



CAMINOS 2023



aluna
theatre

FACTORY

© Factory Theatre
125 Bathurst St.

WELCOME TO CAMINOS



Curating CAMINOS is an act of love. And trust. Love for the process of experimentation, exploration and risk taking, with a profound admiration for the incredible talent amongst the emerging and established artists presenting this year. And trust in the choices we've made that reflect the ideas and desire for collective and individual transformation through radical and decolonizing approaches to creation.

Our goal with this festival of works-in-progress is to foment the concept of a laboratory for creation; where the focus is on the process and the discoveries rather than on presenting a "finished" product. This frees the artists to dream in a safe space; to try an idea, no matter how much they may think it to be absurd, in the company of an audience that accompanies and supports them on this journey.

The meeting of artists and audiences at this intersection enhances the vibrancy of the many communities represented at CAMINOS; laying the path, together, for ideas on how we can make this a better world for all.

Enjoy!

- *Beatriz Pizano & Trevor Schwellnus*

*Help us to continue to grow
this amazing community of artists.*

Please donate at:

www.alunatheatre.ca/support-us/make-a-donation/





We believe that when people participate in their community, good things can happen.

TD is proud to support Aluna Theatre and the 2023 CAMINOS Festival.

As part of our goal to help people feel a sense of belonging in their communities, TD supports arts and culture events, initiatives, and organizations across North America that amplify diverse voices.

Learn more at td.com/artsandculture

TD **READY** COMMITMENT

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TD **READY** COMMITMENT

new moon kitchen
TOTALLY NATURAL • TOTALLY DELICIOUS
gourmet baked goods



CAMINOS 2023

CAMINOS FESTIVAL 2023 TEAM

Artistic Director: Beatriz Pizano
Artistic Producer: Trevor Schwellnus
Festival Producer: Lisa Alves
Festival Production Manager: Charrisa Wilcox
Outreach Coordinator: Maria Paula Carreño-Martínez
Lighting Designers: Steph Raposo and Rach Shaen
Marketing Coordinator: Tushar Dalvi
Studio Coordinator & Production Assistant: Flavia Martin
Production Assistant: Andrea Perez
Graphic Designer: Victor Terzis



FACTORY THEATRE TEAM

Artistic Director: Mel Hague
Managing Director: Mark Aikman
Associate Artistic Director: Kalale Dalton-Lutale
Fundraising & Development Manager: Mollie Garrett
Production Manager: Courtney Pyke
Producer: Rachel Penny
Marketing & Communications Manager: Maher Sinno
Marketing & Outreach Coordinator: Lianne Rañopa
Technical & Facilities Coordinator: Leigh Keenan
Interim Patron Services Coordinator: Emma

*Opening Night catering by Geladona
Cabaret catering by Dulcinella*



Noises Outside my Door





CREDITS


Kevin Jones

DESCRIPTION

A photographic exploration of life's final act and the struggle for dignity and peace within the mirrored carnival halls of our healthcare system, just as the world around you faces its own pandemic battles. This series offers an abstract visual depiction of the very real emotions – some sweet, some understandably painful, and many shocking and disorienting – that came to the surface as I walked with my ailing father through the realities of our public emergency and end-of-life care system.

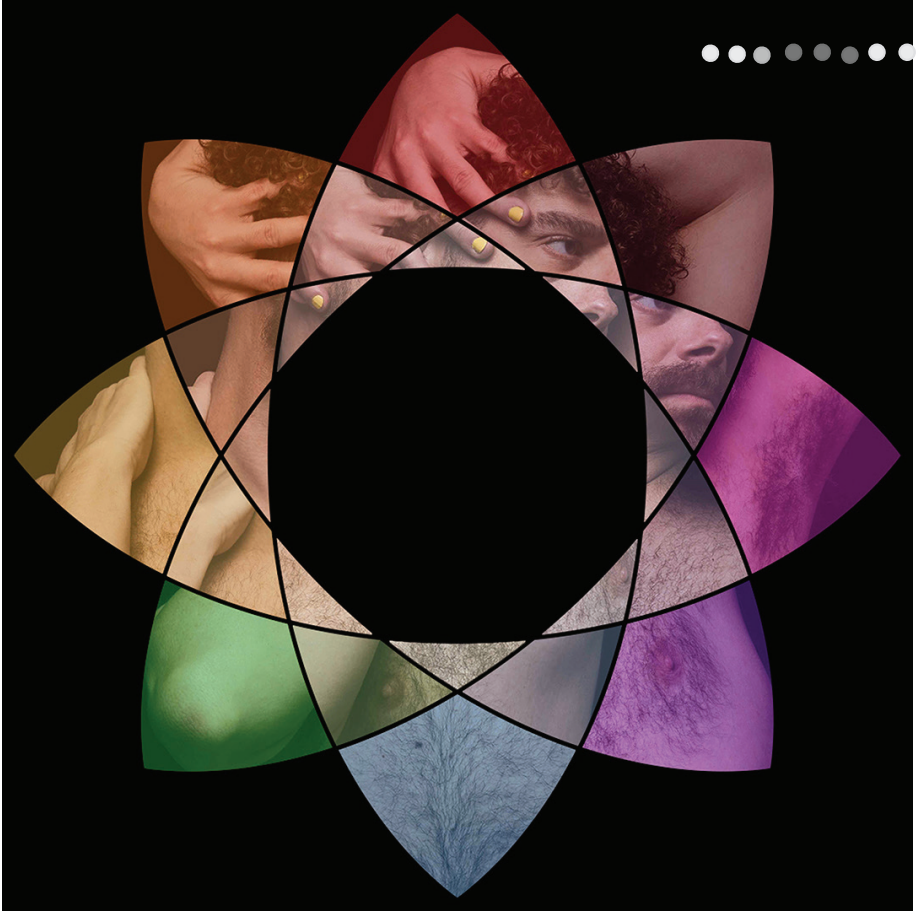
BIOGRAPHY

Kevin Stanley Omar Jones is a Jamaican Canadian photographer and artist currently based in Tkaronto. Through his 17-year career in photography, his evolving body of work has been largely fixed along three separate overarching themes: displaying representations of Blackness, capturing the quiet expressions of daily life, and documenting the creation process and performance of dance and music. The unifying focus through these thematic streams has been his desire to build images of stillness and respite within life's fleeting moments of intimate human exchange and emotion. He is currently a resident photographer at The Music Gallery and has also worked for many years as a photographer of live performance, primarily in music, theatre, and dance.



Throughout the Festival: Installations at Factory Theatre

QUEERLEIDOSCOPE





CREDITS

Creative conception & video installation: Renato Baldin

DESCRIPTION

Our queer bodies need to perform to exist. Our expression and movement print our authenticity. People, institutions, and the system surrounding us reflect, project, overshadow, cover, distort, and traverse our image as well as the surfaces and objects in this installation. As a kaleidoscope with multiple images, the video is shown through fragmented and multifaceted images in movement. They bring ordinary but singular moments of queerness and represent the diversity but unity of queer expressions.

BIOGRAPHY

Renato Baldin is a Toronto-based multidisciplinary artist, curator, and activist from Brazil. His work focuses on immersive art installations, which have been influenced by his background in architecture, museology, and queer culture. The artistic themes of his work have also been inspired by anthropology, psychology, and philosophical theories and how it converges in the urban space. When beginning a project Renato incorporates theoretical concepts into visual statements as tridimensional and experiential artwork, which invites audiences to reflect together.



Wednesday September 27 at 7.30pm

OJALÁ



CREDITS



Choreography: Sofia Ontiveros

Producer: Jasmine Au

Collaborator & Dancer: María Riaño

Dancer: Simon Mazziotti

Dancer: Kiah Francis

Dancer: Aryana Malekzadeh

Dancer: Frédérique Perron

Dancer: Danielle Davis

DESCRIPTION

Ojalá... (Hopefully...) explores the aftermath of interpersonal betrayals. When one who loves you deeply, hurts you deeply, two contradicting truths begin to coexist: the love and lack thereof. The betrayal acts as a catalyst, unveiling new truths, which begin to question your prior reality. Can both old and new realities live simultaneously and hold the same weight? How does the body react after living and merging two juxtaposing experiences into one? Will the lesson outweigh the pain? Ojalá... explores connections, their stumbles upon betrayals, and their search for healing. Ojalá... dives into the risks taken in connections, with the hope it leads us to what we truly seek within.

Ojalá has been supported by The National Ballet of Canada's Open Space programme and Toronto Metropolitan University

BIOGRAPHY

Sofía Ontiveros is a dance artist and choreographer based in Tkaronto, Ontario, and México. Sofía is a queer, white, Mexican woman, and carries these parts of her identity through her works by questioning and exploring social constructs and how they play on individual or interpersonal relationships. Sofía is a 2021 graduate from Toronto Metropolitan University's The Creative School BFA Dance Program. The TMU faculty chose her for the Lipson Family Endowment Award for an Emerging Choreographer. Her most recent works include *Universo de textos*, pt.1-6, live streamed online through Aluna Theatre's CAMINOS 2021, *Siéntate bien* performed live at Underscore Projects through CREATO's *Nature with Nurture 2021* exhibition, and *Ojalá...* showcased at The Citadel's *Night Shift 2022*, co-produced with Fall for Dance North. She is currently reworking and transforming her piece *Ojalá...*, which will be showcased this year at CAMINOS 2023 by Aluna Theatre, and The Citadel Dance Mix 2023 by The Citadel + Compagnie.

Wednesday September 27 at 7.30pm

THE ANATOMY LESSON

(Crave Productions)





CREDITS

Playwright, Performer, Choreographer, Sound Design: Thalia Gonzalez Kane

DESCRIPTION

What does it mean to be a prisoner in one's body? How do we co-exist and thrive with the one body we have when we feel like it's failing us? The Anatomy Lesson follows Gemma as she comes to terms with the ways she's harmed her body, how it's harmed her, and her journey to find peace co-existing with it. We follow as she undergoes medical procedures, experiences surreal trips inside herself, and struggles to love and inhabit the body that she never expected to live in.

BIOGRAPHY

Thalia Gonzalez Kane is an award-winning, Ecuadorian-Canadian, queer, multidisciplinary artist and theatre scholar. Her work as a performer, playwright, voice-over artist, composer, designer, choreographer, director, and producer has been shared in Canada, Czechia, England, Ireland, Sweden, Scotland, and the USA. In 2023, she completed a six-city international tour of the award-winning and critically acclaimed play *At Birth*, which she co-wrote, designed, produced and performed in. Thalia is a councilor for ACTRA Toronto and ACTRA National, co-chair of outACTRato, and the Artistic Director of Crave Productions. @teakane / @craveprod / www.craveartmakeart.com



Wednesday September 27 at 7.30pm

ANIVIA

(Tan Vu / ANIVIA Collective)



CREDITS

CREATION TEAM

Creator of text, song melodies & lyrics for songs: Tan Vu

Musical arranger for "Home": Vũ Việt Anh

Musical collaborator / arranger for other songs: Alice Ping Yee Ho

Movement facilitator for creation: Chase Lo

Traditional costume maker: Tạ Thanh Hoa

CONSULTING EXPERTS

Vietnamese History & Culture Consultant: Nguyễn Thị Hồng Hạnh
Song Development Consultant: Đào Nhật Quang (Andrew)
Vietnamese Folk Music Expert: Nguyễn Thị Mai Hiền
Vietnamese History & Culture Consultant: Nguyễn Thị Hồng Hạnh
Vietnamese Folk Music Artist: Lê Thu Hiền -

CREATIVE TEAM

Director: Nam Pham
Music Director: Benjamin Page
Choreographer: Chase Lo
Festival Presentation Dramaturg: Nguyễn Thị Hồng Hạnh

PRODUCTION TEAM

Lead Producer: Tan Vu
Associate Producer: Shane Mai
Stage Manager: Brittany Stewart
Apprentice Stage Manager: Bella Truong,
Vietnamese Costume Maker: Tạ Thanh Hoa -

CAST

The Wanderer / ANIVIA	Tan Vu
Spirit of Emperor Khải Định / ANIMUS	Ryota Kaneko
Spirit of Lady Triệu / ANIMA	Heeyun Park
Fisherman 1 / Pawn Chess Piece	Nam Nguyen
Fisherman 2 / Pawn Chess Piece	Aidan Reimer
Fisherman 3 / King Chess Piece	Alexander Franks
Ensemble	Yuki Fumoto
Ensemble	Mackenzie Langdon
Ensemble	Duy Tran
Ensemble	Steave A. Sidibe

And many other artists whose expertise and contributions have been valuable to this project.

DESCRIPTION

Weaving together musical theatre and Vietnamese folk music and folk tales, ANIVIA follows The Wanderer on his quest to recover fragments of a broken mirror and assemble them to see himself whole again. ANIVIA's excerpt presentation at CAMINOS 2023 Festival portrays The Wanderer's journey back to his roots, where he meets with two historical figures and receives guidance to move forward.

ANIVIA's Public Presentation at CAMINOS 2023 Festival has been supported by The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, The Toronto Arts Council, Aluna Theatre, Canadian Stage, and The AFC. ANIVIA's conceptualization was supported by Buddies In Bad Times Theatre, Cahoots Theatre, MT Space, and Talk Is Free Theatre

BIOGRAPHY

Tan Vu is a Vietnamese-Canadian artist. A Fulbright fellow, Tan performed in theatre and opera in Vietnam before moving to New York to train, under a scholarship, at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. Tan immigrated to Canada in November 2019 and has since worked with Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Cahoots Theatre, City Opera Vancouver, Talk Is Free Theatre, Toronto Operetta Theatre, and others. His upcoming projects include the Canadian Opera Company's FIDELIO, and Tarragon Theatre's Greenhouse Festival 2024. Tan is also a creator of new works that weave together musical theatre and Vietnamese folk music and folk tales, and has received grants from Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, and Canada Council for the Arts, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre's 2020 Queer Emerging Artist Award, and Toronto Arts Foundation's 2021 RBC Newcomer Arts Award.

Thursday September 28 at 7.30pm

HOMBROS

(Choripán Theatre)





CREDITS

Writer/Director: Nawi Moreno-Valverde

Lighting designer: Micah Champaign

Stage Manager: Maya Aguayo


Performers: Ruchi Wigwe, Rayhan Jabbar

DESCRIPTION

Juan Pablo recruits his friend José to work with him as an “hombro.” Those aren’t their real names and what they do isn’t entirely clear. We get sparse details: they are supporting men in crisis with a Latine approach – “we don’t always know what the clients want, but they like it when we speak to them in Spanish.” It’s a dark comedy, a hangout play, and a satire on the gig economy.

LEAD ARTIST

Nawi Moreno-Valverde is an award-winning Latino playwright and director based in Toronto. His plays have been produced in various festivals, including *La cama cósmica* at Aluna Theatre’s CAMINOS Festival, *Tactile Maladies* at Seven Sibling’s Future Theatre Festival, and *Success Horizon* at the 2021 Toronto Digital Fringe Festival. His newest play *The Foot Doctor* premiered at the 2022 Hamilton Fringe Festival.



Thursday September 28 at 7.30pm

MIRROR



CREDITS

Creator, Choreographer: Falciony Patiño

Dancer: Erika Suarez

Dancer: Isabel Estrada

Dancer: Cheryl Chan

DESCRIPTION

Mirror is a piece that incorporates dance styles, art games, and physical training systems like Parkour and Animal Movement to create a unique movement vocabulary. The audience becomes an active entity within the performance space, reflecting the idea that life itself is full of obstacles to overcome. Through improvisation and reflection, the dancers uncover their personal stories and embrace the use of mirrors as instruments to unlock their potential. The work also addresses the need for greater cultural representation in the dance community, aiming to bridge the gap between art circles and the wider public.

LEAD ARTIST:

Falciony Patiño was born in Funza, Colombia. He began his training in Colombian folk dance at the age of seven with the group Zaquesazipa, in Funza. After finishing high school, Patiño got into the Superior Academy of Arts of Bogota (ASAB) to study contemporary dance. During his time at ASAB, he was part of the folk group Orkeseos. In 2009 he moved to Toronto to join Ballet Creole as a student and a company member. In the spring of 2012 Patiño created Cabildo, a group that explores a contemporary approach to Colombian folk dance. In 2013 he was part of Newton Moraes Dance Theatre with the piece Brazil, the Land of Tears and Soul, and in 2016 and 2019 with Testosterone. In 2015 Alejandro Ronceria invited him to be part of a show, Amalgama, in the Pan American games. In 2016 Falciony danced for Kaha:Wi Dance Theatre as a part of The Honoring, and since 2017 he has been doing Mistatim, an unforgettable story of reconciliation for children; a creation of Red Sky Performance. In 2019 he and two other Colombians created the Poporo collective, and in 2019 the Little Pear Garden dance company invited him to be part of All About Meeting You and also Unleash in 2020, an amazing short film. Since he was very young he has been experimenting with different dance styles from folk dance, ballet and contemporary to afro, urban dance, capoeira and parkour. Dance is what drives Patiño out of the ordinary.

Thursday September 28 at 7.30pm

LA MUJER FRAGMENTADA



CREDITS

Creator: María Escolán

Dramaturg: Anita La Selva

Composer: Kimia Koochakzadeh-Yazdi

Video Projection Designer: Ilvs Strauss

Performers: Alba Agosto, Irma Villafuerte, Jessica Zepeda

DESCRIPTION

La Mujer Fragmentada is a bilingual interdisciplinary theatre piece exploring efforts in mothering within contexts of unending colonial violence in El Salvador. Drawing on verbatim text from family interviews and documentary sources based on the work of contemporary Salvadoran artists and journalists, the piece centers scenic intensity, rhythm, and image through video projection, sound design, and movement. The piece also draws on creation story elements and Salvadoran folklore, as the scenic imagery alludes to myth-based sources for the central image - the grieving mother, searching for her lost children. La Mujer Fragmentada has been supported by rice & beans theatre.

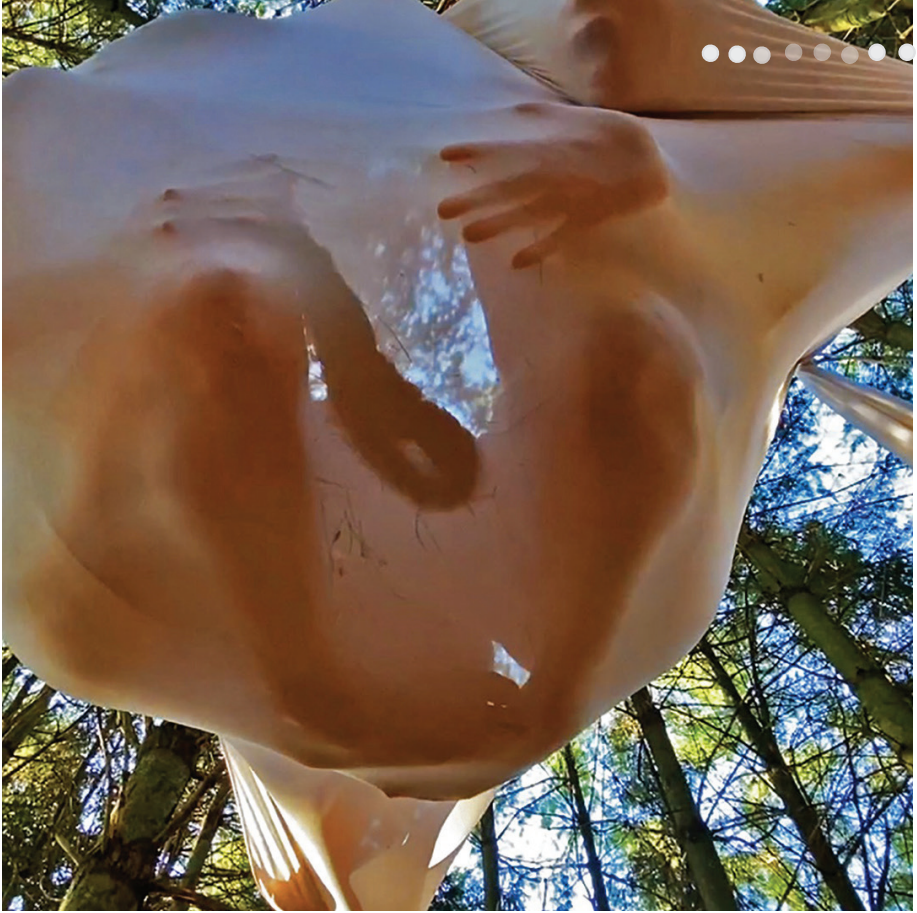
@riceandbeanstheatre

LEAD ARTIST

María Escolán is a theatre artist from El Salvador living on the unceded traditional Coast Salish Territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. Recent work includes live translation performance in Pequeños Territorios en Reconstrucción with Teatro Linea de Sombra and Assistant Directing/Performance with Nightwood Theatre's Children of Fire at Aluna Theatre's RUTAS Festival 2022 in Toronto. Recent workshop showings of her work in development La Mujer Fragmentada have taken place in collaboration with Teatro del Azoro in San Salvador, Intrepid Theatre's UNO Fest in Victoria, Aluna Theatre's CAMINOS Festival in Toronto, and Rice & Beans Theatre's DBLSPK program in Vancouver. María holds a BFA Degree in Theatre Performance from the School for Contemporary Arts, Simon Fraser University and a BA Degree in Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice from the University of British Columbia.

Thursday September 28 at 7.30pm

ENLAZADAS COCOONS





CREDITS

Dancers: Diana Lopez, Victoria Mata

Concept & Creation: Diana Lopez, Victoria Mata

Video Production & Lighting: Lucia Rojas

Camera Assistant: Uche Ama

Sound Design & Recording: Seth Power


Vocals: Eva Maria Lopez Stocking

DESCRIPTION

Elazadas Cocoon is an intimate invitation into the sensorial expansion of the womb. A visual narrative between two parallel bodies woven within the suspension of time. Linked by the umbilical cord of their origin of creation; the intersection of these two bodies unleashes fears inherited by their collective mothers and exposes a metamorphosis of secrets. Elazadas Cocoon is an excerpt of a full-length site-specific installation that explores performance as an act of reciprocity with the space, the living organisms and the energies in which the process takes place. *Project supported by: Willo'Wind Farm, Land Embodiment Lab and Vanguardia Dance Projects.*

LEAD ARTISTS

Diana Lopez: Diana Lopez Soto is a multidisciplinary artist integrating aerial arts, ritual, dance and sculpture in a quest for sustainability and regeneration through reciprocity. Lopez's goal is to create offerings inspired by our Mother Land, breath and movement. Her culture, heritage and relationship to the Earth inform her process and artistic practice. She weaves stories and holds spaces for creation and work with ritual and ceremony.



Friday September 29 at 7.30pm

PARK LIFE





CREDITS

Writer, Performer: Janis Mayers:
Consultant Director & Dramaturge: Bea Pizano
Choreographer: Golnesa Amani
Lighting Designer: Rebecca Vandavelde
Stage Manager: Flavia Martin
Original Composition: Brandon Valdivia
*Wolf mask created by Vanessa Magic for
Aluna's production of The Solitudes*

DESCRIPTION

Park Life is a transformative performance, a death and rebirth of an individual and of a place, Regent Park; the distant past, the recent past and the here and now. A story that weaves itself between reality and the spirit realm.

LEAD ARTIST

Janis Mayers is a Playwright, Performer, Docu-Filmmaker and Audio Describer. A member of ensembles such as Derives produced by Sans Productions and The Solitudes, produced by Aluna theatre. She completed artistic residencies at the Banff Centre, Aluna Theatre and the Emerging Creators Unit with Buddies in BadTimes theatre. She began training with Superior Description in 2022, most recent projects have been audio describing for the Indigenous Curatorial Collective short film festival, Thompson Highways's "The Cave" and Yolanda Bonnell's "My Sister's Rage". She has also produced a short documentary "A Pile of Dirt" that premiered at the Regent Park Film Festival.



Friday September 29 at 7.30pm

SURRENDERED SPIRITS

(CinnaMoon Collective)



CREDITS

Choreographer/Performer: Irma Villafuerte

Choreographer/Performer: Nickeshia Garrick

Dramaturg: Dedra McDermott

Musician: Viktor Kei

Stage Manager: Jessica Zepeda

Photo: Kevin Jones



DESCRIPTION

Surrendered Spirits is an embodied paradigm where we heal inter-generational wounds through collective care, valuing ourselves and holding unconditional space for queer womxn of colour. Surrendered Spirits' team thanks Kaeja d'Dance (Kair Program), Aluna Theatre, and dance Immersion

LEAD ARTISTS

Nickeshia Garrick is a settler on the stolen land of Tkaronto and has performed on this land for over 25 years. They are unapologetically a Black, Queer Artist, who believes in the healing power of breath through raw emotion and movement. Nickeshia received their dance training at the Carousel Dance Centre (Kitchener), the NYIDE (New York Institution of Dance and Education), the National Ballet School of Canada (Tkaronto), Toronto Dance Theatre (Tkaronto), and Simon Fraser University (Vancouver). Nickeshia is a Dora Mavor Moore, winning and multi-nominated artist who holds a BFA in Dance from Simon Fraser University.

Irma Villafuerte is a Tkaronto-based dance artist, educator, choreographer and first-generation daughter of refugees from Nahuat Territory Kuskatan, post-colonial El Salvador. Irma is the Program Director of Native Earth's Animikiig Creators Lab, and a TAF 2021 Emerging Artist Finalist. She's been part of works by Kaha:wi Dance Theatre, Jaberri Dance Theatre, Kaeja d'Dance, Victoria Mata, Aria Evans, Alejandro Ronceria, Diana Lopez and Michael Caldwell. Since 2017, she has led a journey nurturing her choreographic development through residencies with Dance Makers, TDT's Emerging Voices, Kaeja D'dance KAIR, and Aluna Theatre; currently developing two important works Xilopango and Siwat Piedra. www.irmavillafuerte.com



Friday September 29 at 7.30pm

CHEZ MOI





CREDITS

Creator and Performer: Elizabeth Staples

Stage Manager: Jessica Zepeda

Outside Eye: Evalyn Parry

Dramaturg: Yolanda Bonnell

Consultant: leZlie lee kam

DESCRIPTION

Chez Moi is a performance love letter to the Lesbian bars of Toronto. By daring to evoke dance floors past, we understand how to build the dancefloors of the future. Chez Moi has been supported by Buddies in Bad Times (supported with an RGTC in 2022)

LEAD ARTIST

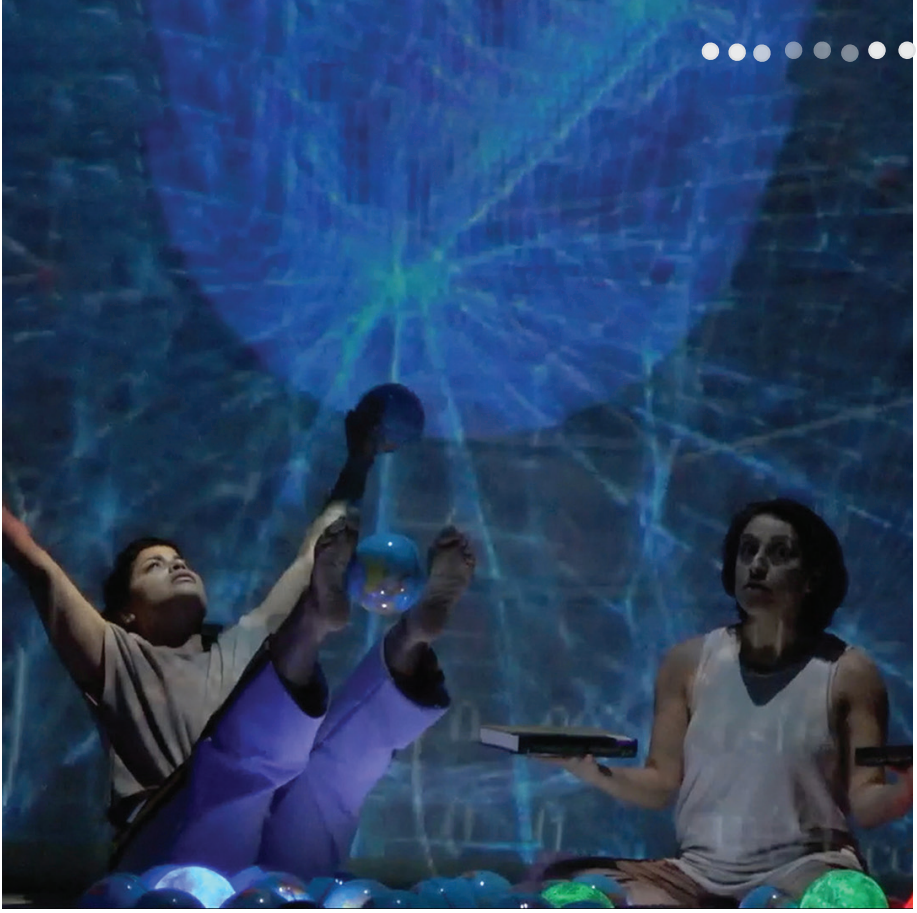
Elizabeth Staples (she/her) is a queer bisexual femme settler of Italian ancestry, who was born and raised in Tkarón:to (Toronto). She is a multidisciplinary performance artist, theatre creator, director, producer and arts administrator. She is one half of Jord+Liz, who brings alternative drag experiences to public spaces. She was a part of Factory Theatre's TEP's Acting Cohort in 2023. Recent Acting credits include: White Girls in Moccasins (manidoons collective/ Buddies in Bad Times) Private Eyes (lemonTree creations). As an emerging Director, her work has been featured in festivals such as SummerWorks, Aluna Theatre's CAMINOS Festival, Buddies in Bad Times Queer Pride, Bricks and Glitter, and Musical Stage Co's Musical Moments.



Saturday September 30 at 7.30pm

DOUBLE

(Leon Arts)



CREDITS

Choreographer, Director, Writer: Sharon Moore
Performer, Producer: Lilia Leon
Performer: Irma Villafuerte
Projections Designer: Alejandra Higuera:
Lighting Designer: Theo Belc
Stage Manager: A. J. Morra
Composer: Edgardo Moreno
Costume Designer: Sarah Coucet

DOUBLE has been funded in part through Toronto Arts Council-Long Term Dance Projects. DOUBLE was first presented as a work-in-progress at the 2023 SummerWorks Performance Festival in the SummerWorks Lab. Special thanks to the on-going technical and creative support of Aluna Theatre

DESCRIPTION

DOUBLE is a multidisciplinary duet that follows two “explorers” in their quest to understand their own existence, how everything is connected, and ultimately, how to love. Through multiple performative experiments, they come to face their own mortal flaws and talents, adding magic and humour to their ongoing quest. This intimate and playful collaboration integrates multiple languages into an abstract narrative: the language of the body, spoken languages (English and Spanish), and the visual language of video design.

LEAD ARTISTS

Leon Arts is a new dance-theatre company founded by Lilia Leon for the purpose of creating and presenting new multidisciplinary performances. We are drawn to working with artists that challenge conventional hierarchies and practices, in order to explore the full range of human experiences—from the surreal and absurd to the intimate and mundane. DOUBLE is our first production and it celebrates our commitment to bringing together artists across disciplines and languages to create unique works of art that highlight mixed identities and bilingualism.

SHARON MOORE, choreographer, writer, director

Sharon creates as a choreographer, director and writer for dance, theatre, film and circus. A former member of Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers under the direction of Tedd Robinson, she was the first Canadian to receive a Bessie Schonberg Choreographic Residency at “The Yard” on Martha's Vineyard. In 2012 she was appointed Atelier Artist in Residence at Princeton University where she ran a lab in narrative and movement. Alongside Canadian composer/director Derek Aasland, they run Cinetic Creations, a company which serves the film industry as a specialty movement/choreography design and direction unit creating large-scale, picture-wide movement worlds on features such as Sony Pictures/ Impact Films/ Davies Films Resident Evil; Apocalypse.

Saturday September 30 at 7.30pm

LEARNED BEHAVIOR





CREDITS

Creators: Golboo Amani and Golnesa Amani

DESCRIPTION

Learned Behaviour illustrates the internal conflict of both belonging and longing a deeper connection to the people, land and practices we call our home.

LEAD ARTISTS

Golboo Amani is a multi-disciplinary artist, educator and curator working with performance and social practice. Golboo produces sites for aesthetic intervention by utilizing ready-made and familiar social engagements as a point of entry in their practice. Golboo's work often examines their relationship to learning by addressing the conditions of knowledge production that render epistemic violence as invisible, insignificant and benign. As a result, Golboo's works often experiment with collective agency and egalitarian epistemology by producing sites where one gets to play with the conditions of learning and knowing.

Golnesa Amani (aka. Ola Minou) is an artist and educator working with dance and movement practices informed by Iranian folk, classical ballet, and performance art. Golnesa's choreography and performances blend burlesque with contemporary dance elements, theatrics, as well as traditional Iranian mannerisms, music and narratives as an embodying act of preservation. Golnesa transforms the stage into a space for learning, a platform for reclamation, reconfiguration, and communing for Iranian diaspora/Canadian settlers who may also intersect with marginalized social identities.



Saturday September 30 at 7.30pm

12 LITRES 8800 STEPS





CREDITS

Writer/Performer: Anita La Selva

Collaborator/Performer: Brad Cook

Dramaturg: Martin Julien

Choreography: Victoria Mata

Sound Design/Stage Management: Camila Diaz-Varela

Outside Eye: Maria Paula Carreño-Martínez

DESCRIPTION

12 Litres 8800 Steps is a story about love. It is a story about endurance. It is a story about those who have loved and lost someone to addiction. A multi-disciplinary odyssey incorporating text, movement and video that invites the audience to take a deep dive into the inner sanctum of a Woman who is grappling with her partner's addiction. One day she encounters a Horse, and together they journey through the dualistic worlds of addiction/mental health, and Magic Realism where dreams, memories, and possibility take flight.

LEAD ARTIST

Anita La Selva is an award-winning director, dramaturg, actor and creator. Her focus as an artist is in creating interdisciplinary, inter-cultural work that reflects the world we live in today. Her unique style of combining text with movement, dance and music has made her a popular director, co-creator, and consultant, on numerous interdisciplinary projects. She is the 2019 recipient of the Gina Wilkinson Award for Emerging Female Director, holds an MFA in Directing from York University, and has been an artist mentor through the Toronto Arts Council and The Buddies Emerging Creators' Unit. Anita teaches regularly in the York University and Seneca College Acting Programs



Saturday September 30 at 9:45 PM

THE ALUNA CABARET

FREE EVENT



Featuring Chicho, Dainty Smith, Maria Paula Carreño-Martínez, Boyband the Boyband, and DJ Sofia Fly

Hosted by Monica Garrido

Monica is a Mexican born Toronto based Queer Artist and Storyteller. Her short films “Diferente” and “Love You to Death” premiered at the Inside Out LGBT Film Festival. Her first solo show “The Cunning Linguist” recently adapted as an Audio Show for Aluna Theatre’s Studio Series, won the 2016 Queer Acts Audience Award. She’s part of the ensemble of the Canadian Comedy Award winning show Sketch Comedy Extravaganza Eleganza. Monica is the 2018 recipient of the Queer Emerging Artist Award at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre

CHICHO

A mundane pimple on the day of Chicho's University grad photos hurls him down a chaotic spiral of hallucinations that triggers an identity crisis. CHICHO is a surreal, experimental short film that depicts the impact of the Venezuelan crisis on its diaspora, where displacement, survivor's guilt, and religious surveillance collide.

CREDITS

Writer/Performer/Co-Producer: Augusto Bitter

Director/Co-Producer: Arlen Aguayo Stewart

Director of Photography/Editor: Roger Galvez

Original Music and Sound Design: Deanna H. Choi

Assistant Director/Co-Producer: Claren Grosz

Production/Post-Production/Accessibility credits can be found on pencilkitproductions.com/chicho-film.

Soy Hija

by Maria Paula Carreño-Martinez

To my parents. An attempt to do what they could not, but my way, on a stage, and doing things my grandmothers would not approve of. Special thanks to Paz Jurado for her craft skills and artistic collaboration in this piece.

LEAD ARTIST

Maria Paula Carreño-Martínez

Beloved Ghost Daughters

by Dainty Smith, Irma Villafuerte, Steff Ivory Conover

An intersection of stories between three women and how they are bound together by womanhood, love, magic and loss. A performance piece for unruly and resistant women.

LEAD ARTISTS

Dainty Smith, Steff Ivory Conover, Irma Villafuerte

Rhythm Is Gonna Get You

by Boyband the Boyband

Boyband The Boyband is ready to hit the stage at the Caminos Cabaret! Join Papi, H&M and Baby Face as they sing and dance their way to your hearts...with consent, of course.

LEAD ARTISTS

Monica Garrido

Heath V. Salazar

Lucia Linares

DJ Sofia Fly

Sofia Fly is a Toronto based DJ and producer, who is the co-founder of club collective Veneno. She is an open format DJ that centres her sets around her own original productions, exploring house, Latin, and techno rhythms with a sprinkling of up-tempo club edits featuring cleverly curated hip-hop, reggaeton, and pop music samples.

Sunday October 1 at 2.30pm

MEMORIAS



CREDITS

Concept / Artistic Director: Luis Rojas

Production Assistant: Kristell Marthié

Stage Manager: Melina Osorio

Music and Sound: Santiago “Lobo” Vega, Luis Rojas

Set creation & design: Luis Rojas

Movement Advisor: Carlos Rivera

Photography: Patricia Casas

Performers / Co-creators:

Alba Agosto

Kristell Marthié

Vanessa Sandre

Lissete Vásquez

Naiyide Agüero

Yari Moreno

DESCRIPTION

“Memorias” explores physical theatre based on a series of tableaux accompanied by original live music. Lines in Spanish, Portuguese and Kichwa [Andean language] will be heard throughout the performance.

The piece represents experiences and memories in the context of the cycle of life and death. Human rituals are expressed through the body, exploring its language and the possibilities of communication.

BIOGRAPHIES

Grupo Teatro Libre is a grassroots, intergenerational, diverse and inclusive group. It was founded in 2008 in Toronto with the mission of doing theatre in Spanish and Portuguese in a collective and participatory manner, representing original creations or Latin American playwrights in their original language, and always promoting solidarity and respect for human rights.

Luis Rojas is a multidisciplinary artist who has devoted himself to Spanish-language theatre in Toronto since 2008. He is the artistic director of Grupo Teatro Libre. Although largely involved as a director, he has also served as actor/performer, producer, musician, light designer and set designer.

Sunday October 1 at 2.30 pm

A PERFECT DAY | UN DÍA PERFECTO



CREDITS

Laura: Jeysa Caridad

Rafael: Yago Mesquita

Alba: Natasha Ramondino

Gustavo: Juan Carlos Velis

Helda: Alex Castillo

Michael/Evan: Julius Cho

Mateo: Manuel Rodriguez-Saenz

TEAM

Playwright: Margarita Valderrama

Director: Mariló Nuñez

Cinematography & Projection Design: Peter Riddihough

Stage Manager: Alysse Szatkowski

Producer: Claren Grosz

Set Designer: Abby Esteireiros

Costume Designer: Kelly Wolf

Lighting Designer: Sooji Kim

Bouffon Consultant: Justin Miller

Fight/Intimacy Choreo: Siobhan Richardson

Sound Operator: Anita Yung

DESCRIPTION

Alba and Evan think they're getting the picture perfect Colombian wedding but when the groom is swapped with an evil twin by a long lost sister bent on revenge, the special day falls into chaos testing the family's strength. Full of humor and heart; "One Perfect Day | Un día perfecto" is a joyous and mischievous marriage between Colombian wedding traditions, the telenovela genre, and the ceremony of attending the theatre.

One Perfect Day | Un día perfecto has been supported by Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Arts Council, Factory Theatre, Cahoots Theatre, Theatre Passe Muraille, Outside the March Theatre, Aluna Theatre, Why Not Theatre, and Nightwood Theatre.

BIOGRAPHIES

Margarita Valderrama is a Colombian-Canadian, Dora Award-nominated actor; writer and filmmaker based in Toronto. She is also a Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prize protégé and currently part of the Reelworld Emerging 20 Program and the Canadian Film Centre's Norman Jewison Writers Lab developing her first feature "Eyes Open | Ojos Abiertos". Her first short film script "Date Night" won the ACTRA Toronto Shorts Competition and has since received official selection from various film festivals across North America. She completed Factory Theatre's Playwriting Unit (The Foundry), two Playwriting Residencies through Aluna Theatre, and most recently was part of the Stratford Festival's Playwrights Retreat. Selected acting credits include voicing Lime Chiffon on Strawberry Shortcake: Berry in the Big City, Lia Venegas on Bakugan: Battle Planet, Hayley Daily on Paw Patrol, and theatre work includes: El Retorno/I Return (Aluna Theatre - Radio Play), Rochdale (SummerWorks), and Meet Cute (Roseneath Theatre). More at www.margaritavalderrama.com

Mariló Nuñez is a Chilean Canadian playwright, director, dramaturg and scholar. She is a 2021 winner of the Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Award in Theatre. She is the 2023-24 Playwright-in-Residence at Carousel Players Theatre for Young Audiences where she will premiere her play Mapu, and was the 2021 Playwright-in-Residence at Aluna Theatre. She has been a member of playwright's units at Factory Theatre, Tarragon Theatre, Cahoots Theatre and Nightwood Theatre. She was McMaster University's first Playwright-in-Residence in 2018 and was the recipient of the Hamilton Arts Awards for Established Theatre Artist. Her plays include: Three Fingered Jack and the Legend of Joaquin Murieta, El Retorno/I Return, Last Supper, Huinca, Foxy: Tales of An Urban Zorra, INQUEST, Demos Kratos, and Sangre Redux. She teaches playwriting at theatres and universities across the country using the Fornes Method. She was founding Artistic Director of Alameda Theatre Company, a company dedicated to developing the new work of Latinx Canadian playwrights. She has an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Guelph and is currently obtaining her Ph D. in Theatre & Performance Studies at York University. Her play El Retorno/I Return has been turned into a podcast for Radio Aluna Theatre.

ABOUT ALUNA THEATRE

The artistic mission of Aluna Theatre is to embrace the myriad of voices, cultures, and stories of our population, which are transforming the landscape of Canadian theatre. In our plays, works in translation, and international co-creations, people are complex individuals who exist beyond the restrictions of cultural labels. We encourage new hybrids of theatre evolved from a rich collaboration of experiences, performance traditions and media by engaging both emerging and established theatre professionals.

Our work reaches out to diverse audiences in Canada and abroad. We build liaisons that promote art as a way to empower, and a way to share with each other and the world the idea of living in harmony.

We welcome into our circle of support and celebration the TransAmerican artists living and working here, who represent the breadth of cultures and languages from across the Americas.

“This is what I know: Aluna Theatre has been built out of love. This is my life’s work. I do it because I want artists of the coming generations to have the freedom, space, and resources to create with the entirety of who they are as individuals. To those artists I say: Never hide, apologize, or justify your culture, the colour of your skin, or where you come from to a colonizing and patriarchal system that seeks to destroy the very essence of who you are.”

- Beatriz Pizano, Artistic Director

Aluna Theatre’s Board of Directors

Chair: Ric Knowles

Secretary: Suzie Balogh

Vice-Chair: Carla Melo

Treasurer: Tatiana Romero

Directors: Robert Hay and Paulie McDermid



ABOUT FACTORY THEATRE

Factory's mission is to enthrall audiences with the imagination of Canadian playwrights and develop the next generation of diverse theatre artists. Since its founding in 1970, Factory has committed to exclusively produce Canadian plays. Factory has made it an artistic priority to invest in, and showcase Canadian artists who bring their stories to our theatre in Toronto. This has made Factory the home of the Canadian playwright and for over four decades, developing and producing some of the finest theatrical works in our national canon and giving space to some of the most gifted and prolific playwrights in Canada.

Factory Theatre's Board of Directors

Chair: Len Racioppo

Vice-Chair: Stewart Adams

Treasurer: Noha Yahia Abji

Secretary: Ebony Rose

Directors: Richard Cioci, Jonathan Odumeru,

Sarah Bay-Cheng, Laura Frith, Susan Sutton,

Joseph Borowiec, Grazyna Krupa



THANK YOU to Aluna Theatre's donors, whose help has made it possible to support so many artists on their paths to creating new work:

Lara Arabian

Marion de Vries

Barbara Fingerote

Jaime Gonzalez

Robert Hay

Nyiri Karakas

Ric Knowles

Suvendrini Lena

Lilia Leon

Reva Lockande

Marilo Nuñez

Christine Quintana

Paulie McDermid (in memory of Jim McEnaney)

Monica Rodriguez Knox

Diana Tso

