**afrikah selah (they/them)**

[www.itsafrikah.com](https://www.itsafrikah.com/) | hello@itsafrikah.com

**PRODUCING**

**DEPARTMENT & EVENT PROGRAMMING**

Open Circuit Company One Theatre, 2021-23

Volt Lab Company One Theatre, 2021-23

In Community We Trust Company One Theatre, 2023

We Grow Together Company One Theatre, 2023

Reproductive Liberty and Body Justice for All Company One Theatre, 2022

RESOLVE 2022 Company One Theatre, 2022

**SELECTED WORKSHOPS & READINGS**

*Haunted* by Tara Moses dir. Siobhan Brown Company One Theatre, 2024

*Morning, Noon, and Night\** by Kirsten Greenidge dir. Summer L. Williams Company One Theatre, 2023

*We and other queer goddexxes*\* by mica rose dir. Des Bennett Company One Theatre, 2023

*Quotables\** by Idris Goodwin dir. Summer L. Williams Company One Theatre, 2022

*Can I touch it?\** by Francisca Da Silveira dir. Summer L. Williams Company One Theatre, 2021

**DRAMATURGY**

**LEAD PRODUCTION DRAMATURGY**

*HOOPS* by Eliana Pipes dir. Tonasia Jones Company One Theatre, 2024

*The Boy Who Kissed the Sky\** by Idris Goodwin dir. Summer L. Williams Company One Theatre, 2023

*Fairview* by Jackie Sibbles Drury dir. Pascale Florestal Speakeasy Stage, 2023

*Can I touch it? \** by Francisca Da Silveira dir. Summer L. Williams Company One Theatre, 2022

**TEAM & ASSISTANT DRAMATURGY**

*Black Super Hero Magic Mama\** by Inda Craig-Galván
 dir. Monica White-Ndounou Company One Theatre, 2022

*Re/Emergence\**  dir. Jen Onopa Re/Emergence, 2021

*Queer & Now: Sync or Swim* dir. Garrett SagerQueer & Now, 2018-2020

*What of the Night?* by María Irene Fornès dir. Vishnu Barve UMass Amherst, 2018

*The Lily’s Revenge* by Taylor Mac dir. Jen Onopa UMass Amherst, 2018

*Ta'zieh－Between Two Rivers\** by Q-Mars Haeri + Ifa Bayeza

dir. Nikoo Mamdoohi UMass Amherst, 2017

*Collidescope 2.0: Adventures in Pre- and Post-Racial America*by Ping Chong + Talvin Wilks dir. Ping Chong & Talvin Wilks UMass Amherst, 2016

**SELECTED WORKSHOPS & READINGS**

*Pinch Point\** by Erin Lerch dir. Josh Glenn-Kayden Flat Earth Theatre, 2022-23

*Baltimore* by Kirsten Greenidge dir. Josh Glenn-Kayden UMass Amherst, 2019

\*New play

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**COMPANY ONE THEATRE** SEPT 2021 – PRESENT

*New Work Producer*

Line produces New Work programming and new play development through budget management, overseeing hiring, managing personnel, and facilitating cross-department communication. Produces readings, workshops, open access classes, and special projects. Other duties including, but not limited to:

* Coordinates email communications and documentation with current playwrights, alumni playwrights, and guest artists.
* Supports and attends all readings, workshops, classes, & Circuit events.
* Provides dramaturgical insight and support for new work programming.
* Assistant produces Field Work programs (professional/creative development classes for people who make new plays).
* Producing Surge Lab programs (evenings of short plays and community partner conversations, created responsively to current issues).
* Providing administrative support to Company One’s Resident Playwright in running the Volt Lab for pre-professional playwrights and produces the annual showcase.
* Manages and produces monthly digital Open Writes meetings in collaboration with Company One’s Resident Playwright.

**FREELANCE ARTS WRITER** AUGUST 2020-PRESENT

*Arts Critic & Contributing Writer*

Covers in-person events and performances in the New England area, as well as virtual performance arts and theatre-related events. Reviews and critiques performance art and theatre-related events, providing intercultural contexts for public dialogue and engagement. Delivers high-quality writing with quick turnaround deadline, working closely with the editor. Bylines in: *The New England Theatre Geek, A.R.T., 3Views on Theater, The Public Theater,* and *American Theater Magazine.*

**RITES OF PASSAGE: 20/20 VISION** OCT 2020 – AUGUST 2021

*Co-Production Manager*

Collaborated with the producing artistic director in the logistical coordination of a site-specific performance installation with a short timeline of 6 weeks for installation, performance, and deinstallation. Scheduled and coordinated production schedule arrangements, rehearsals, and meetings with production personnel, adjusting as needed to support production timeline. Aided the producer in the coordination of production purchases, acting as a liaison on the producer’s behalf in written and verbal communication. Coordinated all written communication to be sent to all artists, designers, director, and production staff on time. Aided the producer in tracking, reconciling expenses, and budget management.

**RE/EMERGENCE** MAY 2020 – JUNE 2021

*Dramaturg & Head of Marketing*

Production dramaturgy team member for an outdoor, devised theater meditation. Crafted production language for actors, designers, and production staff to use to discuss sensitive content of the devised materials. Presented thorough research in workshops with production staff and actors on ritual structures and selected topics on nature movements & patterns; receiving feedback on further research topics to bring into meetings and rehearsals. Took charge in creating marketing plan and social media promotion for production.

**GUEST SPEAKING & WORKSHOPS**

 **GUEST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT**

Panelist, ‘New Perspectives on New Play Producing,’ National New Play Network, Queens, NY, April 2024

Guest, Under the Radar 2023 Reflection (Podcast), 3Views on Theater, February 2023

Guest Panelist, Theater Tech Panel, Hasty Pudding Theatricals, Summer 2021

**WORKSHOPS**

“The Touchstones of Theater Criticism & Review,” Young Critics Program, 2024

“How to Write Theatre & Cultural Criticism,” Young Critics Program, 2023

“Rituals and Ritual Structure”, RE/EMERGENCE, 2021

“Introduction to Transformative Justice & Creating Community Accountability,” Co-facilitator, University of Michigan, 2020

 “Art of Adaptation,” Queer & Now: Sync or Swim, 2018

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

“Has the World Finally Caught Up With Roger Q. Mason?,” American Theatre Magazine,April 2024

“Theatres No Longer Bound to the Stage,” American Theatre Magazine, October 2023

“Q&A WITH EARON CHEW NEALEY— THE HARDER THEY COME: CARE, COLLABORATION, AND AUTHENTICITY ON STAGE,” THE PUBLIC THEATER, 2023

“UNDER THE RADAR: A Return to Humanistic Expression: A Review of A THOUSAND WAYS (PART THREE): AN ASSEMBLY,” 3Views on Theater, 2023

“Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992”—A Reflection on Community, Action, and Power, American Repertory Theater, September 2022

“ISSUE FOUR: Tambo & Bones ― White Discomfort is the BARE, Bare Minimum: A Reflection on Dave Harris’s TAMBO & BONES,” 3Views on Theater, February 2022

**EDUCATION & TRAINING**

**AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER**

**Arts & Cultural Organization Management (ACOM), April 2024**

**EUGENE O’NEILL THEATER CENTER**

National Critics Institute, 2023

**ARTEQUITY**

Everyday Justice: Antiracism as Daily Practice, 2022

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST**

B.A. in Theater, Cum Laude

Minor in Afro-American Studies

Certificate in Multicultural Theatre

 **FELLOWSHIPS & RESIDENCIES**

**TCG RISING LEADER OF COLOR, 2023-24**

*Fellow*

2023-24 cohort fellow of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), a residency awarded to early-career BIPOC early-career journalists and critics of color who are committed to uplifting the stories of BIPOC and Black theatres, Indigenous theatres, and all other Theatres of Color (BITOC); upholding equitable practices in the U.S. theatre field; and who demonstrate the potential to impact the theatre field in a positive way.

**NATIONAL NEW PLAY NETWORK PRODUCER-IN-RESIDENCE, 2022-24**

*Producer in Residence at Company One Theatre*

Cohort fellow of the National New Play Network (NNPN), a residency awarded to early career producers committed to furthering their career efforts toward the creation and production of new plays.

**BIPOC CRITICS LAB, 2020-21**

*Fellow*

Cohort fellow of the BIPOC Critics Lab, founded by Jose Solis, a first-of-its-kind program designed to train and create work by emerging BIPOC theater journalists. Mentored by Jose Solis, guest artists, and arts journalists.

**YOUNG CRITICS PROGRAM, 2019-2020\*\***

*Fellow*

2020 Cohort member of the Boston Young Critics Program, created by the Front Porch Arts Collective**.** Mentored by the Boston Theater Critics Association members, editors, writers, and top theater artists in New England through workshops.

\*\*Ended early due to the pandemic.

**HONORS & AWARDS**

**Denise Lessard Wagner Community Spirit Award** 2019

Given in recognition of individuals who, through their beyond-the-call-of-duty dedication and commitment, have made an outstanding contribution to the community spirit of the UMass Amherst Theater department.

**James Baldwin Award** 2019

Participant and James Baldwin Award Recipient for Playwriting in the 2019 Word! A Five College Festival of Staged Readings

**Frank Prentice Rand Scholarship** 2018-19

Honoring Professor Frank Prentice Rand, who taught dramatic literature at UMass in the English Department. Given to students with exceptional scholarship and outstanding achievement in the areas of Directing, Producing, Playwriting, and Dramaturgy.

**Benedict Endowment Scholarship** 2017

Given to sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated technical proficiency and a commitment of professionalism in the areas of theater design, production, and management.

**SKILLS**

 **General**: MA Driver’s License, Project Management, Budget Management, Customer Service, Data Entry, Collaboration, Maintaining Calendars, Proofreading, Dramaturgical Research and Experience Curation, Panel Moderation, Stage Management, Sound Editing, Video Editing.

**Software**: Proficient in Mac OS and Windows, Microsoft Office, Google Suite, Zoom, QLab, iMovie, Rev, Beginner in Logic X and Davinci Resolve.

**Roles**: Stage Manager, Facilitator, Dramaturg, Assistant, Cultural Critic, Producer, Script Evaluation Reader