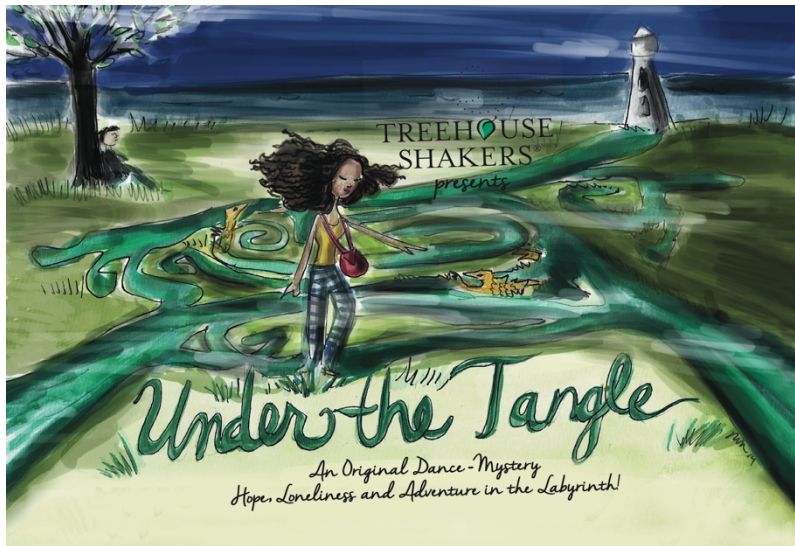


TREEHOUSE
SHAKERS
PRESENTS
UNDER THE TANGLE



Artwork by Rebecca Miller

CONCEIVED & CHOREOGRAPHED
BY EMILY BUNNING
CREATED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
PERFORMERS

DECEMBER 6-8, 2022
THE AILEY CITIGROUP THEATER

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TREEHOUSE
SHAKERS

Presents

Under the Tangle

PRODUCTION STAFF

Choreographed & Conceived by **Emily Bunning**

Created in Collaboration with the Original Cast

Costumes by **Patti Gilstrap**

Set by **Ioannis Sochorakis**

Lighting Design by **Ben Demarest**

Original Music by **Martyn Axe**

CAST

Lost Girl by **Ashley Chavonne**

Mother & Queen of the Lost by **Miranda Wilson**

Father & Bird-Boy by **Ryan Byrne**

Laughing Tails, Labyrinth Guards, Birds, Map & Water by **Katie Montoya & Rathi Varma**

TREEHOUSE SHAKERS' STAFF

Artistic Director: Mara McEwin

Artistic Coordinator: Emily Bunning

Rehearsal Coordinator: Katie Montoya

Branching OUT Program Director: Cheyenne Mesura

Fundraising Consultant: Eba Taylor

Board of Directors: Geri Pell, Chris Kim, Zafir Buraei

Michael Walsh, Emily Regas,
Mara McEwin & Emily Bunning

Agent: Geodesic Management

Visually Vibrant, **Under the Tangle**, is the dance-mystery about an adolescent girl who becomes ensnarled in an intriguing labyrinth.



THE MAKING OF UNDER THE TANGLE

Under the Tangle is an original dance-mystery that began with only a few simple images and eventually developed into a visual and emotional story about a girl who is lost in a labyrinth after losing her parents in a fire. The work was created over an intensive development period that included the cast and designers, carving out a beautiful story of friendship and survival. With nature as the guide, we wanted to tell a universal tale, uncovering numerous life lessons of self-discovery. Most importantly, I wanted to share the beauty and power of dance-theater with young audiences. May we all be inspired by the maze in which we travel through every day.

SPECIAL THANKS

From Emily: To all of the amazing performers and collaborators of **Under the Tangle**. To Mara McEwin for believing in the piece unconditionally. To Trey Coates-Mitchell, Ashley Ervin, Sarah Milosevich, Kaley Pruitt, and Whitley Locks for helping to create the piece. To Mikajlo, Chaslav, and my family, for supporting every step of the process and taking such good care of me. **From Treehouse Shakers:** Special thanks to The Ailey Citigroup Theater including Alaric, Joel, and Cody, Dan Ozminkowski, Patti Gilstrap, Ioannis Sochorakis, Martyn Axe, Eba Taylor, Rebecca Miller, Appollo Bey, Valerie Green, Rashmi Singh, Lucy Bunning, Natalie Hein, Jacob Sampson, Sarah Young and EarthDance. With much appreciation to our donors, wonderful board, family, friends, and talented company members.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

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Treehouse Shakers is grateful to our contributors who generously help support our performances, company and subsidized ticket and scholarship programs.

To make a tax-deductible contribution, send to Treehouse Shakers, Inc. Radio City Station, P.O. Box 186, New York, NY 10101-0186. For additional donation information contactus@treehouseshakkers.com

www.treehouseshakkers.com

BIOGRAPHIES

Martyn Axe (Composer) is a professional Composer/Orchestrator and Musical Director. Born in England he studied and worked at the Royal Academy Of Music where he was awarded the prestigious A.R.A.M. for his work. He has conducted/orchestrated on the West End/Broadway. Based in New York City Martyn has worked with numerous companies including music directing, conducting and arranging from rock bands to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London. Credits include School Of Rock, Roy Orbison Symphony Concert, Saturday Night Fever, Mamma Mia, Nine To Five, Tarzan, Dirty Dancing. He's also worked in Japan orchestrating and music supervising. Martyn also works in Los Angeles at the IMN studios where he arranges music for Movies, Concert tours and contemporary dance companies. Previously, besides creating Treehouse Shakers' *Under the Tangle* composition, he has also created *The Boy Who Grew Flowers*, now on tour.

Emily Bunning (Artistic Coordinator, Co-Founder & Choreographer) graduated from Stephens College in Missouri and is a Wyoming native. As a co-founder of Treehouse Shakers, she has choreographed, created and/or produced all of their dance-plays for children and adults. Her work has been presented in the New York area at the BAM Fisher, GK ArtsCenter, Ailey Citigroup Theater, Queen's Theatre, TPAC, DanceNow at Joyce SoHo, HERE Arts Center, Tribeca Film Festival, Westhampton Beach PAC, LICM as well as various theaters across the nation including Jacob's Pillow (MA), Alden Theater (VA), and the Aronoff Center (OH). Emily danced with Aviva Geismar/Drastic Action Dance Company for nine years, with whom she toured to Germany in July 2006 and also performed in Canada, Milwaukee, NYC, as well as attending Djerassi Artists Residency in CA. Emily has also performed with Gotham Group Dance, Dura Mater and Valerie Green/Dance Entropy, which included a tour of Serbia. She returned to Serbia to choreograph and perform with the ERGstatus Dance Theatre. Her teaching experience includes workshops in schools across the United States while on tour with Treehouse Shakers, and guest artist at Western Wyoming College. She is a featured presenter at the Theatre and Dance for the Very Young Conference in 2022. Emily has a Master's Degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine. She thanks her friends and family for all their support.

Kaila Buritt (Backstage Assistant) is excited to join Treehouse Shakers. Kaila is a professional dancer, singer, and actress, as well as a children's dance teacher. Kaila grew up in Austin, Texas where she studied dance since the age of 2. After discovering Musical Theater in high school, Kaila went on to receive her BFA in Musical Theater from The University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Since graduating in 2019, Kaila has been a part of various professional productions as well as teaching in various parts of New York. Favorite credits include *Cabaret* and *Catch Me if You Can* at The Candlelight Theater in Delaware, *Infernal* at the Flea Theater in NYC, and most recently *Rocky Horror Picture Show* at the Zach Theater in Austin, Texas. Kaila has a passion for teaching with two teachers as parents, and looks forward to spreading joy through art with Treehouse Shakers!! Keep up with Kaila at kailaburritt.com.

Ryan Byrne (Performer) is excited to be performing with the Treehouse Shakers in *Under the Tangle* and *The Boy Who Grows Flowers*. Originally from the Chicagoland area, Ryan is a graduate of Syracuse University's Department of Drama with a BFA in musical theatre. Favorite shows he has been in include *The Wild Party* (Burrs), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymore Krelborn), and *Cabaret* (Emcee). Ryan has performed professionally under the Goodman

Theatre and Lookingglass in Chicago and appeared in the Broadway in Chicago production of *Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer* from First Stage & Emerald City Theatre Company. While at Syracuse, Ryan studied under Shakespeare's Globe and worked as an Education Associate for Paramount School of the Arts in Aurora, IL.

Ashley Chavonne (Performer) is a Brooklyn based performer/choreographer, Detroit native and graduate of The Ohio State University. She has worked with Bebe Miller, Kathleen Hermesdorf, Detroit Dance Collective, Penny Godboldo for the PG Institute, Candice Franklin for Jazz Ain't Dead and ModArts Dance Collective, as well as Jana Hicks and Marijke Eliasberg for The Next Stage Project, Lauren Beirne Dance Works and Vissi Dance Theater as a guest artist. Currently a collaborator with Raja Feather Kelly |The Feath3r Theory, her recent projects include associate choreographer for *Macbeth in Stride* at American Repertory Theater, *On Sugarland* at New York Theater Workshop, musical staging for Ryan Raftery's *The Trial of Andy Warhol* at Joe's Pub and playing the role of Lisa in *The Village, A Disco Musical!* Ashley is thrilled to be expanding her company role and choreographing Treehouse Shakers newest performance, *The Deepest Breath*, premiering in March 2023.

Ben Demarest (Lighting Design & Production Manager) is a New York based lighting designer, production manager, and theater maker. His lighting design work has been featured in every contemporary theater production venue and you've heard of and many you have not. Current projects include work with "TRUX" a performance based art collective making devised and site specific work all over NYC. Most recent lighting design was for Julie Mayo's "NERVE Show", which was a NYT critics pick in Sept of this year. He currently serves as the Production and Facilities Manager for Center for Performance Research. Ben very much enjoys working with the incredible group of fellow makers, Treehouse Shakers.

Patti Gilstrap (Puppet & Costume Designer) holds a BFA in dance and choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University. In 1997-1998 she toured for the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble. She has designed costumes for many choreographers including: Sharon Kinney, Judith Steele, Incidents Physical Theater, Heather Harrington, Alan Danielson, Heidi Latsky, Teresa Wimmer, Ali Kenner, Pat Cremins, Sue Bernhard, Dana Doggett and Chris Ferris. She has worked extensively with Treehouse Shakers designing costumes, headdresses, and puppets for Olive & Pearl, Hatched, Coyote's Dance, Desert Travels, Let's Talk About IT!, Under Covers, Lost Arroyos, Under the Tangle and Flutter. Her designs can also be seen in her online boutique, Flirt. She is the author with business partner, Seryn Potter, "Flirt Skirts: Learn How to Sew, Customize, and Style Your Very Own Skirts." She has also created McCall Patterns in stores now.

Mara McEwin (Artistic Director, Co-Founder) originally from Wyoming, she co-founded Treehouse Shakers in 1997. She has written, directed and sometimes acted in all of Treehouse Shakers' 18 original dance-plays. Also a Storyteller, Mara was named "Best Storyteller of New York" by NY Press. She has created ongoing arts programming for numerous schools, as well as working as an artist in residence for 25+ years. As a storyteller, she has performed throughout the nation's schools, festivals, theaters, colleges, and community events. She is the featured teller for F.I.T's Toy Design Department and Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling, as well as Baby Gap, Miramax, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Turtle Pond Publications, Chocolate Sauce Publishing, The Tribeca Film Festival, to name a select few. She is a writer, voice-over artist and story consultant for Activity Works, an interactive educational video-web series for classrooms across the U.S. She was the subject for a qualitative dissertation on the inclusion of

storytelling in the classroom by Dr. Barb O'Neill, a featured 2019 speaker for O'Neill's Transform Challenging Behavior Conference, the AATE 2021 National Conference, and the Theatre and Dance for the Very Young Conference in 2022. Mara co-created Niñopalooza, an all day rock concert for kids and Niño Nada, a summer festival of children's work that was acclaimed by the New York Times. Favorite acting credits include Bloomsday on Broadway with Stephen Colbert and Alec Baldwin, which aired on NPR as well as The Sandpiper at Symphony Space, NYC. She has performed with numerous companies such as Manhattan Theatre Club, Playwrights Theater, Eugene O'Neill by-the-Sea- Festival, Chekhov Festival, among others. She has worked in film, print, television and commercials. Mara currently serves on the Metropolitan Expeditionary School Leadership Team. To read more about life with Treehouse Shakers, living the artists' life, or raising a creative family, visit her blog at www.marastreehouse.blogspot.com.

Katie Montoya (Performer & Rehearsal Coordinator) is a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico and attended the University of California, Irvine where she received a B.A. in dance and drama in 2011. Her studies took her to many parts of the world, including Ecuador with Dramatic Adventure Theater in 2009, and Ghana, West Africa in 2010 where she studied both traditional and contemporary African dance with the Ghana Dance Ensemble. She is currently in her ninth season with Sarah Berges Dance, a bicoastal modern dance company. Other company credits include Arcos Dance, Beth Soll and Company, and Vencl Dance. Montoya is a certified Pilates instructor under the instruction of Roberta Kirschenbaum. She is very grateful for her early training at the National Dance Institute of New Mexico. Katie is thrilled to be performing her tenth season with Treehouse Shakers touring in all of their current repertory.

Ioannis Sochorakis (Set Designer) is a production designer with an architectural background. He is thrilled to be working on **Under the Tangle** with Treehouse Shakers. He earned his Master of Design for Stage and Film at Tisch School of the Arts in NYC. He designed sets for the George Tsypin Opera Factory working on sets for international major Operas such as the Metropolitan Opera, The Netherlands Opera, The Lyric Opera of Chicago, Broadway's Spider Man and the Olympics Opening Ceremony in Sochi. With Christine Jones, he worked on Rigoletto for the Metropolitan Opera and their latest collaboration is the interactive show Queen of the Night in Paramount's Diamond Horse Shoe by the producers of Sleep No More. He worked on Iñárritu's latest film Birdman, Tom McCarthy's The Cobbler and on further independent features. He was awarded Best Production Design for Palace Living in Tribeca's Visionfest 2013. Additionally he has directed several shorts, Mtv spots, and music videos.

Rathi Varma (Performer) Rathi, born and raised in Mumbai, India started dancing at the age of 15 alongside pursuing her Diploma in Visual Arts and working as an Illustrator. In 2018, she moved to New York to pursue her career in Dance professionally at Peridance Centre. In Mumbai, she trained under Shiamak Davar's Institute of Performing Arts and The Danceworx in Jazz, Ballet, and Contemporary. Since 2019, she's had the opportunity to perform with various choreographers, namely Anabella Lenzu, Matthew Westerby and Linda Diamond to name a few. Her work Table for Two, Imperfect, and What Will be, Will be was presented at Spoke The Hub, Flushing Town Hall, BAAD (Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance), Arts on Site, and Balance Arts Centre. Apart from being a company member with Chutzpah Dance, Rathi is a lead Teaching Artist with DMF Youth Inc., a non profit organization serving underserved youth through life skill development and dance. She is grateful and excited to be a part of Treehouse Shakers as a performer and teaching artist.

Miranda Wilson (Performer) is a native of Kansas City, MO and graduated with her BFA in Theatre Performance from the University of Evansville. As an actor, singer, dancer, and puppeteer in NYC, she performs in a wide variety of performances across the city. Most recently, Miranda appeared at Joe's Pub as one of the leads in the sold-out run of *Ryan Raftery's The Trial of Andy Warhol*. This most recent show about Andy Warhol marked Miranda's 6th collaboration with Ryan Raftery on his critically-acclaimed celebrity biopic musicals which have also covered the lives of Anna Wintour, Andy Cohen, Martha Stewart, Calvin Klein, and Ivanka Trump and have performed in NY, LA, San Diego, Philadelphia, and Provincetown. Roles have included: Ralph Lauren, Anderson Cooper, Kim Richards, Alexis Stewart, Anna Wintour's assistant, The Prosecutor, an alien, an executive of KMart, and around 10 other characters in-between. Other favorite roles include: Liz in the world premiere of *Every Good Girl Deserves Fun (and other misremembered things)* with Clutch Productions; Lucy in *Three-Day Hangover's Dracula*; Danielle in *Devices of Torture* with Skeleton Repertory Theater; Janet in *The Island* (Fresh Fruit Theater Festival). Miranda starred in a psychological thriller, "The Eve", and won a Best Actress award for her work. Miranda starred in a short film exploring the world of Alzheimer's and caretakers, "How You Are to Me," and won the award of Best Protagonist at the Nevada Women's Film Festival for her work in the film. Miranda is thrilled to be in her 12th season with the Treehouse Shakers touring in all of their current repertoire.