

Arts.For.Equity

Artists' Bios

Ravi

Jain



Ravi was born and raised in Toronto, Canada. He trained at LAMDA in London, England, graduated with honours from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and is a recent graduate of the 2 year program of Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris.

As an actor Ravi has worked internationally. He is a core member of the International WOW company, and he also spent one year at the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington DC under the artistic Direction of Micheal Khan.

Ravi is the Artistic Director of the newly formed international theatre company Why Not Theatre in Toronto. He has also directed and designed a piece for the Luminato Festival for Creativity, in collaboration with Manifesto Community Projects and youth from Regent Park. Ravi has taught extensively in Singapore, Brazil, Kenya, Italy, Canada and the US. As part of working at the Public Theatre/New York Shakespeare Festival and Mud/Bone theatre collective, Ravi taught Shakespeare in the 5 boroughs of NYC with youth from inner city schools. Ravi also works with Schools Without Borders (www.swb.ca), Manifesto (www.themanifesto.ca) and has worked on a computer education program for Stepney All ages School in Nine Mile Jamaica (www.projectninemile.org).

Lady

Noyz



Lady Noyz is hip-hop. As Toronto's first lady of the dance floor for over a decade, this b-girl has personified the essence of her art, its beauty, its toughness, and its ability to uplift. With a style influenced by the movements of Latin dance, and rooted in the foundation of b-boying, Noyz has been a leader in her community raising the profile of her art through countless shows, workshops, video appearances, corporate partnerships, and youth programs. Currently involved in Horizon Arts Camp, Ryerson University's Urban Hip Hop Union, Harbourfront Centers "Understanding Hip Hop's" educational program, and mentoring youth at LAMP Community Center, and the Center for Spanish Speaking Peoples, Noyz is focused on creating new possibilities with and for her art form.

Tobias Wang



Tobias was born in Taiwan and moved to Canada at the age of 12. An early attraction for the arts had led him to start painting and drawing; an aspiration he later pursued throughout high school in the context of the Visual/Performance faculty.

At 15, equipped with his uncle's old camera, Tobias attended his first rave, and mesmerized by the experience began devoting his time to capturing this unique and vibrant lifestyle. At about the same time he also began working at Henry's—a photographer's haven that offered him limitless access to a wealth of knowledge, information, and equipment. At the summit of six years, matured and ripened, Tobias was ready to embark onto the world of professional photography.

Since then, his work ranged across both the artistic and promotional sectors, and included, amongst others, album-covers for international drum and bass artists as well as several shows and exhibits—one of which, 'Siameses Series', was featured in Toronto's 2007 Contact exhibition. His photography was also published in such prominent publications as The National Post, Eye Weekly, Now Magazine, and others.

He is also the joint-owner of 'The Starving Artist Café', a newly launched venue in the heart of Bloordale poised to become a local hangout with a stage for the visual and performing arts.

Julla Shanghavi



Julla Shanghavi is a Visual Arts Major and English Minor at York University. Since she could walk, Julla has used art to make the world around her a more vibrant place. She specializes in Graffiti Art and Contemporary Painting. Julla uses her knowledge of Graffiti Art to teach workshops to youth in the GTA and is currently the Program and Event Director for UNITY Charity. (www.unitycharity.com)