



Mugwumpin, Z Space and
Intersection for the Arts
present:

IN EVENT OF MOON DISASTER



JAN 3 -28
Z BELOW

Mugwumpin has a long history of creating interdisciplinary performance that defies traditional theater practices and paradigms. As a catalyst for radical collaboration, Mugwumpin forges new relationships between artists, audiences, places and ideas. And this year, I step into the full Artistic Director position with a heightened social consciousness.

I believe that creators of original performance have an opportunity and a responsibility to make work that resonates with the current moment, considering interpersonal, social, political, and environmental realities. I love the way that our creative inquiry is not restricted by traditional power structures, and how Mugwumpin artists are invited to bring their full selves into the room and onto the stage.

As a feminist theater-maker, I consistently examine the relationship between gender and collaboration, authority and authorship. As a choreographer directing a theater company, I'm compelled to question the genre binary that asks me to define our work as dance OR theater. Mugwumpin will continue to create sensory rich, physically rigorous, and theatrically innovative performance experiences for audiences, and I am honored to take the lead.

Most recently, we have been inspired by 'Pataphysics, the absurdist, pseudo-scientific literary trope invented by French writer Alfred Jarry (1873–1907). 'Pataphysics is known as the science of imaginary solutions, though it resists being pinned down by a simple definition. According to Jarry, 'pataphysics is motivated by the belief that "the virtual or imaginary nature of things as glimpsed by the heightened vision of poetry or science or love can be seized and lived as real."

We are so happy that you have come to experience Mugwumpin this evening, and we hope that you will find this work of 'pataphysical theater is something to be seized and lived as real.

Natalie Greene, Artistic Director



Mugwumpin, Z Space + Intersection for the Arts
present the earth premiere of

IN EVENT OF MOON DISASTER

An immersive theater experience
about space exploration, contingency planning and
the watchful eye of the Moon.

PERFORMER/CREATORS:

Stephanie DeMott, Erin Mei-Ling Stuart, Isa Musni,
Nayeli Rodriguez, Soren Santos, and Don Wood

Director	Natalie Greene
Advisor	Michelle Talgarow
Dramaturg	Christine Young
Costume Design	Christine Crook & Alice Ruiz
Lighting Design	Ray Oppenheimer
Sound Design	Teddy Hulsker
Projections Design	Wolfgang Lancelot Wachalovsky
Video Content Design	Darl Andrew Packard
Scenic & Props Design	Haleigh Park Dulce
Moonhead Design	Kal Domici <small>Based on original concept and design by Soren Santos</small>
Production & Stage Mgmt	Allie Khori
Rehearsal & Asst. Stage Mgmt	Paige Hart
Asst. Stage Management	House
Technical Director	Leighland Hooks
Production Assistant	Rebecca Capper
Alternate Stage Manager	Maria Costa
Public Relations	John B. Hill
Production Photographer	Battista Remati
Professional Video Recording	Loren Robertson Productions
Design	Julie Wertz
Program Design	Julie Schuchard





IN EVENT OF MOON DISASTER

"Fate has ordained that the men who went to the Moon to explore in peace will stay on the Moon to rest in peace." Thus begins the speech that Richard Nixon would have given had the Apollo XI astronauts not returned to earth in 1969. Written by William Safire, the words remain as a poignant artifact of the worst-case-scenario contingency planning behind one of our country's most ambitious and hopeful endeavors. This never performed speech is the inspiration for the production you are part of tonight.

PREPARE TO LAUNCH (August 2016)

Mugwumpin's first space exploration was made possible by the Fleishhacker Foundation and a Studio Lab Residency at PRO ARTS GALLERY. Created and performed by Stephanie DeMott, Natalie Greene, Madeline H.D. Brown, Erin Mei-Ling Stuart, Wiley Naman Strasser and Soren Santos.

GOING TO SPACE CAMP (May 2017)

"Lunar Process Modules" was presented by Intersection for the Arts as a part of their Common Grounds Festival. Created and performed by Stephanie DeMott, Maica Folch, Natalie Greene, Sig Hafstrom, Nayeli Rodriguez, Soren Santos, Zenon Talbot and Don Wood.

HUGE THANKS to audiences who joined us in 2015 and 2016. Your contributions were essential parts of this journey.

LIFTOFF (January 2018)

This full moon was made possible through funding from the Kenneth Rainin Foundation, the Zellerbach Family Foundation, San Francisco Grants for the Arts, and by our generous donors. Extra special thanks to production sponsors Gretchen Brosius, Cynthia and Dennis Stuart, and to EVERYONE who donated to Mugwumpin's crowdfunding campaign. We couldn't have done it without you!

MUGWUMPIN

Mugwumpin is an award-winning San Francisco theater and performance company, part of a wave of young American companies who are expanding the artform by questioning the primacy of text and narrative in theater and playfully transgressing received notions of the audience-performer relationship. More information at www.mugwumpin.org

VISION: Live art that ignites radical collaboration, empathy, and curiosity.

MISSION: Mugwumpin creates collective live art for people with an appetite for questions and visceral experience.

Mugwumpin is: Natalie Greene (Artistic Director), El Beh, Madeline HD Brown, Stephanie DeMott, Susannah Martin, Ray Oppenheimer, Soren Santos, Erin Mei-Ling Stuart, Michelle Talgarow, Wolfgang Lancelot Wachalovsky.

UP NEXT:

Join us in the SFArtsED Gallery at the Minnesota Street Project, where we are company in residence, developing educational programming and performance Occurrences. Stay tuned at mugwumpin.org and keep an eye out for special announcements.

SPECIAL THANKS

Kevin Sweetser, Ian Winters, Solinna Kim, Drew Farley, Theatre of Yugen, Joe Moore, Maximilian Urruzmendi, Tony Gonzalez, Envision Entertainment, JCX Expendables, Joshua McDermott, Courtney Johnson & Kristin Smith of Contra Costa Civic Theatre, Kimberly & Musson Theatrical, Gus' Market, Discount Builders, Spencer Dixon, Melissa Ramirez, Jack Beuttler, James Faerron, Paul Dresher, Shotgun Players, Mariana Olvera, Natalia Mount, Randy Rollison, Marlene Yarosh, Patricia Hewett, Lisa Steindler, Andrew Burmester, Julie Schuchard, Kimberly Lester & Mojo Theater, Lucrezia Palandri, Gabriel Armstrong, Marcy Chapman, Daniel Harvey, Teresa & Carlos Rodriguez, Jeremy Traum, Jason Hancock, Zachary Forcum, Kim Epifano, Haley Seppa, Vino!, Johnny Sampson, Riley Taylor, and Marlene Zaibak.

To: H.R. Haldmen
From: Bill Safire
July 18, 1969

IN EVENT OF MOON DISASTER:

Fate has ordained that the men who went to the moon to explore in peace will stay on the moon to rest in peace.

These brave men, Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, know that there is no hope for their recovery. But they also know that there is hope for mankind in their sacrifice.

These two men are laying down their lives in mankind's most noble goal: the search for truth and understanding. They will be mourned by their families and friends; they will be mourned by their nation; they will be mourned by the people of the world; they will be mourned by a Mother Earth that dared send two of her sons into the unknown.

In their exploration, they stirred the people of the world to feel as one; in their sacrifice, they bind more tightly the brotherhood of man. In ancient days, men looked at stars and saw their heroes in the constellations. In modern time, we do much the same, but our heroes are epic men of flesh and blood.

Others will follow, and surely find their way home. Man's search will not be denied. But these men were the first, and they will remain foremost in our hearts. For every human being who looks up at the moon in the nights to come will know that there is some corner of another world that is forever mankind.

PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:

The President should telephone each of the widows-to-be.

AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT, AT THE POINT WHEN NASA ENDS COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE MEN:

A clergyman should adopt the same procedure as a burial at sea, commending their souls to "the deepest of the deep," concluding with the Lord's Prayer.



BIOGRAPHIES

*Indicates company member

CHRISTINE CROOK (Costume Designer) has worked with Opera Parallèle, Magic Theatre, Marin Theatre, Cal Shakes, Encore Theatre, Aurora Theater, Boxcar Theater, San Francisco Playhouse, UC Berkeley, Center Rep, Just Theater, Festival Opera, Berkeley Playhouse, and Shotgun Players. She holds an MFA in costume design from UC San Diego and is the recipient of two SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards, and a 2008 Patti Award for Theater Excellence.

* **STEPHANIE DEMOTT** (Creator/Performer) is a Mugwumpin Company Member and thinks of the company as her artistic home. She graduated summa cum laude from SF State University with a B.A. in Theater Arts and Creative Writing, and received her M.F.A from the American Conservatory Theater. She has performed with A.C.T., Magic Theatre, TheatreFirst, Word For Word, and Mugwumpin, among others. Favorite roles include May in *Fool For Love*, Sara in *Stop Kiss*, Orlando, Lady Macbeth, and Mercutio. Stephanie has taught for CIIS, exploring devising theater under extreme conditions at Burning Man, and for A.C.T.'s Studio program. In 2015, she took part in Jon Tracy's first Groundswell intensive in San Miguel de Allende, and in 2016 she developed and performed a piece for SMA's theater festival, TEATRAL. She also developed/performed in Number 1 at Z Space with University of Chichester's Louie Jenkins and Madeleine H.D. Brown.

* **NATALIE GREENE** (Director) is a multidisciplinary director and choreographer who has been performing, teaching and creating in the Bay Area since 2003. Work with Mugwumpin includes conceiving and directing Occurrences at Intersection for the Arts, Fairyland, and the Red Poppy Art House, choreographing *Blockbuster Season*, as well as co-creating and performing in *Future Motive Power*, *The Great Big Also*, *Asomnia* and *Luster*. A longtime Mugwumpin company member, Natalie became Artistic Director in 2017 after a year-long interim position. Independently she has created intimate dances, large-scale flash mobs, and theatrical installations, which have appeared at Cal Academy of Sciences, Terminal 2 at SFO, Dance Mission Theater, ODC Theater, and on many different sidewalks and streets of San Francisco. In collaboration with Amie Dowling and Austin Forbord, Natalie co-choreographed the award-winning short dance films *Well Contested Sites* (2013) and *Separate Sentence* (2016). Natalie is Adjunct Faculty in the Performing Arts & Social Justice Program at University of San Francisco, where for ten years she has directed the intergenerational performance company Dance Generators. Through USF, Natalie leads a service-learning trip to Tacna, Peru, which was the subject of her 2016 documentary, *Siempre Más Alto*, co-edited by Eric Garcia and Gabriel Armstrong. She is a longtime Artist-in-Residence and former Board Member of the San Francisco Arts Education Project. As a performer, Natalie has worked with Mary Armentrout, Kim Epifano, Emily Keeler, Kelly Kemp, Erin Mei-Ling Stuart, Deborah Slater, Leyya Tawil, and many others. Natalie extends heartfelt thanks and admiration to Christopher Ward White, the Mugwumpin company, and the celestial cast & crew of this production.

THEODORE J.H. HULSKER (Sound Designer) is a Bay Area based theater artist, composer, theater sound/video designer, and curator. His recent theater design credits include *Baltimore Waltz* at the Magic Theater, *August Osage County* at Marin Theater Company, *Seared* with San Francisco Playhouse, and *Leni* at Aurora Theater Company. Theodore curates a monthly event, Klanghaus, showcasing the work of local performing and visual artists in an immersive environment, for which he received a Theater Bay Area CA\$H grant in 2016. He has also developed, produced and performed in several original Klanghaus productions including *APlayAboutLeaving* and *The Office of Certain Things*. On certain moonlit nights he can be found performing in DIY spaces, bars, cafes and homes as his alter ego The SHOWMAN. He graduated as department honoree from

San Francisco State University in 2012. For more information, videos and sounds visit: theodore-hulsker.squarespace.com

ALLIE KHORI (Production & Stage Management) loves space almost as much as she loves theatre. After working in the Bay Area theatre scene for almost six years as an electrician, stage manager, production manager and venue manager, she is thrilled to bring all of her skills to bear on this project, and work with such an incredibly talented team of artists. In the words of Captain Picard "Things are only impossible until they're not."

* **ERIN MEI-LING STUART** (Creator/Performer) is a proud member of Mugwumpin and detour dance, and is the artistic director of EmSpace Dance. An actor, dancer, choreographer, director, occasional viola player, and amateur guitarist, Erin has had the pleasure of working with Shotgun Players, Central Works, Flyaway Productions, 13th Floor, Erika Chong Shuch, Amara Tabor Smith, Christy Funsch, and many others. Honors include an IZZIE nomination for *Monkey Gone to Heaven* (redux) in 2017, The Della Davidson Prize (2016), and a GOLDIE award from the SF Bay Guardian (2008).

ISA MUSNI (Creator/Performer) began her dance training with Natalie Greene in musical theatre with SFArtsED before finding Natalie again at ODC. Isa performed in more musicals with YPTMTC and soon after committed to ODC's teen dance company. Isa graduated from CalArts with a BFA in Dance. Most recently, Isa performed as a tribe member and dance captain for *Hair* at the Great Star Theater and in SF BATCO's *La Posarela*. Isa would like to thank her family, friends, and teachers—especially Aya, Nick, and the IEOMD cast & crew for their love and support. She dedicates this dance to Thea.

* **RAY OPPENHEIMER** (Lighting Design) is excited to bring his boundless curiosity, chimerical aesthetic, and saphysian perseverance to this Mugwumpin production as company member and lighting designer. Ray is an artist, creator, and teacher who was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ray's designs for Mugwumpin include the 10th Anniversary productions of *This Is All You Need* and *Super Anti-Reluctant*, as well as *Blockbuster Sason*. Upcoming productions include a new rock opera *Weightless* at Z Space, and the world premiere of *Gangster of Love* at The Magic Theatre. Ray's has also worked closely with local companies including Crowded Fire, Shotgun Players, NCTC, David Herrera Dance Company, and Center Repertory.

DARL ANDREW PACKARD (Video Content Design) is working on his second Mugwumpin project. He previously designed lighting for *The Great Big Also*. Other video design credits include Nava Dance's *Broken Seeds Still Grow* and SF Playhouse's World Premiere of *Grounded* directed by Susannah Martin. Packard's lighting design work has been seen throughout the Bay Area with companies such as CounterPULSE, Golden Thread, Crowded Fire and many others. He is the Operations Manager for Arts & Ideas at the JCCSF. Packard would like to thank his amazing wife for continuing to let him play with his friends.

NAYELI RODRIGUEZ (Creator/Performer) is Mugwumpin's youngest performer. Last spring, she performed in *Lunar Process Modules* as the director of the Swampi Space Program. She was also a member of SFArtsED Players musical theater company for two seasons, performing in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *Carnival*. She has performed in several school plays, most recently, *The Ramayana*. Nayeli loves to create art in all its forms. She feels lucky to be part of Mugwumpin and to learn from all of her fellow cast members.

ALICE RUIZ (Assistant Costume Designer) is excited to be on the Moon with y'all and to be collaborating with Christine Crook on astronaut costumes. She oversees high school students at Lick-Wilmerding High School and has been working all over the Bay for 4 years. This is her first show with Mugwumpin. You can view more of her work at www.aliceruizdesign.com.

* **SOREN SANTOS** (Creator/Performer) is Mugwumpin company member, actor, mover, teacher and Bay Area native. He's been performing with the company since 2014's remount of *super:anti:reluctant*. A graduate of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, Soren has worked locally with Berkeley Rep, TheatreWorks, Crowded Fire, TheatreFIRST, Shotgun Players, and several other theater companies. He has also performed nationally with Movement Research (NYC), Counter-Balance Theater (Irvine, CA & St. Louis, MO), and Rogue Artists Ensemble (Los Angeles, CA & Seattle, WA). Thanks to Marlene, the extended Mugwumpin family, and you. Yes you.

* **MICHELLE TALGAROW** (Advisor) is a Bay Area theatre maker for over 20 years, specializing in the collaborative process in devising new work. Michelle is a proud company member of Mugwumpin. She assistant directed *Blockbuster Season*, directed the remount of *super:anti:reluctant* and spearheaded the 20-hour *Gandy Dance* on Bart for Mugwumpin 10. She also performed in *Luster*, *Great Big Also* and many occurrences, the *60 hour Asomnia* being her favorite. Michelle is also a proud member of Shotgun Players and is one of this season's Champagne Reading Series coordinators. She has strong roots at San Francisco's EXIT Theatre, where 2 of her murals can be seen. Michelle has been fortunate to work with many other local companies, including The Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep, Central Works, Impact Theatre, Ferocious Lotus, Cutting Ball Theater, Magic Theatre, and Bindlestiff Studios.

* **WOLFGANG WACHALOVSKY** (Projections Designer) is a director-collaborator, lighting and video designer, the former Managing Director of Mugwumpin. He has developed and directed world premieres with Burning Monk Collective, EmSpace Dance and Transient Theatre. His lighting design focuses on site-specific creations like Mugwumpin's *Future Motive Power* at the Old Mint and *Killer Queen* in a Los Angeles warehouse.

DON WOOD (Creator/Performer) graduated from high school in 1969. Prompted by his winning number in that year's draft, he enlisted in the Navy and served on a submarine from 1971 - 1973. After the Navy, he waited tables, drove delivery trucks, discovered theatre in 1980, and has been a Bay Area actor for 33 years. Recent gigs include the previous Mugwumpin Moon Project at the Chronicle Building, Christine Crook's *Laughing and Crying* at Z Space, Sam Shepard's *Ages of the Moon* with Anton's Well, and Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* with Shotgun Players. Next up: Ionesco's *Exit the King* at Exit Theatre in March 2018.

CHRISTINE YOUNG (Dramaturg) is an Associate Professor in the Performing Arts & Social Justice Program at University of San Francisco, and she also freelances as a director and dramaturg specializing in new plays. Christine previously collaborated with Natalie Greene to create *High Anxiety* at USF, a devised show about the impact of anxiety and addiction on college students. She has directed and taught locally for Tenderloin Opera Company, Crowded Fire, Lunatique Fantastique, Shotgun Players, California Shakespeare Theater, Magic Theatre, New Conservatory Theater, TheatreWorks, San Francisco Shakespeare, Golden Thread Productions, Strange Angels, Just Theater and the Bay Area Playwrights Festival. Her work has been funded by San Francisco Arts Commission, Haas Foundation, Zellerbach Family Foundation, Puffin Foundation, California Humanities, and Theatre Bay Area. She was born under the Harvest Moon, but is most partial to the Wolf Moon.



Under Executive Artistic Director Lisa Steindler, **Z Space** empowers artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and staff in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work. Operating two venues in San Francisco's historic Mission District, a mainstage and a black box theater, Z Space hosts new works from a variety of performance disciplines year-round. Z Space and Word for Word celebrate their 25th Anniversary in 2018.

Upcoming Z Space productions include:

Word for Word's Lucia Berlin: Stories
Z Below Feb.14 - Mar. 11

Weightless: A New Rock Opera by The Kilbanes
Z Space Feb 23 - Mar 18

For more Information visit: WWW.ZSPACE.ORG

intersection FOR THE ARTS

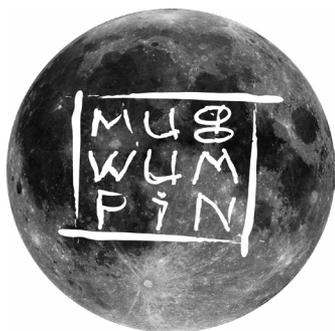
Intersection for the Arts (Co-Producer) is a non-profit organization that has been enabling Bay Area artists to achieve their creative potential for 50+ years. A deeply committed team supports each member's artistic pursuits by delivering a suite of personalized services that include fiscal sponsorship, professional development & space programs, as well as public programming opportunities. Mugwumpin is a member project of Intersection for the Arts, and their work is a featured event of the INTERSECT SF series, which highlights the work of member projects in the city of San Francisco. INTERSECT SF is funded in part by Grants for the Arts.

Upcoming INTERSECT SF events include:

Worth Your Salt: An Installation by Annie Albagli
Jan. 26 - Feb.4 at Please Touch Community Garden 165 Grove St.

Ismail Lumanovski and Inspector Gadje Balkan Brass @ Kafana Balkan
Feb.3 at The Rickshaw Stop 155 Fell St.

For more Information visit: WWW.THEINTERSECTION.ORG



New Year's Supermoon in Gemini

JAN 1-2 A Supermoon is when the moon is at its closest point to the earth, making the Full Moon brighter and larger. This Full Moon is known as the Wolf Moon, Old Moon or Moon After Yule.

Moon and Lion

JAN 4-5 The waning gibbous moon passes very close to the bright star Regulus in Leo.

Moon, Mars, and Jupiter

JAN 11 The waning crescent moon sits less than 4 degrees to the upper left of dim reddish Mars and very bright Jupiter.

Saturn, Mercury, and Moon

JAN 14-15 Low in the southeastern pre-dawn sky, the Old Moon's very thin crescent can be glimpsed near Saturn and Mercury. All three objects will fit into the field of view of binoculars.

New Moon

JAN 16-17 When New, the moon is travelling between the Earth and the Sun, and thus, the moon is hidden from view. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

Moon Hits a Bull's Eye

JAN 26-27 The waxing gibbous moon's orbital motion will carry it through the stars that form the triangular face of Taurus the Bull.

Full Supermoon, Blue Moon and Total Lunar Eclipse in Leo

JAN 31 Lunar eclipses are completely safe to look at because the sun is below the horizon. This is the second Full Moon of the month and the final Supermoon of 2018. Add that to the eclipse, and we've got a skywatching event that hasn't happened for more than 150 years.

