



GOOD
HOUSEKEEPING

The City of Toronto History Museums and Soulpepper present
Good Housekeeping
as part of the Awakenings Project

Created by **Augusto Bitter**

Performed by **Augusto Bitter** and **Aisha Lesley Bentham**

Music performed by **Sean Kua**

Outside Eye: **Aria Evans**

Stage Managers: **Helin Gungoren** and **Victoria Wang**

Visual Artists: **Y Josephine**, **Natalie King**, **Harmeet Rehal** and **Gordon Shadrach**

Costume Builder: **Janelle Sookhai**

Support: **Liz Der**, **Claren Grosz**, **Janelle Sookhai**, **April Tran**, **Margarita Valderrama**, and **the Spadina Museum Staff**

Production Manager: **Charissa Wilcox**

Producer: **Sue Balint**

Production photography: **Eden Graham**

Videography/trailer: **Andrew Williamson**

Good Housekeeping is funded and supported by:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



Augusto Bitter is a Venezuelan-born, Dora Award-winning performer, writer, facilitator, and producer for stage and screen based in Toronto. With artistic residencies at Factory Theatre, Canadian Stage, Aluna Theatre, Theatre Passe Muraille, and hub14, Augusto's first play, CHICHO, is also a short film embarking on a festival circuit, while Reina, a dance-theatre hybrid, is in development with musician Y Josephine. Augusto is currently participating in BIPOC TV & Film's Kids TV Writing Intensive, and has made audio- and video-poems like Reina (in Isolation), cannibal, golden girl, and for this child I prayed with the support of TO Live, Toronto Queer Film Festival, Glad Day Lit, and Montréal Pride. Augusto has been an artist educator with Soulpepper and the Paprika Festival, and facilitates creative-writing workshops across the GTA with Story Planet. More at www.augustobitter.com



My name is **Aisha Lesley Bentham** BFA, MA, internationally trained artist-scholar, vegan chef and wellness coach from Toronto, On, where I studied Devising Theater and Performance at Arthaus.berlin, founded *RootReach*; a multi-disciplinary residency for artists, and has a vegan food and lifestyle brand called **choosing.hue**. My research and passion examines the intersections of cooking and performance and aims to integrate notions of care, eco-somatics and cookery from the perspective of a first-generation Black queer creator. I am currently a Black Arts fellow at Wildseed center for the Arts and Activism, writing my first book, a sessional-professor in the Performing Arts department at two Colleges and is the head of Food and Drink at the Canadian Green Alliance a non-for profit bridging the gap between theater and sustainability.



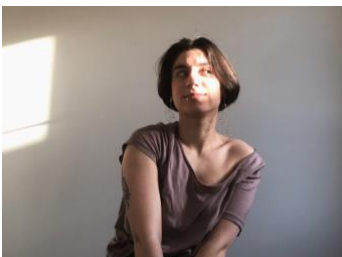
Sean Kua is a musician and lover based in Toronto. They have performed in festivals and stages all around Ontario, including Hollowfest, Dundas Square, Nathan Philips Square, Long Winter, and Kultura. They are just as happy playing Mitski as they are Rachmaninoff, and their song writing is best described as a combination of those two influences.



Aria Evans is an award-winning, queer, Toronto-based interdisciplinary artist working in dance, theatre and film. Aria is a certified Intimacy Coordinator and draws on their experiences of being multiracial (Afro-Indigenous, settler) to capture meaningful social and cultural themes through their interactive art. With a large-scale vision, collaboration is the departure point to their work created under their company POLITICAL MOVEMENT.

Aria is the current Metcalf Artistic Director Intern with Souleppper Theatre. Their works have been presented locally and internationally. They were co-Artistic Director of hub14 from 2013-2018 and the Toronto, Ontario, and Canada Council for the Arts have supported their endeavours as well as the National Arts Centre, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, CAHOOTS, Why Not Theatre, Volcano Theatre, Nightswimming Theatre, Jumblies Theatre, Native Earth Performing Arts, Nova Dance, b current and many more.

As an active speaker, facilitator and curator, Aria advocates for inclusion and the representation of diversity, and uses their artistic practice to question the ways we can coexist together.



Based in Toronto, **Helin Gungoren** (she/her) works primarily as a stage manager and arts administrator with a focus on dance, festivals and events. Some of the companies Helin has worked with/for include princess productions, Political Movement, School of Toronto Dance Theatre, Souleppper, Citadel + Compagnie, Granite Motion Gallery, Toronto Fringe Festival, Wild Rabbit dance projects, and New Blue Dance. She received her BFA in Performance Production from TMU's School of Performance.



Victoria Wang is a stage manager, creative producer and installation artist who works in theatre, dance, film and interdisciplinary forms of live performance. Previous companies Victoria has collaborated with include Native Earth, Cahoots, Aluna Theatre, SummerWorks, Canadian Stage, The Musical Stage Company and Buddies in Bad Times. Victoria is also the founder of Memory Palace Project, an ongoing public art project whose participatory installations, live performance art and digital creations have appeared at the Toronto Fringe, Assembly Theatre, Long Winter, and the Art Apart Festival. As a second-generation Chinese Canadian settler, Victoria is grateful to call Hong Kong and Tkaronto home.



Y Josephine is a Venezuelan singer/songwriter, percussionist, writer, and visual artist. She has presented and published her work throughout Venezuela, Aruba, Spain, UK and Canada. Best known for her distinct vocals and cajon-playing, Y has worked with such musicians as Rigel Michelena, Gustavo Dal Farra (El Rabo del Ojo), Joan Tena, Kabanayen and Des loup. In a 4-star review in December 2007, Edinburgh's *The Skinny* (magazine) said, "Y Josephine. plays guitar, somehow gets a whole drum kit out of a Peruvian fruit box, and sings in a sweet, smoky, untouchably cool voice." In addition to her work as a performing/recording artist and as a poet, Y Josephine also studied visual art at Telford College in Scotland and was recently selected to be one of the Watah School's Artists in Residence. Since 2013, Y Josephine has been recording, performing and teaching in Ontario as part of the duo Amai Kuda and Y Josephine, otherwise known as 'Y and Amai.' Their new CD, *AfroSoul Volume*

Il:MaZai, has been described by CBC's Errol Nazareth as "Earthy and rootsy and good for your ears." You can find them at www.ynamai.com, on Facebook and Youtube. Josephine has worked with all sorts of artists, dancers and poets such as Nourbese Philip, Augusto Bltter, Sofi Gudiño, B'atz' Recinos, and more. Right now she is also part of Victoria Mata production "cacao" a Venezuelan lament Y Josephine's was also co founder of the band *Baoba*, an all-female percussion group, playing Afro-latin, funk, samba, soul fusion.



Natalie King is a queer interdisciplinary Anishinaabe (Algonquin) artist, facilitator and member of Timiskaming First Nation. King's arts practice ranges from video, painting, sculpture and installation as well as community engagement, curation and arts administration. King is currently a Programming Coordinator at Xpace Cultural Centre in Tkaronto.

Often involving portrayals of queer femmes, King's works are about embracing the ambiguity and multiplicities of identity within the Anishinaabe queer femme experience(s). King's practice operates from a firmly critical, anti-colonial, non-oppressive, and future-bound perspective, reclaiming the realities of lived lives through frameworks of desire and survivance.

Photo: Samuel Engelking



Harmeet Rehal is a fat, trans, and disabled, Sikh-Panjabi artist and designer based in Tkaronto. Harmeet primarily does illustration, graphic design, textile arts, and painting. They use a disability justice framework in their practice by creating visuals that sensorily activate feelings of rest, pleasure, and slowness. Harmeet also actively pulls from their Panjabi background by playing with bold, vibrant and refreshing design elements. Harmeet is a community arts facilitator, coordinator, and a grassroots community worker as well, and in all their roles they are interested in creating and imagining temporalities and portals to elsewhere - where folks can show up as their full embodied selves.



Toronto-based artist **Gordon Shadrach** was born and raised in Brampton, Ontario in 1966. Gordon started painting in 2013 and paints in oil and acrylic on wood. He has exhibited in solo and group art shows in Canada and the United States. He works from photographs at his in-home studio. He received his B. Des. (MAAD) from OCAD University and has a Master of Education degree from Niagara University. In the Spring of 2018, Gordon's painting, "In Conversation", was included in an exhibit developed by the Royal Ontario Museum titled, "Here We Are Here: Black Canadian Contemporary Art".

Gordon's community engagement includes working with Toronto's Nia Centre for the Arts as a creative consultant for their Left of Centre artist incubation project. He is functioning as a supervisor at Harbourfront Centre's Craft and Design studio for the Textile Artists in Residence.

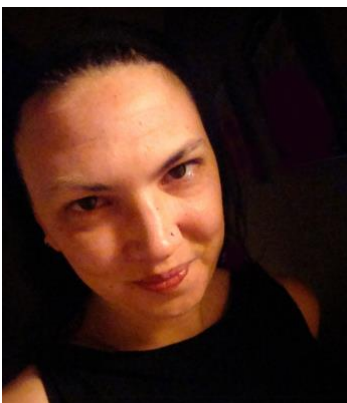


Janelle Sookhai is a Toronto based multidisciplinary artist. She considers herself to be a modern renaissance woman because of her work in various mediums including textiles, metal, wood, print, bronze, and digitally. She earned her Bachelor of Design from OCAD University's Digital Futures program focusing her thesis on sustainable practices within the textile industry and later furthered her practice at George Brown's Fashion Techniques and Design program. Janelle's work is primarily in custom garments, working with various clients in music, acting, research, and fashion.



Charissa Wilcox most recently worked at Iconic Queer Canadian Art Organization, *Buddies in Bad Times Theatre (BIBT)* as the Head of Production. As a Production Manager/Technical Director she has worked with *Aluna Theatre*, *Tapestry*, *Modern Times*, *Coal Mine Theatre* and *Nightwood Theatre*.

Charissa Wilcox is the Artistic Producer and co-founder of FLYING SOLO and the lead designer and fabricator of FLYING SOLO's cutting edge circus apparatuses.



Sue Balint is a live art producer, curator, and facilitator. Recent projects include curation of The Theatre Centre's Hybrid by Design B-Side Series, and festival producer for the CAMINOS Festival (Aluna Theatre), Weesageechak Begins to Dance (Native Earth), and Progress (SummerWorks / The Theatre Centre). Sue was recently named Executive Director of the Bonavista Biennale in Newfoundland and Labrador.