

# RAF ANTONIO

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## PERSONAL SUMMARY

Born in Los Angeles, raised in Saskatchewan, and educated in British Columbia, Raf Antonio is a Latinx multi-disciplinary artist based in Toronto. His play *Salvador: A Latin-Canadian Fantasia* made Raf the first winner of the Playwrights Guild of Canada's Tom Hendry RBC Emerging Playwright Award. One of Cahoots Theatre's *30 x 30 Artists to Watch*, and part of their development program for several seasons, Raf has now graduated to Playwright-in-Residence, as he continues development on *The Effeminate: A Queer Tale of Bloody Vengeance* under the guidance of Artistic Director Marjorie Chan. In 17/18, Raf was part of the inaugural Buddies Salon at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, the nation's largest queer focussed theatre, which was facilitated by company dramaturg Mel Hague. After directing his first short film *Atop Coat Mountain*, Raf served as a story consultant on Teletoon series *Princess Sparkly Butt and the Hot Dog Kid* - currently available on YouTube - and made his professional writing debut with the World Premiere of *Rope Running Out* directed by Indrit Kasapi and produced by lemonTree creations. Most recently, Raf was a Playwriting Fellow at the Lambda Literary Retreat for Emerging LGBTQ Voices in Los Angeles, where he was mentored by acclaimed playwright Luis Alfaro.

## CURRENT WRITTEN WORK

### **The Effeminate: A Queer Tale of Bloody Vengeance**

- Currently being developed at Cahoots Theatre, set to premiere in 2021-2022 season
- Paid through Ontario Arts Council Playwright in Residence Grant 2017
- To be workshopped in December 2018 and June 2019
- Selected to be part of the 2018 Lambda Literary Writers Retreat for Emerging LGBTQ Voices, Los Angeles, August 2018

## PAST WRITTEN WORK

### ***Rope Running Out***

- World Premiere at lemonTree {studio} May 28 - June 10, 2017
- Paid as playwright
- Directed by Indrit Kasapi, presented by lemonTree creations
- Originally developed at Soupepper Playwright Circle 2015, subsequently developed through Cahoots Theatre's Hot House Creators Unit 2015-2017, workshopped at Lift-Off Festival, June 2016

- Supported by the Toronto Arts Council Grants to Individual Playwrights (Emerging), 2015.
- Received a reading in Halifax, Nova Scotia as part of DaPoPo Theatre's Live-in Festival, October 2017

***Princess Sparkly Butt & the Hot Dog Kid***

- Premiere: March 2017, Royal Cinema, currently available on YouTube
- Paid as story consultant
- Directed by Brandon Lane, produced by Balloon House, supported by Corus Entertainment and Bell Media Fund

***Salvador: A Latin-Canadian Fantasia***

- Premiere: Toronto Fringe Festival, Culturally Diverse Artists Project (CDAP) 2015
- Paid as playwright and performer, profit-share, CDAP grant
- Directed by Sam Graham, produced by We Heart Heartbeats
- Supported by Cahoots Theatre, Toronto Fringe Festival, Aluna Theatre, and Alameda Theatre Company through Ontario Arts Council's Recommender Grants for Theatre Creators, 2014-2015
- Winner of the Playwrights Guild of Canada's RBC Emerging Playwright Award 2015, runner-up Uprising National Playwriting Competition 2015, honourable mention Herman Voaden Playwriting Competition 2015. Featured in The Frank Theatre's national reading series *Clean Sheets*, 2015

***Atop Coat Mountain***

- Premiere: Sudden Impulse Film Festival 2014, curated by Stefan Kuchar
- Directed by Rafael Antonio Renderos, produced by Amika Pictures
- Short film, paid; writer, director, costume designer

***Miss Persona and the Marvelous Melodies***

- Directed by Kristin Waterson, produced by Hazel House Productions
- Web series, unpaid, writer/co-creator

**EDUCATION**

**Writing Libretti, Cahoots Theatre  
Playwriting, Tarragon Theatre  
Playwriting Masterclass, Alameda Theatre  
Certificate in the Performing Arts**

Marjorie Chan, Instructor  
Paula Wing, Instructor  
Caridad Svich, Instructor  
Canadian College of Performing Arts

**WORKSHOP/MENTORSHIP/INTERNSHIP**

**2017-2018 Playwright-in-Residence**

Marjorie Chan, Artistic Director, Cahoots

Theatre

**2015 Playwrights Guild of Canada RBC**

**Emerging Playwright Award**

**2015-2018 Cahoots Hot House Creators Unit**

**Clean Sheets, *Salvador***

Nicolas Billon, Mentor

Marjorie Chan, Artistic Director

C.E. Gatchalian, Artistic Director

Richard Wolfe, Director/Dramaturge

**2015 SummerWorks Leadership Intensive**

**Program**

Joseph Recinos, S.L.I.P. Director

Michael Wheeler and Mumbi Tindyebwa,  
Facilitators

Ryan G. Hinds, Mentor

Guillermo Verdecchia, Facilitator

**2014-2015 Souleppper Playwrights Circle**

**2015 TD Culturally Diverse Artists Project**

***Wolves***

Toronto Fringe Festival

Daniela Syrovy, ClutchPR, Mentor

Production Assistant, Copperheart Ent.

**AWARDS/GRANTS**

- 2017 Ontario Arts Council Playwright-in-Residence Grant
- 2015 Playwrights Guild of Canada's Tom Hendry RBC Emerging Playwright Award
- 2015 Recipient Toronto Arts Council Grant for Individual Playwrights, Emerging
- 2015 Honorable Mention, Herman Voaden Playwriting Competition
- 2015 Theatre Creators Reserve Grant recommended by Obsidian Theatre Company, Aluna Theatre Company and Alameda Theatre Company
- Runner-up, Uprising National Playwriting Competition 2014
- 2014 Theatre Creators Reserve Grant recommended by Alameda Theatre Company, Cahoots Theatre Company, and Toronto Fringe Festival