The Laramie Project was written through a unique collaboration by Tectonic Theater Project. During the year-and-a-half development of the play, members of the company and I traveled to Laramie six times to conduct interviews with the people of the town. We transcribed and edited the interviews, then conducted several workshops in which the members of the company presented material and acted as dramaturgs in the creation of the play.

As the volume of material grew with each additional trip to Laramie, a small writers’ group from within the company began to work closely with me to further organize and edit the material, conduct additional research in Laramie, and collaborate on the writing of the play. This group was led by Leigh Fondakowski as Head Writer, with Stephen Belber and Greg Pierotti as Associate Writers.

As we got closer to the play’s first production in Denver, the actors, including Stephen Belber and Greg Pierotti, turned their focus to performance, while Leigh Fondakowski continued to work with me on drafts of the play, as did Stephen Wangh, who by then had joined us as an Associate Writer and “bench coach.”

The US West World Premiere was produced by
The Denver Center Theatre Company
Donovan Marley, Artistic Director
in association with
Tectonic Theater Project
Moisés Kaufman, Artistic Director.

Originally produced in New York City at the Union Square Theatre
by Roy Gabay and Tectonic Theater Project
in association with Gayle Francis and the Araca Group
Associate Producers: Mara Isaacs and Hart Sharp Entertainment.

The Laramie Project was developed in part with the support of The Sundance Theatre Laboratory.

THE LARAMIE PROJECT
Written by Moisés Kaufman
and the Members of Tectonic Theater Project

HEAD WRITER
Leigh Fondakowski

ASSOCIATE WRITERS
Stephen Belber, Greg Pierotti, Stephen Wangh

DRAMATURGS
Amanda Gronich, Sarah Lambert, John McAdams,
Maude Mitchell, Andy Paris, Barbara Pitts, Kelli Simpkins

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
Moisés Kaufman—Author
Moisés Kaufman is a Tony- and Emmy-nominated director and playwright. His most recent play, starring Jane Fonda, was nominated for five Tony Awards (including one for Fonda). Before that, Kaufman directed the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play *I Am My Own Wife*, earning him an Obie Award for his direction as well as Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Lucille Lortel nominations. His plays, *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* and *The Laramie Project* have been among the most performed plays in America over the last decade. Kaufman also directed the film adaptation of *The Laramie Project* for HBO, which was the opening night selection at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival and won the National Board of Review Award, the Humaitas Prize and a Special Mention for Best First Film at the Berlin Film Festival. The film also earned Kaufman two Emmy Award nominations for Best Director and Best Writer. He is the Artistic Director of Tectonic Theater Project and a Guggenheim Fellow in Playwriting. Other recent credits include *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* (Mark Taper Forum); *Macbeth* with Liev Schreiber (Public Theater); *This Is How It Goes* (Donmar Warehouse); *One Arm* by Tennessee Williams (Steppenwolf Theater Company); *Master Class* with Rita Moreno (Berkeley Repertory Theater); and *Lady Windermere’s Fan* (Williamstown Theater Festival).

Leigh Fondakowski—Head Writer
Leigh Fondakowski has been a member of Tectonic Theater Project since 1995. She is an Emmy-nominated co-screenwriter for the adaptation of *The Laramie Project* for HBO. Another original play, *I Think I Like Girls*, played to sold-out audiences in San Francisco and at La Jolla Playhouse, was nominated for a Bay Area Critics Circle Award for best original script and was voted one of the top 10 plays of 2002 by *The Advocate*. Directing credits include: *I Think I Like Girls* (La Jolla Playhouse, Encore Theatre), *La Voix Humaine* by Jean Cocteau (Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh), *Agatha* by Marguerite Duras (French Alliance, NYC), *Owen John* adapted from the novel by Jane Warrick (HERE, NYC) and workshops of new plays by Stephen Belber, Julia Jordan and Anne Marie Cummings. She has spent the last three years developing *The People’s Temple*. She is the first recipient of the Emerging Writer/Director Project, a grant to fund the development of new and original work for the stage.

Stephen Belber—Associate Writer
Stephen Belber’s plays include *Geometry of Fire* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater); *Fault Lines* (Naked Angels/Cherry Lane); *A Small, Melodramatic Story* (LAByrinth Theater Company); *McReele* (Roundabout); *Match* (Broadway, Tony nomination for Frank Lagella); *Tape* (Naked Angels, NYC/LA/London); *The Laramie Project* (Associate Writer); *Carol Mulroney* (Huntington Theater); *One Million Butterflies* (Primary Stages); *Drifting Elegant* (Magic Theater); *The Transparency of Val* (Theater Outrageous, NYC); *The Wake* (Via Theater, NYC); *Through Fred* (Soho Rep); and *The Death of Frank* (Araca Group, NYC). As a screenwriter, he wrote *Tape*, directed by Richard Linklater, starring Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke (Sundance, Berlin); *The Laramie Project* (Associate Writer) for HBO Films, (Sundance, Emmy nomination for screenplay); and *Drifting Elegant*, directed by Amy Glazer. He also wrote and directed his first feature, *Management*, starring Jennifer Aniston, Steve Zahn and Woody Harrelson, which premiered at the 2008 Toronto Film Festival. Among other projects, he is currently developing a screenplay based on *McReele*, for Will Smith’s Overbrook production company. TV credits include *Rescue Me* and *Law & Order SVU* (staff writer). He has received commissions from Manhattan Theater Club, Playwrights Horizons, The Huntington Theater, Arena Stage and Philadelphia Theater Company.

Greg Pierotti—Associate Writer
Greg Pierotti was associate writer of *The Laramie Project*, for which he and his collaborators received a NY Drama Desk Award nomination and a Lucille Lortel nomination. They later adapted the play to the small screen for HBO. For the adaptation, he and his collaborators received an Emmy nomination for best writing of a film and were nominated for a GLAAD award. He performed *The Laramie Project* at Berkeley Rep, La Jolla Playhouse, Denver Center and The Union Square Theater in NY. He is the head writer of The People’s Temple. He and his collaborators performed the Will Glickman Award for Best New American play. He performed the play at Berkeley Repertory Theater, Perseverance Theater, and the Guthrie Theater. As a writer/actor he has developed and/or performed original and classical work at Arena Stage, Hartford Stage, The Magic, The Atlantic Theatre Company, The Sundance Theatre Lab in Utah, New York Theatre Workshop, and the NYTW summer writer’s lab at Dartmouth. Most recently he is collaborating on *Laramie+10*, a new epilogue of *The Laramie Project* which revisits the town 10 years later. He has taught theater and Tectonic Theater Project’s moment work at high schools and colleges around the country and in Naropa University’s MFA program in contemporary performance.

Stephen Wangh—Associate Writer
Stephen Wangh is a playwright, director and teacher of acting. He is the author of *An Acrobat of the Heart: A Physical Approach to Acting Inspired by the Work of Jerzy Grotowski* (Vintage Books) and he was dramaturg for Moisés Kaufman’s *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*. His other plays include *Class!* (with Jon Lipsky), *Calamity!* (with Suzanne Baxtresser), and *The Dragon and Goin’ Downtown*. His recent directing credits include *Troilus and Cressida* (New York) and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Vienna, Austria). He teaches acting at NYU and at Naropa University.
CAST

Jonathan Hoskins  Greg Pierotti, Sergeant Hing, Moisés Kaufman, Phil Labrie, Rob Debree, Conrad Miller, Fred Phelps, Narrator, Ensemble

Haley Mobley  Rebecca Hilliker, Zackie Salmon, April Silva, Amanda Gronich, Waitress, Kristin Price, Trish Steger, Shannon, Narrator, Ensemble

Julia Benfield  Baptist Minister's Wife, Leigh Fondakowski, Marge Murray, Romaine Patterson, Sherry Aanenson, Sherry Johnson, Tiffany Edwards, Lucy Thompson, Narrator, Ensemble

Philip Calabro  Doc O'Connor, Stephen Belber, Stephen Mead Johnson, Matt Galloway, Jeffery Lockwood, Murdock Cooper, Gil Engen, Narrator, Ensemble

Charish Harvey  Eileen Engen, Barbara Pitts, Alison Mears, Catherine Connolly, Zubaida Ula, DJ Shadow, Jen, Reggie Fluty, Narrator, Ensemble


Trey King  Philip Dubois, Jonas Slonaker, Baptist Minister, Anonymous Friend of Aaron McKinney, Rulon Stacey, Governor Jim Geringer, Russell Henderson's Mormon Homeroom Teacher, Cal Rerucha, Narrator, Ensemble

JT Rider  Andy Paris, Father Roger Schmit, Matt Mickelson, Dr. Catway, Bill McKinney, Russell Henderson, Dennis Shepard, Narrator, Ensemble

Artistic Staff

Director  Allison Zobel*
Stage Manager  Tyra Moody
Assistant Stage Manager  Caitlin Brown
Costume Designer  Allie Molinari
Scenic Designer  Jed Cockerill
Lighting Designer  Joseph Fry*
Sound Designer  Elizabeth Brodie
Projection Designers  Sarah Gunter*, Sydney Moore*
Properties Coordinator  Jed Cockerill

Production Staff

Light Board Operator  Brittany Mayo
Sound Board Operator  Charner Boney
Dressers  Allie Keller, Tessa Zimmerman
Properties  Zeke Jones
Lighting Assistants  Caitlin Brown, Brittany Mayo, Abigail Olson*, JT Rider
Box Office Manager  Cecily Bigham*
House Manager  Russell Luke
Graphic Designers  Bara Wetherell, Mike Rogers
Faculty Advisor  Stephen Gundersheim
Design Faculty Supervisor  Anna Sartin

*Denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega, the National Honorary Theatre Society

Special thanks to The Matthew Shepard Foundation and Laramie Project Specialist Susan Burk for resources and support in this production of "The Laramie Project."

In compliance with Winthrop University policy, we ask smokers to use the designated area across the driveway from the front of Johnson Hall.