



**DAHLAK BRATHWAITE** is an award-winning playwright, composer, and performer. His work has been presented at The Smithsonian, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, REDCAT, MCA Chicago, Ars Nova, The Public Theater, SXSW, by Creative Time, and on HBO's last two seasons of *Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry*. Dahlak's trilogy of works - *Spiritrials* (solo play), *Try/Step/Trip* (musical), *Adapting History* (documentary film) - take a personal look into the criminal justice system and the relationship between Black American music and Black American subjugation. Development of the work has been supported by CalArts, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Victory Gardens, and Montalvo Arts Center. Dahlak has received awards and support from NEFA, the Doris Duke Foundation, The U.S. State Department, NYU Tisch, and MAP Fund. He is a graduate of NYU's Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program, where he was awarded the Dean's Full-Tuition Fellowship, and currently serves as the Assistant Director for the national tour of the Tony-winning revival of *Oklahoma!*



**ROBERTA UNO** is a theater director and dramaturg. She founded and was Artistic Director of New WORLD Theater 1979-2002 in Amherst, MA. Her numerous directing credits include *The Dance and the Railroad* by David Henry Hwang, *Clothes* by Chitra Divakaruni, *Unmerciful Good Fortune* by Edwin Sanchez, *Flyin' West* by Pearl Cleage, *Stop Kiss* by Diana Son, *Sneaky* by William Yellow Robe, *Sheila's Day* by Duma Ndlovu, *I Land* by Keo Woolford, *the bodies between us* by thuy le, and the musical theater concert *Bone Hill*, co-written with and composed by Martha Redbone and Aaron Whitby. She was the last theater director to work directly with James Baldwin; directing *Blues for Mr. Charlie* and as a dramaturg she has spanned generations working with Pearl Primus, Alice Childress, Sekou Sundiata, Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Crystal Truscott, Dionna Daniel and others. She directed a large-scale devised theater work, *We the Peoples Before* at the Kennedy Center July 2022, a multi-year commission celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the First Peoples Fund. Much gratitude for this creative journey with Dahlak Bathwaite, Toran Moore, and the talented cast and crew of *Try/Step/Trip*.



**TORAN XAVIER MOORE** is a creative professional hailing from Montgomery, AL currently residing in Los Angeles. Depending on the moment, he can be found as an Arts Administrator, Stage Manager, Producer, and excitedly here tonight as Lead Choreographer for *Try/Step/Trip*. As a dance artist, Moore has had the opportunity to perform with the Eclectic Dance Company of Alabama State University, share his step tradition with youth in Oahu at the Queen Lili'uokalani Trust's 'Olino Arts Program, and

stepping in brotherhood with his beloved fraternity of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. As Producer and Creative Manager, Moore has worked in and with theaters across the country including The Joyce Theater, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Calarts Center for New Performance, The Kennedy Center, and many others he's grateful to have shared space in. Moore's most recent honor was serving as Production Manager for the premiere of *We The Peoples Before*. When not making art, Toran is a devoted Fiancé to Aliyah Davis and dog dad to Bella Rose. Moore holds degrees from California Institute of the Arts (M.F.A) and Alabama State University (B.A.)



**TEAK UNDERDUE** Hallway Productionz is a 3x Grammy Nominated, Dove Award-winning music production duo made up of producer/mixer/engineer/multi-instrumentalist Teak & Dee Underdue. The pair reside in Stockton, California. Teak and Dee's production is most notably featured on Ice Cube, WC, T-Bone, Angie Stone, Dave Hollister, Mindless Behavior & Blackalicious records.



**JASMINE T.R. GATEWOOD** graduated with her B.A. in Theatre Arts-Performance from Alabama State University, Montgomery, AL, and her Master's in Acting from California Institute of the Arts School of Theatre, Santa Clarita, CA. Jasmine's voice-over work and singing is featured on seven seasons of Dreamworks' "Madagascar: A Little Wild." Her credits also include Nickelodeon's "Cousins For Life," TNT's "Animal Kingdom," and the "Fallout" video game franchise. She loves what she does living true to Philippians 4: 13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." "I get an overjoyed sensation that races through my veins when I am able to break down and build up self to create new characters. It is so amazing to me to witness the power of storytelling when it manifests itself throughout an audience because someone can always relate and even if only one person is touched my job is done."



**ISAIAH LUCAS** a native of Las Vegas, NV graduated from Las Vegas Academy of Performing Arts as a theater major. After graduating high school at age 16, Isaiah moved to Los Angeles and started to train at Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Dustin Felder acting studio, and many other workshops and classes in Los Angeles, CA. Some credits include *Grey's Anatomy* (ABC), *All Shook up* (3D Theatrical), *Victorious* (Nickelodeon), Pepsi, and Nike. In his free time, Isaiah enjoys writing, music, and hanging out by the ocean. Isaiah also enjoys spending time with family/friends, playing basketball, and staying active in his community through mentorship and activism. Isaiah is grateful to perform in *Try/Step/Trip* as "Anonymous"!

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS



**FREDDY RAMSEY JR.** is an American actor, writer, and director. He can be seen on hit shows such as *This Is Us* (NBC), *Family Reunion* (Netflix), and *A La Carte* (AllBLK). As a recent MFA grad and former collegiate athlete, Freddy brings his persistence and dedication in practice to the craft of acting. Freddy received his MFA from The California Institute of the Arts and is originally from Baltimore, Maryland. His favorite quote is as follows: "Every person has a purpose and every purpose has a process, the question is; Will you persevere?"



**MAX UDELL** grew up in Highland Park, Illinois, before moving to California in 2014 to attend The California Institute of the Arts. While there, he was fortunate enough to be cast in *Try/Step/Trip*, and has enjoyed the privilege of getting to perform with it ever since. He has received numerous rave reviews throughout his lifetime, such as "he's a really good kid" - his Mother, and "You just wanna squeeze that little punum for days" - Grandmother. He is beyond excited to be back with the show, and can't wait to perform live theater after the last few years. He deeply appreciates you all coming, and hopes you enjoy the show!



**DANTE ROSSI** is extremely excited to return to the role of Pastor in *Try/Step/Trip*. He was recently Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet* at the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. Dante received his BFA at California Institute of the Arts. He is grateful to be working with such a talented and loving cast!



**BRIANA PATTILLO** is an international theater artist and maker, working primarily as a Lighting Designer for themed entertainment and performance. Bri designed *Fatwa! The Musical*, starring Lin-Manuel Miranda, for HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm." She has designed for Padua Playwrights, Odyssey Theatre Ensemble, Prospect House Entertainment, and more. Bri has assisted award-winning Lighting Designers Anne Militello, James F. Ingalls, and Ken Booth. For the past five years she has been an Associate Lighting Designer for Six Flags Magic Mountain's "Fright Fest" and "Holiday in the Park" events. She currently teaches theater at Los Angeles Mission College.

**DANA REBECCA WOODS** is happy to be collaborating with Roberta Uno; Dahlak Brathwaite and the wonderful cast and production team assembled for *Try/Step/Trip*. Her design work includes *Pipeline* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival; *The Color*

*Purple* directed by Jeffrey Polk at the Greenway Court Theater; Sheldon Epps' *Blues in the Night* at San Francisco's Post Street Theater; Laguna Playhouse and The Lovelace Studio Theater at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts; *In the Red* and *Brown Water* at UC Santa Barbara; *Shout Sister Shout*, *Stop Kiss*, *Above the Fold*, *Fences*, and others for The Pasadena Playhouse; *Jitney* and *Fences* at South Coast Repertory. Her film and television designs include *Go For Sisters*, written and directed by John Sayles; and *Watch Over Me*, a telenovela aired on My Network TV. Dana was an Assistant Professor at the University of Central Florida and is a member of USA Local 829; Costume Designers Guild Local 892; and Motion Picture Costumers Local 705. She is a Labor Organizer for the Costume Designers Guild and an IATSE Delegate to the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. When not designing productions or involved with labor activities, Dana creates teaching artist curriculum for afterschool programs.

**DELINA PATRICE BROOKS** has toured the U.S. and Western Europe as a performer with The Living Word Project, and choreographed / danced for Nas & Damian Marley, Kanye West's *Sunday Service* at Coachella and Chance the Rapper on *Saturday Night Live!* among others. And, a member of several Bay Area theater and dance companies, Delina was the Movement Director for *Casa de Spirits*, a play written & directed by veteran actor Roger Guenveur Smith. In 2018, Delina transitioned into the TV/Film industry and has been a Director's Assistant and Showrunner's Assistant for shows on HBO, Fox, Hulu, Disney/Freeform, ABC and NBC.

**BRITTANY WHITE** Stays behind the scenes. Technical theater background, mainly as a Prop Artisan but will cover most roles. Member of SF based theater group, Campo Santo. Happy to be alive and doing theater nationally and internationally for 10+ years. Yee!

**THE LIVING WORD PROJECT** is a theater commissioning, developing and producing company, whose work crosses disciplines integrating photography, film, visual arts and new media into its creations. As a collective of designers, performers, directors and technicians, our work endeavors to break open new modes of narrative, employing emerging aesthetics and techniques that push the possibilities of storytelling and theatre. We commission, develop, premiere and tour our Repertory works such as *The Break/s*, *Word Becomes Flesh*, *Scourge*, *red, black and GREEN*; *a blues*, *Nogales*, */peh-LO-tah/*, *Moving & Passing*, *Chasing Mehserle* and *Translating Selena* by Richard Montoya. Upcoming work includes *Rashomon* by Sean San Jose, directed by Mina Morita, *Last Days a Pu'unene Mill* with Tanya Orellana, and Prieto by Yosimar Reyes, Kat Evasco and Jose Antonio-Vargas.