

AMERICAN THEATRE

JANUARY 2014 THEATRE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

■ NEW YORK CITY

KEEP THE METER RUNNING

INCUBATOR ARTS PROJECT is taking audiences for an unforgettable ride this month. *Take Me Home*

by Alexandra Collier will be a part of IAP's 2014 Other Forces Festival (see page 80), but don't expect to book an aisle seat. This new site-specific piece is set in "the mobile heart of the city"—a taxicab. Three audience members per performance will venture through the streets of New York under the guidance of actor/cab driver Modesto "Flako" Jimenez.

"I feel like I am always looking at this city as an outsider," says Collier, a native Australian, who conceived the piece shortly after moving to New York. "And cab drivers are usually foreigners, too, who are negotiating how to live in this city as outsiders." Collier has been developing the script with Jimenez in order to be true to the Dominican-born performer's experience. Of course, the unpredictable nature of the piece is part of the fun. "There will definitely be wild-card moments of improvisation as we hit traffic," ventures Collier. In addition to their interaction with the driver, audiences will experience the natural theatricality of the sidewalks of New York, as well as staged moments on the streets.

Making four trips a night, Jimenez's cab will transport a modest 12 passengers daily, adding up to 126 captive audience members Jan. 9–26. At the dispatch is director Meghan Finn, whose show *The Downtown Loop*, at **3LD Art and Technology Center** last October, put audiences on board a virtual New York City tour bus. —Jason Purdy



ISABELLE RAPHAEL
Alexandra Collier with taxi.