



# First Violin

# SUBLET SERIES @ HERE 2018-19 SEASON

#HERE  
@HEREARTS

## Welcome!

Thank you for coming to *First Violin*, a SubletSeries Co-Op presentation. This program provides artists with discounted space and equipment, as well as technical support.

HERE also supports the work of artists at all stages in their careers through our HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP), which develops and produces the work of our 10-13 resident artists, and Visiting Artist presentations for adult and family audiences. Please check out our other performances and events at [HERE.org](http://HERE.org).

Like all the work at HERE, this SubletSeries Co-Op presentation was curated based on the strength and uniqueness of the artist's vision.

We hope to see you HERE again soon.

Best,



KRISTIN MARTING

Founding Artistic Director

## SUBLETSERIES CO-OP

Check out the [full line-up](#):  
NOW - AUG 31

### HERE SUPPORT

HERE is extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of an important group of Foundations, Corporations, Government Agencies, Elected Officials, and dedicated individuals. We would not be HERE without them.

### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

HERE's programming is made possible with Public Funds from: National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Office of the Mayor of New York, and Speaker Corey Johnson; The Office of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer; and New York State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick. We are extremely grateful for the support and advocacy of all of our dedicated elected officials: Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten R. Gillibrand, Representative Jerrold L. Nadler, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Mayor Bill de Blasio, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer and the Cultural Affairs Committee of the City Council, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman.

### PRIVATE AND CORPORATE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

Alliance of Resident Theatres/ New York, Axe-Houghton Foundation, Booth Ferris Foundation, Edison Properties, Fund for the City of New York, Howard Gilman Foundation, Jerome Foundation, Inc., Jim Henson Foundation, Joseph and Joan Cullman, Foundation for the Arts, Leon Levy Foundation, mediaThe Foundation, Mental Insight Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, New York Foundation for the Arts, Select Equity Group, Inc., The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Barbara Bell Cumming Charitable Trust, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Scherman Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Venturous Theater Fund of the Tides Foundation, Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation

HERE, in partnership with Resident Playwright Taylor Mac, is a participant in the Mellon Foundation's National Playwright Residency Program administered in partnership with HowlRound. HERE is a proud member of the Hudson Sq Connection & Lower Manhattan Arts League & The National Opera America Center & TCG.

# A Prayer

Welcome to my temple of Doom.  
Let us begin with a prayer

For our children  
And grandchildren  
And great-grandchildren

Who will look nothing like us  
Who will like some strange sounds they're calling music now  
Who won't speak our language  
At least not the way we speak it

But they will pick up the pieces  
And try to reassemble the past,  
Resembling the past.  
May they find the way ahead.

The map shows the New York City subway system with various lines and stations labeled. Overlaid on the map is the text of the song "Smells Like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana. The lyrics are written in a green, monospace-style font across the top half of the map. The map includes a legend titled "Stations and connections" and "Subway Services" on the right side. The legend lists various subway lines and their corresponding colors and symbols. The map also shows a compass rose indicating North (N), South (S), East (E), and West (W).



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# First Violin

WRITER / PERFORMER / CO-PRODUCER

Sean Devare

DIRECTOR

Alex M. Lee

CO-PRODUCER

Gustavo Sampaio

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Kate August

STAGE MANAGER

Glenn Potter-Takata

AUGUST 20–21, 2019

**HERE**, 145 6th Ave, NY, NY

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# Artistic Team

**SEAN DEVARE** (Writer, Performer, Co-Producer) is a multi-disciplinary performer, director, designer, and musician. His work explores questions of cultural evolution through reinterpreting ancient performance traditions. He was a resident actor at The Flea and has since focused on original collaborative pieces in the city and abroad as a founding member of Trinacria Theatre Company. NY credits include: 'The People Speak' (BAM); 'The Talmud' (Target Margin); '#serials@theflea' (The Flea); 'The Saltmakers' (Dixon Place/HERE); 'Artaud Artaud' (Signature). Sean co-created and performed 'Juniper Tree' for Puppet BloK at Dixon Place featuring handcrafted masks and puppets. He recently completed his MFA in Theatre at Sarah Lawrence College. Other training: Brown University, Dell'Arte Abroad (Bali), New England Puppet Intensive, Theatre Mitu (South India Intensive), and Movement Theater Studio NYC. BFA in Illustration, RISD.

**ALEX M. LEE** (Director) is a director, writer, and visual artist from Seoul, Korea, recently based in New York City. She is a graduate of the Brown/RISD Dual Degree Program from which she holds a BA in Theatre Arts and a BFA in Film/Animation/Video. Her personal work is focused on intimate storytelling through transformative media, and she is thrilled to make her NYC directorial debut working with a piece and collaborator both very close to her heart. When she is not in the theatre you can find her down the hall in the HERE office, where she works as a graphic designer.

**GUSTAVO SAMPAIO** (Co-Producer) is a producer, designer, and performer from São Paulo, Brazil. He has studied clown with Christopher Bayes, Virginia Scott, and Justine Williams; and has performed at Jack, The Pit, and Theater for the New City. Gus holds an MFA in Theater from Sarah Lawrence College, a graduate certificate in Media Management, and is currently a candidate for the Master of Arts degree in Arts Management and Entrepreneurship at The New School, in New York City.

**KATE AUGUST** (Lighting Designer) has hidden out in downtown theater spaces, turning things on and off for the past decade. When not turning lights on and off, they're often found in tech closets muttering. Past projects include but are not limited to Devil in a Box, a sex thing (or, a bunch of liberals getting uptight about the sociopolitical implications of their desires), Basil Twist's Puppet Parlor, and Blanche Survives Katrina in a FEMA Trailer Named Desire. They have a profound enjoyment of waffles.

**GLENN POTTER-TAKATA** (Stage Manager) is a performance artist from Los Angeles. Shiba Inus are his favorite dog. MFA, Sarah Lawrence College.  
<http://gornorgorn.com>



# Set List

“Black Mountain Side” – Led Zeppelin

“Danse Macabre” – Camille Saint-Saëns

“Caprice 24” – Niccolò Paganini

“Immigrant Song” – Led Zeppelin

“All My Loving” – The Beatles

“Norwegian Wood” – The Beatles

“I am the Walrus” – The Beatles

“Tomorrow Never Knows” – The Beatles

“Stairway to Heaven” – Led Zeppelin

“Silent Night” – Franz Xaver Gruber

“Bold as Love” – Jimi Hendrix

“Shiv Tandav Stotram” – Ravaan

“Across the Universe” – The Beatles

# Resources

There is a vast world of resources about *The Ramayana* and Indian music history. If you are interested in further study, here are some good places to start.

## VIDEOS

[\*Sita Sings the Blues\*](#) – Nina Paley

An animated film based on The Ramayana.

[\*Raavan Hatha\*](#) – Neeraj Jain

A performance & interview of a Raavanhatha player.

## ESSAYS & ARTICLES

['Ravana Created the Violin's Ancestor!'](#) – Anuradha Varma (Times of India, May 2011)

An article about Ravana and the creation of the Ravanhattha.

['The Unknown Fiddler of Madras'](#) – James Wimmer

An essay on Indian violin history.

[“‘Shit, It Was All in E”: Orientalism and Indian Classical Influence in the Landscape of Improvised Expression’](#) – Shyamala Ramakrishna

An essay on Orientalism in Western music.

## BOOKS

[\*Finding the Demon's Fiddle: On the Trail of the Ravanhattha\*](#)

– Patrick Jered

[\*Many Ramayanas: The Diversity of a Narrative Tradition in South Asia\*](#)

– Paula Richman

[\*The Ramayana\*](#) – Valmiki (Arshia Sattar translation)

[\*Rasa: Performing the Divine In India\*](#) – Susan L. Schwartz

[\*Ramayana: Divine Loophole\*](#) – Sanjay Patel

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**NEXT STOP:**

Oct 2nd, 2019  
United Solo Fest

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