

OCTOBER 18-19, 2025

The logo features the words "BROWN", "STONE", and "STEPS" stacked vertically in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. This text is set against a solid red rectangular background. The edges of the red rectangle are rough and distressed, resembling a hand-painted sign or a piece of weathered wood. The entire logo is centered on a black background.

**BROWN
STONE
STEPS**

**PLAY
FESTIVAL**

COMMONS THEATER-BCM

145 BROOKLYN AVENUE - CROWN HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT - BROOKLYN, NY 11213



THE RHYTHM OF BLU

by

Alicia Foxworth

Young Jay Henry Oliver dreams of a singing career on stage and marrying his girl Darla. But when opportunity comes knocking at his door, he begins to sing an unfamiliar tune and struggles to find his rhythm. (Dedicated to the memory of my uncle, Leander Brooks).



ALICIA FOXWORTH, Playwright/Producer

Alicia studied media and marketing communications at Fordham University and the HBCU, Virginia State University.

Recent productions include Ghost Writer, an Abolitionist's Tale at Broadway Bound Theatre Festival and the Reading of The Last Rise of Akhenaten at Atlanta Black Theater Festival.

Alicia also produces the Brownstone Steps Garden Reading Series and The Quill Speaks Generative Writing Series.

Honors, NY League of Independent Theater-Caffe Cino Award winner; Laundromat Project Residency; Eugene O'Neill semi-finalist for Ghost Writer.

Member, SAG/AFTRA, The Dramatists Guild, League of Professional Theater Women; Frank Silvera Writers Workshop, Off-Broadway Alliance; Uptown Playwrights.

You may contact Alicia at: BrownstoneSteps.com



VICTOR ARNEZ, Director

Brooklyn-born Victor Arnez is an accomplished actor with extensive experience in performance and production across theater, film, and television. He is the founding member of United Brothers Productions LLC. Victor wrote and directed the screenplay for the multi-award-winning short film *I Got the Last Laugh*, based on the stage play *Mom's Mabley* by James E. Carter. The film was co-produced by Victor Arnez and James E. Carter. Additionally, Victor was nominated for Best Actor in a Film Short for *At Last, The Gift of Redemption* by Michael "Umi" Cox Sr. (2021). He continues to embrace evolving perspectives and integrate new insights into his creative work. His passion for teaching and helping others discover their artistic voices remains a cornerstone of his journey. Presently, Victor freelances as an acting coach, director, and filmmaker—and is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to "play the hell out of Othello."



RIYADH ROLLINS as Jay Henry Oliver

Riyadh is thrilled to reprise the role of Jay Henry at Brownstone Steps Play Festival. Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, he holds degrees in Bio-chemistry and Theatre Arts from UNLV. Notable roles include Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, Papa Shakespeare in *The African Company Presents Richard III*, and Cory in *Fences*. Recent credits include *Leaves*, *Wilber's New Wife*, *Amen Amen*. Riyadh thanks his family and partner for their support.



KHAMAÏLEI ANGÉLIL as Darla Mack

Khamaïlei has appeared in regional, Off-Off Broadway, and improvised theater, as well as on TV and in short films. In 2025, she produced, directed, and starred in a One Act Festival at HB studios and was also part of the Summer One Act Fest at the Chain Theater. She recently co-starred next to Kaitlyn Olson and Daniel Sunjata on ABC's High Potential. In her free time, Khamaïlei creates and edits her own short-form content from plays and short stories to skits and podcasts. khamailei.com

MALISSA-DEAN • MY MOM
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MALISSA-DEAN • MY MOM
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MALISSA-DEAN • MY MOM
A-DEAN • MY MOMENT BY N

Kelley a God-fearing man, eight years married, CEO of his own Marketing Company, knowingly had it all together until a Monday routine lunch break turned into an emotional rollercoaster. Kel's faith in Jesus is challenged while facing the loss of the one person who gave him life. Unbeknownst to him that 911 prayer call to The Most High God placed Kelley immediately in a rebirth and in an emotional state.



MALISSA DEAN, Playwright

Writer, Life Purpose Consultant, Supernatural Spiritual Advisor, Ordained Minister, Actor and Model. Malissa-Dean, a Brooklynite, have lived many facets of life and has attained her spotlight in the entertainment industry. Her collective focus, expresses enthusiasm by writing plays on a spiritual level. It's imperative to Malissa-Dean that faith and morals are raised in her work. She knows God qualified this call to elevate his audience of true believers to see spirituality played out on stages, in film and television, without compromising their principles. Malissa-Dean knows that anyone who witness her writings in action, understand that her writings in action, understands that she is blessed.



LAWRENCE FLOYD, Director

Lawrence Floyd is the Founder and Chief Visionary Officer of Obsidian Media Group, and Co-Founder, along with Dr. Myrah Brown Green, of Genesis East and West, Inc.; a company that specializes in theatre/film and television development. He is also the Theatre department lead for the inaugural Charlotte Creative Arts Festival, which begins in 2024. Lawrence and his team swept the AUDELCO Awards for Excellence in Black Theatre in several categories: "Musical Production of the Year," "Best Director in a Musical Production," "Best Actor in a Musical," (J. Bernard Calloway from Broadway's Memphis), "Best Actress in a Musical" (Althea Alexis), "Best Choreographer" (Juson Williams), "Best Musical Direction" (Jeff Bolding). In addition, Lawrence's visionary acuity garnered six nominations and five (5) Award wins for the hit play, Flambeaux: A Caribbean Musical for which he also co-wrote the Libretto and Book.

Other shows Lawrence has directed are Indelible and The Standard Upgrade; MISUNDERSTOOD; TROIKA BERMUDA (2013 National Black Theater Foundation); ResurGENTs: The Reappearance of Hope which Lawrence wrote, directed, and produced and received four MITF Award nominations: Winner Best Choreography, 2011/2013 Artist in Residence for Troika Bermuda (Co-wrote and Directed WIP #3: MISUNDERSTOOD, 2013 National Black Theatre Festival Main Stage Participant) Black Man Rising by James Chapmyn (2007 and 2009 National Black Theatre Festival); four AUDELCO Awards; Players Theatre; Arc Light Theatre; Dr. Barbara Ann Teer's National Black Theatre; and Project Change in Bermuda. Some projects include "Is Heaven Still Blue for the Fallen Angels," for NEC, and "Starboy" both by Cris Eli Blak, "Black Spurs," and "The History of Black Music," by Celeste Bedford Walker, and the world premiere of "Watch The Throne," at Black Spectrum Theatre.

Lawrence was mentored by the late great director and playwright, Ray Aranha and has studied Playwriting with the late Leslie Lee, PJ Gibson, Laurence Holder, and Cassandra Medley. Lawrence has studied directing with Yale alumni Jackson Gay and May Alvares, and Daniel Goldstein from Julliard. Lawrence teaches screenwriting at S.I.C. Film School located at Lionsgate in Yonkers, is a theater coach, a proud member of Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and a lifetime member of the legendary Actors Studio.

Lawrence has supervised the release of over fifty projects, and is currently developing literary projects including the follow-up to Dr. Myrah Brown Green's "Brooklyn On My Mind," an untitled "Redd Foxx" project with Actor/Comedian Gil Tucker, "Brothers BBQ," in Charlotte, NC, as well as the historical retelling of the fall of the famous "Moulin Rouge" the first integrated casino in Las Vegas.



NATHANIEL J. RYAN as Kelley

Nathaniel J. Ryan is a man with many options. Ryan's story began in Brooklyn, New York where he excelled in high school track and field. When his dream of going to the Olympics was crushed due to arthritic knee issues, he submerged himself into his academic studies and earned his BA from Morgan State University, and later his MBA from Clark Atlanta University. He entered the world of finance. However, after a few years Ryan grew restless! Ryan decided to enroll in an acting class, and he hasn't looked back since. The Company Acting Studio in Atlanta Georgia was where it began before he continued his studies with Stella Adler Studio of Acting, and then Anthony Abeson in New York City. Now an accomplished actor, Ryan has starred in the Independent Feature Films as 'Luv Don't Live Here', and 'And There Were 4'. Both on Amazon Prime.



Exploring love and addiction. Meeting your soulmate. You get married and everything is wonderful, and then BAM, addiction walks in. A drama with poetry, and self-expression minimalist dancing.



Justine was recently seen as Mamair in *The White Blacks* (Audelco nominee) and Voice in *Brotha Shakespeare* at Theater for the New City. Other credits include Nia in *Almas Way*, *The Super*, *Love Thy Keepers*, *Daredevil*, *Law & Order*, and *Blue Bloods*. Currently, Justine is looking forward to workshopping the stage play *#LeeProud*. Thanks to Ryan Sett for being the best scene partner and willing to explore.

JUSTINE J. HALL, Playwright, Co-Dir. as the Wife



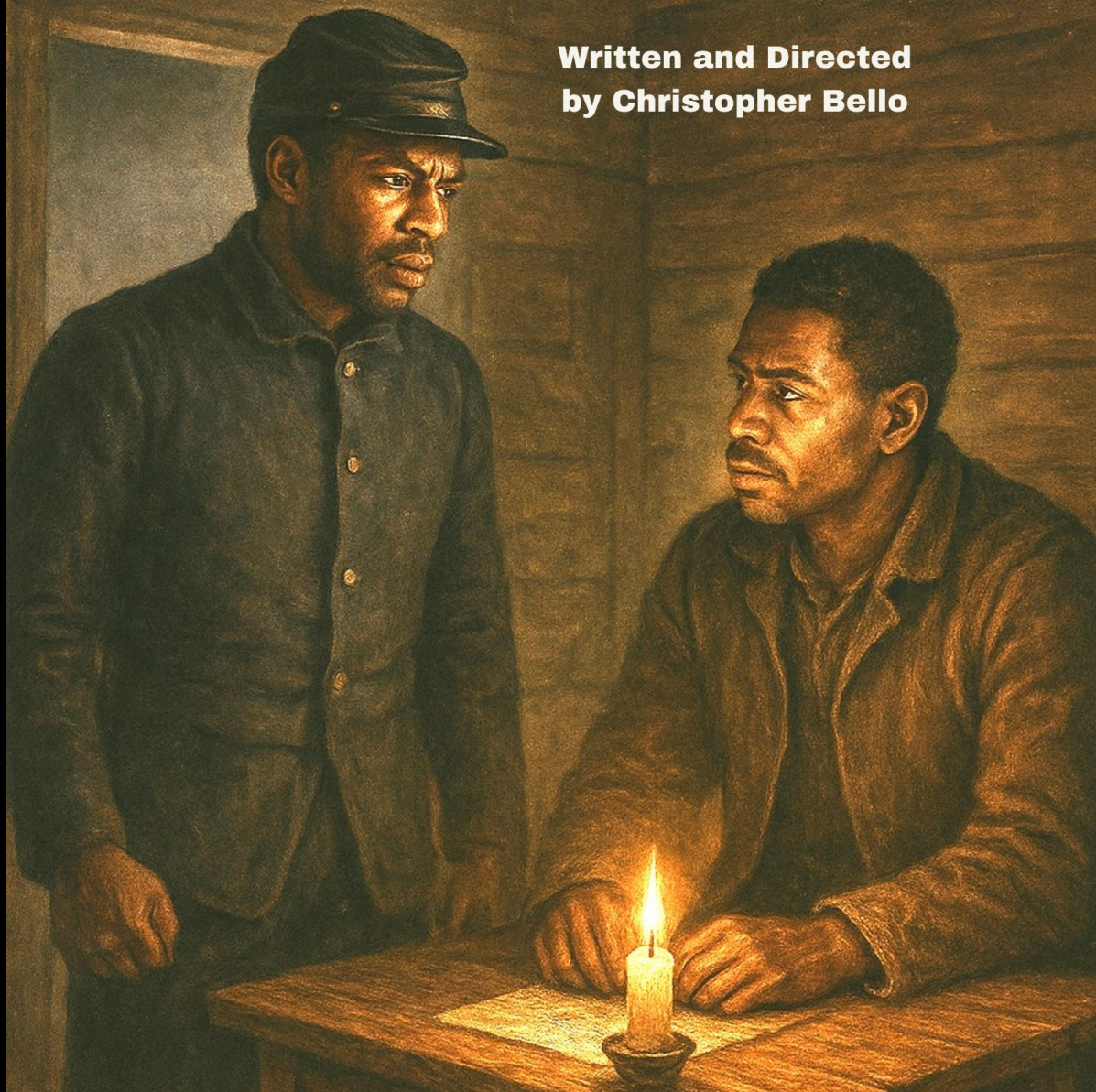
RYAN SETT, Co-Director as the Husband

Ryan Sett, Actor, Singer, Screenwriter, continues to tour with off-Broadway's Black Angels Over Tuskegee by Layon Gray, received the award for Best Micro Film at the Scriptwriters & Co-International Festival, and has penned two television series currently being pitched for streaming. He would like to thank Justine J. Hall for letting him breathe life into this story alongside her.

IG: @ryan.on.sett

THE DRUMS OF FREEDOM

Written and Directed
by Christopher Bello



The Drums of Freedom follows two newly freed young men on the edge of a Union camp as they wrestle with whether to enlist in the U.S. Army. Isaiah believes fighting is the only way to claim dignity, manhood, and lasting freedom, while Samuel fears the risks and questions whether the country will ever accept them. Their heated debate reveals deep scars of slavery, love for family, and the weight of history pressing on their shoulders. As the sound of drums grows nearer, their decision becomes both a personal choice and a powerful stand for generations to come.



CHRISTOPHER BELLO, Playwright/Director



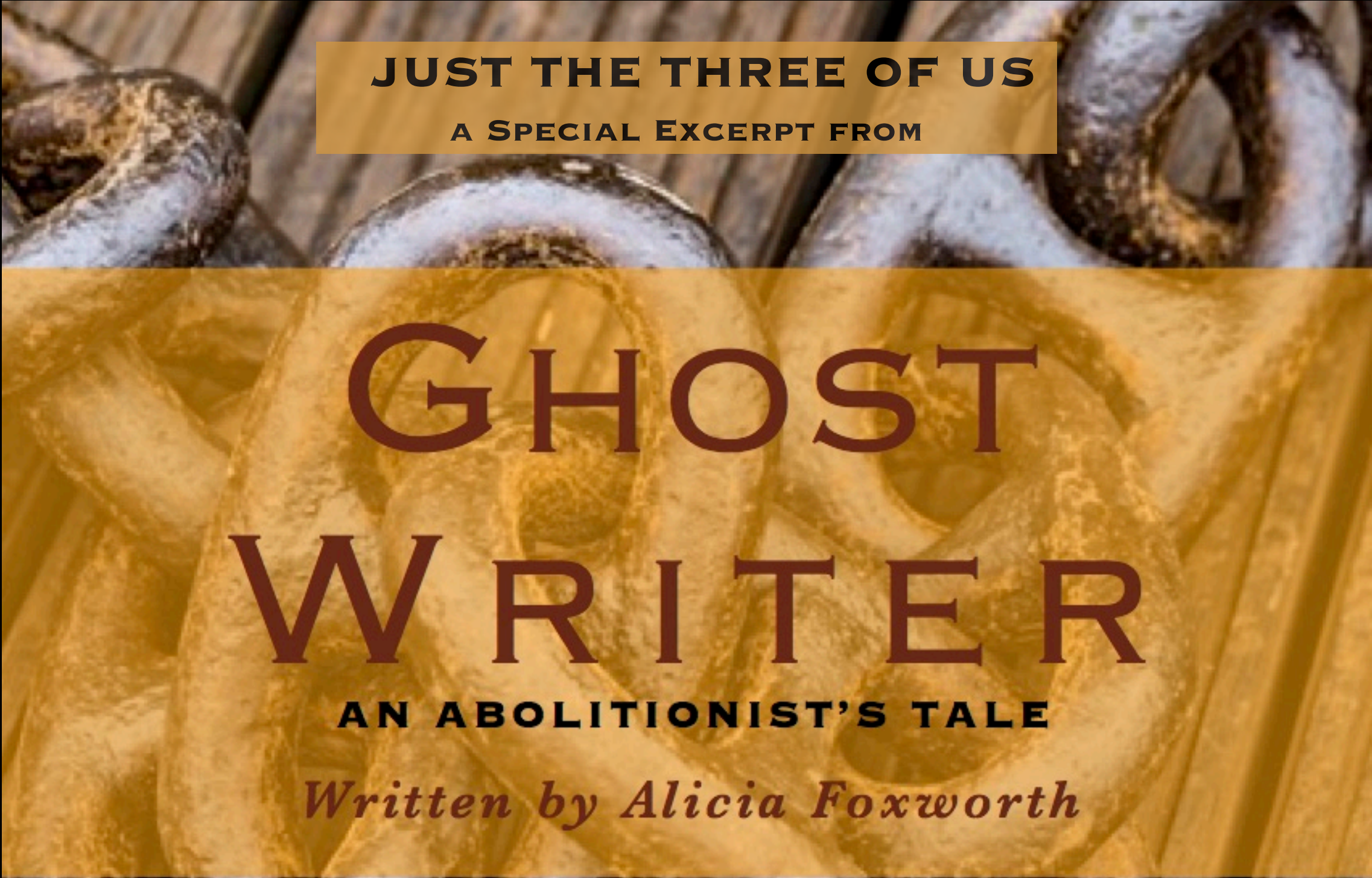
RIYADH ROLLINS as Isaiah

See BIO under
The Rhythm
of Blu



BILAL WALKER as Samuel

Bilal Walker is a New York based actor involved in film, television, commercials, and theater. He received his BA in Theater at The City College of New York, and went to study in places such as London and Vancouver, B.C.



JUST THE THREE OF US

A SPECIAL EXCERPT FROM

GHOST WRITER

AN ABOLITIONIST'S TALE

Written by Alicia Foxworth

When young Madison Fox gets the nerve to ask out Sandra Gayle, he is interrupted by her longtime friend, Auguste, forming a most awkward and entertaining of love triangles.



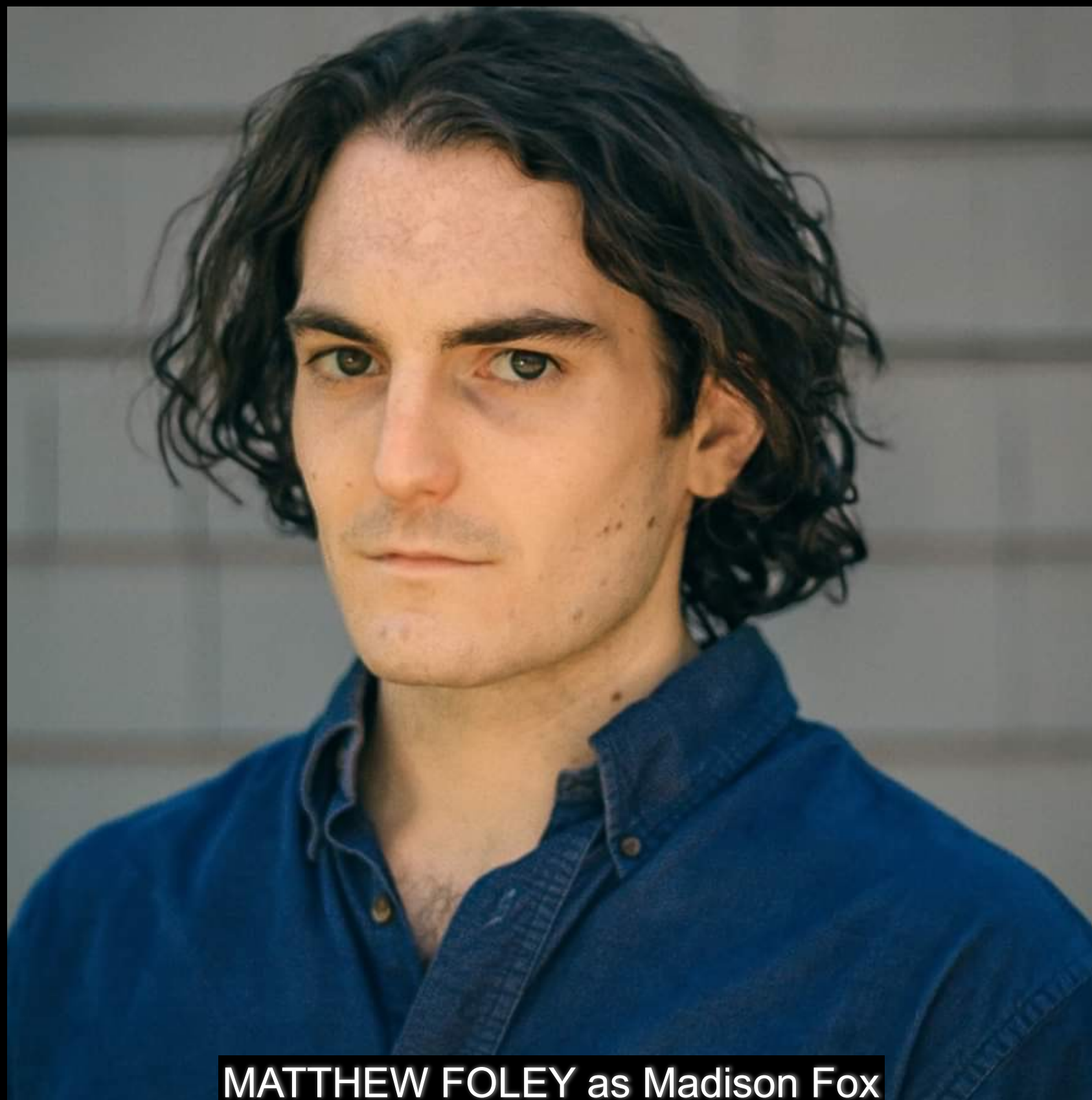
SIERRA MOON JACKSON as Sandra Gayle

Sierra Moon Jackson is an actress known for her roles in independent films like *Insecurity?* (2025) and *52 Masters* (2018). She is also affiliated with the Kangalee Arts Ensemble, a New York City-based group.

Education and training: Jackson attended New York University and has been involved with the Kangalee Arts Ensemble. The ensemble's acting method is inspired by the work of Jack Garfein and combines psychological realism with radical, decolonial politics.

Selected film credits: *Insecurity?* (2025); *52 Masters* (2018); *The Life & Death of Art* (2024). Jackson had a prominent role alongside Dennis Leroy Kangalee in this film, which explores themes of race, class, and the art world.

Sierra is based in New York City.



MATTHEW FOLEY as Madison Fox

Matthew Foley is a Brooklyn-based actor from Norwood, Massachusetts, and achieved a BFA in acting from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in 2017. He's honored to be a part of

Ghost Writer, and would like to thank Laura Henry, Mr. Quinn, his mother, and Shelby for the lessons and support.

Plays: Four Evangelists
Walk into a Fog, M&A, Hamlet, Bloody Finntown.
Films: Only Feet, Click Click, Human Beans, Stag, Citizen Khan.

For Matthew's full resumé or to contact him, visit his website:

www.matthewfoleyactor.com



See BIO under
Hey You

RYAN SETT as Auguste Henry

Christopher Bello, STAGE MANAGER

Christopher graduated from The City College of New York with a Bachelors of Arts in Theater. He brings a unique perspective as his unfolding story continues to afford him the opportunity to see and experience theater through multiple lenses. As a stage management, he is determined to preserve the director's vision and serves as a mentor to the actors. Having worked on numerous productions, he travels with a wealth of experience which he generously shares with those who care to learn something new.

**Anthony Palomeque,
CONCESSIONS**

Anthony is thrilled to be working behind the scenes on this production. From actor to stagehand to set designer, he has found a way to mold himself into most works of theater in order to stay close to what he loves to do. Recent credits include *Ghost Writer*, *an Abolitionist's Tale (Broadway Bound Theatre Festival)*, *Life on the Third Rail* and *Rita is the Goat* at Theater for the New City. Anthony also ushers during the summer at Little Island. He holds a B.A. in Theater from City College of New York.

Staff and Crew



Production Team/Support

Alicia Foxworth, Producer
Steven K. Foxworth,
Photography/Production Mgr
Greg Harris, Videographer
Shakema Antoine, Usher
Xavier Colon, Usher

Cleo Jones, FRONT OF HOUSE

Michelle "Cleo" Jones studied drama at the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music. Cleo is an Off Off Broadway and Brooklyn indie films actor, appearing in films such as "Broken", and the Pitan International Film Festival, as well as the St. Lucia Film Festival entry "The Dis-Illusionist." Cleo is currently studying Media and Performing Arts at City University of New York's MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE.

David D. Wright, SOUND DESIGNER

David is an 11 time "VIV" AUDELCO Award winner for Excellence in Sound Design with one for Musical Direction. He is a multiple award winner of radio and film productions as well. He takes this opportunity to thank Olodumare, Gbogbo Egun and Gbogbo Orisa for his success. Tel. # 917-497-1505

David is also the playwright for Bass Reeves, 'The Last Supper' in this year's festival.

Brownstone Steps Ent. thanks the staff of **The Commons Theatre at BCM** for its support of indie artists and storytellers.

WE'RE GLAD YOU CAME!

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