



ROLE FOR INITIATIVE

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FEBRUARY 24 @ 7PM ET

BY **SAM HAMASHIMA**
DIRECTED BY **EMILY BUBECK**
CURATED BY **UNTITLED QUEEN**

FEATURING **GEORGIA KATE COHEN,**
SAM HAMASHIMA, EMILY OLIVEIRA
MICHAEL ORTIZ & CHRISTINE POLLNOW

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ABOUT VISION RESIDENCY

Designed to foreground Ars Nova's values through the creation of more equitable and power-sharing curatorial practices, the Vision Residency was launched in 2020 with the goal of expanding Ars Nova's artistic vision by inviting artist-curators to program our stages and digital platform with their own work as well as work by artists they champion and admire. Each Resident will be given broad support from Ars Nova's full staff in their curation, which will result in events and performances in-person at Ars Nova and online on Ars Nova Supra.

Each will be paid for their curation and administrative work, as well as a program budget to allocate towards the creation, development and presentation of work during their curated month. Vision Residents are encouraged to invite other artists they feel inspired by, want to collaborate with or simply wish to amplify, to make and share work using the budget and resources of the residency during their month of programming.

The Vision Residency program at Ars Nova is made possible by the generous support of the Miranda Family, Diana DiMenna and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SAM HAMASHIMA (Love Interest & Others) Described as "serious whimsy" in the Washington Post, Hamashima creates theater with an emphasis on spectacle, surprise, and design. Full-length plays include: *American Spies* (Washington, D.C., The Hub Theatre, Helen Hayes Recommended, Winner of the 2018 Kennedy Center Undergraduate Playwriting Award and the University of Michigan Hopwood Award in Drama, Dennis McIntyre Prize, and The Roy Cowden Fellowship), *Supposed Home* (TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Bay Area Playwrights Festival, Seattle Public Theater), *Shoyu Tell* (Lexington Children's Theatre), Thishonor (San Francisco Playhouse). Hamashima's work has been presented or developed by the Kennedy Center, Stanford University, National Queer Theater, Lyric Stage Boston, the Workshop Theater, and the Japanese American Citizens League. They are the 2nd recipient of Seattle Public Theater's \$10,000 Emerald Prize and are currently under commission from San Francisco Playhouse. Hamashima is a graduate of the University of Michigan's Musical Theatre Program. Rep: DGRW @SamHamashima, samhamashima.com

ABOUT THE ARTISTS (CONT'D)

EMILY BUBECK (Director) is an NYC based theatre artist, creative producer, director, administrator, audience member and playwright. (among other things) She likes to facilitate the development of new work & is especially drawn to projects that allow us to expand our ideas on how we tell stories and who those stories serve. Bubeck founded Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective in 2019 and she serves as the Artistic Producing Director of the Collective. She currently works as a Facilities Coordinator with the Alliance of Resident Theaters of New York. Previously Emily has interned with multiple NYC based theater groups (En Garde Arts, Soho Rep., Cherry Lane Theater & New Dramatists) as well as other arts organizations in Columbus, Ohio and Washington D.C. She is an ad hoc employee of New Dramatists, working with them as a stage manager on developmental readings, Playtime and their Composer Librettist Studio with Nautilus Musical Theater. Most recently Bubeck produced Breaking & Entering's Rooftop Reading Series and she is currently producing the Collective's third PEA Fest. Emily has three original works currently in development: *Cluster, Don't Let Me Walk Away* which she is devising with her sister Claire, and *My Body is Falling Apart and I'm Not Sure What to do Anymore*, which she is currently workshopping with Molly Van Der Molen. She is also in the middle of a long form performance art project: IDLE HANDS, which you can view daily installments of on her Instagram @goplacidlyamidthenoise.

CHRISTINE POLLNOW (Nurse & Others) is a New York City based actor and voice actor. She is so excited to be working on a full length production of this show! Christine is a co-founding member of the Fled Collective. Recent credits include: *Serials* (Fled Collective), *Hamlet* (Shakespeare on the Sound), *Women Without Men*, *The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui*, *The Eumenides* (Stella Adler Studio), *Gathering Blue* (First Stage Children's Theater). Christine attended NYU Tisch and the Stella Adler Studio.

GEORGIA KATE COHEN (Biblically Accurate Angel & Others) is an actor, born and raised in New York City. A current member of The Fled Collective, in residency at The Flea Theater. She has performed at Theatre Row, The Tank, Dixon Place, Vineyard Theatre, HB Playwrights Theater and The Flea Theater. Prior to pursuing acting, Georgia trained in classical ballet at the UNCSA High School. Sarah Lawrence College (BA). www.georgiakatecohen.com

MICHAEL ORTIZ (Hero & Others) is an actor, director, writer, and producer based in New York City. He is a co-founding member of The Fled Collective, as well as a resident artist with Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective. He currently produces *SERIALS*, a late-night short play competition series in TriBeCa, for The Fled Collective. Michael is passionate about the cultivation of new work and creating opportunities for underrepresented artists. He is an avid gamer and loves scary movies, craft beer, Dungeons & Dragons, home cooking, and trash TV! Off-Broadway: *Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic* (New World Stages), *Asleep at the Wheel* (The Players Theater), *Loverspy* (Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective), *The Fez* (The Flea Theater), *Screenplay* by Stalin (Theater at St. Clement's), *Rule of 7x7* (The Tank). Regional: *Drunk Shakespeare* (Williamstown Theatre Festival), *Gator Tales* (Edinburgh Fringe).

EMILY OLIVEIRA (Lucky & Others) is thrilled to be working on a full length production of *Role for Initiative*! Emily is a proud member of the Fled Collective and has been acting in NYC for the last 10 years. Some of her recent theater credits include: *Jess in Cowgirl* at Columbia University, Leanne in *ReNaming Shaim* at the Broadway Bound Theater Festival, Mary (*Something Happens For Joe*) and Ruth (*Summer's Soldier*) both at the Williamstown Theater Festival. Film: "Ladies Room" & "Sparkle." Love to my family. BFA: NYU Tisch. emilyanneoliveira.com

UNTITLED QUEEN is a Filipinx and Boriquén artist, drag queen, and writer based on the stolen land of the LenapeHoking, (so-called Brooklyn, NY). Through the interplay of drag, sculpture, drawing, and installation, she tells deeply emotional stories on a continuum in a constant flux of construction and deconstruction. In 2020, She presented Untitled (World), the first global LGBTQIA+ digital drag show, with 47 drag artists each representing 1 country, and benefitting 3 HIV/AIDS organizations in honor of World AIDS Day. She has been a fellow at the EFA Project Space Gallery Shift Residency and Urban Glass Residency in NY.

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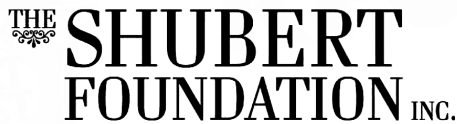
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through year-round programs devised to support outside-the-box thinking from artists in the early stages of their careers.

NAME YOUR PRICE TICKETING

for every show during our 20th anniversary season. We're serving up a multitude of innovative outside-the-box theater, and making it easier than ever for you to be a part of the action. So come hang with us - because what's Ars is yours!

FAIR PAY IN THE ARTS

through our FAIR PAY INITIATIVE, which ensures a living, not just minimum, wage for Ars Nova's artists and staff.

EMPOWERING THE NEXT WAVE OF ARTS PROFESSIONALS

with our EMERGING LEADERS GROUP FELLOWSHIP, which aims to break down the barriers of unpaid internships and create a more diverse pipeline of arts leaders.



WANNA KEEP IN TOUCH? SCAN THE QR & SLIDE INTO OUR DMs ANYTIME!



ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND

Ars Nova operates on the unceded land of the Lenape peoples on the island of Manhahtaan (Mannahatta) in Lenapehoking, the Lenape Homeland.

We acknowledge the brutal history of this stolen land and the displacement and dispossession of its Indigenous people. We also acknowledge that after there were stolen lands, there were stolen people. We honor the generations of displaced and enslaved people that built, and continue to build, the country that we occupy today.

We invite you to join us in acknowledging all of this as well as our shared responsibility: to consider our way forward in reconciliation, decolonization, anti-racism and allyship. We commit ourselves to the daily practice of pursuing this work.

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