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Quo Vadis Theatre Company Presents...





By Marie Ballentine, Denis Marks, Gary Laidlaw & G. C. Davis



Produced by:

Quo Vadis Theatre Company

Directed by: Marie Balletine

Thanks and Acknowledgements

For their Contributions and Help Lọc Vũ, Director—Boat People Museum (Background Picture and Việt Publicity) Vanessa Thu-Vân Cao (Việt Publicity, Historical Information) Fr. Ray Devlin, S.J. (Historical Information) Stan Fitzgerald & Cécile Vô (St. Francis of Assisi Parish) Joyce Takayama, Connie Bantillo,Nư Nguyễn Aiko Cuenco (Concessions) Our Lady of Peace Parish (Bulletin) Fred Sharkey



Father Joe with refugee children aboard the USS Midway en route to Guam.





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We are a growing parish in the Evergreen area of San Jose, California with a very active lay leadership.

We are a diverse people who gather together to proclaim and live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. From the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community, San Jose

"With gratitude for the work of the Quo Vadis Theatre Company (Ban Kịch Quo Vađis) in telling the story of a great American hero, Fr. James Joseph "Joe" Đevlin, S.J.



Fr. Joe dining with children in the Unaccompanied Children's Center, Songkhla Refugee camp, Thailand



Director's Notes: (Marie Ballentine, Director)

It sometimes happens that a person creates something extraordinary in the course of his work and life. Without intending to reach greatness, without regard to becoming a saint or hero, his choices and actions become an example. Father Joe Devlin and his brother Father Ray Devlin are two such people. Their dedication to the cause of Vietnamese refugees is an exceptional example of an extraordinary commitment to those in need.

In the writing of this piece we tried to show the impact that actions have on the outcome of events. Good or bad, our actions reflect the values and morals of our society. These two men demonstrated a selfless dedication that serves as an example for all of us.

In this production, I've drawn from Shakespeare's staging, the Greek poets' use of chorus, and the movie industry's use of sound and music to underscore the events in the play.

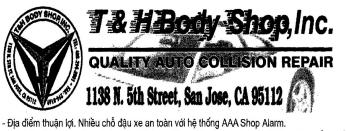
We hope our production does justice to the accomplishments of these two men. Their dedication and self sacrifice inspired a deep devotion to Catholic ideals. We want to honor their contribution.

Actoher 2011

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	8 PM
						1	2 PM
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	-
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	-
76	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	-
30	31						

QUO VADIS THEATRE COMPANY

P. O. Box 9023 San Jose, CA 95157 408-998-5553 www.quovadistheatre.org angel@quovadistheatre.org



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Act 1: 1970 – 1975: South Việt Nam and USA

Scene 1	South Việt Nam
Scene 2	USA 1970
Scene 3	Sài Gòn
Scene 4	USA/Tràm Chim
Scene 5	Tràm Chim
Scene 6	Tràm Chim
Scene 7	Field Hospital
Scene 8	Tràm Chim
Scene 9	USA
Scene 10-12	Tràm Chim
Scene 13	An Long
Scene 14	Bình Tuy
Scene 15	Nha Trang/Bình Tuy
Scene 16	Sài Gòn

Act II: 1979-1986: South China Sea, USS Midway, Camp Pendleton, Songkhla and Sikieu refugee camps in Thailand

Scene 1	. Refugee Boat
Scene 2	. USS Midway Bridge
Scene 3 - 4	. Camp Pendleton
Scene 5	. Los Gatos Jesuit Ctr.
Scene 6	. Gulf of Thailand 1981
Scene 7 - 8	. Songkhla Refugee Camp
Scene 9	. USA
Scene 10 -11	. Children's Center*
Scene 12	. Songkhla/USA
Scene 13	. Sikieu Refugee Camp
Scene 14	. Children's Center*



<u>Special Note</u> Quo Vadis Theatre Company does not receive public funding and relies solely on private donations and box office revenues.

Characters

- Fr. James Joseph "Joe" Devlin Matt Matthews
- Fr. Raymond A. Đevlin Đenis Marks
- Fr. Sanh / Midway Cmdr..... Zé Spencer
- Dr. /BS Phan Quang Đán Chris Vũ Thế Hưng
- Dr. Ed Bradley/Fr. Al/Fr. Ted Tehany .. Bill Ereñeta
- Chorus/Capt. Coca/Pilot/Pirate Christopher Carter
- Field Doctor..... Sarah Kishler
- Mourner..... Melissa Bush
- Capt. Thánh/Luân/Hung Tony Le
- Chorus/Nhân Janet Vân Nguyễn
- Tình/Nư/Chorus...... Kathleen Park
- Chorus/Pirate/Hai..... Jason Lieu
- Mai/Chorus Kymberly Schieferstein
- Fr. John Clark, S.J. Gary Laidlaw
- Chorus/Mother/Assassin Mai La

Historical Reference Note:

Fr. Sanh's line about the Trưng Sisters are in reference to Lady Trưng Trắc and Lady Trưng Nhi. C. 40 A.D., they drove out the Han invaders and its corrupt governor Su Ting (Tô Định) and governed North Việt Nam for two years before their defeat by General Ma Yuan (Mã Viện) around 43 A.D. Rather than surrender, they drowned themselves in the Hat river.

Playwrights

Marie Ballentine, Gary Laidlaw, Denis Marks & G. C. Davis

Marie Ballentine:

Marie last appeared in *"Enchanted April "* with Northside Theatre Company and in *"Run For Your Wife"* with Santa Clara Players. She also appeared in "Margaret of Castello" with Quo Vadis Theatre. She directed and acted in the *"On Tour With Quo Vadis"* fundraiser show as well.

Gary Laidlaw:

Gary last appeared on stage in *"You Can't Take it With You"* with Broadway West in Fremont, and appeared as Deputy Kilgore in Quo Vadis' *"Claude Newman"* He is appearing as Fr. John Clark, S.J. In this current production.

Đenis Marks:

Denis is the current Quo Vadis Dramaturge*. He has directed *"Malcolm and Teresa"* and is currently the host of the CreaTV program *"The ArtBeat."*

G. C. Đavis:

G.C. has written several short plays, including the adaptation *"For a Child is Born to Us...", "Afternoon in Capernaum"* and his current project, *"Grandma's on the No-Fly List."*

* Practitioner of composition of dramatic technique. Also a screener of plays.



Refugees signal an offshore boat that it's safe to come ashore by using a Republic Flag.

The Thai government forbade this practice

Crew and Staff

Sound Design: Jay Morse

Sound: Chase Hammonds

Lighting Design: Michael Armes

Light Board: Katie Ballentine

Director/Đạo Diễn: Marie Ballentine

Set Construction: Fred, Denis, Marie, Estelle, Kevin, Eleanor, Gary, Katie, Sarah

Program, Posters, Flyers, and QVTC Webmaster: G. C. Davis

Move-In Assistants: Stephan Ballentine, Jon Mojica

Props: Melissa Bush

Set & Costumes: Winona

Publicity: Estelle Piper Kennedy

Box Office: Gary Laidlaw, Eleanor Marks

Concessions: Joyce Takayama, Connie Bantillo, Nư Nguyễn, Aiko Cuenco



Matt Matthews (Cha Joe)

Matt is very happy to be making his first appearance with QVTC. He wishes to thank Marie Ballentine for casting him and for her supportive directing. Matt began acting and directing many years ago in his native Texas. He most recently appeared at Santa Clara Players as the bigamous, but cuddly, scoundrel in the British farce, *Run for your Wife*. Another favorite performance of his in recent years was as "Juror #8" in *Twelve Angry Men* at Broadway West in Fremont. As a director, Matt has had some success with plays such as *Hallelujah Girls*, at Santa Clara Players, *Nunsense* at Broadway West, and *Harvey* at North Valley Players. Matt is grateful for the opportunity to work with the talented cast of *Cha Joe*. He would especially like to thank his wife, Audrey, for her patience with his theatre life

Đenis Marks (Ray)

Đenis Marks has been a board member of Quo Vadis since 2005 and currently is its dramaturge. He directed Malcolm and Teresa and acted in The Case of Humanity versus Pontius Pilate. Đenis is thrilled to be a part of Cha Joe not only as an actor but also as a collaborator on the adaptation of Father Ray's account of his brother's life upon which the play is based. He hopes we've done both of them justice. Đenis would like to thank his wife eleanor for her understanding, patience, love and support

Zé Spencer (Fr. Sanh, Midway Cmdr.)

Retired after a long career in Aerospace Engineering, Zé devotes his time to traveling and to teaching at National University and to the theatre, where he has appeared as Nunzio Cristano in "Over the River and Through the Woods" and Sam Katz in "The Cemetery Club" with the Northside Theatre, Ernesto Santiago in "Flaming Idiots" with Santa Clara and the Chief G-man in "You Can't Take It With You" with Broadway West in Fremont.

Chris Vũ Thế Hưng (Đán)

This physician is basically the quintessential Renaissance man. He's been a published poet, singer/songwriter, record producer, and has acted in the Sân Khấu Việt Cali productions, *Mặt Trái Tình Yêu (Other Side of Love)*, and *Lặng Lẽ Bên Đời (The Silent Sacrifice)*, has hosted Radio and TV talk shows, including a TV program, "America's Health Care Crisis" and has been a frequent guest of radio talk shows on Radio 1430 AM, and now he's playing the noted Dr. Phan Quang Đán.

Players

Kathleen Park (Tình/Nư/Chorus)

is thrilled to make her debut with *Quo Vadis* Theatre Company. She has worked in various roles with the Livermore Shakespeare Festival and the Asian American Theatre Company; some acting credits include *Snake in Fridge* (Actors Theatre of San Francisco), a "micro-short" film screened at the Berlin International Film Festival, and, most recently, an international release of the NODA-Vigil training series for the Sacred Dying Foundation. She graduated from the University of Chicago with a BA in Art History and is represented by STARS, The Agency.

Jason Lieu (Chorus/Pirate/Hai)

A CPA turned actor/comedian. He has always dreamed to be an actor since the 4th Grade debut as Alvarado, Cortés' first mate. Sixteen years later, he is following his dream.

Kymberly Schieferstein (Mai/Chorus)

She has loved theater since an early age. She has performed in several productions with Sân Khấu Việt Cali (SKVC) a Vietnamese American South Bay theatre group. The two most recent is *"Waves of Life- Dõi Bước Thăng Trầm"* this past August, and *"The Silent Sacrifice - Lặng Lẽ Bên Đời,"* in Aug 2010, and in October 2003, *"The Other Side of Love - Mặt Trái Tình Yêu"* In her spare time she indulges in her other great love of family and travel.

Gary Laidlaw (Fr. John Clark, S.J.)

Gary is glad to be back in another Quo Vadis world premiere production. His most recent acting "gigs" have been for San Jose Stage Company (1776) and Broadway West (*You Can't Take It with You*). He hopes everyone enjoys this wonderful play about a real life hero – Father (Cha) Joe Devlin.

Mai La (Chorus/Mother/Assassin)

Mai is happy to be in the Cha Joe play. She hopes everyone will enjoy it.



Bill Ereñeta (Dr. Ed Bradley/Fr. Al/Fr. Ted Tehany)

This is his debut with Quo Vadis Theatre. He most recently appeared in West Valley Light Opera's production of "The Sound of Music," and regularly performs with various theatre companies throughout Northern California. He is a native Californian, was a former Marine fighter pilot, and retired as the Deputy Director of the Mineta San Jose International Airport.

Christopher Carter (Chorus/Capt. Coca/Pilot/Pirate) has been acting

for thirteen years. He has appeared in *The Colored Museum, Bury the Dead,* and *As You Like It.* The highlight of his career thus far was receiving the "Excellence in Acting Award" in 2010

Sarah Kishler (Doctor)

Sarah last worked with Quo Vadis touring the staged readings of *The Case of Humanity vs. Pontius Pilate* in 2009. Previously this year, she appeared in *Shadowlands* at Palo Alto Players and in *Squabbles* at Santa Clara Players. She played medical workers in those plays too, but in real life she is a librarian. She is enjoying this multicultural theatrical experience.

Melissa Bush (Mourner)

Melissa has performed in church productions her whole life. This is her first professional show and performance. She would like to thank her fiancé, Christopher Carter, for inspiring her and pushing her to follow her dreams.

Tony Le (Capt. Thanh/Luân/Hung

Tony marks his second performance with Quo Vadis, portraying the Prosecutor in last season's *The Case of Humanity vs. Pontius Pilate*. He most recently appeared with Santa Clara Players as the apron-donning Sergeant Porterhouse in *Run for Your Wife*. Tony has also performed with Shady Shakespeare and Northside Theatre Company, and when not on stage, is an avid salsa dancer.

Janet Vân Nguyễn Chorus/Nhân

Janet has been performing since she was in Kindergarten in Viêt Nam. She is overjoyed to be in this *"Cha Joe"* project with this wonderful group. She wishes all the best and hopes the story of *"Cha Joe"* will be a big success!