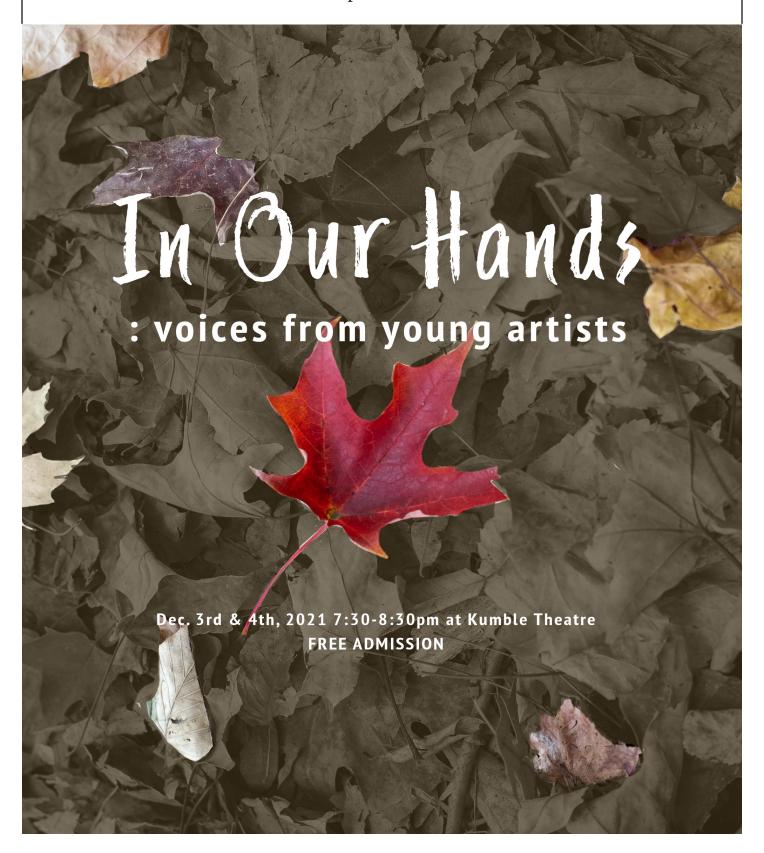
Long Island University Brooklyn Department of Performing Arts BFA in Acting for Theatre, Film and Television presents



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I have been honored for the opportunity to work with these gifted young artists at LIU Brooklyn BFA Acting Program this Fall semester. We have all experienced tough times since March 2020. Under the COVID-19 situation, many social issues have been brought up: conflict surrounding vaccines, bias & discrimination toward LGBTQ people, racism, gender identity/inequality, poverty, climate change, mental health, police brutality, and more. We could have talked about one particular issue, but I wanted to bring collective attention to many individual voices as a whole. We live in such a diverse culture, and I believe every single voice has weight and value. Everyone has a story to tell, and I passionately believe that young artists' voices will create a transformation in future generations, and this transformation will lead to the transformation of society itself.

I am extremely proud of my cast members, each of whom has committed to this three month process to create and tell this story together at this moment in our lives. They researched, wrote, and created through collaboration. I was moved many times to see and listen to what they said and brought out from their souls. They present their lives, and bravely share their authentic voices. And I am humbled to be one of the people (on behalf of my team) to present their raw voices to the audience today. For me, the theatre is transforming ritual, and the audience sits in the other half of the ritual circle. Without you, the circle will not be complete. Thank you for being here today, and for being the other half of that transformational circle.

I personally want to show my gratitude to my production team who tirelessly and fearlessly worked through this process. Thank you to the composer & sound designer, Alyssa L. Jackson, the assistant director & projection designer, Saki Kawamura, the stage manager; Rui Dun, the lighting designer, Robin Dill, and the dramaturg, Amy Gijsbers van Wijk.

Lastly, I want to express my deep gratitude to Dr. John Sannuto, the former Chair, and Dr. Barbra Parisi, the Chair of the Performing Arts, Quiche Stone, Director of Acting for theatre, Film, and Television at LIU Brooklyn, and Ian Morgan, the Associate Artistic director of The New Group, who helped make this production realize. Without their support the voices of these young artists could not be shared.

Yoshiko Usami (Director)

PROJECT HISTORY

In 2016, a workshop production of Social Action Project with The Ume Group, a physical theatre company at St. Paul's Church. Each artist/deviser took the leadership to crated their own project and performed outdoor as a social action to raise an awareness to the social issues, and then, we developed it into a show. In 2018, the students participated in a workshop performance with Atelier Teatro Fisico Performing Arts University in Turin, Italy, which culminated in an outdoor performance in an open space (Piazza). The heart of this project is in bringing out each performer's authentic individual voice and developing the show through a sense of collaboration and cooperation.

PROCESS: In Our Hands

In a three month process, the students chose the issue which they care most about in this society. They found partners to work with, and created their own pieces. All pieces were performed outside as a part of the process of developing the whole show. The issues the students chose are: Mental Health, Gender Inequality, Domestic Violence, Bias and discrimination toward LGBTQ community, and Social Class Devisions in this production.

KUMBLE THEATRE

1 University Plaza, Brooklyn, NY 11201 Long Island University Brooklyn

Long Island University Brooklyn
Department of Performing Arts
BFA in Acting for Theatre, Film, and Television

presents



Devisers/Performers

Chyna Jackson, Lily Ralph, Jeannet Garcia, Garrett Bailey, Nikko Johnston, Holly Sutton, Jessie Heesacker, Kira Brombacher, Aaliyah Peterman, Emily Talerman

Lighting Designer

Stage Manager

Dramaturg

Robin Dill

Rui Dun

Amy Gijsbers van Wijk

Assistant Director & Projection Designer

Saki Kawamura

Composer & Sound Desginer

Alyssa L. Jackson

Director

Yoshiko Usami

In Our Hands runs approximately 60 minutes without intermission.

IN OUR HANDS CAST



Garrett Bailey



Kira Brombacher



Jeannet Garcia



Jessie Heesacker



Chyna Jackson



Nikko Johnston



Aaliyah Peterman



Lily Ralph



Holly Sutton



Emily Talerman

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

GARRETT BAILEY (*Performer*) is a Junior BFA Acting major at LIU Brooklyn. His recent acting work includes: Tim in 'Little Rapes', Tania in 'Talk About the Weather', and Max in 'Pocatello'. Last year Garrett directed a zoom film titled 'Multiplex' written by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb. He also has directed and produced the play 'Straight' in Rock ford IL, Freeport IL; touching upon the issue of bias in queer people. Which he explored more in *In Our Hands*.

KIRA BROMBACHER (*Performer*) is so excited to be a part of In Our Hands. She is a freshman at LIU Brooklyn's Acting BFA. Past credits include 'A Chorus Line', 'Macbeth', and 'The Literati Awards'. When she isn't on stage you can find her reading or exploring with her friends. She would like to thank her family for their continuous support.

JEANNET GARCIA (*Performer*) is an actor and athlete. Her LIU credits include 'Multiplex', 'Him and Her', 'Na\ maste'. She is currently pursuing a BFA in Acting for Stage, Film, and Television (class of 2023). Jeannet is passionate about the topic of domestic violence, because she has witnessed its terrible effects on people, and would like to shine a light on this discussion.

JESSIE HEESACKER (Performer) is a new LIU transfer, making In Our Hands their LIU debut! Some of his favorite credits include 'The Monsters You Meet in the Dark' (Human Pincushion Productions), 'Crossroads' (short film), 'Annie Jump' (Renaissance Theatreworks), University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts' productions, and various short films. She thanks her friends and family for all the love and support and hopes that you enjoy the show!

CHYNA JACKSON (*Performer*) is a BFA Acting major at LIU Brooklyn. She is a graduate from the Outreach Program at Stella Adler Studio of Acting and was a dancer at Mark Morris Dance Center and Dancewave. Her previous credits include 'Under Construction', 'Mr.Burns Post-electric play' at LIU Brooklyn, 'The Odd Couple', 'Twelfth Night' and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. She is passionate about mental health and its perception in the black community.

NIKKO JOHNSTON (Performer) is a sophomore at LIU Brooklyn from Seattle Washington. This is his first devised theater piece but not his first time doing devised theater. He has really valued and enjoyed this process and can't wait to share the show! Before coming to New York, Nikko was involved in many different youth theater companies in Seattle as an actor, a leader, occasional director, and tech crew member. He has been a part of some staged readings and zoom performances while in New York and studying acting for film, TV, and theatre. He has loved every opportunity so far and hopes for many many more. He thanks you for coming to the show!

AALIYAH PETERMAN (Performer) 's most memorable performances include "Caucasian Chalk Circle" and "Willy Wonka Jr." the musical as Violet Beauregarde. Since moving to New York she has worked deck crew for the off-Broadway production of "Brilliant" a new musical. After attending all performing arts schools, Aaliyah currently studies at Long Island University Brooklyn for her BFA in Acting for Theatre, Film, and Television. Aaliyah wants black women to be seen as people not the image society dictates.

LILY RALPH (*Performer*) is a senior getting her BFA in acting at LIU Brooklyn. Her recent credits include The Drill (Leeza), Multiplex (Karma), and The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe (Dwarf). Lilith is passionate about mental health awareness because she has first hand experience with how the stigmatization of it has affected her, as well as her friends.

HOLLY SUTTON (*Performer*) is beyond excited to be a part of live theater again and to make her debut on the LIU stage. She would like to thank Yokko for this amazing opportunity as well as the crew and her fellow cast members for being so encouraging. She would also like to thank you, the audience, for opening your hearts to 'In Our Hands'. Past credits include: 'Aladdin', 'Legally Blonde', and 'Remove Before Flight: a Devised Piece'.

EMILY TALERMAN (*Performer*) is super excited to make her debut at LIU! Some previous credits include Frozen (Anna), The Crucible, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, The Twilight Zone: "The Midnight Sun" & "The Shelter", and Pinocchio. Much love and appreciation to La Jolla Playhouse, Grandma, Grandpa, Mom, Charlotte, and her cats (and Charlotte's cat). She hopes you leave the show more empathetic to others.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

YOSHIKO USAMI (Director) is an award-winning Japanese artist, whose work has been presented across the USA and Europe. She has acted in, devised, and choreographed a variety of local and international shows, music videos and films. Her major work: Butoh Medea, Hide of Fires: Butoh Lady Macbeth, SHINKA and BALDY. Her choreographed work, SHINKA received Outstanding premier production of a play and Outstanding Choreography & Movement at New York Innovative Theatre Award Season 2018-2019. Most recently, her Butoh work has been seen in several music videos, including Ready To Let Go (Cage The Elephant, 2019). She is the artistic director of the Butoh Theatre Group, Ren Gyo Soh. B.A in Theatre (UAlbany), MFA in Acting (The Actors Studio). www.rengyosoh.com

ALYSSA L. JACKSON (Composer & Sound Designer) a composer, audio engineer, cellist and media artist. She received her B.A. in Cello Performance at Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music and an M.F.A. in media scoring at Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema. She is currently taking composition classes at Julliard School of Music to refine her skills in music composition. Alyssa loves to express her creative energy in the arts and offer support through sound and music.

SAKI KAWAMURA (Projection Designer & Assistant Director) is an NYC-based interdisciplinary artist and award-winning director from Japan. She is pursuing her MFA in Directing at the Actors Studio Drama School. Her work has been seen in various mediums, including IKI-GAI: a purpose of living (Hollywood Fringe Award 2021) and One-Sided (Australia Film Festival Award). She is passionate about bringing her own voice as an international director and always aims to build bridges across cultures by challenging preconceived notions.

ROBIN DILL (*Lighting Designer*) is a Lighting, Scenic and Sound Designer/Technician from Walnut Creek, CA. Robin has designed and teched shows for a number of groups around NYC like The Ume Group and the Void Theatre Company, for independent artists like Yokko, and for collaborative projects like UNFIX NYC. He also works various projects ranging from Production managing NY Fashion week shows to working trade shows and other events all around NYC.

AMY GIJSBERS VAN WIJK (they/them) (*Dramaturg*) is a queer playwright from Pasadena, Texas, now based in Brooklyn, NY. They write plays about sex, shame, the femme gaze, and technology. Amy has been a Susan Smith Blackburn Prize nominee, a 2021 & 2019 Princess Grace semi-finalist, and won the national 2018/19 DVRF Playwrights Program. Their work has been developed with The Flea, Pipeline Theatre Company, Fresh Ground Pepper, New Light Theatre Project, Dixon Place, Project Y, Pride Films & Plays (Chicago), and elsewhere. BA, Brooklyn College. MFA, Carnegie Mellon University.

RUI DUN (Stage Manager) is a theater director/SM from China, currently based in Brooklyn. She has collaborated with artists from around the world to create work that speaks of cross-cultural experience and the human condition. Credits include 'Ma: The Exodus' (Artist Corps Grant), 'The Author's Voice' (ASDS Rep), 'Anne Frank Lives!' (Hudson Guild Theater), 'SHINKA' (AD), 'June Is The First Fall' (AD, New Ohio). She is rooting for all migrants to build a better life.

BARBARA PARISI (Chair of Performing Arts) is co-founder of the Ryan Repertory Company. Since 1972, she has directed the company in over 175 productions, ranging from musicals to dramas and comedies and has performed various roles throughout her career. From 2009-2017, she directed and designed the lighting for Decades Apart: Reflections of Three Gay Men, an original one-man show, written and performed by Rick Pulos, which has been touring throughout the United States. Barbara has a Doctorate in Performance Studies for New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She is Professor of Communications Studies, Performance Studies, Gender Studies, and Theatre at LIU Brooklyn. She was the editor of the Best American Short Plays series from 2004 to 2010 for Applause Theatre and Cinema Books/Hal Leonard Group Publishing.

QUICHE STONE (*Director, Acting for Theatre, Film, and Television/Associate Professor*) began her teaching career at LIU more than two decades ago. It has been an enormous privilege for her to work with the LIU students and watch the acting program grow. She studied acting at RADA in London, performance studies at NYU, and theatre history at Brooklyn College. She has performed ad directed n both the US and UK and is a published and produced playwright and screenwriter.

LIU BROOKLYN PRODUCTION HISTORY

NOVEMBER 2021: *Spike Heels* by Theresa Rebeck. Directed by Alexa Hinton, Faculty Advisor Quiche Stone, The Barbara and Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MAY/OCTOBER 2021: *Multiplex* by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb. Directed by Garrett Bailey *BFA program, Filmed and Streamed.

APRIL 2021: *The Drill* by Dee Stahl. Directed by Chris Burgess *BFA program, Filmed and Live Zoom.

MARCH 2021: *Little Rapes* by Amina Henry. Directed by Monet *BFA program, Live Zoom.

REHEARSED MARCH 2020, RECORDED JANUARY 2021: *Talk About the Weather* – written and performed by the students. Directed by Mia Rovegno *BFA program, Performance Website.

DECEMBER 2020: *A Zoom with a View* – new scenes by many authors. Directed by Quiche Stone *BFA program, Streaming.

NOVEMBER 2019: *Pocatello* by Samuel D. Hunter. Directed by Julie Kline *BFA program, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 2019: *Mr. Burns, a Post-Electric Play* by Anne Washburn, Directed by Andrew Williams, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER 2018: *Under Construction* by Charles Mee, A devised theatre piece. Directed by Wil Petre, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre

MARCH 2018: *Rabbit Hole* by David Lindsay-Abaire. Directed by Andrew Williams, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER 2017: *The Awakening of Spring* by Frank Wedekind, translated by Francis J Ziegler. Directed by Andrew Williams, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 2017: *Stupid F**king Bird* by Aaron Posner. Directed by Julie Kline, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

MARCH 2016: *Elvira* by Jessica Carmona. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER 2015: *Messages for Gary* by Patrick Horrigan. Directed by Iris Rose, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 2015: *Songs for a New World* by Jason Robert Brown. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER 2014: *Still in a Cage: Stories of (In)Equali ty short plays* by Connor Bowen, Bianca Coombs, Valerie Hong, Jerrica Martin, and Gabriella Yacyk. Directed by Courtney Black and John Sannuto, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 2014: *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER 2013: *Technically Speaking: A 10-Minute Play Festival* by Ciara Diaz, Cara Hall, Brian Hill, Kimberly Jones, Jerrica Martin, Wesley Middleton, Gabriel A. Tolliver. Directed by Ashley Théagêne and John Sannuto, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 2015: *Songs for a New World* by Jason Robert Brown. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

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MARCH 2013: *The Freedom Plays: Three Original 1 Act Plays* by Bianca Bloomfeild, Todd Dakotah Briscoe, Brian Hill, Aidan Levy, and Kate Oliva. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER/OCTOBER 2012: The Fall New Works Reading Series by Brandon Beck, Teddy Nicholas, Sofia Quintero, Kevin Christopher Snipes, Travis Taylor, Leah Nanako Winkler, Amber Yoder and Matt Zehnder. Directed by Matt Zehnder. The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre3

MARCH 2012: *Fires in The Mirror* by Anna Deavere Smith. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

NOVEMBER 2011: *The Hotel Plays: Six Original Ten Minute Plays* by Shannon Dunlap, Kristine Ekman, Jason Leahey, Emily Sklar, Michael Washburn, and Matt Zehnder. Directed by Matt Zehnder, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 2011: *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. Directed by Dan Roche, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

LIU BROOKLYN PRODUCTION HISTORY

NOVEMBER 2010: *The Help: A Staged Reading* by Kathryn Stockett. Directed by Rhoda Feuer, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL/MARCH 2009: *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare. Directed by Misti B. Wills, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

MARCH 2008: *The African Company Presents Richard III* by Carlyle Brown. Directed by Quiche Stone, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

DECEMBER/NOVEMBER 2007: *America Ain't Ready* by Pedro Calderon de la Barca, Written and Directed by Pamela Sneed, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL/MARCH 2007: *Life is a Dream* by Pedro Calderon de la Barca, translated by Gary Racz. Directed by Quiche Stone, Faculty Advisor Melody Brooks, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

DECEMBER/NOVEMBER 2006: The House of Bernarda Alba by Frederico Garcia Lorca, translated and Adapted by Michael Dewell and Carmen Zapata. Directed by Isabel Capellan, Faculty Advisor Melody Brooks, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL 2006: *Antigone* by Sophocles. Directed by Ariel Nazryan, Faculty Advisor James Martinelli, Kumble Theatre for the Performing Arts.

FEBRUARY 2006: *The Vagina Monologues* by Eve Ensler. Directed by Michell Orlic, Faculty Advisor James Martinelli, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MAY 2005: Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll. Written and Performed by Students Jelani Babb, Isabel Capellan, Shykia Fields, Caran Harris, Monirul Islam, Nadijah Khaliq, Vanessa Langston, Scott Parish, Cynthia Ramos, Kimberly Thomas, and Natasha Thomas. Directed by Melody Brooks, New Perspectives Theatre, NYC.

FEBRUARY 2005: *Autobiographical Voices Getting to the Core:Uncensored.* Written and Performed by Students Michell Orlic, Faculty Advisor James Martinelli, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL/MAY 2005: *The Bacchae* by Euripides, Adapted and Directed by Kameron Steele. Associate Director Ivana Catanese, The Triangle Theatre.

FEBRUARY 2004: *WIT* by Margret Edson. Directed by Fushia Osbourne, Faculty Advisor Pamela Sneed, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

Shakespeare. Adapted and Directed by Melody Brooks, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

FEBRUARY 2003: *The Laramie Project* by Moises Kaufman. Directed by Denise Cirincione, Faculty Advisor

Quiche Stone, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MAY 2002: *The Mosquito's Bed* by Nicole Guide Adapted, Directed and Choreographed by John Sannuto, The Playhouse in the Brooklyn Music School.

FEBRUARY 2002: *Extremities* by William Mastrosimones. Directed by Angela Hunte, Faculty Advisor Elton Beckett, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL 2001: *A Celebration of Performance: Autobiographical Performances.* Written and Performed by Students: Scott Horowitz, Jovanna King, Allison Patrick, Freddie Perez, and Christin Voris. Directed by Pamela Sneed, The Triangle Theatre.

FEBRUARY 2001: *Never the Sinner* by John Logan. Directed by Nick Lugo, Faculty Advisor Quiche Stone, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL 2000: *Blood Wedding* by Frederico Garcia Lorca. Directed by John Sannuto, Choreographed by Ninotchka Bennahum, The New Perspectives Theatre, NYC.

APRIL 1998/MARCH 1997: *The Way to Keep Him* by Arthur Murphy. Directed by John Sannuto, The Triangle Theatre.

FEBRUARY 1999: *Runway 22.* Written and Directed by Professor Adam Wade, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

APRIL 1998: *The Me Nobody Knows* by Robert H. Livingston & Herb Shapiro. Directed and Choreographed by John Sannuto, The Triangle Theatre.

APRIL 1998/MARCH 1997: *Beyond Bondage: The Life of Frederick Douglass.* Adapted and Directed by Travis L. Stockely, The Barbara & Melvin Pasternack Little Theatre.

MARCH 1997: *Fences* by August Wilson. Directed by Barbara Parisil, The Triangle Theatre.

1993: For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf by Ntozake Shange. Directed by Barbara Pasternack, The Triangle Theatre.

STAFF

Photography, Videography (Prospect Park) **Krzy Sien**

Videography (Production)

Matthew Kohn

Graphic Design / Video Editing
Saki Kawamura

ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTION

Voice Coach / Assistant Director

Dianna Cortez

Game Show Host (Voice Over) **Brady Marchak**

Deviser **Emma Simms**

SPECIAL THANKS

LIU President **Dr. Kimberly R. Cline**

Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs **Dr. Randy Burd**

Vice President Academic Affairs **Dr. Ed Weis**

Chair of Performing Arts Department **Dr. Barbara Parisi**

Director, Acting for Theatre, Film, and Television **Quiche Stone**

Associate Artistic Director, The New Group Ian Morgan

Theatre Faculty **Dr. John Sannuto**

Theatre Faculty **Prof. Alenka Cizmesija**

Buildings and Grounds, LIU Public Safety

LIU BFA ACTING PROGRAM

In the Fall of 2018, LIU Brooklyn began a brand-new BFA Program in Acting for Theatre, Film and Television. The BFA program offers acting, voice, and movement classes in partnership with The New Group, an award-winning, artist-driven company in New York City. Students take acting, voice, and movement classes from company faculty of accomplished professionals and seasoned actors. By studying under the studio model at a renowned off-Broadway theater company, students can immerse themselves in the art of acting. To learn more about the LIU Brooklyn BFA in Acting for Theatre, Film, and Television in partnership with The New Group, please contact:

Quiche Stone

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