

Melt Down

NOV
17th 19
7pm
HERE
ARTS

Five Playwrights
Five People
One Play



created by

Dylan Guerra, Holly Settoon, Ife Olujobi,
AJ Clauss, Julia Specht and Laura Dupper

SUBLET SERIES @HERE 2021-22 SEASON

#HERE
@HEREARTS



Welcome!

Thank you for coming to *Melt Down*, 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 resident artists, and Visiting Artist presentations for adult and family audiences. Please check out our other performances and events at 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

KRISTIN MARTING

Founding Artistic Director

ALSO AT HERE

9000 PAPER BALLOONS

Nov 4 – Dec 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 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, and the 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.

The Team

RAS BAD (HAWA)

RAS BAD IS A GENERATIVE THEATRE ARTIST, ARTS EDUCATOR AND DEATH DOULA FROM KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, CURRENTLY BASED IN NYC. THEY HOLD A BA IN THEATER-PERFORMANCE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY (2015) AND ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON THEIR MASTER'S IN ARTS MANAGEMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT NEW SCHOOL. SOME ORIGINAL WORKS THAT THEY'RE PROUD OF INCLUDE "BEASTS OF BURDEN," "YOUNG BLACK VICTORIAN", AND "RETURN TO SELF: A REFLECTION ON PROCESS."

JULIA SPECHT (ANNE// WRITER)

JULIA IS A FICTION WRITER, PLAYWRIGHT, AND ACTOR WHO LIVES IN BROOKLYN (BY WAY OF MASSACHUSETTS). SHE'S A RECENT GRADUATE FROM THE FICTION MFA PROGRAM AT CUNY HUNTER, AND A MEMBER OF YOUNGBLOOD, ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE'S OBIE AWARD-WINNING GROUP FOR EMERGING PLAYWRIGHTS. SHE IS CURRENTLY WRITING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE & MARTYRDOM.

HOLLY SETTOON (CHAR//WRITER)

HOLLY SETTOON IS AN ACTOR AND WRITER BASED IN BROOKLYN. SHE RECEIVED HER BFA IN THEATRE FROM SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY. SHE LAST APPEARED AT HERE IN THE WORLD PREMIERE OF "FOR A BRIEF MOMENT I WAS SOMETHING ELSE." RECENT STAGE CREDITS INCLUDE "A DEVOURING" (DIXON PLACE) AND "I, TOO, AM FILLED WITH HOPE" (THE SECRET THEATRE). MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.HOLLYSETTOON.COM

AJ CLAUSS (JOE//WRITER)

AJ CLAUSS IS A WRITER AND PERFORMER FROM SMALL-TOWN INDIANA. FACT: AJ HATES KARAOKE. WHEN AJ WAS IN FIRST GRADE, THEIR MUSIC TEACHER LITERALLY NAMED MISS MINOR LEFT A MESSAGE ON THE FAMILY ANSWERING MACHINE THAT SAID "AJ WILL NEVER BE A SINGER, THEY HAVE A TERRIBLE VOICE." AJ LISTENED TO THAT MESSAGE OVER AND OVER UNTIL IT WAS FADED AND WORN-OUT, AND THEN THEY FOUND NEW WAYS TO USE THEIR TERRIBLE VOICE. AJ'S CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT ON THE SCREENPLAY SUPERBLOOM WITH CO-CREATOR JASON SHERWOOD. PLAYS INCLUDE SALTY (LYRA THEATRE, NYC; REACT THEATRE, SEATTLE; & DESERT ENSEMBLE THEATRE CO, PALM SPRINGS 2022), HENRY MAKES A BIBLE (ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION/EST COMMISSION) & WHEN YOU WERE SMALL.

DYLAN GUERRA (SILO// WRITER)

IS A GAY, LATINX, NEW YORK CITY-BASED ARTIST ORIGINALLY FROM MIAMI, FLORIDA. HE IS A CURRENT MEMBER OF EST/YOUNGBLOOD, ARS NOVA'S PLAYGROUP, AND P73'S INTERSTATE-73. YOU CAN CATCH HIM AS THE HOST OF AMC'S "FEAR HQ" ON TWITCH. YOU CAN ALSO CHECK OUT HIS SOLO-SHOW "FIND HIM" PERIODICALLY AT ARS NOVA. OTHER CREDITS AT HERE INCLUDE "FOR A BRIEF MOMENT I WAS SOMETHING ELSE" AND "LET'S HAVE A SEANCE" HIS FILM "OTHER GAY DEMONS" IS CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT. BFA: SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY.

IFE OLUJOBI (WRITER)

IFFE OLUJOBI (SHE/THEY) IS A BROOKLYN-BASED NIGERIAN AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT, SCREENWRITER, AND EDITOR FROM COLUMBIA, MARYLAND. SHE IS A 2020-22 RESIDENT ARTIST AT ARS NOVA, A 2019-20 NEW VOICES FELLOW AT THE LARK, A MEMBER OF THE OBIE-WINNING YOUNGBLOOD AT ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE, AN ALUMNUS OF BOTH THE 2018-19 EMERGING WRITERS GROUP AT THE PUBLIC THEATER AND THE 2020 SUNDANCE INSTITUTE THEATRE LAB, AN INAUGURAL PROJECT NUMBER ONE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE AT SOHO REP., AND THE RECIPIENT OF A 2020 SLOAN FOUNDATION COMMISSION FROM MANHATTAN THEATRE CLUB. THEIR PLAY JORDANS WON A SPECIAL COMMENDATION FROM THE 2021 SUSAN SMITH BLACKBURN PRIZE, AND THEIR PLAYS INCLUDE SMOKE, MARKETPLACE, COLOR GIRLS AND OTHERS. THEIR WORK HAS BEEN SEEN AT THE PUBLIC, ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE, CHARITY RANDALL THEATER, BISHOP ARTS THEATER CENTER, AND MORE. SHE IS ALSO THE FOUNDER AND EDITOR OF TOWNIES ZINE, MANAGING EDITOR OF THE SUPPLEMENTS AT SOHO REP, AND A FORMER ASSISTANT EDITOR AT THE CRITERION COLLECTION. THEY RECEIVED THEIR BFA IN DRAMATIC WRITING FROM NYU'S TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS IN 2016.

LAURA DUPPER (DIRECTOR)

LAURA DUPPER IS A NYC BASED DIRECTOR ORIGINALLY FROM TENNESSEE. SHE RECEIVED HER BFA FROM SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY WHERE SHE WAS AWARDED THE GARLAND WRIGHT AWARD FOR DIRECTING. SHE HAS WORKED AT DALLAS THEATER CENTER, SIGNATURE THEATRE, SECOND STAGE THEATER, AND LCT3; SHE HAS ALSO WORKED WITH PLAYWRIGHTS REALM, BARRINGTON STAGE, P73. SHE MOST RECENTLY ASSISTED LILA NEUGEBAUER ON MORNING SUN AT MTC, AND WILL BE WORKING ON THE RETURN OF THE MINUTES ON BROADWAY, IN THE SPRING OF 2022.

EMILY CLARKSON (LIGHTING DESIGN)

ABOVE ANYTHING ELSE, EMILY IS PURSUING WORK THAT IS SEEKING TO UPROOT DORMANCY, AND MAKE THE DIFFERENCE THAT ONLY ART CAN. SHE IS AN NYC BASED FREELANCE LIGHTING DESIGNER WHO WAS RECENTLY LISTED AS ONE OF LDI MAGAZINE'S "30 UNDER 30 EMERGING DESIGNERS". PAST CREDITS INCLUDE: THEATRESQUARED'S VIETGONE, FEIGNED COURTESANS AT THE NEW SCHOOL, BETH MORRISON PROJECT'S NEXT GENERATION OPERA, AND 10,000 BALCONIES WITH KHOLOUD SAWAF. SHE IS THRILLED TO BE A PART OF MELT DOWN.

CAROLINE ENG (SOUND DESIGN)

CAROLINE IS A NEW YORK-BASED THEATRICAL SOUND DESIGNER AND ENGINEER, ORIGINALLY FROM WINCHESTER, MA. SHE IS PRIMARILY A DESIGNER AND ASSISTANT DESIGNER FOR PLAYS ON OFF- AND OFF-OFF-BROADWAY, WITH THE OCCASIONAL MUSICAL OR DANCE SHOW. CAROLINE GRADUATED FROM FORDHAM COLLEGE AT LINCOLN CENTER WITH A BA IN ENGLISH AND THEATRE.

CAROLINE IS THE MOM OF A BLACK CAT NAMED NOSFERATU AND LIFELONG VISUAL ARTIST, WRITER, AND MUSICIAN.

SPECIAL THANKS

KRISTEN KELSO
THE TEAM AT "HERE"
ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE
GRAEME GILLIS
JACK PLOWE
LINDA JARVIS-GUERRA

CAST PHOTOS



AJ CLAUSS



RAS BAD



DYLAN GUERRA



HOLLY SETTOON



JULIA SPECHT