

Wexner Center for the Arts

The Ohio State University

PRESENTS

WORLD PREMIERE

WEXNER CENTER RESIDENCY AWARD

Young Jean Lee's Theater Company

THE SHIPMENT

Written and directed by Young Jean Lee

OCT 30–NOV 1 | 8 PM

SUN, NOV 2 | 7 PM

Performance Space

Please join us immediately following this performance for a discussion with Young Jean Lee's Theater Company.

CREDITS

Major support for the Wexner Center's 2008–09 performing arts season is generously provided by **Huntington Bank** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**.

THE SHIPMENT is co-commissioned by the **Wexner Center for the Arts** with support from the **Wexner Center Residency Award** program and by **The Kitchen**. Additional support is provided by the **Greenwall Foundation**, **Jerome Foundation**, the **New York State Council on the Arts**, and the **Rockefeller MAP Foundation**. With residency support from **Brooklyn Arts Exchange**, **Collapsible Hole**, **IRT Theater**, **MacDowell Colony**, **New Dramatists**, **Orchard Project**, and **Yaddo**. *THE SHIPMENT* is produced by Young Jean Lee's Theater Company (Young Jean Lee, Artistic Director; Caleb Hammons, Producing Director).

This presentation is supported by the **Performing Arts Fund**, a program of **Arts Midwest** funded by the **National Endowment for the Arts**, which believes that a great nation deserves great art, with additional contributions from the **Ohio Arts Council**, **General Mills Foundation**, and **Land O'Lakes Foundation**.

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Accommodations are provided by **The Blackwell Inn**.

EVENT SUPPORT



PREFERRED ACCOMMODATIONS



PROGRAM

Young Jean Lee's Theater Company

THE SHIPMENT

Written and directed by **Young Jean Lee**

Performers **Jordan Barbour, Mikeah Ernest
Jennings, Douglas Scott
Streater, Prentice Onayemi,
and Amelia Workman**

Lighting Designer **Mark Barton**

Sound Designer **Matthew Tierney**

Costume Designer **Roxana Ramseur**

Choreographer **Faye Driscoll**

Stage Manager **Teddy Nicholas**

Associate Director **Lee Sunday Evans**

Assistant Director **Georgia X. Lifsher**

Dramaturge **Mike Farry**

Producing Director, Young Jean Lee's Theater Company: **Caleb Hammons**

Associate Director, Young Jean Lee's Theater Company: **Leah Winkler**

Extra special thanks to early collaborators Joi Anissa Favor, JoiLynn, Stephen McIntosh, Dean Moss, and Antyon Le Monte Smith, who contributed a great deal creatively to earlier workshops of this show.

Special thanks to Rashida Bumbray, Ari Edelson, Collapsible Giraffe, Chuck Helm, Andy Horwitz, Fredrica Jarcho, Matthew Lyons, Don Palmer, Radiohole, Eleanor Savage, Kori Schneider, Deb Singer, John Steiber, Dean Strober, and Marya Warshaw.

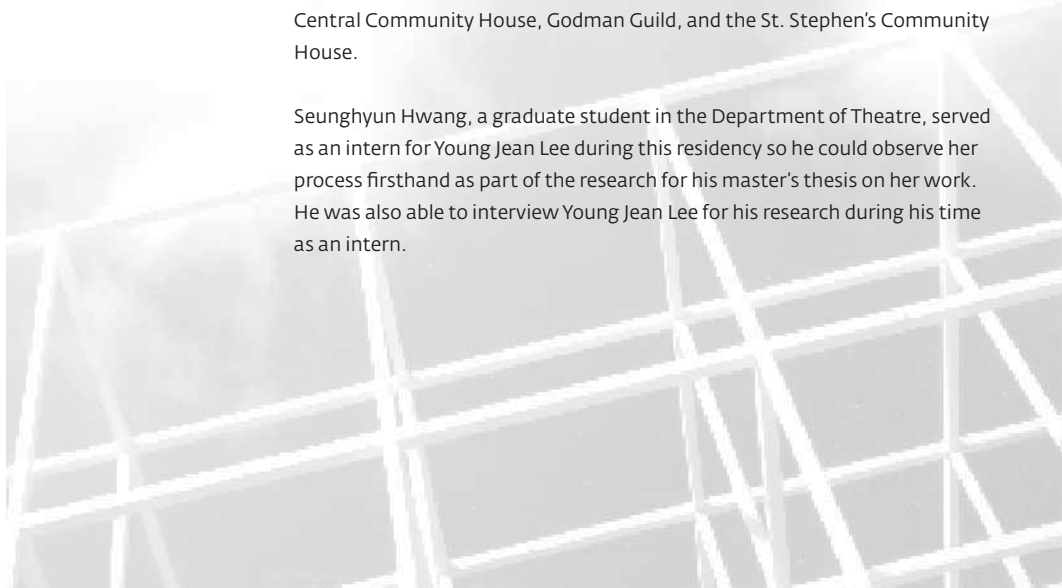
RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

In addition to organizing public presentations of contemporary work in the performing, media, and visual arts, the Wexner Center actively seeks to provide opportunities for interaction among visiting artists, students, faculty, and staff of The Ohio State University, and members of the community. These activities and associated discussions led by authorities in many fields offer our audiences a better understanding of the creative process and the work of artists engaged by the Wexner Center.

Young Jean Lee's Theater Company is a recipient of the Wexner Center Residency Award in performing arts for the 2008–09 season. While at the Wexner Center, the company is offering post-performance discussions after each show to hear feedback from the audience about *THE SHIPMENT* and to talk about the project's creative evolution. The lively and engaging post-performance discussions after performances of Lee's *Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven* in 2007 were key to her acceptance of a Wexner Center Residency Award to finalize the development of *THE SHIPMENT* and debut it here.

During the course of the residency, the company offered open rehearsal opportunities to and a special free preview performance for Ohio State students from the Department of Theatre and campus organizations involved with African American and Asian students. The opportunity to share multiple perspectives on this production about the black experience with diverse groups provides the company with valuable information on how their dramatic intent is read and understood. In addition, the Wexner Center has made discounted or free tickets to this performance available to underserved audiences in our community through local agencies such as the YMCA, Central Community House, Godman Guild, and the St. Stephen's Community House.

Seunghyun Hwang, a graduate student in the Department of Theatre, served as an intern for Young Jean Lee during this residency so he could observe her process firsthand as part of the research for his master's thesis on her work. He was also able to interview Young Jean Lee for his research during his time as an intern.



BIOGRAPHIES

Jordan Barbour (Performer) has been involved in numerous works in New York including *Our Country's Good*, *Sleep Cycle*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Coronation Voyage*, *The Three Sisters*, and *The Varsity Show*. Regional productions include *Cold Hard Cash*, *Big Money*, *HeartBreakWordMusic*, *The Way to Wealth*, *On the Razzle*, *Wing It!*, *Party Come Here* (Williamstown Theatre Festival); *Yellowman*, *Yeast Nation*, *Hair*, *Hamlet*, *Topdog/Underdog* (Perseverance Theatre); and *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *Children of Eden* (Westmont Theatre Co.). Barbour has performed in workshops at the Public Theatre, the Kennedy Center, and Playwrights Horizons, and has sung with the Juilliard Choral Union at Carnegie Hall and New York State Theatre. Barbour studied vocal performance with David Clatworthy at the Juilliard School and the Williamstown Theatre Festival, and has a B.A. in American studies from Columbia University.

Mark Barton (Lighting Designer) designed lights for *Lee's Church* at Performance Space 122 and the Under the Radar Festival at the Public Theater. Barton has worked on numerous off-Broadway productions including *The Sound & The Fury (April 7th, 1928)* and *All the Wrong Reasons* at New York Theatre Workshop; *Paradise Park* at Signature Theater; Nilaja Sun's *No Child...* at the Barrow St Theater; and *Thom Pain (based on nothing)* at the DR2 Theater. He has also been involved in many productions with other New York companies including Elevator Repair Service, Target Margin, New York Theatre Workshop, Salt Theater, Performance Space 122, New Georges, Clubbed Thumb, HERE Arts Center, Epic Theater, and Edge Theater, among many others. His regional work includes productions at Perseverance Theater, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, LA Theater Center/Kirk Douglas Theater, Woolly Mammoth, American Repertory Theatre, Lookingglass Theater, Syracuse Stage, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Southern Repertory Theater, and Hangar Theater. Barton also worked on productions of *Gatz* with Elevator Repair Service in Brussels, Amsterdam, Zurich, Minneapolis, Oslo, Trondheim, Bergen, Lisbon, Vienna, Philadelphia, Portland, Seattle, and Dublin and on multiple productions with Curtis Opera Theater in Philadelphia.

Faye Driscoll (Choreographer) was hailed as "1 of 25 to watch out for in 2008" by *Dance Magazine*. She grew up in Venice Beach, California, where she began dancing for her family whenever music inspired her, mainly while eating out at restaurants. She received the Greenwall Foundation Grant for *837 Venice BLVD*, a new, partly autobiographical show, that premieres November 13–22, 2008 at HERE Arts Center. In 2007, Driscoll received a DNA Presents commission from Dance New Amsterdam to create the dance insanity *Wow Mom, Wow*. Driscoll is a member of the HERE Artists Residency Program for 2007 to 2009 and is an artist advisor at BAX/Brooklyn Arts Exchange where she was an artist-in-residence from 2005 to 2007. In 2009, she will be working on her not yet named show, choreographing an act of Taylor Mac's new epic five-act production *The Lily's Revenge*, and being a resident artist in the Djerassi Resident Artists Program. She was also the choreographer for Young Jean Lee's *Church*.

Lee Sunday Evans (Associate Director) is a mover and a shaker from Denver, Colorado. As a director and choreographer, she is dedicated to developing new works. Recent projects include *The Penelope Project*, *Imagining Lebanon*, *The Drowned World* (Intimate Collisions Theater); and *Ways to Survive the World* and *The Next Thing* (Williamstown Workshop). She has worked as a choreographer on many projects such as *Big Money* (Williamstown Theatre Festival) and *Godspell* (Olney Theater Center), among others. She trained with the SITI Company and dances in unusual places with *ann and alexx make dances*. Evans is currently working as director on *Untitled One*, a new play by Benjamin Lewis, and has a B.F.A. from Boston University.

Mike Farry (Dramaturge) grew up in central Minnesota between St. Joseph and Avon. Now he lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

Caleb Hammons (Producing Director, Young Jean Lee's Theater Company) works in various artistic and administrative aspects of the theater and dance world with an interest in exploring and promoting new methods of collaboration and performance. Recently, he produced the New York premieres of Karinne Ketihley's *Do Not Do This Ever Again* at the Ohio Theatre and Sheila Callaghan's *Crawl, Fade To White* with 13P at Ideal Glass Gallery. In addition to being the producing director of Young Jean Lee's Theater Company, he is a freelance producer and marketing associate for the Obie-winning playwright's collective 13P and the administrative director of the acclaimed *Catch* performance series in New York. Hammons has a B.F.A. from the New York University Experimental Theatre Wing.

Mikeah Ernest Jennings (Performer) is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego, with a degree in communications. Since moving to New York in 2001, he has created new performance and theater works with a number of New York's innovative directors and theater artists debuting work at The Kitchen, HERE Arts Center, Dance Theater Workshop, St. Ann's Warehouse, 3LD, One Arm Red, Dixon Place, WOW Café, and the Tribeca Performing Arts Center. Jennings regularly tours internationally with Caden Manson/Big Art Group. He is proud to have been a part of this project from its inception and is excited to be creating new work with Young Jean Lee and her company of creative artists.

Young Jean Lee (Playwright/Director) has directed her plays at the Public Theater (*Church*), Performance Space 122 (*Church; Pullman, WA*), HERE Arts Center (*Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven*), Soho Rep (*The Appeal*), and the Ontological-Hysterical Theater (*Groundwork of the Metaphysic of Morals*). She will direct *THE SHIPMENT* at The Kitchen, January 8-24, 2009. Lee is a member of New Dramatists and 13P, and has an M.F.A. from Mac Wellman's playwriting program at Brooklyn College. Her plays have been published in *New Downtown Now*, an anthology edited by Mac Wellman and herself, in *Three Plays by Young Jean Lee* (Samuel French), *American Theatre* magazine (September 2007), and will soon be published in an anthology of her works titled *Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven and Other Plays* (Theatre Communications Group). She has received grants from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, the Rockefeller MAP Foundation, the Greenwall Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, and the New York State Council on the Arts. Her work has been invited to tour to venues in Vienna, Hannover, Berlin, Zurich, Brussels, Bergen, Oslo, Trondheim, Rotterdam, Salamanca, Toulouse, Portland, Seattle, Philadelphia, Columbus, Pittsburgh, and Minneapolis. She is the artistic director of Young Jean Lee's Theater Company and is the recipient of the ZKB Patronage Prize 2007 from the Zuercher Theater Spektakel and a 2007 Emerging Playwright OBIE Award. Lee will direct her adaptation of *King Lear* at Soho Rep in January 2010 and has been commissioned to write a new musical (with music by Mike Doughty) for Playwrights Horizons, as well as a new musical for the Children's Theater Company.

Georgia X. Lifsher (Assistant Director) is a recent graduate of the New York University Experimental Theatre Wing. Since graduation, Lifsher has been in theatrical productions in the New York area including the biennial New York Butoh Festival and *Room for Cream* (the Club at La MaMa) and *Macbeth* (Soho Rep.) with Theatre of a Two-Headed Calf. She has performed and studied as an actor and dancer in Brazil, Thailand, England (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art), and other magical places all over the world. She is thrilled and honored to be working with such an incredibly strong cast and crew on *THE SHIPMENT*.

Teddy Nicholas (Stage Manager) wrote and directed *Untitled* (Dixon Place); *Transmissions*, *Orphans*, and *W/O/Y/Z/E/C/K* (Purchase College); and directed Christopher Shinn's *Four* (Purchase College) and Leah Winkler's *Big Girls Club* (Wings Theater/Binge Festival). He has been the stage manager for Thomas Bradshaw's *Southern Promises* (Performance Space 122), Anne Washburn's *October/November*, Taylor Mac's *Okay* (Ensemble Studio Theatre), Tommy Smith's *The Break-Up*, and Ken Urban's *The Happy Sad* (The Flea); and the assistant stage manager for Young Jean Lee's *Church* (The Public Theater). He has performed at Dixon Place (*STDs*), The Public Theater, and HERE Arts Center (*365Days/365Plays*, directed by Lenora Champagne). He is also the cofounder of Everywhere Theatre Group (everywheretheatre.org).

Prentice Onayemi (Performer) is a Chicagoan and New York University grad whose recent acting credits include *Medea* (LaMaMa Experimental Theatre Club) and *Song for New York* (Mabou Mines). He works for an educational nonprofit and, when he's not helping to staff schools, he dabbles in woodworking.

Roxana Ramseur (Costume Designer) is a theatrical costume designer, milliner, and crafts person with a background in fashion design. Since 1995, Ramseur has developed ongoing collaborations with a diverse roster of New York ensemble theaters (Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble, Messenger Theatre Company), contemporary dance companies (Brian Books Moving Company, Ariel Dance Theater), and solo performers (Sara Juli, Jo-Anne Lee) designing and building costumes for their growing repertoires. Recent work includes the 2008 season for the Santa Fe Opera (crafts head), *Doctor Atomic* with the Metropolitan Opera, and *Marie Antoinette* with the American Ballet Theatre II. Over the last six years, her millinery work for Lynne Mackey Studio has been featured in Broadway shows such as *Spamalot*, *The Color Purple*, *Wicked*, and *The Little Mermaid*. She received a B.A. with honors from the University of Texas at Austin and worked in women's wear in Toronto and New York before committing to theater full-time. She also freelances for crafts publications and designs fashion accessories, gifts, and soft packaging for major brands.

Douglas Scott Streater (Performer) is no stranger to the stage and happy to be back doing what he loves. He is a member of the Hypnosis Theater Company and has performed with them on many occasions, most recently in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. Having toured the country and India in productions of *Jackie, Vi and Lena*, and *My Soul is a Witness* with the Jena Company, he is now back in New York performing. Streater would like to dedicate his performance to his biggest inspiration, his mother, the late Gladys Douglas Samuel.

Matthew Tierney (Sound Designer) has worked on productions with, and is currently an associate of, Elevator Repair Service (*The Sound and the Fury* and *No Great Society*), Young Jean Lee's Theater Company (*Church*), and the Wooster Group (*Hamlet*, *There's Still Time...Brother, Who's Your Dada*, and *The Emperor Jones*). He has served as musical director and assistant director for numerous productions with Ridge Theater Company including *Decasia* by Michael Gordon and Bill Morrison, *Jennie Richee* by Mac Wellman (2001 Obie Award for collaborative design), *Shelter* with Bang on a Can, *Oedipus* by Harry Partch, and *The Death of Klinghoffer* by John Adams. Other recent projects include *Blasted* by Sarah Kane (Soho Rep, 2008).

Amelia Workman (Performer) recently graduated from Fordham University with a B.A. in theater and a minor in sociology, and she is thrilled to be working on such a provocative piece with Young Jean Lee's Theater Company. While in college, she spent a semester studying Shakespeare at the London Dramatic Academy and was also featured in several productions a year at Fordham including *Man Equals Man*, *The Busybody*, *The Bacchae*, *Faustus/Faust*, *Harpo and Juliet*, and *Dirt and Whiskey*. Prior to studying at Fordham, Workman studied commedia dell'arte in Europe and toured with the Interlocken School. Last winter she appeared in *By Oscar Micheaux* with the Milkcan Theatre Company and *She Like Girls* at the Lark Play Development Center in New York. Her performance this spring in *Man-Made* at the Ohio Theater earned her a stellar review from the *New York Times*, which called her "very good" and "a breath of fresh air." She has also done a bit of television work for London Fog and the Oxygen Network. She would like to thank her parents and loved ones for their continued patience and support.

Leah Winkler (Associate Director, Young Jean Lee Theater Company) is from Kamakura, Japan, and Lexington, Kentucky. In addition to working with Young Jean Lee's Theatre Company, she enjoys writing, performing, and directing with Everywhere Theatre Group (everywheretheatre.org) as well as working for the Asian American Arts Alliance. She is a contributing writer for *Discover Nikkei* and her short plays have been produced by Cultural Development Corporation's Source Festival (*Little Girls*), Working Man's Clothes Productions' Binge Festival (*Big Girls Club*), Ontological-Hysteric's Tiny Theatre (*6-Speed*), and hopefully more to come.

WEX UP NEXT

13 MOST BEAUTIFUL... SONGS FOR ANDY WARHOL'S SCREEN TESTS

Composed by Dean Wareham & Britta Phillips

THU, NOV 20 | 8 PM
Performance Space

Husband and wife team Dean Wareham and Britta Phillips, formerly of indie darlings Luna, have composed new music for a special selection of Warhol's famous films *Screen Tests*, which they will accompany live with their band. Dean and Britta probe the subtle nuances of mood reflected in the *Screen Tests'* black-and-white film portraits, lyrically and musically illuminating the shadowed psyches of the candidates for Factory superstardom who willingly submitted to Warhol's cool cinematic gaze.

13 Most Beautiful...Songs for Andy Warhol's Screen Tests is commissioned by the Andy Warhol Museum and Pittsburgh Cultural Trust for the Pittsburgh International Festival of Firsts 2008.



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*List reflects annual gifts and pledges of \$25,000 or more, as of September 15, 2008.

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