

GLAD DAY PRESENTS

NAKED

Heart

An LGBTQ Festival of Words

NOVEMBER 10, 11 & 12 2017

WORKSHOPS • PANELS • READINGS

nakedheart.ca

Financial support for Naked Heart in our third year is absolutely crucial. We want to build a tradition that brings people together from across the North America, that compensates people for sharing their gifts with us, that has a broad marketing outreach and that removes financial barriers so more people can participate. The organizations and people below have made the Festival possible this year. This list includes both financial and significant in-kind donations.

We are deeply indebted to you and we look forward to many years of reciprocity, solidarity and love.

FESTIVAL FAIRY GODPARENT

\$2000 Donation

Glad Day Bookshop

HOTEL SPONSOR

Holiday Inn Toronto Downtown Centre,
30 Carlton Street

MEDIA SPONSOR

Pink Triangle Press, Xtra.ca

FESTIVAL SUPERSTAR

\$1000 Donation

Buddies In Bad Times

FESTIVAL INVESTOR

\$750 Donation

Brad Pyne Design

FESTIVAL CHAMPION

\$500 Donation

Arsenal Pulp Press

Jade Colbert

Lauryn Kronick

Michael Erickson

Pride At Work

YOUTH CATALYST

\$250 Donation

Henderson Brewing Company

Mitchel Raphael

Pluck Tea

Pommies Cider

FESTIVAL ALLY

\$125-\$175 Donation

Cherie Dimaline

Jonathan Valelly

Sean Major

Shaunga Tagore

Sweets From The Earth

FESTIVAL FRIEND

\$75-\$100 Donation

Elizabeth Ruth

Eric Wright

Fan Wu

Francisco Ibanez-Carrasco

Jessica L Webb

Joie Lamar

JP Larocque

Kaleigh Trace

Katie Sly

Kelita

Maureen Hynes

Nathan Burgoine



presented by



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How do we join a community we are not born into?
How do we nurture our desires? How do we turn pain into love?
How do we find each other? How do we build a better future?
The answer for many of us is story.

What's missing in our lesbian, gay, bi, trans, two-spirit
and queer communities?
How do we create space for possibility?
Where do we listen to each other when we don't feel heard?
How do we circulate our own stories outside of industries owned
and controlled by forces that use us for their own gain?
Where can we build relationships and solidarity in the flesh?
The answer for us might be Naked Heart.

You are an important part of this Festival created by Glad Day
Bookshop and our allies. We hope you share our Festival vision
and our goals this year and that we can count on your support in
the coming years. Your presence, your creativity, your openness
and your story is deeply appreciated.

Let's make a little history this weekend.

Michael Erickson
Festival Coordinator, Naked Heart
Co-owner, Glad Day Bookshop

OUR VISION

To establish a yearly Canadian LGBTQ literary festival that
amplifies love, language & freedom.

OUR GOALS

- Strengthen literacies and the literary community of LGBTQ people.
- Create spaces for people to find new work, new opportunities,
new friends and new lovers.
- Increase supports for underrepresented identities, experiences
and forms of language.
- Build bridges between people of different generations and
cultures in the LGBTQ community.
- Use story as a catalyst to resist oppression, explore desire,
increase love & heal trauma for anyone whose gender or sexual
identity doesn't fit society's narrow limits and expectations.

SCHEDULE

At-a-glance

PROGRAM TYPE

P **PANELS:** A panel is a group of speakers who discuss a topic with a moderator and some audience participation.

W **WORKSHOPS:** Our workshops focus on building skills, insight and knowledge. They are often interactive and are led by someone experienced and skilled on their topic.

R **READINGS:** This is your classic literary event – it is a gathering of writers reading brief selections of their writing. There may be time for audience questions at the end.

S **SPECIAL EVENTS:** Social events, keynote talks & book launches.

VENUES

 **GLADDAY BOOKSHOP (GDB)**
499 Church Street

 **BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES (BBT)**
12 Alexander Street

 **56IX2 (562)**
562 Church Street

FRIDAY NOV 18

7:00	
:15	
:30	
:45	BOOK LAUNCH
8:00	Conform, Fail, Repeat:
:15	How Power Distorts
:30	Collective Action
:45	GDB  
9:00	Naked Boys Reading
:15	
:30	
:45	
10:00	GDB 
:15	
:30	
- LATE	Naked Heart Festival Dance Party GDB 

SATURDAY NOV 11

11:00		Queer Indie Comics: Do It Yourself!	Playwriting & Dramaturgy for Emerging Writers
:15			
:30			
:45			
12:00		562 W	BBT W
:15			
:30	Anatomy of Intersectionality	Marrow & Memory: Indigenous Writers	In Suburbia
:45			
1:00			
:15			
:30			
:45	GDB W	562 P	BBT R
2:00			
:15			
:30	Blood, Guts & Gore	Confessional Poetry 101: Writing Against Erasure	South Asian Writers
:45			
3:00			
:15			
:30			
:45	GDB R	562 W	BBT P
4:00			
:15	Queer Futures: Writing Possibility	Public Readings For Authors	How To Give Feedback That Matters
:30			
:45			
5:00			
:15			
:30			
:45	GDB W	562 W	BBT P
6:00			
:15			
:30	How To Be Your Own Editor	Building Family – In Writing And In Life	Seizing/Dismantling Gender/Genre
:45			
7:00			
:15			
:30			
:45			
8:00			
:15			
:30			
:45			
9:00		First Person, Imperfect Tense	Bricolage
:15			
:30			
:45			
10:00		562 R	BBT R
:15			
:30	Grit Lit		
:45			
11:00			
:15			
:30			
:45	GDB R		

SUNDAY NOV 12

10:30		A Poetic Waltz	When Grief Is In The Cards
:45			
11:00			
:15			
:30			
:45		562 R	BBT W
12:00	DRAG BRUNCH WITH ERIN BROCKOBIC	Shadow Writing	Corazón Desnudo – A Latinx Writers Panel
:15			
:30			
:45			
1:00			
:15	GDB S	562 W	BBT P
:30			
:45			
2:00	Messaging For Social Change	Feelings	Rebirth of the Author: Purpose and Process
:15			
:30			
:45			
3:00			
:15	GDB W	562 W	BBT P
:30			
:45			
4:00	Transforming The Queer Experience Into Comics	That Awkward Moment When....	I Am Not Your Hero
:15			
:30			
:45			
5:00			
:15		GDB W	562 R
:30			BBT P
:45			
6:00	My Hand Is A Red Brick	Building Worlds, Across Genres	Not To Be Upstaged
:15			
:30		GDB W	562 P
:45			BBT R
7:00	Racialized Is A Verb		Sticky Pages
:15			
:30			
:45			
8:00			
:15		GDB R	BBT R
:30			
:45			
9:00	Blazing Femme		
:15			
:30			
:45			
10:00			
:15			
:30		GDB R	
:45			

AUTHOR

Bios



AHMAD DANNY RAMADAN Ahmad Danny Ramadan is an author, storyteller and award-winning LGBTQ refugee activist. Born in Syria, he now calls Canada home. His debut novel, *The Clothesline Swing*, was published in May 2017 to rave reviews. He was grand marshal for the Vancouver Pride Festival 2016.



ALOK VAID-MENON Alok Vaid-Menon (they/them) is a gender non-conforming performance artist, writer, educator, and entertainer. Alok was recently the youngest recipient of the prestigious Live Works Performance Act Award granted to ten performance artists across the world. They have been featured on HBO, MTV, *The Guardian*, *National Geographic*, *The New York Times*, and *The New Yorker* and have presented their work at 300 venues in more than 30 countries.



AMBER DAWN Amber Dawn is a writer living on unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations (Vancouver). She is the author of *Sub Rosa*, *How Poetry Saved My Life* and *where the words end and my body begins*. She currently teaches creative writing at UBC and mentors at community-driven spaces in the Downtown Eastside.



ANIL KAMAL Anil Kamal won the inaugural Magee TV Diverse Screenwriters Mentorship Award. His TV series concept, *Saffron*, about a lawyer turned drag queen, is currently seeking production. His short story, "Caged," features in the anthology *Fashionably Late: Gay, Bi & Trans Men Who Came Out Later in Life*. He holds an MFA in Creative Writing from UBC.



ARIELLE TWIST Arielle Twist is a Cree, Two Spirit, trans femme powerhouse who spends her time writing in the salty city of Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is a sex educator and poet who focuses her writing on indigeneity, trans-ness, relationships and sex.



AUDREY DWYER Audrey's play *Calpurnia* had readings at Obsidian Theatre, where she was the Playwright in Residence, Black Theatre Workshop and The Groundswell Festival (2014). *Calpurnia* is being co-produced by Sulong Theatre and Nightwood Theatre in January 2018 at Buddies. Awards: Cayle Chernin Award and two Dora Awards. National Theatre School Graduate.



BILLEH NICKERSON Billeh Nickerson's five books include *Artificial Cherry*, which was nominated for the 2014 City of Vancouver Book Award. He is also a silver medalist at the Canadian Gay Curling Championships, and the co-editor of *Seminal: Canada's Gay Male Poets*. He's permanent faculty at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Surrey, BC.



CARLY BOYCE is a 33 year old white genderqueer femme. She is a witch-for-hire and freelance workshop facilitator in Toronto, mostly working on community building, body autonomy, intersectionality, queer sexual health, trauma survivorship, and keeping people alive. They write an advice column for *GUTS* magazine, a fashion column for *Twist Collective*, and have several in progress zines. Find out more at tinylantern.tarot.com.

CAROL ROSENFELD Carol Rosenfeld is a New York City-based author and poet. Her first novel, *The One That Got Away*, was published by Bywater Books in June 2015. She is currently working on her second novel, *Table for One*. Carol is the chair of The Publishing Triangle: publishingtriangle.org.



CASEY DRAA Casey is an activist and artist based out of Toronto. His latest project is “Champ”: an independent, gritty, queer graphic novel series of which he’s the creator/writer. When not busy creating, engaging or advocating, he’s most likely asleep.



CASEY PLETT won the Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Fiction at the 27th Lambda Literary Awards in 2015 for her debut short story collection *A Safe Girl to Love*, and an Honour of Distinction from the Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT writers in Canada. Casey previously wrote a regular column for *McSweeney’s Internet Tendency*, and has published work in *Rookie*, *Plenitude*, *The Walrus*, and *Two Serious Ladies*. @caseyplett



CATHERINE HERNANDEZ Catherine Hernandez is a playwright, Artistic Director of b current performing arts and an award-winning novelist. She is the author of the children’s book *M is for Mustache*, plays *Kilt Pins* and *Singkil* and the novel *Scarborough*, which was shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award. She is currently working on several new writing projects.



CHERIE DIMALINE is an author and editor from the Georgian Bay Métis community. Her first book, *Red Rooms*, won Fiction Book of the Year in 2007 from the Anskohk Aboriginal Book Awards, and her novel, *The Girl Who Grew a Galaxy*, was shortlisted for the 2014 Burt Award. Cherie recently won the Kirkus Prize for her YA novel *The Marrow Thieves*. Nov. 1, Cherie also took home the Governor General’s Literary Award for young people’s literature. Cherie coordinates the annual Indigenous Writers’ Gathering.





CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON Bestselling author, former rent boy and one-time rodeo clown, Christopher Gudgeon's contributed to a shit-ton of magazines (Playboy, MAD, National Lampoon, The Advocate) and published 20 books including the Lampert-nominated *Assdeep in Wonder* (poetry) and critically-acclaimed *Encyclopedia of Lies* (short stories). He also helps run *It Gets Better Canada*.



CHRISTOPHER SAMUEL Christopher Samuel holds a PhD in Political Studies and is a research consultant in Toronto with special interest in labour, social movement politics and identity.



CLEMENTINE MORRIGAN is a writer, artist, and working witch. She writes the zine *Fucking Magic*. Their first book, *Rupture*, was published in 2012. Her second collection of poetry, *The Size of a Bird*, was published in 2017. Their creative writing has appeared in the literary journals *Prose & Lore* and *Soliloquies*, and her scholarly writing has appeared in the academic journals *Somatechnics*, *The Canadian Journal of Disability Studies*, and *Knots*.



DAVID DEMCHUK David Demchuk has been writing for stage, print and other media for more than 30 years. *The Bone Mother* is his first novel, and is the first book in the horror genre to be nominated for the Scotiabank Giller prize.



DERRICK CHOW Derrick Chow is a writer and illustrator. His work has appeared in many publications, including the *Toronto Star*, *Briarpatch Magazine*, *Halifax Magazine*, and the *Literary Review of Canada*. His story "Break & Enter" is available now in the comic anthology *Toronto Comics: Yonge At Heart*. See his work at derrickchow.ca

ELI TAREQ LYNCH is a poet working in Montreal. They have been published in THEM, The Puritan, the Shade Journal, in Frog Hollow Press's City Series: Montreal chapbook and elsewhere. They co-organized the Off the Page 2016 literary festival and participated in the Centering Ourselves residency at the Banff Centre. Twitter: @theonlylilylynch



FAN WU Fan Wu is a devoted dilettante and a student of Comparative Literature and Cinema Studies at the University of Toronto. He is liable to have a crush on at least one person in any given room, and his first chapbook of translations, Hoarfrost & Solace, was published in July 2016. He runs a series of close workshops on theory and poetics through various art galleries in Toronto.



FARZANA DOCTOR Farzana Doctor is a Toronto-based author of three novels: Stealing Nasreen, Six Metres of Pavement (winner: 2012 Lambda Literary Awards, One Book One Brampton 2017; shortlisted: Toronto Book Award) and All Inclusive, which was a Kobo 2015 and National Post Best Book of the Year. She curates the Brockton Writers Series. farzanadoctor.com



FAYE CHISHOLM GUENTHER Faye Chisholm Guenther is a Toronto-based writer. Her short fiction has been published in Joyland, Plenitude and This Magazine. Her chapbook, Flood Lands, was published by Junction Books in 2017. She has a PhD in English from York University and is Professor of English and Literary Studies at Sheridan College.

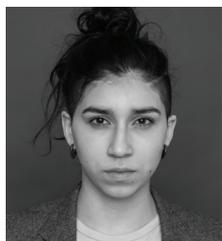


GWENDOLYWN BENAWAY is of Anishinaabe and Métis descent. Her first collection of poetry, Ceremonies for the Dead, was published in 2013 and her second collection of poetry, Passage, was published in Fall 2016. As emerging Two-Spirited Trans poet, she has been described as the spiritual love child of Tomson Highway and Anne Sexton. In 2015, she received the inaugural Speaker's Award for a Young Author and in 2016 received a Dayne Ogilvie Honour of Distinction for Emerging Queer Authors.





HANNAH HARRIS-SUTRO Hannah Harris-Sutro is a white leatherfemme who lives & makes family as a settler in tió'tia:ke on traditional kanién'kehá:ka territory. A mad monster girl, she has found that connection to lineage and trust in the body's infinite creativity are essential to her writing practice. She also writes as Hermia Swann.



HEATH SALAZAR Heath V. Salazar is a latinx Dora Award-winning writer/actor/singer/dancer. In April 2017, they completed a residency in Spoken Word at the Banff Centre for the Arts and Creativity and most recently has been selected to join the Emerging Creators Unit at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.



JES SACHSE jes sachse is a Toronto-based artist, writer and curator. Marrying poetry with large-scale sculptural forms, their work addresses the negotiations of bodies moving in public/private space and the work of their care. Their work appears in Canadian Art, C Magazine, Now, The Peak, CV2, Mobilizing Metaphor and the 40th-anniversary edition of Our Bodies, Ourselves.



JESSICA L. WEBB Jessica L. Webb is the author of the Dr. Kate Morrison thriller series, including the Goldie Award-winning Trigger and the Lambda Literary Award-winning Pathogen. She's happiest spending time with her wife and daughter, writing lesbian mysteries, drinking tea and thinking she's hilarious on social media.

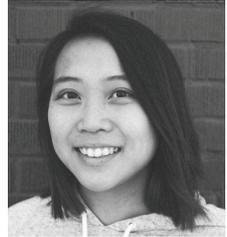


JIA QING WILSON-YANG jia qing wilson-yang is a transsexual writer living in Tkaronto, on dish with one spoon territory. Her writing can be found, now and in the near future, in carte blanche, Poetry Is Dead, Room Magazine and Ricepaper Magazine. Her novel, Small Beauty, won the 2016 Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Fiction.

JIN HARITAWORN Jin has authored numerous academic publications, including monographs, edited collections, and essays (including in *GLQ* and *Society&Space*), as well as a few non/fiction pieces, most recently as a *Diaspora Dialogues* mentee. They are currently working on the comic series *Adventures of a Trans of Colour Professor*.



JODY CHAN Jody Chan is a writer and organizer based in Toronto. Her writing explores themes of family, queerness and mental illness, and has been published in *Ascend*, the *Minola Review* and *Ricepaper Magazine*.



JOIE LAMAR Joie Lamar is the bestselling Puerto Rican lesbian author of the two-volume memoir *Mambo Lips and Salsa Hips* and the poetry book *Sapphoetry*. Joie's first novel, as well as her coffee table book dedicated to the Orlando Pulse massacre victims, are both due out in 2017. She is working on a feature film titled *Las Alas*, based on her memoirs.



JP LAROCQUE JP Larocque is writer, director and producer of the OUTtv digital series *GAY NERDS*, as well as the shorts *Neutered* (2015) and *Where We Were* (2017). When he's not toiling away on scripts, he is also a development producer in reality television and on the MTV/Logo series *1 Girl 5 Gays*.



KAI CHENG THOM Kai Cheng Thom is a writer, performer, social worker, lasagna lover and wicked witch who divides her heart between Toronto and Montreal. Author of *Fierce Femmes* and *Notorious Liars*, a placed called *No Homeland* and *From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea*, she was the 2017 recipient of the Dayne Ogilvie Prize for Emerging LGBT Writers.





KAMA LA MACKEREL Kama La Mackerel is a tio'tia:ke/ Montreal-based performer, poet, story-teller, community-arts facilitator and multi-disciplinary artist whose work explores aesthetic practices as forms of resilience, resistance and healing for marginalized communities. She is a femme supreme who was born in Mauritius and is haunted by the ocean.



KAMALA GOPALAKRISHNAN Kamala Gopalakrishnan is a queer, first-generation American poet and educator based in Colorado. Since earning her MFA in poetry from the University of Pittsburgh in 2016, she aims to self-publish her first book of poems, *Public Fruit*, in the next few months and establish radical community workshops on zine making and creative writing.



KARIM LADAK Karim Ladak has lived many lives and transformed many more. Having lived in 10 countries and travelled to 160, he has resurrected his life as a traveller with a passion for learning and writing about the world. He has helped build businesses and global LGBT networks. His debut book is *The Cosmopolitan Nomad: A Globetrotter's Story*.



KRISTEN RINGMAN Kristen Ringman is a deaf writer, wanderer and artist. Her multicultural, lyrical fiction plays along the boundaries of magical realism, fantasy and horror. She is the author of *I Stole You: Stories from the Fae*, *Makara: a novel* (Lambda Literary Award finalist), and the editor of *Everyday Haiku: an anthology*.



KRISTYN DUNNION Kristyn Dunnion's new dystopic novel *Tarry This Night* made CBC's top 20 fall fiction list. The *Dirt Chronicles* (also Arsenal Pulp Press) was a 2012 Lambda Literary Award finalist and ALA Over the Rainbow selection. Dunnion is the 2015 Machigonne Fiction prize-winner and a Pushcart Prize nominee.

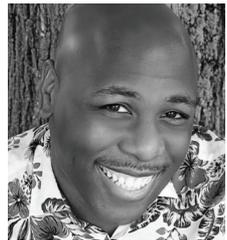
MARGO MACDONALD Margo MacDonald is a multi-award winning playwright and performer. Her first play, *Shadows*, (about lesbian theatre maverick Eva Le Gallienne) played in Toronto at Videofag in 2014. Her first solo show, *The Elephant Girls*, premiered in 2015 and has since been touring nationally and internationally @margo_thespian parryiposte.ca



MARY BREEN Mary Fairhurst Breen is pursuing writing after 30 years in the not-for-profit sector. Two of her stories appeared this fall in TROU Magazine. She is at work on a book of memoir/social commentary. As a lesbian over 50, she is experiencing both the freedom and frustration of being unnoticeable.



MATHIS BAILEY Mathis Bailey is an American-Canadian author and a food enthusiast. He writes about sexuality, self-identity and multiculturalism. He has a degree in Journalism from Seneca@York University. His debut novel is called *Confused Spice*. He currently lives in Toronto. mathisbailey.com



MEGAN MILKS is a fiction writer, cultural critic, and scholar. Named one of Dazed Digital's "LGBT Writers to Watch" in 2016, they are currently fiction editor at *The Account* and a contributing editor at *Entropy*, where they edit the *Name Tags* series on issues related to names and naming. Their first collection of short fiction, *Kill Marguerite and Other Stories* won the 2015 *Devil's Kitchen Award in Fiction* and was named a *Lambda Literary* finalist.



MERYN CADELL Meryn Cadell is a writer and erstwhile performer. As a woman, he produced several albums of music, and was a well-known presence on radio and television. Musically, his biggest hit was 1991's "The Sweater", which was played widely all over North America. He was frequently heard as a cultural commentator on CBC Radio. Born in New York, Cadell spent a decade as a Creative Writing professor at UBC and is now based in Toronto.





MICHAEL V. SMITH Michael V. Smith is a writer and performer teaching Creative Writing in the interdisciplinary program of the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies at UBC's Okanagan campus. Smith's novel, *Cumberland* was nominated for the Amazon/Books in Canada First Novel Award. His most recent novel, *Progress*, was published spring 2011 and his memoir, *My Body Is Yours*, was out in 2015.



MICHAELA WASHBURN Michaela Washburn is a proud Métis artist of English, Irish, French and Cree descent. She has performed internationally at festivals and theatres in Wales, Aruba and across Canada and the United States, and is delighted to be participating in this year's *Naked Heart*.



MIKE MIKSCHÉ Mike Miksche's work has appeared in *Instinct*, *The Gay and Lesbian Review Worldwide*, and *The Blue Lyra Review*. He is a regular contributor to *OurAgenda.ca* for the Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance, and is the writer of "Hole and Corner", a weekly column for *DailyXtra.com*, which explores the profound connections forged through BDSM and public sex. His first novel, *Paris Demands*, was released in 2015.



MONA MOUSA Mona Mousa is a spoken word poet and motivational speaker living in Toronto. She has toured actively over the course of her 10-year poetry career, last year alone booking over 200 shows all over North America. She is the founder and director of *Feather & Anchor*, a talent management agency serving performance artists from the BIPOC & LGBT Communities, Mona is also curating a festival for poets of colour called *Meli-Nation*.



MONICA GARRIDO Monica Garrido is a Mexican queer artist. Her first solo show, *The Cunning Linguist*, was created as a part of the Emerging Creator Unit at *Buddies in Bad Times Theatre* and made its return to the *Caminos Festival* this October. She has had the privilege to work with companies such as *Aluna Theatre* and *Bad Dog Theatre Company*.

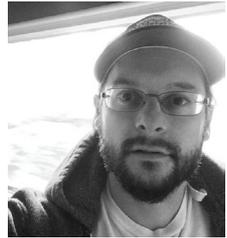
NAIRNE HOLTZ Nairne Holtz is a librarian, novelist, queer cultural impresario and erstwhile pornographer. Her new novel, *Femme Confidential* (*Insomniac*, 2017), has just been released. For more about her projects, see femmeconfidential.com



NATALIE WEE Natalie Wee is the author of *Our Bodies & Other Fine Machines* (Words Dance Publishing, 2016). Her work has been published or is forthcoming in *The Adroit Journal*, *Drunken Boat*, *PRISM International*, *Maisonneuve* and more. She has been nominated for the Best of the Net anthology and a Pushcart Prize. natalieweewrites.com



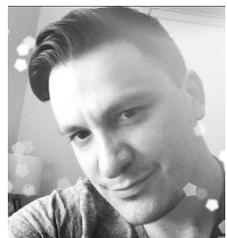
NATHAN ADLER Nathan Adler is the author of *Wrist*, an Indigenous monster story written from the monster's perspective (Kegedonce Press). He is a niizh-manitoowag writer and artist who works in many different mediums. He is Anishinaabe, Jewish and a member of Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation.



NINA NESSETH is a professional science communicator whose background is rooted in biomedical sciences and science communication, with special interest in human biology. She has written for *The Mary Sue*, dissecting the science in popular film and TV. She is a staff scientist at Science North in Sudbury, Ontario. Nina's debut, *The Science of Orphan Black: The Official Companion*, co-written with Casey Griffin, was published by ECW Press in August.



OMAR RAMIREZ Omar Ramirez is a Mexican-Canadian storyteller. He graduated from Toronto Film School and he is a member of Grupo Teatro Libre, a Latin-American troupe dedicated to promoting Latin-American content in its original language. He writes his own blog, *Tales from a broken brain*, where he publishes genre short stories.





PETER DUBÉ Peter Dubé is the author of the novels *Hovering World* and *The City's Gates*, the novella *Subtle Bodies*, a finalist for the Shirley Jackson Award, and *Conjure*, a collection of prose poems shortlisted for the A. M. Klein Prize. His most recent work is *Beginning with the Mirror*.



PIERRE-LUC LANDRY Pierre-Luc Landry is an author, editor, professor and publisher. He has a PhD in creative writing from Université Laval and is a faculty member in the Department of French Language, Literature, and Culture at the Royal Military College of Canada. He is editor of the *Queer* series with *Triptyque* in Montréal. *Listening for Jupiter* is Landry's second novel and his first translated into English.



POET ON WATCH Poet On Watch is a southern-rooted performance poet, screenwriter and multimedia artist. She has worked with theater companies, universities, cultural organizations, social institutions and individual artists across North America, North Africa and Europe. Contributing editor of *G.R.I.T.S.: Girls Raised in the South*, her most recent work is *Love In The Midst of Climate Change Poems*.



QUEEN SHEBA Born in Detroit, MI, now living in Atlanta, GA, Queen Sheba is the co-founder of the production and organization *Poetry vs. Hip-Hop*, and a national and international slam champion many times over. With two books, *From Foster Care to Fame* and *Run Ugly!* and a Master's degree in Poetry from Queen's University, Sheba has been featured on *Verses and Flow*, *Spoken*, and a featured poet on BET's *Lyric Café*, and in the feature film *Spit*. Sheba has six albums, two nominated for a Grammy in *Spoken Word*.



SABAH HAQUE [সাবা হক, قح حابص] Sabah Haque (সাবা হক, قح حابص) is a graduate of York University, specializing in devised theatre and playwriting. She has worked with several arts organizations and is Co-Program Director of Little Black Afro's Emerging Artist Project 2017. A first-generation Canadian with roots in Bangladesh, Sabah aims to connect diverse stories to the world through a decolonized, collaborative arts practice.

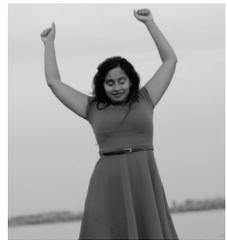
SANCHARI SUR Sanchari Sur is a feminist/anti-racist/sex-positive/genderqueer Canadian who was born in Calcutta, India. Her work has been published in Jaggery, The Feminist Wire, Matrix Magazine, The Unpublished City anthology (BookThug, 2017), and is forthcoming in Arc Poetry Magazine. She is a doctoral candidate in English at Wilfrid Laurier University.



SASHA TATE-HOWARTH Sasha Tate-Howarth is a queer, white, Jewish poet, editor and stage manager living and working as a settler in Tkaronto, Treaty 13 Territory. She has been published in CV2 and has edited for alt.theatre: cultural diversity and the stage, Out of Place Magazine and Spectra Journal.



SHAUNGA TAGORE Shaunga Tagore is a playwright, poet, performer, producer and astrologer in Tkaronto. Her work is often about survivorship, mental health, intergenerational storytelling, time-travel, trauma, magic, death and rebirth. Her play, Letters to the Universe (a brown femme super-queero's magical life story), was presented at The Theatre Centre in September.



SIMONE MAKEBA DALTON Simone Makeba Dalton lives in Toronto, where she's pursuing a Creative Writing MFA at the University of Guelph. Her work appears in The Unpublished City (BookThug), a mini anthology featuring 18 of Toronto's emerging voices curated by Dionne Brand for IFOA/Toronto Lit Up. Simone was born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago.



SKY GILBERT Sky Gilbert is an award-winning and critically acclaimed poet, novelist, playwright, filmmaker, theatre director and drag queen extraordinaire. He has had more than 40 plays produced and written seven novels. His latest is Sad Old Faggot. He is presently working on a book of essays, as well as a play about John Cage to be performed at the Theatre Centre in March.





STEVEN SANCHEZ Steven Sanchez is the author of *Phantom Tongue* (Sundress Publications, 2018), selected by Mark Doty as the winner of the Rochelle Ratner Memorial Award. A recipient of fellowships from CantoMundo and the Lambda Literary Foundation, his poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Muzzle*, *Poet Lore*, *Nimrod*, and other journals.



TARA ATLURI Tara Atluri has a PhD in Sociology and is the author of two books. *Azadi: Sexual Politics and Postcolonial Worlds* (Demeter Press, 2016) discusses sexual politics in India, and *Uncommitted Crimes: The Defiance of the Artistic Imagi/nation* (Inanna Publications) focuses on political art and will be released in November 2017.



TARA-MICHELLE ZINIUK Tara-Michelle Ziniuk is the author of three books of poetry, most recently *Whatever, Iceberg* (Mansfield Press, 2017). Her work has been featured in magazines, newspapers, anthologies, literary journals and online. She likes warm weather, coffee and low-pain days, ideally together. She lives in Toronto with her daughter. Twitter: @therealrealtmz



TERENCE A. GO Terence A. Go is a first-gen Indonesian-Canadian spoken-word artist who has read at venues across the city, including Brockton Writers Series, *Naked Heart*, *Poetic Justice* (part of Glad Day's Proud Voices series) and *Fleurus 2*. His has released several collections, *UNgh* among them. He has facilitated *OUTwrites* (OUTwrites.org) since 2003.



TIM MCCASKELL From 1974 to 1986 Tim McCaskell was a member of the collective that ran *The Body Politic*, Canada's iconic gay liberation journal. He was a founding member of *AIDS ACTION NOW!*, and a spokesperson for *Queers Against Israeli Apartheid*.

TOM CHO Tom Cho is the author of the fiction collection *Look Who's Morphing*, originally published in his birth country of Australia and later released by Arsenal Pulp Press for North America. Tom has many stories published in literary journals and is writing a novel on the meaning of life. tomcho.com



TRISH SALAH Born in Halifax, Trish is the author of *Wanting in Arabic* and *Lyric Sexology Vol. 1* and co-editor of special issues of *Canadian Review of American Studies* 35.2 and *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly* 1.4. The 2013 edition of *Wanting in Arabic* won the Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Fiction. She organized the conferences *Writing Trans Genres: Emergent Literatures and Criticism* and *Decolonizing and Decriminalizing Trans Genres*. Trish is an assistant professor of Gender Studies at Queen's University.



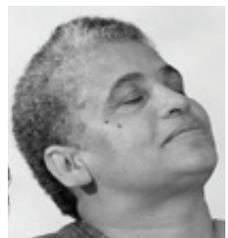
TROY JACKSON Troy Jackson is a Toronto-based, Nova Scotian raised Afro-Métis performer, writer, interviewer and host. Jackson is a co-owner of Glad Day Bookshop, co-founder of *Butch Dandies*, a ethical fashion and accessories label with husband El-Farouk Khaki, and co-founder of the El-Tawhid Juma Circle, a gender equal, LGBTQ2SI affirming Islamic mosque.



YES! yes, or estefania, is a radical queer migrant based in the Tkaronto area. They believe in the destruction of the heteropatriarchy, borders and the capitalist police state. They come to poetry through the Cuban traditions of being a dramatic lover and never shutting up. yesthepoet.com



YVETTE ABRAHAMS Dr. Yvette Abrahams was born in Cape Town, grew up in Zambia, England and Sweden during the Apartheid regime and returned to study at the University of Cape Town just in time for the last chapter of the liberation struggle. Dr. Abrahams consults for government and NGOs on issues relating to climate change and gender equality in policy and practice.



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