

Staged Reading

# The Two-Body Problem

by Thomas Farber and Edward Frenkel

## CAST

Richard	Robert Sicular*
Phillip	Gabriel Marin*
Claire	Lyndsy Kail*
Katherine	Sally Clawson
Ha	Lily Tung Crystal*
Yun Yun	Esperanza Catubig*
Natalia	Alexandra Creighton
Ingrid	Kendra Lee Oberhauser

Monday, November 14, 2011, 7:30 pm

**Aurora Theater**  
2081 Addison St, Berkeley

Directed by Barbara Oliver

Stage Manager Kevin Johnson\*

\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

In mathematics, a "two-body problem" is about the trajectories of two objects interacting only with each other (a star and a planet, for example). This kind of problem has a simple mathematical solution. Not so for two human bodies, however — two lovers, or two friends — as we learn from this story about the limits of art or math, those realms of perfection.

In a beach town in the South of France, a writer and a mathematician happen to meet, start trading stories about bachelor life, relationships, loves lost. Encountering several young women as the day passes, they banter with them about art and mathematics, playfully, passionately — seductively. The two men also begin to see both what bonds them and the ways in which they may greatly differ. That evening, the two men and the women met earlier are partying when a surprising guest shows up, and tensions apparent earlier reach an unexpected conclusion. For more info, see <http://thetwobodyproblem.com/>

The authors gratefully acknowledge Barbara Oliver's guidance in making this theater adaptation of their original screenplay.

Acclaimed director, writer and actor, **Barbara Oliver** is the founding Artistic Director of the award-winning Aurora Theater in Berkeley. Among the recent plays she has directed are *The Man of Destiny* by George Bernard Shaw, *Partition* by Ira Hauptman, and *John Gabriel Borkman* by Henrik Ibsen. She will be directing *Anatol* by Arthur Schnitzler at the Aurora Theater in April-May 2012.

Author of many works of nonfiction and fiction, including *The Beholder* and *Brief Nudity*, and recipient of Guggenheim, National Endowment, Rockefeller, Fulbright, and Dorothea Lange - Paul Taylor fellowships, **Thomas Farber** is Senior Lecturer in English at the University of California, Berkeley. Visit <http://www.thomasfarber.org>

Professor of Mathematics at the University of California, Berkeley, **Edward Frenkel** is the author of two books and numerous research articles in mathematical journals. Recipient of the Hermann Weyl Prize, the Packard Fellowship in Science and Engineering, and Chaire d'Excellence from Fondation Sciences Mathématiques de Paris, he also co-produced, co-directed, and played the lead in the film *Rites of Love and Math*. Visit <http://math.berkeley.edu/~frenkel>