

## **BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS**

### **AY, CARAMBA! THEATRE**

Ay, Caramba! Theatre exists to represent those without a voice, create inspiring stories that transcend cultural boundaries, and embrace diversity on a stage that is accessible to all.

As the first Latinx theatre in Saskatchewan, Canada, it seeks to create inclusive stories, inspire minority actors, and diversify Canadian theatre through Hispanic stories.

### **PRODUCER/PLAYWRIGHT/PERFORMER – YULISSA CAMPOS**

Yulissa is an Ecuadorian-Canadian theatre artist and founder of Ay, Caramba! Theatre, currently based in Saskatoon. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Saskatchewan. Yulissa celebrates her Latinx heritage in her plays and her podcast on Spotify called *Latinas in Stoon*. She likes to write stories that illustrate underrepresented voices. Yulissa has collaborated with companies like SUM Theatre, Ferre Play Theatre, and the National Theatre School Theatre, while simultaneously working as drama instructor and as a settlement worker with the newcomer community. Selected theatre credits: *Earth Diver* (SUM Theatre), *Prairie Nurse* (Station Arts Centre), *I, Frida* (Ay, Caramba! Theatre), *The Penelopiad* (Ferre Play Theatre). Playwriting credits: *The Ungrateful Immigrant* (25th Street Theatre 2020), *Trapped* (Art Apart, National Theatre School of Canada, and Short Cuts Festival 2020), and *I, Frida* (Saskatoon Fringe 2019). She hopes you are staying safe and well during this difficult time.

### **DIRECTOR/SOUND DESIGNER – ED MENDEZ**

Ed Mendez is no stranger to digital storytelling projects, having recently directed Sexual Space Walk Theatre's *The Gay Card* as part of the Art Apart initiative funded by the National Theatre School of Canada, working with The Sketchy Bandits weekly on their Into the Writer's Room series, and having recently worked as production manager for Gordon Tootoosis Nīkānīwin Theatre's *Paris, SK*. Ed lives and works in the south eastern reaches of Treaty 6 (Saskatoon) and is looking forward to brighter days and a time when he can exist in a room with other theatre practitioners and friends again. Ed is a proud husband and father to two boys.

### **COSTUME, SET AND LIGHTING DESIGNER – JUDITH SCHULZ**

Judith Schulz (she/her) loves being a theatre practitioner in Saskatoon! Her favourite aspects of theatre are lighting, projection and set design, stage management and directing. Recent credits include: *Playhouse Creatures* – set design (Greystone Theatre), *Rooftops* – lighting design (DSA production), *The Wolves* – stage management (EvilStick Productions and littleBIG Theatre), *Hospitals, Broken Pianos* – lighting design (Gordon Tootoosis Nīkānīwin Theatre (GTNT)), and *Paris, SK* – projection design (GTNT). Although our theatres are now closed and we are stuck in our homes, she enjoys being part of such a unique theatre experiences and wrangling 30 individuals over Zoom calls!

### **STAGE MANAGER – BROOKLYNN BITNER**

While finishing her BA in Studio Art, Brooklynn stumbled across the University of Saskatchewan's Drama Design program, and instantly fell in love. Set, Costume, and Sound Design are her fortes, but she dabbles in projection and lighting design as well. With a passion for bringing technology and spectacle to live stage, Brooklynn wants to wow audiences with transformative, evolving, and dynamic designs that make the audience question their perception of reality.