

Karen KW Li

kwkarenli@gmail.com

(510) 579-8307

AEA Member

Hair/Eyes: Black

Height: 5'4"

Vocal Range: Mezzo

Ethnicity: Chinese

STRAIGHT THEATRE

NEW YORK:

The Rice Eaters

2nd Murderer

Sunset Park

Starry Night

Cynthia, Paulette u/s

Tanya/ Tennant, Polly

AMT Theater (Off-Broadway)

SoHo Shakespeare Company

Theaterlab

REGIONAL:

Seng's Hair Salon

Twelfth Night

Exclusion

The Great Leap

Babel

Young Playwrights Festival

Black Super Hero Magic Mama

Gas House Baby

Golden Child

Saroeun

Olivia

Katie, Viola u/s

Connie Fong

Renee

Ensemble

Connie Wright/ Lady Vulture

Marina

Eling/ Elizabeth

InterAct Theatre Company/ Dir: Chongren Fan

TheatreSquared/ Dir: Aneesha Kudtarkar

Arena Stage/ Dir: Trip Cullman

Perseverance Theatre/ Dir: Leslie Ishii

Contemporary American Theater Festival/ Dir: Sharifa Yazmeen

Baltimore Center Stage

Strand Theater Company

Baldwin New Play Festival

Tenth Avenue Theater

MUSICAL THEATRE

Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots

A Fundamental Change

Dr. Horrible's Sing Along Blog

Beauty and the Beast

Dames at Sea

Annie Get Your Gun

Swing, Assistant Choreographer

Li, Dance Captain

Ensemble, Choreographer

Enchantress, Featured Dancer

Ensemble, Specialty Dancer

Ensemble, Specialty Dancer

La Jolla Playhouse

Lyceum Theater

Chinese Pirate Productions

StarStruck Theatre

Universal Performers

Universal Performers

TELEVISION/ FILM

Dancing with the Stars

Katakiuchi

Featured Competitor (Season 10)

Akane

ABC

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

Canton Waterfront

Semifinalist

O'Neill NPC 2026

Nominee

Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, 2026

Enhanced Staged Reading

Baltimore Center Stage, 2025

December 2024: *Canton 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, *Canton 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 *Canton 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