

TORONTO  
**FRINGE**  
**FESTIVAL**

**SHOWSTOPPER**

**Access Guide**



**June 30 - July 10, 2026**

**Soulpepper Theatre's RBC Finance Studio**

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**

### **Mask Mandatory Performances**

Please note masking is required for all performances in this production.

### **Pre-Show Audio Notes**

Pre-show audio notes will be available at all performances. These pre-recorded introductory notes played before the performance starts will include contextual information, a summary of the show, describe the visual elements of the production including cast, set, and costumes, and mention content warnings and advisories.

### **Relaxed Performance**

Relaxed performances are open to everyone, but the environment has been specifically adapted for those who are neurodivergent and may experience sensory sensitivities, folks with communication or learning disabilities, and people who would benefit from a more relaxed environment.

The 4:15 PM performance on July 5th will be a relaxed performance.

### **Digital Copy of Script**

For members of the d/Deaf, blind, partially sighted, or low vision communities, a digital copy of the full playtext including the pre-show audio notes can be made available by request, please email Anjun Jia at [aristotlewrites@gmail.com](mailto:aristotlewrites@gmail.com) to request a copy.

## About **SHOWSTOPPER**

*“An egomaniac television showrunner makes their career-defining masterpiece.”*

Aster is a nonbinary Chinese-Canadian executive producer and starlet who is well aware that their name is losing clout in Vancouver’s Hollywood North. With their overall deal at Tigersgate Canada expiring in a month and no next gig lined up, they are dying a slow death. Enraged when an exec calls their passion project of thirty years a 'snoozefest', Aster creates one last show to get everyone's attention for good.

## Run Time

**55** minutes with no intermission

## Content Warnings and Advisories

Please be advised that **SHOWSTOPPER** mentions, references, and depicts **mental illnesses, personality disorders, body dysmorphia, queer sexuality, and property destruction.**

Live speech to recorded soundscapes will be spoken throughout the show, with sudden cues at a range of volumes which may be loud.

Light cues will include the turning on and off of house lights, stage lights, and one practical UV lamp with an on/off switch.

Various images and videos will be projected onto a surface.

Aster’s blocking includes the throwing of small objects and implied destruction of a laptop.

## Cast and Characters



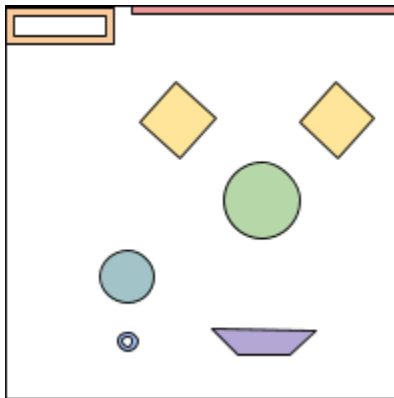
**ANJUN JIA** plays the roles of **ASTER** and **ASSISTANT-THERAPIST**.

*Aster* is The Showstopper/Showrunner, an egomaniac, attention-needing, nonbinary starlet mad with spite on a power trip.

*Assistant-Therapist* supports Aster in a manner that is calm, stable, and passive-aggressive.

Anjun Jia is a genderfluid nonbinary person of transmasculine experience, a Chinese-Canadian with straight black short hair, and he wears a thick black shiny collared button down t-shirt.

## Set



As you enter the theatre, the stage will be set as Aster's Soundstage: a **projector backdrop** behind two **foldable chairs**, a **rectangular wooden shoe-rack table**, and a **UV light** pointed upstage.

Stage right, there is a **costume rack** next to the backdrop and **barstool** near a **corded microphone on a stand**.

On the table, there is a **makeup mirror on a stand**, three **plastic red cups of water**, and a **makeup bag** with Aster's **brush and clown palettes**. The RBC Studio stage floor is **wooden**, and the **blackout curtains** will be drawn shut.

## Costumes



### ASTER

Intro Aster (left): A **shiny black button-down t-shirt**, a **black pleated skirt**, two **black knee high platform boots**, a pair of **sunglasses on their head**, a **red purse**, and their story bible in a **translucent folio**.

Clown Aster (Right): Two **teal hair rollers**, **blue purple & pink clown face makeup**, a **white ruffled off the shoulder crop top**, the same **black pleated skirt**, two **white long socks**, a **red plastic solo cup** & a **paintbrush**.



ASSISTANT-THERAPIST wears a **white dress shirt with black line-art faces on it**, a **white tied headscarf with gold accents**, the **black pleated skirt**, two **black ballet flats**, a pair of **thick hipster glasses**, and takes notes with a **pen and notepad**.

## Get in Touch

If you have any questions or concerns about this access guide or are planning your visit to SHOWSTOPPER 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.