

Visions & Voices: Cowboy Versus Samurai

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Author Michael Golamco takes the story of Parisian poet-swordsman Cyrano de Bergerac and translates it into a play about a Korean American teacher in the Black Hills of Wyoming. This V+V event is on Sunday, September 29th, at Inner-City Arts.

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Reviews of Cowboy Versus Samurai

- nytheater.com, 8 Nov 2005
- NY Times, 11 Nov 2005
- Seattle Times, 27 Oct 2006
- straight.com, 1 Aug 2007
- San Diego U-T, 3 Dec 2007
- MPR News 17 Nov 2010
- Tap Milwaukee, 22 May 2012

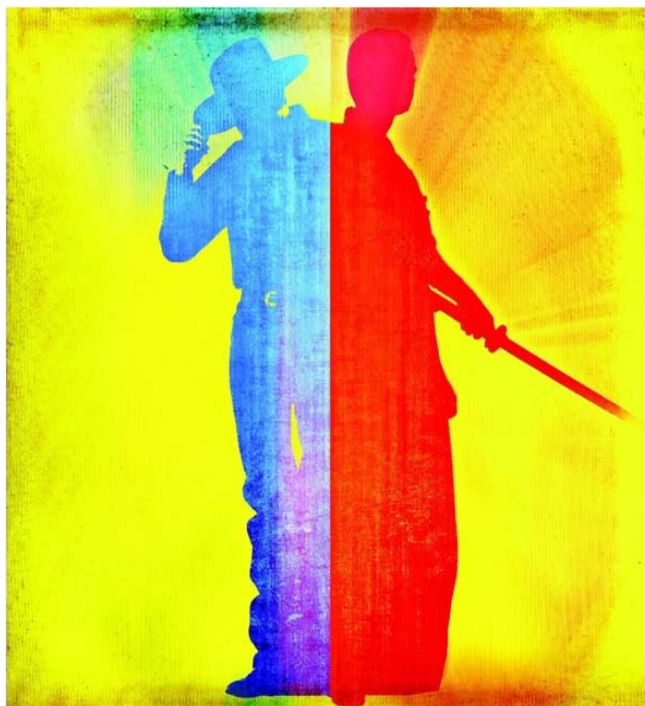
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Los Angeles production (click on image below for poster)



COWBOY VERSUS SAMURAI

BY MICHAEL GOLAMCO DIRECTED BY PETER J. KUO

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Cyrano de Bergerac Until Now

- French dramatist (1619-1655)
- Edmund Rostand's play (1897)
- Louis Gallet's novel (1900)
- Walter Damrosch's opera (1913)
- Franco Alfano's opera (1936)
- Movie, with Claude Dauphin (1945)
- Movie, with José Ferrer (1950)
- Samurai saga 或る剣豪の生涯, with Toshiro Mifune (1959)
- TV play, with Peter Donat (1972)
- Stage musical, with Christopher Plummer (1973)
- Eino Tamberg's opera (1974)
- Morecambe & Wise's TV play (1977)
- Steve Martin's Roxanne (1987)
- Movie, with Gérard Depardieu (1990)
- David Bintley's ballet (2007)
- Cyrano Fernandez, with Edgar Ramirez (2007)
- David DiChiera's opera (2008)
- TV play, with Kevin Kline (2008)
- Cyrano Agency 꿩똥밥; 꿩똥쌈셋드 (2010)
- Disney's Let It Shine (2012)

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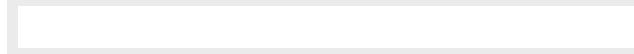
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Michael Golamco


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His website



His beginnings

Hailing originally from San Rafael, Marin County, Michael Golamco attended UCLA in the mid-1990s and, together with several friends ([David J. Lee](#), [Randall Park](#), [Naoya Imanishi](#)), formed a college theater group that eventually became [Propergander](#), a (mostly) Asian American comedic theater group. After a period of backyard performances and a gradually growing following, Propergander's first real production was also Golamco's first full-length play, *The Achievers*.

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Works by Michael Golamco

Stage plays

[Achievers](#) (2001)

[Cowboy Versus Samurai](#) (2005)

[Year Zero](#) (2009)

[Build](#) (2012)

[The Shadow on the Moon](#)
(in development)

Screenplays

[Dragon of Love](#) (2003)

[The Achievers](#) (2006)

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Artists at Play

[Artists at Play](#) was launched in 2011 with the staging of its first production, *Ching Chong Chinaman*.

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East-West Players

The East-West Players, "the nation's premier Asian American theatre," was founded in 1965 in order to provide opportunities for Asian American actors to break out of the stereotypes so common to that point. Their first performances were presented in the basement of a church at the corner of Lucille Avenue and Griffith Park Blvd., in Los Angeles, from which they moved in 1973 to a 99-seat theater on Santa Monica Blvd. In 1998, the company moved to its current housing, in the David Henry Hwang Theater, in Little Tokyo.

(from: [Finding aid for the Irvin Paik papers, USC Libraries](#))

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Inner-City Arts

[Inner-City Arts](#)
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Protesting a "yellowface" play, 1970



John Wayne as Genghis Khan


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The Rise of Asian American theater

"There was a broad-based effort during the 1960s-1970s to build the foundations of a multi-ethnic society in which mutual respect between people of differing cultural backgrounds could meet on a level field and thereby be accorded more equal access to opportunities of all sorts. In this effort, the importance of the images put forward of Asians and Asian Americans in the mainstream media was recognized and found to be characterized by stereotypical appearances, demeanors, accents and social roles.

"Early in 1970, a group of Asian Americans intent on mobilizing for greater opportunities in the stage, movie and television industry, met to organize themselves. At their first meeting, they adopted the name "Ethnic," but voted to change to the "Brotherhood of Artists." The organization appears to have lasted only until late 1972."

(from: [Finding aid for the Irvin Paik papers, USC Libraries](#))

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Peter Ustinov as Charlie Chan


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