Astoria Performing Arts Center in partnership with Superhero Clubhouse present:
Big Green Theater: Queens 2021

**THE MYSTICAL JUNGLE AND LUMINESCENCE CITY**

A filmed eco-play by fifth grade students from P.S.152 in Woodside, Queens

Written by Atqiya Afia (Sprit), Momin Ahmad, Jensine Ahmed, Afia Farzana (Shade Z), Subee Ghimire, Areeb Islam, Eljas Kacic, Mohammad Nawaz, Tiffany Ngo, Laura Sofia Porras, Aylin Ramos-Priego (Zero/Echo), Harman Singh

Featuring
Rasheedat “Ras” Badejo as Noah Nathan
Nana Dakin as Amy & Grandmother
Aja Downing as D’Anlliss & Nara
Antígona González as Eri & Marrow
Chris Ignacio as George & Lucas

Directed by Lanxing Fu
Assistant Directed & Choreographed by Tony Williams II
Director of Photography & Film Editor Matthew Dunivan
Songs Composed, Arranged & Music Directed by Yan Li
in collaboration with BGT student playwrights

Visual Design by Lexy Ho-Tai
Costume Design by Saawan Tiwari
Sound Design, Mixing & Mastering by Jim Petty
Lighting Design by Dan Jobbins
Production Coordinator Rachel Denise April
Astoria Performing Arts Center (APAC) is an award-winning non-profit theater company dedicated to engaging the residents of Astoria, Long Island City, and greater Queens in contemporary social and cultural issues through live performance and arts education. Established in 2001, APAC has produced a diverse mix of new plays and reimagined musicals and developed dozens of new works. APAC also provides a robust array of community and arts education programs that offer writing and performing opportunities to students, seniors, and residents of all ages with and without disabilities. Recent productions include the New York premieres of Marguerite by Michael Cooper and Anton Dudley featuring Tony Award-winner Cady Huffman and Jump by Charly Evon Simpson directed by Arpita Mukherjee, the AUDELCO Award-winning revival of Caroline, or Change by Tony Kushner and Jeanne Jeanine Tesori, directed by Dev Bondarin, and the New York Innovative Theater Award-winning New York premiere of Queen by Madhuri Shekar. For more information, please visit www.apacny.org

Superhero Clubhouse unites ecology and theater to enact justice, cultivate hope, and inspire a thriving future. We are a Lenapehoking (New York City)-based interdisciplinary community engaged in a long-term experiment utilizing the tools of theater to shift culture toward climate and environmental justice. www.superheroclubhouse.org

Big Green Theater (BGT) is an eco-playwriting program that uplifts the imaginations of young people most impacted by our new climate reality and brings their ideas to life on stage. BGT aims to inspire students to manifest a sustainable and just community by using the power of their creative voice. Big Green Theater was initially conceived by Bushwick Starr founders Noel Allain and Sue Kessler. The program was developed and run in partnership with Jeremy Pickard and eco-theater collective Superhero Clubhouse from 2010-2020. The Bushwick Starr is continuing to run BGT in North Brooklyn, while Superhero Clubhouse is seeding the program in new neighborhoods.

If you are interested to start a Big Green Theater program with your theater or school, Superhero Clubhouse is seeking new partners. Please contact info@superheroclubhouse.org.
Atqiya Afia (Spirit) is a 5th grader who likes to draw and listen to songs. Some of the songs Atqiya likes to listen to are in Japanese, English, and more. Their favorite subject is Math.

Momin Ahmad is a 5th grade student at P.S.152. He loves to to play and do active things, and his favorite thing to do outside of school is play games. He wants to thank all team members on Big Green Theater and my mom who loved me so much.

Jensine Ahmed is a 5th grade student at P.S.152. She loves to play games and her favorite thing to do outside of school is hang out with friends. She wants to thank you all for inspiring her to become a better writer.

Afia Farzana (Shade Z) enjoys music and likes to play games. Afia is a 5th grader and is 10 years old. Their favorite subjects are English, Math, and Science. Some languages they listen to are Japanese and English and they like green, white, black, and more colors.

Subee Ghimire is a 5th grade student at P.S. 152. She loves to watch YouTube and go to the park after school. She loves doing arts and crafts and making stories.

Areeb Islam likes drawing and learning about living things. He is making a small story. He is very creative. He loved writing this play. It makes him feel very proud.

Eljas Kacic is a 5th grade student at P.S. 152. He loves to free-write, and learn/do science and his favorite thing to do outside of school is researching a wide variety of things, mostly science related. He wants to thank the actors, other playwrights, designers, teachers, and the audience, along with everybody else who helped with this play for creating such an amazing experience and for the wonderful play everybody will now enjoy.

Mohammad Nawaz is a 5th grade student at P.S.152. He loves to play video games in his free time and his favorite thing to do outside of school is eating fast food, right after school ends.

Tiffany Ngo is a 5th grade student at P.S.152. She loves to make crafts and draw. Her favorite thing to do outside of school is to make art (punch needling, diamond paintings). She is very grateful to be able to participate in this program!

Laura Sofia Porras is a 5th Grade student at P.S. 152. She loves to dance and her favorite thing to do outside of school is to go to the park and play with her friends.

Aylin Ramos-Priego (Zero/Echo) is a 5th grade student at P.S 152, He loves to talk to his friends on Discord, to use he/they pronouns, to draw, and to watch Anime. Their favorite thing to do is to cosplay! He wants to thank Lani, Tony, JoJo, Nana, and everyone else for making him feel safe! Zero is pansexual and non-binary and loves cats and hamsters!

Harman Singh loves to draw and play video games. His favorite thing to do is to play outside with friends. Harman wants to thank the after school teachers for the opportunity to join BGT to write plays.

**CAST & CREATIVE TEAM**

Rasheedat “Ras” Badejo (Performer) is excited to be a part of this new chapter in BGT history, but even more excited to play Noah Nathan in this awesome film! Ras is a Generative Theater Artist, Arts Educator, and Death Doula-in-training from Kansas City, Missouri. They have their BA in Theater-Performance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (2015) and have recently been accepted into New School's Arts Management and Entrepreneurship program and will be starting in the fall. You can find them on the ‘gram @RasBad.

Rachel Denise April (Production Coordinator, she/her) is a Guyanese-American stage manager, who has studied Theatrical Design and Stage Management at the City College of New York. Select credits include: Chicken and Biscuits (Douglas Lyons), Retreat Workshop (Tracey Conyer Lee), The Big Green Theater Festival 9 (Superhero Clubhouse) The Hole (Zhailon Levingston), Neptune (Timothy DuWhite), The Genesis Plays (The In[heir]itance Project), Anais Nin Goes to Hell (MTWorks), Macbeth (of the Oppressed) (Fab Marquee Productions), and The Fire This Time Festival 2015 (The Kraine Theater). She is currently a Creative Partner of Different Translation.

Nana Dakin (Performer, Teaching Artist) is a Thai American director of new work, classics and devised performance based in New York City. Her work pursues social equity by examining the way culture is constructed and unsettling dormant biases. Recent productions include Love Letter to a Seed (Clubbed Thumb Winterworks, NYC), White Pearl
Josephine (JoJo) McDonald  (APAC Education Coordinator) is an actor, arts educator, and program assistant for Big Green Theater this year through APAC. She has worked as a project assistant for APAC on Playmaking and Summer Stars, and is thrilled to be joining BGT learning from the wisdom of all at Superhero Clubhouse. She is proud to have trained and taught at Shakespeare & Co in Lenox, MA, where she is from originally. When in New York, she enjoys riding her bicycle all around the city, working in the arts however possible, and providing compassionate, challenging, and justice-minded arts education for her students.
SPECIAL THANKS

Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer, Principal Vincent Vitolo, Vice Principal Lisa Russo, Ryan Naso, Brandon Lee Harris, Lewis Shore, Phil, Teal & Meg, Oxygen Eventworks, Kaufman Astoria Studios, AAE, Goode Family Foundation, the parents and teachers of our student playwrights

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Big Green Theater classroom sessions and filming for this performance took place on occupied Lenapehoking (the land of the Lenape), with respect to our Shinnecock, Wampanoag, and Haudenosaunee neighbors.

Support the native people of Lenapehoking:
The Lenape Center: thelenapecenter.com
American Indian Community House: aich.org

Learn about the land you occupy: native-land.ca

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