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La Mama Theatre is on traditional land of the people of the Kulin Nation. We give our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands and to all First Nations people past, present and future. We acknowledge all events take place on stolen lands and that sovereignty was never ceded.

We are grateful to all our philanthropic partners and donors, advocates, volunteers, audiences, artists and our entire community as we work towards the La Mama rebuild. Thank you!

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 **LA MAMA** 8 - 20 DEC 2020



IRANIAN BAUHAUS

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Creator & Writer
Elnaz Sheshgeli

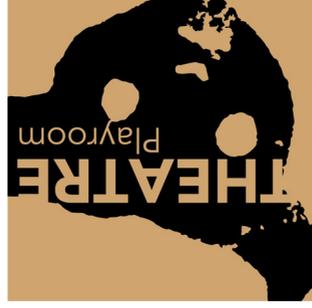
Lighting design
Simon Bowland

Sound design
Piotr Nowotnik & Rick McLean

Stage manager
Marlena Raymond

Video & Photography credits

Rick Everts, Tessa Spooner & Jenna Grace



ELNAZ SHESHGELANI is a Persian/Australian storyteller ("Naghali"), theatre maker, puppeteer and dancer. Her performance roots lie in Naghall, an ancient and endangered form of Persian dramatic storytelling that is believed to be several thousand years old. As part of her doctoral research at Melbourne Uni, Elnaz has creatively reconstructed the gestural vocabulary of the early form of Naghall that was lost after the Islamic conquest Persia. She is the founder of Theatre Playroom.

SIMON BOWLAND is a visual artist/designer who previously graduated from a Bachelor of Arts (Industrial Design) at Newcastle University, NSW, and recently completed an MFA in Production at VCA/Melbourne Uni in April this year (2020). His research explores the benefits of using digital projection as scenery for low budget theatrical performance. Simon has maintained a strong connection with the performing arts, focusing on the opportunities being offered by accessible digital technology.

MARLENA RAYMOND studied at Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, The University of Melbourne from 2009 to 2012 and at the Australian National Academy of Music in 2006. She performs with Travel Art Dance Company, directed by Meah Vellie-Lord, and Theatre Playroom, a project with Persian theatre maker, Elnaz Sheshgeli. Marlena grew up dancing at Mangala Studios of Creative Dance and Yoga, Melbourne. Marlena appreciates dance as an antidote to a cognitive and language-centric world. Allowing her to sink into connection, to express, to play, to heal and make meaning. "It takes me to my humanness."

RICK EVERTS is the videographer of Theatre Playroom. During the past seven years with Theatre Playroom, Rick has developed a documentary cinematic/photographic style that is attuned to the demands of theatre. He regularly films at La Mama theatre and is a Research Fellow at RMIT. He has a diverse range of interests including meditation, music, psychology and cognitive science.

TESSA SPOONER holds a Masters of Film Theory from the University of Sydney and a Fine Art degree from the National Art school. With 12 years of experience in fine art and production design she is currently curating Cinematica at La Mama and exploring the notion of the moving image.

JENNA GRACE is an arts educator, and a Research Assistant intern at the Shepparton Museum of Art. She is completing her Master of Art Curatorship at University of Melbourne, within the School of Culture and Communication. She is a practising artist with a background in film production and community arts engagement.