, Claire Rothrock*

Next Steps in Playmaking: Revision, Rewriting, Editing at The Playwrights' Center

*Benjamin Benne*

Other Skills: Violin (Advanced), Piano (Advanced), Black Belt in Karate, Figure Skating, Rock Climbing, Fluent in Mandarin, Mathematics, Excel, Qlab, Google Drive, Breakdown Express, Cast It, Mac and PC, Valid MN Driver's License