

YOULIM NAM

actor & playwright & director & producer

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Her artistic pursuit is to celebrate the mystery of life with unconditional love.

Youlim Nam is a multidisciplinary artist based in New York City — an actor, playwright, director, and performance maker. Across theatre, film, and performance, most of her work ranges from ordinary or extraordinary New York moments to the surreal — a cab ride, a birthday dinner, and a subway commute.

Born and raised in Seoul, she began her career on Dahak-ro, Korea's theater district, co-starring with *Parasite's* Myung Hoon Park in productions such as *On-Air Chocolate*. In 2015, she moved to New York to deepen her craft, training as a method actor at the Stella Adler Studio and HB Studio under mentors including Austin Pendleton and Ed Morehouse, and holds a BA in Performing Arts from Dongduk Women's University.

In New York, as an actor, she has built a body of work across Off-Off-Broadway, appearing in *Twelve Angry Women* and *Never the Sinner* (directed by three-time Emmy® winner Cady McClain), and on screen in award-winning independent films including *Four* and *Mingle*.

As a playwright, Nam has produced steadily since 2018, with short works such as *Leonetti's Secret Agency*, *Get Out of My Head!!!*, and *Acting is My Destiny* staged across established NYC venues, including Theatre Row, Chain Theatre, and HB Playwright Theatre — and directed by notable artists including Cady McClain (Three-Time Emmy Winner) and Lisa Milinazzo. Her full-length play *a connected place*, which she wrote and starred in, received the City Artist Corps Grant, had a staged reading to full houses at the Gene Frankel Theatre and The Clemente in 2021, and was later selected for the Dramatists Guild's Friday Night Footlights in a reading directed by Cady McClain.

In 2023, Nam was awarded an artist residency at El Barrio's Artspace PS109, where she wrote, produced, directed, and performed *New Year's Day (Sae Hae)*; the sold-out reading led to a 2026 residency production at HB Studio, directed by Lisa Milinazzo. Her full-length, *The Subway Play*, was selected for Axial Theatre's Safehouse Playwright Series in 2024. Her short plays have been chosen for four consecutive Chain Theatre One-Act Festivals (2025–2026) — *Just a Yellow Cab in New York City*, *Last Birthday*, *David's New Year*, and *Get Out of My Head!!!*.

Nam also directs, staging both her own plays and new work by other writers — among them Eric Conger's *In a Blind* and Dominic Hoffman's *The Audition*. As a filmmaker, her short *Acting Is My Destiny* — which she wrote, directed, and performed — won Best Actress at the Independent Shorts Awards and Best Monologue at Actors Awards LA.

Her practice extends into postmodern dance theater and installation. She has appeared in *Ephemera*, a work in the lineage of Six Viewpoints founder Mary Overlie created by Sophia Treanor and Deborah Black, deepening from ensemble member to Particalist Lead to featured artist across its 2024–2026 stagings, and is developing *Coffee (working title)*, the subject of a forthcoming review by Dr. Alexis Riley in *The Journal of American Drama and Theatre* (Fall 2026).

A member of Actors' Equity Association and the Dramatists Guild of America and an ensemble member at Axial Theatre, Nam has held residencies at HB Studio and Salisbury University and serves as a judge for the Winter Film Awards in New York City. Her process draws on postmodern practices including the Six Viewpoints and Transcendental Meditation — which she also explores in her conversation series *In the Particles*, co-hosted with Deborah Black and Sophia Treanor — and she continues to work in painting, music, and dance. She writes and creates fluidly across disciplines and languages.