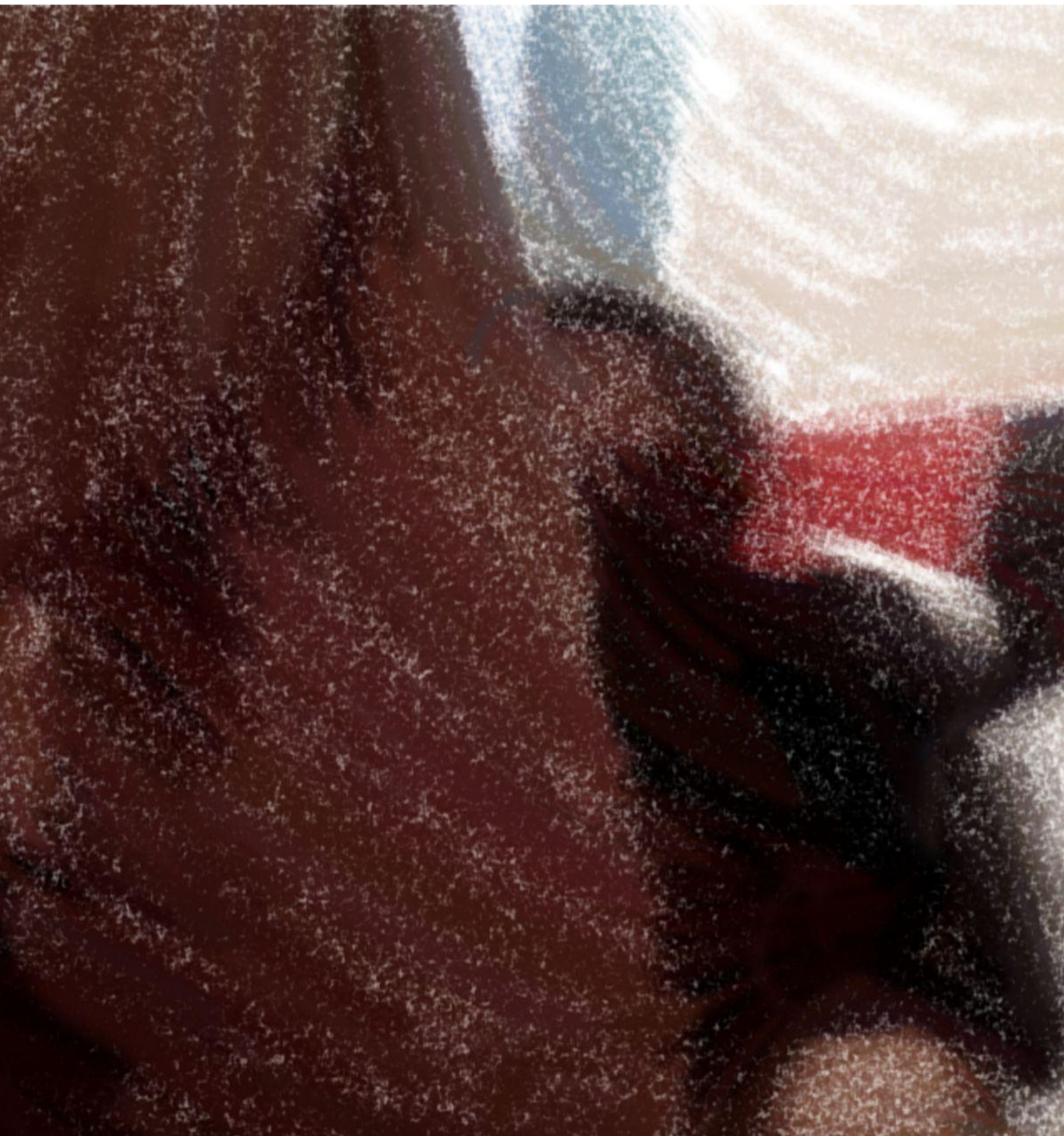


mc

Josiane M.H. Pozi



mc was first debuted as part of Josiane M.H Pozi's second solo exhibition 'Through My Fault' at Carlos/Ishikawa, London, on 20th September 2023. The cast

You Josiane and the reader

G Klein

B Kwadjo Asante

1 Adam

2 Lewis

3 Hal

4 Josiane and the reader

Original idea conceived by Josiane M.H Pozi. Additional writing credits to Klein, Kwadjo Asante and Adam Grant. Many thanks to Cecilia Pozi, Emily Pozi, Eliane Pozi, Jessica Pozi and Adam Grant

A slash in the dialogue (/) indicates that the next actor should start their line, creating overlapping speech

Scene One

Outside of house. Hallway. Stairs. Living room. House party. Packed, filled with people drinking, dancing, talking. 1 is situated to the right. A tight right, only the faint outlining of 1's nose, lips and chin are visible.

1 /Oh

You Oh my god/ what the fuck

1 H/ey

You Hey, wow how..long time/

1 I didn't know you were coming

You Oh yeah yeah no I just came in, how are you?

Partygoers chat loudly. 1 and You also talk but it is muffled and inaudible.

You So what have you been up to?

Partygoers chat loudly. 1 and You also talk but it is muffled and inaudible.

1 What have I been up to..I went for a bike ride

Partygoers chat loudly. 1 and You also talk but it is muffled and inaudible.

You Cool in../South

1 South yeah in South urm, stopped in Burgess Park and then urm, yeah just chilling for a while reading my book/

You Ooo what you reading?

1 Oh so it's this really interesting book, it's about/

Ceiling. Shadow outline of 1 and You.

..the history of different idioms and urm,..phrases

Back to tight right 1's faint nose lips and chin

And yeah just..etymology but yeah...there was one actually which urm I thought was really interesting cuz I really hadn't expected it to be you know, where it was from but you know the term 'Off the Wagon', say you had fallen 'Off the Wagon' and you start drinking again

You Oh yeah

1 That actually comes from urm, it's an English phrase from when prisoners were going to be executed at the Tower of London

You Ye/ah

1 And you'd have this like wagon ride through the urm...through the streets of London and there was this one pub that everyone that was going to be executed would jump off the wagon, hence off/ the wagon

You Oh to get another drink/

1 Right!

You Oh!

1 And they would get their last drink before their urh, fucking... decapitated at the tower

You Oh shit/ so "Off the Wagon"

1 So it's got a pretty dark past. So if you're 'Off the Wagon' yeah you're going for a drink and then

You You're 'On the Wagon' you're /going to die

1 Going to die

Pause. Partygoers chat loudly.

You S/o

1 So

You I guess, on that note I'm actually gonna go grab a drink but urm /but it was really good seeing you

1 Okay okay, I got you

You Urm I'll catch you

1 When I catch you

Scene Two

Theatre, mid play. Rows of seats are filled with people watching a lit stage but the contents of what's happening are blurred. This is the same with aspects of the play goes. G and B are seated watching the play, occasionally looking at each other while speaking. Only the backs of their heads are visible, profiles too when talking to one another. Whispering

G ..and you're not upset with me?

B Of course not.

G But you do know that you can just leave like, you can go

Pause

B Huh?

G Like you can leave, you don't have to be here if you don't wanna like, you don't have to stay

B What?

G Yeah!

Pause

B What are you talking about?

G I just feel like...I don't wanna like pressure you to be here/

B No,/no

G if you don't want to be here and like.

Pause

G I just don't want to stop you from yeah, if you want to do your own thing you can do/

B Yeah I know/

G Like..like...you know?

B You know I want to be here

Pause

G It just feels like maybe you're not having the best time and like, that's okay like, you know what I mean. It's like, I dunno you're just being so quiet/

B I'm being...I'm being/

G I just feel like yeah, I just feel like you're being so quiet. Like you know, you're being very hush hush hush.

Scene Three

Corridor. House party. The sounds of the house party are fainter than the previous Living room scene.

You Oh shit it's/ fucking

2 No way/ no way

You How have you been?

2 Good, well..weird it's been a weird weekend

You What do you mean it's been a weird weekend?

2 We were trying to go ah I don't know, it's kind of a long story but we were going to this thing on Saturday, urm this party - I got a puncture so we couldn't do it..and then went back home and there was this street party/

You Yeah yeah

2 And there was like, all these people had migrated from the street party into this house so then we were chilling outside the house like not gonna go in. And I turned around and there was just this woman like, lying on the floor/

You Oh fuck

2 And I was like call the ambulance. We called the ambulance like three times. And waited for an hour and a half.

2 And then I called them again and they were like, and I said she's on the move basically urm and they were like if she's moving then we can't like/ the ambulance can't come

3 Fucking we can't come. They didn't come

You Oh my god

2 / So then they just didn't come

3 / So we stalked her home

You And how, how are you guys feeling?

2 Well we were hiding behind cars like stealth mode/

You This is so../honestly this is so

2 She was walking home/

3 Ahh yeah

2 Cause if she saw us she'd start screaming at us and be like you're the ones that made this happen

You Oh my god/

2 Even though we were just / trying to help her

3 So we follow her all the way home and she got inside /and

You And then you were like

3 / I guess she's good

You / I guess she's good

2 Yeah meanwhile, she's bleeding out of her fucking cranium

You Urm, I'm gonna grab a drink / from the uh fridge

3 Any/way

2 Alright cool

You Ah fuck that/ I'm so, I'm really sorry that that

2 Yeah it was good to see you

2 /No

3 /No

2 It's cool it's cool

You I'm gonna ru-I'm gonna shoot but, lovely to see you

2 Alright I'll catch you soon

Scene Four

Theatre, mid play. Rows of seats are filled with people watching a lit stage but the contents of what's happening are blurred. This is the same with aspects of the play goes. G and B are seated watching the play, occasionally looking at each other while speaking. Only the backs of their heads are visible, profiles too when talking to one another. Whispering

G..friends like be a good friend like, amazing. Go be with your friend

B Wait, you mean Daniel?

G Yeah

Loud noise. Laughter from the other theatre goers

B Wait, I'm gonna go see him another day, I'm gonna see him tomorrow

G Okay amazing, that's wonderful like, like you're such a good friend like

Pause

G I'm sorry and I/ apologise

B I'm sorry too/

G I'm just feeling like I just don't wanna, I don't want to cause a scene/

B Yeah, exactly I don't either

G Okay good. Wonderful. We're good?

B I love you of course we're good

G And you are not upset with me?

B Of course, of course I'm/ not

G Okay great.

Pause

G Well, you can just leave if you want to okay. Just go you don't have to stay/

B No no no/

G I just feel like there somethi-, I feel like you're not being completely truthful with me

B What? I am being truthful with/ you

G urgh..why are you being so aggressive?

Pause

G I think you're being/ aggressive

B No no no/

G And you're just not/ enjoying yourself

B No baby no I am enjoying myself

G I know you're upset with me

B I'm not upset with you

G You are I can, it's obvious. It's obvious/ to everyone

B Baby, where is this coming from?/

G It's fine..it's fine

Scene Five

Corridor. Bedroom. House party. The music and talking/ laughter of partygoers is much fainter.

You Oh shit I didn't realise someone was in here/

4 Oh my gosh you're completely fine I'm just chilling, I'm just taking a break/

You Yeah it's pretty hectic downstairs

4 Yeah it really is, yeah it's something. Urm yeah anyway, how how are you doing?

You Urm yeah no, weird, strange day urm like on the way here I was like, I picked up this book on etymology/

4 OMG woah I really fucking love etymology/

You Yeah no honestly it's pretty, interesting shit urm..found out that the term 'Off the Wagon' dates back to when prisoners were en route the Tower of London to get beheaded and what they would do on this trail, on this wagon trail urm, was that they'd jump off this urm, the wagon to go to this pub for like their final drink so when you're 'Off the Wagon' you're like, I guess you're drinking but when you're on the wagon, you're going back to like, I guess you're sober but I guess on the way to.. execution.

4 OMG what the fuck! That's, I did not know that woah that is so interesting!

You Yeah no it really *is* interesting shit but, anyway I was on my way to this party having picked up my book and, I saw this woman who had like, hit her head/

4 OMG fu-

You Yeah no this woman like hit her head and there was like blood coming out of her head and I..tried to help her but every single time she..wanted my help she'd like get really... angry and weird with me, it was like the strangest thing and I tried calling the..ambulances a bunch but like she..she just..the ambulance like never came and it was like this whole thing/

4 OMG is she okay?

You Uh urm I don't know I think - I, well I-I walked her to, we were like, I was like following her...urm like just to make sure she didn't like collapse or anything like from a distance but she like got back into her house and then..I hope she's okay I thi- I mean I called the ambulance again but I mean they didn't come/

4 Fuck no, that's, that's so, what the fuck, I'm so.. what in-, what a strange

Scene Six

Theatre, mid play. Rows of seats are filled with people watching a lit stage but the contents of what's happening are blurred. This is the same with aspects of the play goes. G and B are seated watching the play, occasionally looking at each other while speaking. Only the backs of their heads are visible, profiles too when talking to one another. Whispering

G I've just been feeling like..kinda/

B I don't want/

G I just don't wanna..I just don't wanna fight

B I don't wanna fight either/

G Or argue or anything/

B I don't wanna, yeah me neither, I don't wanna argue

G Okay, so.. we're good?

B Of course/ we're good

G I just feel like you're just, yeah. I just feel like you're being so quiet.

G And you're not upset with me?

B Of course not

G Okay, because you do know you can just leave if you want to like

Pause

G You know

B What?

G You can go

B Wait what?/

G Go through the door it's fine/

B Why..why/ would I go?

G You don't have to stay with me

Pause

G You're just like .. not hav/

B I am I/

G ing a good/ time

B am/

G I just don't feel

End

