

# An IMM- Permanent Resident

A NAUTANKI  
BAZAAR PROD  
IN ASSOCIATION  
WITH FACTORY  
THEATRE

WRITTEN & PERFORMED  
BY NEHA PODUVAL  
AND HIMANSHU  
SITLANI

DIRECTED BY  
MIQUELON RODRIGUEZ

MARCH 12-22

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The land on which you are about to watch this story unfold is land that was never meant to be ours, but shared and cared for by all people who live, thrive, and play here. Nautanki Bazaar acknowledges with gratitude and a shared sense of responsibility for the land and waterways, the original stewards, caretakers, and storytellers of this part of Turtle Island.

This territory is subject to the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, a treaty between the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat, the Chippewa, and the Anishnaabe, which includes the Mississauga's of the Credit, that invites all people, Indigenous and settlers alike, to peacefully share and take care of the land and the water together.

This meeting place called T'karonto is still home to many Indigenous people from across this vast land, and we encourage you to learn more about where you live and thrive by visiting [www.whose.land](http://www.whose.land) to see what you can do to honour and protect the land and water.

# Director's Note

Home.

It's less of a place and more of a concept. A state of being. Of comfort. Of stability. Home is where we should feel protected. Relaxed. Inspired. Loved. And yet, while home is deeply-rooted and secure for some, for many it is conditional. It changes. It moves. It can be outgrown. Outlived. It can be stolen. Destroyed. Uprooted. It can be inherited. Or it can be an everlasting search. Across oceans, even.

For Himanshu and Neha, home seemed like it meant waiting, more than anything else. For years. Waiting for the end of unending forms. Documents. Photos. Again and again. Waiting for the end of estimated wait times. For a letter. For confirmation. Permission to stay. To live. Waiting for a reprieve from bureaucracy. From officer dispositions. Waiting for a reprieve from waiting itself.

And though in that waiting there was frustration, exhaustion, and many tests of patience, ultimately, their persistence and determination paid off. But beyond that, I like to think, whether they realized it or not, their true success was that they had already found home in each other. Like so many immigrants before and after them who crossed bridges to their human right to find home, the love they nurtured and fought for was the keystone to it all.

And now, after close to a decade since the first words of this play were written in this very building, we get to share this story with you one more time, here, in a place we once called home ourselves.

For all immigrants still searching for home, and for those who found it on the other side of the world, just like my parents and much of my family, this is for you.

Welcome home. Enjoy the show.



**MIQUELON RODRIGUEZ**  
**DIRECTOR**

# Meet The Artists

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Himanshu Sitlani & Neha Poduval – PLAYWRIGHTS/  
PERFORMERS**

**Miquelon Rodriguez - DIRECTOR/SOUND DESIGNER**

**Reva Lokhande - STAGE MANAGER**

**Jung-Hye Kim - SET AND COSTUME DESIGNER**

**Tushar Tukaram Dalvi - LIGHTING DESIGNER**

**HEAD TECHNICIAN: KI KARL TILANDER**

**STAGE CREW: Daniel Bilton, Dayne Henry, Anhson Hoang,  
Daniel Lei, Camille MacDonald, Alex Winter**

**Stage Employees of Factory Theatre are represented by Local 58 of the  
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.**

RUN TIME: 80 MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL WARNINGS: FLASHING LIGHTS

CONTENT WARNINGS: STRONG LANGUAGE MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

Founded in 2019 by Neha Poduval and Himanshu Sitlani, **Nautanki Bazaar** was formed with a mission to present, promote, showcase and celebrate South Asian stories and artists.

In 2021, Their first digital play, "Stories of a Dish", was presented at the Mississauga Multilingual Fringe Festival, The Edinburgh Fringe, The Little Lion Theatre Festival in London UK, The Tata Literature Live Festival in Mumbai India and the Next Stage Theatre Festival in Toronto.

Their first in-person play "An IMM-Permanent Resident", was presented at the Theatre Centre in April 2022 as part of Why Not Theatre's RISER Toronto. The play earned 5 Dora Nominations in the Independent Category including Outstanding New Play and Outstanding Ensemble. It will now play at the Factory Theatre in March 2026 as part of their Spring 2026 Season.

In 2024, their play 'Aala Tamasha Aala' enjoyed a highly successful run at the Toronto Fringe, earning strong audience response and glowing reviews from critics. The play will return in 2027!

They've also had successful show runs of their Hindi plays 'Miss Cuckoo' and 'Tax Free' at the Mississauga Multilingual Fringe Festival in 2024 and 2025 respectively.

**NAUTANKI  
BAZAAR**

# Meet The Artists



## Himanshu Sitlani & Neha Poduval – Playwrights and Performers

Himanshu Sitlani is a Dora Mavor Moore Award-nominated playwright and performer. Originally from Mumbai, Himanshu has been deeply involved in supporting the creative arts in Canada. He currently serves as Managing Director at Native Earth Performing Arts while also pursuing his goal of building a bridge between creative artists in Canada and India. This vision led to the formation of Nautanki Bazaar.

In 2021 he wrote and performed in the virtual show *Stories of a Dish* that was presented at the Mississauga Multilingual Fringe Festival, the Edinburgh Fringe, the Little Lion Theatre Festival in London, UK, the Tata Literature Live Festival in Mumbai, India, and the Next Stage Theatre Festival in Toronto.

Neha Poduval is a Dora Mavor Moore Award-nominated playwright and performer, with several feathers in her creative cap, having performed in various plays, corporate films, and TV shows across India. A post-graduate in acting from the reputed Film and Television Institute of India, she continued her association with the performing arts after moving to Canada. She co-runs Nautanki Bazaar, a South Asian focused theatre company in Toronto.

Neha is also a certified yoga teacher. In 2021 she started her own YouTube channel called *Mustard Tempered Dreams*, where she shares her love for food through delicious, easy-to-make (mostly) vegetarian recipes from India and around the world.

## Miquelon Rodriguez - Director and Sound Designer

Miquelon Rodriguez is a Dora-nominated director and sound designer, composer, radio play mixer & editor, digital content creator, actor, and arts leader based in Tkaronto. He was the Apprentice Artistic Director at Factory Theatre from 2017-2019 under the mentorship of Nina Lee Aquino, and co-curated Pan-Asian works over two seasons at Soulpepper through the Tiger Bamboo Festival and the Shen Development Series under the mentorship of Ins Choi. He is a graduate of the Artistic Leadership Residency at the National Theatre School of Canada and has worked with a multitude of artists and companies across Turtle Island and internationally.

He is currently directing and designing an immersive auditory-focused video game with Frog In Hand and Diaspora Games and is obsessed with plastic model kit building.



## Reva Lokhande - Stage Manager

Reva Lokhande (she/her) is a Tkaronto – based artist advocate, stage manager, producer, and production coordinator with a diverse background in theatre, tv, live shows, and film.

With a passion for the arts, entertainment, people, nature, peace and respect for all she continues to pursue her learning, skill development and intangible skills within the theatre, live TV, and film industry. Her combined knowledge of the set, stage, site-specific, and people skills is how she continues to bring about progress in her path and the paths of all the collaborators she works with. Her theatre experience credits include roles of assistant stage manager for (Children of Fire) Nightwood Theatre, (Rubble) Aluna Theatre and Theatre Passe Muraille, (Between A Wok and a Hot Pot), Cahoots Theatre, (New) Canadian Stage and (Stag and Doe) The Capitol Theatre in Port Hope and Outside Looking In organization's 2024 showcase for Indigenous Youth.

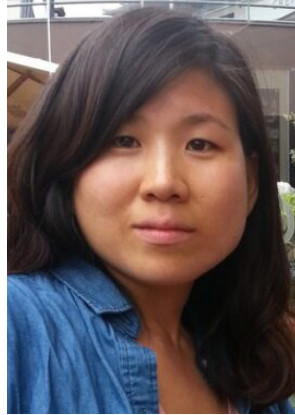
Her head stage managing credits include The Indigenous Fashion Arts 2024 Festival Runway shows, the corporate tech event; 2024 Collision Conference's Pitch and Showcase Stage, Nautanki Bazaar's successful 2024 TO Fringe fest run of Aala Tamasha Aala and Outside Looking In's student showcase 2025. She also has production and contestant coordinating credits with The Legacy Awards 2023, the Beast Games, 2024 respectively and successfully finished a few tv shows at the end of 2025 year which need to stay undisclosed for legal reasons, but she revels in that success, nonetheless. Recently she has earned a credit of production and show assistant for the Canadian Opera Company's 2025-2026 production of *Rigoletto*, one that she is very happy to have been a part of and will continue to pursue and aspire towards in the future as a part of the stage-managing team.

This year she is especially excited to stage manage Nautanki Bazaar's production run of *An IMM-Permanent Resident* this year at The Factory Theatre and looks forward to bringing more success, growth, and positive energy to all the upcoming projects for 2026 and beyond!



### Jung-Hye Kim - Set and Costume Designer

Jung-Hye is a Toronto based set and costume designer. Her recent design credits include Rez Gas (Capitol Theatre), Sanctuary Song (Tapestry Opera), Shedding a Skin (Nightwood Theatre), Heathers (Theatre Sheridan), Cambodian Rock Band (Arts Club Theatre Company), Something Rotten (Theatre Sheridan), The Flin Flon Cowboy (Theatre Passe Muraille), Guilt a love story (Tarragon Theatre), Lady M (1S1 Theatre), The Chinese Lady (Studio 180, Dora award for outstanding costume design), The Nightingale of A Thousand Songs (CCOC), Jesus Christ Superstar (Theatre Sheridan), Hamlet-911 (Stratford Festival), Now You See Her (Quote Unquote Collective, Dora nomination for outstanding costume design)



### Tushar Tukaram Dalvi - Lighting Designer

Tushar Tukaram Dalvi is a Mumbai-born, Toronto-based theatre artist with 10+ years of experience as a director, actor, producer, stage manager, and lighting designer. He founded Rangaai Theatre Company in 2016, creating immersive, sensory-driven performances.

A recipient of the Associated Designers of Canada Mentorship Grant to train under Trevor Schwellnus. He is currently apprenticing in Lighting Design with Michelle Ramsay, supported by the Ontario Arts Council.

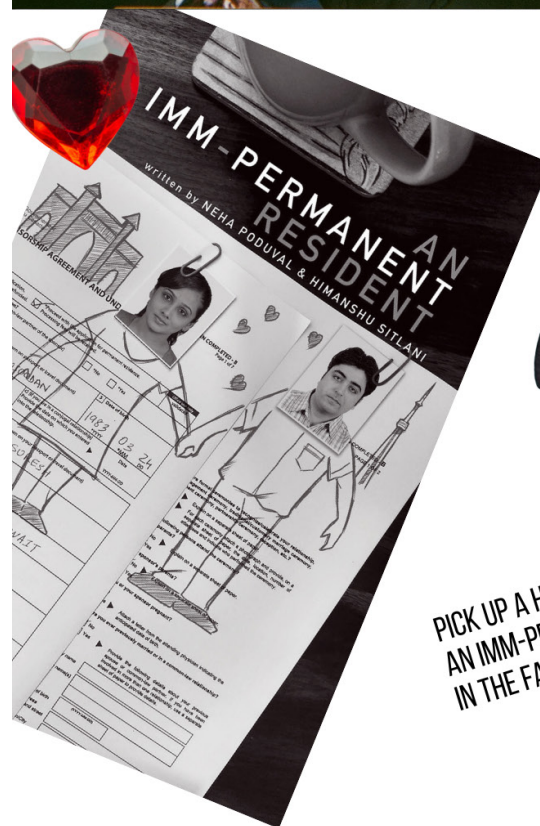
Light Design credits - NEW (Alumnae Theatre, 2026), Ishq Ke Saat Muqaam (Tawoos Initiative, 2025), The Proposal by Anton Chekhov (Mississauga Fringe, 2025), Akathya (Rangaai Theatre Company, 2025), Aap Ka Khayal Aaya (Sawitri Theatre, 2025), Miss Cuckoo (Nautanki Bazaar Productions, 2024). Assistant & Apprentice Light Design - The Cunning Linguist (Aluna Theatre, 2024), Cicadas (NAC, Tarragon Theatre, 2026), and Hansel & Gretel Panto (Capitol Theatre, 2025).



# Bollywood, Street Food, & the Resilience of Love



READ THE INTERVIEW ON FACTORY'S SUBSTACK!



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PICK UP A HARD COPY OF AN IMM-PERMANENT RESIDENT IN THE FACTORY LOBBY WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



# FACTORY THEATRE

Working with playwrights, workshopping scripts and connecting audiences with Canadian premieres is the foundation of everything we do. By fostering an environment of innovation, risk taking, rigor and play; Factory Theatre continues to be at the forefront of Canadian theatre.



INVEST IN  
CANADIAN STORY  
TELLING,  
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ARTS COMMUNITY,  
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Factory's mission is to enthrall audiences with the imagination of Canadian playwrights and develop the next generation of diverse theatre artists. Since its founding in 1970, Factory has committed to exclusively produce Canadian plays. Factory has made it an artistic priority to invest in, and showcase Canadian artists who bring their stories to our theatre in Toronto. This has made Factory the home of the Canadian playwright and for over five decades, developing and producing some of the finest theatrical works in our national canon and giving space to some of the most gifted and prolific playwrights in Canada.

Factory proudly works with a number of unions and professional associations to engage the artists and tradespeople who make the work you see on stage, include IATSE Local 58, Canadian Actors Equity Association, the Playwrights Guild of Canada, and the Associated Designers of Canada. We are a proud participant in Equity's Not In Our Space program and are a certified Champion-level employer with the Ontario Living Wage Network.



## MONTHLY GIVING

In celebration of our 55th birthday this year, we're trying to reach 55 monthly donors.

Setting up a monthly gift is a great way to support the sustainable creation of exciting new work at Factory while keeping your monthly payments manageable. For as little as \$5 a month, you can help us mark this milestone birthday and play an important role in creating the future of Canadian theatre.

Follow this QR Code to set up a monthly gift today!

## OUR TEAM

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## HEAD TECHNICIANS

URI LIVNE-BAR (MAINSACE THEATRE)  
KI KARL TILANDER (STUDIO THEATRE)

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IF WE HAVE MADE ERRORS OR OMISSIONS, PLEASE ACCEPT OUR SINCERE APOLOGIES AND CONTACT THE FACTORY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AT [DEVELOPMENT@FACTORYTHEATRTE.CA](mailto:DEVELOPMENT@FACTORYTHEATRTE.CA)

# UP NEXT @ FACTORY

# SPRING 2026

A Nervous Hunter  
production presented  
by Factory Theatre  
and Théâtre français  
de Toronto

# BONNES BONNES

APRIL 15-19, 2026

IN ENGLISH

AVRIL 22-26, 2026

EN FRANÇAIS

Written by Tamara Nguyen  
and Sophie Gee



**We believe that when people participate in their community, good things can happen.**

We're proud to support Factory Theatre. As part of our goal to help people feel a sense of belonging in their communities, TD supports Arts and Culture events, initiatives, and organizations across North America that amplify diverse voices.

Learn more at [td.com/artsandculture](https://td.com/artsandculture)

**TD READY  
COMMITMENT**



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# SPRING 2026

# FACTORY THEATRE



## 01 PEOPLE OF THE CITY

FEBRUARY 18 - 28,  
A Bad Dog Theatre  
production in  
association with  
Factory Theatre

## 02 AN IMM-PERMANENT RESIDENT

MARCH 12-22, 2026  
A Nautanki Bazaar  
production in  
association with  
Factory Theatre

## 03 BONNES BONNES

APRIL 15-19, 2026  
IN ENGLISH  
AVRIL 22-26, 2026  
EN FRANÇAIS

A Nervous Hunter  
production presented  
by Factory Theatre  
and Théâtre français  
de Toronto

# SEE YOU AT THE THEATRE!