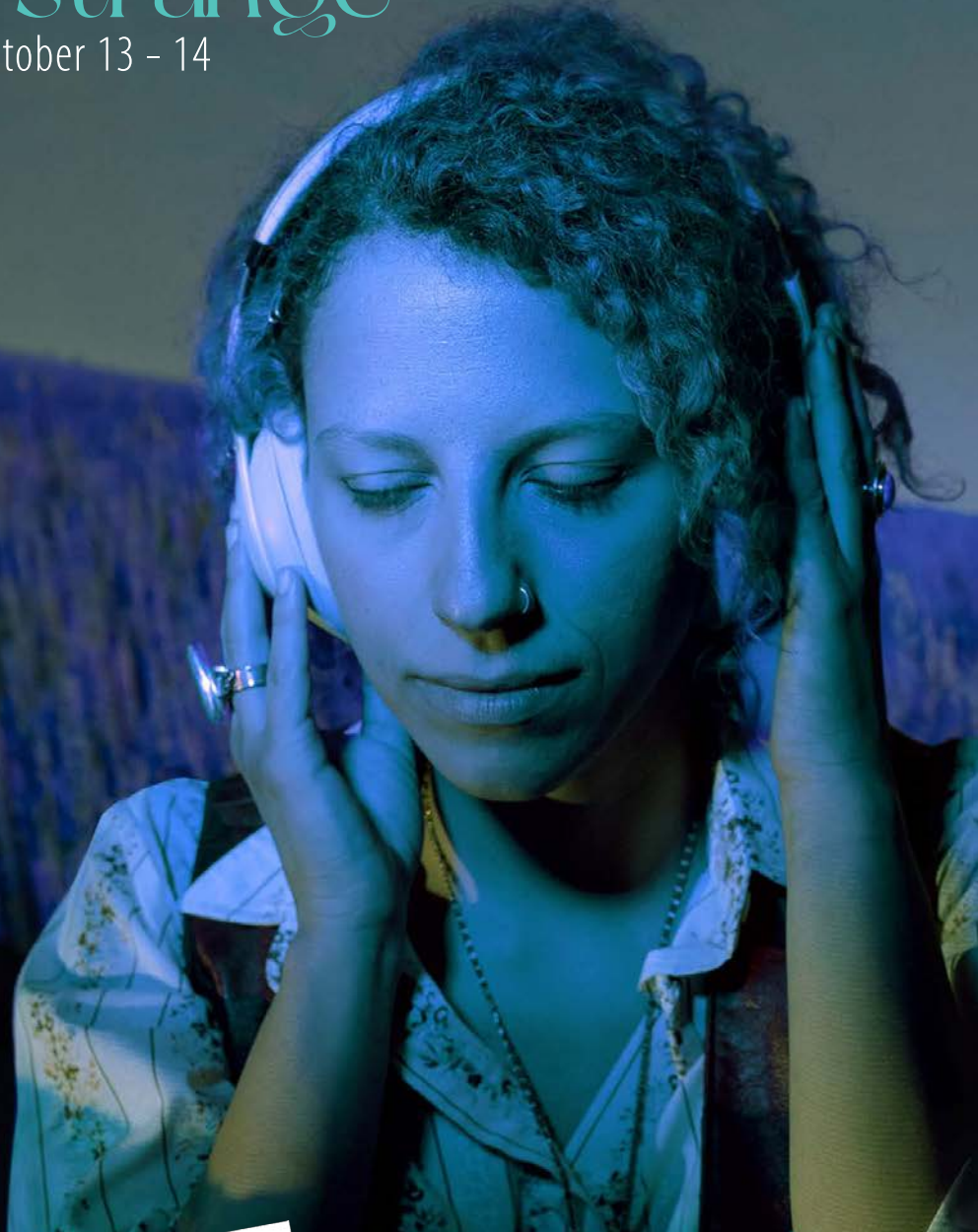


# somewhere strange

a musical exploration by Vida Chai

October 13 - 14



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# SOMEWHERE STRANGE

A MUSICAL EXPLORATION

OCTOBER 13-14 | NEW HAZLETT THEATER

## CREATIVE TEAM

VIDA CHAI.....Creator/Composer  
LINDSAY GORANSON.....Director  
KAILA CARTER.....Choreographer

## PERFORMERS

VIDA CHAI.....Guitar/Lead Vocals  
DAN MILLER.....Upright Bass  
RYAN SOCRATES.....Percussion/Drum Kit  
GRAY BUCHANAN.....Fiddle/Electric Guitar  
KELSEY ROBINSON.....Vocals  
TREASURE TREASURE.....Vocals  
INDIRA CUNNINGHAM.....Dancer  
MEGHAN PHILIPS.....Dancer

## DESIGN TEAM

NINGNING YANG..... Scenic Designer  
MADELEINE STEINECK..... Lighting Designer  
CHRIS FRITSKY.....Sound Engineer

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## SONGS

1. Sullen Love Songs
2. Late November
3. The Mask
4. Garden
5. The Breakup
6. Somewhere Strange
7. Wolfbrook Forest
8. Peaks and Valleys
9. War Paint
10. Bows
11. Rust Belt City

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# ABOUT THE SHOW

**E**xperience **Vida Chai's latest album** in an all-new immersive concert. Composed in the social desert of 2020, this eclectic performance seamlessly blends folk-Americana, indie, and rock. Directed by Lindsay Goranson and featuring choreography by Kaila Carter, the all-star band includes Dan Miller (Upright Bass), Ryan Socrates (Percussion), and Gray Buchanan (Fiddle) along with Kelsey Robinson and Treasure Treasure on vocals.



**I have some incredible musicians with me on this project and I'm really excited to share this project with Pittsburgh. I want people to feel seen and less alone in their experience.**

**VIDA CHAI**

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# SPECIAL THANKS

There are so many incredible people who made this project possible. I would like to thank Kristin Helfrich and the rest of the New Hazlett team for believing in my vision and helping me take it to the next level. I would also like to thank Lindsay Goranson for giving *Somewhere Strange* its legs and combining all of these different mediums masterfully. Thank you to Kaila Carter for bringing a deeper level of emotionality and catharsis to the project through dance. Thank you to all of the performance artists involved in this project who committed their talent and time tell a story that I once thought would never leave my room.

I would also like to thank my family for their never-ending support of my creativity and big dreams. Thank you to my close friends and partner for supporting me through the creation of this story and sticking together when COVID isolation was heavy. Last but not least, I am grateful to the audience for being here. I hope all of you can experience some catharsis and healing through this piece along with me.

- **Vida Chai**



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# WHO'S WHO

## THE CREATIVE TEAM



### **VIDA CHAI (Creator/Composer)**

is an indie-folk singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist with a foundation in poetry-writing and jazz. Vida's music is inspired by relationships, systemic issues, and spending time in nature. They are passionate about telling every day stories from a Queer perspective so that community members may see themselves in art and media. Vida's goal is to use music as a medium of connection and storytelling where folks from different walks of life can come together and connect over universal human experiences.



### **LINDSAY GORANSON (Director)**

is a multi-discipline artist, puppet maker, art director, and costume designer. Her work includes new, experimental, and immersive theatre, installation art, music videos, and film. She aspires to minimize the environmental impact of these fields and engage audiences in conversations about societal change.

[lindsaygoranson.com](http://lindsaygoranson.com)



### **KAILA CARTER (Choreographer)**

began her dancing at a young age and went on to continue at Duke Ellington School of the Arts where she majored in dance. Kaila is an alumna of Butler University, where she graduated in May of 2019. While pursuing her degree, she was also able to grow choreographically and have work featured on European stages. After graduation, Kaila joined Ballethnic Dance Company for two seasons. Kaila is currently a Company Artists with Confluence Ballet Company.

# WHO'S WHO

## THE BAND



### **DAN MILLER (Upright Bass)**

is a bassist/cellist native to Pittsburgh, PA. He studied music at Edinboro and Duquesne Universities and has been performing regularly with local orchestras, musical theater, folk, bluegrass, jazz, and rock groups for the past 20 years. Currently, Dan can be found performing with The Washington PA Symphony Orchestra, folk trio The Lost Causes, and rock groups Flock of Walri and Erika June and the Tunes.



### **RYAN SOCRATES (Percussion)**

is a percussionist, drummer, and producer. Notable achievements include playing for the Henry Mancini Institute in LA, recording and touring with rising singer/songwriter Joy Ike, and co-leading his group Trio+. Locally, he is an in-demand live and session drummer with Pittsburgh acts and singer-songwriters like the Jazz Conspiracy, Bindley Hardware Co, and Quantum Theater. Ryan has lectured and led ensembles at Slippery Rock University, Duquesne University, and the PA Governor's School for the Arts.



### **GRAY BUCHANAN (Fiddle)**

is a singer and multi-instrumentalist from Pittsburgh, PA. They have played shows all over PA, WV, VA, & MD with various old time and bluegrass ensembles. In January 2020 (close one, eh?), they went on an Australian tour with their band, Grayscale Contraband. In 2019 they scored, composed, and played the music for Ali Hoefnagel's CSA show, *You Can Call Me Al*, the New Hazlett Theater. They are excited to be back working at this awesome theater for *Somewhere Strange!*

# WHO'S WHO (CONT.)



## **KELSEY ROBINSON (Vocals)**

has gratefully worked with well-celebrated Pittsburgh theater companies: Quantum Theatre, Bricolage Production Company, Carnegie Mellon University Drama, Pittsburgh CLO and is delighted to be part of her fourth CSA. She's honored to have performed at world-renowned venues: Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, MoMA, The Studio Museum of Harlem and The Shed. Kelsey studied musical theater at Point Park University and is ecstatic to be touring N. America with lifelong idols Squonk.



## **TREASURE TREASURE (Vocals)**

is an artist and multi-instrumentalist working in music, comedy, film, and visual art. Theatre credits include *Cabaret* (Emcee, Hangar Theatre,) *This Ain't No Disco* (Atlantic Theater Company,) *Agnus Teaches Acting* (The Duplex,) *Fiddler on the Roof* (CLO). She made her Broadway debut in the revival of *Annie Get Your Gun*. She holds a BFA from the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama. Her debut EP, *Hypnerotomachia*, is available on all platforms. IG: @manifestingtreasure



## **INDIRA CUNNINGHAM (Dancer)**

is a performing and visual artist native to Atlanta, Georgia. She began her dance training at 3 years old at Atlanta Festival Ballet, and continued her training at Ballethnic Academy of Dance in East Point, GA. Indira received her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Oklahoma. She has danced with Oklahoma City Ballet, Vitacca Ballet, Ballethnic Dance Company, and is currently a member of Confluence Ballet Company in Pittsburgh, PA.



## **MEGHAN PHILLIPS (Dancer)**

began her training at South Dayton Dance Theater in Dayton, Ohio and later earned her BFA from the SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance. Professionally, Meghan has performed, choreographed, and taught for Ballet Quad Cities and Confluence Ballet. She has performed the featured roles of Sugar Plum Fairy (*The Nutcracker*), Mina (*Dracula*), Aurora (*The Sleeping Beauty*), Firebird (w), as well as other lead roles in original works.

# WHO'S WHO (CONT.)



## **MADELEINE STEINECK** (Lighting Designer)

is a lighting designer and master electrician. Her design credits include: Pittsburgh Festival Opera, off the WALLProductions, Mercyhurst Institute of Arts and Culture, Mercyhurst University Theatre Program, the New Hazlett CSA Series, MCG Jazz, Texture Contemporary Ballet, Morgantown Dance Studio, and Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company.



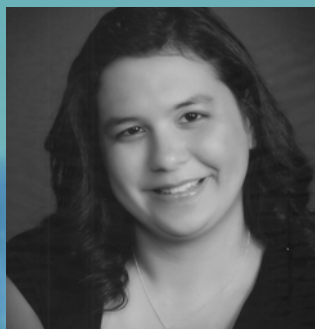
## **NINGNING YANG** (Scenic Designer)

is a scenic designer from Jiangsu, China. She's currently a Scenic Design graduate student at CMU. She is beyond excited to work on this show, as it talks about a recent experience that the whole world had shared. Upcoming and recent productions include: *Ariodante* at the Pittsburgh Opera, *Preludes* at CMU School of Drama, the *Blue Hour* [film by Dahee Yun]. IG: @renee39dt



## **CHRIS FRITSKY** (Sound Engineer)

has been in audio for nearly a decade. During New Hazlett Theater's 2020-2021 CSA season, Chris filmed, edited and stream all six performances, one of which (Kaylin Horgan's *Milton*) won Pittsburgh City Paper's Best Virtual Performance Award. Chris has also worked in the AV field as the audio engineer for a number of clients in the world of corporate special events, including Pittsburgh's CLO, Red Bull, Paypal, the Hilton family and others.



## **LAUREN WIJANGCO**

**(Stage Manager)** is ecstatic to be working on her second CSA production at the New Hazlett Theater! Past credits include Assistant to the Director for *Idaspe* (Quantum Theatre); Production Assistant for *The Garologists* (City Theatre); On-Call Production Assistant for *The Medium* (City Theatre); Wardrobe - Dresser for *The Speckled Band, An Adventure of Sherlock Holmes* (Kinetic Theatre Company); *Tech for Iron in Your Future* (Pittsburgh Fringe Festival); Assistant Stage Manager for *An Octoroon* (Kinetic Theatre Company).

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# NEW HAZLETT STAFF

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DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING.....KRISTIN HELFRICH  
PRODUCTION MANAGER.....DYLAN BAKER  
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MARKETING MANAGER.....PHOEBE ORR  
PATRON SERVICES COORDINATOR.....KEVIN RABBITS  
BOX OFFICE COORDINATOR.....NATHAN WAGNER  
STAGE MANAGER.....LAUREN N. WIJANGCO  
SOUND OPERATOR.....CHRIS FRITSKY  
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....MADELEINE STEINECK  
AUDIO TECHNICIAN.....LAURA MOELLER

FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF...BRANDON ANDERSON, DAVID BALINT,  
NAOMI COSTANZA, REBECCA HURLBERT,  
TRAYCEE IMAI, ZOË PIENKOSKI, EVA RESNICK-DAY,  
ALEXIS RETCOFSKY, JASMINE ROTH, NATHAN WAGNER,  
LAUREN N. WIJANGCO, LINDA WORTHAM

## SPECIAL THANKS FROM NEW HAZLETT THEATER

Recital Magazine, Renee Rosensteel, Saturday Light Brigade,  
Eve Bandy, Peter PJ Roduta, and Pittsburgh Opera

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