

***Kitne Saare Laloo Yahan Pey Hain* at Next Stage Theatre Festival asks you to remember queer, trans, muslim voices**

*“You think it won’t really matter if you take me away? Do you think no one would notice or care?”*

TORONTO, ON December 1, 2019 - Presented as part of Next Stage Theatre Festival, ***Kitne Saare Laloo Yahan Pey Hain*** is the latest work by groundbreaking theatre artist **Bilal Baig** (*Acha Bacha*). Playing at **Factory Theatre** (125 Bathurst Street) between **January 8 - January 19, 2020**, *Kitne Saare Laloo Yahan Pey Hain* centres around Pakeezah, a trans woman who runs away from Bangladesh with only one suitcase and a secret. As she fears for her life in her new surroundings, can she trust you to keep her safe?

*“My impulse to write my newest play, *Kitne Saare Laloo Yahan Pey Hain*, was deeply rooted in my frustration with how the media sells us ideas that when trans folks and black/indigenous/people of colour are killed, that their lives aren’t worth remembering with all their nuances and rich complexities.”* - Bilal Baig, playwright and performer

Directed by **Tawiah M’Carthy** (*Obaaberima*), and movement coaching by **Virgilia Griffith** (*Black Boys*), this new play brings together a team of celebrated artists to interrogate concepts of resilience, survival, and finding joy through a narrative that emboldens a queer trans brown woman and allows her to reclaim her agency in the face of the Westerner.

In this expanded version of Baig’s contribution to **RARE Theatre**’s production ***Welcome to My Underworld***, the audience is taken on a journey through the marketplaces of Chattogram, Bangladesh to a forest in Vancouver, Canada re-created by an expert design team including : **Andre du Toit**, **Steph Raposo**, and **Sebastian Marziali**.

*“Bilal Baig is brilliant in developing and sharing a multidimensional character with whom you will fall in love and want to protect from all the horrors awaiting a queer, genderqueer Muslim.”* - The Kingston Whig Standard

*Kitne Saare Laloo Yahan Pey Hain* is presented as part of **Toronto Fringe’s Next Stage Theatre Festival** in one of it’s most personal and political festival line-ups ever.

**Details:**

The KSLYPH Collective presents,  
as part of Toronto Fringe's Next Stage Theatre Festival,

***Kitne Saare Laloo Yahan Pey Hain***

Written and Performed by: **Bilal Baig**

Directed by: **Tawiah M'Carthy**

Movement Coach: **Virgilia Griffith**

Lighting Design: **Andre du Toit**

Sound and Projection Design: **Steph Raposo**

Set Design: **Sebastian Marziali**

Various performance dates and times: **January 9-19, 2020**

Factory Theatre - 125 Bathurst Street

Tickets: \$18.00

Available by phone: 416-966-1062 and online:

<https://fringetoronto.com/next-stage/show/kitne-saare-laloo-yahan-pey-hain>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/KitneNSTF>

**Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/pakeezah.19>

For all interviews and other press inquiries, please contact Daniel Carter and/or Ashley Belmer (B-Rebel Communications)

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