

SHOWING UP

Directed by Colette Robert
From Portraits by Accra Shepp

Music by Rashaan Carter, Jacinth Greywoode & Rebecca Hart,
Jaime Lozano, and Katie Madison & Jarrett Murray.

Hosted by Nidra Sous la Terre

Program:

“My Eyes”

by Katie Madison and Jarrett Murray
Performed by Katie Madison and Deborah Cowell

Andrea

Performed by Marsha Stephanie Blake

“Community”

Music by Jaime Lozano
Performed by Javier Ignacio
Piano by Jaime Lozano
Mixed by Demián Cantú

Kristin

Performed by Becca Blackwell

“Breakthrough”

By Rashaan Carter
Performed by Anaïs Maviel
Bass by Rashaan Carter

Jamel

Performed by Sheldon Best

Samuel

Performed by Cecil Blutchter

“Got to See”

by Jacinth Greywoode and Rebecca Hart
Guitar by Andrew Lynch
Performed by Jacinth Greywoode

SHOWING UP

Showing Up was created from interviews conducted by Jesse Baxter, Marsha Stephanie Blake, Bailey Jordan Garcia, Dee Harper, Matt Maher, and Riley Tollen.

Creative Team

Video Director – Sadah Espii Proctor

Stage Manager – Fran Acuña-Almiron

Dramaturg – Phoebe Corde

Associate Dramaturg - James La Bella

Associate Producer – Sarah Boess

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:

**ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS
AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS
SAF-AFTRA**

through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program

Organizations:

The *Showing Up* team would like to encourage you to learn more about the following organizations. If you're not in the position to donate at this time, please consider connecting with this organization online to participate in other actions with them and sharing their information with others.

[Go Fund Me in Memory of Daunte Wright](#)

[Black Alliance For Just Immigration](#)

Educates and engages African American and Black immigrant communities to organize and advocate for racial, social and economic justice.

[Mutual Aid Hub](#)

A network and compilation resource of regional mutual aid organizations

[Movement For Black Lives](#)

A space for Black organizations across the country to debate and discuss the current political conditions, develop shared assessments of what political interventions were necessary in order to achieve key policy, cultural and political wins, convene organizational leadership in order to debate and co-create a shared movement wide strategy.

[Healing & Housing for Black Womxn After Bail](#)

A fund led by formerly incarcerated Black womxn who include caregivers, sex workers, and mothers to hold, nurture, and heal themselves and our sisters in experience/struggle.

[Bronx \(re\)Birth and Progress Collective](#)

They provide supplies and support to the parents and caretakers of babies and young children in the Bronx.

SHOWING UP

Building Black Bedstuy

A committee formed in response to stagnant growth when it comes to accumulating black wealth and gentrification. They provide financial aid to existing businesses and organizations within black communities.

Integrate NYC

A youth-led organization that stands for equity and justice in our schools. They develop youth leaders who repair the harms of segregation and build authentic integration and equity.

Advancement Project

They aim to inspire and support national and local movements toward a just democracy. They innovative tools and strategies to strengthen social movements and achieve high impact policy change.

The Black Giving Fund

Grassroots collective that provides funds directly to Black organizers, activists, and change-makers who are guided by Liberationist thought, action and imagination.

For more information about Black Lives Matter please visit <https://blacklivesmatter.com>

SHOWING UP

About the Artists:

Accra Shepp (Photographer) is a New York–based artist and writer. His images have been exhibited worldwide and are in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and other institutions. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times* and the *New York Review of Books* as well as the artist book *Atlas* (in the collection of the Whitney Museum and the New York Public Library), and *Windbook*, an artist-book installation at the National Library of Luxembourg. The installation, which explored ethnicity and national identity, was a year-long project where the book was outside exposed to the elements with only the wind to turn its pages. He is currently working on a photo-based project titled “The Covid Journals.”

Colette Robert (Director) is a director and playwright from Los Angeles and New York. Recent directing credits include *STEW* (Page 73), *On the Exhale* (Chester Theatre Company), and *Behind the Sheet* (Ensemble Studio Theatre). Her play *The Harriet Holland Social Club presents the 84th Annual Star-Burst Cotillion in the Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel* received a grant from NYC’s Women’s Film, TV, and Theatre Fund for a production in 2021 (co-produced by New Georges and The Movement Theatre Company). Colette is a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, a New Georges affiliated artist, and an adjunct lecturer at NYU.

www.coletterobert.com

Nidra Sous la Terre (Host) holds an MFA from the Actors Studio Drama School and is on faculty at Pace School of Performing Arts. Broadway: *The Book of Mormon*, *Marvin's Room*. Off-Broadway: *The House That Will Not Stand* (New York Theatre Workshop), *A Life* (Playwrights Horizons), *Mr. Burns* (Playwrights Horizons), *The Underlying Chris* (Second Stage), *Lost Lake* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *Headstrong* (Ensemble Studio Theatre). Regional: *Good People* (The Old Globe), and *Fairfield* (Cleveland Playhouse). Television includes “NCIS: New Orleans,” “Orange is the New Black,” “Random Acts of Flyness,” “Jessica Jones,” “Bull,” “Elementary,” “30 Rock,” “Law and Order: Criminal Intent”. @nidrasouslaterre and nidrasouslaterre.com

Sadah Espii Proctor (Video Director, she/hers/Espii) is an internationally acclaimed XR director, sound designer, and Barrymore award-winning media artist for live performance and immersive experiences. She was recognized by *American Theatre Magazine* for multimedia storytelling in the “Six Theatre Artists to Know” series. Her work encompasses global stories of women, social issues, and the African Diaspora, often with an Afrofuturist/Cyberpunk lens. Designing music videos and visuals for live performance, her collaborations include *Kimbra* and *Sophia Brous* (EXO-TECH), *Sasha Velour*, *Delune*, *Darian Dauchan*, *Neycha*, *ART21 Club*, and *Soul Science Lab*. She received her M.F.A. in Performance and Interactive Media Arts from Brooklyn College and is a proud alumna of Virginia Tech.

Cast

Sheldon Best (Jamel) NYC credits include *The Hot Wing King* (Signature Theatre); *Sugar in Our Wounds* (MTC); *Travisville* (Ensemble Studio Theatre); *Romeo & Juliet* (Public Theater), (Classical Theatre of Harlem); *brownsville song* (Lincoln Center/LCT3); *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner* (Atlantic Theater); *the box: a black comedy* (Foundry Theatre); *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (CTH); *Freed* (59E59 & Penguin Rep); *Six Rounds of Vengeance*, *Alice in Slasherland* (Vampire Cowboys); *Soul Samurai* (Ma-Yi Theater & Vampire Cowboys). TV/Film – “Step Up: Season 3” (Starz), “Manifest” (NBC), “The Good Wife,”

SHOWING UP

"Unforgettable," "Person of Interest" (CBS); *Ghost Light* (H9 Films); *Last Ferry* (Emblematic Pictures).
www.SheldonBest.com.

Becca Blackwell (Kristin) is an NYC-based trans actor, performer and writer. Existing between genders, and preferring the pronoun "they," Blackwell works collaboratively with playwrights and directors to expand our sense of personhood and the body through performance. Some of their collaborations have been with Young Jean Lee, Half Straddle, Jennifer Miller's *Circus Amok*, Richard Maxwell, Erin Markey, Sharon Hayes, Theater of the Two Headed Calf and Lisa D'Amour. Film/TV includes: "High Maintenance," "Ramy," "Marriage Story," "Shameless." They have toured their solo shows *They, Themselves* and *Schmerm and Schmermie's Choice* across the US. Blackwell was a recipient of the Doris Duke Impact Artist Award, the Franklin Furnace award and the Creative Capital Award.

Marsha Stephanie Blake (Andrea) received Emmy and Critics Choice nominations for her role as Linda McCray in Ava Duvernay's acclaimed *When They See Us*, a Netflix miniseries which documents the lives of the men previously known as the Central Park Five. She has also been a part of the award-winning casts of *ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK* (for which she has a SAG Ensemble Award), *THIS IS US* and *HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER*. Films *I'm Your Woman*, *The Laundromat*, *See You Yesterday* and *Luce* are currently streaming on multiple platforms. She's been on and off Broadway in various performances, the most notable being "The Merchant of Venice" with Al Pacino, "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" with Tony Award winner Roger Robinson and "Othello" with Daniel Craig, David Oyelowo and Rachel Brosnahan.

Cecil Blutchter (Samuel) Regional Theater: *Pipeline* (Actor's Theatre of Louisville); *Petrol Station* (The Kennedy Center). NYC: *The Hot Wing King* (Signature Theatre); *Tempo* (Ensemble Studio Theatre); *Showtime Blues* (Ensemble Studio Theatre). Film: *Premature* (Dir. Rashad Ernesto Green); *Skin* (Dir. Guy Nattiv); *Sketch* (Dir. Mariama Diallo). Television: *Hightown* (Lionsgate); *The Good Fight* (CBS All-Access); *Random Acts of Flyness* (HBO). Training: M.F.A. (Penn State). Website: CecilBlutchterCreates.com

Music:

Rashaan Carter (Composer, Bassist, "Breakthrough") grew up in the Washington, D.C. area. Through the nurturing of his father, a saxophonist, and his mother, a jazz radio programmer, Carter forged an early interest in music. Rashaan has performed or recorded with Wallace Roney, David Murray, Henry Threadgill, Ravi Coltrane, Geri Allen, Benny Golson, Curtis Fuller, Louis Hayes, Marc Cary, Mos Def, Cindy Blackman, Nicole Mitchell, Antoine Roney, Sonny Simmons, Joe Chambers, and more.

Deborah Cowell (Vocals, "My Eyes") is an artist from Brooklyn. Her Instagram handle is [@i.deborah.cowell](https://www.instagram.com/i.deborah.cowell).

Jacynth Greywoode (Composer, "Got to See") is a New York-based composer and music director. Recent compositional credits include *IRON JOHN* (2020 Richard Rodgers Finalist, NAMT 2019, Theatreworks Silicon Valley 2019, O'Neill Incubator Residency), *BLACK GIRL IN PARIS* (Civilians R&D Group 2020- 21) and *DEATH BY LIFE*, a commissioned opera premiering in May 2021. As MD, Jacynth has worked with the Public Theater, Universal Theatrical Group, and Roundabout Theatre Company, among others. Most recently he was Music Consultant and Arranger for the Broadway revival of Charles Fuller's Pulitzer Prize-winning *A SOLDIER'S PLAY*. More information at www.jacynthgreywoode.com

Rebecca Hart (Composer, "Got to See") is an actor, singer/songwriter, and lyricist/librettist. w/the Civilians: *The Great Immensity* (KC Rep & The Public), *The End & the Beginning* (the Met), *Rimbaud in New York*

SHOWING UP

(BAM), *Let Me Ascertain You* (Joe's Pub), *microcosmos* (R&D Group). Her musical *IRON JOHN: an american ghost story* (w/Jacinth Greywoode) has been produced/developed at NYU Tisch, Theatreworks Silicon Valley, O'Neill Incubator, the 2019 NAMT Festival, Temple University, and Manhattan School of Music (upcoming). Her album *The Magician's Daughter* is available streaming. Currently: *the barren(s)* a short opera (libretto) commissioned by the Kennedy Center, and *the chrysalis*, a weekly livestream show. www.rebeccahart.net

Javier Ignacio (Vocals, "Community") Broadway: *Company* (2020 Revival), *Side Show*; Off-Broadway: *Twelfth Night* (Fiasco Theatre, PublicWorks), *Encores! Call Me Madam*, *Children of Salt: The Musical* (NYMF); National Tour: *Into the Woods* (Fiasco Theatre) | Regional: La Jolla Playhouse, Kennedy Center, and MTWichita | Wichita State University; AEA @iamjavierignacio

Jaime Lozano (Composer, Piano, "Community") Considered by Lin-Manuel Miranda as the "next big thing" on Broadway. Joe's Pub Working Group 2021. The Civilians' R&D Group 2020. Selected: *The Yellow Brick Road* (Off-Broadway & National Tour), *Carmen La Cubana* (European Tour), *Children of Salt* (NYMF 2016), *A Never-Ending Line* (Off-Broadway), *Savage*, *Present Perfect*. Albums: R.Evolución Latina's "Dare to Go Beyond," "A Never-Ending Line," "Songs by an Immigrant," these last two released by Broadway Records. MFA: NYU/Tisch, Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program. BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. Proud member of the Dramatists Guild of America, BMI and GRAMMY and Latin GRAMMY voting member

Katie Madison (Composer, Vocals, "My Eyes") is a Brooklyn based musical theatre artist. www.kvmadison.com Instagram: @kvmad

Anaïs Maviel's (Vocals, "Breakthrough") work as a vocalist, percussionist, composer and community facilitator focuses on the function of music as essential to settling common grounds, addressing Relation, and creating utopian future. Involved at the crossroads of mediums, Anaïs has been an in-demand creative force for artists such as William Parker, Daria Faïn, Shelley Hirsh, César Alvarez, Steffani Jemison - to give a sense of an eclectic company. Anaïs is dedicated to substantial creations from solo to large ensembles, music direction of cross-disciplinary works, and to expanding the power of music as a healing & transformative act. Anaïs performs and teaches extensively in New York, throughout the Americas and Europe. Both solo albums *hOULe* & *in the garden*, out on Gold Bolus Recordings, received international acclaim. Lastly, Anaïs Maviel is developing her composition language, especially thanks to the support of the 2019 Van Lier Fellowship, 2020 American Composers Forum Create commission with The Rhythm Method String Quartet and 2021-2022 Jerome Hill Artist Fellowship.

Jarrett Murray (Composer, "My Eyes") is a Brooklyn born composer and musician. Formally a DC based artist he has written and collaborated on four original musicals and worked on several shows as an MD or Bassist. He has studied with such artists as Fred Carl, Kirsten Childs, Julianne Wick Davis, Michael John LaChiusa, Paul Denola and many others. Education: BA American University, MFA NYU Tisch. Jarrett's always excited for camp. Check me out on Instagram: JarrettMurrayMusic or Online: JarrettMurrayMusic.com

Creative Team:

Fran Acuña-Almiron (stage manager) is an AEA Stage Manager and has been working in and around the NYC area with various theaters for over 10 years. She has been on several national tours with ArtsPower National Touring Theatre and TheaterWorksUSA. She is both honored and humbled to be participating with The Civilians team on this powerful production. Thank you to everyone out there still fighting the good fight.

SHOWING UP

Sarah Boess (associate producer, she/her) is a Brooklyn-based producer and director. She is the Artistic Director of Sanguine Theatre Company and co-founder of Tredyffrin Performing Arts Camp. She is passionate about producing new work that is equitable, accessible, and uniquely theatrical. (SarahBoess.com, IG: @Sarah.Boess)

Phoebe Corde (dramaturg) is a writer, illustrator, and dramaturg from Westport, Connecticut, specializing in stories of the strange, magical, and otherworldly. In addition to her role as Literary Associate at The Civilians, she is a freelance dramaturg and was previously New Work Development Assistant at The Public Theater. She holds a BFA in Creative Writing from Connecticut College, where she was awarded the Sally Abrahms Prize in Fiction. <https://phoebecorde.wixsite.com/portfolio>

James La Bella (associate dramaturg) is a playwright and theater-maker currently based in New England. James' plays have recently been seen at Sparkhaven Theater, Reground Theater, NYSAF's Powerhouse Theater, The Blank Theater, Arts Garage Inc, Mercutio Troupe, and Emerson Stage. Recognitions include the Rod Parker Playwriting Fellowship, Betsy Carpenter Playwriting Award, Sonders Best Small Fiction Award, and an EVVY Award for Best Writing for the Stage. Jameslabella.com

COMING UP...

BLACK FEMINEST VIDEO GAME: APRIL 27 - MAY 2, 2021, 8PM EST. ON-DEMAND: MAY 3-9, 2021.

Written by Darrel Alejandro Holnes & Directed by Victoria Collado

When Jonas, a biracial teenager with autism, invites his gamer best friend, Sabine, on a video game adventure in hopes of foiling his bullies and winning over his crush, he discovers he must confront his own misperceptions of the women in his life, or risk losing not only the game but also his first chance at love! In this mashup of live performance, video game design, and online interaction, you'll help (or hinder!) Jonas and Sabine's progress by responding in real time to the choices they make on their path through the game together.

AGAINST WOMEN & MUSIC!: May 6 @ 7:30PM– The Civilians Cabaret Series

Created by Grace McLean and Kate Douglas, this anachronistic chamber musical explores the notions of privilege, ambition and morality through the eyes of a female piano tuner in the 1800s, a time in which music was considered dangerous for women to play or even hear.

SPRING BENEFIT CONCERT: May 20 @ 8:00PM

This year's livestreamed event – LIFE STUDIES – will feature Civilians' artists and celebrity guests in brilliant live performances. We'll celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Civilian's [R&D Group program](#), our new work laboratory that has supported a diverse community of over 150 writers, directors, and composers. "Civilian of the Year" Mimi Brown, Founder of Spring Workshop in Hong

THE R&D FINDINGS SERIES: June 16 – 30th

The tenth annual FINDINGS Series will run from June 16 - 30 and will be streamed online. All of these works-in-progress readings are free and will require a reservation.

The members of the [2020-21 R&D Group](#) are Galia Backal, Nana Dakin, Isabella Dawis, Jacinth Greywoode, Jaime Lozano, Emily Lyon, AriDy Nox, Reynaldo Piniella, Tylie Shider, Tidtaya Sinutoke, Rachel Stevens, Ken Urban, Noelle Viñas, Ikumi Kuonaga, and Florencia Cuenca

SHOWING UP

About The Civilians

Founded in 2001, The Civilians is dedicated to making new theater at the intersections of art and real life. Its signature work is “investigative theater,” projects created through field research, community collaborations, and other methods of in-depth inquiry. Centered in a group of Associate Artists, the company also works with the theater field as a whole. Shows originated by The Civilians include Anne Washburn’s *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*, Lucas Hnath’s *Dana H.*, José Rivera’s *Another Word for Beauty*, and many works with composer Michael Friedman: *Gone Missing*, *Pretty Filthy*, *Paris Commune* and more. The Civilians has participated in several BAM Next Wave Festivals, has been produced at many major regional and Off-Broadway theaters, and was the first theater company to be Artist-in-Residence at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. With Ghostlight Records, The Michael Friedman Recording Project is creating nine albums of our founding member’s works. To hear the first five albums, visit [here](#). The company supports a number of emerging and established artists each year through its new work programs which include the R&D Group new works lab, and a cabaret series of new musicals. The Civilians produces a podcast on SoundCloud; publishes *Extended Play*, an online journal about its work and the broader theater field; and sustains an active Education Program. www.thecivilians.org

THE CIVILIANS ANTI-RACISM COMMITMENT

The Civilians strives to be a vibrant company of artists whose work reflects our celebration and investigation of diverse human experiences. We believe that our work and our lives are infinitely more complex, rewarding, illuminating, and nearer to truth when we have a wider variety of human experiences in our room, at our table, and on our stages. We have work to do to get there. The Civilians commits to interrogate and act to dismantle racist and oppressive practices in the theatrical community, and to embody anti-racism practices. To read about this work and our commitments please visit – www.thecivilians.org/anti-racism-committment/

The Civilians Staff

Steve Cosson - Artistic Director
Margaret Moll - Managing Director
Dan Balkin – Development Director
Ilana Becker – Artistic Associate & R&D Program Director
Phoebe Corde - Literary Associate
Sarah Boess – Artistic Intern
Leah Putnam - Editorial Intern
Danielle Allen - Social Media Intern
Hanna Rable - Admin Intern
James La Bella – Literary Intern

The Civilians Board of Directors

Suany Chough - Chair
Alisha Davis - Secretary
John Wood - Treasurer
Steve Cosson - Artistic Director
Amy Bisno
Caroline Blayney
Alain Groenendaal
John Grudzina
Jeanhee Kim
Julia Lazarus
Jennifer R. Morris
Maria-Christina Oliveras

Emeritus

Elizabeth Angell
Rick Dean
Jody Falco
Peter Friedman
Jessica Harris
Daniel P. Kim
David Singer

In Memoriam

Michael Friedman

Showing Up is part of The Civilians annual cabaret series featuring new works made from creative investigations into real life; the series is supported by The Axe-Houghton Foundation.

Showing Up is co-presented with the [International Center for Photography](#), and [Alice Austen House](#), and with the collaboration of the Alfred Stieglitz Society at The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

