



NEW ROOTS THEATRE FESTIVAL

*Unearthing Distinct
Voices of the Bay*

**1 Weekend
15 Performances
60 Bay Area Artists**

NOV 10 -12
Brava Theater, SF

SFBATCO.ORG

Administrative Staff

San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company
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Co-Founder,
Artistic DirectorRodney Earl Jackson Jr.
Managing Director Adam Maggio
Director of Operations
& Design Christine Chung
Literary and
Outreach Manager Aidaa Peerzada
Technical
DirectorClaudio Andres Silva Restrepo
Associate Producer Phaedra
Tillery-Boughton
Marketing AssociateVanessa Louis-Jean
Administrative Intern Jim Page
Marketing Intern Isaiah Love
Artistic Administrative Intern ... Kayla LC Yee

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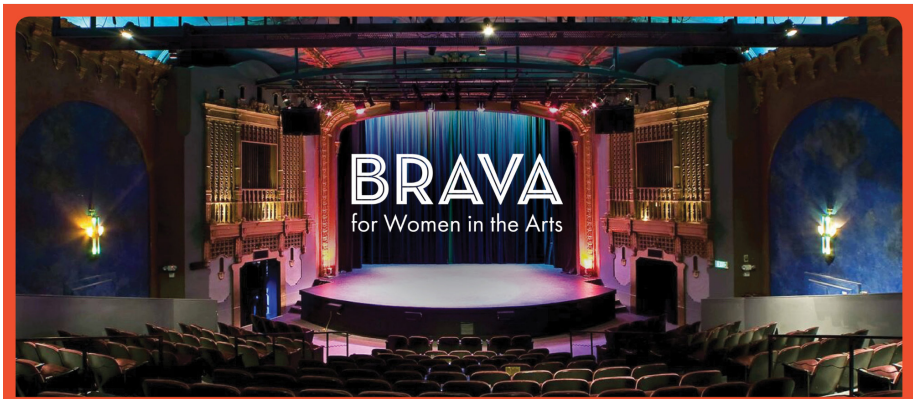
SFBATCO is supported in part by an American Rescue Plan Act grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support general operating expenses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This programming is brought to you in partnership with the Dream Keeper Initiative.

SFBATCO New Roots Theatre Festival Team

Rodney Earl Jackson Jr.....	Artistic Director
Adam Maggio.....	Managing Director
Christine Chung.....	Director of Operations & Design
Aidaa Peerzada.....	Literary & Outreach Manager
Claudio Andres Silva Restrepo.....	Technical Director / Main Stage Lighting Tech
Phaedra Tillery-Boughton.....	Associate Producer
Vanessa Louis-Jean.....	Marketing Associate
Isaiah Love.....	Marketing Intern
Charlotte Baldiviez.....	Production Manager
River Bermudez Sanders.....	Assistant Production Manager
Kayla LC Yee.....	Studio House Manager, Artistic Administrative Intern
Jim Page.....	Main Stage Backstage A2, Administrative Intern
Guillermo Gómez.....	Studio Sound Tech
Mia Macaspac.....	Box Office Manager
Megan Calfas.....	Box Office Assistant

Brava Team

Alba Lluch Robert.....	Brava Production Manager
Jaime Serra dos Santos.....	Technical Director & Main Stage Sound Tech
Inez Nuñez de Arco.....	Main Stage Sound Tech
Hatuey Hernandez.....	Studio Lighting Tech
Golda Sargent.....	Front of House
Nicolas Pasion.....	Front of House
Ridhi Shiv.....	Concessions





San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company

New Roots Theatre Festival

DE MANGANGÁ: AN AFRO-BRAZILIAN MUSICAL

Presented by SFBATCO

A movement-driven retelling of the folklore of Besouro Mangangá, an early 20th century Brazilian Capoeira legend who was so prolific in his art and so fruitful in his fight against oppression and injustice that he was believed to have supernatural abilities. Take a journey through the vibrant culture of Bahia, Brazil as we uncover the legend of Besouro and celebrate authentic Afro-Brazilian pride, love, legacy.

SeQuoia	Co-Director, Music Director, Co-Choreographer
Tania Santiago	Co-Director, Co-Choreographer
Nasha Harris Santiago	Coordinator
Taylor Mendez	Stage Manager

Performers

Ahja Henry
 Adora Nzewi
 Amarech Mendez
 Markaila Dyson
 Jocelyn Thompson-Jordan
 Orion Harris Santiago
 Tara Bucknor
 Eliana Lee
 Jaliana Makayla Semien
 Sutchat "Cha Cha" Mosley-Wise
 Aya Travick-Best
 Graciela Areas
 Ebonie Barnett
 Antonio Dos Santos
 Josue Boa
 Nasha Harris Santiago





San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company

New Roots Theatre Festival

SHIDAIQU: A PARTLY-HISTORICAL MUSICAL

Presented by SFBATCO

In the 1920s, Shanghai was simultaneously the birthplace of a new and idealistic Communist party, an incubator of American jazz, and a city with one of the largest wealth gaps in history. **Shidaiqu: A Partly-Historical Musical** is the fictional story of a peasant from the countryside who travels to the big city to play jazz with the greats, and ends up falling in with a group of musicians and activists who introduce him to the communalism inherent in the creation of art. The musical takes place in a fictionalized world that blends elements of historical Shanghai with modern-day San Francisco, a city with a parallel arc in its art, activism, and socioeconomic scene.

Jord Liu	Playwright
Ely Sonny Orquiza.....	Director
Diana Lee.....	Music Director
Brenda Palaby	Choreographer
Camille La'akea Wong	Stage Manager

Performers

Faustino Cadiz III
 Angelica Elaine Gonzales
 Chloe Wong
 Allen Byron Natividad Ocampo
 Amanda Le Nguyen*
 Sarah Lee

Band

John Mark Doing, Drummer
 Lenny San Jose, Saxophonist
 Victor Serda, Bassist

* Member of Actors' Equity Association. This theater operates under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.





San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company

New Roots Theatre Festival

DYING WHILE BLACK AND BROWN

Presented by Zaccho Dance Theatre

Commissioned by the Equal Justice Society, the work is a choreographed dance theater piece expressing both the struggle and the will to survive in an inherently dehumanizing system. The four male dancers performing in **Dying While Black and Brown** symbolically depict the extreme overrepresentation of black and brown men in the prison system and on Death Row, and how their voices are deliberately extinguished. The virtuosic movement style is highly physical and theatricalized as the men act out various scenarios that occur behind bars. But even in the most oppressive circumstances, there is always hope that transformation is at hand. **Dying While Black and Brown** manages to convey a hopeful message in the midst of seemingly overwhelming realities. **Dying While Black and Brown** was created by choreographer Joanna Haigood in collaboration with composer Marcus Shelby, whose radiating jazz score energetically infuses the work. The piece runs about 30 minutes in length and is always immediately followed by a panel of experts and activists who further enhance the audience's experience with the most up to date information from the front lines of the struggle.

Commissioned by Equal Justice Society
Choreography and Direction by Joanna Haigood
Music Composed by Marcus Shelby
Performed by Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra
Additional Music by Sam Cooke
Set Design & Construction by Wayne Campbell
Rehearsal Assistant: Travis Santell Rowland

Performers

jose e. abad
Toni Cannon
Erik K. Raymond Lee
Dazaun Soleyn





San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company

New Roots Theatre Festival

DIRTY WHITE TESLAS MAKE ME SAD

Presented by Campo Santo and Magic Theatre

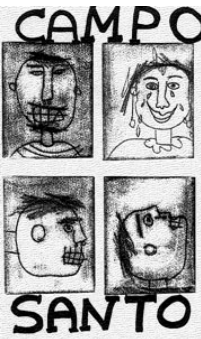
DIRTY WHITE TESLAS MAKE ME SAD is a new performance work written by A.M. (Ashley) Smiley about the regentrification of San Francisco and the displacement of Black folks from their neighborhoods. DWTMMS is a testimonial about people and their struggles with hope. The story unfolds over a few days in the life of Sloosh, our protagonist. We follow Sloosh - a young Queer Afrolatina from Bayview Hunters Point caught up in a transcendental rut. This project is one of the recipients of the Gerbode Foundation Theatre Commission Award and will premiere at the Magic Theatre to start the 2024 Programming Year.

This offering will share some of the project's approach to storytelling through theatre and video simultaneously. The event will feature performance, readings, and video from the project, and an open discussion with folx engaging in stories, memories, rants, and reflections of Black San Francisco. This performance set up continues Campo Santo's "Open Process" model for developing new performance works since 1996.

Ashley Smiley.....	Playwright
Sean San Jose.....	Campo Santo Artistic Director
Ahmad Walker.....	Visual Artist
Nina Fabunmi.....	Visual Artist
Rhonel Roberts.....	Visual Artist
Joan Osato.....	Video Designer
Christopher Saucedo.....	Composer

Performers

Tanika Baptiste
Anna Marie Sharpe





San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company

New Roots Theatre Festival

THERE IS NO HATRED HERE

Presented by AfroSolo

There Is No Hatred Here, a one man show, is the story of a young man's growth into Black militancy, his turbulent relationship with his pacifist father, a prominent minister, and the resolution of their relationship during the Civil Rights era. Written by Thomas Robert Simpson.

Thomas Robert Simpson..... Director

Performer

Marcus J. Paige





San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company

New Roots Theatre Festival

REFLECTIONS N BLACK 2023

Presented by SF Recovery Theatre

Reflections N Black 2023 is an exploration of the African American experience through the lens of two Black Psychiatrists (Dr. William H Grier and Dr. Price Cobbs), co-authors of the 1968 seminal book, *Black Rage*. This work titled *The Psych* has included an excerpt from an essay by local writer Marvin X Jackmon, tackling the psycholinguistic crisis of the North American African.

Geoffrey GrierPlaywright, Director
Richard May Contributing Writer

Performers

Eric Ward
Vernon Medearis

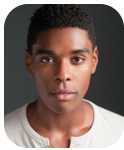
This weekend's performances of Reflections N Black 2023 are dedicated to Richard May.

“Just two short weeks ago, we lost a beloved member of our theater community. The loss of Richard May is a devastating reminder that life can be as short as a burst of light, or as long as we can imagine it. Richard contributed a significant amount to this piece that we are presenting: *The Psych*. It was one of his earlier writings. We collaborated on several projects. He was an avid theologian, attending ACT religiously even though he had no money, and his first experience on stage as an actor was with us, SF Recovery Theatre, in our Reflections N Black series in 2018.

We are forever grateful for his contribution to *The Craft*.”

- Geoffrey Grier





BIOGRAPHIES

SFBATCO TEAM

Rodney Earl Jackson Jr. (he/him) is the Artistic Director & Co-Founder of SFBATCO. He made his Broadway debut in "The Book of Mormon" and was last seen at American Conservatory Theatre & Arena Stage in the co-produced production of "Toni Stone". Prior to that he traveled North America in the first national tour of "Motown: The Musical." A San Francisco native who built his love and foundation for art and theatre in public city organizations such as SFartsEd, San Francisco Recreation and Park's Young People's Teen Musical Theater Company, and the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts' where he graduated from the theatre department. He holds a BFA from Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama. Other theatre credits: Berkeley Repertory "Ain't Too Proud: the life and times of the Temptations", San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company "I, Too, Sing America". FB: [/rodneyjacksonjr](#) IG: [@rodneyearljacksonjr](#)



Adam Maggio (he/him) is a director, teacher, actor, and arts administrator originally from San Francisco who currently serves as Managing Director of SFBATCO. His directing credits include The Sound of Music (Throckmorton Theater); Nick Payne's Constellations (Wings of Paper); Mona Pirnot's Baseball, It Is (Mile Square Theatre), and Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.



Christine Chung (she/they) is the Director of Operations & Design at SFBATCO. Christine works in a variety of creative spaces focused on breaking barriers to access, exposure, and sustainability in the arts and storytelling landscapes. She focuses her work in non-profit theatre & performing arts, documentary short films, film festivals, and experiential immersive design. Her recent affiliations include First Look Institute, Field of Vision, IF/Then Shorts, SXSW, SFFILM, Revolutionary Love Project, and African Voices. She received a 2019 Theatre Bay Area Award for Outstanding Choreography for SFBATCO's flagship show "I, Too, Sing America".



Aidaa Peerzada (she/her) is a theatre maker who grew up between Baltimore, MD and Lahore, Pakistan. She was a 2020 recipient of the Theatre Bay Area Directors Residency with SFBATCO. Aidaa has performed with Marin Theatre, Word For Word, Pittsburgh Public, Illinois Shakespeare, Utah Shakespeare Steppenwolf, and American Players Theatre.



Claudio Andres Silva Restrepo (he/him) is from Santiago Chile. He works with SFBATCO to create art that represent the diverse community of the Bay Area and addressing social issues relevant to his community. During the summer of 2020 Claudio joined the JCHS community as their new Theatre Technical Director.



Phaedra Tillery Boughton (she/her) is the Associate Producer at SFBATCO and a 2022-2023 Theatre Bay Area Arts Leadership Residency Recipient. She is an actor, director, playwright, casting associate, and arts advocate. She has worked with Hillbarn Theater on Clybourne Park (Director); Ain't Misbehavin' (Armelia McQueen/Assistant Director); 1940s Radio Hour (Geneva); The Color Purple; and To Kill a Mockingbird. Other credits: Caroline or Change and Little Shop of Horrors (Ray Of Light Theatre); Newsies (Woodminster); Tarzan (PAP), and Avenue Q (NCTC). IG: [@phaedratboughton](#)



Vanessa Louis-Jean (she/they) is the Marketing Associate for SFBATCO. While she is originally from South Carolina, she currently resides in San Francisco finishing her degree in International Business at the University of San Francisco. At a young age, Vanessa found herself connected to working for mission-driven companies and initiatives. She loves finding innovative ways that will positively impact the future. With past experiences working on creative mission driven projects, she believes that artistic mediums have the power to cultivate the change we are looking to see in our world. By being at SFBATCO, she is able to combine her passions of community organizing and entertainment to create digital marketing assets for the people to be seen, heard, and understood and represent SFBATCO's mission.

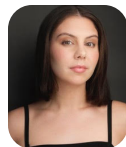
When he isn't saving kittens from trees or walking blind people across the street, **Jim Page** (he/him) works as a Production Assistant Intern with SFBATCO. Recently released from an extended stay in the Shadow Realm, he hopes to conquer this strange new world and make sense of daily life in the Bay Area.



Kayla LC Yee (she/her) is an Artistic Administration Intern at SFBATCO. Dancing and singing since she was 5, Kayla grew up performing in front of audiences, recently in SFBATCO and SFArtsEd's I, Too, Sing America: The Next Gen, and San Francisco Recreation and Park's Young People's Teen Musical Theater Company's Legally Blonde. She manages MoveAbout Theatre, a local, student-led theatre company that brings youth together to create free theatre in the parks of San Francisco. When she's not in a rehearsal, you'll probably find her buried in planning for Student Gov, rewatching TV shows, or creating new earrings.



Charlotte Baldviev is a New York based teaching artist. Her work with SF Arts Ed includes Once Upon a Mattress, Annie, and Newsies. Her work with SFBATCO includes The New Roots Theatre Festival. Her work with both companies include Ragtime and West Side Story. She is thrilled to be back with both SF Arts Ed and SFBATCO for this presentation of I, Too, Sing America.



River Bermudez Sanders a queer theater artist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. They currently work as the Production/Literary Manager for Hillbarn Theatre in Foster City, CA and as a freelance director. They graduated from Emerson College's BFA Musical Theatre Program in May of 2020.



Mia Macaspac is originally from Folsom, CA, but has lived in San Francisco for over a decade. She has a passion for arts administration and has worked for various theaters in the Bay Area. She currently works in the Advancement Office at SFCM. She enjoys dancing hula and ori tahiti with her halau (hula school).



Megan Calfas is a playwright based in San Francisco. She is a storyteller of many mediums, often working on projects that explore girlhood, climate, and community. As a journalist, she has reported on the environment for the Los Angeles Times and investigated maternal mortality in Stonetown, Zanzibar. She is currently working on an original musical that centers youth climate activists in the Bay Area. This spring, she co-directed a sold-out run of the original show *Crushing* at the Dixon Place Theater in New York City. She teaches with the Stanford Storytelling Project.



Guillermo Gómez grew up in Watsonville, CA, and has been living in Sunnyvale since 2002. Since graduating from DeAnza College in 2005 with an AA degree in film/TV, he has worked on many types of videos, including documentaries, trailers, short films and features. He is currently on the selection committee for the Poppy Jasper International Film Festival, where he also teaches animation for the youth program.



BRAVA TEAM

Alba Lluch Robert received her master's degree in Artist Management from University of Catalonia, Barcelona in 2017 and has over ten years of experience in performing arts production and presentation, having worked with the International Performing Arts Festival of FiraTàrrrega, La Caldera Creation, Dance and Performing Arts Center in Barcelona, Cultural Center Fort Pienc in Barcelona, and San Francisco International Arts Festival. Since late 2019, Alba has held the position of Production Manager at Brava Theater Center. Annually, she manages over 200 days of events, classes, gatherings and rehearsals in our 3 venues hosting over 1000 artists and 200 youth. In March 2020, she was instrumental in transitioning our programming from in-person to virtual programs which successfully continued throughout the shutdown and in 2022 played a huge role in our recovery, reopening our three venues to a community anxious to reconnect, celebrate and be inspired.





Image by Bekah Lynn Photography

Jaime Serra dos Santos is a multi-hyphenate music artist, DJ and audio engineer. After years working for various artists and companies bringing their art to life through the complexities of sound, he is now the current technical director at Brava Theater where every week he helps manage the technical particularities of a variety of shows and events.



SHIDAIQU

Jord Liu (she/her) is a theater maker, musician, and creative technologist whose work centers collaborative engagement with art, based in San Francisco, CA. Her first show, “Baked! The Musical,” (co-created with Deepak Kumar) premiered at the Chicago Musical Theatre Festival 2020, where it won awards for Best Lyrics, Best Lead, Best Supporting, and Best Ensemble. Since then the show has been accepted into RAVE 2020, NYMF 2020, and most recently NAMT 2022. She has done residencies at Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center, and SFBATCO’s 2022 Creator’s Lab. Jord has produced and music directed with Underscore Theatre in Chicago, the National Asian American Theatre Company (NAATCO) and Musical Theatre Factory in New York, Shotgun Players, FaultLine Theater and Z-Space in San Francisco. By day Jord works at the Exploratorium prototyping and building new exhibits.



A 2023 YBCA 100 Honoree, **Ely Sonny Orquiza** (he | him) is a multidisciplinary Queer Filipino artistic director, stage director, and arts educator native to San Francisco Bay Area, the unceded territory of the Ramaytush Ohlone People. Through theater and the performing arts Orquiza illuminates the experiences of the Asian diaspora, explores the politics of Queer/ness, and gives voice to the narratives of People from the Global Majority. As an artist, Orquiza draws on his heritage and lived experiences to create stunning theatrical productions that captivate audiences and spark meaningful conversations about equity and representation. Through his art and advocacy, he is breaking down barriers and elevating marginalized voices; and as a passionate teacher and community leader, Orquiza uses his extensive background in teaching artistry to engage with diverse communities and non-profit organizations, creating spaces for creativity, collaboration, and empowerment. To keep in touch and learn more about Ely’s works: elysonnyorquiza.org.



Angelica Elaine Gonzales is a Filipino-American actress / model raised and based in San Francisco, California. Studying Business Administration at UC Berkeley, she applies her high level of professionalism to various independent short films and photoshoots across the Bay Area. She is an avid language-lover and traveler, studying Tagalog with family, Japanese in Tokyo, and Spanish in college. When she is not working or studying, you can find her weightlifting at the gym. With bright imagination armed at her core (often sporting a pair of elf ears), she looks forward to her next adventures on and off the stage.



Amanda Le Nguyen is an active Vietnamese American performer based in the Bay Area. Before coming off of the world premiere of The Hippest Trip, Soul Train the Musical (A.C.T.), she was recently seen in Poor Yella Rednecks (A.C.T.), the company of A Christmas Carol (A.C.T.) and Patty Di Marco in School of Rock (Palo Alto Players), Annelle in Steel Magnolias (Los Altos Stage Company) and Tong in Vietgone (City Lights Theatre Company). Other recent credits include the musical adaptation of Twelfth Night (SF Playhouse), Shout! The Mod Musical (South Bay Musical Theatre), and the local tour of Don’t Let Pigeon Drive the Bus (Bay Area Children’s Theatre). Love to her beautiful family and friends. Hey, Bub. [@haus_of_win](https://www.instagram.com/haus_of_win) (she/her)



Faustino Cadiz III (he/him/his) is a Filipino-American San Francisco Bay Area Educator and Performing Artist. He is an educational leader with a passion for creating equitable opportunities and advocating for socio-cultural diversity and representation within the field of public education in his hometown of Vallejo, CA. Several Performance Highlights include: A Chorus Line (Paul San Marco), The Song





of the Nightingale (Bing Wen), Assassins (Leon Czolgosz), RENT (Benjamin Coffin III) - he has also worked with local theatre companies such as Bindlestiff Studio, Theatre Rhinoceros, and 42nd Street Moon. Much love to all involved and those supporting this celebration!

Sarah Lee is a Bay area actor who is thrilled to work for the first time with SFBATCO. She has also worked with AE of Berkeley, Pacifica Spindrift Players, Silicon Valley Shakespeare and PlayGround SF. When not acting, she works in healthcare and dotes over her cat Timothy.



Chloe Wong is an emerging actor based in the Bay Area. Classically trained with American Conservatory and NCTC, they have a background in the theater ranging from Shakespeare and contemporary works. Additionally to stage works, they also have a hand in acting on camera in student and indie short films. When they are not acting or enjoying lengthy strolls on the coastline, they are a student and love to paint and create art in other mediums. They are hungry to learn more, and excited to work/connect/play with other actors and creatives!



Allen Byron Natividad Ocampo is a critical entertainer, ethnic studies educator, and culinary historian. He is simultaneously an amusement theme park and international sensation. With over a decade of experience educating counter-narratives in classrooms and higher education administrations throughout the Bay Area, he is determined to translate that same passion for humanizing the stories and narratives of our Asian and Asian American communities through the performing arts. Allen is thrilled to perform in his first SFBATCO production...Please be gentle with him.



Camille La'akea Wong is a graduate of Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. Recent projects include Pride and Prejudice (Plethos Productions) and Becoming Robin Hood (Berkeley Playhouse). Camille currently serves as the Technical Director at Plethos Productions. They are excited to be working on Shidaiqu! Many thanks to Camille's friends and family for their support.



Diana Lee is a Taiwanese-American music director, teaching artist, pianist and cellist based in the Bay Area. She has been the Music Director for various theater companies and schools including 42nd Street Moon, Youth Musical Theater Company, Berkeley High School, San Francisco Arts Education Project, Pacifica Spindrift Players, Spindrift School of Performing Arts, Bay Area Educational Theater Company, and Abbott Middle School. She has played in the pit orchestras and accompanied rehearsals at Mountain Play, Woodminster, and Young People's Teen Musical Theatre Company. She is the Visual and Performing Arts Technician at the Berkeley Unified School District.



Lenny San Jose aka Ukulenny is a multi-instrumentalist and educator based in Oakland. He is excited to return to the pit after a long hiatus from musical theater. Credits include Jerry Springer: The Opera (Ray of Light Theater, Reeds 2), Jesus Christ Superstar (YMTC, Reeds and Cello), Lucky Duck (Berkeley Playhouse, Reeds), Baby (Ray of Light Theater, Bass Guitar), and Fiorello! (SFartsED, Clarinet). Sponsored by Kala ukuleles, Lenny preaches the ukulele gospel, leading uke jams around the country and workshops via Patreon. His latest obsession is the Otamatone, and you can find him sharing Otamatone joy to his Instagram followers worldwide.



Victor Serda is thrilled to be a part of this show. He completed his MA in jazz bass at CSUEB and is excited to get his career going. He has been performing the area for about 7 years now and is currently a jazz coach for Granada High School in Livermore and a group piano teacher for Montessori Middle School in Tracy. Enjoy the show!



John Doing was born in Amsterdam, Holland. He moved to the US just in time for middle school band where he started on drums. He lives in Richmond, CA with his family where he is a husband, father of two boys, and dog owner. Broadway/Touring: The Hippest Trip: The Soul Train Musical Pre-Broadway at A.C.T. (rehearsal

drummer, percussion), Hamilton - And Peggy Tour (percussion, drums) and Philip Tour (percussion sub), Fun Home - First National Tour and Off-Broadway at the Public Theater (drums). Education: B.A. in Percussion Performance - University of Wisconsin (2008), M.M. in Jazz Performance - NYU (2012).

Brenda Palaby is a professional dancer and teaching artist based in her hometown of San Francisco. Primarily trained in ballet, Brenda graduated from UCLA where she continued her training through the World Arts & Cultures Dance department. With a passion for connecting with others through movement, she continued to train in a wide variety of styles while dancing professionally throughout LA and SF. Brenda is now the director of the dance department at Lincoln High School and is a proud educator of the next generation of movers. She has especially fallen in love with spaces empowering BIPOC artists and is honored to be performing with SFBATCO for that reason. Her mission is to make dance accessible to all and to create more opportunities for others to connect through the art of movement in her communities! IG: [@brendaabrendaa](https://www.instagram.com/brendaabrendaa)



DE MANGANGÁ: AN AFRO-BRAZILIAN MUSICAL

Tania Santiago was born and raised in Salvador, Bahia, and grew up in the heart of African-influenced Brazil. She has taught, danced, and choreographed for Brazil's most well-known dance companies, including the international renown Bloco Afro, Olodum. While her specialties are folkloric and contemporary Afro-Brazilian dance, Tania has extensively studied jazz, ballet, West African, Afro-Cuban, and modern dance. Since moving to California in 1997, she has taught popular classes regularly throughout the Bay Area. Tania is a sought-after instructor who has held workshops nationwide, including in New York, Hawaii, and Los Angeles, creating dynamic choreography for performers such as Cirque du Soleil in Las Vegas. Tania leads an annual dance intensive in Salvador, Bahia, each year to perform in the Afro-Dende Dance Festival that she co-founded in 2019. She is the Artistic Director of the Afro Brazilian Contemporary company Aguas Dance in San Francisco and premiered her latest work COMUNIDADE (In Community We are One), in 2022.

SeQuoia is a multi-talented actor, choreographer, percussionist, rapper, and vocalist. He recently made his New York dance debut at the Metropolitan Opera's Champion, choreographed by the renowned Camille Brown. SeQuoia began dancing and playing the drums at the age of three. He was the youngest member of Grammy winner John Calloway's Latin Jazz Youth Ensemble, fronted S.F. Carnival Brazilian floats as the main vocalist, and performed lead roles in sizeable musical theatre productions with San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company (SF BATCO) and SFArtsED. SeQuoia's dance training includes B-Boy, Hip Hop, Afro-Brazilian, and Tap. In May 2022, he graduated from New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts with an emphasis in Musical Theatre. He worked with Emmy-nominated tap choreographer Chole Arnold on the upcoming film Freaky Tales As a hip-hop artist and vocalist steeped in many musical influences, SeQuoia self-produced and released two EPs titled Project 23 and Sometimes We Forget To Dance. In 2021, he performed at the legendary music venue Sounds of Brazil (S.O.B.'s) in New York. SeQuoia will join Camille Brown's creative residency for her new work this summer (2023) as a dance artist with her company, Camille A. Brown & Dancers, in Tivoli, New York. In August, SeQuoia will appear in American Conservatory Theater's world premiere of Hippest Trip-The Soul Train Musical, a Broadway-bound musical based on the iconic T.V. show.

Nasha Harris Santiago is a performer, choreographer, and arts-education teacher born and raised in San Francisco, CA. She is a Posse Scholar and a recent Boston University alumna where she studied communications and arts leadership. She was executive director of a top hip-hop team at Boston University, Fusion Dance Troupe. Her time at BU reawakened her passion for the entertainment industry and opened a door for further learning and leadership within the performing arts. Most recently, Nasha did a teaching residency with San Francisco Arts Education Project



Image by Bekah Lynn Photography

where she was the director of West Portal Elementary School's spring musical. During this semester, she was also the Director of Choreography for San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Company (SFBATCO) where she choreographed pieces for *I, Too*, *Sing America* and *The Day The Sky Turned Orange*. She has just been awarded the African American Art & Culture Complex grant: Enterprising Creatives Cohort Program. The program consisted of a 30-day boot camp for Black artists and creative entrepreneurs, where she engaged in a rapid review and re-evaluation of her original vision as a creative while building on her existing knowledge. She is now based in New York City and selected as a 2022/2023 fellow with the Black Theatre Coalition. She has worked closely with Tony Award winning choreographer Camille Brown on projects such as *Champion* at the Met Opera, and more to come. Nasha wants to expand her learnings and experience as a Black artist to find her role in the entertainment industry where change happens and progress continues.



Taylor Mendez first fell in love with theater her junior year of high school while attending Holy Names High School (Oakland, CA). She then moved on to complete her 4 years of study and obtained her BFA in Theater with a focus on Stage Management. After graduating, she spent some time working in the Behavior and Mental Health field until 2022 when she made the choice to become a full time independent artist. Since then she has held the titles, Director of Production and Facilities, Stage Manager, and Technical Director. Taylor is overjoyed to continue her artistic journey with SFBATCO.

Ahja Henry is a San Francisco native interdisciplinary artist and dancer. She has been dancing for 14 years, with a background in ballet, contemporary, and jazz. While completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology at UC Riverside, she expanded her repertoire with West African and Hip Hop dance which shifted her viewpoint towards what dance can be. She now trains in a variety of dance styles and joins every performing opportunity she can. She is immensely grateful to be a part of the SFBATCO family and excited to perform in a show that celebrates the artistry and diversity of BIPOC.

Tara Bucknor grew up in Jupiter, Fl. After graduating with her BFA in Dance from UF in 2020 she went on to complete the Alonzo King Lines Ballet Training Program. She has had her work shown in venues such as the Harn Museum of Art, Dance Center Du Marais, and Grace Cathedral. Most recently she was accepted into ODC's 73rd Pilot Program and created work as well as a self-produced show alongside her six-person cohort. She has choreographed under the guidance of creators such as Christian Burns, Murya Kerr, and Sidra Bell.

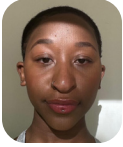
Adora Nzewi, a high school sophomore, is extremely excited to perform in an all-black cast and creative team. She was most recently seen in the ensemble of CenterREP's *In the Heights*. Other credits include *A Christmas Story: The Musical* (Berkeley Playhouse), *On Your Feet: The Story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan*, and many youth educational theater productions, including *Lion King, Jr.*, *A Chorus Line*, and *Shrek*. When not on stage, Adora can be found watching her favorite K-dramas. Much gratitude to her entire family, and her dance, theater, and voice teachers who prepare her for the stage. *Pretty. Black. Cute.*

Amarech Mendez is thrilled to once again be a part of SF-BATCO's New Roots Festival and this production of *De Mangangá*. She is a Senior at Mercy High School in Burlingame where she serves as student body president, is the student-faculty liaison on the diversity and inclusion committee and plays on the varsity tennis team. In her spare time, Amarech enjoys performing with ACT-SF's Young Conservatory Cabaret Ensemble and *Broadway & Vine* in Napa. She plans to pursue a BFA in musical theatre when she heads to college this fall. She'd like to thank her teachers, family and friends for their continued support.

Eliana Lee started her dance training in Virginia at Dance Theatre of Lynchburg at the age of three. She trained with her father, former American Ballet Theatre soloist, Keith Lee. While at Dance Theatre of Lynchburg she performed works by Keith Lee,



Talley Beaty, Isadora Duncan, Jane Vorburger, Joshua Legg and more. Throughout her upbringing Eliana trained at summer intensives such as American Ballet Theatre, Alonzo King Lines Ballet, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Eliana then went on to study at North Carolina School of The Arts for her junior year of High School on the contemporary track. Training under Brenda Daniels, Susan Jaffe, and Sean Sullivan, to name a few. Upon High School Graduation Lee pursued her BFA at SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance in New York, under the direction of Nelly Van-Bommell. While at Purchase she studied with Doug Varone, Vim Vigor, Stephanie Tooman, Kevin Wynn, Rozalind Newman, Sue Bernhard, Ted Kiviitt, Rosana Seravali, Tamisha Guy, Sidra Bell and Jean Freebury to name a few of her teachers and mentors. Lee studied various techniques, and composition and also minored in Anthropology during her time at Purchase. Lee studied and performed works by Sidra Bell, Dorchel Haqq, and Maya Reiding. Eliana took interest in composition and created a Senior and Junior project production on her peers with 6-8 dancers and found her love for composition. Upon earning her BFA in 2021, Eliana moved to San Francisco shortly after, to work with international students. Now Lee is currently an Itinerant Dance Educator with the Oakland Unified School District teaching k-5. Eliana is excited to embark on her performance, and choreographic journey on the West Coast.



Orion Harris Santiago is a triple threat performer: Singer, Dancer, Actor. He has performed in multiple productions with SFARTSED Players, including roles in Matilda and as Baby John in West Side Story (a collaboration with BATCO). He plays drums for Tania Santiago's Afro Brazilian dance classes and Carnival float. He was a featured hip hop dancer at the City Dance Winter Showcase. He currently attends Oakland School for the Arts in the Vocal department. He is most recently a member of The Company's Junior Hip Hop team, APT.



Sutchat "Cha Cha" Mosley-Wise (She/Her) had her first dance experience taking classes with Carla Service at Dance-A-Vision in Oakland, California at the age of two. Throughout her years of performing, she acted for three seasons with San Francisco's Little Opera [2012]. She played the role of the grandchild in the African-American Shakespeare Company's and SFBATCO's production of Cinderella in [2016]. She was a dancer and singer in SFBATCO's and SFArtEd I, Too Sing America: Next Gen [2023]. She wants her love for performing to inspire and increase with every opportunity, and to learn and grow from it.



Jaliana Semien is a recent UC Santa Barbara graduate with a B.F.A Dance and a B.A Sociology. Originally from San Francisco, Jaliana has trained and taught at many studios in the Bay Area. She has worked with many such as Eliva Marta, Andrea Hinman, and Gregory Dawson when studying at Ruth Asawa School of the Arts. Recently, she traveled to Europe under direction of Delila Moseley as a member of the UCSB Senior Dance Company. Jaliana intends to continue her growth in her dance career, and is excited to be back in her hometown.



Aya Travick-Best is a dynamic creative force, equally comfortable behind the lens and on stage. She has graced the dance floor alongside luminaries such as Busta Rhymes and E-40, while also contributing her video production skills to shows like Project Runway and Showtime's Flatbush Misdemeanors. Her remarkable journey began at the age of seven as a member of the Golden State Warrior's Jr Jam Squad, and it has since encompassed dazzling performances at events like the Adcolor Awards, BET LA Live Experience, MTV Video Music Awards, and the Broadway-bound production "The Hippest Trip: The Soul Train Musical." A graduate of the Oakland School for the Arts' dance program and UCLA's film program, Aya's exploration of West African dance and musical structures has enriched her with profound insights into over 30 diasporic cultural dance styles and rhythms, fostering a deep appreciation for global cultural diversity.

Ebonie Barnett is one of Bay Area's most dynamic African Diasporic dancers. She began studying dance at the Art of Ballet School of Dance and Dimensions

Dance Theater 's Rites of Passage program (ROP). A true product of the Bay Area, Ebonie also is well-versed in various urban and street styles, and has taught at many community spaces and schools throughout the bay area. Her focus point is making connections to Hip Hop movement and its roots throughout the African Diaspora and using that as a tool to help youth unpack trauma within the body and heal themselves. Ebonie's dance studies have landed her in New York, Washington DC, Arizona, Nigeria, Matanzas Cuba, and Senegal Africa. Ebonie's dance travels and studies assisted her in becoming San Francisco's 2019 Carnaval Queen. Ebonie has taught at many community spaces and schools throughout the bay area including West Oakland Middle School, Oakland School for the Arts, Stanford University and Oakland Tech. Her focus point is making connections to Hip Hop movement and its roots throughout the African Diaspora and using that as a tool to help youth unpack trauma within the body and heal themselves, using the healing properties of movement rooted in the pelvic and spinal region. She has also curated a successful event, "Back to the Roots" that took a look at the historic connection of the spine and pelvis throughout the African Diaspora. With her work she hopes to channel her experiences to empower Black and Brown youth to embody leadership and autonomy of a culture that is rightfully theirs.



Markaila Dyson is a performing artist based in San Francisco. She has had the pleasure of working with SFArtsEd since the age of 8, eventually becoming a Player and later on graduating from Ruth Asawa School of the Arts as part of the musical theater department. Markaila feels immensely blessed to be surrounded by many POC artists of all different backgrounds. She is grateful to get to pass on this beautiful show to the next generation of artists that are emerging amongst us. Markaila thanks her friends and family for unconditional love and support.

DIRTY WHITE TESLAS MAKE ME SAD

Founded in 1996, **Campo Santo** is an award-winning new performances group by and for People of Color, committed to developing and premiering new Performance and Theatre works and to nurturing diverse new audiences for the performing arts. Our longer-term goal is to model a way to generate new communities of theatre participants, creators, audiences and more- rather than singular experiences. Working in this process and model has allowed us to have a diverse and dynamic audience and family of collaborators throughout our 25+ year existence. As testaments of this, we have created not only bodies of work with authors, but have also helped cleave out an evolving aesthetic in performance by working on the entire library of new plays by writers. We have developed and premiered more than 100 World Premieres pieces with a wide range of writers including Luis Alfaro, Junot Diaz, Jessica Hagedorn, Naomi Iizuka, Denis Johnson, Richard Montoya, and Ntozake Shange, to name a few, and nurturing the first works of writers Sharif Abu-Hamdeh, Dave Eggers, Star Finch, Chinaka Hodge, Dennis Kim, Luis Saguar, Marc Anthony Thompson and even more. We have recently found a home, being named the first Home Resident Company of the Magic Theatre.

Ashley Smiley aka Smiley is a native AfroFranciscan holding degrees in Performing Arts and Social Justice (B.A.) and Drama (M.A.). Over the last two decades her professional work in the SF/Bay Area performing arts scene has manifested in roles such as Sound Designer, Lighting Designer, Stage Manager, Production Manager and Director. Currently Smiley serves as the Program Director of the Ruth Williams Opera House, a PhD student at the Graduate Theological Union with a focus on AfroFuturist Liberation Theology and preparing for the world premiere of Dirty White Teslas Make Me Sad, a full-length interdisciplinary piece produced by Magic Theatre and resident company Campo Santo (for which she has received support from the Rainin Foundation, the Gerbode Foundation and was the 2023 recipient of the TBA Rella Lossy Award).



Ahmad Walker Artist & Animator has always had a passion for creating unique characters and stories all his life. After being exposed to the Art of Animation at the age of 12 he's had his sights on becoming one of the leading forcing in Animation and Television. Inspired by some of the world top Animators, Directors and Storytellers like George Lucas, Robert Townsend, Genndy Tartakovsky, Aaron Mcgruder and many other who have contributed to the Art of Animation, Television & Film. While Ahmad Walker's main focus is Animation & Film he considers himself a versatile artist having experience with a wide variety of mediums like Sculpting, Painting, Carving, Graphic Design, Illustration, Clothing Design & More. Ahmad Walker is continuously pushing the boundaries of his Imagination and creating without limitations.



Nina Fabunmi's interest in art began as a child, she developed her artistic skills just as she learnt how to read and write but realized it was a gift when she noticed that her peers could not do draw like she could. At six, she would make small drawings and render them with colored pencils. Her dad had a spot on the wall of his studio where he pinned up all her work. He is an architect and in her sheltered upbringing, his tools of creativity and artistic influence surrounded her. As a teenager, art became her means of expression, she wrote poetry, made drawings, paintings, collage, mosaic and fabric designs with tie-dye and batik. Upon her high school graduation, she received a Proficiency Certificate in Fine Art.



Rhone Roberts is a native Californian. In the 1980s, he moved to the Bay Area from French Camp, outside of Stockton. From a young age, he was into art. After attending the University of the Pacific in Stockton to pursue art, Rhone landed a design job at Lockheed Martin. Eight years later, he moved to San Francisco. But it wasn't until 2001 that he decided to seriously commit to art, and found himself a studio. Rhone also began working as an interior designer. It taught him that I could create environments spatially.



Anna Marie Sharpe is a Black and Filipino actor and writer in the Bay Area. She is very excited to be working with SFBATCO in the New Roots Theatre Festival. Her recent credits include Nollywood Dreams (San Francisco Playhouse), Paradise Blue (Aurora Theatre Company), and A Christmas Carol (American Conservatory Theatre). Sharpe made her film debut in the award winning short film, "The Best Time." She received her B.A. from UC Berkeley where she double majored in Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies. She is grateful for Quinn, Lucian, and Mia for their love and support. IG: [@ amarie3](#)



Sean San José is a writer, director, performer, and one of the co-founders of Campo Santo, a resident theater company at Intersection for the Arts. 01 He has produced and overseen over 75 premiere productions of theater, dance, and interdisciplinary performances. Campo Santo works in long-term relationships with writers of all genres, including poets, novelists, screenwriters, and playwrights, to develop and create new works for the stage. The company has produced more than 45 critically acclaimed premiere productions under Executive Director Deborah Cullinan.

REFLECTIONS N BLACK 2023

In the midst of San Francisco's Tenderloin district, where homelessness, poverty, drugs and the unfortunate have congregated and for the most part is ignored by the City's Officials, is the home of **San Francisco's Recovery Theatre**. The Recovery Theatre is a grassroots organization with a lot of local and some municipal support. It is funded by grants from the art and health community in San Francisco with no full time staff, but with a core group of dedicated actors, composed mainly of people in recovery. Its mission is to meet people where they are, provide a medium of communication and deliver a message of hope, consequence and solutions. Geoffrey Grier heads the Company and also hosts the Mr. Geoffrey Show, a local on-line show that focuses on the issues, concerns and events of the Tenderloin community. With on the job training theatre experience and many years as a group facilitator at various treatment centers in San Francisco, Mr. Grier holds a degree in psychology from San Francisco State



University, and has assembled a cast of actors from clients in and out of treatment to develop and present his new play “The Spot”. A is a play about a teenage couple whose lives change dramatically when she gets pregnant at 15. Struggling to support his family, the young man resorts to dealing drugs to make ends meet, but soon gets wrongly blamed for the death of two people and is sent to prison. Grier feels that the theatre’s productions is the only safe place that people of different cultures, races and religious backgrounds can experience the lifestyle of another without feeling threatened. While many people are still battling substance abuse, mental health, or housing problems, it becomes a formidable task for Recovery Theatre to assist those in need to transcend them to a healthier, progressively positive life.

Writer, Producer, Director, Actor, **Geoffrey Grier** has a long legacy of utilizing the mediums of interdisciplinary art to uplift the human experience and transform communities in San Francisco. Grier comes to the stage as a Director and Actor with a wealth of talent as a musician, comedian, and with 18 years of traveling worldwide as a martial arts performer. He appeared on the Nash Bridges TV series starring Don Johnson and in the film, Dog Fights with the late River Phoenix. His theatrical stage experience includes memorable roles in such classics as: Lord Montague in “Romeo and Juliet” by William Shakespeare, Brother Boxer in “Amen Corner” by James Baldwin, Shylock in “Merchant of Venice” by William Shakespeare, Mahomolo in “Homeland, Macbeth by William Shakespeare and numerous other productions. Grier is well known in San Francisco for his CommunityTV (Mr. Geoffrey) series and his continuous paying of homage to the City’s heritage in Black arts through the legendary Black Hawk Jazz Club. Through SF Recovery Theatre, Grier uses his amazing communication skills to bring arts institutions, social services, and community together to help people craft their own stories of struggle, survival, and triumph. This has empowered artists and SF’s Black neighborhoods to celebrate the achievements and heritage of Black culture together.

Vernon Medearis is a native of San Francisco. He has been on stage for 50 years and has worked with Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, the Full Circle Theater, Multiethnic Theater, Black Repertory Group Theater, and the San Francisco Recovery Theatre, and the African-American Shakespeare Company, to name a few.

Eric Ward, a native born son of SF, has been bending the floorboards of theatre and performance venues around the Bay Area for decades. An accomplished Actor, published Artist and Singer, Mr. Ward was crowned twice as “Best Crooner in San Francisco”. A stalwart member of San Francisco Recovery Theatre, Mr. Ward co-directed seven seasons of Cabaret performances by the group at the renowned MARTUNI’s Cabaret lounge in The City.

DYING WHILE BLACK AND BROWN

Founded in 1980, **Zaccho Dance Theatre** is an innovative force in both the world of dance and our home community of Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco’s African American Arts & Cultural District. Zaccho Dance Theatre creates and presents performance work that investigates dance as it relates to place. Artistic Director Joanna Haigood and collaborators pursue unique and challenging visions of dance, including spectacular aerial choreography, evocative site-specific performances, and culturally significant subject matter. Zaccho collaborates with an extraordinary group of diverse artists to create unique and innovative performances and elevate the work to international acclaim. www.zaccho.org

Marcus Anthony Shelby is a composer, bassist, bandleader, and educator who currently lives in San Francisco, California. His work focuses on the history, present, and future of African American lives social movements and music education.

Since 1980 **Joanna Haigood** (she/her) has been creating work that uses natural, architectural, and cultural environments as points of departure for movement exploration and narrative. Her stages have included grain terminals, a clock tower,

the pope's palace, military forts, and a mile of urban neighborhood streets in the South Bronx. Her work has been commissioned by many arts institutions, including Dancing in the Streets, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Walker Arts Center, the Exploratorium Museum, the National Black Arts Festival, and Festival d'Avignon. She has been honored with the Guggenheim Fellowship, the Herb Alpert Award in the Arts, the United States Artist and Rainin Fellowships, and a New York Bessie Award. Haigood is a recipient of the esteemed Doris Duke Artist Award and she has had the privilege to mentor many extraordinary young artists internationally at the National École des Arts du Cirque in France, the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in England, Spelman College, Institute for Diversity in the Arts at Stanford University, San Francisco Circus Center, and at Zaccho Studio in San Francisco.

jose esteban abad (they/them) is a multidisciplinary choreographer, DJ, and curator based in unceded Ramaytush Ohlone Territory (San Francisco, CA). Born in Olongapo City, Philippines to a Filipina Mother and an Afro-Caribbean U.S. Naval Officer, their work explores the complexities of cultural identity at the crossroads of gender, sexuality, class, and race in the United States. Through dance theater, surrealist video, and sonic experimentation, their work unearths lost histories that reside in the body, that the mind has forgotten, and dominant culture has erased. Their choreography is rooted in collaboration and improvisation as tools of resistance and liberation. Their work centers QTBIPOC experimental collective process-based practices of becoming and re-membering, ushering a metamorphosis through emergent performances that listen to the most intelligent technologies that exist in this world - our bodies, ancestral wisdom, and nature. They are a cofounder and core member of several QTBIPOC centered dance and performance projects that promote healing, community networking, and leadership capacity building including Lxs Dxs, the Hive, to be like the river residency, and SCHEME. They have also held residencies and produced work with organizations including CounterPulse, the Joe Goode Annex, Paul Dresher Studio, Highways Performance Space and Hope Mohr Dance. abad has performed and taught nationally and internationally in the Philippines, Mexico, Canada, and Europe, and has collaborated with established choreographers, including Anne Bluethenthal, Alleluia Panis, Joanna Haigood, Ishmael Houston-Jones, Keith Hennessey, Sara Shelton Mann, Brontez Purnell, BANDALOO, Erika Chong Shuch, Sherwood Chen, and many others. Through this legacy abad is committed to continuing the Bay Area's tradition of radically queer, experimental, politically engaged dance.

Erik Lee Born and raised in Oakland, California, Erik K. Raymond Lee (he/him) received formal dance training from UC Berkeley, BA in Dance & Performance Studies (2010) and MFA in dance from Mills College (2017). Erik is a dance professor, choreographer, and business owner.

Toni Cannon (he/him) is a black trans masculine person who has dedicated his body to performing circus arts, using the Chinese pole act as one of his instruments in reconciling his gender identity. Toni started his circus career later in life; however, this hasn't stopped him from diving deep into his new found love and passion — consistently finding new ways to express himself through acrobatics. The first years of his career were spent with Master Lu Yi learning disciplines like acrobatics, duo's / trio's acrobatics, and Chinese pole. Performances have included Aerial Animations, Topsy Turvy Circus, This is Acrosanct, Witchtech, Circus Bella, and the San Francisco Aerial Arts Festival.

Dazaun Soleyn, artistic director of dazaun.dance, graduated as the University of South Florida's Outstanding Graduate with a BFA in Modern Dance Performance and Choreography. Upon graduation, Dazaun was accepted as a Trainee at the Alonzo King LINES Ballet Training Program (LBTP). With an intention to create holistic art that aims to illuminate the dynamic fullness of the human experience, Dazaun has been actively presenting work in the Bay Area since the Fall of 2014. His teaching credits





Image by Bekah Lynn Photography

include the Alonzo King LINES Ballet Training Program, University of South Florida, Cal-State University East Bay, Alonzo King LINES Ballet BFA Program, Dance Mission Theater, and ODC Commons. Dazaun has also been commissioned to create works for the Oakland Ballet Company, The Alonzo King LINES Ballet Summer Program, and the University of San Francisco Performing Arts and Social Justice Department. Currently, Dazaun is a Dance Adjunct Professor for the University of San Francisco Performing Arts and Social Justice Program, a certificated Gyrotonic Instructor, Level 2 Reiki Practitioner, and an Energy Worker. He is also a candidate for a Master's in Architecture Degree at California College of the Arts.



THERE IS NO HATRED HERE

Marcus J. Paige is thrilled to return to SFBATCO. Regional credits include, *Once on This Island* (Shea's 710), *The Scottsboro Boys* (42nd St. Moon), *The Full Monty* (Virginia Musical Theater), *DOT* (New Conservatory Theatre Center), and *PARENTAL ADVISORY* (Milwaukee Repertory Theater). Alongside winning the *Mirabel Schloß* competition in Salzburg, Austria, his international credits include *Ariadne auf Naxos*, and *Die Zauberflöte* with the Berlin Opera Academy. Mr. Paige can be heard leading the world premiere of both Andrew Lipka's, *UNBREAKABLE*, and *Othello Jefferson's I, Too, Sing America*, available on streaming platforms, as well as Disney Channel's, "*MILO MURPHY'S LAW*". MarcusJPaige.com

Thomas Robert Simpson, actor, director, producer, and writer, is the founder and artistic director of AfroSolo Arts Festival. Since 1991 he has concentrated on presenting African American and African Diasporan art and culture through solo performances and the visual and literary arts.

Land Acknowledgment

SFBATCO acknowledges that we are located on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, and recognize them as the original stewards of this land. We recognize that we are guests here and that our art is presented in their traditional homeland. We offer our work with respect to the Ancestors, Elders past and present, and the Relatives of the Ramaytush Community. We call on our community in helping us empower and uplift the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. Resources:

The Association of Ramaytush Ohlone
Native Arts & Culture Foundation
First Peoples Fund

Our Mission

SFBATCO was founded in 2014 by Rodney Earl Jackson, Jr. and Marcelo Javier. Since its founding, the organization has enjoyed residencies at the African American Art and Culture Complex (AAACC) and Brava Theater Center. SFBATCO engages artists and audiences through live theatre productions, creative development, and community service initiatives that resonate with SF Bay Area perspectives. The organization provides a platform for People of the Global Majority, and inspires both new audiences and theatre innovators.

Our Vision

SFBATCO envisions a San Francisco Bay Area where the participation in live theatre is essential, accessible, and exhilarating; where artists are valued for their creativity as well as their role in sparking societal change; and where a multitude of cultural experiences are equitably represented.

Special Thank You's

African American Art and Culture Complex
 Alex Tamura
 Bekah Lynn Photography
 Best Beverage Catering
 Brava Theater Center
 Brian Bell
 The Complex SF
 Meghan Crosby-Jolliffe
 Risa Ferrer
 Francine Austin
 William Axelrod
 Trish Owyang
 Winston Jeffries
 Zenon Talbot
 Jose Zamora
 Geoffrey Grier
 Vernon Medearis
 Sutchat "Cha Cha" Mosley-Wise
 Clayton Shelvin
 Radio Africa Kitchen

We couldn't do this without our amazing volunteers. Thank you!

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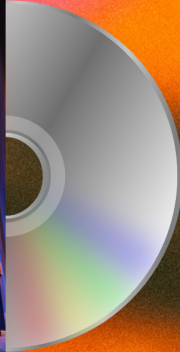
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