



**A world premiere virtual production by 20% Theatre  
DECEMBER 11-13, 2020**

*The Naked I: Revitalized* explores queer and trans experience through brand new monologues, scenes, song, dance and movement, featuring the contributions of over a dozen local and national artists.

Inspired by *The Naked I: Monologues From Beyond The Binary* by Tobias K. Davis, which 20% Theatre Company produced in 2009, the company has created a new *Naked I* production every two years. *The Naked I: Revitalized* is the 6th and final *Naked I* production to be produced by 20% Theatre before their Sunset in 2021.

20%  
THEATRE  
COMPANY  
TWIN CITIES

## **A Note from 20% Artistic Director Marcela Michelle**

*Hello.*

*I miss you. So much do I miss you. I will tell you how much I respect these artists, how much I admire their work, how grateful I am to be able to present to you these creations/spells/wishes/makings that move me to laughter, to tears, to shake and spin. But what I want to impress upon you most is that I miss you. I miss the uniquely powerful sensation of making a space together. I feel like I was just moving away from the itchy parts of a new job, just starting to take in the party. And I miss the artists. Some of them are my dearest relations. Some I had only just fallen in love with.*

*I don't yet know.*

*What I do know is that since its creation by Tobias K. Davis almost two decades ago, The Naked I has touched countless lives across climates. Being able to experience some of the early versions of this concept recently via our digital streams has been like swimming in a spring river, temperatures constantly changing, salt in the nose, sun on the hairs on my shoulder. Now we have what we are calling our final The Naked I.*

*I don't yet know if final is the right word.*

*What I do know is that I am proud of this collection, of its arrangement, of who we are, what we've been, and how we embrace the unknown of where we'll be. I do have hope. I hope that you are resting if you've been fighting. I hope that you are fighting if you've been resting. I hope that something in here touches you, awakens something dormant, soothes some ache, brings you hunger or relief. I hope you are reminded, as I was, that we are here. Still here. That trans and non-binary artists are not just surviving but forging, screaming, dreaming, marching, singing, paving, praying, building, giving, healing, breathing, breathing, breathing, breathing still. And some of us are having tea. And isn't that good news?*

*It bears repeating, I miss you so.*

*It bears repeating, I miss you so.*

*Love,  
Marcela*

## **BLACK TRANS AND LAUGHING**

Conceived by Marcela Michelle  
(V: @Marcela-Michelle-1)  
Filmed and Performed  
by Commarrah Bashar (V:@Cocoabash)  
as interludes throughout the production

## **SUSTENANCE**

Conceived & filmed by Hannah Stein  
(V:@Hanna-Stein-6)  
Edited by Alex Farley  
*Special thanks to Diana Jurand*

## **HOLOGRAPHY**

Written and read by Nick Malakhov  
(V:@Nicholas-Malakhov)

## **I CHOSE 2 R's!**

Written and performed  
by forrest Mainville

## **horsegirl / farmboy**

Created & performed  
by Sea Thomas (V:@seathomas)  
Directed by Katie Burgess  
Recorded and edited  
by Connie Chang (V:@byconniechang)  
*Special thanks to Philadelphia  
Community Farm, Romeo, Patches, and  
the sheep*

## **ceviche con cancha**

Written by Johanna Keller Flores  
(V:@Johanna-Keller-Flores)  
Performed by Johanna Keller Flores  
& Keila Anali Saucedo (V:@analisaucedo)

V = Venmo  
PP = PayPal  
CA = Cash App  
GP = Google Pay



*This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*

## **the collective**

Written by Kitty Sipple (V:@kitty-sipple)  
Filming and editing credits by the  
hydra system

*Head is not my Home - MS MR;  
Experiment on Me - Halsey; There is a  
Light - Beautiful Chorus; Wild Things  
- Alessia Cara; Different kind of Love  
- Adia Victoria; Agenda Suicide - The  
Faint; Freak like Me - Halestorm; Iron  
- Woodkid; Take Back the Power - The  
Interrupters*

## **I AM DRAWING A**

## **CONSTELLATION ON MY CHEST**

Written, performed and shot  
by Rubin Hardin (V:@Rubin-Hardin)

## **what body**

Created by sami pfeffer  
(V:@sami-pfeffer)

## **DO I QUALIFY FOR LOVE?**

Written, performed, shot, edited &  
directed by Ayesha Adu  
(V:@Ayesha-Adu)

*Special thanks to Marcela, Dedicated  
to My Beautiful Boi*

## **fuel/fill**

Written and performed  
by Connie Chang (V:@byconniechang)  
Filmed by Sea Thomas (V:@seathomas)

## **GENDER EUPHORIA**

Written by Tobias K. Davis  
Filmed and performed  
By Rossianne Jaffe  
(V:@Rossi-Jaffe)

## BIOS

**Ayesha Adu** (ze/zir) is an award-winning director, writer, producer, editor, and in addition, is also an actor and cabaret performer. Zir acting and performances have been seen at *Dykes Do Drag* (2017-2020) and *The Naked I:Recognize/d* in 2018. Based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, zir's previous artistic work has been about the darkness of human nature, child abuse, and familial dysfunction.

**Commarrah Bashar** (they/them) is an actress, artist, and improviser with over twenty years of experience. They are an alum of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts where they received a BFA in Drama, class of 2011. They will be playing a principal role in season 5 of the critically acclaimed, internationally known *Theater People* web-series, the pilot of which premieres this fall. Their performance art, poetry, and writing is Black trans-centered art generated in ritual and dreamspace. In 2019, they created an improvisation with two other black trans artists for *Stonewall @ 50*, co-curated by Andrea Jenkins and the Minneapolis Institute of Art. They originated the role of Kleo in *Queen B: A New Work of Honey Bee Futurism*--a sci-fi musical in a non-binary future without bees. Last September, they MC'd the 7th Annual Minneapolis Transgender Equity Summit. Their upcoming show *Mx. 4 Minneapolis* will be premiering digitally for Q-Stage in 2021. For more details, please see [commarrah.com](http://commarrah.com).

**Connie Chang** (they/he/she) is a queer Chinese-American writer, poet, improviser, and Dungeons and Dragons extraordinaire with roots in Shanghai, Boston, Minneapolis and Los Angeles. She graduated from Hampshire College in 2019 with a self-designed double-major in screenwriting and critical race studies, and brings a critical lens to the projects she creates and witnesses. They are currently the game master and executive producer behind Transplanar RPG, an all-transgender, person of color-led livestreamed Dungeons and Dragons actual play campaign. In all his work, Connie grapples with diasporic identity, horror and monstrosity, assimilation, youth and memory, and love.

**Tobias K. Davis** (Toby) is a transgender educator, activist and playwright who uses theatre, writing, and teaching to advocate for a gender-inclusive society. Tobias has supported colleges, congregations, and communities in developing trans-inclusive policies and practices for over 20 years. His theatrical works have been well received across the country by both the transgender community and the theater community at large. He strives to create plays, workshops, and presentations which are entertaining, educational, and accessible. He holds a M.Ed. in Social Justice Education and is the Inclusion Education Trainer/Facilitator in the Office for Equity and Inclusion at Smith College. [tobiaskdavis.com](http://tobiaskdavis.com)

**Johanna Keller Flores** is a Peruvian American playwright and theatre artist who's out here trying to tell stories close to her heart for her queer brown familia. She's from St. Paul, Minnesota with a second home in Chimbote, Peru. She has had the sincerest pleasure of creating in her Twin Cities home the last two years; assistant stage managing, writing, and performing with Pangea World Theatre, writing and performing with Revolutionary Jetpacks, performing with *Lightning Rod* at Pillsbury House Theatre, writing, directing, and performing with 20% Theatre, performing with *Good Night* at the Southern Theatre, writing and directing with Gadfly Theatre, and directing and conspiring with Alliance for Latinx Minnesota Artists. Te mando muchisimo amor, ya?

**Rubin Hardin** is a poet who adores magical realism. They founded a literary journal dedicated to non-speaking and semi-speaking disabled artists called Explicit Literary Journal. They have work published in *Rising Phoenix Review*, *What Are Birds*, *Runestone*, *Crab Fat Magazine*, *Voicemail Poems*, and *Can't Somebody Fix What Ails Me*. Rubin has upcoming work in *Utterance and Iris Literary Journal*. Their favorite bird is a dragon.

**Rossianne Jaffe** is a transgender female actress living in the Twin Cities. She is a Chicago/Indianapolis native with a background in theater and music. From a young age she has been involved with the theater arts and a variety of choral ensembles. This list includes her currently being an active baritone singer in Minnesota's very own LGBTQ+ ensemble, One Voice Mixed Chorus. She is grateful to have had the opportunity to perform in several productions as her true authentic self since coming out in 2006, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* playing the role of Helena and *Twelfth Night* playing the role of Maria. She is excited and grateful for the opportunity to get to perform a beautiful piece with this incredible theater company. She would like to thank all of her friends, family and her partner Evan for the love, support and encouragement to never give up on her dreams.

**forrest Mainville** began their acting career as a junior in high school and after a 46-year hiatus they return to the stage. forrest shares a secret in their monologue, *I Chose 2 R's*. It's a secret they tried to erase almost 60 years ago. forrest wants us all to know that it is never too late to excavate the tamped down and hidden parts of ourselves. forrest lives in Minneapolis. They teach classes on Gender: Beyond the Binary. You can find them most days hanging out at dog parks.

**Nick Malakhov** (he/him/his) is a Dominican and Ukrainian writer and theater educator based in Boston. His full-length work includes *SEEING EYE* (developed with Victory Gardens, Fresh Ink, Actors Studio at Newburyport, finalist for the 2019 O'Neill NPC, the 2018 LTC/HowlRound Carnival, and the 2020 In-Progress Reading Series at the Unicorn Theatre), *A PICTURE OF TWO BOYS* (developed with The Quarantine Series), and *GRIT* (developed with Playhouse on Park, Fuse Theater, Theatre@First). His other work has been developed or produced by the Open Theatre Project, the Q Collective, and as part of the 2018 Boston Theater Marathon. Nick was a Company One Playlab Unit member for C1's 2019 season. He has also taught theater, English, and creative writing at the secondary level for over ten years in the greater Philly and Boston areas. He grew up in the diverse town of Teaneck, New Jersey. BA: Swarthmore College, MA: Emerson College.

**Marcela Michelle** is the Artistic Director of 20% Theatre Company Twin Cities. Marcela is also one of three Artistic Co-Directors of Lightning Rod. Marcela is a Black artist, educator, and producer living and working primarily on Dakota land. Marcela is a Mexican artist, educator, and producer living and working primarily on Dakota land. Marcela is an Afrolatine artist, educator, and producer living and working primarily on Dakota land. Marcela is a transgender artist, educator, and producer living and working primarily on Dakota land. Marcela is a trans-inclusive lesbian-identified artist, educator, and producer living and working primarily on Dakota land. Marcela was born in September of 1992 in San Antonio, Texas, a land where she has indigenous roots. Marcela was raised a Southern Baptist, now she is many things. Marcela is a Virgo sun, Gemini moon, Aquarius rising. Her Venus is in Libra. Marcela is in love. Marcela is proud of her CV. Marcela needs to make a website. Marcela will need a job soon. Professional Inquiries - [marcela@tctwentypercent.org](mailto:marcela@tctwentypercent.org)

**Sami Pfeffer** is an artist and carpenter. They make films, write plays, and build installations.

**Keila Anali Saucedo** is a theater maker based in the Twin Cities. They are an ensemble member at Pangea World Theater and a co-board chair with 20% Theatre Company. They are blessed to know and work with Johanna Keller Flores.

**Kitty Sipple** is fungifemme / the hydra system. We are polymorphic polymath storytellers. We are disabled, mad, queer, white, non-binary, & femme. Kitty Sipple uses they/them pronouns.

**Hannah Stein** is a trans woman who has lived in the Twin Cities since 2013. She grew up in Athens, Georgia and graduated from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. She is convinced of the need to confront the realities of wealth inequality and climate disaster, and is committed to racial justice, LGBTQIA+ rights, justice for immigrants, and the restructure of public safety. She would like to thank her editors, family, and queer community, and thank 20% Theatre Company for all the years of inspiring performances!

**Sea Thomas** is a recent graduate of Mount Holyoke College (BA Dance & Critical Performance Histories) currently living in Minneapolis, MN. They are a queer mover interested in improvisation, monstrosity, and the choreography of details. Sea's practices blend their experience working in experimental theatre, modern dance, and embodiment studies. Hailing from a small town in rural New York, Sea grew up farming and climbing trees. They have recently softened to their upbringing, growing to admire the child who climbed peach trees just to feel the nectar between their teeth. They're trying to get back into that.

## Production Team

**Producer** . . . . . Claire Avitabile  
**Artistic Director** . . . . . Marcela Michelle  
**Video Editor** . . . . . Kristen Stoeckeler  
**Production Artwork** . . . . . Ethan O'Brien  
**ASL Interpreters** . . . . . Vyron Kinson, Jer Loudenback, Maria Rodriguez-Dively & Rachel Aster  
**ASL Management**. . . . . Hunta Williams & Austin Beatty

## Special Thanks

This production was originally intended to be live, with stage managers and technicians, and multiple directors and actors involved. Unfortunately going virtual meant we did not need many of the artists who had signed on to be involved in the live production. Below, we give thanks to them and all of the energy they gave this production even if just for a short time.

**-Our directing cohort:** Ayesha Adu, Eshay Brantley, Katie Burgess, Xander Cavanagh, Rosey Lowe, Marcela Michelle, and Dua Saleh. Thank you for all of the time and energy you put into planning and running auditions before the pandemic!

**-The original cast:** Riley Jay Davis, Walter-Elsa Kent Sawyer, Zealot Hamm, Ari Newman, Shannon Durphy, Chava Kokhleffel, Cierra Buckner, and Teighlor McGee

**-The production team:** Shannon Hessburg (stage manager), Constance Brevell (assistant stage manager), snem DeSellier (lighting designer), and Dakota Lancour (backstage manager)

**-Two artists originally selected** to create work and were unable to participate virtually this fall: Keila Anali Saucedo & Atlese Robinson. We love you and are grateful for you and your art!