whynot

Why Not Theatre presents

the climate commissions

three short plays exploring the climate crisis

Premiere Workshop Presentation

June 4-6, 2026

The Theatre Centre, Toronto

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS
Canada is our stage. Le Canada en scène.

thisgen fellowship

about

the climate commissions

The Climate Commissions is a national and international commission by Why Not Theatre exclusively for the 2025.26 ThisGen Fellowship. ThisGen Fellowship, produced by Why Not Theatre in partnership with the National Arts Centre's National Creation Fund, is a prestigious, hands-on theatre training program that supports the growth of BIPOC women and non-binary artists across the country whose bold cultural leadership is shaping the future of Canadian theatre. The June 5 presentation is part of the Luminato Festival Industry Series.

thisgen fellowship

ThisGen Fellowship is a celebrated, national initiative that supports Black, Indigenous, Global Majority women and non-binary (trans-inclusive) performing arts practitioners in the next stage in their career through training, mentorship, learning opportunities from leading international artists, hands-on work placements, and peer-to-peer connection. ThisGen Fellowship 2025-2026 is focusing on early-career producers who are interested in developing fundamental producing skills for live performance. Running over the course of eight months, ThisGen Fellowship 2025-2026 commenced with an online training intensive featuring a faculty of both nationally and internationally renowned arts leaders, followed by an in-person residency in Ottawa hosted by the National Arts Centre. Fellows now have the opportunity to apply their learnings as producers on workshop presentations of three new short works commissioned by Why Not Theatre.

why not theatre

Why Not Theatre is an award-winning, critically acclaimed, international theatre company based in Toronto, Canada. The company has built a reputation for cutting-edge, cross-cultural theatre, and for facilitating opportunities for underrepresented artists. For almost 20 years, Why Not Theatre has been creating work that is visually stunning, physically virtuosic, and playfully provocative. To date, Why Not has developed 55 new works, which have toured to over 40 cities in 11 countries. Most recently, the company's two-part epic *Mahabharata* toured internationally, with acclaimed runs at Barbican Centre, Perth Festival, and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Why Not Theatre is led by Founder and Co-Artistic Director **Ravi Jain** (2025 Siminovitch Prize Laureate), Co-Artistic Director **Miriam Fernandes**, Executive Director **Karen Tisch**, and Executive Producer **Kevin Matthew Wong**.

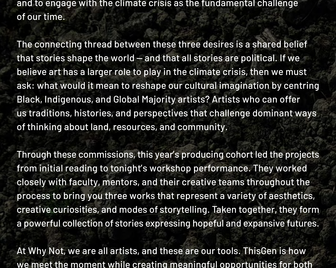
acknowledgments

Why Not Theatre acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, Deb Barrett and Jim Leech, Nancy and Richard Hamm, Clearview Foundation, Lindy Green Family Foundation, and Wuchien Michael Than Foundation.

ThisGen Fellowship is presented in collaboration with the **National Arts Centre's National Creation Fund**, who hosts an annual residency for each cohort.

ThisGen Fellowship is made possible by the generous support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Arts Training Fund, the National Arts Centre, and RBC Foundation, with additional support provided by Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, the Paul Barber Foundation, and the Youssef-Warren Foundation.

Below: The cast of Prince Hamlet by Bronwen Sharp.



staff

Ravi Jain	Founder & Co-Artistic Director
Miriam Fernandes	Co-Artistic Director
Karen Tisch	Executive Director
Kevin Matthew Wong†	Executive Producer & Artistic Associate
Crystal Lee†	Director of Production and Technical
Intisar Awisse	Artistic Producer, ThisGen Fellowship
Nika Jalali††	Producer
Michelle Mohammed	Artistic Associate
Sharada K Eswar	Creator in Residence
Sarah Newkirk	Finance Director
Karishma Bristy	Associate Director of Development
Erin Brandenburg	Grants Manager & Artistic Associate
Carrie Sager	Senior Marketing Consultant

† TD Leadership Fellows †† TD Emerging Leaders

board of directors

Upkar Arora, Chair	Nan Oldroyd	Chris Lorway
Parmod Jain	Max Rosenfeld	Daniel Marquez
Seema Lakhani	Joyce Sou	Paul Nagpal
Chris Lorway	Upkar Arora, Chair	Nan Oldroyd
Daniel Marquez	Parmod Jain	Max Rosenfeld
Paul Nagpal	Seema Lakhani	Joyce Sou

welcome from why not theatre

Welcome to *The Climate Commissions!*

The three plays that you will see tonight represent the culminating project for **ThisGen Fellowship 2025-2026**. The impetus for this year's program was three-fold: to support emerging producers as they develop their craft, to curate and commission work for them to realize, and to engage with the climate crisis as the fundamental challenge of our time.

The connecting thread between these three desires is a shared belief that stories shape the world – and that all stories are political. If we believe art has a larger role to play in the climate crisis, then we must ask: what would it mean to reshape our cultural imagination by centring Black, Indigenous, and Global Majority artists? Artists who can offer us traditions, histories, and perspectives that challenge dominant ways of thinking about land, resources, and community.

Through these commissions, this year's producing cohort led the projects from initial reading to tonight's workshop performance. They worked closely with faculty, mentors, and their creative teams throughout the process to bring you three works that represent a variety of aesthetics, creative curiosities, and modes of storytelling. Taken together, they form a powerful collection of stories expressing hopeful and expansive futures.

At Why Not, we are all artists, and these are our tools. ThisGen is how we meet the moment while creating meaningful opportunities for both our current cohort and our wider artistic community. Thank you for being part of this year's program.

Intisar Awisse
Artistic Producer, ThisGen Fellowship

audience guide

click for a supplemental audience guide

This resource, created by the dramaturgy team, offers additional context and materials to deepen engagement with all three plays.

jump to *many waters*

matriate

by Tara Beagan

the company

cast

Akosua Amo-Adem ..... Bon
Nolan Moberly ..... Man
Tara Sky ..... Tshoolsh
Madison Walsh ..... Aewyn

creative team

Tara Beagan ..... Playwright
Cheyenne Scott ..... Director
Brefny Caribou ..... Dramaturg
Abi Cudjoe ..... Set & Costume Designer
Echo Zhou* ..... Lighting Designer
Christopher-Elizabeth ..... Sound Designer
Emily Granville ..... Composer
Kéïta Fournier-Pelletier ..... Movement Coach
Mary Angus ..... Translator
Intisar Awisse ..... Additional Dramaturgy
Vivian Recollet ..... Elder/ Community Consultant
Jessica Zepeda ..... Stage Manager
Crystal Lee† ..... Production Manager
Danika Royer†† ..... Assistant Production Manager
Kevin Matthew Wong† ..... Producing Mentor
Shyanne Duquette ..... Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025-2026
Sue-Tanya Lee ..... Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025-2026

† TD Leadership Fellows †† TD Emerging Leaders

Matriate is a commission by Why Not Theatre for ThisGen Fellowship 2025-2026.

*Indicated designers are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

Why Not Theatre engages professional artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the Independent Theatre Agreement.

Professional Association of Canadian Theatres Canadian Actors' EQUITY Association ADC 659 Associated Designers of Canada

audience advisory

Matriate contains references to land disturbance, colonial violence, Indigenous burial sites, environmental destruction, and displacement. Audiences may encounter amplified industrial sound, atmospheric haze, low-visibility conditions, and sustained thematic tension related to memory, grief, and cultural erasure. The production engages with themes of excavation and ongoing colonial intrusion, including the uncovering of buried histories and ancestral remains.

running time

Matriate runs approximately 30 minutes followed by an intermission.

producers' note

Welcome to *Matriate*. Bringing this piece to life has been an immersive, producer-driven journey. As a duo, our process focused on bridging organizational logistics with deep creative collaboration, liaising across departments to align a nationwide team of artists. Navigating geographic constraints demanded a shared commitment, which sharpened a cohesive artistic vision that fully serves the piece and emboldens everyone involved to unapologetically take up space.

Artistically, this project centers on a vital ethos of shared accountability in relation to the land we gather on. The work honours the unique, nuanced relationships of specific subjugated communities – examining not just how they navigate and respond to systems of oppression, but how they radically transcend them.

This production is a testament to resilience, collective care, and the power of unified storytelling. We are incredibly grateful to our brilliant creative team and to you, our audience, for sharing this space with us tonight.

Shyanne Duquette & **Sue-Tanya Lee**
ThisGen 2025-2026 Producing Fellows

company biographies

Tara Beagan
Playwright

Tara Beagan is a proud Nitaskapimaw and Irish "Canadian" half breed. She is cofounder/ director of CREE 7 with Andy Moro, based in Mohkinstsis. Tara served as Artistic Director of Native Earth Performing Arts from February 2011 to December 2013. She's been written for at Cahoots Theatre (Toronto), NCPA (Toronto), the National Arts Centre (Ottawa), Berton House (Dawson City, Yukon), Prairie Theatre Exchange (Winnipeg), and New Harlem Productions. Eight of her 37 plays are published, *The Neighbour's Wife* won the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding New Play, and Honour Bees won the Writers' Guild of Alberta's Janet Pharis Ringwood Award for Drama. Tara is based in Calgary/Mohkinstsis, the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy, the Stoney Nakoda, the Piikani, and the Tsuu'ina First Nations. More recently the Tsuu'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda: Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations, and the Métis Nation of Alberta: Districts 5 and 6.

Cheyenne Scott
Director

Cheyenne Scott is a member of the SZÁLÍW (Tsawout) First Nation/Norwegian settler descent, and an actor, playwright, director, and creative producer with a focus on new work. She has learned theatre through a colonial lens, she is working to Indigenize theatre/dance/film, Indigenize Canada's land-based methodology and storytelling. She is a multi-Dora Mavor Moore nominated artist for co-creating/performing *Now You See Her* (Dusty Limpuche Collective/ Nightwood/NPN Theatre), which was published by Coach House and for *The Home Project* (Howland/Native Earth/Soulpepper). Cheyenne was nominated the protege of Lorraine Pintal and the Factory Gilbert Leadership Award. She has taught Indigenous Scene Study at the Centre for Indigenous Theatre, and has directed productions such as Mary Jo Anderson's *Big (Project X)* and the World Premiere of her play *Wolf Call* (Western Canada Theatre).

Aksosa Amo-Adem
Bon

Aksosa Amo-Adem is an actor, writer, and teacher/coach based in Toronto. Throughout her career Aksosa has appeared in a variety of productions around the city. Her selected credits include Soulpepper Theatre and Obsidian Theatre's *Fantasticks Table for Two* (which she wrote and starred in as Abby), Three Sisters (Lead/Stratford Festival's Much Ado About Nothing Estate), *Death and the King's Horseman* (Ipsalja), Soulpepper Theatre's *Bill, Sarah, and Ella...* (Narrator), *Pipeline* (Navy), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Eunice), *For Colored Girls...* (Lady in Green), *Father Comes Home From The Wars* (Leader/Runaway), The Crucible (Tituba), Obsidian Theatre's *School Girls: or the African Mean Girls Play* (Head Mistress Francis), *Venus Daughters* (Venus/Sarah), Canadian Stage's Tartuffe (Dorine), Theatre Passe Muraille's *The Middle Place* (Kaatha/Dave), Her on screen credits include appearances on Odd Squad, Bitten, Frankie Drake Mysteries, *11 Black Futures, In the Dark, Most Dangerous Game*, American Gods, Black Mirror, Everything, Everywhere, Convenience, Mean Girls, Overcompensating, Ginny & Georgia, and *Memory of a Killer*. Her ID handle is @aksos2100.

Nolan Moberly
Man

Nolan Moberly is an Afro-Indigenous performer based in Toronto. He's a member of Buffalo River Dene Nation. Based in Toronto, Ontario, Nolan is devoted to storytelling that bridges stage and screen. He also engages in writing, directing, and sound design. His work reflects a deep commitment to truth, connection, and representation. Nolan brings a contemporary classical and contemporary performance. Nolan brings a grounded presence and cultural perspective to every role, contributing to the richness of Canada's theatrical landscape.

Tara Sky
Tshoshih

Theatre: Icarus; Kristina in Julie. Bubbles in Bad Times; Beth in There is Violence and There is Righteous Violence and There is Death or, The Born-Again Crow. Stratford Tiger Lily in Wendy and Peter Pan, Cordelia in King Lear, and Beth Summers in 1828. Soulpepper; Christine in Where the Blood Mixes. Persephone Theatre; Ensemble in Hamlet Doubt. National Arts Centre; Kate in Dancing. **Film/TV:** ED.THE.NA.SIA. Director, The River You Step In, Ruby Sky Pt. 1. Director, Ruby Sky Pt. 2. Director, Canada. Etobicoke School of the Arts. **Instagram:** @tara.kitty. **Et cetera:** Thank you, 'anáizaiw, to the trailblazers who paved the way for people like me.

Madison Walsh
Aawyn

Madison Walsh is a Toronto-based actress and award-winning creator. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, Madison created and starred in the CBC/ITV psychological thriller Nightbitch (Disney), which earned top honors at SXSW and Series Mania. Her selected screen credits include Hudson & The Fox, Express Me, Ginny & Georgia, Nature, and the upcoming indie feature *Surfacing*. On stage, Madison has played Elinor in Sense and Sensibility (Citadel Theatre) and Sharla in Killer Joe (Coal Mine Theatre), among other productions. She will next appear in Jessica Kathleen Wright's *There is Violence and There is Righteous Violence* at Bubbles in Bad Times Theatre. Madison also is a sought-after voice actor for commercials and video games. Her voice credits include campaigns for Infiniti, CIBC and KING, as well as multiple roles in various Ubisoft titles. She is repped by Reagan Allison-Hancock at Play Management.

Abi Cudjoe
Set & Costume Designer

Abi Cudjoe is an emerging, community-taught costume designer, sewist, and movement storyteller based in Toronto, Canada. Their artistic practice focuses on our conversations with our all realms and time, through code that extends our common spoken languages. Their sewing projects (costumes and commissioned pieces) are inspired by the ancient ways we life to well-loved textiles, making life more accessible through practically, connecting to ancestors, and holding body/spirit/mind/heart. Recently, they have collaborated with a project presented at the 2025 Summerworks Festival, XLOPANDO by Irma Vilafuerte. Their intention is to balance expression through our understanding of international trauma, with generational healing, joy and play. Abi is deeply motivated and is driven by their ever-evolving creative practice, inspiring the "why" and "how" of our systems, in order to answer the question of "what is next?"

Eric Zhou
Lighting Designer

Echo is a proud Chinese immigrant and Tkaronto-based scenographer. Their work has been featured at the National Arts Centre, Stratford Festival, Tapestry Opera, Tarragon, Buddies in Bad Times, Theatre Passe Muraille, Thousand Islands Playhouse, and many more. Echo's international projects span Japan, China, and the USA. Favourite recent credits: *White Girls in Mocassins* (Obsidian/Native Earth), Tarragon Theatre's *Hungry* (Tarragon Theatre, Benevolence Collective), *Blind Dates* (Theatre Passe Muraille), and *Cymbeline* (Stratford Festival). Their artistry focuses on bridging cultural narratives through visual storytelling on this land. 酷給電愛的傳承 For Grandpa. echozhoudesign.com

Christopher-Elizabeth
Sound Designer

Hi! I'm Chris-Liz, I'm a queer, Afro-Indigenous designer, writer, and director with an interest in our ever-evolving relationship to hope, control, and play. I like to play with pretty colours, reactive designs and the audience's perception of their place in the world. Selected credits include: lighting designer for *The Sandwich Trilogy* at the Theatre Centre with Watah Theatre (Oct 2025); lighting designer for Dancemaker with Catalina Trejo (April 2025); lighting designer for *The Seven Methods of Killing Kylie Jenner* with Obsidian Theatre (May 2024); director of Continuum/ *Ad Forever* French Festival at Theatre Passe Muraille (May 2024); sound designer for *El Terrorista* at Tarragon Theatre (April 2024); co-creator of The Untitled Video Game Project at Tarragon's Greenhouse Festival with Pickles Theatre Co (July 2024).

Emily Granville
Composer

Emily Granville is an Odawa-Cree classical musician from Wikwemikong Unceded Territory on Manitoulin Island. Emily attended Banff Centre College for Music Performance in piano, and has recently graduated from the Honours Bachelor of Music program at Laurier. Emily has an interest in composition, collaborative performance, and ethnomusicology from an Indigenous lens. Emily has participated and is involved in the Indigenous community and music-performing and composing a contemporary improv piece at Paprika Theatre Festival, the Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards, taking part in the Indigenous Music Mentorship at Banff Centre, as well as volunteering as a piano teacher for the Community Music School of Manitoulin Region. Emily is currently furthering their education in the MA in Music, emphasis Ethnomusicology program at The University of British Columbia.

Brefny Caribou
Dramaturg

Brefny Caribou (she/her) is a creative multi-disciplinary artist of Cree (Plains/Swampy Cree/Métis) Irish-settler descent based in Tkaronto. Holding an MFA in Acting from York University, she loves making theatre and supporting people giggle. As a performer she has worked in TWillon on Tallaboy (CBC/Juanné) and Mayor of Kingstown (Paramount+), directed for Nightwood's acoustic Turtle Island on projects for the professional world premiere of Tomson Highway's Rose Red Road, the Canadian premiere of The Welkin (Soulpepper Theatre Co/ Tim Howard Company) and Cree Theatre: The Tempest (Tarragon/ Buddies in Bad Times), and completed three seasons at the Stratford Festival. As a writer she presented her work-in-progress *Ice Bridge* in a *Word in the English Dictionary* at the 2025 Awaken Festival hosted by Gwandak Theatre in Whitehorse, YT. Brefny is in her fourth year of facilitating the Indigenous Arts Program at the Paprika Festival.

Kéita Fournier-Pelletier
Movement Coach

Kéita Fournier-Pelletier is a queer, Métis, Franco-Manitoban artist from Treaty 1 Territory, living in Tkaronto. They continuously discover the role these intersecting identities play in their art as a dancer, choreographer and educator. She is the co-founder of the dance collective, Tendre Effort, with her collaborator Barbara Sliwma. Kéita has a strong interest in interdisciplinary arts and combining dance with different mediums, including music and theatre. Moving with care, sensitivity and community is at the forefront of how Kéita creates. Their works are highly collaborative and tied to their identity and values. She is interested in creating work that questions power, heteronormativity, and other societal norms that repel her identity. Her work has been presented across Toronto, Hamilton, Kitchener, Halifax, and Montreal.

Danika Royer
Assistant Production Manager

Danika Royer is an emerging theatre artist and recent graduate of the Production Design and Technical Arts program at the National Theatre School of Canada. Through her school, she has discovered a passion for technical management and design, focusing on production management, video design, and sound design. Her final year at the school included projects such as sound design for Terrey, directed by Thomas Morgan-Jones; video design for The Neverending Story, directed by Jovanni Sy; production management and technical direction for A Midsummer Night's Dream production management for Last Night I Dreamt (a creation project); and stage management for Mortuaria (a new work by Noah Dean, directed by Emily Kouzmin). As she begins her professional career, Danika is inspired by creation projects and new and emerging works, and is committed to using her leadership skills and technical knowledge to foster interconnectivity and allyship within the arts.

Jessica Zepeda
Stage Manager

Jessica is an interdisciplinary performer and grassroots stage manager born in Tkaronto (Treaty 13) with roots from El Salvador. They were a part of Native Earth's Animikiig Creators Unit 2024-25, and a Guidee Band Member 2024-2025 Guest Directing Artist Recipient. Jessica has presented their work at Weesageechak Begins to Dance 27th and 28th Festival, the 48th Khadhera Festival, and the 6th Edition of Festival Occurrence in Oaxaca Contemporary Dance based in Tuxtla/Chiapas, Mexico. Their stage manager credits include: Oros Restrea - Lodge Band Project, TAO: The Art of Contemporary Dance, Why Not Theatre's River Toronto 2022, Indigenous Arts Festival (Fort York - ELMYT FM) Staged 2022, TAO: The Art of Storytelling, Song Cycle Series - Native Theatre's Tkaronto 2023 Festival for Theatre, Chez Moi - 2024 Rhubarb Festival, Surrendered Spirits - CAMINOS Festival 2024, Dance Immersion Lab Double-Bill Presentation 2024, and MAMI - CAMINOS Festival 2025.

Shyanne Duquette
Producer, Theatre Fellow 2025-2026

Shyanne Duquette is a mixed-Cree emerging multidisciplinary theatre artist based in Amiskwaciwâskahikan (Edmonton). A writer, director, actor, and arts facilitator. Shyanne is passionate about community-engaged processes and breaking down barriers to entry in the arts. Their work often explores themes of belonging, identity, and the things that set people's teeth on edge. They have collaborated with theatre companies across Turtle Island including Carousel Theatre, Alberta Playwrights Network, The Major Matt Mason Collective, Common Ground Arts, Tarragon Theatre, and The Citadel. As an independent artist, they have produced fo festivals such as Skin Deep, Edmonton Fringe, Folk Fest, Nextfest, Ignite, and Edmonton Poetry Festival, working in roles ranging from performance to administration.

Sue-Tanya Lee
Producer, Theatlen Fellow 2025-2026

Sue-Tanya Lee (she/her) is an Afro-Jamaican theatre producer and creator dedicated to developing works by artists from marginalized communities. Her producing practice centers care, culture, and imagination—creating and supporting spaces that advance artistic expression. Through a decolonized collaborative process, she engages with artists to develop and refine the new ways of creating expansive work that moves art and audiences forward. Producing credits include: The Sankofa Trilogy (Theatre Centre), The Ballad of Ms. Pinkerton (Summerworks Festival), Bitty Girl & Friends (Toronto Fringe Festival), Neptune With A Fish (Paprika Festival), Star People (Langley Live Brewer Theatre) and The Refugee Hotel (Langley Live Browne Theatre).

jump to *a ritual of return*

many waters

by Sabrina Mahfouz

the company

cast

Becky Ablack ..... Amina
Bren Eastcott ..... Young Amina
Shaharah Gaznabbi ..... Young Khadija
Ahmed Moneka ..... Father/Priest
Michelle Rambharose ..... Khadija

creative team

Sabrina Mahfouz ..... Playwright
Michelle Mohammed ..... Director
Keavy Lynch ..... Dramaturg
Bianca Guimarães ..... Set Designer
Echo Zhou* ..... Lighting Designer
Meghan Cheng ..... Sound Designer/Musician
Intisar Awisse ..... Additional Dramaturgy
Heidi Wai-Yee Chan ..... Sound Dramaturg
Victoria Wang ..... Stage Manager
Crystal Lee† ..... Production Manager
Sichun Xia†† ..... Assistant Production Manager
Kevin Matthew Wong† ..... Producing Mentor
Lily Chang ..... Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025-2026
Jade Silman ..... Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025-2026

† TD Leadership Fellows †† TD Emerging Leaders

Many Waters is a commission by Why Not Theatre for ThisGen Fellowship 2025-2026.

*Indicated designers are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

Why Not Theatre engages professional artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the Independent Theatre Agreement.

Professional Association of Canadian Theatres · Canadian Actors' Equity Association · ADC Associated Designers of Canada

audience advisory

Many Waters contains mentions of death, grief, and childhood trauma. Occurrences of balloon-popping noises, amplified screaming, and a quick-dissipating chalk effect will take place.

running time

Many Waters runs approximately 40 minutes followed by an intermission.

producers' note

Many Waters by Sabrina Mahfouz first resonated with us because we, and many of our team members, know firsthand the sense of home, security, and frustration that a sister can evoke. Through the tension between the sisters, we are challenged to think about the tensions in our own relationships, our environmental responsibility, and the infusion of our values into our art and our work.

Coming from varied producing backgrounds, we strove to find a common language that foregrounded openness, clear communication, and empathy. With the collaboration of our incredibly thoughtful and passionate team, spearheaded by the brilliance of Michelle Mohammed and Keavy Lynch, we took the time to reflect, build our own pathways, and resist product over process and possibility.

We have learned so much from navigating both sides of ample creativity: beautiful dreaming and finite resources. It has been a rewarding challenge to figure out how to fulfill ambitious asks within the limits of a specific container like that of this workshop presentation.

We'd like to thank the Why Not team and all of the artists who joined our journey, shared the stories of their homeland, and helped breathe life into this dynamic piece. Our final thanks go to our audience for supporting artists and art in development. No matter what waterways have brought you here, we hope that this show inspires you to (1) call your sister and (2) save our planet!

Many thanks,

Lily Chang & **Jade Silman**
ThisGen 2025-2026 Producing Fellows

company biographies

Sabrina Mahfouz
Playwright

Sabrina grew up in London and Cairo and is a writer of books, plays, TV and poems. For TV she has recently worked on HBO's *Girl Circle*, A24's *BEEF*, and #1 *Happy Family* USA. In theatre, she recently wrote for Danny Boyle and Boy Blue's dance adaptation of *The Matrix*, *Free Your Mind*. She was an inaugural Writer in Residence at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, where she co-wrote an adaptation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. She wrote and performed her cross-genre show *A History of Water in the Middle East* at the Royal Court Theatre. Her numerous other plays have garnered a Fringe First Award, Herald Angel Award, Off/Off Broadway Voices Award, BBC Radio Drama Award, Radio Academy Award, UK Theatre Award, and an Offie Award. Sabrina is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Literature and has written, edited, and been anthologized in a number of books for adults and children.

Michelle Mohammed
Director

Committed to storytelling that bridges borders and nurtures a more empathetic global culture, Michelle Mohammed is a Toronto-based director working both nationally and internationally as an actor and director. Internationally, she joined the Theatertreffen Young Playwrights Lab, Germany (2016), a prestigious program for the world's most exciting emerging theatre-makers, and worked with Katie Mitchell at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (London, UK 2020). Recent directorial credits include workshops for *The Dumb Waiter* by Harold Pinter, *Machinal* by Sophie Treadwell and *Man-Man*. Recent acting stage work includes *What You Want Do For Love (Why Not Tosonto)*, Theatre Centre's Theatre Crow's Theatre, *Yarma* (Coal Mine Theatre), *A Poem for Robia* (Tarragon Theatre). Her screen credits include Star Trek: *Strange New Worlds*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Kim's Convenience*, and the 2020 Disney+ feature *A Very Jonas Christmas*. To learn more about Michelle, visit: michellemohammed.com.

Becky Ablack
Amina

Becky Ablack (she/her) is a Toronto-based actor, writer, and theatre creator with a BFA in Theatre and a BA minor in Creative Writing from York University. Her screen credits include recurring roles on *Ginny & Georgie* (Netflix) and *The Good Karma Hospital* (Disney+), as well as *Fear Street: Prom Queen* and Kim's Convenience. An award-winning theatre artist, she co-founded Small Friend Tall Friend where she *Do You Think You're Better Than Me?* won a Critic's Pick at the 2023 Hamilton Fringe. Becky's work centres humour, movement, and inventive storytelling that explores identity with warmth and wit.

Bren Eastcott
Young Amina

Bren Eastcott is a writer and actor based in Toronto, Ontario. She began her professional acting career much too young at the age of 10, she can still play 16. You can catch her next year in *The Wrong Bashir* at Mirvish's CAA Theatre! Until then she'll be hanging out with her sweet friends and family, a podcaster named Merlin, a mallpoo named Lumby, and her love Dan. She also pledges to resist the fake premises that ad abet colonial rule!

Shaharah Gaznabbi
Young Khadija

Shaharah Gaznabbi is an ACTRA and Equity actor, playwright, puppeteer, comedian, dramaturg, and land drag artist based in Toronto. They were an Artist-in-Residence at Tarragon Theatre as a recipient of the Ellen Ross Stuart Award, and was part of Tarragon's Young Playwrights Unit. Shaharah received the Playwrights Revolve's Birds of Paradise Emerging Talent Award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2023, where they presented their solo-show *What Can Indian Look Like?* Shaharah's theatre work has also received TD Live's Best of Fringe, as well as the Canadian Green Alliance's Greenest in The Fringe at the Toronto Fringe Festival 2025 for *My Pet Lizard, Liz: The Shakespearean Tragedy of Liz's Pet Lizard*. They are currently additionally received the inaugural Gerda Hynatyshyn Launch Grant for *English Theatre*. Credits: Noor in CBC's *Run The Burbs*, US tour of *The Jungle* book by Rick Elice & Craig Pospisil, Genie, and Quest for *The Moon* and *Old Man and the River* with WeeFestival.

Ahmed Moneka
Father/Priest

Drawing on his Afro-Sufi musical heritage, Juno-nominated Ahmed Moneka performs a vibrant and transcendent fusion of African rhythms and Arabic folk melodies, enriched by contemporary influences of funk, soul, and jazz. Reflecting on his personal journey as an artist, actor, and activist who came from Baghdad to Toronto, Moneka, alongside his stellar global ensemble, invites listeners to a joyous celebration of his musical explorations love in all its forms while evoking a deep sense of longing for one's homeland, and ancestral roots.

Michelle Ramharose
Khadija

Michelle Ramharose is a multidisciplinary artist based in Toronto, originally from Scarborough, Canada, and of Guyanese descent (Indo-Caribbean and Arawak). She works as an actor in video game, voice, film, TV, theatre; as a writer, director, and movement coordinator in theatre and as a facilitator in community arts spaces. Her work as a writer and director investigates distinctly physical performances and often explores feminist and queer theory. She draws on her background in street dance, and her traditions of ensemble, and various physical theatre practices for her facilitation and direction. She is also currently studying to be a Registered Massage Therapist. Recent performances include *Life & Crystal*, *Wonder*, Toronto fall performance capture playing for the lead character of *New Tales from the Borderlands* (Gearbox & 2K), voice acting for *Arkham Horror: Mother's Embrace* (Asmodee Digital) and The Grandmaster (Obsidian Entertainment/Private Division). www.michelleramharose.com

Bianca Guimarães
Set Designer

Bianca Guimarães is a Brazilian interdisciplinary artist who creates immersive spaces and engaging experiences through collaborations and experimental approaches across theatre, and media arts. Her practice deliberately balances structure with flow, challenging artistic boundaries while often prioritizing participation and playful discovery.

Echo Zhou
Lighting Designer

Echo is a proud Chinese immigrant and Tkaronto-based scenographer. Their work has been featured at the National Arts Centre, Stratford Festival, Tarragon Theatre, Buddies in Bad Times, Theatre Passe Muraille, Thousand Islands Playhouse, and many more. Echo's international projects span Japan, China, and the USA. Favourite recent credits: *White Girls in Moccasins* (Manidoons Collective), *Benevolence* (Tarragon Theatre, Why Not Theatre, Beneveldance), *Blind Dates* (Theatre Passe Muraille), and Cymbeline (Stratford Festival). Their artistry focuses on bridging cultural narratives through visual storytelling on this land. 通訊員電影代理商 For Grandpa. echozhousdesign.com

Meghan Cheng
Sound Designer/Musician

Meghan Cheng is a new media artist and violinist working with interactive visuals, sound, and immersive environments. Her recent work includes creating large-scale light and sound sculptures, 360-degree projection-mapped installations, and online interactive performances. Across her practice, she uses real-time data such as live music, audience movement, and web-based inputs to shape responsive visual and audio systems. Cheng's formal training is in violin performance (MFA, Boston Conservatory), which brings a world of acoustic musical practice to her new media artwork practice. Due to her background in violin, Cheng's creative technology work is driven by a curiosity for what happens when opposing ideas are brought together: the digital and the acoustic, the technological and the human, the large-scale and the intimate. Her work has been presented at Nuit Blanche, Luminato, Illuminarium (Toronto), Vectorfest, and Ontario Place's Limitless.

Keavy Lynch
Dramaturg

Keavy Lynch is a Toronto-based prodigal theatre artist. Last month, she completed a Metcalf Internship in Artistic Direction with Mitchell Cushman, where she served as associate director for Outside the March's 2025 shows *Performance Review* and *Rainbow on Mars*, and workshops for *The Children of the Bear* (OMN/NEPA), and *Nedaroo* (VPF/Soulpepper). She is musical director with Associate Dramaturg for Why Not Theatre and the NAC's ThisGen Fellowship, and assisted Soulpepper's Literary Associate Joanna Falks with dramaturgy on *The Walkin*, and workshops of *Ivanov* and *Lia Cookington and Kanika Ambrose*. Keavy returned to her theatre practice in 2024 after working as a television writer for years on series like *Shelved* (CTV), *The Porter* (CBC), *Bria Mackie's Life Crush*, *Pretty Hard Cases* (Crave), and *Revenge of the Black Best Friend* (CBC Gem). She also worked on an episode of the CBC doc series *Black Life* as a co-producer.

Heidi Wai-Yee Chan
Sound Dramaturg

Heidi Chan creates music and sound for theatre, dance, and other media. She plays Japanese and Chinese bamboo flutes, percussion, synthesizers, and other things. Heidi has participated in productions by Outside the March, Soulpepper, Shaw Festival, Factory Theatre, Obsidian, and Blyth Festival among others. Heidi has worked as a film sound editor and foley artist in Hong Kong, and toured with UK's Shakespeare's Globe as a multi-instrumentalist.

Sichun Xia
Assistant Production Manager

Sichun 旭旭 is a theatre maker, with experience across stage management, directing, assistant technical direction, sound design, and production management. She is graduating this summer and excited to join *Mary Waters* as production manager, working alongside this talented team. Recent credits include *Kostroma* (COTPG), *This Is A Play*, *Exchanged Souls* 換位身生 (Independent), and *Pool (no water)*.

Victoria Wang
Stage Manager

Victoria Wang is a Toronto based stage manager and theatre artist who has worked with companies across Canada including Native Earth, Why Not Theatre, Soulpepper Theatre, Cahoots, Alunda Theatre, Canadian Stage, Tarragon Theatre, the National Arts Centre, Sequel Centre, Summerworks, Buddies in Bad Times, Nuit Blanche, and the Toronto International Film Festival. She was part of the stage management team for Why Not's international tour of *Mahabharata*. Victoria is also a certified yoga instructor, who has guided classes for Jumbies, Soulpepper, Toronto Fringe and Centre for Social Innovation. Victoria is grateful to call Hong Kong and Tkaronto home.

Lily Chang
Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025-2026

Lily Chang is a queer Taiwanese-born immigrant settler writer and early-career director/producer in theatre and film @wasapleproductions. Based in Tiohtià:ke/Montréal/Toronto/Mississauga. She graduated from Concordia's MA program in creative writing and Mel Hoppenheim's micrprogram in screenwriting and film producing. Their work has been published by Room Magazine, Prairie Fire Review, Vernacular, HerStory, and Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop. She is a 2018 CBC Nourfest Writer Fellow, finalist in Alliance Française's Playwriting Competition winner, OEPC's 2025-28 Business Accelerator programming mentee, and Imago Theatre's 2.0 Project - Simmer Festival 2026 producing mentee. Their projects have been supported by Canada Council, CRRF, CUTV, Access Copyright Foundation, and Barbara Deming Memorial Fund. For their portfolio, visit lilychang.art.

Jade Silman
Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025-2026

Jade Silman (she/her) is a theatre creator, dramaturg and administrator who foregrounds collaboration, equity, and passion in all her work. Since graduating from York University's Theatre BFA, she has continued to learn through the Nightwood Innovators Program, Theatre Gargantua's Emerging Artists Roundtable, and Toronto Fringe Festival's TENT producers training program. She is currently freelancing as a dramaturg and administrator and has enjoyed working with many companies, including Nightwood Theatre, Canadian Stage, Next Generation Showcase, Crow's Theatre, Dusk Dances, Arts Commons and CBC/Zone 3.

special thanks

Bénédicte Bélizaire, Kelsey Rideout, Tapestry Opera.

jump to about

a ritual of return

by Ta-Nia

the company

cast

Uche Ama	Ancestor 1
isi bahkhomen	Ancestor 2
Nicci Pryce	Ancestor 3
Makambe K. Simamba	Emaya

creative team

Ta-Nia	Creators
Adonis Critter King	Director
Mya Wong	Dramaturg
Quỳnh Diệp	Set, Costume, & Props designer
Echo Zhou*	Lighting Designer
Christopher-Elizabeth	Sound Designer
Intisar Awisse	Additional Dramaturgy
Yllana Williams	Props Assistant
Hannah Dulong	Costumes Assistant
Sephora N'Kosi	Stage Manager
Crystal Lee†	Production Manager
Jadi Darawi††	Assistant Production Manager
Kevin Matthew Wong†	Producing Mentor
Shannon Corenthin	Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025.2026
Meryl Ochoa	Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025.2026

† TD Leadership Fellows †† TD Emerging Leaders

A Ritual of Return is a commission by Why Not Theatre for ThisGen Fellowship 2025-2026.

*Indicated designers are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

Why Not Theatre engages professional artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the Independent Theatre Agreement.

Professional Association of Canadian Theatres Canadian Actors' EQUITY Association ADC 659 ASSOCIATED DESIGNERS OF CANADA

audience advisory

A Ritual of Return contains flashing lights, loud sounds, themes of spirituality and ritual, mentions of death, and audience participation.

running time

A Ritual of Return runs approximately 30 minutes.

producers' note

As Why Not Theatre's ThisGen 2025-2026 Producing Fellows, co-producing this workshop presentation of Ta-Nia's *A Ritual of Return* has been incredibly rewarding. We quickly found a balance in our skill sets which helped us manage and enjoy the steep learning curve in a short amount of time. We were able to establish our process early on based on shared values defined in collaboration with the wonderfully talented artists who make up the project's core team: creators Ta-Nia, director Adonis King and dramaturg Mya Wong.

In building the production's creative team, we wanted to make sure we led with those shared values by meeting our artists where they're at in their own practices, all while supporting the show's vision.

It's as though there's never enough time, but it's easier when you're on a team that communicates well, dreams big, and makes making choices never feel sacrificial.

We are beyond excited to finally share *A Ritual of Return* with you. This piece is a challenge to our own stance in our world today. It's a manifesto. It's a message. It's an experience more than it is a performance. We hope you answer the call and are as touched by this piece as we are.

Shannon Corenthin & **Meryl Ochoa**
ThisGen 2025-2026 Producing Fellows

company biographies

Ta-Nia
(Talia Paulette Oliveras and Nia Farrell)
Creators

Ta-Nia (Talia Paulette Oliveras and Nia Farrell) are a duo dedicated to challenging the boundaries of theatre by creating uncompromising BLK spaces of liberation. Known for creating poetic characters and laboratory worlds; they engage in a fr*e*limagination of the current world and offer practices for actualizing near futures. As part of the "Stückemarkt" at the Berlin Theatertreffen 2021, Ta-Nia won a play commission for Schauspiel Dortmund Theatre, which they premiered in 2023 titled, *Twighelt, Ende und alles was wir kennen begann (Eternity, The End, and Everything That Never Began)*. They've also created/developed work in Germany for Hessisches Landestheater Marburg, and in New York at Mercury Store (Twighelt Realm, *Soho Rep (Writer/Director Lab)*, *A Map to Nowhere Things Are*), and Ars Nova (ART Fest; *Dreams in Blk Major*).

Adonis Critter King
Director

Adonis Critter King (they/them) is a queer, trans, and non-binary, "Vancouver" based multi-disciplinary writer, artist and theatre creator. They hold a particular reverence for Afro-futurism, Afro-surrealism, and audience interaction. *Ritual of Return* includes all three. They are process each you. Select directing credits include: *Living Histories – Mifflin Gibbs* (Story Theatre, 2026); *Dreamweavers* winner of the UAYMAC Outstanding production Award (Story Theatre - 2025); *Honey, Honey, and Nappyhead* (Obsidian Theatre - 2023); *Monica vs. the Internet Tales of a Social Justice Warrior* (VACT & WHYNOT Theatre - 2017 - 2022); and *The Newcomer (My Canada)* Theatre - 2021). Select assistant directing credits include: *How Black Mothers Say I Love You* (The Frank Theatre Company - 2023); *of the Sea* (Obsidian Theatre & Tapestry Orchestra - 2023) and *Choir Boy* (Canadian Stage - 2022).

Uche Ama
Ancestor 1

Uche Ama is a Black Queer theatre arts and vocal performer born on the Indigenous land, Turtle Island. Deeply passionate about cathartic art that inspires, creates discomfort and makes you ask questions, they are an anti-oppression facilitator, writer, director, and three-time Dora nominated performer. They are a performing arts educator and creator who is always looking to inspire brave spaces of exploration where they can be many pathways that are available in their artistic practices. You may have seen their work in *3 Fingers Back* (LemonTree Creations), *Sweeter* (Cahoots Theatre), *21 Black Futures* (Obsidian Theatre), *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *The Negroes Are Congregating* (Piece of Mine Arts), and *Obeah Opera* (Aoh Productions). Alongside direction credits for *Apology, My By Kiath Barker* (New Harlem Productions, & VUKA 2V/3S, Theatre Passe Muraille), they also have an assistant director credit for *Women Of The Fur Trade* at The Globe Theatre.

Isi bakhhomen
Ancestor 2

Magda "Isi bhakhomen" Uculmana-Falcón is a writer, performer and craftsperson from Toronto. Their varied works explore themes of black femme power, ancestral memory, humour and absurdity. Through stories they aim to build worlds that give Black folks the freedom to breathe, to laugh and to love. **When was the last time you felt connected to land/the land?** In my bedroom, dancing to techno music, alone.

Nicci Pryce
Ancestor 3

Nicci Pryce (they/them) is a multidisciplinary artist whose work is rooted in passion, vulnerability, and social justice. With a BA in Media Production from TMU, they contributed to creating a wide array of projects ranging from mixtapes, theatrical productions, and short films each with a definitive focus on amplifying underrepresented narratives. Their artistic journey has been shaped by collaboration with companies such as Theatre Gargantua, Bad Hats, Crane Creations, Soulpepper, New Harlem Productions, and Paprika Festival. **When was the last time you felt connected to land/the land?** I've been connecting to the land through daily morning walks. I've been watching bare branches become blossoms, and allowing myself to wax and wane alongside the rest of nature.

Makambe K. Simamba
Emaya

Makambe K. Simamba is a four-time Dora Mavor Award and three-time Betty Mitchell Award - winning theatre artist. She is the sole writer and performer of *Our Fathers, Sons, Lovers and Little Brothers* which she has toured across Canada. Select acting credits include As You Like It (Shakespeare Festival), Three Sisters (Soulpepper Theatre and Obsidian Theatre), *The First Stone* (New Harlem Productions), and *Serving Elizabeth* (Thousand Islands Playhouse). Makambe is also a national award-winning and published playwright whose work includes *A Chitenge Story*, *Mokambe Speaks*, *Recipe for Change* and *Hwana Muleno*. Makambe was the Urjo Kareda Artist in Residence at the Tarragon Theatre in 2020/21, and was a finalist for the Gina Wilkinson Prize in 2023. Makambe was born in Zambia and raised in Guyana, the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands. Her intention as an artist is to be of service to humanity through her ability to tell stories.

Quỳnh Diệp
Set, Costume, & Props designer

Quỳnh Diệp (She/They) is a queer, Vietnamese-Chinese, Toronto-based artist. They graduated from Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance Production, specializing in scenic design, costume design, props building, scenic painting, and carpentry. Select scenic design credits include *Rocked: A New Musical* (Toronto Fringe Festival 2024), *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* (Bowtie Productions 2025), *The Calling* (Makeshift Productions 2025), *Lucian, Plato, and the Secrets of the Pussy* (Toronto Fringe Festival 2025), *Tick, Tick… Boom!* (Bowtie Productions 2025). Select costume design credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Brampton's Own Shakespeare Show 2025), *Connections: The Musical* (TIA Production 2025), *Tick, Tick… BOOM!* (Bowtie Productions 2025), and *Knife* (Stagepunk Theatre 2026). Quỳnh is most passionate about encouraging inclusivity, creativity, accessibility, and sustainability both on stage and behind the scenes.

Echo Zhou
Lighting Designer

Echo is a proud Chinese immigrant and Tkaronto-based scenographer. Their work has been featured at the National Arts Centre, Stratford Festival, Tapestry Opera, Tarragon, Buddies in Bad Times, Theatre Passe Muraille, Thousand Islands Playhouse, and many more. Echo's international projects span Japan, China, and the USA. Favourite recent credits: *White Girls in Moccasins* (Manidoons Collective), *Benevolence* (Tarragon Theatre, Why Not Theatre, Benevolence Collective), *Blind Dates* (Theatre Passe Muraille), and *Cymbeline* (Stratford Festival). Their artistry focuses on bridging cultural narratives through visual storytelling on this land. 觀結敬愛的曜明 For Grandpa. echozhoudesign.com

Christopher-Elizabeth
Sound Designer

Hi! I'm Chris-Liz, I'm a queer, Afro-Indigenous designer, writer, and director with an interest in our ever-evolving relationship to technology, control, and play. I like to play with pretty colours, reactive design and the audience's perception of their place in the world. Selected credits include: lighting designer for *The Sankofa Trilogy* at the Theatre Centre with Watah Theatre [Oct 2025]; lighting designer for *Sanguine* with Cahoots Theatre [April 2025]; lighting designer for *The Seven Methods of Killing Kylie Jenner* with Obsidian Theatre [May 2024]; creator of *Continue?* at Forward March Festival with Theatre Direct [May 2024]; sound designer for *El Terrorito* at Tarragon Theatre [April 2024]; co-creator of *The Untitled Video Game Project* at Tarragon's Greenhouse Festival with Pickles Theatre Co [Jan 2024].

Mya Wong
Dramaturg

Mya Wong (she/her) is a Toronto-based actor and dramaturg. Since graduating from Toronto Metropolitan University with a BFA in Acting, Mya has been developing her artistic practice with a focus on new work development. Select theatre credits include: *Program Associate, Write from the Hip* (Nightwood Theatre); *Dramaturg, Playwrights Rodeo* (Infinite Wild Theatre); Dramaturg, Playwrights in Process (Doorinouse Productions); Production Dramaturg/Assistant Director, *Ordinary Days* (Shifting Ground Collective); Assistant Director, *I and You* (Terra Firma Festival); *Concord Floral* (Puckers, Co); & *Perfect Bowl of Pho* (Toronto Fringe Festival).

Jadi Darawi
Assistant Production Manager

Jadi Darawi is an artist, educator, and production manager based in Toronto. They have previously worked with Why Not Theatre as the production and stage manager for *Mahabharata: Karma and Kahani* (2025), assistant production manager for *Mahabharata: Karma and Dharma* (2025), and assistant production manager for This Den (2024). Other recent theatrical credits include production manager for *Searching for Aimal* with Cahoots Theatre (2023), assistant technical director for *A Mirror* with ARC Stage (2026), and production manager for Summerworks Festival (2025). Jadi is also the shadow resident production manager at Nightwood Theatre for the 2025-2026 season. Outside of the theatre, Jadi is a Master's candidate at Toronto Metropolitan University in the Communication and Culture program, and a staff member at The Textile Museum of Canada. Jadi's textile artwork has been exhibited internationally, most recently in New York City and Toronto.

Sephora N'Kosi
Stage Manager

Sephora N'Kosi (she/they) finds it hard to be contained within the jumble of a 5-letter word box. She dances under many hats - such as queer, Congolese, poet, designer and manager - but never ceases to prioritize kindness and openness in her work. In her studies at the National Theatre School of Canada (NTS) for Production Design and Technical Arts, she encourages visceral and honest stories through her writing and designs. At 17, she earned her first Dora Mavor Award nominations for The Tempest and The Ghost collective. She has to write two poetry books the following year. Based in Toronto, she graduated from NTS in May of 2026 and stands to expand her practice primarily in Lighting Design, Production Management, and Stage Management while also continuing to write poems.

Shannon Corenthin
Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025.2026

Shannon is a multi-disciplinary theatre artist focused on uplifting the voices of women of color on stage. After earning her BFA in Theater Performance at Chapman University in Southern California, she moved to New York City where she worked for various arts organizations such as The Vineyard Theatre, The Drama League, Hedgepig Ensemble Theatre, and Dancewave. Now a Producer at Black Theatre Workshop, Shannon is excited to grow within the Canadian theatre community and rediscover herself as an artist

Meryl Ochoa
Producer, ThisGen Fellow 2025.2026

Meryl (she/they) is a multi-disciplinary artist and early-career producer currently based in Stratford, ON. Meryl writes and performs as one-half of the Tethered Ghost collective. She has also worked in new and devised pieces focusing on movement, mask, clown, and drama, with companies including Suitcase in Point and Balancing Act Canada, respectively. She is thrilled to be part of ThisGen Fellowship and to grow her producing skills and networks. Outside of theatre, Meryl performs in a local cover band and helps organize community events for the Filipino-Canadian Community in Perth-Huron.

special thanks

Quỳnh Diệp would like to thank Mary Spyrakis, Chynah Philadelphia, and Canadian Stage.

whynot

Photo of Miriam Fernandes, Dr. David Suzuki, Dr. Tara Cullis, and Sturla Alvsvåg in *What You Won't Do For Love* by Dahlia Katz.

Why Not is a registered charity, and our work is only made possible with the generous support of community members like you. To join our family of supporters **click here**, or contact Karishma Bristy, Associate Director of Development, at **karishma@whynot.theatre** to learn more about how you can support Why Not Theatre.

Why Not Theatre
33 Bloor Street East, 5th floor
Toronto, ON M4W 3H1

Sign up for our newsletter at
whynot.theatre
contact@whynot.theatre

follow us!