

Company Bio

Crème de la Crème was founded by William Dao, Brad Gira, Jacob Kay, Frosina Pejcinovska, Micaela (Mick) Robertson, and Margaret Rose in 2016, while studying at the University of Toronto. The team has produced award-winning works, spanning theatre, film, events, and multimedia. They were awarded the President's Award for Best Production at the University of Toronto Drama Festival three years straight (2018-2020), most recently for *The Boy Who Cried*.

Past Toronto Fringe shows members have been involved with: *You Are Not Alone*. (2015), *Robert* (2018), *Milk* (2020), *What Are You Supposed to Be?* (2021), *Honeymoon 2.0* (2021).

The Boy Who Cried marks the team's first in-person project since 2020, it is also the team's most involved theatre project to date. The team has been working hard throughout the pandemic, delivering digital artistic experiences collectively and individually, and are so excited to return to the stage in person, with a large ensemble of Toronto's most talented emerging artists.

Key Bios

William Dao - Co-Director

William Dao is a theatre artist based in Toronto. Currently, he joins the Soulpepper Academy as their sole director. Past works have included: *The Flick* (Outside the March), *The Tape Escape* (Outside the March), *Falling in Time* Workshop (Peter Hinton, Factory), *The Man That Got Away* (Upcoming, Buddies). He has worked with Peter Hinton, Mitchell Cushman, Leah Cherniak, Weyni Mengesha, among others, he was an apprentice director for the Dora award-winning production, *Marjorie Prime* (2021)

Brad Gira - Writer and Co-Director

Brad Gira is a writer and designer, currently based in Toronto. After directing a production of Sheila Heti's *All Our Happy Days Are Stupid* in 2019, the acclaimed novelist invited Gira to her writing group, through which he has developed multiple scripts, including *The Boy Who Cried*. He was awarded Best Script at the University of Toronto Drama Festival (2020).

Jacob Kay - Producer and Lighting Designer

Jacob Kay is a producer, director, and arts administrator based in Toronto. Currently, he programs and coordinates at the Toronto International Film Festival in the Theatrical and Non-Theatrical Department. He has also worked at Soulpepper Theatre as Producer and Education Programme Manager, creating and facilitating their *Queer Youth Cabaret* program, as well as managing the relaunch for the Soulpepper Academy. In 2022, he also worked at Theatre Sheridan as their Associate Producer.