HERE presents

THE BLIND

Conceived & Co-Created by
Mia Rovegno & Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew

Part of HERE’s #stillHERE: ONLINE series

DIGITAL PROGRAM SCROLL TO CONTINUE
HERE presents

THE BLIND

Conceived and Co-Created by Mia Rovegno and Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew

Text adapted from The Blind by Maurice Maeterlinck Additional text written by Mia Rovegno

Composed and Music Directed by Alaina Ferris
Sound Design by Jane Shaw
Production Design Consulting by Gabriel Evansohn
Music Mixing by Leah Shaw

Performed by Andrew Garman (First Man Born Blind)
Chad Goodridge (Second Man Born Blind)
Matt Korahais (Third Man Born Blind)
Tony Torn (The Oldest Blind Man)
Aviva Jaye (The Oldest Blind Woman / Vocalist)
Angel Lin (The Young Blind Girl / Vocalist)
Alaina Ferris (Prologue Voice / Madwoman Vocalist)

Special Thanks to Catwalk, Pierre-Étienne Fiquet, Julien Frei, and Maurice.

HERE pays respect to the Munsee Lenape ancestors past, present, and future. We acknowledge that the work of HERE is situated on the Lenape island of Manhattan (Mannahatta) and more broadly in Lenapehoking, the Lenape homeland.

Inspired by the words of Adrienne Wong: HERE acknowledges the legacy of colonization embedded within the technology, structures, and ways of thinking we use every day. This production is using equipment and high-speed internet, not available in many Indigenous communities. Even the technologies that are central to much of the art we make leave significant carbon footprints, contributing to changing climates that disproportionately affect Indigenous people worldwide. We invite you to join us in acknowledging all this, as well as our shared responsibility to make good of this time and for each of us to consider our roles in reconciliation, decolonization, and ally-ship.
CREATORS

MIA ROVEGNO (Co-Creator) is a Brooklyn-based writer and director of investigative, site-specific and immersive performance works. Recent directing includes Miami Motel Stories (featured in Vogue magazine) and The Way They Live at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (named in The New Yorker’s Favorite Cultural Moments). Recipient of: The Public Theater’s 2020-22 Devised Theater Working Group, 2020 ONEBRIClab Residency, MacDowell Fellowship, Drama League Directing Fellowships in Theater & Film/Television, Berkeley Rep Ground Floor, New Georges Audrey Residency, Catwalk Residency, NYSCA Grant & P73’s Yale Residency. Alum of: The Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab, Civilians R&D Group, Lincoln Center Directors Lab, Women’s Project Directors Lab, New Georges Jam, and St. Ann’s Puppet Lab. Mia teaches at NYU Tisch’s ITP, Production & Design Studio, and Playwrights Horizons Theater School, and was the 2016 Rutgers Playwright in Residence. She received her B.S. in Performance Studies from Northwestern and MFA in Directing from Brown. Up next: Under the Radar Festival. miarovegno.com

JEANETTE OI-SUK YEW (Co-Creator) is a generative artist with a strong background in devising interdisciplinary and collaborative productions. She focuses on creating densely weaved performances that aim to offer alternative spectatorship that are not only interactive and immersive, but to engage audiences in a tactile conversation and reflection on our role in politics. Together with her successful background in theatrical designs and puppetry, these productions engage and challenge all senses physically and intellectually. The New York Times called her production, Act 4 of The Iceman Cometh with Target Margin, “consistently inventive.” Furthermore, Are They Edible?, that used food and puppetry to ruminate on war, sacrifices, and our relationship with consumption was played to sold-out houses and was described as “bold and inventive.” Jeanette received support from the Jim Henson Foundation, the Urban Artist Initiative, Artist Trust, Queens Council on the Arts, Puppeteers of America, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and the NEA/TCG Career Development Program.
ARTISTIC TEAM

ALAINA FERRIS (Composer/Music Director) is a composer, poet, and music educator. Her work has appeared at SoHo Rep, Barnard College/Columbia University, Abrons Arts Center, The Connelly Theater, and St. Ann’s Warehouse. She has worked with artists Tyler Gilmore (BlankFor.ms.), Coco Karol, Sxip Shirey, Ellen Winter, Amanda Palmer, Jason Webley, Steve Earle, Anne Waldman, Eliza Bent, Mia Rovegno, William Burke, Joshua William Gelb, Mac Wellman, and more. She was selected as a 2019 National Sawdust Summerlab Musician, and was a co-winner of the 2019/2020 Brooklyn Youth Chorus Composer Competition. She is a 2019-2021 Composer Fellow at The American Opera Project. She recently music directed César Alvarez's The Universe is a Small Hat at Princeton University and is currently finishing a trio of chorales for The Brooklyn Youth Chorus.


GABRIEL HAINER EVANSOHN (Production Design Consultant) is a production and experience designer, visual artist and production manager. He specializes in creating immersive physical landscapes, large-scale site-specific installations, and cohesive worlds for performers and audiences to inhabit. He is a founder of Woodshed Collective, one of America’s leading immersive theater companies, and has been their Director of Production and Resident Production Designer since 2006. He is also a Partner and Co-Founder of Iron Bloom Creative Production, a design and production firm based in Brooklyn specializing in immersive and non-traditional design and production. Credits Include: Nevermore Park (Hebru Branley / MWM), KPOP (Winner- Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Musical 2018), Sweeny Todd at Barrow Street Theater (Winner- Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Revival 2017), Empire Travel Agency (Woodshed Collective), Queen of the Night (WWW), and The Tenant (Woodshed Collective). His designs have been seen at festivals including Electric Forest, Firefly, Outside Lands, Bonnaroo, Clusterfest, and Lost Lake.
LEAH SHAW (Music Mixing) is a Brooklyn-based audio editor, singer-songwriter, and composer whose recent projects include sound engineering for PRX’s Latino USA, In The Thick Podcast, and the Brooklyn College Listening Project, and film scoring and sound design for the award-winning short film Bob and Dale and Embodied Labs’ Eden, an immersive VR experience on aging and healthcare access in the trans community. As a musical artist, Shaw has released several EPs that combine acoustic and experimental electronic elements. Her full-length album Play Beautifully, a sonic exploration of loss, healing and self-transformation, debuts in 2021.

CAST

ANDREW GARMAN (First Man Born Blind) Some NY theater credits include Greater Clements, Admissions (Lincoln Center); The Christians (Playwrights Horizons; Lucille Lortel, Drama Desk nominations); Tumacho (Clubbed Thumb); The Glory of the World (BAM); The Moors (Playwrights Realm); Burning (The New Group); The Ugly One (Soho Rep); Asheville (Cherry Lane/Rattlestick); A Bright New Boise, The Bereaved, After (Partial Comfort Prods.); Hamlet, Cymbeline (NYSF/The Public). Shockingly, as it was in the midst of the pandemic, he was fortunate to work on Before The World Set On Fire, a feature film written/ directed by Jaclyn Bethany.

CHAD GOODRIDGE (Second Man Born Blind) is a producer, writer, singer, and an Obie award-winning actor. He’s the associate artistic director of Crowded Outlet which produced Lone Star Spirits (NYT Critics’ pick), continues to produce beep boop (42 Festival de Teatro de Badajoz, Spain - October 2019; Edinburgh Fringe Festival - August 2019; 14th St Y, HERE; Ars Nova; upcoming - Shanghai), and develops new work. Theatre credits include Passing Strange (workshops, Berkeley Rep, The Public, Broadway), One Thousand Nights and One Day (Prospect Theater Company), Love in the Wars (dir. Ken Rus Schmoll), Troublemaker… (dir. Lila Neugebauer). Select TV and film credits include Bull, Law & Order: SVU, Passing Strange (dir. Spike Lee), Generation Um..., and Dreaming American (opposite Giancarlo Esposito). Chad is a tremendously proud recipient of the New Dramatists’ Charles Bowden Award. Writer: New To Me, Finalist Rhinebeck Writers Retreat 2019, Finalist SPACE Ryder Farm 2018.

MATT KORAHIS (Third Man Born Blind) is a performer and playwright whose work has been seen around the world as a company member of Nature Theater of Oklahoma’s Life & Times (OBIE Award, Guardian Pick), Pedro Reyes & Creative Time’s Doomocracy, Kate Benson’s Where Are We Going?, and in the work of Richard Maxwell, Sarah DeLappe, Mallery Avidon, and many others. He holds an MFA in playwriting from Brooklyn College, where he studied with Mac Wellman and Eric Courtney, and currently teaches at Salem State University.

TONY TORN (The Oldest Blind Man) is an actor and director who has worked extensively for the past thirty years in theater, film and television, in both traditional and experimental projects. He is known best for his work with legendary experimental theater makers Reza Abdoh and Richard Foreman, being the founding director of Bill Talen’s Reverend Billy and The Church of Stop
Shopping (now in its 20th year), and for creating and starring in the absurdist theater/punk rock mash-up Ubu Sings Ubu with co-director Dan Safer. Recently he has been seen in featured roles on NBC’s The Blacklist and Netflix’s Teenage Bounty Hunters. Tony currently teaches Intro to Acting at MIT, and manages Torn Page, a private event space in New York City named in honor of his parents, the award winning actors Rip Torn and Geraldine Page.

AVIVA JAYE (The Oldest Blind Woman/vocalist) is a multi-disciplinary performing artist working primarily in music, wielding voice, piano, harp, guitar + ukulele. Her intersectional work includes theatre, composition, dance + poetry. Aviva currently focuses on projects that highlight empathy, self-awareness + social justice. Recent features include We Can Change the Country by Darius Jones at Roulette Intermedium; Fortune’s Most Powerful Women Summit (music); Oracular Recall (actor); LORDES (composer); premiere composition with Brooklyn Youth Chorus at Kings Theatre; World Premiere by Nic Kay: [GET WELL SOON] you black + bluised (music); Four Questions, a Pride production at La MaMa (music); featured musician at the Civic Salon series at The Public; and Spring 2018 Artist-In-Residence program at Guildhall in East Hampton (performance art).

ANGEL LIN (The Young Blind Girl/vocalist) is an actor, musician, and anything synonymous to the word “geek”. Performance credits include Once (2nd Broadway National Tour; Paramount Theatre), Cinderella (Paper Mill Playhouse), Kansas City Choir Boy (by Todd Almond, starring Courtney Love, A.R.T/C.T.G), Riot Antigone (original cast album), 1969: Second Man (NYTW), Interstate (NYMF / MTF), and various projects at Joe’s Pub, Atlantic Theater, Ars Nova, and more. Voiceover work includes “Nari” in Guillermo Del Toro’s Wizards (Dreamworks/Netflix), Pinkalicious (PBS), and projects with Nickelodeon, Rockstar Games, and more. BFA: NYU Tisch. angeldoesthings.com

ALAINA FERRIS (Prologue Voice/Madwoman vocalist) See above.
ALSO AT HERE

NOW – DEC 17
THURSDAYS @ 1PM

A live serial space opera from the creators of the world’s first Zoom opera *All Decisions Will Be Made By Consensus* and the digital surveillance opera *Looking at You*.

Rosa Douglas and Ben Elling

QUALIFIED ALIEN

A puppet and their assistant petition to join the circus. Rosa Douglas and Ben Elling light a candle for the meritocracy in this short puppet play, adapted for screen.

Anonymous Ensemble

FLIGHT

Flight brings together performers and audiences from anywhere in the world in order to investigate expansive global issues and tiny revelatory moments in real time.
Through the HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP), HERE commissions and develops new hybrid works over a 2-to-3 year period. As part of the HERE community of artists and audiences, our resident artists show works-in-progress, develop workshop productions, and mount full–scale productions. Through our residency programs, HERE seeks to not only grow innovative artistic work, but also give artists the awareness and skills—in areas such as audience relations, budgeting, grantwriting, and touring—that they need to continue to grow their careers. For 2019–20, HERE supports the following artists and projects:

**Gelsey Bell**

**Gisela Cardenas | InTandem Lab**

*The Carmen Variations*

**Shayok Misha Chowdhury**

*Rheology*

**Ximena Garnica & Shige Moriya | LEIMAY**

*A Meal*

**Baba Israel & Grace Galu | Soul Inscribed**

*Cannabis! A Theatrical Concert*

**Maiko Kikuchi & Spencer Townley-Lott**

*9000 Paper Balloons*

**Minor Theater**

*Marie It’s Time*

**Normandy Sherwood**

*Psychic Self Defense*

**Sachiyo Takahashi & Gamin**

*The Emotions*

**Nia Ostrow Witherspoon**

*Priestess of Twerk*

**HERE & BACK**

HERE & Back encompasses projects produced by HERE and helmed by established artists with deep connections to HERE. For audiences, HERE & Back provides the chance to experience daring performances by high-profile multidisciplinary artists in our intimate spaces; for the artists, HERE remains a special home for their work and a space open to risk-taking. For 2019–20, the following artists are developing HERE & Back projects:

**Taylor Mac, Resident Playwright**

*The Hang*

**Kristin Marting & Suzi Takahashi**

*The Story Box*
HERE STAFF

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Kristin Marting

PRODUCING DIRECTOR
Meredith Lynsey Schade

DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
Brenna C. Thomas

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Ayumu “Poe” Saegusa, RESIDENT LIGHTING DESIGNER

AUDIENCE SERVICES
Richard Stauffacher, AUDIENCE SERVICES MANAGER

PROTOTYPE
Melanie Milton, FESTIVAL PRODUCER
Caroline Gart, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
Victoria Preis, MARKETING MANAGER
HERE SUPPORT

HERE is extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of the following group of foundations, corporations, government agencies, elected officials, and dedicated individuals. We would not be HERE without you.

FOUNDERS
Barbara Busackino
Tim Maner
Kristin Marting
Randy Rollison

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Kevin Matthews
Helen Mills

EX-OFFICIO
Barbara Busackino

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; the Offices of the Mayor of New York, Speaker Corey Johnson, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, New York State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman. 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, State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman.

PRIVATE AND CORPORATE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY:

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HERE receives generous support from:

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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 extremely grateful to the many generous individuals who support our programming! (includes donors as of 9/30/20)

Anonymous (9)
Afaneh Aayani
Noah Aberlin
Laura Abrams
Cassie & David Ackerman
Mary Adrales
Carrie Ahern
Hawa Ahmed
Vignesh Aier
Noora Al Qassimi
Vicky Abrash
& Bruce Allardice
Paul An
Craig Anderson
Alexander Anikul
Anthony Annunziata
Ed Anselm
Jess Applebaum
Patrick Aquilina
Jade Bonica
Brian Bolton
Francie Swift Blumenfeld
Lynn & Steve Blackledge
Gavin Black
David Birch
& Claude Millman
HERE SUPPORT
BACK TO TOP ▲
MEMBERSHIP

BE PART OF IT ALL!
Our membership program has been reimagined for our new season. It now includes extensive access to NEW digital and socially distanced in-person premieres of new work and other ways to engage with HERE artists and support this NYC home for artists and adventurous audiences.

BENEFITS INCLUDE
INSIDER ACCESS
EXCLUSIVE VIDEOS
VIRTUAL GATHERINGS
AND MORE...

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