



**Contact: Joyce Lam**  
President  
Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre  
T: 778-885-1973  
E: joyla@shaw.ca

## THE ODD COUPLE

### Cast and Director Biographies Released

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#### **RAUGI YU**

Director



Raugi is originally born in Montreal where he trained at The Dome Theatre, he then moved to Vancouver where he attended the BFA/Acting program at U.B.C. Raugi has now been working professionally as an actor, director, teacher and audition coach for the past 12 years. You may recognize Raugi from his most recent TV adventure, jPOD as Kam Fong. Raugi is honoured to be trusted to lead such a fine cast and to help further the exposure and acceptance of up and coming Asian performers. Raugi would like to thank the audience for their support, VACT, the whole cast and crew and especially his wife and kids who support him the most with their continuous love.



#### **RON YAMAUCHI**

Oscar

Ron is immensely grateful to VACT for giving him the chance to help work off the karmic debt accumulated from thirteen years of criticizing other people's acting. In addition to writing film reviews for The Georgia Straight, Ron is a musician, reality show participant, husband, father, and truly mediocre hockey player.



#### **JIMMY YI**

Felix

Hailing originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Jimmy has spent time in Florida, Los Angeles and Alaska before settling in the Vancouver area four years ago with his lovely wife and two beautiful daughters. He was most recently seen at the Metro Theatre playing Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes* and at the Evergreen Cultural Centre as the Ancient Gardener in *How I Became Queen*. Jimmy is thrilled that he gets to act in his first Neil Simon play! His favorite activities are spending time with his family, golfing, and watching the Lakers, Browns, Buckeyes and Indians play.



**CARMINE BERNHARDT**

Gwendolyn

Carmine Bernhardt is a recent graduate from the Music Theatre Diploma program at Capilano College. She is thrilled to be working with VACT in her return into the local biz as a theatre school grad. Past projects include *Honk! The Musical*, *Ten Lost Years*, *The Wiz* and *Jane Eyre The Musical*. She can be next seen at the Vancouver International Fringe Festival in an ensemble co-adaptation of Sophocles' *Antigone*.



**TOM CHIN**

Vinnie

Coming shortly.

**SEAN CUMMINGS**

Speed



Seán is very happy to be finally doing a Neil Simon play and ecstatic to be doing a comedy this summer with VACT. Favourite previous roles include Max in *Bent* (Performance Works), David in *Poor Super Man* (Waterfront), Gilles in *Warriors* (Pacific), Pygopolynices in *Miles Gloriosus* (JAC), Bertram in *All's Well That Ends Well* (Victoria), John in *After The Horse Has Bolted* (UBC), Jason in *Take Me Out* (Waterfront) and Thomas in *On The Way Down* (Fringe). Seán also works as a director and has a passion for new plays. Recent directing credits include the Jessie-nominated *Broken* by C.E. Gatchalian (Firehall). Look for Seán as part of the cast of *Torch Song Trilogy* in 2009.

**ED FONG**

Roy



Ed began an earnest focus on acting in 2005 and has since worked in film, TV, and theatre, particularly VACT's sketch comedy *SKETCH-OFF* (as part of this year's first-place winning comedy-writing & -performing team, "Laughing Make Mind Damage") and *Sex In Vancouver*, Episode 3 (as "the dad" / Herman Sheng) & 4. He makes his major motion- picture debut in "*The Day the Earth Stood Still*" due out this December. Should any of Ed's future offspring desire to pursue acting professionally, they will be shot on-site.

**JONO LEE**  
Murray



Jono started scene study and audition technique training in 2004. He has studied with the Studio on the Drive and most recently with the Vancouver Academy of Dramatic Arts. Jono has been a lead actor on VACT's production *Sex In Vancouver* two years in a row and in May, his sketch comedy team, *Laughing Make Mind Damage*, won first place at VACT's Sketchoff!#\$%!! Etch-YOUR-Sketch 2 - sketch comedy competition. Other film, TV and commercial credits include *Night at the Museum*, *Intelligence* and *Mitsubishi*. Jono is honoured to be working with such a talented cast and crew. He extends a special thanks to all of you for supporting Asian Canadian theatre!

**LISSA NEPTUNO**  
Cecily



Lissa's most recent roles with Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre include a sexy Chorus Member in *Bondage* (Vancouver Fringe Festival), and Veronica Lee, a school teacher torn between two suitors in *Cowboy Versus Samurai*. She can also be seen as Gloria, the hip-hop loving plant-saving janitor in *Halfway There*, a short film to be aired on CityTV, and in this fall's release of the feature film *Impulse*. She will be joining the Playhouse Theatre Company in September in its production of *Frost/Nixon*. When Lissa isn't acting she is working toward her black belt in Tae Kwon Do, her university degree and tutors part-time. She is a graduate of Studio 58 and thanks her family always for their love and support.

For media access please contact Joyce Lam at the e-mail address or phone number listed below, no later than July 10, 2008.

*VACT (Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre) aims to produce quality plays in which Asian-Canadians take on culturally or artistically significant roles. VACT works to dispel Asian stereotypes by producing leading and/or supporting roles where Asian-Canadians are depicted realistically in the performing arts.*

**For photos, interviews with cast and crew, and media access, please contact:**

Joyce Lam, Producer, Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre  
T: 778-885-1973      E: joyla@shaw.ca      W: vact.ca