

TORONTO
FRINGE
FESTIVAL

outside these walls, everyone is sleeping
Access Guide



June 30 - July 12, 2026

Soulpepper Theatre's Weyni Mengesha Theatre

This guide uses plain language to provide audiences, particularly neurodiverse audiences, with specific sensory details of programming in advance to help guide your experience.

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Access Measures

Touch Book

Touch books offer a tactile experience of various elements of the set, props, and costumes through touch. Touch books allow patrons from the blind and low vision community to enjoy a more complete experience of a show through touch.

A touch book will be available at the Front of House area for all performances.

About outside these walls, everyone is sleeping

In an isolated and underpowered studio, we follow Dreamer navigating her small reality through a seemingly endless exhaustion. Set within a landscape of sleeplessness, the piece resonates with Toronto's solitary winters, when the city hibernates and emotions flood. Blending projections and surreal storytelling, this production suggests that healing unfolds in cycles, drops, and tides rather than dry resolutions. As conversations about disconnection spread further, the show offers a visually vulnerable experience through devised theatre. In an age of numbness and apathy, what happens when we rely on each other to make sense of time, emotion, and ultimately, ourselves? What happens when outside these walls, everyone is sleeping?

Run Time

75 minutes with no intermission

Content Warnings and Advisories

"outside these walls, everyone is sleeping," explores themes of codependency, emotional grief, loneliness, and psychological distress. The piece depicts a character in emotional crisis, including moments of breakdown, dissociation, and nonlinear memory. Audiences who have personal experience with codependent relationships, heartbreak, or mental illness may find some content resonant or difficult.

The production contains the following sensory elements:

- Loud and sudden sounds, including banging, and thunder
- Periods of pulsating sound and rhythm
- Vocal layering, including internal voices, external voices, and overlapping dialogue
- Projection elements that shift and distort throughout the performance

Audience members are welcome to step out at any time and return as needed.

Cast and Characters



Victoria Matchett plays the role of **Dreamer**

Dreamer is a white woman with dark auburn hair styled in a loose updo, with soft face-framing strands and curtain bangs. She has light blue eyes and wears a septum piercing. Dreamer is gentle, imaginative, and emotionally broken. She often escapes into her inner world when reality feels too heavy, idealizing the past and the people she struggles to let go of.



Gaia Micciancio plays the role of **Shadow**.

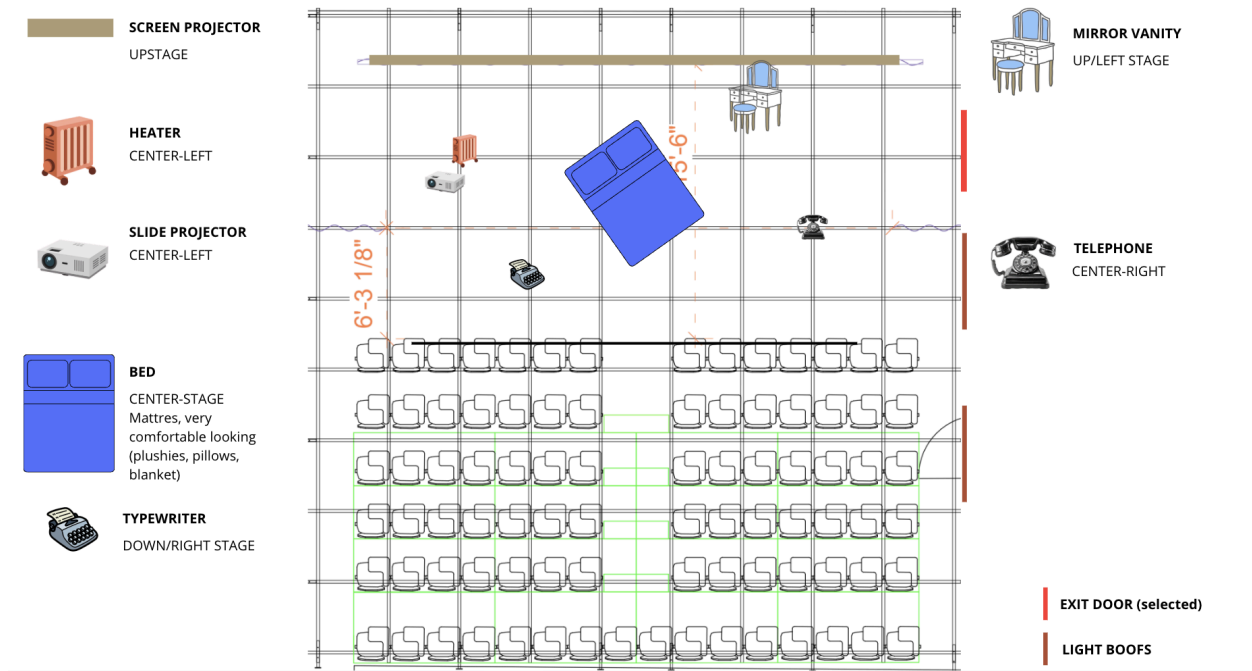
Shadow is a brown-eyed, olive-skinned mixed Asian and white woman with long, straight brown hair and a medium athletic build. She presents as animalistic, shifting between lioness and human, often crawling across the floor in extended, stylized movements, representing the flood of Dreamer's nightmares.



Nora Jane Montana plays the role of **Moon**.

Moon is a white woman with long blonde hair, straight with soft waves at the ends, parted in the middle. She has defined eyebrows and subtle eye makeup. Moon represents Dreamer's idealization of her ex and the figure she turns to for comfort, using her presence to self-regulate her emotions.

Set



The performance takes place in an end-stage layout, with the audience seated directly facing the playing area. The stage is arranged as a bedroom with immersive elements extending through the space. A bed is positioned near center stage, slightly angled toward stage right. Upstage, a suspended screen spans horizontally across the space and is used for projection. A vanity table is placed in the upstage left area. A portable heater is located center-left, and a vintage telephone is placed near the bed. A slide projector, represented in the drawing by a digital projector, is also positioned center-left. The overall layout is intentionally open, allowing movement around and between the objects, with the room feeling partially realistic and partially dreamlike. Colours are not set yet.

Costumes



Dreamer

Dreamer wears the same two-piece sleepwear-inspired set as Shadow, consisting of a camisole top and matching shorts, presented in a different tone to reflect their connection as parallel versions of the same self. Exact colours are not yet defined.

Shadow

Shadow wears a two-piece sleepwear-inspired set consisting of a camisole top and matching shorts. She shares the same garment design as Dreamer, presented in a different tone to reflect their connection as parallel versions of the same self. Exact colours are not yet defined.

Moon

Moon wears a soft, flowing sleeveless jumpsuit with wide legs and a high neckline. Her costume is envisioned in lighter tones, emphasizing softness, comfort, and the idealized emotional refuge she represents.

Get in Touch

If you have any questions or concerns about this access guide or planning your visit to **outside these walls, everyone is sleeping** at the 2026 Toronto Fringe Festival, please reach out.

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If you want to tell the Fringe about your experience or have feedback that you would like to share, you can call, write, or send an email to the Fringe.

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Thank you for coming to the 2026 Toronto Fringe Festival.