



Frontieres Sans Frontieres is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com. **Frontieres Sans Frontieres** was developed with support from The Bushwick Starr and world premiered in their 2016-17 Season.

Running time: 2 hours including one 10-min intermission

Content transparency:

Shooting and war sounds, on-stage violence, drug and alcohol use, implications of child trafficking, use of haze, strobe and herbal cigarettes.

CAST

Anna Takayo....Win
Surasree Das....Noon, Nobel Laureate
Victor Salinas....Pan
Camilo Linares... Backpacker, Militia, Assistant, Baby Boo
Lauren Davis....W.H.O., Actress, Mime
Frank Britton*.... Cigarette Man, Clown, Developer
Jamil Joseph....Thom, Laborer
Raghad Almakhlouf, Dylan Arredondo...Understudies
*Member, Actors' Equity Association

PRODUCTION

Nadir Bey....Scenic Design
Christian D. Henrriquez....Lighting Design
Johnna Presby....Costume Design
Navi....Sound Design
Liz Long....Properties Design
Yetunde Felix-Ukwu....Dialect Coach
Fior Tat....Production Stage Manager
Reed Simiele....Production Manager and Technical Director
Gillian Drake....Associate Producer
Raghad Almakhlouf, Dylan Arredondo...Assistant Directors
Andrew Reilly....Assistant Stage Manager
Troy Johnson....Run Crew

Presented with generous support from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Share Fund, Fidelity Charitable, Dimick Foundation, The Kennedy Center, Dupont Circle Citizens Association, and the Institute for Creative Advancement

Thank you to our community partners at Georgetown University for curating our Sunday Post-Show Discussions.





Dramaturgical Note on Frontieres sans Frontieres

by Ian Manzi, Collaborative on Global Children's Issues, Georgetown University

Young people in crisis zones face adversities that are far removed from the ordinary experiences of their global peers. These adversities are not merely challenges to be overcome but are existential threats to their development, their mental health, and often, their very survival. In such contexts, the role of outside support—whether from NGOs, humanitarian groups, or individual adults—must be one of profound sensitivity and respect for the complex dynamics at play.

Listening emerges as a foundational principle in this dialogue of support. True listening goes beyond hearing words; it involves an empathetic engagement with the young person's experience, understanding their context, their fears, their hopes, and their dreams. It means validating their emotions and recognizing their agency in a world where they often have little control. Through this act of listening, we not only provide comfort but also empower. Empowerment in this sense is the enabling of these young individuals to make choices, influence their own lives, and feel a sense of normalcy and hope amidst chaos.

However, the road paved with good intentions is fraught with complexities. Well-intentioned actions can inadvertently patronize or overpower the very voices they aim to amplify. There is a delicate balance between helping and overstepping, between guiding and controlling. This balance is crucial, for when it tips, initiatives can exacerbate the vulnerabilities of young people rather than alleviate them. This happens through cultural insensitivity, the imposition of ill-fitting solutions, or through the neglect of long-term impacts in favor of short-term successes.

The recognition of these pitfalls is the first step toward avoiding them. It demands a continual process of reflection and recalibration of strategies in response to the evolving needs and feedback from the communities and individuals affected. This iterative approach ensures that aid does not become an imposition but remains a genuine support structure, adaptive and responsive.

Lastly, when good intentions do go awry—as they sometimes will—the response should be one of accountability and learning. Organizations and individuals must be willing to confront their mistakes, understand their origins, and earnestly strive to amend the unintended consequences of their actions. This accountability is essential not only to rectify errors but also to rebuild trust—a crucial currency in any humanitarian effort.

PLAYWRIGHT



Phillip Howze is a writer and theater maker whose works have been developed and produced across the country including at Bay Area Playwrights Festival, Clubbed Thumb, New York Theater Workshop, PRELUDE Festival, Public Theater, San Francisco Playhouse, Signature Theatre, Sundance Institute Theater Lab and Yale Cabaret. Howze's playwriting debut, *Frontieres Sans Frontieres*, premiered in an extended, sold-out engagement at the Bushwick Starr and was named one of the "10 Best Theatrical Productions of the Year" by New York Magazine/Vulture. He's writing new play commissions for the American Repertory Theater, Playwrights Horizons and Lincoln Center, and he was recently appointed the inaugural Associate Senior Lecturer

at Harvard University's Theater, Dance & Media program. His new collection *Rarities & Wonders: Plays* is available from Tripwire Harlot Press. (<u>www.tripwireharlot.com</u>)

CAST



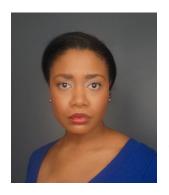
Frank Britton (Cigarette Man, Clown, Developer) returns to Spooky Action Theater for the first time since the 2014 production of *The Wedding Dress*, directed by Rebecca Holderness, and also appeared in 2011's *Einstein's Dreams*, also directed by Ms. Holderness. He most recently appeared in the world premiere of Psalmayene 24's *Out of The Vineyard* at Joe's Movement Emporium, and as the Belize/Roy Cohn understudy in Arena Stage's *Angels In America, Part One: Millennium Approaches*. A native Washingtonian and 22-year veteran of the DC theatre and regional scene, he has appeared at many local area theaters and numerous regional theaters, as well as Off-Off Broadway. In 2018, he earned the Helen Hayes Award (The Robert Prosky Award for Outstanding Lead Actor, Resident Play—Helen) for his performance in *Jesus Hopped The 'A' Train* at 1st Stage. Many, many thanks to Elizabeth, the Cast

and Crew, and Spooky Action.



Surasree Das (Noon, Nobel Laureate) is ecstatic to make her mainstage debut with Spooky Action! Past credits include; Chesapeake Shakespeare Co: *The Oresteia* (Chorus H), *As You Like It* (Celia) EStP: *Twelfth Night* (Viola), *Merry Wives* (Mistress Quickly), *Romeo and Juliet* (Juliet), *Midsummer* (Hermia); Olney Theatre (u/s, Arundhathi and Megha); Strand Theatre: *Little Women* (Jo March); Smithsonian: *Seasons of Light* (various); Free Range Humans: *Jekyll/Hyde* (Nellie); Imagination Stage: *Hungry Caterpillar* (u/s all, performed), *Princess Pauper* (Zoya); BAPAC/The Tank NYC: *TornKid* (TornKid); Center Stage: *Animal Farm*; Single Carrot: *Lear* (Goneril); Constellation Theatre Company: *Arabian Nights* (Dunyazade); Toby's Dinner Theatre: *South Pacific* (Liat) Awards: BITrsister Best Actor nomination (Jo March), Best Ensemble (*Little Women*), Best Devised (*TornKid*) instagram:

drag0n mistress tiktok: Drag0nmistress



Lauren Davis (W.H.O., Actress, Mime) hails from Baltimore and is excited to be making her Spooky Action debut. Acting credits include *As You Like It, Love's Labour's Lost, Romeo and Juliet* (Chesapeake Shakespeare Company); *Acoustic Rooster, Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* (The Kennedy Center); *Corduroy, Shrek the Musical* (Childrens Theatre Company); *Oliver!* (Theater Latté Da); *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet* (Pillsbury House Theatre/Guthrie Theater). She is a member of Chesapeake Shakespeare's acting company and a member of their Black Classical Acting Ensemble (BCAE). Most recently, she directed Rapid Lemon's *Book of Grace*. She also directed Chesapeake Shakepeare's *Macbeth* and *To Be a Soldier*. She was also the Associate Director of *FELA!* at Olney Theatre Center. She holds an M.F.A.

from the Catholic University of America and a theater degree from Frostburg State. She would like to thank God and her family for their love and support!



Jamil Joseph (Thom) is excited to return to Spooky Action after appearing last year in Sonnets for an Old Century and the recent workshop/reading of Cracking Zeus. Born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., from a young age he knew he had a passion for acting. His recent credits include: Constellation Theatre Company: The School for Lies, directed by Allison Stockman; Solas Nua: The Playboy of the Western World (Helen Hayes Award nomination for Outstanding Lead Performer) directed by Shanara Gabrielle; Keegan Theatre: Sweat, directed by Angelisa Gillyard; Catholic University: Antigone, directed by Danielle Drakes, and Commonwealth Shakespeare company: Romeo & Juliet, Measure for Measure, and Julius Caesar. He received his BA from East Stroudsburg University.

Jamil wants to take the time to thank his fiancée and son for their everlasting love and support.



Camilo Linares (Backpacker, Militia, Assistant, Baby Boo) es de Bogotá, Colombia and currently resides in the Washington, DC area. Selected credits include: Las Hermanas Palacios, Picasso, La Tía Julia y el escribidor, La vida es sueño, VolcanO at GALA Hispanic Theatre; Mojada at 1st Stage; The Day You Begin at The Kennedy Center; Theory at Mosaic Theater Company; Oyeme, the Beautiful at Imagination Stage and Fun Home (understudy/performed) at Studio Theatre. Camilo holds an associate of arts degree in theatre performance from Montgomery College and is a graduate of the British American Drama Academy. Off stage, he dabbles with instruments, cameras and loves inspiring others. He was a Dreamer and none of this

would be possible without DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) and perseverance. Learn more at camilolinares.com



Victor Salinas (Pan) is an actor and playwright who is very excited to be part of Spooky Action Theater 's production of *Frontieres Sans Frontieres* after making his debut a few months ago with *Sonnets for an Old Century.* His other DC credits include GALA Hispanic Theater's *Las Hermanas Palacios*, Nilo Cruz' *Bathing in Moonlight, La valentía*, *Native Garden*, and *La tía Julia y el Escribidor*; and *La Llorona* (We Happy Few). His credits in Chicago include *Exquisita Agonía*, *Epopeya* and *Adverses* (Aguijón Theater); *Romeo & Juliet* (Aguijon Theater & 65th Theater on the Lake Festival); and *When My Father Died* (Dramatists Theater). Víctor has performed in numerous plays, soap operas, and films in Mexico City. As a playwright, his work, *La Pájara de San Juan*, opened the 2022 Chicago International Latino Theater Festival, and had a limited sold out run this year at DC's Mexican Cultural Institute. His first play, *LOVEknots*, was

on stage for more than three years in Mexico City and has been produced in Colombia, Madrid, and Chicago. Víctor was educated in Mexico, France, and the US. @vicsalar



Anna Takayo (Win) is making her Spooky Action debut. Regionally she has worked at Adventure Theatre: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,* Capital Fringe: *Only Love: Romeo and Juliet,* Kennedy Center: *Pulling the Switch,* People's Light: *Song of the Exile* (continued development with Olney Theater, MD), Shakespeare Theatre Company: *Jane Anger, Our Town,* and Hawai'i Public Theatre: *Ha Ha Hawai'i.* Internationally Anna has worked in London at Southwark Playhouse: *Necessary Targets,* Tower Theatre: *Hamlet,* Theatro Technis: *Antony and Cleopatra,* Tristan Bates: *Pearl City Sunshine,* Bloomsbury Festival: *Orphée,* in Japan at TPAM (Yokohama): *Cherry Blossom/Cherry Bomb,* and in Greece at the International Theatre Festival (Messene): *The Bacchae.* Anna is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (MA), Shakespeare Theatre Company (MFA), and Stanford University

(BA). She is a 2023 Helen Hayes Award nominee for Outstanding Lead Performer in a Play (*The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* at Adventure Theatre).



Raghad Almakhlouf (Understudy/Assistant Director) was previously seen at Spooky Action in Sonnets for an Old Century and Agreste, as well as the workshop of Syrena. Her regional credits include DC: Selling Kabul (Understudy) at Signature Theater; Hamlet (Reading) at Folger Theater.; Timon of Athens (Understudy) at Shakespeare Theater Company; In This Hope with The Welders, and in Vermont: Hamlet/The Tempest Rep at Shakespeare in The Woods. International credits include Syria: Wretched Dreams and AB Negative at The Opera House; The Poster at Russian Cultural Center; Tactic and The Tunnel at Alhamra Theater; Denmark: Venus Labyrinth at Masnedo Fortress. Education: The Higher Institute of Drama, Syria: B.F.A; Shakespeare Theater Academy at GWU: M.F.A in classical acting. Upcoming: The Art of Care at Mosaic Theater.



Dylan Arredondo (Understudy/Assistant Director) previously appeared at Spooky Action in Lady from the Village of Falling Flowers. His DC-area credits include 1st Stage: The Nance; Olney Theatre Center: Lend Me a Soprano, Fiddler on the Roof, Beauty & the Beast, The Great Gatsby, Alice in Wonderland, Othello; The Kennedy Center: The Mortification of Fovea Munson; Round House Theatre: Quixote Nuevo; Signature Theatre: Daphne's Dive; Rep Stage: The Glass Menagerie; Chesapeake Shakespeare Company: As You Like It, Much Ado About Nothing; Constellation Theatre Company: School for Lies, White Snake; Synetic Theater: Decameron, Phantom of the Opera, Snow Queen; Rorschach Theatre: Reykjavik. DIRECTING: Unexpected Stage: Fade; 4615 Theatre Company: Parlor Games; The Kaleidoscapes: TRACE; Edinburgh Fringe: Unexpected

Turbulence. ASSOCIATE DIRECTING: Prologue Theatre: Monsters of the American Cinema; Rep Stage: Falsettos; Round House Theatre: Quixote Nuevo; INTAR: The Beacons. www.DylanArredondo.com

PRODUCTION



Elizabeth Dinkova (Director/Artistic Director) is a Bulgarian director, adaptor, and collaborative creator who explores alternative realities at the intersection of theater, film, and music in pursuit of communal transformation. In 2021-22, she was an Associate Artistic Director of 7 Stages Theatre, Atlanta's hub for boundary-pushing international theater. She is an alum of the Alliance Theatre's Artistic Leadership fellowship, the Studio Theatre's Artistic Apprenticeship, and a recent graduate from the MFA Directing program at the Yale School of Drama, where she served as a Co-Artistic Director of the Yale Summer Cabaret and received the Julian Milton Kaufman prize for Directing. Recent projects include Spooky Action's *Sonnets for an Old Century* and workshop of *Syrena*, the visual album TIT, inspired by *Titus*

Andronicus and co-written with Jesse Rasmussen, at the NYC Indie Theatre Film Festival, Rage, a play with music adapted from Stephen King, at Quinnipiac University, The Seagull at Serenbe Playhouse, and the opera Orfeo ed Euridice at Bel Cantanti Opera Company. Elizabeth has taught acting, directing, devising, and musical theater at the Toronto Metropolitan University, University of California Riverside, Quinnipiac University, and Queens College CUNY.

Nadir Bey (Scenic Designer) is a freelance designer in the DMV area and Mosaic Theater Company's Technical Director. After receiving his BFA in Design at University of North Carolina School of the Arts, he was a design fellow at the Hangar Theatre in Ithaca, NY, and a Kenan Fellow at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. Select Credits include: one in two at Mosaic, Maz and Bricks and The Playboy of the Western World at Solas Nua, The Rainmaker (Helen Hayes Award Nomination for Outstanding Set Design) and The Chosen at 1st Stage, and Monsters of the American Cinema at Prologue Theater.

Robert Bowen Smith (Movement Director) is an actor and choreographer based in the DC Metro area. Previous Spooky Action Theater credits include *Rameau's Nephew*, *Collaborators*, and *Happy Hour*. As a choreographer Robert has worked with Imagination Stage, 1st Stage, Avant Bard, Theater Alliance, Flying V Theatre, and multiple Universities including American University and University of Maryland. Robert has earned two Helen Hayes nominations for Outstanding Choreography.

Yetunde Felix-Ukwu (Dialect Coach) is a dialect coach and actor working across film, television and theatre and recently appeared at Arena Stage in *Tempestuous Elements*. She has worked with Portland Center Stage, Kansas City Rep, Unicorn Theater, TheaterSquared, Flat Rock Playhouse, Portland Revels, Outer Loop Theater, Contemporary Theatre of Ohio, Roundhouse Theatre and now Spooky Action Theatre. On film and television she has coached productions by Paramount +, CBS, ALLBLK and Warner Brothers. More information can be found at www.yetundelive.com and @yetundelive on all social media platforms.

Christian D. Henrriquez (Lighting Designer) is in the final semester of his MFA lighting design program at the University of Maryland. He is also completing a graduate certificate in Latin American & Caribbean Studies. Christian's research interests include poetry, film, and theatre which have been created as a result of violence and the U.S.'s intervention in the Central American region. Storytelling is at the center of it all. Christian is excited about using immersive and atmospheric experiences as a storytelling tool. Previously, he has worked for the Disneyland Resort, Universal Studios Hollywood, and the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, all of which have influenced his approach to theatrical lighting design. Select lighting design credits include Cinderella: A Salsa Fairytale (Imagination Stage), The Prom! (University of Maryland), Baño de Luna, and La Valentía (GALA Hispanic Theatre). Select assistant/associate lighting design credits include Mexodus (Baltimore Center Stage), Once Upon a Mattress (NY City Center Encores!), The Bridges of Madison County (Signature Theatre), Fun Home (Studio Theatre), Indecent (Woolly Mammoth), and A Bicycle Country (University of Maryland). www.HenrriquezDesign.com

Troy C. Johnson (Run Crew) is a DC native currently enrolled in the Arts Institute for Creative Advancement Apprenticeship at the Theatre Lab. There, he is learning various technical theatre skills (lighting, sound, scenic, costuming, etc). Troy is very new to theatre but has a background in analog photography and filmmaking. He plans to continue making artworks informed by his love for art history, culture criticism, film, sports, music, and language. He aims to show that the minds of people from marginalized communities are just as valuable as their bodies.

Liz Long (Properties Designer) returns to Spooky Action where she has designed properties on *The Oldest Boy*, *The River*, *Happy Hour*, and *The Man Who*. Recent DC-area productions include *Hazardous Materials* with Perisphere Theatre and Avant Bard's *Hurricane Diane*. Her other properties designs for Avant Bard include productions of *Ada and the Engine*, *Julius Caesar*, *Billy and George*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *Illyria*, *Or What You Will*, *Topdog*, *Underdog*, and *A Misanthrope*.

Navi (Sound Designer) is a non-binary Sri Lankan many-media artist, music producer, and meme maker. A self-taught creative, they've released multiple nerdcore hip hop albums, toured as the lead vocalist of a psychedelic punk rap group, and engaged in local Art Making™ as a lighting designer, composer, sound engineer, performer, puppeteer, production manager, graphic designer, marketing content creator, and playwright. Currently, they're running the R&D wing of Flying V as an Artistic Lead, exploring the vast reaches of performance, technology, and nerd culture!

Johnna Presby (Costume Designer) is so excited to make her designing debut at Spooky Action Theater! She is a DC-based costume designer, a former Kenan Design Fellow at the Kennedy Center and will be pursuing her MFA at UMD in the fall. Some recent credits include Moses (Theater J), Ride the Cyclone (NextStop Theatre Company), La Salpêtrière (Taffety Punk Theatre Company), Sweat (Keegan Theatre), Monsters of the American Cinema (Prologue Theatre), Billy Elliot: The Musical (Hangar Theatre), Nate the Great (Imagination Stage), Sweat (Santa Fe Playhouse), The Wilting Point (Keegan Theatre), Sunday at Sodom/A Parsifal (Hangar Theatre), Down in the Face of God (UNC School of the Arts) and Heathers: The Musical (UNC School of the Arts). Johnna graduated from UNC School of the Arts with a BFA in Costume Design. Instagram: @johnna.presby.design Much love to her friends, family, and this lovely cast and crew!

Andrew Reilly (Assistant Stage Manager) is a backstage jack-of-all-trades specializing in costumes, props, and set work. Recent credits include props design for *Night of the Living Dead* at Rorschach Theatre and *Morning After Grace* at Valley Place Arts Collaborative; box office for *Coriolanus* at Avant Bard; carpentry for *The Sensational Sea Minkettes* at Woolly Mammoth and *How to be a Korean Woman* at Theater J; wardrobe supervisor for *INK* at Round House. Andy is happy to return to Spooky Action after assistant stage managing *Sonnets for an Old Century* during the 2022-23 season.

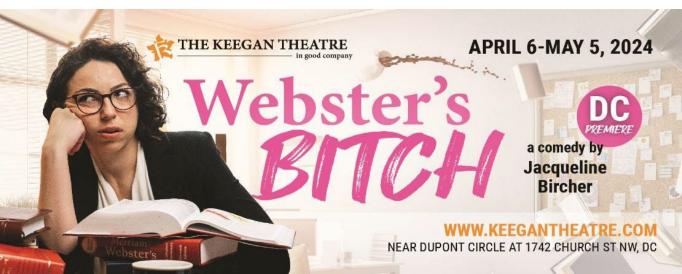
Reed Simiele (Production Manager/Technical Director) is excited for the first production with Spooky Action Theater as the Production Manager/TD. He is new to the area as of April of 2023 and has since worked at Constellation Theatre (Head Electrician), Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Chesapeake Shakespeare, Baltimore Center Stage, and Everyman Theatre, just to name a few. He is also a Lighting Designer and technician having been nominated for a Broadway Regional in Lighting Design last year for *A Few Good Men*. Prior to the DMV, Reed was an interim Technical Director at Playhouse on Park in Hartford Connecticut. He hopes that you enjoy *Frontieres Sans Frontieres* as it has been an absolute delight to work on with the entire Spooky Action Team.

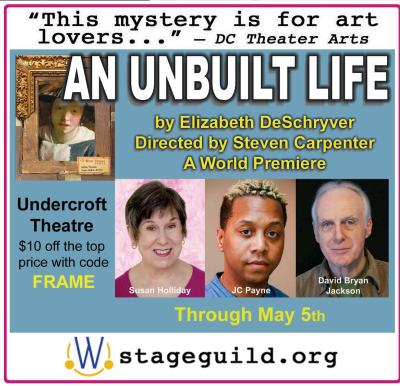
Fior Tat (Production Stage Manager). Credits include Theater J: *Moses*, *One Jewish Boy* (Assistant Stage Manager); Signature Theatre: *King of the Yees* (Assistant Stage Manager); Tantrum Theater: *9 to 5 the Musical, Carrie the Musical* (Associate Stage Manager), *Spring Awakening, Next to Normal* (Assistant Stage Manager). Other theatres they have worked at include: Studio Theatre, TheatreSquared, Richmond Shakespeare Festival and Ohio University. Upcoming: Theater J's *The Hatmaker's Wife* (Assistant Stage Manager) in May, and Great Lakes Center for the Arts' *Mamma Mia!* (Assistant Stage Manager) in August.

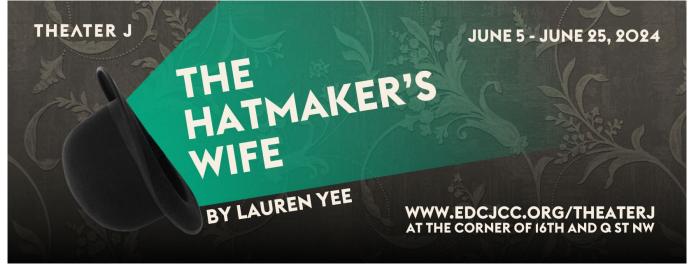
SPECIAL THANKS

Arts Institute for Creative Advancement, Design Foundry, The Endangered Species Theatre Project

Nadir Bey and Johnna Presby supported by The Kennedy Center/Kenan Fund's Artists-in-Residence Program.







Your contribution allows Spooky Action to continue to produce unique, thoughtprovoking productions and develop new works for the stage.

You can make a tax-deductible donation online, via phone at (202) 248-0301, or by mailing your contribution to Spooky Action Theater,

1810 16th Street NW, Washington DC, 20009.

spookyaction.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



THEATER STAFF

Artistic Director	Elizabeth Dinkova
General Manager	Lauren Janoschka
Associate Artistic Manager/New Works in	ActionGillian Drake
Technical Director	Reed Simiele
Marketing & Publicity Consultant	Michael Kyrioglou
Company Manager	Michael Kyrioglou

Additional Production Staff

Front of House...Raghad Almakhlouf, Michael Kyrioglou, Monica Regan

Build Crew

Barrett Doyle, Rose Hull, Lillian Moki, Mitchell Robinson, Demetrius Sadler

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