

TORONTO
FRINGE

NEXT STAGE



49TH DAY

Presented by:
Theatre Artaud

The Solitudes



photo: Tanja Tuziana

*eight recipes for transforming our solitudes,
and an invitation to sit at the table*



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HAPPY 2020!

Our little theatre festival is now a teenager. In this 13th year of Next Stage, we are presenting a clearer vision than ever before. This line-up offers you personal stories, incredible writing, a full musical, and a Fringe-fave clown duo.



I am so honoured to be able to share this work with you from this passionate group of artists who have worked so hard to bring you their shows. I hope you can pack in as much theatre as possible over the next 12 days and join us for our Fringe Fundraiser, a one-night-only event with Tallboyz, another #StartedAtTheFringe success story, on Saturday Jan 11th at 7:30pm. We will also have treats for everyone in the heated Steam Whistle Festival Tent and a late night party in the Studio theatre so come by then or any other night to say hi to myself and the Next Stage crew.

May this be the start of a 2020 filled with theatre and joy.

All the best,

Lucy Eveleigh
Executive Director



It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the Next Stage Theatre Festival hosted by Toronto Fringe.



Now in its 13th year, the Next Stage Theatre Festival features 11 visionary shows that showcase a vision of innovative styles and formats and represent a vanguard of indie theatre makers in Toronto. These shows range from staged readings to fully realized productions that offer an enriching program while keeping the indie spirit alive.

I am delighted that wonderful events like yours are taking place in Toronto. Events like this festival promote and encourage residents to participate in their community, connect with each other and contribute to the community's strength.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto



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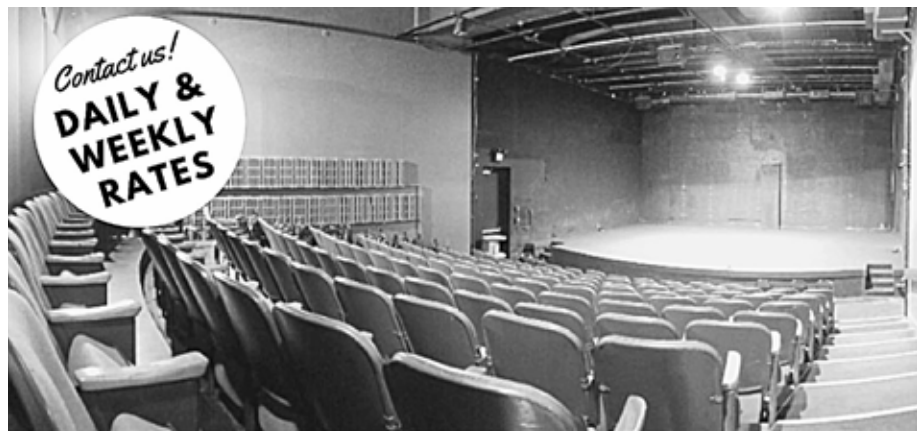
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STEAM WHISTLE

CANADA'S PREMIUM PILSNER

NEXT STAGE

49TH DAY

Presented by
Theatre Artaud

Creator **athena kaitlin trinh**
Director **Rouvan Silogix**
Producer **Angela Sun & Theatre Artaud**
Stage Manager **Lily Chan**
Scenographer **Waleed Ansari**
Sound Designer **Gloria Mok**
Dramaturge **Jeff Ho**

Featuring

athena kaitlin trinh
Diana Tso*

**This is a Canadian Actors' Equity Association production under the Festival Policy.*

The play will be performed in both English and Cantonese.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE: *The idea of generational trauma scares the shit out of me. In an increasingly structuralist world - where everything from career pathways to gender are based on society's development and self-imposed worlds, some things transcend these structures. Our humanity. Our DNA. When we think of nurture vs. nature, I think it's impossible to deny what we know and feel in our blood. The universality of this play has always tickled me-- I think whether one is born to Israeli fisherman, Pakistani chicken-fryers, or Swedish software developers, we share connections to our past. To our deeper-rooted humanity. We are more similar than not, and we all come from somewhere.*

athena kaitlin trinh, CREATOR/ "MUI MUI"

athena kaitlin trinh is a recent acting graduate from the National Theatre School of Canada. She is a Dora nominated, queer, Chinese-Vietnamese actor, writer, and spoken-word poet. With roots stemming from Brampton, Toronto, and Ho Chi Minh city, athena celebrates her Chinese-Vietnamese heritage and dedicates herself to diverse, intersectional, and inclusionary art-making. athena is a settler in Tkaronto, on the traditional territories of the Mississaugas, the Huron-Wendat and the Haudenosaunee peoples. For more information, please visit her website at www.athenakaitlintrinh.com.

ROUVAN SILOGIX, DIRECTOR

Rouvan is a refugee; from a land that is barren, a desert, deserted, bloodthirsty, dirty, corrupt, grimy, sexist, racist, misogynistic, masochistic, Sufi, Jewish, Buddhist, cruel, feminist, camel-run, toe-sharpened, uncleaned-fire, water and the Earth signs, LIFE LOVE LIBERTY and the PURSUIT OF FREEDOM. Rouvan finds it hard to assimilate in this new, advanced, superior, Puritan, Western-culture & society; Rouvan enjoys civilized society and is grateful to be away from The Barbarians & The Klu Klux Klan. Rouvan isn't black, or brown, he's white - LIKE YOU!

DIANA TSO, "PO PO"

Diana Tso is a storyteller and theatre artist. She's a graduate of the University of Toronto in English Literature and of Ecole Internationale de Theatre de Jacques Lecoq in France. As artistic director of Red Snow Collective, her plays *Red Snow* and *Comfort* bring to light the resilience of women in war, advocating justice and peace. Her *Monkey Queen* stories are a re-imagining of the monkey mythologies of the east from the perspective of the woman warrior. Most recently she performed in *The Cherry Orchard* (Modern Times Stage Company), *Les Misérables* (Theatre Smith-Gilmour), and *Bakkhai* and *The Komagata Maru Incident* (Stratford Festival 2017 season).

ANGELA SUN, PRODUCER

Angela Sun is a mad, fat, first generation/settler theatre performer, creator, producer, arts administrator, and writer of East Asian descent. She has previously worked on the Next Stage productions of *Silk Bath* and *Ga Ting* and most recently produced *Above & Beyond* at last year's Toronto Fringe Festival. She has performed and/or created with numerous established and emerging theatre companies and festivals in Toronto.

LILY CHAN, STAGE MANAGER

Lily Chan is a Chinese-Canadian, Toronto-based theatrical manager and consultant. She is drawn to building works that grant experiences and perspectives which provoke and entertain. She holds a BFA in Performance Production from Ryerson University. She aspires to become an astounding creator and facilitator of integrated live events.

WALEED ANSARI, SCENOGRAPHER

Waleed Ansari is a Designer/Creator in Theatre and Film from Toronto. Waleed specializes in Scenic, Video, and Lighting Design for the stage. Recent Credits: *Bathtub Girls* (Kairos), *Blood + Soil* (Theatre ARTaud), *Andromeda Genesis* (Rhubarb, 2018), *What We Do In The Shadows* (FX) *The Boys* Season 1 and 2 (Amazon, Props Assistant), *#TotalKnockOut* (Pandemic/Buzz TPM), *The Brothers Gentle* (Fringe 2018), *Rootless* (Summerworks 2017), *DiasporaDub* (b current).

GLORIA MOK, SOUND DESIGNER

Gloria Mok is a Chinese-Canadian designer, production manager, and playwright. She is a founding member of Silk Bath Collective, the creators behind *Silk Bath* (Toronto Fringe 2016), and *Yellow Rabbit* (Soulpepper 2018). She has worked with various Toronto arts organizations including fu-GEN, Native Earth, Theatre Gargantua, Roseneath Theatre, SummerWorks, Shakespeare in the Ruff, Cahoots, and Soulpepper. She is a graduate of The National Theatre School of Canada's Production Design and Technical Arts program.

JEFF HO, DRAMATURGE

Jeff Ho is a Toronto-based theatre artist, originally from Hong Kong. Favourite acting credits include: Ophelia in *Prince Hamlet* (Why Not Theatre National Tour: Canadian Stage, PuSh Festival, National Arts Centre), *trace* (Factory theatre/b current), *Hana's Suitcase* (Tour: Toronto/Montreal/Seattle/YPT). As a playwright, his works include *Iphigenia and the Furies* (*On Taurian Land*), *Antigone*, and *trace*. He is the current Bulmash-Siegel Playwright in Residence with Tarragon Theatre.

THANK YOU'S: Nguyen Thi Lien, Trinh Khanh Bao, Ly Tu Van, and Tran Quoc Luong; Nina Lee Aquino and Factory Theatre; Andrew Lamb, Tatiana Palacio, and Roseneath Theatre; Tom Arthur Davis and Why Not Theatre; Brian Quirt, Brittany Ryan, and Nightswimming Theatre; Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster, Joanna Falck, and Tarragon Theatre; Tanisha Taitt, Amanda Lin, and Cahoots Theatre Projects; Marjorie Chan and Indrit Kasapi; Deborah Ann Frankel, Rosemary Doyle, and Red Sandcastle Theatre; Deborah Lim, Wayne Burns, and fu-GEN Theatre Company; Rose Scher and the Ralph Thorton Centre; the Staff, Volunteers, and Technicians of NSTF/ Toronto Fringe.

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CONNECT WITH US: Theatre ARTaud is Rouvan Silogix, D'Freire, Ahad Abraxas, and Kristin Freeland. Past Productions include: *Blood + Soil* (2019), *The Private Life Cabaret* (SummerWorks, 2018), and *Rage Against Trilogy* (Toronto Fringe, 2018).

www.theatreartaud.com

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OUR MANDATE

The Toronto Fringe is a platform for everyone to access, discover, and experiment with the arts. By valuing creative experiences, we contribute to a healthy arts economy and, ultimately, a thriving society.

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Access – in every sense of the word

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Our families and friends, the Next Stage Theatre Festival staff and volunteers, the Next Stage Jury (Lucy Eveleigh, Laura Paduch, Derrick Chua, Owais Lightwalla), Factory Theatre patron services and bar staff, Lindsey Cassel at Steam Whistle, Jason Maghanoy at Toronto Life, Christian Ismodes at Now Magazine, Philip Riccio and Janice Peters Gibson at Intermission Magazine, Sean Lee and Kristina McMullin at Tangled Arts, Celeste Sansregret, Rebecca Vandavelde, Kat Germain, Peter Tsatsanis.

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