



SEPT, 2018  
FOR MORE INFO, PHOTOS, INTERVIEWS  
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The Cultch presents

# THE ONES WE LEAVE BEHIND

Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre (Vancouver)

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**WHEN:** Oct 24-Nov 3, 2018

Oct 24, 8PM: Preview

Oct 25, 8PM: Opening

Oct 26 – 27, 30 – 31, Nov 01 – 03, 8PM

Oct 27 – 28, Nov 03, 2PM

Post-show Artist Talkback: Oct 28 & 30

**WHERE:** HISTORIC THEATRE, 1895 Venables St.

**TICKETS:** Tickets from \$24. Single tickets on sale now through The Cultch's Box Office: 604-251-1363 or [tickets.thecultch.com](http://tickets.thecultch.com).

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**From the writer of the smash-hit *Dirty Old Woman*, comes a new play about the redemptive power of human connection.**

(Vancouver, BC) – The Cultch is thrilled to present the world premiere of Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre's (VACT) *The Ones We Leave Behind*, by Loretta Seto, at the Historic Theatre, Oct 24-Nov 3, 2018.

***"The path into the light seems dark  
The path forward seems to go back..."* — From the TAO TE CHING by Lao-tzu**

An investigator for the Public Trustee, Abby Chung is assigned her first case to find the next-of-kin for an elderly woman named Beatrice, who has died without any family or friends to claim her. As Abby uncovers more details of Beatrice's lonely life, she is confronted by her own demons and is forced to face the mystery of her own life--the truth about her own father who walked out on her and her mother years ago. Exploring themes of isolation and abandonment, *The Ones We Leave Behind* is a moving story about the importance of connection.

Audiences have come to expect great things from VACT ever since their foundation in 2001. Over 40 productions later they are still committed to showcasing the stories of Asian Canadians, and promoting the work of Asian Canadian theatre artists. This is their second production with Loretta Seto, the creator of the smash-hit *Dirty Old Woman*. "I am beyond thrilled at having the support of VACT, which has fostered my development as a playwright early on," says Seto. "I am grateful to this amazing theatre company that works so hard to get Asian Canadian stories out there and on stage for all to see."

**"It's Seto's ability to telepathically inhabit the experiences of others that makes her extraordinary"— Colin Thomas**

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Written by: **Loretta Seto**

Directed by: **John Cooper**

Performers: **Agnes Tong, Brahm Taylor, James Yi, Josh Drebit, and Alannah Ong**

Artistic Producer/Associate Director: **Donna Yamamoto**, Set Designer: **Pam Johnson**, Lighting Designer: **Gerald King**, Assistant Lighting Designer: **Sophie Tang**, Costume Designer: **Laura Fukumoto**, Sound Designer: **Dorothy Dittrich**, Production Manager/Technical Director: **Adrian Muir**, Stage Manager: **Susan Miyagishima**, Apprentice Stage Manager: **Heather Barr**, Props master: **Jenn Stewart**

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#### **ABOUT VACT:**

Founded in 2001 by Joyce Lam, Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre first began as a community theatre. Over the next 12 years, VACT collaborated with over 500 Asian Canadian theatre artists in over 40 productions. In 2013, Donna Yamamoto was appointed as the new Artistic Director. Thus began VACT's rapid transformation from a community theatre to one of the most exciting diversity-mandated professional theatre companies in Canada. In 2014, VACT's co-production with The Frank Theatre of *Ga Ting* by Minh Ly was a world premiere of a new Canadian work. In October 2015, *Empire of the Son* by Tetsuro Shigematsu was presented as part of The Cultch's 2015/16 season to unanimous critical praise, and has since toured to over a dozen cities. In the Spring of 2016, VACT premiered *Dirty Old Woman* by Loretta Seto, in The Cultch's official season with a sold-out run.

#### **ABOUT THE CULTCH:**

Since 1973, The Cultch (formally the Vancouver East Cultural Centre) has been one of Vancouver's most diverse and innovative arts and cultural hubs. The organization operates three theatrical venues, a gallery, and various ancillary spaces in the heart of East Vancouver. The Cultch offers dynamic contemporary programming in theatre, dance, music, and the visual arts, bringing world-class cultural presentations to thousands of citizens each year through its own programming and through providing rental opportunities for community users. Our purpose is to provide a venue for performance that serves a diverse and engaged public and provides space for artistic experimentation and development, building an audience for local companies and presenting cutting-edge national and international work.