



Hello Louie,

You are invited to see [RECONSTRUCTING](#), a tremendous and complex work-in-progress helmed by **Zhailon Levingston** and Tony Award-winning director **Rachel Chavkin**.

This production is not for review, but we have limited press tickets for those who would like to experience this intimate work as it makes its journey to fruition.

Please let me know which date throughout the run (Oct 24-27) you would like to attend or if you would like to chat with one of the company members.

Sincerely yours, Sarah Garvey (sgarvey@bam.org)

TEAM presents *Reconstructing (Still Working but the Devil Might Be Inside)*, Oct 24-27

A work-in-progress co-directed by Rachel Chavkin and Zhailon Levingston



Photo credit: Alon Koppel Photography

BAM and The TEAM Present

Reconstructing (Still Working but the Devil Might Be Inside)

Work-in-progress showings of a new play created by The TEAM

Directed by Rachel Chavkin and Zhailon Levingston

Oct 24—27

BAM Fisher (Fishman Space)

321 Ashland Pl.

Brooklyn, NY

Helmed by the TEAM's biggest writing collective yet—21 artists, aged 28-98, 14 of whom are artists of Color and 7 of whom are white-identifying — *Reconstructing (Still Working But The Devil Might Be Inside)* is a new work of theater that explores intimacy between Black-, POC- and white-identifying Americans, and seeks, meta-theatrically, to answer the question of how, in the aftermath of slavery, we might “move through history together.” (Artist Eric

Berryman). The piece has a double-helix structure: one strand, the primary scaffolding, is a transcript-based play that tells the story of the creative process; the other strand, weaving in and around the first, is a collage of movement, music, and poetic, character-based scenes. The piece slips between fact and fiction, performance and ritual, process and product, as the artists, playing themselves, co-exist with historical figures—like William Byrd, considered “founder” of Richmond, VA, an enslaver and astonishing diarist—or fictional characters—like Professor Lowe, a college professor studying the correlations between astrology and Black uprisings.

Rachel Chavkin is a director, writer and dramaturg, as well as the founding Artistic Director of Brooklyn-based company the TEAM whose work has been seen at the National Theatre, the Royal Court, Old Vic, the National Theatre of Scotland and the Battersea Arts Centre among others. Selected freelance work includes Dave Malloy’s *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*, Anaïs Mitchell’s *Hadestown*, Arthur Miller’s *The American Clock* (Old Vic), Matt Gould and Carson Kreitzer’s *Lempicka* (Williamstown), Caryl Churchill’s *Light Shining in Buckinghamshire* (New York Theatre Workshop), Marco Ramirez’s *The Royale* (Old Globe, Lincoln Center), Bess Wohl’s *Small Mouth Sounds* (Ars Nova, Off-Broadway, national tour), Sarah Gancher’s *I’ll Get You Back Again* (Round House), and multiple collaborations with Taylor Mac including *The Lily’s Revenge, Act 2* (HERE); and with Chris Thorpe, including *Confirmation* and *Status*. Chavkin is a recipient of a Tony nomination for Best Direction, three Obie Awards, a Drama Desk Award, multiple Lortel nominations, two Doris Duke Impact Award nominations, and the 2017 Smithsonian Award for Ingenuity along with Dave Malloy.

Zhailon Levingston is a Louisiana-raised storyteller, director, and activist. He is a Board Member for the Broadway Advocacy Coalition, which he co-created, and teaches the Theatre of Change course at Columbia University. He is a Music Mentor Fellow and has done work with Idina Menzel’s A Broader Way Foundation. His directing credits include: *Neptune* (Dixon Place, Brooklyn Museum), *The Years That Went Wrong* (Lark, MCC), *The Exonerated* (Columbia Law School), *Chariot Part 2* (Soho Rep., for The Movement Theatre Company), *Mother of Pearl* (LaGuardia Performing Arts Center). He is the associate director of *Primer for a Failed Superpower* with Tony Award winner Rachel Chavkin, and *Runaways* at The Public Theater with Sam Pinkleton. Most recently, he directed *Chicken & Biscuits* which premiered on Broadway in 2021 and *Patience* which premiered at Second Stage UPTOWN Summer of 2022. Zhailon is also the former resident director at *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical* on Broadway and the associate director of *Hadestown* in South Korea.

The TEAM is a Brooklyn-based ensemble dedicated to creating new work about the experience of living in America today. The company was founded in 2004 by a group of six NYU alumni and

has since grown to include a continually expanding group of collaborators. It devises plays by examining a wealth of material, ranging from existing texts (fiction, theory, drama, etc.) to images taken from visual art and film, and then combining that research with original writing and staging. In a final production it is nearly impossible to trace any one line of dialogue or image back to a single author's hand.

To date, the TEAM has created and toured 12 original works which have been seen at the Public Theater, PS122, Vineyard Theatre, the New Ohio Theatre, and The Bushwick Starr; nationally at ArtsEmerson, A.R.T., Walker Art Center, Playmakers Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Virginia Tech, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and internationally at the National Theatre, Royal Court Theatre, Barbican, Almeida Theatre, and Battersea Arts Centre in London; Edinburgh's Traverse Theatre; Culturgest in Lisbon; the Salzburg Festival; Galway Festival; Perth International Arts Festival; and Hong Kong Arts Festival. It is a four-time winner of the *Scotsman* Fringe First Award, Winner 2011 Edinburgh International Festival Fringe Prize, 2011 Herald Angel, 2008 Edinburgh Total Theatre Award, Best Production Dublin Fringe 2007, and was nominated for a 2012 Drama League Award for Outstanding Musical. The TEAM is a recipient of the American Theatre Wing's 2014 National Theatre Company Grant and has published three books of plays, including its 10-year anthology *Five Plays by the TEAM*, all with Oberon Books.

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