

BRIC presents

Third Law

(Work-in-Process)

By What Will the Neighbors Say?

Third Law is a metaphysical theatrical exploration, combining live performance with technology to grant the audience power over the destiny of the subjects they see on stage. Designed to interrogate audience agency, gaze and experience, *Third Law* aims to unpack the relationship between creator and observer by disrupting the traditional role of the audience.

Every action has an equal and opposite reaction. Including yours.

Directed by

Coral Cohen

Set Design by

Jessica Cancino

Devised & Performed by

Shani Bekt

Sam Hood Adrain

Megan Mariko Boggs

Pablo Calderón-Santiago

James Clements

Melannie Vásquez Lara

Stage Managed by

Herbert Welch

Source Text by

Nelson Díaz-Marcano

Ayla Sullivan

Arun Welandawe-Prematilleke

Lighting Design by

Jacqueline Scaletta

Audience Advocate

Thalia Romina

Sound & Video Design by

Cosette Pin

Project Mentor

Karina Popp

BIOGRAPHIES

WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBORS SAY? | PRODUCTION COMPANY fights for a more empathetic world by presenting risky, provocative theatre that provokes conversations and facilitates greater understanding. Championing our community's capacity to explore ambiguous and nuanced themes, we create morally complex genre-bending work that challenges our audiences before, during and after a presentation. Armed with the understanding that meaningful conversations require varied perspectives, we build Neighborhoods across borders to facilitate new connections throughout our communities. Since the company was founded, WWTNS? has premiered nine original plays in five cities in four countries on two continents, and presented a further nineteen. The company has launched our education and community arts departments, and created jobs for over one hundred artists - 75% of them femme/GNB identifying and 50% of them BIPOC. The Neighbors have received support from the NEA, the Brooklyn Arts Council, Bel Geddes, Creative Development Fund and A.R.T./New York, amongst others. www.wwtns.org

SAM HOOD ADRAIN (he/him) DEVISOR/PRODUCER is an actor, director, and producer based in New York City. As a theatre artist, Hood Adrain has worked on stage and off at companies across the country including Trinity Repertory Company, Infinity Theatre Company, Dramatist Guild Foundation, Missoula Children's Theatre, Ithaca Shakespeare Company, HERE, IRT, MITU580, The Flea, Theatre Row, Strongbox Theater, and Audible to name a few. He is the recipient of the 2021 BroadwayWorld Award for Best Director of a Regional Production for his direction of "The 39 Steps" at Strongbox Theater. He is a published playwright whose works have been called "heartbreakingcomplex...and thought-provoking" (Theatre is Easy), have been presented in NYC at HERE, The Nuyorican Poets Cafe and IRT Theatre, toured to Providence and Toronto and produced as a radio play by the Cleveland Radio Players. Recent TV credits include "Search Party" and "Law & Order." Sam is proudly a Co-Artistic Director of WWTNS? BFA NYU: Tisch School of the Arts, Experimental Theatre Wing. samhoodadrain.com

JAMES CLEMENTS (he/him) DEVISER/PRODUCER is a Scottish writer, performer, theatermaker and arts educator based between New York and Scotland. Clements has performed at venues including La Mama E.T.C., HERE and MITU580, and has been on the creative team for projects at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Lincoln Centre LCT3 and the 92nd Street Y. His source-based experimental plays include "The Diana Tapes" (2016), "Four Sisters" (2017), "Beauty Freak" (2018), "MEDEA/BRITNEY" (2019),

“Ellis Island” (2021), “The Aliens Make Thanksgiving Dinner” (2022) and “Brothers in Arms” (2022). These plays have been described by critics as “magnifying” (TimeOut), “intricate” (BroadwayWorld), “compelling” (The Guardian), “affecting” (Playbill) and “intellectual” (Theatre is Easy), and have been performed in cities across the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. He has taught at CUNY Queens College and the Wuhan Institute of Design and Science and is an Affiliated Instructor at NYU Tisch School of the Arts. He is Co-Founding Artistic Director of What Will the Neighbours Say? and an Artist-in-Residence with the Brooklyn Arts Council and Culture Lab. His work has been recognised by the Queens Council for the Arts, DCLA, NYFA, A.R.T./NY and Creatives Rebuild New York, amongst others.

james-clements.com

PABLO CALDERÓN-SANTIAGO (he/him) DEVISER/LEAD ARTIST is a multimedia artist from San Juan, Puerto Rico. In 2015 he received a BA in film production with minors in acting and photography from Emerson College. Pablo started his creative life as an actor in the Puerto Rican theater collective Jovenes del ‘98 as well as appearances on tv and film commercials. He’s currently the artist-in-residence for Brooklyn-based theatre company What Will the Neighbors Say? With both organizations Pablo has been actively involved in devising and performing multimedia, documentary based work, often engaging with present political themes. Pablo’s work with WWTNS? been covered in Harper’s Bazaar, the Daily Mail, and Time Out. In addition, Pablo has directed two short films and a music video; works as a lighting designer on fine art, editorial, and commercial photoshoots; and conducts research and translation for feature-length documentaries.

CORAL COHEN (she/her) DIRECTOR is a director, producer, and performance deviser born and raised in Los Angeles and currently based in Brooklyn, New York. Her work spans multiple forms, mediums and subjects, but is largely defined by an emphasis on creative collaboration and deep engagement with the people and subjects she approaches. Her devised work focuses on interrogating cultural history through personal storytelling. Coral’s collaborative process encourages all the artists that she works with to take ownership and agency of the work itself. In 2019, Coral produced, devised, and co-wrote “Between the Threads,” an original ensemble theatre performance about Jewish women in America exploring their relationship to their Judaism at HERE Arts Center. In 2020, Coral devised and directed “In the Kitchen,” an interactive audio play and paired recipe box exploring Arab Jewish culture passed down through food (produced by Experimental Bitch Presents). Excerpts of “In the Kitchen” were part of an installation work entitled “I mean, how do you define safety?” at the Jewish Museum

of Maryland as part of their show, “A Fence Around the Torah: Safety and Unsafety in Jewish Life.” Most recently, Coral wrote and directed a short film, “Wrestling Place,” slated to premiere in 2023. Assistant Directing credits include: *Fefu and her Friends* (Theatre for a New Audience, dir. Lileana Blain-Cruz); *My Heart is in the East* (La MaMa E.T.C, dir. Jen Wineman); *S 16 Luna Nera* (La MaMa E.T.C, Gian Marco Lo Forte). She is part of the SDCF Observership class 2015/16 and 2017/18 and a member of the inaugural Director’s Track at the legendary SITI Company Summer Training Intensive in 2018. BA-Theatre Arts/Directing, Pace University.

SHANI MATOAKA BEKT (she/her) DEVISER is a New York-based actor, dancer, choreographer/movement director (Intimacy Captain Certified), singer, and writer. She received her B.F.A. in Drama from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts and studied in the Meisner, Experimental Theater Wing, and Stonestreet studios. In addition to her film, theater, and vocal training, she has had over 15 years of dance training including ballet, pointe, modern, improvisation, and Williamson Technique. Shani has performed at Radio City Music Hall, Park Avenue Armory, Fortmakers Art Gallery/Studio, The New York International Fringe Festival, The Women in Theater Festival, NJPAC, and Alvin Ailey. Most recently, Shani has trained with the Leimay Ludus ensemble and appeared in the short films “Jenny Joined a Cult” and “Marcy Learns Something New”, in addition to choreographing for the musician Perfume Genius’ music video “Without You”. She just wrapped performing in “Expanding Table: A Pop-Apart Opera” sponsored by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and NYC Cultural Affairs. Off Broadway: *The Lehman Trilogy*, David Byrne’s *Social! The Social Distance Dance Club* (Workshop), Nick Cave’s *The Let Go*

MEGAN MARIKO BOGGS (she/her) DEVISER is a Brooklyn based actor and performer. A 2022 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University’s BFA Music Theatre program, she is new to the New York City Theatre scene. She was most recently involved with Strongbox Theatre in their play festival, Strongbox in the Park and is working with The Hub Collective Co. on their audio drama presentation of *The (musical) Memoirs of a Murder* with music written by Megan Sperger. During her time at Wesleyan she was fortunate to participate in a devised presentation by Maya McGowan exploring the authorship of Asian female characters in film and theatre as well as a workshop production of *The Single Girl’s Guide* by Gordon Greenberg and Tommy Newman, and a musical revue of works by female composers, in which she got to perform an unabridged version of Samsel and Anderson’s “A Whole New Story,” entitled *Who is She?*

MELANNIE VÁSQUEZ LARA (she/her) DEVISER is a Brooklyn based Latina actor, deviser, performance and teaching artist. The majority of her stage work has focused on physical theater, devised ensemble pieces, and new play development. Most recently, she debuted a solo mixed-media performance entitled *Body Poems or Poems Written in Heartbreak* in a performance series installment, *Ouchies Feels Good*. She has worked with WWTNS? on multiple productions, including the most recent workshops and development of *The Chickens Have Come Home to Roost* by Ana Cristina Da Silva. Melannie has performed in plays and festivals throughout New York including *Boo Short Plays Festival*, *The Players Theater*; *Hot! Fest*, *Dixon Place*; *Downtown Urban Arts Fest*, *Arbon's Art Center*; and *Lenfest Center for the Arts (Lordes)*. Melannie is a wonderer, a wanderer, peacemaker, advocate for justice, and a proud daughter of immigrant parents. @mvasq

JACQUELINE SCALETTA (she/her) LIGHTING DESIGN is a lighting designer and theatre maker based in Brooklyn. Credits include: *ONE NIGHT* (Target Margin Theater), *Ashkenazi Seance* (The Brick), *Alcina REVAMPED* (Philadelphia Fringe), *MEDEA/BRITNEY* (HERE Arts), *Bartschland Follies* (McKittrick Hotel), *The Most Oppressed of All* (The Doxsee), *there's a shewolf* (Dixon Place), *The Universe Will Not Save Me* (NYC Fringe). Assistant credits: *P*ssyc*ck Know Nothing* (Target Margin Theater), *An Iliad* (Long Wharf Theater), *Witness* (West End Theater).
jacscalettalighting.com

COSETTE PIN (he/she/they) SOUND & VIDEO DESIGN is an international, multi-disciplinary designer and artist based out of New York City. They have been designing lighting, sound, projections, and sets for theatre and live performance for the past 12 years across Canada, The United States, and the UK. A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada in Production Design and Technical Arts, they are ecstatic for the opportunity to collaborate, experiment, and play with such a wonderful group of generous artists. Recent design credits include *Box 4901* (Timeshare Productions, Lighting Design), *Orestes* (Oxford University Classics, Video Design), *Into the Woods* (Secret Theatre, Set Design), *House of Spirits* (Meyer2Meyer, Lighting Design), *Children of Fire* (Nightwood Theatre, Sound Design), *The Gambler* (Exponential Theatre Festival, Set and Projection Design), *Intermission* (House of Velour, Lighting Design and Projectionist), *Stranger Sings* (Off Broadway, Sound Design). Their work is available at:
cosettepin.com

THALIA ROMINA (she/her) AUDIENCE ADVOCATE is an NYC based actor born and raised in Queens New York. After graduating from the LaGuardia High School Drama Department she studied Theatre (Tisch) and Genetics (CAS) at New York University. Thalia is currently performing as a comedian at clubs all over NYC and is a professional voice over actor, and can be heard in the critically acclaimed podcast series MeetCute. She is very excited to be collaborating with the Neighbors as Creative Advisor on this invigorating new project. @therealthaliaromina

KARINA POPP (she/her) PROJECT MENTOR is a game designer based in New York City. Karina makes games about banality and bodies and labor. Her work has been selected at festivals such as the Independent Games Festival, International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, Come Out and Play, Now Play This, and Fantastic Arcade. She received her MFA in Game Design from the NYU Game Center in 2016.

HERBERT WELCH (he/him) PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER is delighted to be making his New York debut with *What Will the Neighbours Say?* as the Production Stage Manager. Herbert is from Orlando FL and just completed his contract with *A Chorus Line* at the Theatre West End as the Production Stage Manager. Herbert is also a performer. He has appeared in several shows, including *Memphis*, *Anything Goes*, *Bring It On*, *In The Heights*, *Sister Act* and *Mamma Mia*, to name a few! Herbert attended Missouri Valley College for Musical Theatre! Herbert also owns his own production company called Welc Pride Productions, which brings new works to life! He would like to thank his friends & family and team for their love and support! If you would like to follow Herbert's journey, follow him on Instagram @Herbertwelchi

THANK YOU / ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FROM ARTISTS

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ABOUT BRICLAB: PERFORMING ARTS

BRIClab: Performing Arts is a commissioning and residency development program for emerging and established local artists to explore and expand the possibilities of their work in music, dance, theater and multi-disciplinary performance. Free exploration and rigorous commitment to process, with the support of the staff and resources that BRIC offers, are at the heart of the BRIClab program. Artists receive stipends and an exclusive 12-day intensive residency in the multi-purpose Artist Studio with development time, artistic mentoring, and work-in-process performances.

ABOUT BRIC

BRIC is a leading arts and media institution anchored in Downtown Brooklyn whose work spans contemporary visual and performing arts, media, and civic action. For over forty years, BRIC has shaped Brooklyn's cultural and media landscape by presenting and incubating artists, creators, students, and media makers. As a creative catalyst for our community, we ignite learning in people of all ages and centralize diverse voices that take risks and drive culture forward. BRIC is building Brooklyn's creative future.

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