



THIS IS NOT SITI COMPANY

Company Biographies

Rasheedat “Ras” Badejo (Conservatory Artist) is a generative theater artist born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, now living in NYC. They received their BA in Theater-Performance in 2015. Since then Ras has had the blessing of being a full time artist. Some of their recent credits include “Men on Boats”, “An Octoroon” (Unicorn Theater), “Belfast Girls”, “Young Black Victorian” (Fishtank Theatre), “No Talking”, “The Nine Who Dared” and “Elephant and Piggie: We are in a Play!” (Coterie Theater). They are very happy to be training with SITI Company and debuting brand new work. Ras would like to thank their parents, their siblings and their loving partner Phil for their support.

Monica Barion (Conservatory Artist) is a Brazilian born artist and educator. She received her MFA in Musical Theatre from San Diego State University and has taught at York College of Pennsylvania. After training at the 2018 Summer Intensive at Skidmore College Monica has felt privileged to deepen her training with SITI Co this part year. Looking ahead Monica plans to pursue her PhD in Performance Studies.

Laura Chelgren (Conservatory Artist) is an actor and theatre-maker from Punxsutawney, PA. Previous acting credits include *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Honk!*, *The Jimmy Stewart Mystery*, and various short films. Directing credits include *Robin Hood*, *The Butleress*, and *Big Love*. She has also written for multiple one-act play festivals. In addition to training with SITI Company, Laura has studied at the Atlantic Acting School and Point Park University. Much love to Mom, Dad, Marcella, and Rosie. Go, party, go!

Mehr Dudeja (Conservatory Artist) is an Indian actor and voice-over artist. She spent her early childhood in Dubai and began acting in her formative years when she moved to Singapore in 2006. Since then, her selected theatre credits include ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ directed by Adam Marple, ‘Miss India’ (DASTAK Hindi Theatre Festival) directed by Neelu Dogra, ‘The Insiders’ written by Alfian Sa’at, directed by Jo Kukathas, ‘Trick or Threat’ directed by Rei Poh, and ‘Temple’ directed by Natalie Henedige. Mehr received her BA(Hons) in Acting in 2018 from LASALLE, College of the Arts in Singapore. Mehr is bilingual and is interested in intercultural artistic collaboration. After completing her time training with the SITI Company in New York, she will return to Singapore to continue honing her craft.

Caroline Eng (Sound Engineer) is a New York-based sound designer and engineer, and a graduate of Fordham College at Lincoln Center. Recent design work with Theatrelab/The Playwrights Realm, Greater Boston Stage Company, Columbia University, New York University, Penguin Rep Theatre, National Black Theatre, Astoria Performing Arts Company. Assistant sound design work with The Atlantic Theater Company, The Playwrights Realm, Ma-Yi Theatre Company.

Jill Hoiles (Conservatory Artist) has worked all over the world in film, tv and theatre. She got her BFA at California Institute of the Arts and did post graduate studies at L'Ecole Internationale du Theatre de Jacques Lecoq. She also worked as a cinematographer in Sydney and New Zealand. After 5 years abroad she is happy to be back in the US and working with SITI company.

Hira Ismail (Conservatory Artist) holds a Bachelor's in English with a minor in Creative Writing and a Master's in Nonprofit Leadership and Management. Performances include ASU Theatre Lab's The Language of Hands, Southwest Shakespeare Company's Romeo & Juliet, and Small Dance Collective's Medea in Me. As a Core Artist with Catalyst Creative, she worked on Luna City 2175, an immersive theatre imagining of a neighborhood on the moon. She has helped develop several devised projects, including a telling of Saadat Hasan Manto's short story Toba Tek Singh and Birha: Separation from God. Her play All That Matters was featured in The Bridge Initiative's Bechdel Test Fest. Hira also teaches drama and dance at Mesa Arts Center.

Ali Lawrence (Conservatory Artist) is an actor and teaching artist based in New York City. Credits include: Stalled (Vineyard Theatre), Steel Magnolias (Trinity Repertory Company), Stupid F*cking Bird (Stage West), One Man, Two Guvnors (Watertown Theatre), Under the Skin (Circle Theatre), Bad Jews (Stage West), Bank Job (Amphibian Stage Productions), The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls (Undermain Theatre) and The Tenant (Theater for the New City). She holds an M.F.A. in Acting from Brown University/Trinity Repertory Company

Amy Liou (Conservatory Artist) is an actress from Taiwan. The seed of theater was planted in her when she learned from Oleg Liptsin in 2009 but not sprouted until 2016 when she trained with Theodoros Terzopoulos and Savvas Trumpos. Since then she has been actively participating theater activities. She is happy to continue her journey in New York with SITI Company and artists from all around the world in SITI Conservatory to keep exploring the limitless possibilities in theater and performance art. The recent productions she has participated in are “Yell-Low 黃黃／惶惶”, “Terrace on the Hill”, “The Big House Project”, and “The Bacchae”.

Daisy Long (Lighting Design) is a lighting designer for theater, opera and dance based in New York City. New York credits include: BAM, The Flea, Primary Stages, Abingdon Theater Company, Mason Holdings, HERE Arts Center, La Mama, NYU, AMERINDA, TADA! Youth Theater (National Youth Arts Award for Outstanding Lighting for *The Perfect Monster*), Manhattan School of Music. Regional credits include: Speakeasy Stage Company (IRNE Award for Best Lighting for *The Scottsboro Boys*), Kitchen Theatre Company, Yale, Connecticut College, Interlochen. USA 829 member. www.daisylong.com.

Michael Manocchio (Conservatory Artist) was most recently seen as Christopher in Virginia Repertory Theatre's production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Other credits include three seasons at the Hilberry Repertory Theatre, as well as work at the Moscow Art Theatre School, the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Goodman Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, and the side project, where his work on *Mike and Seth* earned him a 2015 Jeff Award Nomination for Best Leading Actor in a Play. Michael is a proud graduate of Elmhurst College, holds an MFA in Acting from Wayne State University, and a Certificate in Advanced Actor Training from the Moscow Art Theatre School. Up next: the summer and fall seasons at the American Shakespeare Center.

Fernando Montanares (Conservatory Artist) is an artist explorer and physical performer from Arica City in Chile. His career started at Marcela Ramos's Ballet School in Arica. He studied Performing arts in Unniac University in Santiago, Chile. He is been traveling around the world since 2014, having an exchange in UNAM, México, being part of SITI Summer training in Saratoga Springs, ONE YEAR LEASE apprentice program in Papingo - Greece, Biennale College in Venice, Epidaurus Lyceum in Greece, Suzuki Sommer program in Toga Mura, Japan, and is now part of SITI Conservatory in New York. Fernando is the founder of Centro MB2 para la Experimentación de las artes, the first studio in Arica City that supports independent theater makers, providing time and space to create work and providing the community with different theater activities.

Victoria Nidweski (Stage Manager) has worked in Theatre and Event Production for almost a decade. A Cape Cod native, she dove into the world of production after receiving her BFA (Dance) from Montclair State University once she realized she loved being backstage rather than on the stage. Notable credits include Big Dance Theatre/Mikhail Baryshnikov "Man In A Case" (Hartford Stage, CT), "DOT" by Colman Domingo (Dir. Susan Stroman, Vineyard Theatre), "Indecent" by Paula Vogel (Dir. Rebecca Taichman, Vineyard Theatre). Victoria has also been fortunate to work internationally, from France to Dubai and most recently Shenzhen, China with LA Dance Project and the Isadora Duncan Dance Company. Victoria will also be joining the IATSE Local 4 stagehand union this summer. Currently, Victoria is pursuing her Masters in Women's History at Sarah Lawrence College with a focus on the history of women working backstage. She is thrilled to be back working with SITI again!

Rocío Pérez (Conservatory Artist) is from Madrid, Spain. She has trained as an actor in Estudio Corazza para el Actor, and as a dancer and maker in Carmen Senra (Jesus Rubio, Aitana Cordero), SNDO, with Carlos Moya and Catalina Lladó. She is cofounder of La Extraña Compañía in Madrid. She is delighted to be part of this cohort. She dedicates this to the new to be born Tomás.

Isabel Shaida (Conservatory Artist) is from Dobbs Ferry, NY and Bozeman, MT. She is extremely excited to perform with this ensemble of artists. She has trained with Double Edge Theatre and Jodi Baker at the College of the Atlantic from which she has a degree in Human Ecology. She would like to thank SITI Company, Jodi Baker, Karen Waldron, Monica Bill Barnes & Co., her brother Jack Shaida and parents Julia and Chris Shaida.

Susannah Wilson (Conservatory Artist) is a recent NYC transplant. Recent credits include: *Richard III, Macbeth* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Co); *Twelfth Night* (Verdi Square Arts Festival); *Nurse Play* (Exiled Theatre); *Julius Caesar* (Praxis Stage); *Both/And: A Quantum Physics Play* (Catalyst Collaborative with MIT); *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Hamlet* (Boston Theatre Co); *Once a Blue Moon, Shahrazad* (Double Edge Theatre); and the titular role in *Richard III* (Emerson Stage). Susannah received her BA in acting from Emerson College and has treasured her continued training with SITI this past year.

Anna Valdeperas was born in Barcelona, Spain. She started dancing at a young age, and her love for how music and image can tell stories led her to study audiovisual and graphic design in Bau ESD (Barcelona) before she graduated from drama school in Eòlia ESAD (Barcelona). I'd like to thank every person that I encountered through this process in this 9-month journey, I've learnt a lot with them.