

# Latecomers

A new work by Yu Qian



**Yu (Taylor) Qian** (director, performer) is doing a Bachelor of Arts degree at University of Melbourne, double majoring in Media and Communications and Screen and Cultural Studies. She has been to Australia for less than three years. Before coming to Australia, she had had three years of amateur theatre experience in high school, ranging from set and prop design to lighting control and directing. She was Melbourne University Chinese Music Group (CMG)'s Assistant Music Director last year, organising CMG's 2015 annual concert Lu Guo Jiang Hu (路过江湖) and assisted with orchestra management for the student club's 2015 musical *Nanjing Beijing* (南京北京). As a Chinese international student, she feels acutely about the language, racial and cultural differences between her and others on a daily basis. Her multicultural experiences in Australia have inspired her to write a script for, direct and act in 'Latecomers', her first bilingual theatre performance here. She wishes to achieve a more comprehensive understanding of Chinese identities and Asian identities at large in Australia as well as to encourage people to start initiating interactions with individuals from different cultures and backgrounds through this performance.

**Hannah Lim** (performer) became interested in acting after joining her school's drama club in Singapore in 2012, in order to try 'something that wasn't music-related'. She ended up liking it so much that she voluntarily made herself a slave to the art for two whole years, by pursuing it academically for VCE Theatre Studies once she moved to Melbourne. Her latest theatrical involvement was in *Talullah*, Theatre's Old Wives Tales last semester, an experience that she was grateful to have been a part of. She was interested in the Latecomers project as it related to her own experiences of transitioning from Singapore to Melbourne.

**Jerome Reyes** (performer) was fortunate enough to have worked with comparable individuals during his noob days in theatre - A Tom Gutteridge directed play 'don't bring lulu' written by Kerith Manderson-Galvin AND a mentored season for Tastings 2014 by Felix Ching Ching Ho. He also learnt how to dance contemporary/ballet with Flare Dance Ensemble when he

thought he was more appropriate with crispwalking. He got thrown out of a club. He is trying to do the same with acting. He's glad that 1.) he felt welcomed to the theatre factory 2.) that the spotlight does not just spit on him, it drools all over him, now. Thanks, you.

**Mindy Wong** (performer) is a little stray being taken in by the lovely foster parents of Taylor and co. A little nerdy, shy, quiet and timid, she is ready to challenge herself to step on the stage! "The Latecomers" will be her very first casting and she is very excited about it (I hope you are too). Love you peeps!

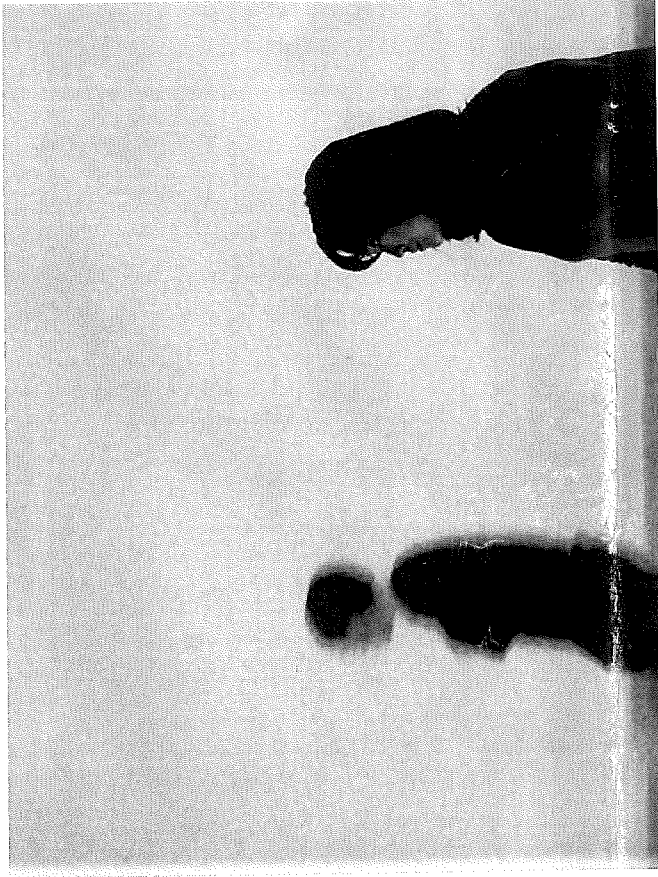
**Nores Carfeda** (performer) began his acting career in Italy, then graduated at the London Academy of Radio, Film & TV and at the Italian academy 'Fondamenta', in Rome. The following year he wrote for the Italian company Smeraldati, which he also directed and played for. Back in London, he studied Method acting with Sam Rumblelow and kept working as actor and voice-over artist. In Australia for the first time in his life since 2014, Nores has so far worked for several theatre companies and TV productions. He recently participated to the Adelaide Fringe Festival, Melbourne Comedy Festival and the Next Wave Festival. He will take part to the Melbourne Fringe Festival 2016 with two shows, one of which written by him. Working for the second time with Taylor, he is hoping to bring a new perspective to 'Latecomers', as well as to improve his understanding of the social situation originating the idea of the show.

**Simon Bowland** (interactive designer) is currently studying a Master of Fine Art in Production (part time) at the VCA/University of Melbourne, Australia, investigating how the relationship between dramatic text and digital technology influences the creative process. Through his professional practice he has specialised in 'freelance' and contract work in the Film, T.V. &amp;amp; Theatre industries for 16 years and has a broad knowledge base of the processes common throughout the creative disciplines. His experience and research have seen this relative newcomer to digital and interactive installations (Shakespeare's 400th birthday/Melb. Shakespeare Co. &amp;amp; The Culpitris/Yu Qian), recently expand his practice into this field. Exploring the growing impact of digital media on low budget immersive theatre's ability to experiment and communicate through scenic design, which is an important resource for the performing arts community.

**Jeremy Yau** (percussionist) began playing music as a child, first learning classical piano and later picking up woodwind. As a clarinetist during his secondary education, Jeremy performed in several school orchestras, as well as in amateur productions where he first experienced theatre music as primary woodwind with clarinet and saxophone. Currently studying at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, Jeremy has since shifted his interests to Ethnomusicology and Music Psychology, and has been involved in music therapy programs of vocal and guitar under Chinese Community Social Services Centre Inc. (CCSSCI), coordinating practical workshops and completing administrative duties as a part of a new government funded initiative 'The HomeBased Preferred Music Listening program (HBPM)'. Jeremy has also turned his academic studies towards Asian folk music, expanding his capabilities as a woodwind player with private tutoring in Chinese flute and Japanese shakuhachi. Aside from his time in percussionist in the Chao Feng Chinese Orchestra, and has been in several performances under the Australian Asian Orchestra (AAO) in repertoire involving Chinese percussion.

# (de)construct

A new work by Cera Maree Brown



**Cera Maree Brown** (director) is a performer, theatre maker and writer interested in performance art and devised theatre. In 2015 she undertook the Acting Studio Intensive at VCA and is a classically trained singer, having won and placed in singing competitions around Melbourne. She wrote, directed and performed as part of the Platform at La Mama Collaboration, discovering a passion for collaborative and devised work. In 2013 she cofounded Tight Pants Theatre, a theatre group that continues to put on variety theatre nights, which have, in the past, contained several of her works. She has performed a variety of roles in community theatre and university musicals including 'Laurey' in *Oklahoma* and 'Mrs Flannery' in 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'. In 2015 she began to explore her growing interest in the technical side of theatre, designing the set for the piece *La Mama Explorations* performed as part of the Platform at La Mama. Explorations season and operating sound as part of Melbourne Uni's Mudfest as well as participating in Tech Skill sharing workshops. Her writing has been featured in *Burley and Woronin* magazines in the ACT. She performs her writing at spoken word events and regularly busks around Melbourne with her ukulele.

**Antonia Siew Pin** (performer) wants to spread her laughter like the flu. She hopes to perform on a professional stage and say, "TOLD YOU SO" to her family. And she's looking for a boyfriend whose maths MUST be better than hers. Performing since she's 13, Antonia's worked with different people and productions in Malaysia and Melbourne. She has performed in English,

Mandarin and Cantonese. She's motivated to take on a challenge and to go for the extra mile to make her character perfect on stage. When Antonia's not performing, she's studying in University of Melbourne and working at a cafe. She apologises for not being able to reply your messages, but she sincerely hopes that you enjoy her shows, writings and food!

**Carlos Humphrey** (performer) is an enigma. His work speaks of freedom, love, and other clichés. Actually, he is none of those things, but sometimes he worries that this fate awaits him after a long, illustrious career in student theatre.

Ensemble also includes: **Jerome Reyes** (see page for Latecomers) and **Holly Donoghue**

Music by **James Christensen** and **Joshua Trappett**