

Karen KW Li

kwkarenli@gmail.com

Hair/Eyes: Black

(510) 579-8307

Vocal Range: Mezzo

Height: 5'4"

AEA Member

Ethnicity: Chinese

STRAIGHT THEATRE

NEW YORK:

The Rice Eaters

Starry Night

AMT Theater (Off-Broadway)

2nd Murderer

Cynthia, Paulette u/s

SoHo Shakespeare Company

Sunset Park

Tanya/ Tenant, Polly

Theaterlab

REGIONAL:

Seng's Hair Salon

Saroeun

InterAct Theatre Company/ Dir: Chongren Fan

Twelfth Night

Olivia

TheatreSquared/ Dir: Aneesha Kudtarkar

Exclusion

Katie, Viola u/s

Arena Stage/ Dir: Trip Cullman

The Great Leap

Connie Fong

Perseverance Theatre/ Dir: Leslie Ishii

Babel

Renee

Contemporary American Theater Festival/ Dir: Sharifa Yazmeen

Young Playwrights Festival

Ensemble

Baltimore Center Stage

Black Super Hero Magic Mama

Connie Wright/ Lady Vulture

Strand Theater Company

Gas House Baby

Marina

Baldwin New Play Festival

Golden Child

Eling/ Elizabeth

Tenth Avenue Theater

MUSICAL THEATRE

Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots

Swing, Assistant Choreographer

La Jolla Playhouse

A Fundamental Change

Li, Dance Captain

Lyceum Theater

Dr. Horrible's Sing Along Blog

Ensemble, Choreographer

Chinese Pirate Productions

Beauty and the Beast

Enchantress, Featured Dancer

StarStruck Theatre

Dames at Sea

Ensemble, Specialty Dancer

Universal Performers

Annie Get Your Gun

Ensemble, Specialty Dancer

Universal Performers

TELEVISION/ FILM

Dancing with the Stars

Featured Competitor (Season 10)

ABC

Katakiuchi

Akane

Art Motion

TRAINING/ SPECIAL SKILLS

University of California, San Diego - *B.A. Theatre, B.A. Dance* (2011)

Dance - Ballet, Lyrical, Jazz, Contemporary, Contact Improvisation, Musical Theatre,
Traditional Chinese, International Latin, Standard Ballroom, Club Ballroom

Languages - Fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese

Other - Puppetry, Mask and Shadow work, Shaolin Sword, Chinese Operatic martial art forms

KAREN LI

Playwright

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FULL LENGTH

Canter Waterfront

Semifinalist

O'Neill NPC 2026

Nominee

Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, 2026

Enhanced Staged Reading

Baltimore Center Stage, 2025

December 2024: *Canter Waterfront* was commissioned by Baltimore Center Stage as one of three plays supported in the inaugural year of the Lab410 new play development program. During the four month residency, *Canter Waterfront* progressed from outline to completed first draft

April 2025: Final residency presentation at Baltimore Center Stage, public reading with actors at music stands.

August 2025: After the conclusion of the residency, Baltimore Center Stage selected *Canter Waterfront* for continued development in a two week workshop. The process culminated in two performances as an enhanced staged reading, incorporating design elements and actors with script in hand

From East, Like the Sun

Production

Rapid Lemon Productions, 2026

Writer's Development Cohort

Sisters Freehold, 2024

November 2023: *From East, Like the Sun* was commissioned by Sisters Freehold as one of two plays supported by the Horticulture Playwrights Workshop. During the one year cohort, this play progressed from outline to completed second draft

April 2024: Midway table read produced by Sisters Freehold

October 2024: Final residency presentation produced by Sisters Freehold, public reading with actors at music stands

SHORT / ONE ACT

STAR 1100.1

Audio Drama

Feminist Fairytales Podcast, 2025

alight, sweethearted

Production

Strand Theater Company, 2024

Meltdown

Festival Production

Rapid Lemon Productions, 2022

Hotpot at the End of the World

Festival Production

Strand Theater Company 2022

M

Workshop

Playwrights Project, 2012

Surprise in Sea Sharp

Festival Production

Underground New Play Festival, 2011

Smoke And

Festival Production

Our New Play Spectacular, 2010

TRAINING

University of California, San Diego **B.A. Theatre, B.A. Dance**

2011