



SETYA

DOUBLE-BILL

The Woman Who Outshone the Sun & Shi-shi-etko

October 12 & 13 — 7:30pm

October 14 — 2pm

October 19 & 20 — 7:30pm

October 21 — 2pm

@PHOENIX THEATRE
3800 FINNERTY ROAD, VICTORIA, BC

Box office: (250) 721-8000 / phoenixtheatres.ca



islandparent



Director's Notes

Welcome to the final show in the Staging Equality series! My collaborator, Dr. Sasha Kovacs, and I have had the pleasure of bringing you a number of productions and play readings in the past three years, which include *Journey to Mapu* by Lina de Guevara, *Kamloopa: An Indigenous Matriarch Story* by Kim Senklip Harvey, *im:print* curated and co-produced with the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, and *It's Just Black Hair* by Thembelihle Moyo. We are delighted to be concluding our journey with this double bill. The Staging Equality team and its collaborators felt that a Theatre for Young Audiences show on Indigenous and people of colour themes is fitting to close our series.

The shows you are about to witness today have been put together with care and attention to how they represent the issues our IBPoC communities face. The challenge with doing work like this is learning to bring out the humanity in these stories while also being honest to the harsh realities they depict. How do we engage with issues of genocide, resource extraction, discrimination and cruelty in a way that can be digestible for our audiences, and especially our young audiences? Today's performances will showcase these difficult realities; however, they will be presented to you in a way that embraces and highlights the gentle beauty of our humanity and our interconnectedness.

As a producer, I have been humbled by how many doors opened to me as soon as I described this project and its purpose. This production is featuring the work of senior professional artists who have worked with our students, mentoring and guiding them to learn their craft. The production is also drawing on the creative genius of a number of our recent graduates and I'm grateful they've made the time to commit to this work. As a director, I have been amazed at the generosity of spirit and devotion that our ensemble of student performers has put into this show. In particular, I have enjoyed witnessing the blossoming of our students of colour as they and their ensemble of non-racialized teammates came together to support one another and learn new ways of engaging with theatre for, with, and about communities who are under-represented.

I'm dedicating my work on this production to those students for their bravery, tenacity, and beautiful hearts.

Director's Bio



Yasmine Kandil is an Associate Professor at the Department of Theatre. She teaches Applied Theatre and specializes in Theatre that is celebratory of the histories and narratives of racialized immigrant and refugee communities. Since joining UVic as a faculty member in 2019, Yasmine has committed herself to making space for the work of racialized artists and community partners to shine and flourish on our Phoenix stages. She's had the pleasure of collaborating with many talented Indigenous and artists of colour and holds close to her heart the work she's carrying out now with the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, and in collaboration with Dr. Catherine Costigan, to measure the impact of celebratory theatre on newcomer immigrants' sense of belonging and inclusion in their new Canadian home.

Resources and available support:

First Nations Health Authority: www.fnha.ca

National Indian Residential School 24-hour crisis line: 1-866-925-4419

Indian Residential School Survivors Society: www.irsss.ca | 24-hour crisis line: 1-800-721-0066

The Stories

The Woman Who Outshone the Sun

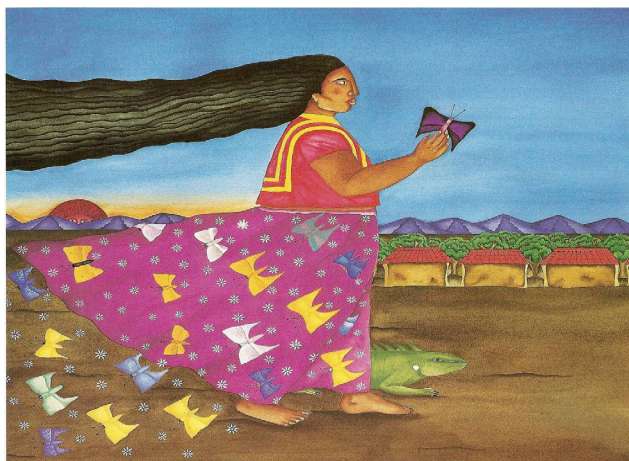
by Rosalma Zubizarreta, Harriet Rohmer, David Schecter
based on a poem by Alejandro Cruz Martinez
story illustrated by Fernando Olivera

A Mexican folk tale that revolves around a mysterious and otherworldly woman who arrives in a small village. Her radiant beauty and powerful presence outshine the sun itself. When Lucia is banished from the village an astonishing phenomenon occurs—the river refuses to part from Lucia.

The legend of Lucia Zenteno unfolds as the entire village embarks on a quest to seek her forgiveness and receive their water back.

Through vivid imagery and lyrical language, it explores themes of judgement, discrimination and the true meaning of forgiveness, woven against the backdrop of nature, land and the precarity of these natural gifts.

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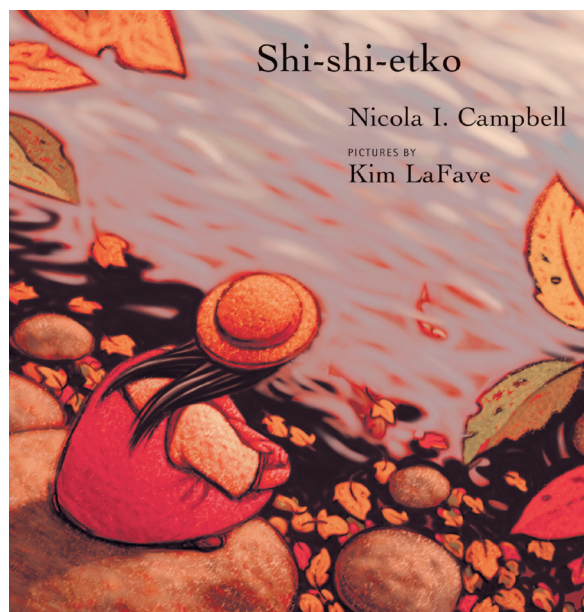


Shi-shi-etko

by Nicola Campbell
story illustrated by Kim LaFave

A heartfelt children's story that traces the journey of a young Indigenous girl as she prepares to leave her family and attend residential school. Shi-shi-etko devotes her final days to her homeland, immersing herself in the beauty and wisdom of the natural world and exploring the Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

The story artfully depicts Shi-shi-etko's profound connection with her culture, surroundings and family. This touching tale navigates themes of love, resilience and the importance of preserving heritage in the face of adversity.



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Creative Team

Director	Yasmine Kandil
Stage Manager	Daniella Snyders-Blok
Movement Director (WWOTS)	Ming Hudson
Choreographer (<i>Shi-shi-etko</i>)	Rayn Cook Thomas
Projection Designer	William Mackwood
Assistant Projection Designer/Videographer	Carson Schmidt
Costume/Props Designer	Parker Feenstra
Assistant Costume/Props Designer	Stevie Welsh
Lighting Designer	Zoey Collins
Sound Designer	Miriam Dumitra
Composer (WWOTS)	John Hutchinson
Cultural Consultant (<i>Shi-shi-etko</i>)	Krystal Cook
Cultural Consultant (<i>Shi-shi-etko</i>)	Karla Point
Cultural Consultant (WWOTS)	Paulina Grainger
Cultural Consultant (WWOTS)	Lina de Guevara
Cultural Consultant (WWOTS)	Rosa Stewart

Cast

Paulina Grainger	Narrator (WWOTS)
Krystal Cook	Narrator (<i>Shi-shi-etko</i>)
Janina Ferrer	Narrator understudy (WWOTS)
Sarai Gomez	Lucia Zenteno
Tesekla Cook-Wille	Voiceover (<i>Shi-shi-etko</i>)
Rosa Stewart	Voiceover (WWOTS)
Daniel Badke	Ensemble
Kiera Byrnes	Ensemble
Kai Glass	Ensemble
Simran Kai	Ensemble
Makayla Madill	Ensemble
Mariah Madill	Ensemble
Alynne Sinnema	Ensemble

Song List

Ailos Journey Track #2	La naissance d'Ailo
Ivy	Luca Longobardi
Back in Time	Borrtex
Surface Waves	Ben Crosland
Rockaway in the Rain	Elijah Fox
Luna Lunera	Cortando Troncos
Intro	Gabriel Olafs
Esperanza	Hermanos Gutierrez

Creative Team



Daniella Snyders-Blok (she/her)

Stage Manager

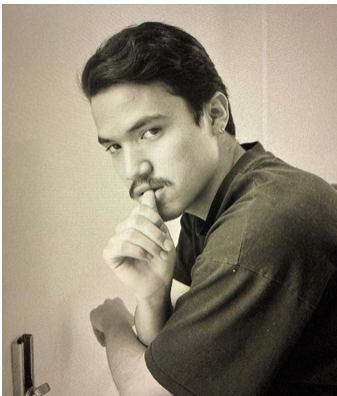
Dani is a third-year production and management-focused student from Calgary, Alberta, working towards a double major in theatre and writing. Selected credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* - Deputy Stage Manager (Phoenix Theatre), The Betty Mitchell Awards- Stage Manager (Calgary Jubilee Auditorium), *Vinegar Tom*- Assistant Costumes Stage Manager (Phoenix Theatre), *Perspective* - Stage Manager, *On Guard* - Assistant Stage Manager (SATCo). She will also be performing in this season's production of *100 Years of Broadway*. When not working in theatre, Dani loves to crochet, write plays, spend time with her cats, and call home. She is thrilled to be working on this project and would like to thank the team, her boyfriend and family for all their support.



Ming Hudson (she/her)

Movement Director, *WWOTS*

Ming is a Vancouver-based artist who pays rent on the lands stolen from the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. She works as a freelance performer, devised theatre creator, collaborative director, independent producer, and teaching artist on the West Coast, nationally, and abroad. Her specializations are in physical theatre and the creation of new work as a collective ensemble. A graduate of the Advanced Devising Practice program at LISPA (now arthaus.berlin), she also holds a MA in Ensemble Theatre (Rose Bruford) and a BFA in Acting (UVic). Ming feels so privileged to be back at The Phoenix, where her journey as a theatre artist began 20 years ago. A heartfelt thanks to Yasmine for her belief and the ensemble for their trust & generosity.



Rayn Cook Thomas (he/they)

Choreographer, *Shi-shi-etko*

Rayn Cook-Thomas (movement74.ca) is an emerging Kwakwaka'wakw artist specializing in contemporary dance and choreography. Rayn was born on Vancouver Island, the homelands of his people (the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuuchahnulth, and Coast Salish), and he is now a graduate of York University's BFA dance performance and choreography program. Rayn's most recent work, *Ancestor 73*, was part of a residency in Victoria, BC, and an early version appeared in the CBA Aboriginal Law Symposium, which featured the honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould; this piece was recently performed in Toronto, ON, and is in the works for further process. Choreography is Rayn's primary focus, but the culture is in Rayn's DNA; his fascination in the magic of his people will be his lifelong journey, in whatever art form calls.



John Hutchinson

Composer

Graduating from the Royal College of Music (London) in 1999, John has built a busy career as a composer, music producer, educator and trumpeter. Based primarily in the UK, he has worked with musicians and ensembles as diverse as the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, English National Opera, Level 42, Jamiroquai, Brand New Heavies, Elton John, Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, Samara Joy, Amy Winehouse, Joss Stone, Bruno Mars along with many other international artists. John's compositions for theatre have been performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre, the Old Vic Theatre, as well as numerous credits in London's 'West End'.

**Parker Feenstra** (she/they)

Costumes/Props Designer

Parker is a graduate of the BFA program at the University of Victoria's Phoenix Theatre in the design faculty. Originally from Calgary, Alberta, she has made a home on the West Coast. She has had work featured in the Prague Quadrennial Canada + Quebec Student Exhibit (2023), World Stage Design Scenofest Common Design Project (2022) and the Prague Quadrennial Common Design Project (2020). Credits for the Phoenix include *Dead Man's Cellphone*-Costume Designer, *The Waste Land*-Associate Set Designer, *Love and Information*-Assistant Costume Designer. Additional: *Classic Country Roads*-Assistant Costume Designer and Wardrobe Assistant (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *When Was the Last Time You Said Hello?*-Production Designer, *Horse Girl*-Set Designer (SATCo). She would like to thank Emily and Jackson for always having a place for her.

**Miriam Dumitra** (they/he)

Sound Designer

Miriam is an emerging multidisciplinary arts practitioner and recent graduate of the University of Victoria's Theatre program. After a summer of acting, blacksmithing, and lighting design in Barkerville, BC, they are excited to return to Victoria to work on SETYA. Their previous design work at the Phoenix includes *The Waste Land* (lighting), *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (sound), and *Love and Information* (sound). Since graduating, Miriam has done technical work at (nearly) every theatre in town while exploring more design opportunities. Selected professional credits include *Light Rapid Transit* (Coffeehouse Theatre, sound) and *Homecoming* (Victoria Inter-Cultural Association, sound). When not working in theatres, Miriam practices their audio mixing skills, writes queer stories, and plays a warforged artificer in their D&D campaign.

**Zoey Collins** (she/they)

Lighting Designer

Zoey is in her fourth year of University of Victoria's theatre design program. Her focus is in lighting design. Her past credits are with *Mojada* as the Assistant Lighting Designer and Lighting Designer and Assistant Stage Manager for *Spring Awakening* at Capilano University. She recently received the 2023 Spirit of the Fringe Award for her work with the Victoria Fringe Festival. Zoey is very interested in Applied Theatre but has never explored the work as much as she has now. She is very grateful for this opportunity to engage with these works to close out her Bachelor's Degree. She hopes you enjoy the hard work the whole creative team has put into this production and hopes you enjoy the show.

**William J Mackwood**

Projection Designer

William J Mackwood is the Co-Artistic Director of the innovative, multi-disciplinary company Out of the Box Productions. Over the last twenty years, alongside Gwenyth Dobie, he has co-created and/or led the design team for productions of *Criminal Waste of Time*, *Opera Erotique*, *The Third Taboo*, *Prior Engagement*, *Sound in Silence*, *Rallentando* and *Bugzzz~ a cautionary tale*. William recently retired from faculty at York University, where he served as Graduate Program Director for the MFA in Dance program, taught Dance Production, Lighting Design for Dance and the Interactive Stage. His research continues to pursue a rigorous investigation of digital-based visual design, with a focus on developing and illuminating 'emerging interactive modalities' for live performance.

The Cast



Krystal Cook (she/her) Narrator, Cultural Consultant *Shi-shi-etko*
Krystal Cook is a Kwakwaka'wakw Vancouver Island-based theatre artist, poet, facilitator of Healing through the Arts, theatre facilitator & Mother from the 'Namgis First Nation. She graduated from the Eno'wkin International School of Writing (UVIC) and CIT's Native Theatre School Program. She has been a creative team member for ICA's *im:print*, SD61 Sacred Circle Theatre Project, RRU Walk with Me Theatre Project and 'From the Heart.' She has performed her one-woman show 'Emergence' at Impact 11, Uno Fest, FemFest, Meli Fest, The Performer in a Multi-Cultural Society Symposium, Pearson College & the North American Indigenous Games. She is a committee member/performer for the 'Staging Equality' Theatre Project (UVIC). She resides with her family with huge heartfelt gratitude in the homelands of the Lekwungen peoples.



Paulina Grainger (she/her) Narrator, Cultural Consultant *WWOTS*
I'm an immigrant. I was born and raised in Tanzania, East Africa. I'm an Arts Administrator, a storyteller, a community builder and organizer, an equity facilitator, and an activist. I strongly believe that all cultures enrich our lives, and it is essential that this diversity is celebrated and reflected in the arts.

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IN THREE ACTS,
BY
OSCAR WILDE.

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Sarai Gomez

Lucia Zenteno, *WWOTS*

Sarai Gomez is from Baja, Mexico and moved to Victoria in 2019. She practices Contemporary Dance at Raino Dance, most recently performing in Earth June Show. She loves to learn new things, particularly exchanging ideas and knowledge with others, and reading biographies about historical figures. She finds inspiration from nature and enjoys spending time with her son.



Janina Ferrer (she/her)

Narrator (understudy), *WWOTS*

Janina is a third-year acting student and she is incredibly grateful to be a part of this production! Her past performance credits include *Spring Awakening* (Phoenix Theatre) and *Matilda The Musical* (Theatre Under the Stars, Vancouver). Thank you for supporting live theatre. Enjoy the show!



Daniel Badke (he/him)

Ensemble

Daniel is passionate about community development and an aspiring drama teacher in the third year of his BA in Applied Theatre. He is delighted to be making his first credited devised performance in SETYA. He previously performed in an uncredited role while assistant stage managing in *Mojada* (2023).



Kiera Byrnes (she/they)

Ensemble

Kiera is a third-year applied theatre student passionate about youth theatre. Their most recent project was directing with Kids in the Spotlight on Gabriola Island. Kiera is thrilled to make her first appearance in Victoria on the Chief Dan George stage. Thank you for supporting Staging Equality!



Kai Glass (she/her)

Ensemble

Kai is a second-year performance major and is overjoyed to be a part of SETYA. *The Woman Who Outshone the Sun* is a storybook very close to her heart as her father used to read it to her as a little girl. Kai's spirit feels very full to have this opportunity to share such touching, Indigenous stories while working with powerful, wise mentors of colour.

The **Cast** *cont.*



Simran Kang (she/they)

Ensemble

Simran is a second-year performance student at the Phoenix Theatre. She is grateful to be a part of this year's Staging Equality Theatre for Young Audiences production as she is a strong advocate for sharing BIPOC stories on stage and could not be more thrilled to help bring *Shi-shi-etko* and *The Woman Who Outshone the Sun* to life.



Mariah Madill

Ensemble

Mariah is honoured to be part of this Applied Theatre production. As a third-year Performance Major at UVic, Mariah is passionate about promoting social justice through theatre and feels grateful to the SETYA team for the opportunity to perform such touching, tender stories through movement, sound, and acting.



Mikayla Madill

Ensemble

Makayla is a third-year Performance student here in the Theatre Department and she feels grateful to be collaborating on the stage with such thoughtful, caring and vibrant artists. SETYA is Makayla's third experience with ICA; her past involvements include *im:print* 2022 and *It's Just Black Hair*.



Alynne Sinema

Ensemble

Alynne is very excited to be in her first SETYA production! Alynne graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Theatre from Acadia University in 2021, and has since moved on to pursue her MA in Applied Theatre at the University of Victoria. She looks forward to finding her new-found theatre community on the West Coast.

Production Team

Stage Management Supervisor*	Peter McGuire
Operations & Production Manager*	Tim O’Gorman
Technical Director*	Simon Farrow
Head of Wardrobe*	Katri Tahvanainen
Properties Coordinator*	Carolyn Choo
Head of Scenic Construction*	Gregory Smith
Audience Services Manager*	Sandra Guerreiro
Audience Services Liaison*	Rose Cory
Production Stage Manager/Photographer	Megan Farrell
Assistant Stage Manager	Margi Stoner
Hair and Makeup Coordinator	Kiera Byrnes
Dresser/Running Crew	Rosa Fairley, Will Hegg
Assistant Technical Director*	James Thurmeier
Student Assistant Technical Directors.....	Carson Loughridge, Theon Winn
Show Electrician	Liam James
Lighting Board Operator.....	Sasha Pisik
Sound and Projection Board Operator.....	Nadia Myroon
Marketing & Communications Manager*	Bernadette McKelvey
Marketing Assistants.....	Emilie Shjarback, Addie Tonn
Front of House Managers.....	Avery Dragon, Grace Fouracre
Box Office Staff.....	Sierra Alexander, Eric Barnes, Grace Fouracre,
.....	Jadyn McGregor, Jenny Robinson,
.....	Brigit Stewart, Zoey Stienstra

And Theatre 105, 205, 305, 405, and work study students | Faculty/Staff*

Props

Medicine Bag by **She Native**. Generously provided by **Krystal Cook**.

Created in Saskatchewan by Indigenous leather crafters.

www.shenative.com

Friends of the Phoenix

The theatre faculty, staff and students would like to thank the following for their support of the Phoenix Theatre's 2023-24 season.

Production Sponsors: *The Importance of Being Earnest*



April 1, 2023- October 4, 2023

\$1000+

Lawyers on Stage

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous-2

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Katrin Horowitz

Audrey Johnson

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Anonymous-4

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Ron Cox

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Darryl Farquhar

Bud & Joanne Henning

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Ellie & Tom Grogan

Ian Hill

Jacaline & Lance Homych

Horst Huelscher

Gwen Isaacs

John Johnston

Amelita Kucher

Elizabeth Langford

Don Lovell

Anne Lynch

Audrey McClellan & Chris Gainor

Jean McClennan

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