

# THURSDAY- The Gathering Program

Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup>

## ***Where We Are Coming From***

**8:45am**

Tea, coffee, refreshments, and light breakfast available, Davis Center Lobby

**9:15am-10:45am**

## **Workshops**

**A Universal Language of Visual Storytelling in Global Theatre**, Davis Center 035

Irina Kruzhilina, *Designer, Visual Dramaturg*

Visual narratives are essential for the transformative impact of theatre, as they transcend cultural barriers, require no translation, and often speak where language fails. In this hands-on workshop, we will explore exciting approaches to visual creative thinking, gaining understanding and experience with synthesized visual expressions of characters and space. Through fun interactive exercises, we will investigate visual literacy as a tool towards fostering empathetic and emotional connections among theatre makers, subject, and audience.

**The Clown as the Universal Human: Clowning for Peace**, Davis Center 036

Emma Jaster, *Movement Director*

This workshop is a refreshing reminder of the value of humour in the hard work of activism. From Marcel Marceau, to Clowns Without Borders and the Clown Care Unit, to Larry Charles' Dangerous World of Comedy, we will explore humor as a tool for unlocking empathy, a key element of effective activism. Amidst the hard work of political change, we will practice some of the clown's unique tools to lighten the load and keep our hearts at the center of our work.

**10:45am-11am**

## **Break**

Tea, coffee and light refreshments available

**11am-12:30pm**

**Honoring the Past/Shaping the Future**, Davis Center, Gonda Theatre

Curated and Led by Todd London, *Writer, Gatherer, The Dramatists Guild & The New School*

Raymond Caldwell, *Producing Artistic Director, Theater Alliance*,

Maria Goyanes, *Artistic Director, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company*

Michael Rohd, *Lead Artist for Civic Imagination, Center for Performance and Civic Practice*

Seema Sueko, *Deputy Artistic Director, Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater*

Mark Valdez, *Artist, Organizer*

Tamilla Woodard, *Director, En Garde Arts; Associate Artistic Director, WP Theater; co-founder of PopUP Theatrics*

Stephanie Ybarra, *Artistic Director, Baltimore Center Stage*

**12:30pm-12:45pm Pop-Up Conversation -- Rivers and Bones: Dialogue on Ancestry,**  
Gonda Theatre

Nick Slie, *Co-Artistic Director, Mondo Bizarro*

Jason Tamiru, *Producer, Malthouse Theatre, Melbourne, Australia*

**12:45pm-1:45pm Lunch,** Gathering Tent, Harbin Courtyard, Food and refreshments available

**2pm-3:15pm SANCTUARY CITY: Preview of Scenes/ Reading and Conversation with Playwright Martyna Majok,** Gonda Theatre

Martyna Majok, *Pulitzer Prize-winning Playwright, Hodder Fellow, Princeton University*

Maya Roth (Moderator), *Associate Professor of Theater & Performance Studies, Georgetown University*

Performed by Dahlia Azama and Babak Tafti, *NYC-based actors*

**3:15pm-3:30pm Break**

Tea, coffee, and light refreshments available

**3:30pm-5:00pm Vaclav Havel's PROTEST in Conversation,** Gonda Theatre

Hon. Madeleine Albright, *Former US Secretary of State, Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy, Georgetown University*

Susan Galbraith, *Artistic Director, Alliance for New Music-Theatre*

Ambassador Martin Palous, *Director of Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy, Florida International University*

Ambassador Cynthia Schneider (Moderator), *Co-Director, The Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics*

David Millstone, *Actor, Alliance for New Music-Theatre*

Drew Valins, *Actor, Alliance for New Music-Theatre*

**5pm-5:15pm Pop-Up Performance: Migration Play,** Gonda Theatre

Written and Performed by Heather Raffo, *Playwright, Actor, Lab Think Tank*

Introduced by Christine Evans, *Playwright, Associate Professor of Theater & Performance Studies, Georgetown University*

**5:15pm**                    **Dinner/ Evening Reception**, Gathering Tent, Harbin Courtyard

Food/drink available throughout the evening

**6:15pm-7:45pm**        **TICKETED FILM SCREENING: *MOVING STORIES***  
ICC Auditorium

In this moving and inspiring documentary film, six diverse dancers from the acclaimed Battery Dance company travel the world, working with young people who've experienced war, poverty, sexual violence and severe trauma as refugees. The goal: to teach them the tools of choreography so that they can tell their stories through dance.

**7:45pm-830pm**            Post-screening discussion with Jonathan Hollander, *Founder, Artistic Director, Battery Dance Company, Davis 035*

**7:30pm-9pm**              **TICKETED PERFORMANCE**

***Renegade Theatre of Nigeria, THE CHIBOK GIRLS: OUR STORY***

***Featuring Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka performing excerpts from his epic poem "A Humanist Ode for Chibok, Leah"***

**Written and Directed by Wole Oguntokun**

US Premiere of Renegade Theatre's searing work of testimonial theater about the abduction of 276 girls from their school in the Nigerian town of Chibok by the Boko Haram in 2014, and the enduring reverberations of their story.

**9pm-9:30pm**              Post-show discussion with the artists and Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield, *Former Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs*, moderated by Ambassador Cynthia Schneider

**7:45pm-9:15pm**        **TICKETED PERFORMANCE**

***#!THOLE COUNTRY CLAPBACK***, Devine Studio Theatre

**Staged Reading**

**Written and Performed by Tony Award Nominee Pascale Armand**  
**Directed by Patrice Johnson**

A rebuttal to Donald Trump's comment about allowing "people from shithole countries" entrance to the United States and a chronicle of the playwright's family's journey to American citizenship.

**9:15pm-945pm**        **Post-Show Discussion** with Pascale Armand and Patrice Johnson, Davis 035

Moderated by Nikkole Salter, Actress, Playwright, Educator, and Advocate

**10pm-10:50pm TICKETED PERFORMANCE**

***I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE***, Devine Studio Theatre

An original Lab production written and performed by five Georgetown students and alumni that has been seen around the world, *I Pledge Allegiance* explores the convergence of ‘Americanness’ and immigrant identities of five young adults who grew up in a post-9/11 society. Created through personal interviews, social media testimony, and news headlines, this play interrogates notions of nationalism in the private and public spheres and what it means to be an American in the current political moment.

Written and Performed by:

Velani Dibba, *Director, Columbia University*

Maria Cristina Ibarra, *Performer, Director, Playwright*

Benjamin Lillian, *Performer, Writer*

Aly Panjwani, *Lab Programs Assistant, Performer. Georgetown University*

\ Devika Ranjan, *Theater Maker, Ethnographer, Educator; Royal Central School of Speech and Drama*

**10:50pm-11:15pm Post-show discussion** with the artists