



**CONCH SHELL  
NEW WORKS READING SERIES**



## **OUR MISSION:**

At Conch Shell Productions, our mission is to develop, workshop and produce new plays and screenplays by writers of Caribbean heritage living in America who have an expanded view of reality. The blowing of the conch signifies purification, unification, victory over suffering...the hearing of the divine word. We believe that art can and should provoke social change. We are interested in new works that - like the blowing of the conch shell - inspire audiences to redefine their reality and to find new ways of thinking when presented with challenges. Our productions create an opportunity for diverse audiences to explore and celebrate the unique ethnic/cultural diversity of the 28 multi-lingual Caribbean cultures that have immigrated to the Americas. Visit our website to learn about our previous productions and festivals, and learn how you can support our mission to infuse a new Caribbean-American voice in the American theater and film industry.

Conch Shell Productions is a Queens, New York-based organization and a member of the Alliance of Residence Theatres/NY.

# FOUNDER

Magaly is a first-generation Haitian-American actress/playwright/director/producer. She writes new works from a viewpoint heavily influenced by the stories her family members shared about the complexities and wonders of Haitian culture and history. She co-founded Conch Shell Productions with her husband Calvin Christopher (a native of St. Thomas, USVI) to support/showcase new works by Caribbean-American artists who have an expanded view of reality and share her passion for innovative story telling.

Magaly's writing credits include SILENT TRUTH (2018 O'Neill NPC Finalist), THE HUNTING SEASON (Winner of OUTSTANDING PLAYWRITING FOR A NEW SCRIPT - Planet Connections Theatre Festival), "Butterscotch and Fudge" (Ah-Ha Moments One-Act Play Festival); DESTINATION: OOOH, AAH, YUMMY (Princess Grace Awards – Semi-finalist); and STRAIGHT TALK AGAINST THE GRAIN (New Perspectives Theatre, PSNBC @ HERE, Haitian Consulate).



**Magaly Colimon-Christopher**

Her directing/writing credits include [BN4REAL](#) (webseries), YES MADAME (Official Selection: Pan African Film Festival, Martha's Vineyard Film Festival, Reel Sisters Film Festival, and HBREC Film Festival) [HER TORY](#) (Semi-Finalist NATIV Caribbean Film Festival and Market). Magaly's acting credits include television shows (Blue Bloods, Law & Order SVU, ER, Sex and the City, Law & Order Criminal Intent, The Closer) national commercials, short films and regional theater productions. Memberships: Actor's Studio Playwright's and Directors Unit; The Actor's Center; SAG/AFTRA; AEA; ART/NY. A native New Yorker, she received a B.A. from Columbia University, an MBA from Binghamton University, and an MFA from Yale School of Drama.

CONCH SHELL PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS



# CONCH SHELL NEW WORKS READING SERIES

WRITTEN BY  
*GET INSPIRED BY STAGED READINGS OF 3 NEW PLAYS  
BY 3 CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN WRITERS*

📍 THE BRUCE MITCHELL ROOM, 520 8TH AVENUE, 3RD FLOOR, N.Y. N.Y. 10018

**October 6 @ 7:30pm**  
**MISFIT, AMERICA: AN AMERICAN  
WESTERN WITH COLOR**  
by Nelson Díaz-Marcano

**Oct 12 @ 4pm**  
**DESTINATION OOOH AAAH YUMMY**  
by Magaly Colimon-Christopher

**Oct 12 @ 7pm**  
**LUCKY**  
by Phanesia Pharel



**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. LIMITED SEATING**



To learn more and to make reservations go to:  
[WWW.CONCSHELLPRODUCTIONS.COM](http://WWW.CONCSHELLPRODUCTIONS.COM)

Conch Shell New Works Reading Series is made possible  
in part by ARTNY Creative Space Grant.

## EVENT FLYER



**2019 CONCH SHELL NEW YORKS READING SERIES PROGRAM**

**We are proud to announce Conch Shell New Works  
Reading Series 2019 selected works by:**

Nelson Diaz-Marcano

Magaly Colimon-Christopher

Phanesia Pharel



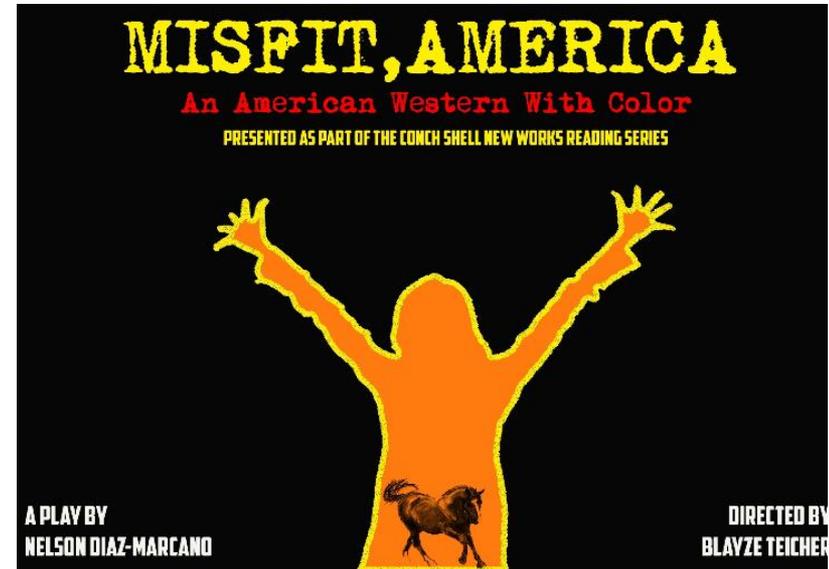
Nelson Diaz-Marcano is a Puerto Rican playwright based in New York City. Nelson's main artistic mission is to raise awareness about the contrasting cultures that form the communities of this nation and in doing so, explore how they all fit together in the American experiment. His plays have been developed by Milagro Theatre, the William Inge Theatre Festival, Wordsmyth, Classical Theatre of Harlem, and The Parsnip Ship among others. His work has received awards from the Samuel French OOB Festival (“Rabiosa”), the Fresh Fruit Festival (The Diplomats, now published by OWP) and the Downtown Urban Arts Festival (Radical.) Other recent credits include: “Paper Towels” (Intar,) “I Saw Jesus in Toa Baja” (William Inge Theatre Festival,) “World Classic” (Ingenio Milagro 2018, The Parsnip Ship,) “Revolt” (World Premiere - Vision Latino Theatre Company,) “El Yunque in English” (Citi Theatre Shorts Finalist,) “Into The River I Went” (Step 1 Theatre Project) and “Prison Song” (Downtown Urban Arts Festival 2013.) [ndmstrikes.com](http://ndmstrikes.com)

## MISFIT, AMERICA - AN AMERICAN WESTERN WITH COLOR

by Nelson Diaz-Marcano

10/06/19 @ 7:30pm

An interracial couple leads a diverse community as they are forced to protect a Native American teen from a brotherhood of supremacists.



**Director: Blayze Teicher**

## DESTINATION OOOH AAAH YUMMY

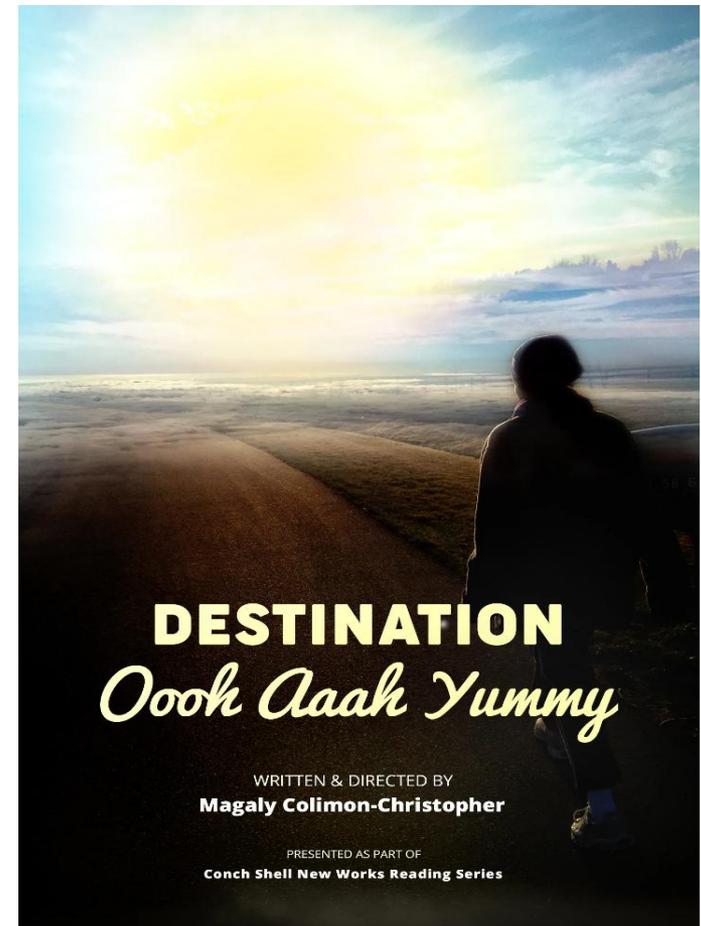
Written and Directed by: by Magaly Colimon-Christopher

10/12/19 @ 4pm

A time bending journey into a young woman's mind as she struggles to figure out her life's purpose.

## TRAILER ON YOUTUBE

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=4&v=WBEg8C337J8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=WBEg8C337J8)





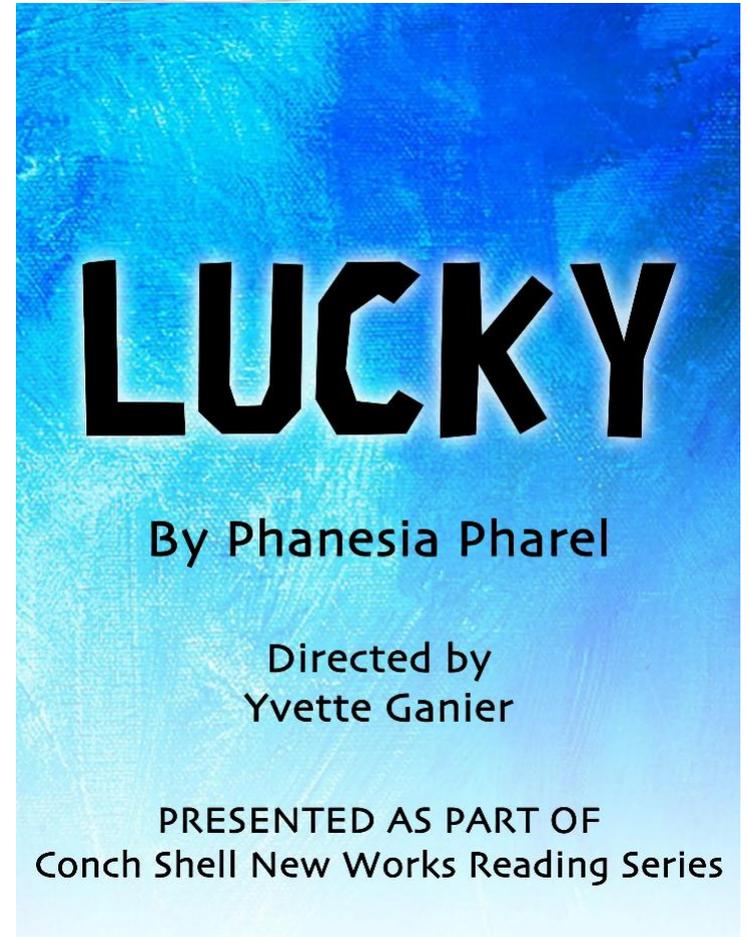
Phanesia Pharel is a playwright, performer, and lyricist. Her work has been performed in Lincoln Nebraska, Miami Florida and Atlanta Georgia and New York City. As a Caribbean American woman-she is interested in how the Black and Latin American diaspora can find the space to address trauma, societal limits and healing through storytelling. Her first monologue "MY KID, MY LIFE" was published in the 2015 City Theatre anthology. Her first play "Penelope" shows a young black woman's journey through the brutality of systemic racism. "Penelope" was selected as one of four in the nation to be workshopped at the International Thespian Festival. It was later published in Dramatics Magazine and with dramatic publisher Samuel French. One of her plays "Shovel Me Away" was produced at Micro Theater Miami, receiving the "Best Of The Best 2016" award. "A ZOO STORY" received honorable mention at the Blank Stage young playwrights festival in Los Angeles. She also has poetry published in various anthologies. She studies and practices Theatre at Barnard College of Columbia University where she recently won the Brandt Playwriting award.

## **LUCKY**

by Phanesia Pharel

10/12/19 @ 7pm

A woman unravels sexual trauma and finds the power of healing through writing.



**Director: Yvette Ganier**

## MODERATED CONVERSATIONS + Q&A (IMMEDIATE FOLLOWING READING)

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October 6th, 2019 - MISFIT  
AMERICA: AN AMERICAN  
WESTERN WITH COLOR



Moderator Karl O'Brian Williams is an award-winning playwright, actor, producer, and teacher. He is the Artist Director of Braata Productions. He is currently Deputy Chair and Theatre Program Coordinator in the Speech, Communication & Theatre Arts Department at BMCC/CUNY.

October 12, 2019 -  
DESTINATION: OOOH AAAH  
YUMMY



Moderator Melody Brooks is the award-winning Artistic Director of New Perspectives Theatre Company, now in its 28th season. She has developed and directed numerous original and classic plays and has been honored for her support of women playwrights over the years.

October 12, 2019 - LUCKY



Moderator Sandra A. Daley Sharif is an Afro-Caribbean artist (OBIE Award-winning producer, playwright, actress, and dramaturg), living in Harlem. She is the Founder and producer of Harlem9 the presenters of 48 Hours in Harlem. She is also Producing Artistic Director of Liberation Theatre Company.

# PRESS

## American Theater Magazine supports HEAR HER CALL

The screenshot shows the American Theatre Magazine website. The main headline is "TCG Celebrates Caribbean American Voices". Below the headline, it says "The 'Hear Her Call' festival will feature plays by Caribbean American women." The article is by American Theatre Editors. The text of the article reads: "NEW YORK CITY: Theatre Communications Group (TCG) has announced its support for the voices of Caribbean American women. Conch Shell Productions, in collaboration with Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center at York College, will present the Hear Her Call festival (March 29) featuring plays by Caribbean American artists." There is a photo of a woman and a quote: "The program is supported by Queens Council on the Arts with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. A post-show Q & A will take place with the participants, and the program will also feature an expo of local businesses owned by women of Caribbean heritage." At the bottom, it says "The festival will include Wendy Arimah's 1st Srs, 2nd Class."

## Caribbean Life News

The screenshot shows the Caribbean Life News website. The main headline is "Production company seeks submissions from Caribbean women writers". The article is by Alexandra Gordon. The text of the article reads: "The program is supported by Queens Council on the Arts with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. A post-show Q & A will take place with the participants, and the program will also feature an expo of local businesses owned by women of Caribbean heritage." There is a photo of a woman and a quote: "The festival will include Wendy Arimah's 1st Srs, 2nd Class."

"NEW YORK CITY: Theatre Communications Group (TCG) has announced its support for the voices of Caribbean American women. Conch Shell Productions, in collaboration with Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center at York College, will present the Hear Her Call festival (March 29) featuring plays by Caribbean American artists."

Thanks to Caribbean Life's support of Conch Shell Productions' first annual "Hear Her Call Caribbean-American Women's Theater Festival" we received submissions from across the America's.

## Carry On Friends Podcast Episode #108



**CARRY ON FRIENDS**  
THE CARIBBEAN AMERICAN PODCAST

Ep. 108 - Hear the call! Caribbean American Voices in American Theater with Magaly Colimon-Christopher



Apple Podcasts Spotify Google Podcasts

[carryonfriends.com](http://carryonfriends.com)

**“We hyphenate our heritage not to separate but to celebrate.”**

Check out a recent podcast interview between Conch Shell Productions' Founder/Artistic Director Magaly Colimon-Christopher and Kerry-Ann Reid-Brown, Founder of [www.CarryonFriends.com](http://www.CarryonFriends.com) **"Caribbean American Voices in American Theater"**

## KLKN-TV



abc 8 KLKN-TV

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**PRESS RELEASE**

### This International Women's Day Conch Shell Productions Announces HEAR HER CALL

The First Annual HEAR HER CALL Caribbean-American Women's Theater Festival Will be Presented by Conch Shell Productions and Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center at York College on March 29th, 2019 Mar. 8, 2019 / PRZen /...

Photo: March 08, 2019, 12:57 PM EST

The First Annual HEAR HER CALL Caribbean-American Women's Theater Festival Will be Presented by Conch Shell Productions and Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center at York College on March 29th, 2019

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HEADLINES

Thanks to Apples & Oranges PR generous support, our press release was featured in ABC 8 - KLKN TV and other local news channels

## Conch Shell Productions Announces the First Annual Conch Shell New Works Reading Series

*3 new plays by 3 Caribbean-American writers.*

New York, NY, September 12, 2019 --(PR.com)-- Conch Shell Production presents Conch Shell New Works Reading Series showcasing stage readings of 3 new plays written by 3 Caribbean-American writers: Magaly Colimon-Christopher, Nelson Diaz-Marcano, and Phanesia Pharel.

The series will take place in The Bruce Mitchell Room – 520 8th Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10018. Show dates/times: October 6th 8pm; October 12th 4pm and 7pm. Q&A will follow each staged reading.

A curated reading series of new plays written by Caribbean-American artists opens on October 6th with Puerto Rican playwright Nelson Diaz-Marcano's "Misfit, America: An American Western With Color" (directed by Blayze Teicher). The play combines the magical realistic influences of Latin American literature with the Western genre popularized in the twentieth century to tell a tale that explores racism, the love that defines non-traditional family structures, and gender nonconformity. Following this reading, a conversation and Q&A will be moderated by Karl O'Brian Williams (Artistic Director of Braata Productions.) On October 12th at 4pm, Haitian-American playwright/director, Magaly Colimon-Christopher (winner of Planet Connections Theater Festival Outstanding Production of a New Play, and Outstanding Playwriting for a New Play awards) presents "Destination: Oooh Aaah Yummy" - which examines the complexities of women's quest for joy and purpose. The post-reading Q&A for "Destination" will be moderated by Melody Brooks (Artistic Director of New Perspectives Theater). Finally, at 7pm Haitian-American Phanesia Pharel's "Lucky" (directed by Obie-winner Yvette Ganier) completes the series with a story of a woman coming to terms with sexual trauma and discovering the power of healing through writing. The evening will close with audience Q&A/discussion moderated by Sandra A. Daley-Sharif (Founder/Producer of Harlem9 and Producing Artistic Director of Liberation Theatre Company).

Conch Shell New Works Readings Series is made possible by the 2020 Cycle 1 ARTNY Creative Space Grant and individual donations. Seats are limited. For reservations and to learn more about the playwrights, go to: <https://conchshellproductions.com/>.

### About Conch Shell Productions

The mission of Conch Shell Productions is to develop and produce new works that inspire social change written by playwrights and screenwriters of Caribbean heritage living in America.

### Media Contacts:

Magaly Colimon-Christopher  
conchshellprod@gmail.com | 917-776-9647



# SPONSORS AND PARTNERSHIPS

This event is made possible in part by a 2020 Cycle 1 ART/NY Creative Space Grant.



Conch Shell Productions is fiscally sponsored by Fractured Atlas. Tax-deductible donations will make it possible for us to continue bringing new plays by Caribbean-American writers to American audiences.



# SOCIAL MEDIA

SITES	LINKS
	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/conchshellproductions/">https://www.instagram.com/conchshellproductions/</a>
	<a href="https://www.pinterest.com/magalycolimon/overview/">https://www.pinterest.com/magalycolimon/overview/</a>
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	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi3kYncALuduPs_h5c9OH1g?view_as=subscriber">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi3kYncALuduPs_h5c9OH1g?view_as=subscriber</a>  PROMO <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kC8HniiKnQQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kC8HniiKnQQ</a>

# CONTACT US

## EVENT INFO

### LOCATION

The Bruce Mitchell Room  
520 8th Avenue,  
3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10018

### DATES/TIMES:

Sunday, October 6th, 2019  
7:30pm

Saturday, October 12th, 2019  
4:00pm & 7:00pm



**For Press/Media inquiries**

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