

## LEWIS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Chair Michael Cadden  
Executive Director Marion Friedman Young

### PROGRAM IN THEATER

Director	Jane Cox
Producer	Darryl Waskow
Production Manager	Chloë Z. Brown
Production Stage Manager	Carmelita Becnel
Resident Musical Director/Composer	Vince di Mura
Assistant Stage Manager	Rob Del Colle
Costume Shop Manager	Keating Helfrich
Costume Shop Assistant	Julia Kosanovich
Costume Technician	Caitlin Brown
Technical Director	Timothy Godin
Assistant Technical Director	Jesse Froncek
Theater Technician	Torrey Drum
Lighting & Stage Supervisor	Matt Pilsner
Prop Master	Alexandra Geiger
Scenic Artist	Melissa Riccobono
Master Carpenter	Michael Smola
Sound Engineer	Kay Richardson
Academic Support	Joseph Fonseca
Director of Communications	Steve Runk
Visual Communications Specialist	Tracy Patterson
Communications Assistant	Hope VanCleaf
Communications Associate	Jaclyn Sweet
Multimedia Specialist	Zohar Lavi-Hasson

For more information about the Lewis Center for the Arts visit [arts.princeton.edu](http://arts.princeton.edu)

Or contact: Director of Communications, Steve Runk at [srunk@princeton.edu](mailto:srunk@princeton.edu)

### UPCOMING LEWIS CENTER EVENTS

#### *Video and Animation Screening*

Thirty-one Princeton students in fall video/film production and digital animation courses screen short new works created during the past semester from the classes "Documentary Filmmaking", "Narrative Filmmaking", and "Digital Animation".

**May 16, 2019, 4 & 7:30 P.M.**

**James Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street**

*Free and open to the public*

[arts.princeton.edu](http://arts.princeton.edu)

The Programs in Theater and Music Theater present

# WE WERE EVERY WHERE

by **Shariffa Ali, Avi Amon**  
and **Joanna Evans**

**MAY 9, 10 + 11 / 8 P.M.**  
**MAY 12 / 2 P.M.** **WALLACE THEATER**  
**Lewis Arts complex**



Co-sponsored by the Office of Sustainability



# WE WERE EVERYWHERE

## CAST

Dress .....	Amy Abdalla '21
Amina, Sonya .....	Leila Abou-Jaoude '22*
Headscarf, Rose, Esther .....	Jessica Bailey '19*
Chorus .....	Jasmeene Burton '19*
Hoodie, Mary, Ewa .....	Tamia Goodman '19*
Fedna, Sunshine .....	Minjae Kim '21*
Coat, Foreman (cotton) .....	Benjamin Kimmel '20
Mercato, Landowner, Foreman (factory), Dialo .....	Akash Kushwaha '21*
Reader .....	Katie Massie '21*
Suit, Annie .....	Hannah Wang '21
Underclothes, Teenager .....	Riley Bona '22

## MUSICIANS

Piano, Conductor .....	Anna Ebbesen
Keyboard .....	Maddie Wu '21*
Bass .....	Simon Rosen '22
Drums/Percussion .....	Mark Cristofaro
Guitar .....	Jonathan Salama '21
Violin .....	Emiri Morita '21
Violin .....	Natalie O'Leary '21*

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Book and Lyrics .....	Joanna Ruth Evans & Shariffa Ali
Music and Lyrics .....	Avi Amon
Director .....	Shariffa Ali
Music Director .....	Anna Ebbesen
Orchestrations .....	Anna Ebbesen and Avi Amon
Choreographer .....	Jennifer Harrison Newman
Set Design .....	You-Shin Chen
Assistant Set Designer .....	Sophia Zhu
Costume Design .....	Sarah Woodham
Lighting Design .....	Victoria Davidjohn '19*
Sound Design & Engineering .....	Kay Richardson
Stage Manager .....	Meaghan Finlay
Assistant Stage Manager, Producer .....	Ryan Ozminkowski '19*
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Daniel Benitez '21
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Isabella Hilditch '22*
Rehearsal Stage Manager .....	Magdalena Stankowska '18*
Assistant Director .....	Chamari White-Mink '20*
Assistant Music Director .....	Maddie Wu '21*
Stitchers .....	ElleryJane Ring
Wardrobe Supervisor .....	Chelsea Easter
Run Crew .....	Jhor van der Horst '20*
A2 .....	Jenny Kim '20*
Student Stitchers .....	Billie Anna Runions '20, Miranda Allegar '21 Giscelle Rosario '22, Katie Bushman '22

## FACULTY ADVISORS

Jane Cox, Cesar Alvarez

\* Denotes a certificate student in the Program in Theater and/or Music Theater

Run time: 75 mins with no intermission

Development of this new music theater work was supported through the  
Lewis Center's Roger S. Berlind '52 Playwrights-in-Residence Fund

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTORS

It started with an image of *mitumba*; those giant bales of used clothing that travel in container ships from the West to be dumped in ports in East Africa and Southeast Asia. Somewhere along the way these disposed items enter into a new economic life: they become once more a raw material to be harvested and sold in bustling second-hand clothing markets which both sustain the livelihoods of merchants, and suffocate local garment industries. We were fascinated by these mountains of disposed clothing, and their material and social histories.

And so in February we presented the students with a very loose draft of the script, and the prompt of different clothing "worlds" to research and explore together: *mitumba* piles, cotton plantations, factories, malls, suitcases and closets. It soon became clear how interwoven this material is with complex human histories: from cotton's legacy in the US slave trade; to industrial era garment factories and their role in both the labor and women's rights movements; to clothing's spellbinding power as a tool for transformation and self-expression; to contemporary racial profiling; to the overlapping global migrancies of raw materials, disposed items, and vulnerable and exploited populations.

Originally we had imagined human characters threading this piece together. But the longer we worked, the more we realized that it was the clothing itself we wanted to hear from: what does clothing feel, remember, experience, and know? If clothing could speak, what would it tell us? And so our cast entered into the impossible task of *becoming* clothing. We tried everything: Disney-style personifications, trance-like embodiments, soundscapes, Haiku writing, and one particularly manic group improvisation where cotton buds swore revenge on human "flesh-puppets." Then, one day, it just happened – the clothing spoke! And so the form and language of the show began to emerge.

This process was collaborative from the onset, combining Shariffa and Joanna's background in Devised Theater in which they trained at the University of Cape Town, and Avi's background in Musical Theater Writing at NYU. The students' discoveries, poetry, curiosities, and quirks are woven throughout the fabric of *We Were Everywhere*. They have been incredible creative partners: patient, trusting, generous, and deeply thoughtful. Most importantly, they have courageously weathered the turbulent journey through the unknown that every new work must undertake.

We are grateful to the cast, to our creative and production teams, and to the Lewis Center for the Arts for providing the space and support to embark on this ambitious and unusual journey.

With love & "Trust!"  
Shariffa, Joanna, and Avi

To read the bios of the writers and director visit [arts.princeton.edu](https://arts.princeton.edu)

This performance uses smoke, haze, and siren alarm noise

Please turn off all electronic devices including cellular phones, beepers and watches for the duration of the performance. Please refrain from text messaging during the performance. Video recording, audio recording, photographing, and use of flash photography during the performance are prohibited.