

BIOS

Marcus Youssef

(writer/performer)

Marcus' plays and performance events include *Ali and Ali & the axes of Evil*, *How Has My Love Affected You?*, *A Line in the Sand*, *Peter Panties*, *Jabber*, and *Adrift*. They have been performed at festivals and theatres across North America, Europe and Australia, and are published by Talonbooks and Playwrights Canada Press. Marcus has been artistic director of Newworld Theatre since 2005, and co-founded the East Vancouver artist-run production centre Progress Lab 1422 in 2009. He sits on the advisory board of the Canadian Theatre Review, and is currently co-chair of the City of Vancouver's Arts and Culture Policy Council. Marcus' work is the recipient of the Rio-Tinto Alcan Performing Arts award, the Chalmers' Canadian Play award, the Seattle Times Footlight award, and numerous local theatre awards in Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto.

James Long (writer/performer)

James founded Theatre Replacement with Maiko Bae Yamamoto in 2003. The company's work has been presented in multiple cities across North America and Europe and includes *Clark and I Somewhere in Connecticut*, *Sexual Practices of the Japanese*, *Train*, *BIOBOXES: Artifacting Human Experience*, *WeeTube*, and *Dress me up in your love* among others. James has taught performance and methods of creation to established artists across Canada and to students at The University of British Columbia, The University of Regina, Simon Fraser University, Studio 58 and

Seattle's Cornish College of the Arts. As a freelance artist he has worked as a director, writer and actor with Rumble Productions, Newworld, urban ink, The Only Animal, Boca Del Lupo, The Chop Theatre, CBC radio and The Electric Company, among others. He is a graduate of SFU's School of Contemporary Arts.

Elia Kirby (technical director)

Elia founded and continues to manage the Great Northern Way Scene Shop and as such has been directly and indirectly involved in many theatre, dance, film and visual art projects, including: *Sweater Lodge* at the 2006 Venice Architectural Biennale, *CODE Live*; *O Zhang* and *Plaza* built for Vancouver Art Gallery's Off Site; Theatre Replacement's *Greatest Cities*, and *Dress me up in your Love* tours and *Sparrows for the Leaky Heaven Circus*. He has an MA in Human Geography from UBC and teaches theatre and production at Capilano University in the new Bachelor of Performing Arts.

Jonathan Ryder (lighting design)

Jonathan completed a BA Honours in Drama in 1989 at the University of Saskatchewan, and has since worked as a technician, technical director, stage manager, production manager, director, performer, producer and lighting designer. In Vancouver, he has designed for Kidd Pivot, Edam Dance, Touchstone Theatre, Carousel TYA, Green Thumb TYA, MovEnt, Mandala Arts, Coriograph Theatre, Shakti Dance, Modern Baroque Opera, Theatre Terrific, the shameless hussies, Judith Marcuse Projects, Newworld Theatre, Theatre Replacement, Studio 58, Solo Collective, Ruby Slippers and The Electric Company. Jonathan is currently

the Production Manager at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, co-artistic director of (r)evolution theatre, and bass player for the band China Repair.

Theatre Replacement is an ongoing collaboration between James Long and Maiko Bae Yamamoto. Whether working together or apart, we use extended processes to create performances from intentionally simple beginnings. Our work is about a genuine attempt to coexist. Conversations, interviews and arguments collide with Yamamoto and Long's aesthetics resulting in theatrical experiences that are authentic, immediate and hopeful.

www.theatrereplacement.org

Newworld Theatre creates, produces, and tours new plays and performance events. We tell stories that are as complicated and contradictory as the enormously small country we live in. Historically, our work is rooted in an experience of ethnic and cultural diversity. While diversity remains a core value, our programming now asks a broader range of questions about political responsibility, identity, and difference. We ask artists and audiences to embrace work which challenges assumptions about the nature of theatre and its function in the world.

www.newworldtheatre.com