

SHEBANA COELHO

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EDUCATION

Lafayette College	BA, English, Minor French	1993
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HONORS / AWARDS

CEC ArtsLink Project Award	Ashtar Theatre, Ramallah	2014
Fiction Fellow	New York Foundation for the Arts	2004
James T. Yee Mentorship Award	Center for Asian American Media (CAAM)	2002

TRAINING

Theatre of the Oppressed Workshop	Iman Aoun, Santa Fe	2015
Navarasa Sadhana Intensive	G Venu, Natanakairali Arts, Kerala	2016
Source of Performance Energy	Adhishakti Arts, Pondicherry	2016
Dance/ Physical Theater Workshop	Carlos Pons Guerra, Attakkalari	2016
Flamenco Baile (Dance)	Mina Fajardo, Juan Siddi, Entreflamenco	2012-2018
Flamenco Baile (Dance)	Manuela Carpio, Chiqui de Jerez, Diego de Margara	2018
Flamenco Baile (Dance)	Alice Blumenfeld, Santa Fe	2018-2020
Intro to Kudiyattam	Kapila Venu, Natanakairali Arts	2021
Interpreting Character Through Flamenco	Nives Rosales, Cadíz	2021
Flamenco Cante (Song)	Coral de los Reyes, Javier Heredia	Ongoing
Bharatanatyam & Carnatic Vocal	Aparna Sindhoor, Navarasa Dance Theater	Ongoing

SELECTED PLAYS – FULL LENGTH

Me Ek Bar Pathar Thi, Once I was stone, Fui Piedra, a solo play (performer, writer, director)
Production/preview – online in Santa Fe, New Mexico– December 2020

The Good Manners of Colonized Subjects, a solo play (performer, writer, director)
Production – Santa Fe Women’s Club 2018, The Barn at Gravity Hill, 2019,
The Arts at Marks, Honolulu, 2019
Production (excerpt of play) – NuWorks Festival/Pan Asian Repertory Theater, New York 2019
Preview - American Samoa Community College, 2019

When the Stars Trembled in Río Puerco (writer, director)
Production - Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe, NM, 2014
Production – Siembra festival/National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque NM, 2014

Bless me, father
Read by Silk Road Rising Reading Group, 2018

SELECTED PLAYS – SHORT / ONE ACTS

Undo (writer) Production – Things Unsaid/The Players Club, 2014 (dir. Melissa Atteberry)

Greenland (writer/director) Reading – Celebrating Survival/Santa Fe Playhouse, 2013

The Tree (writer) Reading – Teatro Paraguas, 2013

Moment in Ramallah
(co-producer, co-director) 2015 No Passport Theater Festival, Fragile Shores
<https://youtu.be/mobdpzh713w>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Land Out Loud Writing/Creativity Workshops landoutloud.com	Ashtar Theater, Ramallah, Palestine	2014
Faraway is Close creativity workshops farawayisclose.com	Zuni pueblo, New Mexico, American Samoa	2016-Present

PUBLICATIONS

<i>Are you safe, play excerpt</i>	<i>Sukoon magazine, Vol 3, issue 2</i>	<i>Summer 2015</i>
<i>Dispatches from the Youth</i>	<i>Howl Round</i>	<i>July 2014</i>
<i>Theater Festival, Ramallah</i>		
<i>Storytellers of Ramallah</i>	<i>feature article for Al Jazeera</i>	<i>August 2014</i>
http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2014/8/24/the-storytellersoframallah.html		

**FOR A FULL BIO AND INFORMATION ABOUT MY WORK AS A FILMMAKER AND WRITER, PLEASE VISIT
SHEBANACOELHO.COM**

PLAYS

Once I was a stone, una piedra, ek pathar

45 minutes

written, directed and performed by Shebana Coelho

A solo work about a stone lost at sea that finds its way home, only to face a new world that upends old notions of race, place and purpose. The play is a mixture of poetry, monologues, and dance drawn from flamenco, kutiyattam and bharatanatyam - in English with fragments of Hindi and Spanish.

- [*Featured in 2021 NuWorks Festival, Pan Asian Repertory Theater](#)
- [*Excerpts in the short film, Apprentice for KANTO CUENTOS series, Stories from the Pandemic](#) (Apprentice starts @20:13min mark)

The Good Manners of Colonized Subjects

75 min

a solo play written and performed by Shebana Coelho

poetry and dance about colonization & liberation with choreography inspired by flamenco and Sanskrit classical theater.

- *Santa Fe Women's Play House, Santa Fe (August 2018); The Arts at Marks Garage, Honolulu HI (October 2018), American Samoa Community College (January 2019), The Barn at Gravity Hill (Titusville, NJ April 2019), NuWorks 2019, New York City's Pan Asian Repertory Theatre (June 2019), Maple Street Dance, Albuquerque NM (December 2019)*

The Tree

65 min

2W, 3M

Two lovers in limbo - a woman with an Indian accent, a man with a Gaelic accent – contend with a Man in Grey who sets them a deadline to write their life away; their spouses are left to confront the fictions they have been fed; it all builds into the stories they tell to survive.

- *Reading, Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe (2014)*

Bless me father

70 min

5W, 3M

Set in a Catholic enclave of India. A girl, her mother, a priest, who is the mother's lover, and a young watchman become witnesses and party to love, sin and murder. The play juxtaposes narratives in the past and present that move together, sometimes crossing –eventually colliding – and themes of insidious racism, witnessing love and becoming sin, and mischief and its consequences.

- *Read by Silk Road Rising Readers, Chicago (2018)*

[When the Stars Trembled in Río Puerco](#)

90 min

2W, 3M

an oral history play based on *recuerdos* memories collected by celebrated New Mexico folklorist Nasario García: a man returns to remember and four viejitos elders dramatize scenes from the life and death of town and a muddy river that once ran.

Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe & National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, as part of Siembra, a Latino theater festival (2014), dir. Shebana Coelho

One Act

Undo

1W, 2M

30 min

An older couple's visit to their techie Indian neighbor's apartment triggers a crisis in their marriage.

- *The Players Club, NYC (2014) [as part of Things Unsaid](#), three short plays for three nights only, dir. Melissa Atterbery.*

Greenland

1W, 1M

15 min

Nik, a young man originally from India, is losing his hair to cancer. Greenland is where he imagines his hair goes. In conversation with an old friend, he confronts his estrangement with his family.

In Progress

Are you safe (or the occupation of love)

An encounter in the present and the past between an Indian-American volunteer and a Palestinian shepherd whose death haunts her.

- Read excerpts published in [Sukoon magazine in 2015](#)

SCREENPLAY

In Step

A newly married Indian-American couple are on a trek in a wilderness that he knows. Suddenly, she stops following him and goes her own way. What follows is a journey into the dark, through her past in India and encounters with the true nature of humans and other animals.

- *Winner, Screenplay Competition, Les Femmes Underground Film Festival 2018*
- *Sundance Writers Lab, selected to 1st round*