

## THOMAS SADOSKI, LAURA HEISLER AND PETER KATONA *BUILD* WORLD PREMIERE CAST

*Will Frears Helms Michael Golamco's New Play  
in the Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater at the Geffen Playhouse*

*Opening Night October 24, 2012*

LOS ANGELES, September 12, 2012 — **Thomas Sadoski**, a Tony nominee for his work in *reasons to be pretty* and who currently stars in HBO's *The Newsroom*, is set to appear in the world premiere production of **Michael Golamco's *Build*** in the Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater at the Geffen Playhouse. Joining Sadoski is Broadway actress **Laura Heisler**, who was nominated for Drama League and Lucille Lortel awards for her role in *Kin*, and **Peter Katona**, who was most recently seen in South Coast Repertory's production of *Misalliance*. *Build*, which is directed by **Will Frears**, is a recipient of the Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, enabling the production to have an unprecedented two week preview period beginning on October 9; the official opening night is **Wednesday, October 24**.

"I've done most of my new play work in other cities such as New York and Chicago, so to be working on *Build* at the Geffen, which is literally within walking distance from my house – with Will Frears and this amazing cast – is a sweet and very welcome homecoming," said playwright Michael Golamco.

Kip, portrayed by Sadoski, and Will, played by Katona, became Silicon Valley legends after the viral success of their blockbuster video game. But success has driven them apart: Will has become a suit obsessed with the bottom line, and the death of Kip's wife has turned him into a total recluse. Now they've been thrown back together in a high-stakes gamble to complete and ship a new multi-billion dollar game; but as Will re-enters Kip's life, he realizes that his old friend has built a whole other world – complete with an artificial intelligence (played by Heisler) to whom Kip escapes to ease his loss. Now Will and Kip must work to resolve their differences, confront the past and face the fact that technology's brave new world often leaves us with little else but a yearning for the old one.

Special events during the run of *Build* include the theater's Signature Series performances for no additional cost. These evenings include an intellectual, thought-provoking post show Q&A at Talk Back Tuesdays; a cultural happy hour with Lounge Fridays and complimentary wine tastings during Wine Down Sundays. For more information, please view [www.geffenplayhouse.com/buildevents](http://www.geffenplayhouse.com/buildevents).

### **BUILD**

Written by Michael Golamco

Directed by Will Frears

*Preview Performances:* Tuesday, October 9 – Tuesday, October 23, 2012

**Opening Night:** Wednesday, October 24, 2012

**Closing Night:** Sunday, November 18, 2012

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**Cast**

Laura Heisler	The A.I.
Peter Katona	Will
Thomas Sadoski	Kip

**Production Credits**

Scenic Designer	Sibyl Wickersheimer
Costume Designer	E.B. Brooks
Lighting Designer	Daniel Ionazzi
Sound Designer	Vincent Olivieri
Production Stage Manager	Young Ji
Casting	Phyllis Schuringa
Dramaturg	Amy Levinson

**Performance Schedule**

Monday	No performances
Tuesday – Friday	8:00pm
Saturday	3:00pm; 8:00pm
Sunday	2:00pm; 7:00pm

**Ticket Info**

Ticket prices currently range from \$59 for preview performances and from \$69 to \$74 for the regular run. \$10 student rush tickets may be available with a valid student ID half an hour before curtain. Tickets are available in-person at the Geffen Playhouse box office, via phone at 310-208-5454 or online at [www.geffenplayhouse.com](http://www.geffenplayhouse.com).

**Biographies****LAURA HEISLER** (*The A.I.*)

Laura Heisler recently received Lucille Lortel and Drama League Award nominations for her work in Bathsheba Doran's *Kin* at Playwrights Horizons, where she also previously appeared in *Doris to Darlene* and *People Be Heard*. Other theater credits include Broadway: *Coram Boy* (Imperial Theatre); *The Mistakes Madeline Made* (Naked Angels); *Everything Will Be Different* (Soho Rep); *Top Girls, Bus Stop* (Williamstown); *The Language Archive* (South Coast Rep); *Stunning, Rocket to the Moon* (Woolly Mammoth); *A Seagull in the Hamptons* (McCarter); title role in the world premiere of *Eurydice* (Madison Rep); Humana Festival; The Old Globe; The Shakespeare Theatre; Pacific Playwrights Festival; and many others. TV and film credits include: *Bones*, *The Defenders*, *Numb3rs*, *Ugly Betty*, recurring role on *The Middle*; *YellowBrickRoad*; *Coach*; *Cold Souls*; *Forged*.

**PETER KATONA** (*Will*)

Peter Katona last appeared as Joseph Percival in G.B. Shaw's *Misalliance* (South Coast Rep). Theatrical credits: *Twelfth Night* (NYSF/Public Theater), *Cyrano De Bergerac* with Placido Domingo (Metropolitan Opera). Off Broadway: *Big Trouble in Little Hazzard!* (co-producer and co-writer, NYC Fringe Festival). Regional: *A Feminine Ending* (South Coast Rep); *Hamlet, Twelfth Night* (The Shakespeare Theatre DC); *Our Town* (Dallas Theater Center); *The Imaginary Invalid, The Birds* (Yale Rep); *Hamlet in Hamlet* and numerous other productions (YSD). Television: *The Wedding Band* (premieres November 10), *Castle, How I Met Your Mother, Numb3rs, Deadly Honeymoon, Mama Flora's Family* and host of *Pop Fiction* (E! Network, producer: Ashton Kutcher). Awards: Oliver Thorndike Acting Award (Yale), Helen Hayes Nomination, *Twelfth Night* (The Shakespeare Theatre DC), Fox Foundation Fellowship (Ancient Italian Rapier Fencing/Peking Opera Martial Arts Sword Dancing/Acrobatics). MFA Acting (Yale School of Drama).

**THOMAS SADOSKI** (*Kip*)

Theater: includes Broadway and off-Broadway productions of both *Other Desert Cities* (Obie and Lucille Lortel Awards) and *reasons to be pretty* (Tony, Drama Desk Outer Critics Circle and Drama League Award nominations), *The House of Blue Leaves, Reckless*, Sam Mendes's Bridge Project productions of *As You Like It* and *The Tempest*, *Becky Shaw* (Lucille Lortel Award nomination), *This is Our Youth, Gemini, Where We're Born, Stay, The Mistakes Madeline Made, Jump/Cut, The Waverly Gallery* and David Sedaris's *Santaland Diaries* at the Williamstown Theater Festival. Television: currently stars on HBO's *The Newsroom, Law & Order: Special Victims Unit, Ugly Betty, Law & Order: Criminal Intent, and Law & Order*. Film: *The New Twenty, Circledrawers, Loser, Happy Hour* and *Winter Solstice*. A graduate of Circle in the Square Theater School in New York City, Sadoski has worked extensively in helping to develop new theatrical works at New Dramatists, The Lark, The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center and the Sundance Institute.

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**MICHAEL GOLAMCO** (Playwright)

Michael Golamco is an Los Angeles based screenwriter and playwright. His critically-acclaimed play *Year Zero* has been produced at the Colony Theatre in Los Angeles, Second Stage Uptown in New York and Victory Gardens in Chicago, where it was the Grand Prize Winner of Chicago Dramatists' Many Voices Project, as well as nominated for a Jeff Award - Best New Work. His play *Cowboy Versus Samurai* has had several productions since its premiere in NYC, including in Canada and Hong Kong. Michael is the recipient of the Helen Merrill Award and is a member of New Dramatists. He is currently working on new play commissions for South Coast Repertory and Second Stage Theatre.

**WILL FREARS** (Director)

Film: *Coach*, *All Saints Day* (Winner, Best Narrative Short, Savannah Film Festival) *Beloved*. Off Broadway: *Year Zero* (Second Stage Uptown) *Still Life* (MCC); *Rainbow Kiss* (The Play Company); *The Water's Edge* (Second Stage); *Pen* (Playwrights Horizons); *Terrorism* (The New Group/The Play Company); *Omnium Gatherum* (Variety Arts); *Where We're Born* and *God Hates the Irish* (both at Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre); *Get What You Need* (Atlantic 453) and *Kid-Simple* (Summer Play Festival). Regional: *Some Loverd* at the Old Globe Theater, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Bus Stop*, *The Water's Edge* and *A Servant of Two Masters* at the Williamstown Theatre Festival; *The Pillowman* at George Street Playhouse; *Hay Fever* and *The Price* at Baltimore CenterStage; *Sleuth* at the Bay Street Theatre; *Our Lady of 121<sup>st</sup> Street* (Steppenwolf Theatre); *Omnium Gatherum* (Actor's Theatre of Louisville). Artistic Director, Yale Cabaret, 1999-2000. He is a recipient of the Boris Sagal and Bill Foeller directing fellowships and a contributor to *The Paris Review*, *New York Magazine*, *Harper's* and *The London Review of Books*. He is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and the Yale School of Drama and serves on the faculty at Sarah Lawrence College.

**ABOUT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE**

The Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the Geffen Playhouse continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates, and is currently helmed by Artistic Director Randall Arney, Managing Director Ken Novice and Chairman of the Board Frank Mancuso. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains an extensive education and outreach program, designed to engage young people and the community at large in the arts. For more information, please visit [geffenplayhouse.com](http://geffenplayhouse.com).

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