

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2021

THE  
HOWLAND  
COMPANY

**Native  
Earth**  
Performing Arts

|Soulpepper|

The Howland Company and Native Earth Performing Arts Present:

***The Home Project***

Originated by The Howland Company, in partnership with Native Earth Performing Arts, and  
Presented by Soulpepper

Toronto, ON— **The Howland Company** and **Native Earth Performing Arts** are thrilled to present ***The Home Project***, with co-creators and performances from **Akosua Amo-Adem**, **Qasim Khan**, and **Cheyenne Scott**. Presented in partnership by **Soulpepper**, ***The Home Project*** will be performed this Fall from **September 21st to October 3rd, 2021** in the Courtyard of the Young Centre for the Performing Arts.

“The idea of 'home' - it can be tangible, a fixed address, or more of a feeling, a memory. It can be fraught, an ongoing question mark. It can be absent. After a year of stay-at-home-orders, it's exciting to work with these three artists to ask specifically what 'home' means to them.” - **Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster**, Co-Director & Dramaturg of ***The Home Project*** and an Artistic Leader of The Howland Company.

***The Home Project*** is a collaborative, multi-disciplinary, and intimate theatrical experience centred on the theme of home and how our relationships with it have changed or evolved. Building upon these creators' memories, associations, and reflections, ***The Home Project*** combines live performance, sound, and digital media installation, examining how we are shaped by what we call home.

“Home can be a place, a memory, a smell, a song; it takes you back to what made you today. It is never inconsequential and always what we return to. As we continue to emerge back into society, we invite you to join three very talented artists as they bring the intimacy of their stories of home to you.” - **Keith Barker**, Co-Director & Dramaturg of ***The Home Project***, Artistic Director of Native Earth Performing Arts.

"We are so grateful to be partnering with Native Earth Performing Arts to bring this project to life. It is exciting to be entering a creative space again with artists who are as invested in collaboration as Keith Barker and Isaac Thomas have been. It feels so invigorating to be working with fellow companies, like Soulpepper, to finally bring the shared experience of live theatre back for our audiences." - **Paolo Santalucia**, Co-Director & Dramaturg of ***The Home Project*** and an Artistic Leader of The Howland Company.

The performances will take place outside in the Courtyard of the Young Centre for the Performing Arts. Tickets are on sale now, available on a sliding scale of \$5, \$15, \$25, with limited availability per performance. Each party will be sat in their own socially distanced pods of 1 to 4 people, according to the number of tickets chosen during checkout. If a group is larger than 4, please note that in the checkout and we will endeavour to seat the groups close together, but we may not be able to alter the pod sizes. The Young Centre Café has curated a menu with three delicious options, available to pre-order with ticket purchase and enjoy before the show. For information, menu details, and tickets, visit [soulpepper.ca/thehomeproject](https://soulpepper.ca/thehomeproject).

## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Akosua Amo-Adem** is an actor, writer, and director based in Toronto. Throughout her career Akosua has appeared in a variety of productions around the city. Her selected credits include Obsidian Theatre's *School Girls; or the African Mean Girls Play* (Head Mistress Francis), *Venus' Daughters* (Venus/Sarah); Soulpepper Theatre's *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Eunice), *For Colored Girls...* (Lady in Green), *Father Comes Home From The Wars...* (Leader/Runaway), *The Crucible* (Tituba); Canadian Stage's *Tartuffe* (Dorine) and Theatre Passe Muraille's *The Middle Place* (as Kaaliha/Dee). She was the director of "Every Minute of Every Day" (a radio drama for Factory Theatre) and has appeared on the cover of NOW Magazine. Akosua is a published author with an article called "See Me" in *Intermission* online magazine and she is currently developing her first full length play! Her on screen credits include appearances on *Odd Squad*, *Bitten*, *Frankie Drake Mysteries*, *21 Black Futures*, and *American Gods*. You can also see her as a series regular on the TV show *Kim's Convenience* via CBC gem and Netflix!

**Qasim Khan** (he/him) hails from Newmarket, which is exactly as suburban as it sounds. He is also a Dora Award winning artist who is thrilled to be making his Howland debut. Most recently, Qasim starred in *Paradise Lost*, *The Neverending Story*, *The Comedy of Errors*, and played roles in *Henry VIII*, *Timon of Athens*, *The Changeling*, and a bunch of others (Stratford). Other recent work has included *Acha Bacha* (TPM/Buddies); *Paradise Lost* (Centaur); *The Crucible*, *Royal Comedians*, *Alligator Pie* (Soulpepper); *Craigslist Cantata* (National Tour); *Hamlet*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Das Ding* (Canadian Stage); *Anne of Green Gables* and *Alice Through The Looking-Glass* (Charlottetown Festival). He has played roles on *Riftworld*, *Saving Hope*, *Nikita*, *Dan For Mayor*, *Little Mosque*, hosts *The Early Modern Cooking Show*, and appears in the upcoming Disney feature *Sneakerella*. Qasim graduated from the Soulpepper Academy, UofT/Sheridan, and is an International Actor Fellow of Shakespeare's Globe. He has been nominated for Dora, MyTheatre, and BroadwayWorld Awards, and received the John Hirsch Award from the Stratford Festival. Qasim is an artistic leader for Howland, a company member and anti-racism advisor at Stratford, and is generally thrilled to have survived the pandemic without losing his entire mind. Follow @theqasimkhan

**Cheyenne Scott** is Straits Salish of the Saanich Nation/Norwegian settler descent and an actor, playwright, and emerging creative producer with a focus on new works. Having learned theatre through a colonial lens, she is working to Indigenize her process through personal expression, land-based methodology, and storytelling. She is a Dora Mavor Moore nominated artist for co-creating *Now You See*

*Her* (Quote Unquote Collective/Nightwood/Why Not Theatre). She developed her first play *SPAWN* through the Animikiig program at Native Earth Performing Arts and went on to produce workshop productions at the rEvolver Festival and SummerWorks Festival in 2017. Currently, she is being mentored in artistic direction and producing as Artist-in-Residence with Urban Ink alongside the development of her new play *Wolf Cull* and is a member of Cahoot's 2020/2021 Hot House Playwrights lab. Cheyenne was named as the protégé of Lori Marchand for the Mallory Gilbert Leadership Award. Select Acting Credits include: *Children of God* (Urban Ink/NAC, Citadel/WCT, Segal Centre) *The Drowning Girls* (WCT), *Squawk* (Geordie Productions), *Sidewalk Chalk* (Geordie Productions), *Savage* (Native Earth).

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Co-Creator and Performer **Akosua Amo-Adem**

Co-Creator and Performer **Qasim Khan**

Co-Creator and Performer **Cheyenne Scott**

Co-Director & Dramaturg **Keith Barker**

Co-Director & Dramaturg **Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster**

Co-Director & Dramaturg **Paolo Santalucia**

Dramaturg **Isaac Thomas**

Sound Designer **David Deleary**

Production Designer **Jareth Li**

Stage Manager **Sam Hale**

September 21st - October 3rd, 2021 at 8pm

Tickets: Sliding Scale - \$5, \$15, \$25

For more details:

[howlandcompanytheatre.com/the-home-project/](http://howlandcompanytheatre.com/the-home-project/)

[nativeearth.ca/the-home-project/](http://nativeearth.ca/the-home-project/)

[soulpepper.ca/thehomeproject/](http://soulpepper.ca/thehomeproject/)

The Home Project is produced with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts.

**About [The Howland Company](#)**

The Howland Company strives for innovation on and off the stage. We are an artist-led and art-driven theatre company, dedicated to the production of electric stories that speak to the world and the times

in which we live. Through an agile, collective-leadership model, Howland aims to build new operating structures that empower its artists with agency, skills, and growth opportunities. We seek to challenge and inspire our audiences through productions, training and community initiatives like our Reading Group, fostering a new wave of theatre makers and theatre goers.

#### **About [Native Earth Performing Arts](#)**

Native Earth Performing Arts is Canada's oldest professional Indigenous performing arts company. Currently in our 38th year, we are dedicated to developing, producing and presenting professional artistic expressions of the Indigenous experience in Canada. Through stage productions (theatre, dance and multidisciplinary art), new script development, apprenticeships and internships, Native Earth seeks to fulfill a community of artistic visions. It is a vision that is inclusive and reflective of the artistic directions of members of the Indigenous community who actively participate in the arts.

#### **About [Soulpepper](#)**

Located in its multi-venue home, the Young Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto's Distillery Historic District, Soulpepper is Canada's leading artist-driven theatre company. We believe that vital stories can connect us all and that they can motivate us toward social change. Soulpepper traditionally produces a year-round season of over 500 events, and plays a civic role in our community through free education programs, Community Conversations, artist training, and environmental sustainability initiatives. Soulpepper strives to ensure theatre is accessible to all by offering ASL interpretation, Relaxed Performances, as well as free tickets to frontline workers and those under 25 years old. During COVID, Soulpepper has adapted to digital platforms offering over hours of free shareable content, including play readings, workshops, interviews, and concerts. To learn more about Soulpepper visit [soulpepper.ca](http://soulpepper.ca)

#### **About the [Canada Council for the Arts](#)**

The Canada Council for the Arts contributes to the vibrancy of a creative and diverse arts and literary scene and supports its presence across Canada and around the world. The Council is Canada's public arts funder, with a mandate to "foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in, the arts." The Council's grants, services, initiatives, prizes, and payments support Canadian artists, authors, and arts groups and organizations. This support allows them to pursue artistic expression, create works of art, and promote and disseminate the arts and literature. Through its arts funding, communications, research, and promotion activities, the Council fosters ever-growing engagement of Canadians and international audiences in the arts. The Council's Public Lending Right (PLR) program makes annual payments to creators whose works are held in Canadian public libraries. The Council's Art Bank operates art rental programs and helps further public engagement with contemporary arts through exhibition and outreach activities. The Council is responsible for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, which promotes the values and programs of UNESCO to contribute to a future of peace, reconciliation, equity, and sustainable development.

For more information, please contact:

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