



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



present

# CSP NEW WORKS FEST

**December 8-9, 2023**

**READINGS OF NEW PLAYS**

**Friday 12/8 @ 7pm  
THE MOURNERS by Rivka Rivera**

**Saturday 12/9 @ 2pm  
OPENING NIGHT by Petron B.  
Y? by Frank Robinson  
HELLO COUSIN by Magaly Colimon-  
Christopher**

**Saturday 12/9 @ 6pm  
THE PITFALLS OF EXAGGERATED SWAGGER  
by Cris Eli Blak**

**Location: HB PLAYWRIGHTS THEATRE 124 Bank Street NY, NY 10014**

**For tix & info go to:**

**[www.ConchShellproductions.com](http://www.ConchShellproductions.com)**



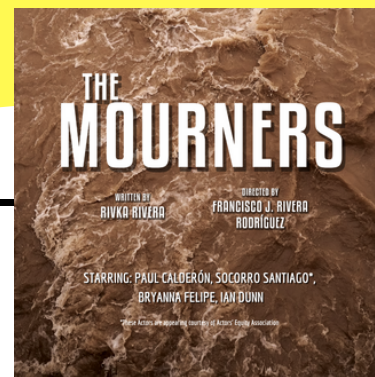
this project is made possible in part by an A.R.T./New York's NYC Small Theatres Fund made possible with support from the Howard Gilman Foundation.



HB Studio's programs are supported in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council, and many generous supporters.

# PROGRAM

Friday, December 8, 2023 @ 7pm



## THE MOURNERS

**Rivka Rivera (playwright/producer)** is a Jew-Yo-Rican actor, playwright, and filmmaker creating work that explores the intersection of grief, capitalism, and human behavior. She is an alum of Carnegie Mellon University and LaGuardia HS. To learn more visit: [www.RivkaRivera.com](http://www.RivkaRivera.com)



**Francisco J. Rivera Rodríguez (director)** (He/They) (El/Elle) is a Puerto-Rican director established in New York City and Puerto Rico. Francisco earned their MFA in Directing at The New School of Drama. Francisco works to create spaces that are intended to invite each

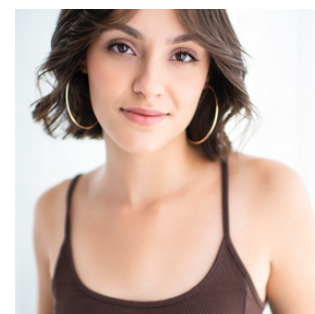
## CAST



**Paul Calderón** ("Hdefonso") Is an actor/writer/director/producer and veteran of stage, film and TV. He is an Obie Award recipient; an Audeleo Award winner and a SAG Award nominee. He is the co-founder of the Labyrinth Theater Company, and co-founder and co-artistic director of The Primitive Grace Theater Ensemble.



**\*Socorro Santiago** ("Carmen") Broadway: Circle in the Square. Films: Netflix: Christmas with You, iGilbert, Widows -Director Steven McQueen TV: What We Do In The Shadows, Alma award for All My Children. (\*Appearing courtesy of Actor's Equity Association)



**Bryanna Marie Felipe** ("Delfina") is a recent graduate of Carnegie Mellon (BFA Acting). Born in the vibrant Miami yet loves living in the sharp NYC scene. She's gritty, loving and a curious soul



**Ian Campbell Dunn** ("Leo") From Nashville, TN. TV: City On A Hill, Emergence, Mrs. America. Theater: Into the Zone, Ferguson, Basement, Balm in Gilead. All my love to my wife Mallorie.

# ABOUT US



At Conch Shell Productions (CSP), our mission is infuse American theatre and film with the diverse new works written by Caribbean diaspora and the Caribbean playwrights and screenwriters. To do so, we create a space for our community of artists to own their narrative by developing, producing, and presenting new plays and films.



# PROGRAM

Saturday, December 9, 2023 @ 2pm

## FILM TRAILER SCREENING

### "Silver Silhouettes"



**JR Roache** (writer/director) is Jamaican and, while he loves writing, studied Engineering Sciences in Ontario and earned his MBA from Edinburgh. "Sweet Rind" is his first film and "Silver Silhouettes" is in post-production.

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## ONE ACT PLAYS



### OPENING NIGHT



**Petron Brown** (writer/producer/actor) is a Bahamian-born playwright, performer, and an arts leader. He is currently pursuing his MFA in Theatre Performance at the University of Southern Mississippi. IG @petron.brown



**Magaly Colimon-Christopher** (director) Directing credits include: her short films ("Yes Madame," "BN4Real," "Her Tory,"), and plays - "Dark Skinned Kid Who Hopped the Turnstile," by Tylie Shider "Till Hell Freezes Over," by Tonya Pinkins, "Between Dog and Wolf" by Cris Eli Blak, "Searching for Abuelo" by Gretchen Suarez-Pena, "On the Thin Crust of Civilization," by Marita Bonner and more.

# PROGRAM

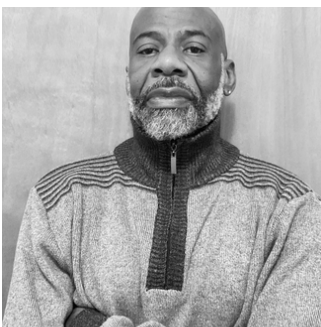
Saturday, December 9, 2023 @ 2pm



**Y?**

**Frank Robinson** (writer/director) is a Trinidadian American writer whose motivation stems from observation, personal experience, and inspiration that address personal development and the human condition. IG @frankrippa8020

## CAST



**Vincent Cheatham** ("Gary") is a formally trained and naturally gifted actor that has the ability to mold himself into the visceral persona of a character.



**J. Singh** ("Sadiq") South Asian via NYC, deeply lost in how culture and society shape human behavior. He gives each role honest representation that makes them human, no matter how unpleasant or unlikable. IG: @mclovin\_o.o



**Michael R Stainback** ("Sgt. Riley") is native New Yorker who currently resides in Queens. He is an amateur playwright, actor/performer. Michael is a retired happily married great-grandfather. IG: @mstainback

# PROGRAM

Saturday, December 9, 2023 @ 2pm



## HELLO COUSIN

**Magaly Colimon-Christopher** (writer/producer)  
Awards: Princess Grace Semi-Finalist (Destination Ooh Aah Yummy), O'Neill NPC Finalist - Silent Truth (2018); The Hunting Season (2021); Access Granted (NYFA QCA New Works Grant).



**Aixa Kendrick** (director) City College of New York Theater Program (1991-1996); Lincoln Center's Directors Lab (2008-2009); Weaves multimedia bridges of cultures, ancestral spirit & soul story using stage, cinema, music/song & movement. IG @AixaKendrick [www.AixaKendrick.com](http://www.AixaKendrick.com)

## CAST



**Magaly Colimon** ("Maryse") is a first-generation Haitian-American actress. Credits include: Grand Army, Law & Order, Guiding Light, Blue Bloods, L&O:SVU, L&O:Criminal Intent..and more.. MFA Geffen School of Drama at Yale. [www.magalycolimon.com](http://www.magalycolimon.com) IG @magaly\_colimon1



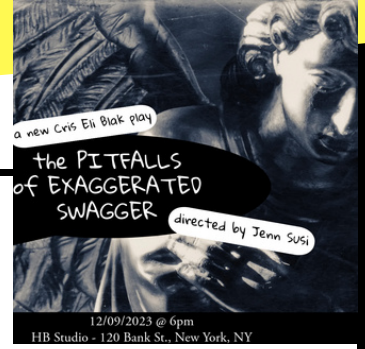
**Candice Jean-Jacques** ("Gabrielle") graduated from Towson University with a B.A. in Theatre and then attended Circle In The Square Theatre School. She thanks Magaly for this heartfelt journey and her acting mentor John Anthony for his wizardry.



**AnTionette Byers-Paredes (Reader)** Afro-Dominicana actress, AnTionette, is thrilled to join Conch Shell Productions for "Hello Cousins". AnTionette's directorial debut was with Cedar Crest College on "Factor", an original piece. In addition to acting, she teaches third grade in the Bronx. IG: @\_antoniasmiles

# PROGRAM

Saturday, December 9, 2023 @ 6pm



## THE PITFALLS OF EXAGGERATED SWAGGER

**Cris Eli Blak** (writer/producer) - his work aims to speak truth to experiences of people of color. He's fortunate to continue writing for loved ones and ancestors, from Jamaica and across the West Indies. IG: @criseliblak



**Jenn Susi** (director) Theatre director and intimacy director. Directed recently published plays: Scar Tissue (Next Stage Press), Discus (Samuel French). Member of Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab. Recipient of Dr. Kenny Encouragement Scholarship, awarded by Broadway producer Ken Davenport.

## CAST



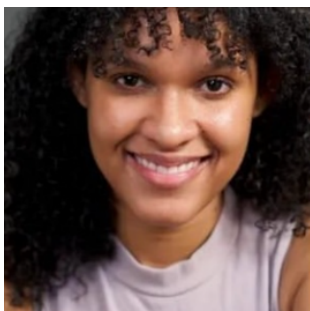
**Greg Seage** ("Anderson") is very excited to be working with familiar faces again (and some new ones!) Past credits: Angel in Jesus Hopped the A Train, Greg in Mangled Beams IG: @gseage



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**Alton Ray** ("Isaak") is a Northern California native who received his training from the SUNY Purchase BFA Acting Conservatory. He was last seen onstage with the Negro Ensemble Company productions of Elevators (@UPenn Live Arts), Mecca is Burning (AUDELCO nominated;



**Alyssa Carter** ("Lala") is excited to share the stories of Cris Eli Blak along with her amazing cast. Love and light to all who remain human in this crazy mixed up world. IG: @asapalycat.



**\*Kara F. Green** ("Cleo") Theatre: 53% Of (Second Stage), The Hard Knock Lyfe (Theatre Row), Torn Asunder (Luna Stage), A Raisin in the Sun (Sharon Playhouse).TV: "Bull." Film: Marry Me. IG: @karagreen [www.KaraGreen.com](http://www.KaraGreen.com) (\*Appearing courtesy of Actor's Equity Association)

# PRODUCTION TEAM

## Q&A MODERATOR/DRAMATURG

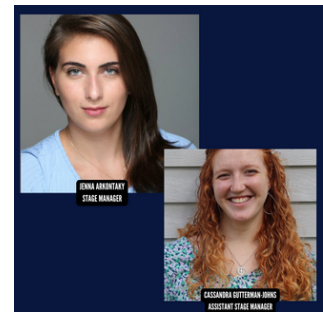
**Jasmeene Francois** is a Haitian-American theatre artist, storyteller, Applied Theatre Practitioner, and dramaturg from Riverside, California. She specializes in facilitating workshops centered around oral storytelling, devising, and creative writing that address home and belonging. IG @MSSCHOLARLADY



## PRODUCTION TEAM

**Jenna Arkontaky** (Stage Manager) is a freelance stage manager based in New York. Theatre Credits include: Steel Pier, State Fair, Something Rotten, I Wanna F\*\*\* like R+J and The Black That I Am. IG: @Xjjennaa

**Cassandra Gutterman-Johns** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Stage Manager from Salem, Oregon. She is a graduate of Oberlin College and is excited to be a part of this new work



## PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER

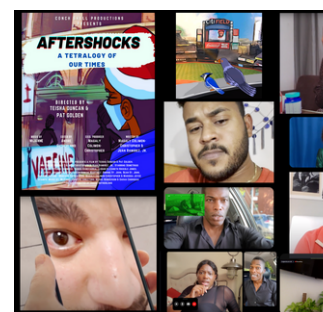
**Horacio Rojas** is a Venezuela born & raised Multi-disciplinary Visual artist whose work goes from Fashion to documentary photography to Filmmaking. Currently based in Queens, NY. [www.Horaciorojas.com](http://www.Horaciorojas.com) IG @Horaciorojasr



## FRONT OF HOUSE CREW :CSP ARTIST COLLECTIVE MEMBERS

**AnJu Hyppolite** is a Haitian-American, award-winning actor, writer, and educator who works at the intersection of theater arts, technology, and social equity. Written in 2020, her short play, Joumou, marks AnJu's playwriting debut.

**Tanya Perez** is an award-winning actress, writer and producer of Puerto Rican descent based in NYC. Her acting resume includes film and television roles in "Orange Is the New Black," "Jessica Jones," "Blue Bloods," "Madam Secretary" and Hal Hartley's Ned Rifle, opposite Parker Posey. Her short, Veronica, won 2018 'Best Actress' at Story Mode Shorts Festival, 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Actress' at Outlanta Con and 'Best Latinx Short' at IndieFest. [www.tanyaperez.nyc](http://www.tanyaperez.nyc)







**Magaly Colimon-Christopher, Artistic Director**

## CONCH SHELL PRODUCTIONS BOARD

Magaly Colimon-Christopher, President,  
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Gretchen Suárez-Peña  
David Yick-Koppel



## OUR PARTNER

CSP New Works Fest is presented in partnership with  
HB Studio.

## OUR FUNDERS

Conch Shell Productions' program is supported in part by the ART/NY Small Theatre Fund made possible with support from the Howard Gilman Foundation.

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## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Our Caribbean ancestors who inspire us to tell our stories, Edith Meeks, Moshe Henderson, Jennifer Dean, Frank Poon, All HB Studio Venue Staff Members, Material for the Arts, ARTNY, Howard Gilman Foundation, Our Amazing Donors and Supporters, Everyone who is attending our first in person two-day event since 2020!

# THANK YOU



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