

Liminal Productions in association with bAKEHOUSE Theatre Co presents



RHOMBOID

A NEW QUEER ASIAN-AUSTRALIAN PLAY by ERIC JIANG

25 AUG – 9 SEP KXT ON BROADWAY

Supported by

LIMINAL



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RHOMBOID

A new queer Asian-Australian play by Eric Jiang

CAST

Xavier Richard Wu **Sebastian** Luke Visentin **Lachie/Felix** Joseph Raboy

Understudies Christopher Colley, Jasper Lee-Lindsay

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Sammy Jing

Assistant Director Rachel Seeto

Playwright Eric Jiang

Set Design Paris Bell

Costume Design Lily Mateljan

Lighting Design Catherine Mai

Sound Design & Composition Christine Pan

Stage Manager Alex Liang

Intimacy Coordinator Rikiah Lizarraga

Dramaturg Jasper Lee-Lindsay, Rachel Seeto

Producer Aaron Cornelius

Promotional photography by Jamille Lemes (www.jamasart.com)

Production photography by Philip Erbacher (www.philiperbacher.com)

Liminal Productions acknowledges the traditional owners of the land we work on, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. We pay our respects to elders past and present. This always was, always will be Aboriginal land.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The word 'friend' is deceptively broad. It can mean someone you catch up with for coffee every six weeks, six months, or even six years. It can be a persisting bond with someone you once knew, or someone you see every day. It can be someone you would take a bullet for. Rhomboid speaks to this liminality, what do you call someone that you love like no one else (but not in like, a romantic way or anything)?

Rhomboid is a reminder that romantic love isn't the be-all-end-all of relationships, that love in all its forms can be expansive and transformative. That the most fulfilling relationships in your life might not fit into a neat little box, or have an easy label to slap on, or even look like what other people expect.

This story is so beautiful because it is largely autobiographical, and our wonderful writer Eric is very brave for sharing a work so personal, so vulnerable, so intimate. Because of that bravery, it is a great joy to see a story about a queer Asian man at the centre, with the space to be funny, messy and human.

From this deeply personal story, I truly hope that you walk away from the show feeling even a fraction of the possibility, warmth and love that we feel putting it on.

- Sammy Jing, Director

SOUND DESIGNER'S NOTE

The musical underscore in "Rhomboid" draws inspiration from the compositional methods employed by the German Composer Wagner, particularly the use of leitmotifs—recurring musical cells that support specific symbolism and underlying themes throughout an opera or play. Sammy and I agreed that the scenes within Rhomboid are structured as drop-in points to an incredibly transitional period of Xavier and Sebastian lives. They grapple not only with the boundaries of their relationship but also with their personal growth from teenagers into adults.

My aim was to sonically capture the essential dialogues between Xavier and Sebastian, assigning each significant conversation with its own distinct musical track. These tracks eventually coalesce into the overarching "Rhomboid theme," which culminates towards the play's conclusion. The primary theme in Bb C G progressively unfolds, ultimately revealing its entirety. By employing leitmotifs, my intention was to create a sense of musical and emotional completeness and satisfaction. I see the rhomboidal path as something private between Xavier and Sebastian, something that doesn't require explicit exposition for the audience but can be felt through the music.

Digital spaces are often oases for authentic queer intimacy, away from familial and societal scrutiny. Yet, digital platforms can paradoxically lead to a sense of disconnection due to the absence of physical interaction. Within the auditory fabric of the play, I integrated the sounds of water to represent and mirror the digital space - a space that can be both (emotionally) hydrating, and suffocating. Incorporating various states of water, such as drops and freezing ice, provided an engaging way to musically illustrate the flow of messages exchanged between vXavier and Sebastian. As the digital space's underscore and the "Rhomboid theme" evolve throughout the performance, they underscore the moments where authenticity slowly permeates from the digital into reality until the end, where Sebastian and Xavier finally feel safe to communicate their emotions face to face.

Lachie and Felix also play pivotal roles in Sebastian and Xavier's personal growth, thus deserving of their own unique musical languages. Lachie's presence is characterised by suave, jazzy, and energetic music. Reflecting his self-assured personality, his interactions as a somewhat grounded individual offers a form of therapy for Xavier. Conversely, Felix's presence is marked by a crescendo of ambience, accentuating Felix's feeling of "otherness" as an outsider peering into the ineffable intimacy and history shared by Xavier and Sebastian.

On the whole, scoring "Rhomboid" presented a delightful challenge. Drawing from my classical training, I relished crafting an electroacoustic sonic landscape by infusing classical compositional techniques. I feel so blessed to have worked with this incredible cast and crew.

- Christine Pan, Sound Designer

CAST



RICHARD WU
XAVIER

Richard Wu is a writer and actor making his theatrical '1.5' debut in 'Rhomboid'.

He wrote, produced and starred in his own short film 'Chance at Dawn', with his most recent credits including 'La Quarrel' in 2022, and 'I was Fine Until You Came into the Room'. The latter, a grand finalist of 2021's Short + Sweet Short Play Festival, which is a collection of 10 minute plays (hence the 1.5).

While he still can't completely understand why 'Preview 1 is not just called Opening Night', he's hoping to do more theatre and screen acting projects in the future.

He also needs an agent. He's unrepresented.



LUKE VISENTIN
SEBASTIAN

Luke Visentin (he/him) graduated from NIDA in 2020, with highlights playing Konstantin in 'The Seagull', and Sir Andrew in 'Twelfth Night'.

His credits include 'Come Again' at KXT, 'Control' at New Theatre, 'Morning to Midnight' at the Opera Centre, Horizons Theatre puppet shows, 'Much Ado' and 'Hamlet' tours, 'Wind in the Willows' for ASC and short film 'Icarus'.



JOSEPH RABOY
LACHIE/FELIX

Joseph (he/him) was born in the Philippines and migrated to Australia 10 days after he turned 6.

In 2022, he was chosen as the winner of the Equity 'Neighbours' Graduate Internship Program (from a pool of over 120 applicants). In 2023, he was a Top Four Finalist in all of Australia, for the Atlantic Acting School Scholarship in New York City.

Joseph's most recent TV credit is Matt Chan on 'Neighbours' (dir. by Kate Kendall). He will appear in upcoming feature films 'SUKA', and 'KNOT' (produced by Dev Patel).

He performed the leading role of Vergel in 'Ate Lovia' (Red Line Productions/Kwento), winning 'Best Performer In A Play' at the 2022 Broadway World Australia - Sydney Awards. He also starred in 'Nothing' (Riverside's National Theatre of Parramatta), a play with a cast of only two actors playing 25 characters - he played 16 of them.

Joseph is elated to be making his KXT on Broadway debut in 'Rhomboid'.



JASPER LEE-LINDSAY
Understudy: XAVIER/
LACHIE/FELIX & Dramaturg

Jasper Lee-Lindsay (he/him) is an actor, writer and theatre producer.

As an actor, his stage credits include *Blessed Union* (Belvoir), *Follow Me Home* (ATYP), and *Moon Rabbit Rising* (Little Eggs Collective/25A). Screen credits include *Legend of the Five* (Benjamin Jon Creative Media) and *Too Many Ethnicns* (In-Between Productions).

For his writing, Jasper first short play, *Arthur & Marilyn*, received awards from the Short + Sweet Festival in both Sydney and Los Angeles, and his second short play, *The Iceberg*, was featured in ATYP's *Intersection: Arrival*. He also wrote and performed *Percentages*, a spoken-word poem which featured in Diversity Arts Australia's *I Am Not A Virus* project.

He has produced *Chewing Gum Dreams* for Green Door Theatre Company, and *Yellow Face* for his own indie theatre company, Dinosaurus Productions.

Jasper studied acting at AFTT, received writing mentorship through ATYP, and is currently developing skills as a dramaturg through the *Developing the Dramaturg* program at Australian Plays Transform.



CHRISTOPHER COLLEY
Understudy: SEBASTIAN

Born and raised in Perth, Western Australia, Christopher Colley (he/him) is making his Sydney stage debut understudying for the role of 'Sebastian'.

A multi-hyphenate; actor, writer and filmmaker, Chris has performed on stage and screen throughout his time in Perth.

Chris is also the recent recipient of Screen-West & Screen Australia's 'Out-Now' funding initiative for his original LGBT+ Scripted web series "The Curse Of Baba Yaga".

PRODUCTION TEAM



AARON CORNELIUS
PRODUCER

Aaron (he/him) is an independent producer and founder of Liminal Productions.

Recent producing credits include the award-winning immersive touring production 'TattleTales' (Ponydog Productions, Winner: 'Spirit of the Fringe' at Adelaide Fringe 2023 / Nominated 'Best Theatre' at Melbourne Fringe 2022) and 'Chain Play' which featured a team of 40 Asian-Australian creatives (Slanted Theatre, Nominated: 'Best in Theatre' at Sydney Fringe 2022).

Aaron is currently Marketing, Engagement & Admin Coordinator for CDP Theatre Producers, one of Australia's most prolific theatre companies presenting work for young audiences.



SAMMY JING
DIRECTOR

Sammy Jing (he/him) is a Chinese/Australian queer multidisciplinary artist based on Dharug, Gadigal and Bidjigal country (Sydney). He holds a Masters of Directing from NIDA and a Bachelor of Theatre Studies with Honours from the University of British Columbia, and recipient of the inaugural Jerry Wasserman Scholarship and Yvonne Firkins Prize.

Sammy strives to create work that explores intercultural performance, heartfelt stories, and an experimental approach to making art. Notable works include assistant directing and stage managing the award winning international tour of Artisanal Intelligence (2019); assistant director on the NIDAxSTC collaboration Eat Me (2021); director of Too Human by Michael McStay (NIDA Festival of Emerging Artists); co-director of Chain Play for Slanted Theatre at the 2022 Sydney Fringe Festival (Nominated: Best Theatre), and proud member of the CAAP Artist Lab 2023 cohort.

Sammy is currently working as a guest lecturer and tutor at NIDA, and is writing/directing/producing an indie short film titled Wake Up Call (currently in pre-production).

Sammy is proud to present the world premiere of Rhomboid by Eric Jiang at KXT on Broadway.



RACHEL SEETO
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Rachel Seeto (she/they) is a multidisciplinary artist and actor. Their practice unravels our relationship to memory, personal and shared archives, and what attachments linger with possessions, places and people.

When she's not creating with her hands she's creating for the stage, appearing most recently as an actor in *Dumb Kids* (KXT on Broadway), *The Great Australian Play (The Old Fitz)* and *Moon Rabbit Rising* (Belvoir 25a/Little Eggs Collective), and as assistant director for *Misc.* (Panimo/KXT).



ERIC JIANG
PLAYWRIGHT

Eric Jiang (he/they) is a queer Chinese-Australian writer/director based in Sydney. His poetry can be found in journals such as *Liminal*, *Cordite* and more. His work explores race, friendship, intimacy, and all forms of love.

Rhomboid is their full-length playwriting debut.



CATHERINE MAI
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Cat (they/them) is a multi-disciplinary theatre-maker, performer, artist, and musician who is passionate about creating meaningful (and fun!) theatre both on and off stage. They're obsessed with colours, so their work is often highly colourful and vibrant (like their hair), and they will inject rainbows into anything at any opportunity. As a queer Chinese-Australian, they highly value intersectional representation in theatre and are delighted to have a part in telling the story that is *Rhomboid*.

Recent credits as Lighting Designer include: *The Life Cycle of Blanco* (Vonne Patiag, National Theatre of Parramatta), *Ground Zero* (Brand X), *The Dazzle* (Corvus Arts Theatre), *Hydrarchos* (Grace Davidson-Lynch), *The Terrible Twos*, *Chain Play*, *Lady Precious Stream* (Slanted Theatre), *Faux Pas* (Lorcan Power).



CHRISTINE PAN
SOUND DESIGNER

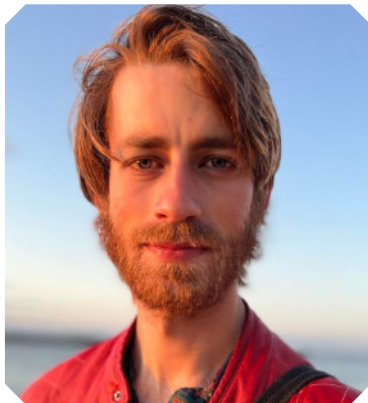
Christine Pan (she/they) is a Sydney-based artist known for her versatility in style and malleability in form. Her practice is led by her passion for powerful storytelling through music and spans into various areas of gaming, science, healthcare, film and theatre.

Christine's compositions have been featured by Goldner Quartet, Orchestra Victoria, Ensemble Offspring, Vivid Sydney, Musica Viva and ABC Classic and has published works in Europe and U.S.A. She also worked as a composer for Liverpool Hospital palliative care patients and staff.

Christine won the Best Sound Design and Composition of an Independent Theatre Production Sydney Theatre award for Moon Rabbit Rising. Her recent collaborations include sound designing for Forgetting Tim Minchin (Belvoir 25A) and Metropolis (Hayes Theatre), and composing complete original scores for Dumb Kids (KXT). She is excited to take on the role as Musical Director, Composer and Sound Designer for The Village at Q Theatre in late September.

Christine Pan leads her own piano quintet and frequently performs at international gaming conventions interstate. She is a represented artist with the Australian Music Centre.

Instagram: @christinepanmusic • Web: christinepanmusic.com



PARIS BELL
SET DESIGNER

Paris Bell (they/them) is a Sydney-based creative & tech, with a passion for writing, building, and all things electrical. They currently study Animation at JMC, and completed a Diploma of Live Production Design at TAFE Enmore. They work as a tech at Monkey Baa Theatre Company, at Flight Path Theatre and in staging at the Sydney Opera House.

In other roles, they have lighting designed for No :: Intermission (Theatre Travels), sound designed for Chimerica (New Theatre) and Other End Of The Afternoon (Fringe x New Theatre), and wrote and directed Alan Turing, Joan of Arc, and Vincent Van Gogh Walked Into A Bar (SUDS).



LILY MATELJAN
COSTUME DESIGNER

Lily Mateljan (she/her) is an emerging costume artist driven by her passion for the adaptability and capability of a costume itself as a storytelling device. She uses her skills in costume design to create and build worlds where costumes can tell stories and uses her skill in costume management to lead and support a team of makers, dressers, and performers to create comfortable and hardworking costume teams.

She has a long history of costume making and is now a highly skilled cutter and maker as well as a training tailor. Her experiences and skills in costume design, costume management, and the art of quick change for theatre and film combined make her a valuable member of any team.

Every project or work she undertakes with considered and trained ambition.



ALEX LIANG
STAGE MANAGER

Trained at the Academy of Film Theatre and Television, Alex (they/them) was the ASM for three graduation shows in 2018.

They have also been the Assistant Stage Manager for Penrith Musical Comedy Company's *Oliver!* in 2019; Technical Operator of lighting and sound for Sydney Foreign Actors Association's *Hamlet* at the Tom Mann Theatre; Collaborated as part of the stage management team since 2019 also, at the Tom Mann Theatre; Stage Manager/ Sound operator for Ninefold's *A Murder Story Retold* at Fringe HQ.

Stage managed/technical operator for multiple shows at the Chippen St Theatre; Stage Manager for LHE Agency of *Three Winter Green* at Fringe HQ 2019 at the Tom Mann Theatre. Collaborated with *Kwento* in 2022. They have recently collaborated with *Tooth & Sinew* for *Apocka Wocka Lockalypsev* and *Slanted Theatre's Short Blanket* & *Legit Theatre's Dumb Kids*. Their current projects are *Liminal Productions' Rhomboid* and *Seed & Bloom's Single Ladies*.

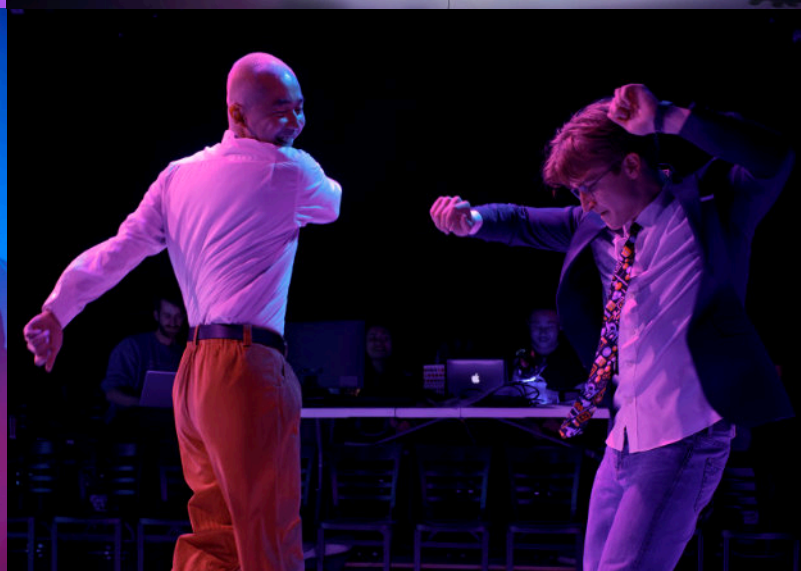


RIKIAH LIZARRAGA
INTIMACY COORDINATOR

Rikiah Lizarraga (she/her) is a proud Queer, POC, and disabled director actively working to see her communities represented in roles both on and off stages across Australia's theatre scene. Through unconventional aesthetics and forms, her productions centre empathy for her audience's experience.

She graduated with her Bachelor of Performance at The University of Wollongong in 2018, where her debut work as a director and playwright '*As Above So Below*' was staged and selected to tour to Yogyakarta in Indonesia as part of The Asian Pacific Bureau of Theatre Schools Festival in 2018. Rikiah is a recent graduate of a Master's in Direction completed at NIDA.





FIND US ON SOCIALS

Let us know what you thought about the show, give us a tag/follow, and most importantly ... **help support independent theatre** by letting your friends know about the show!

much love,
rhomboid ♥



@rhomboidplay

@liminalproductions

@kxt_bakehouse



RHOMBROID by Eric Jiang | KXT on Broadway (FB Event)

Liminal Productions (Page)

KXT bAKEHOUSE (Page)



liminalproductions.au

kingsxtheatre.com



hello@liminalproductions.au

LIMINAL

Liminal Productions is a new indie theatre company, founded by producer Aaron Cornelius (a noted fan of liminal spaces).

Why Liminal, and why theatre? Many art forms have the capacity to transport you into another world - but theatre can physically take you there. Across the threshold, and into a space that feels both imaginary and real.

Not limited by any single genre, place, or identity - we want you to experience that indescribable feeling that lies in the spaces in-between.

Rhomboid is the first show to be presented by Liminal Productions.

Special Thanks:

KXT Step Up 2022 Team: Wern Mak, Mitchell Lewin, Jasper Lee-Lindsay.
Sound Design by Sam Cheng

2023 Creative Development Team: Jonathan Lim, Tyler Dias, Luke Visentin

And: KXT on Broadway, the KXT Board, John Harrison, Suzanne Miller, Christopher Starnawski, Charlie Vaux, Emily Buxton, Renee Lim, Andrew McMartin, CDP, Robbi James, Critical Stages, The Grand Electric, CAAP, Tessa Leong, Sandy Woo, ACON, Rhonda Bell, Dominique Purdue, Jasmin Borsovsky, Lochie Odgers.

Rhomboid is proudly supported by:

ACON - NSW's leading LGBTQ+ health organisation &

Critical Stages Touring - Australia's national touring theatre company, who have provided the space necessary to rehearse the work. Learn more about the way they're supporting the future of independent theatre at criticalstages.com.au

Appendix...

*Ephemeral
Expressions*

A Synthesis of
Sentience and
Symbolism



Director's Note

Transition, transition, transition!

Welcome to our latest exhibition, a thought-provoking exploration of the themes that have long fascinated humanity: transitions, liminal spaces, symbolism, and ephemeral expressions.

In this captivating collection, we delve into the intricate interplay between moments of transformation, the enigmatic spaces between certainties, the power of symbolic representation, and the transient nature of existence itself. Art has always been a mirror that reflects our perceptions of life's intricate tapestry.

Here, within these walls, you will encounter a diverse array of artistic interpretations that delve into the very essence of transitions—the points where one state melds into another. As you traverse these galleries, you will find yourself immersed in the contemplation of those elusive spaces that exist at the crossroads of change, where the familiar merges with the unknown, and certainty waltzes with ambiguity.

Symbolism weaves a thread throughout this exhibition, inviting us to decipher the layers of meaning embedded within the artworks. Just as ancient cultures encoded their beliefs and narratives into symbols, our artists utilise their creative prowess to communicate profound concepts, emotions, and stories through visual metaphors. As you engage with these works, consider the intricate dance between the explicit and the veiled, the surface and the depths, and how these symbols offer us keys to unlock hidden chambers of understanding.

As you traverse this exhibition, I encourage you to embrace the introspection it offers. Engage with the art not merely as observers, but as active participants in a dialogue about the shared human experience. May these artworks kindle your curiosity, spark your contemplation, and invite you to explore the myriad dimensions of transitions, liminal spaces, symbolism, and ephemeral expressions.



FELIX

Hi! I'm Felix. Within the realm of photography, my artistic journey takes a contemplative turn as I explore the profound undercurrents of human experience. Through my lens, I navigate the intricate tapestry of existence, with a particular focus on the timeless concept of liminality.

Capturing fleeting moments suspended between the known and the unknown, the work asks the age old questions -- are we occupying liminality, or does liminality occupy us?"

As light and shadow dance upon my subjects, I strive to evoke a sense of suspended animation—moments poised delicately on the precipice of transformation. The camera becomes a tool to freeze time, allowing viewers to peer into the liminal spaces that often go unnoticed. Each photograph becomes a testament to the liminality that weaves through our lives, sparking an internal dialogue about our connection to these ephemeral passages. These visual stories I construct are an invitation to contemplate the intricate relationship between our own agency and the intangible forces that shape us.

Through my lens, I hope to provoke introspection, encouraging viewers to contemplate their own role within the larger narrative of existence. Do we navigate these moments of transition and uncertainty, actively shaping our path, or are we passive voyagers swept along by the currents of liminality? As viewers engage with my photography, they are drawn into a discourse that transcends time and space—a dialogue that taps into the heart of the human experience and sheds light on the enigmatic dance between our perceptions and the liminal realms that permeate our lives.

Medium: Photography

Size: 16" x 20" (5 photos, gold frames)



boundary pushing interdisciplinary artist paris

this page is actually the artwork. that's the whole thing.

in a world inundated with complex narratives and layered compositions, i strip away the veneer of tradition to present a raw and unapologetic truth: the canvas you behold is the culmination of my creative expression. no strokes, no pigments, no elaborate metaphors—just the stark simplicity of existence encapsulated within these boundaries.

by boldly stating that "this page is the artwork," i challenge the notion that art must be confined to a predefined framework. through this act of deconstruction, i invite you to confront the essence of what it means to engage with creativity. in an age where the virtual and the tangible converge, where pixels carry emotions and screens mediate experiences, this page stands as a testament to the potency of minimalism.

look closely. the texture of the paper, the subtle imperfections, the void between these words—all form the tapestry of my intent. it is a quiet rebellion against the cacophony of expectations, a rebellion that questions whether art truly needs elaborate embellishments to resonate. here, boundaries blur, as this page transitions from being a mere vessel for words to becoming a portal for introspection.

as you absorb this unconventional declaration, i encourage you to challenge your perceptions. engage in a conversation with yourself about the nature of art, the purpose of creation, and the power of daring to subvert norms. in a world awash with visual noise, sometimes the most daring act is to stand in stillness, to be present with the unadorned, and to recognise that artistry can emerge even from the absence of convention. this page is the embodiment of that recognition—an exploration that invites you to journey beyond the confines of expectation and into the realm of boundary-pushing contemplation.

Medium: 50% recycled A4 paper, black toner

"maybe it was the whomboid the whole time"



costumier lily

My artistic pursuit centers around a unique perspective: the idea that clothing possesses an inherent sentience, a subtle realm of feelings and stories intertwined within each fabric and stitch.

I thread together a narrative that challenges our conventional understanding of the animate and inanimate, inviting viewers to step into a world where attire breathes, feels, and communicates.

Costumes, for me, transcend the ordinary. They are vessels that encapsulate the essence of a character, a time, a narrative, and perhaps even a whisper of the wearer's soul. With every piece I craft, I infuse a piece of myself, imagining the emotions that the fabrics might experience—the anticipation before a grand debut, the nostalgia of being retired, the thrill of embodying someone else's identity. As I painstakingly select materials and meticulously stitch, I ponder the stories that these ensembles might hold, much like a storyteller spinning tales of lives lived and untold.

In the gallery of my creations, I extend an invitation to explore the rich tapestry that is woven between the threads. As you immerse yourself in the world of my costumes, may you sense the pulse of sentience that I believe resides within them, and may you be inspired to embrace the beauty of imagination that weaves through every fibre of our shared reality.

Materials: All of them

Liminal Productions presents

RHOMBUS



masterful lighting designer cat

there's some lights
they make the light things happen

nobody told me i had to write this for fuck's sake

materials: lights, are you seriously asking thi-



intrepid sound sailor christine

what cat said but for sound

materials: subwoofer, found objects



"the urban mountain is the window to the soul...."

Special Thanks

Our sincere appreciation goes out to the artists whose vision and dedication have brought this exhibition to life. Your creativity and commitment have shaped this collection into an awe-inspiring tapestry of perspectives, inviting us to explore the boundaries of human expression.

We would also like to extend a special note of thanks to our patrons and supporters, whose unwavering belief in the power of art has fuelled our journey. Your enthusiasm and encouragement have been the driving force behind our artistic endeavours, and we are honoured to share this moment with you.

This exhibition has been made possible through the generous support of various grants and sponsorships. We express our gratitude to Liminal Productions, KXT Bakehouse, Critical Stages and ACON for their financial and in-kind contributions, which have enabled us to bring this exhibition to a wider audience.