



WHAT DO WE DO AFTER THE WORLD ENDS?

ABANDONED



OCT. 22 & 23, NOV. 4-20
SUGAR BANK (4414 W SECOND STREET)

Director's Note

This is not a happy story.

Abandoned takes us to the darkest period of human existence possible: the end of the world. Devastating wars have torn the land asunder, billions have perished, and God has turned away from the survivors. Yet, despite the darkness, people endure. Even amidst all the pain, humanity finds room for friendship, for love, for kindness, for humor, for ambition, and for freedom.

But again, this is not a happy story. In the end, heaven and hell for our intrepid outpost are wrought not from angels or demons but from simple humanity simply enduring. Here, there are no heroes. No paragons of virtue. No white knights. All we have are people each just trying their best in their own way. And whether you're in the apocalypse or in the world of today, sometimes your best isn't enough for a happily ever after.

Still, while this may not be a happy story, it is a human story. Which means no matter the pain, the hardships, or the despair, it finds a way to go on. And maybe that's enough to make it worth the telling.

The Production Team

Alexander Whitover (Director) Originally hailing from the deserts of Arizona, Alexander Whitover gave up his cowboy boots and migrated to Los Angeles to pursue a career in entertainment. An alumnus of the University of Southern California's School of Dramatic Arts, Alexander's directing credits include productions of *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza, *Into the Woods* by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine, and the debut production of *Reginald and Gunderson* *Learn to Live* by Michael Warker. No stranger to immersive theatre, he wrote and creatively designed for *Ascend: When Myths Fall*, *Heroes Rise* and directed *Last Call Theatre's* premiere production *Signals*, which both performed at the Hollywood Fringe Festival in 2019 and 2022 respectively. Currently, he serves as *Alterea Inc.'s* Artistic Director. When not in the world of stage or screen, Alexander's pastimes include reading fantasy novels, playing soccer, and stressing about current events.

Jacob Zorehkey (Creative Lead) is an immersive theater creator who has a passion for all things sci-fi and fantasy. Originally hailing from the Midwest, he is an alumnus of USC's School of Dramatic Arts and has been creating in the immersive world since 2016. He has created, produced and acted in a variety of immersive shows, including *Signals*, *Ascend: When Myths Fall*, *Heroes Rise*, *Alohomora*, and *Agents of Influence*. During quarantine he spent his time teaching others how to perform immersive work. When he isn't diving into the theatrical world he enjoys DnD, video games and exploring the mythos of religion.

Ashley Busenlener (Producer- Marketing) is a LA-based producer, marketer & actress hailing from New Orleans. She is a double Trojan, holding a M.S. in Marketing from USC Marshall and B.A. in Theatre from USC's School of Dramatic Arts. She has produced many live events including plays, musicals, escape rooms and immersive entertainment. Favorite immersive shows she's produced include Last Call Theatre's *Signals*, the 2019 Hollywood Fringe production of *Ascend: When Myths Fall*, *Heroes Rise*, and Hero Theatre's *Rise*. Currently, Ashley serves as the Director of Communications for Hero Theatre. Visit www.ashleybusenlener.com to learn more or follow her @ash_buse on IG.

Nick Griffith (Producer & Lead Designer) graduated from USC after studying to become an architect, but he realized immersive entertainment design is infinitely more fun. He now works at Themespace/ Hettema Group as a project coordinator. Past projects include among others, the Last Call Theatre Production *Signals*, the immersive theatre installation *Madcap Motel*, and the short film *Arcana*. His jack of all trades skill set lends itself towards leading and organizing creatives of all backgrounds. When he's not working on shows Nick can be found creating tropical drink concoctions at his home bar.

Sabrina Sonner (Producer- Games) (them+) is an LA-based theatre artist and experience designer. They recently graduated with their MA from USC's cinema school, where their work focused on empathy, identity, and social formation in live, interactive media. Their recent theatre experience includes new play work with Hero Theatre, the Geffen Playhouse, Playwrights' Foundation, and the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, and, of course, producing Last Call's previous show *Signals*. They also edit Channel Stupidity, a live play D&D podcast featuring other members of the *Abandoned* team that you should check out on your drive home! For more of Sabrina's work, visit SabrinaSonner.com.

Riley Cole (Stage Manager) is beloved by all their friends and family for their incredible grace, talent, sense of humor, and lusciousness. Their cat, Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy, Esquire, is warming to them. They have been seen as Sybil Elliot in Last Call's *Signals*, and as the Oracle in *Ascend: When Myths Fall*, *Heroes Rise*. They also run an incredibly hilarious DnD podcast called Channel Stupidity. IG: @channelstupidity Twitter: @thatdumbpodcast

Kale Hinthorn (Costume Designer) Welcome to Kale's Bio 2: Electric Boogaloo. Yes, folks, in addition to playing Charlotte Morgenstern, Kale also did the costumes for *Abandoned*. Unfortunately, this means she gets a surprise extra bio and so can kinda go nuts in this second one. Kale likes long walks on the beach, especially when it means she gets to spend 25 uninterrupted minutes talking about hyperspecific costuming errors in media. Kale will now use the remaining 20 words of this bio to say that several cast members wanted to use this extra real estate to write something vaguely naughty but Ashley Busenlener said no.

Jason Pollak (Sound Designer/Production Assistant) As well as performing in the show, Jason is also on the production team and is the sound designer. They spoke with the machines, and the machines had this to say: "Boop boop beep beep ding Dong whirrrrr bark rrrruff aroooo heehaw clang click tip tap tip tap brrrrrr du-du du-du weewoooweewooo buhbuhbuh bonk ba dum tsss tweet swoosh kaboom!" They can be found for all your immersive-interactive-theatrical needs on Instagram, @jasonpollak

Want to learn more about the lore of the world that created Abandoned? Tune in to our Apocalypse Files Series on TikTok & Instagram.

TikTok



Instagram



The Cast



Michael DiNardo (Chris Gabbiadini) is a USC grad who loves telling stories that make audiences leave with as many answers as they have thought-provoking questions. Michael is excited to continue working with Last Call Theatre and bringing the rich depths of their worlds to life for all audiences. And he wants all audience members to know that his flirtation with them is totally not just for show haha, just kidding... unless?



Jason Pollak (Anton Stricat) is an immersive theatre artist from the Bay Area. They recently graduated from Calarts, and have since been part of Last Call Theatre's *Signals* and Alterea's *Stardust*. All my love to mom, dad, Michaela, and all the homies.



Kale Hinthorn (Charlotte Morgenstern) Despite what the name may suggest, Kale is not just everyone's favorite leafy superfood. She is also an artist, actor, and creative originally from Seattle and currently based in LA. Kale favors non-traditional theatrical storytelling and narratives centering LGBTQ experiences. She recently played Agent G.O. in Last Call Theatre's previous show, *Signals*, and has an ongoing role as Algernon in the podcast Channel Stupidity (on Instagram @channelstupidity and found wherever you get your podcasts). To learn more about Kale, check out her costume bio in this program or visit her website at www.kalehinthorn.com.



Philip Saguil ("Laputa") is an enigma. Well actually, no, he isn't, but he likes to think he is. A senior at the University of Southern California, he is the youngest member of the cast! Again! Which means he still can't go out to karaoke bars with everyone else! As you can tell, he is very enthusiastic about this fact! Philip worked with Last Call Theatre in *Signals* at the 2022 Hollywood Fringe Festival. In addition to acting, Philip composes soundtrack music with ECLIPSE Sound Team (subtle plug, nice), and enjoys long walks on the beach and candlelit dinners. Huzzah! 100 words.



Brit Franke (Cullen Grey) (she/they/he) is an actor, director, and freelance casting director who dedicates themselves to empowering others through unique, unapologetic storytelling. He was born and raised in Arizona. Then, she moved to Los Angeles, where she earned a theatre acting degree at USC in 2021. For five years, they worked at the 24th Street Theatre as a teaching assistant for their after school programs. Now, Brit is developing an acting coaching business partnered with ONYX Films, LLC which will launch next year. They feel honored to be making their immersive play debut with this talented cast and crew!



Mikey Takla (Jude Vallaincourt) is an LA based actor, musician, and software developer. He is thrilled to be back with Last Call Theatre after a great run as [REDACTED] in *Signals* at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. Mikey would like to thank his senior chihuahua, Nala, for all her support.



Shelby Ryan Lee (Jackson Thorpe) is an LA-based actor and artist from Bakersfield. He is of asian descent. Lee is an experienced theatrical performer, and has appeared onstage at the Fringe Festival 2022 and Stars Playhouse West. Shelby is a physical and focused performer, a perfect fit for dramatic and comedic work. He specializes in action and combat roles and enjoys bringing life to the heroic but human roles. Shelby believes that art should be a statement of its time and promote thought and conversation. When he's not acting, Shelby enjoys practicing Capoeira, going surfing, and attending other shows.



Elena Scaringe-Peene (Jude Vallaincourt u/s) (they/ she) is an LA-based actor, writer, and avid D&D player. During their time at the University of Central Florida, they had the privilege of playing the roles of Helena in *The Rover*, and Adela in *Street of Crocodiles*. After they made the move to LA, they've been in a number of short films, and, just recently, performed at Universal's Halloween Horror Nights.

Special Thanks

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Abigail Swoap

Livera Lim

Alexander Panagos

Court Rhodes

Michaela Skaribas

Esmeralda Vasquez

Michael Monk

Scott Griffith

The Busenleners

The Hinthorns

The Schnellers

The Zorehkeys

All of our playtesters

Looking for more cool immersive & interactive theatre?
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our feedback form for our best discount!



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