

NightwoodTheatre

Presents the 12th Annual Lawyer Show

THE STARS OF MARS

Book and Lyrics by Ashley Botting
Music and Lyrics by Daniel Abrahamson
Directed by Andrea Donaldson
Assistant Directed by Sedina Fiati
Music Direction by Paul Moody
Sound Design/Engineering by Emily Porter
Visual Design by Michelle Tracey
Production Facilitation by Hazel Moore
Copyists – Juliette Jones and Jake Schindler

A fundraising event in support of Nightwood Theatre

Available to stream June 12-30, 2021

Tickets and online auction at nightwoodtheatre.net



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Land Acknowledgement _

In the spirit and intent of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations, Nightwood Theatre acknowledges the land on which our work is created and where our offices are located is the traditional territory of many Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples, and is home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

We acknowledge them and any other Nations who care for the land (acknowledged and unacknowledged, recorded and unrecorded) as the past, present, and future caretakers of this land, the traditional territory named Tkarón:to, the Mohawk word for "the place in the water where the trees are standing." The treaty for this particular parcel of land (Treaty 13), collectively referred to as the Toronto Purchase, applies to lands east of Brown's Line to Woodbine Avenue and north towards Newmarket.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples on this land. We commit ourselves to addressing and disrupting the systems of oppression and the colonial forces that undermine, distort, or erase the vital role of Indigenous peoples in our world, and recognize stewardship as a shared responsibility of all those who reside in a territory, as is the spirit of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreements.



About the Lawyer Show & Nightwood Theatre _

The Lawyer Show is the main annual fundraiser for Nightwood Theatre, a registered charitable organization and Canada's flagship feminist theatre since 1979. Every year, over 35 members of the legal community rehearse for three months to mount an exhilarating, entertaining, professionally led musical. Since the Lawyer Show's inception in 2010, some 300 legal professionals have appeared in 11 different productions to raise more than \$1,265,000 in support of Nightwood.

When our anticipated Lawyer Show production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* was cancelled due to the pandemic in March 2020, we never dreamed that we would still be unable to gather together on stage over a year later. Thanks to the endless efforts of our hardworking cast, band and creative team over many months of remote rehearsals and recordings, we are deeply honoured to have been able to produce the Lawyer Show's very first professional audio recording of *The Stars of Mars*. This Toronto-born musical was written by two brilliant local artists and developed for Sheridan College's Canadian Music Theatre Project – just like another musical you may have heard of, *Come From Away*!

Thank you to the lawyers, sponsors, advertisers, donors and auction prize donors, and of course, to you, our wonderful audience, for helping to make the Lawyer Show such an incredible success!

Nightwood Theatre is a member of the Toronto Alliance for Performing Arts (TAPA) and the Professional Association of Canadian Theatre (PACT) and engages under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, professional artists who are members of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

Registered Charitable number:
123709339 RR0001

Sincere thanks to these wonderful Lawyer Show donors!

Torkin Manes LLP, Brent Vickar, Tracy Pratt, Melanie Bradshaw,
Maggie MacDonald and to our anonymous donors.

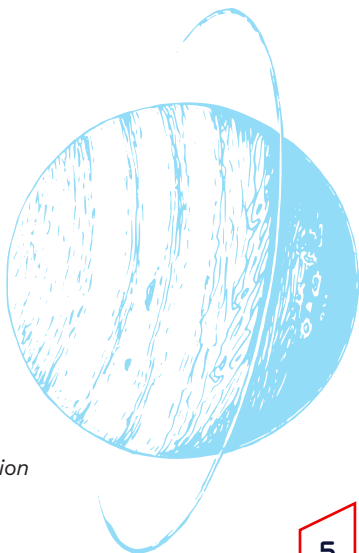
The Lawyer Show 2021

The Stars of Mars_

Director.....	Andrea Donadson
Assistant Director	Sedina Fiati
Music Director.....	Paul Moody
Copyist.....	Juliette Jones
Copyist.....	Jake Schindler
Sound Designer/Engineer.....	Emily Porter
Visual Design.....	Michelle Tracey
Production Facilitator.....	Hazel Moore
Book and Lyrics.....	Ashley Botting
Video Editing, Digital Host,	
Music and Lyrics.....	Stream Stage Productions' Daniel Abrahamson
Choral Captains.....	Alexandra Mealia, Alia Rosenstock, Christian Baes and Kaley Duff

The Cast

Alexandra Mealia – *Royal Bank of Canada*
Alia Rosenstock – *Rosenstock Law Firm PC*
Arielle Di Iulio – *Hull & Hull LLP*
Astrid Mrkich – *Mrkich Law*
Cathy Bate – *Ad Standards*
Christian Baes – *Mandelēz International*
Christine Marchetti – *Marchetti Lee Family Law*
Courtney Evans – *TD Bank Group*
Danny Kastner – *Kastner Lam LLP*
Dany Horovitz – *TD Bank Group*
David Mills – *Mills & Mills LLP*
Edina Cavalli – *TD Bank Group*
Emma Romano – *WeirFoulds LLP*
Gemma Healy-Murphy – *Rogers Partners LLP*
Heather Paterson – *Shibley Righton LLP*
Heidi LeBlanc – *Carters Professional Corporation*
James Dunphy – *Wagner Sidlofsky LLP*



John Rider – *Chicago Title Insurance Company*
 Kaley Duff – *Cavalluzzo LLP*
 Kate McNeece Cruess – *McCarthy Tetrault*
 Keri Bennett – *Roper Greyell LLP*
 Khrystina McMillan – *Mathers McHenry & Co.*
 Leanne Goldstein – *MK Disability Lawyers LLP*
 Melanie Herbin – *Ministry of the Attorney General*
 Olivia Danylchuk – *Goldenberg Nahmias LLP*
 Rona Ghanbari – *Stikeman Elliott LLP*
 Saroja Kuruganty – *Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General*
 Sharlene Atkins – *BMO*
 Tamara Thomas – *Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada*
 Teja Rachamalla – *Government of Canada*
 Tracy Pratt – *Fasken*
 Valérie Duchesneau – *Ministry of Finance*
 Valérie Lord – *Howie, Sacks and Henry LLP*

The Band

Paul Moody.....Keyboard/Synthesizer
 Craig Allardyce, CI Financial.....Drums/Percussion
 Henry Gluch, Department of Justice.....Saxophones/Clarinet
 Ilana Ludwin, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP.....Piccolo/Flute
 John McGowan, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP.....Bass Guitar/Keyboard 2
 John Sorensen, Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP.....Guitar/Effects

2021 Lawyer Show Committee

Charles Beall
 Edina Cavalli
 Kate McNeece Cruess
 Valérie Duchesneau
 Devin Jarcaig



Message from the Director _

Welcome to the 2021 Lawyer Show -

We are so thrilled to finally share *The Stars of Mars*!

Rehearsing a show always demands huge commitment and energy, as well as a willingness to give over to adventure. The experience of creating a full show entirely remotely was a brand new experience for Nightwood despite our numerous decades of professional theatre experience. Working exclusively online required us all to embrace new ways of sharing space—warm-ups where no one is making silly sounds beside you, competing with different internet speeds while trying to sync voices and accompaniment, and the challenge of not having that friend in rehearsal who somehow always knows the right notes and helps you stay in key by proximity. But what we lost in familiarity, we gained in innovation, in adaptability, and in working together as a team, earning our resiliency badges if we hadn't already over the last 15 months.

We were thrilled to stumble upon the new musical *The Stars of Mars*. We loved that it was a fresh original work that offered a light and tender story with contemporary social underpinnings and a lot of humour. We were able to support exceptional local musical theatre duo Ashley Botting and Daniel Abrahamson in a time of drought in our industry, offering sustenance for them and for their play as it further develops through the voices of these lawyers. The piece, which takes place largely in a habitat on Mars, has uncanny resonances with the challenging, often isolating times we are living in.

We wouldn't have made it to the finish line without a devoted group of professional theatre artists leading the way including: Sedina Fiati - the show's unstoppable Assistant Director who leapt in on every front and instantly fell in love with the cast; Paul Moody - who truly, tirelessly and passionately shepherded this project as Musical Director; Emily Porter - who not only mixed the thousands of sound files but also designed a vivid audio-world on Mars; Production Facilitator Hazel Moore -



who stepped bravely into her first professional gig coordinating an entire show on Zoom; and designer Michelle Tracey - who created stunning designs that instantly embraced the style and concept for this show (that had to go on)! I'd be remiss if I didn't shout out Ashley Botting and Daniel Abrahamson, the creators of this beautiful and hilarious musical, as well as Stream Stage run by Daniel Abrahamson for their support with video editing, their bespoke VR world, and for streaming the show. And huge thanks to the Lawyer Show Committee and the incredible staff at Nightwood who have put so much energy and brilliance into making this show happen.

This production of *The Stars of Mars* has entirely been recorded from the homes of our incredible cast members and band. Throughout the winter and spring these 40+ lawyers - most of whom have faced their busiest years yet, working under extremely challenging conditions at home with zero childcare - lent themselves to this cause and this project so wholeheartedly, with the blessings of their firms, spouses, babies, neighbours, dogs and cats, while they learned an entire two act show full of very challenging songs, harmonies, and dialogue. Recognizing that half of the joy of a project like this is in being together, we were so touched at the outpouring of enthusiasm to come back again this year. Their generosity, grit and immense talent has astounded us.

I also have to thank the many firms and corporations that have joined to sponsor The Lawyer Show once again this year. Your generous contributions allow Nightwood Theatre to mentor up-and-coming artists, as well as nurture long honed talent, even in this time without live performance.

We are so thankful that you're joining us, whether you're a friend, family, colleague, or firm. We hope you will take great pleasure in celebrating these wonderful lawyer-artists and find great joy in experiencing *The Stars of Mars*!

— **Andrea Donaldson**

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the 12th annual Lawyer Show.

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Torys is proud to support the
Nightwood Theatre on the 12th
anniversary of the Lawyer Show.

We applaud the Nightwood
Theatre's commitment to the arts
and to nurturing exceptional
female talent.

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The Stars of Mars _

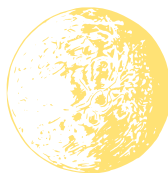
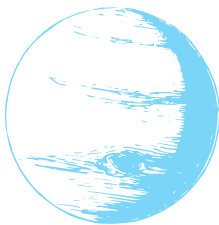
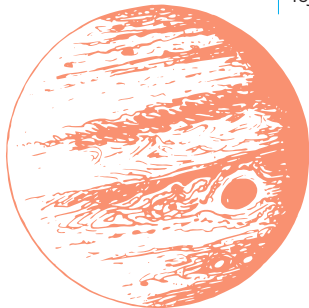
Set inside the first human colony on Mars, this home-grown musical tells the story about a mother and daughter who are worlds apart. When Heather, the first human born on Mars, begins to ask questions about where she's from, the astronauts and scientists decide to put on a show about the Earth they've all left behind.

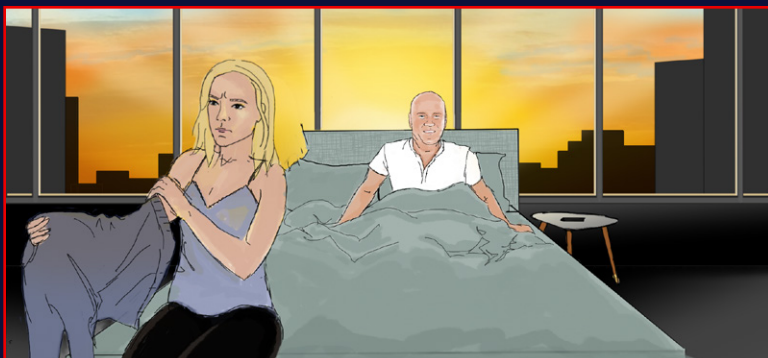
ACT ONE MUSIC

We're Gonna Go To Mars	Kaley Duff, Sharlene Atkins, James Dunphy, David Mills Chorus: Alexandra Mealia, Alia Rosenstock, Arielle Di Iulio, Astrid Mrkich, Cathy Bate, Christian Baes, Christine Marchetti, Courtney Evans, Dany Horovitz, Edina Cavalli, Emma Romano, Heather Paterson, John Rider, Kate McNeece Cruess, Keri Bennett, Khrystina McMillan, Leanne Goldstein, Melanie Herbin, Rona Ghanbari, Saroja Kuruganty, Tamara Thomas, Teja Rachamalla, Tracy Pratt, Valérie Duchesneau
Mars Sure Sucks	Dany Horovitz, Danny Kastner, Courtney Evans, Tamara Thomas, Rona Ghanbari, Kate McNeece Cruess, Heidi LeBlanc
Place In The Stars	Heidi LeBlanc
Fix	Kaley Duff
Let's Put On A Show	Courtney Evans, Dany Horovitz, Kate McNeece Cruess, Tamara Thomas, Rona Ghanbari, Danny Kastner, Sharlene Atkins, Chorus: Alexandra Mealia, Cathy Bate, Leanne Goldstein, Saroja Kuruganty, Teja Rachamalla, Tracy Pratt, Valérie Duchesneau
Fix (Reprise)	Heidi LeBlanc
Gravity	Kaley Duff, James Dunphy, Chorus: Alia Rosenstock, Alexandra Mealia, Arielle Di Iulio, Christian Baes, Courtney Evans, Dany Horovitz, David Mills, Edina Cavalli, Emma Romano, Heather Paterson, John Rider, Kate McNeece, Keri Bennett, Olivia Danylchuk, Rona Ghanbari, Tamara Thomas, Teja Rachamalla
Teenage Martian	Heidi LeBlanc
Dancing On The Poles	Courtney Evans, Dany Horovitz, Kate McNeece Cruess, Tamara Thomas, Rona Ghanbari
Worlds Apart	David Mills, Tamara Thomas, Courtney Evans, Dany Horovitz, Danny Kastner, Sharlene Atkins, Rona Ghanbari, Kate McNeece Cruess, James Dunphy, Kaley Duff, Heidi LeBlanc

ACT TWO MUSIC

Aliens	Heidi LeBlanc, Kaley Duff, Aliens: Alexandra Mealia, Alia Rosenstock, Arielle Di Iulio, Astrid Mrkich, Cathy Bate, Edina Cavalli, Heather Paterson, Keri Bennett, Leanne Goldstein, Melanie Herbin, Saroja Kuruganty, Teja Rachamalla, Tracy Pratt, Valérie Duchesneau
Transmission	Gemma Healy-Murphy
Chart Your Own Course	Sharlene Atkins
Other People	Tamara Thomas, Kate McNeece Cruess, Dany Horovitz
Let's Put On A Show (Reprise 1)	Sharlene Atkins, Danny Kastner, Rona Ghanbari, James Dunphy, Kate McNeece Cruess
Let's Put On A Show (Reprise 2)	David Mills, Tamara Thomas, Dany Horovitz, Courtney Evans
Do Better	Heidi LeBlanc & Kaley Duff
People Need A Home	James Dunphy
Transmission To Home	Heidi LeBlanc & Gemma Healy-Murphy
Imperfect World	Tamara Thomas, Courtney Evans, Dany Horovitz, Rona Ghanbari, Kate McNeece Cruess, James Dunphy
Right Here	Heidi LeBlanc
Remember Earth	David Mills, Sharlene Atkins, Kate McNeece Cruess, Dany Horovitz, Rona Ghanbari, Tamara Thomas, Danny Kastner, Courtney Evans, Heidi LeBlanc, Kaley Duff, James Dunphy, Chorus: Alexandra Mealia, Alia Rosenstock, Arielle Di Iulio, Cathy Bate, Christian Baes, Christine Marchetti, Edina Cavalli, Emma Romano, Heather Paterson, Keri Bennett, Khrystina McMillan, Leanne Goldstein, Melanie Herbin, Saroja Kuruganty, Teja Rachamalla, Tracy Pratt, Valérie Duchesneau





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Cast & Band Bios _

Alexandra Mealia - *Chorus Captain/Spectator/ Newcomer*

Alex is delighted to take flight to Mars with the rest of the crew in this year's Lawyer Show. She was to have made her Lawyer Show stage debut in the 2020 production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, but alas, COVID-19 stole the show. Back on Earth, Alex works in the Global Credit Group at RBC Capital Markets

as a Trading Documentation Negotiator. A lifelong "choir nerd", she has toured internationally and recorded with McGill University Soulstice a Cappella and the renowned Toronto Children's Chorus. Much gratitude to the cast, crew and Nightwood creative team for working tirelessly to bring this virtual event to life. Thanks to lawyers all over the city for singing in their homes to create this amazing soundtrack. Much love to my family and friends for keeping me grounded while lifting me up during these challenging times. Now, let's put on a show!



Alia Rosenstock - *Chorus Captain/Alien*

Alia Rosenstock is happy to be back with Nightwood Theatre and the amazing cast and team as they countdown to Mars! When she isn't enjoying life as an alien, Alia is committed to the mindful practice of immigration and refugee law and to filling her home with an overabundance of plants.

Arielle Di Iulio - Chorus/Spectator

Arielle is an associate at Hull & Hull LLP where she practices in the areas of estates, wills, trusts, and capacity litigation. She has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario.

In her younger days, Arielle dabbled in the film and television industry, having acted in several commercials and television productions. Her theater credits include Clarkson Music Theatre's production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* where she was a member of the ensemble. Arielle is also a competitively trained dancer and former professional cheerleader for the Toronto Argonauts. More recently, she was involved in the University of Toronto Faculty of Law's annual revue, *Law Follies*, as both an actor and dance choreographer.

Arielle will be making her debut Lawyer Show performance in *The Stars of Mars* as a member of the chorus. She is truly grateful to be a part of the Nightwood Theatre family and for the opportunity to belt out some stellar tunes alongside her fellow lawyers!



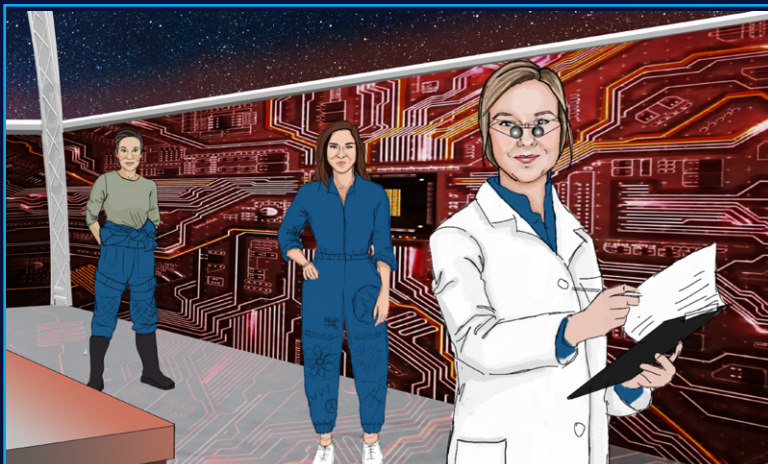


Astrid Mrkich - Chorus/Alien/Newcomer

Astrid Mrkich is a social justice lawyer and community organizer practicing immigration and refugee law in Toronto. She started her own practice, Mrkich Law, in 2018, where she fiercely advocates for our society's most vulnerable people.

She joined the Lawyer Show in 2016 and has appeared in *Guys and Dolls* as a Hot Box girl, *Legally Blonde: The Musical* as a Harvard law student, and *Mamma Mia!* as (self-proclaimed) bearded heartthrob Mauricio. Her favourite

role has been Vivienne Kensington where she not only got to wear a great wig, but her Cancerian soul felt truly seen playing a total bitch with a heart of gold (sound familiar?) She's happy to be part of this year's audio show, in part because she gets to annoy her loud upstairs neighbours with her strange singing. Stay safe and #DefundthePolice





Cathy Bate - *Chorus/Alien/Reporter*

Cathy Bate is the Chief Legal & Policy Officer at Ad Standards, Canada's independent self-regulatory organization for the advertising industry. She debuted with the Lawyer Show in 2016 as 'Hot Box' dancer, Mimi, in *Guys and Dolls*, and never looked back. Cathy has performed in each show since, and is humbled to have choreographed three Lawyer Shows – *Legally Blonde: The Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Mamma Mia!* - back in the 'before times' when we could all be together in the theatre. Thanks to everyone involved this year, and to each of you for supporting Nightwood Theatre! Until we meet again, keep dancing like no one is watching.



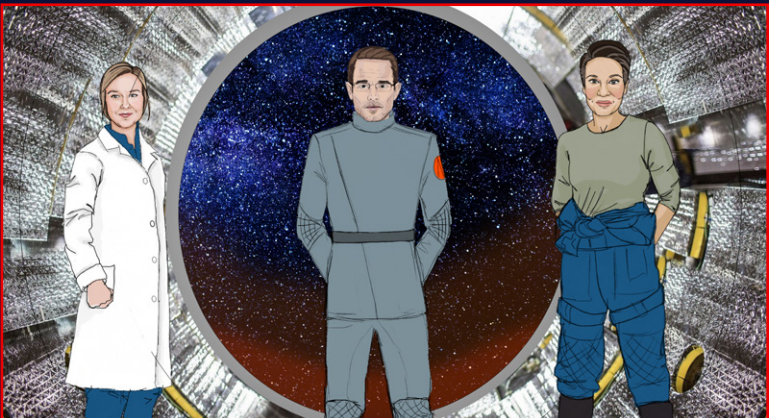


Christian Baes - Chorus Captain/Alien/Newcomer

From LA to Toronto and now Mars, Christian is over the moon to join this talented legal community and the incredible team at Nightwood. As Counsel - Global Marketing & Media at Mondelez International, Christian supports the global marketing and procurement teams in harnessing the power of advertising and empowering people to snack right through some of the world's most iconic snack brands. Many thanks to Neil, Taco, my friends & family, and our out of this

world cast and crew in particular, for allowing this Lawyer Show first-timer aboard the spaceship.

Past Credits: Impromptu Concerts; Wavestage Theatre Company - *Secret Garden* (Captain Albert Lennox); *Forte* - Toronto Gay Men's Chorus (Baritone); and Toronto Maple Leafs (Anthem Soloist). Check out Christian in the Wavestage Theatre Company production of *Heathers* scheduled for July 2022.



Christine Marchetti - *Chorus/Reporter/Newcomer*

Christine Ann Marchetti is a family lawyer, mother, and theatre lover. Her firm, Marchetti Lee Family Law, has offices in Toronto and Burlington. Christine sits on the board of the OBA family law section, is the incoming secretary for the Advocate's Society family law practice group and is a panel member with the Office of the Children's Lawyer. She has been a board member with Dundas Little Theatre ("DLT") since early 2019. Christine most recently performed in an online production of a Norm Foster play with Milton Players, and has been involved with an online storytelling series with DLT. Her last IRL theatre gig was Clara in DLT's *Einstein's Gift* in October 2019. Christine has been involved in various productions of Nightwood's Lawyer Show since 2013 and is thrilled to be working on this exciting production with this fabulous team.



Courtney Evans - *Leslie*

Courtney is a Senior Manager at TD Bank's Office of the Ombudsman. Since her articling student days in 2013, the annual Nightwood Lawyer Show tradition has been a source of so much joy. Whether dancing like a Shakespearean deer, bending and snapping as Elle Woods or singing her way to Mars, Courtney is so grateful to be part of this wonderful community. She hopes you enjoy this new audio musical adventure to the red planet too – hopefully it doesn't make you blue!

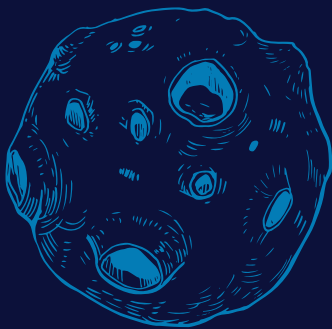


Craig Allardyce – *Drums/Percussion*

Craig is a Portfolio Manager at CI Global Asset Management, and although not a lawyer he deals with them frequently. Craig is grateful that he was recruited into the Lawyer Show pit band by John Sorenson (after they played together/blew the doors off at Aidsbeat), and enjoys the camaraderie, the challenge of learning the score, and speaking in the third person for bios.

Danny Kastner – *Hendrix*

Danny's a partner at Kastner Lam LLP, which might suggest he's a serious person. His Nightwood Theatre family and real family are not fooled.





Dany Horovitz - *Andy*

In his normal life, Dany is a senior manager of risk management at TD Bank Group, supporting corporate functions to identify, manage, and mitigate their operational risks. Outside of his normal life, Dany is thrilled to be participating in his 7th consecutive lawyer show! He loves being a part of this troupe and the broader Nightwood community. Dany is also a singer-songwriter and you can find his music on Bandcamp and all the streaming services.

David Mills - *Talon*

In David's first day job, he is the Managing Partner of Mills & Mills LLP and an estates lawyer (and yes, clients are simply dying to meet him). In his second day job, he is co-managing partner of a family that includes a teenager, a toddler and an infant, all locked down together with work and school at home throughout the pandemic. Send wine.

David is so delighted to be participating in his third Lawyer Show (though round 2 in 2020 sadly didn't get past the first week of rehearsals) and eagerly awaits a return to sharing real space and a real stage with his Nightwood and Lawyer Show friends in 2022!



Edina Cavalli - *Chorus/Reporter*

Edina is a VP in TD's Treasury Group and is responsible for LIBOR transformation. She is a keen traveller, runner and has lived and practiced law in Europe, the US and now Canada. She is a member of the Nightwood Board and the chair of its Governance Committee and sits on the Lawyer Show Committee. She joined The Lawyer Show cast in 2017 despite her reservations about singing in public or musicals in general and never looked back.



Emma Romano - *Chorus/Camera Person*

Emma is an associate at WeirFoulds LLP in the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group with diverse experience in civil litigation. Her practice includes media and defamation and aviation law, as well as commercial and general civil litigation. Emma has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario, as well as the Federal Court of Canada.

Emma has also worked as an Associate Producer in local and

national current affairs at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Emma has been a Lawyer Show cast member since 2018, playing such diverse roles as depressed monkey no. 5, taverna floor cleaner no. 3, an earnest girl with fish.



Gemma Healy-Murphy - *Transmission Voice*

Gemma is a litigation lawyer by day at Rogers Partners LLP and is very thankful to Nightwood Theatre and the Lawyer Show for the opportunity to perform again outside of the courtroom, albeit virtually so far - thanks Covid! Gemma is a relative newcomer to Canada, having moved from Ireland in 2011. A decade later, Gemma continues to find new reasons why that move was a great decision, including the friends she has met through the Lawyers Show. Enjoy the performance!

Heather Paterson - *Chorus/Alien/Reporter*

Heather Paterson is a lawyer at Shibley Righton LLP specializing in Municipal and Professional Liability defence litigation.

This is Heather's 9th year in Nightwood's The Lawyer Show with some of her favourite roles being Sea Captain (*Twelfth Night*), Dr. Pinch (*The Comedy of Errors*) and Lieutenant Brannigan (*Guys & Dolls*).

Heather is excited to be a part of this new digital theatre frontier as an alien, a reporter and a member of the chorus for *The Stars of Mars*. Heather wishes to thank Nightwood, the creative team and entire cast of *The Stars of Mars* for bringing music, friendship and socialization to these pandemic days. What a long, strange trip it's been.



Heidi LeBlanc - Heather

Heidi is an associate lawyer at Carters Professional Corporation, with a broad civil and commercial litigation practice. Outside of her life as a lawyer, Heidi is an obsessive dog parent, avid foodie, and musical theatre enthusiast. She is thrilled to be joining Nightwood Theatre again this year for her 5th Lawyer Show production, as Heather in *The Stars of Mars*!

Heidi sends thanks to her husband, Kevin, for his unwavering support and patience in listening to countless hours of Zoom rehearsals while trapped at home during lockdown! Heidi also wishes to thank the whole team at Nightwood for all of the incredible work that they do for women in theatre, and is endlessly grateful to the entire cast and creative team of this year's show for all of their work and talent, and for all of the joy they've brought to these last few months. As always, it's been an absolute blast!



Henry Gluch - *Saxophones/Clarinet*

Sax n' tax - each have been a vocation and an avocation for Henry at different times. Henry has played in the Lawyer Show pit band since 2017, in each production that called for saxophones or clarinets.



Ilana Ludwin -
Piccolo/Flute

Ilana is excited to return for her fourth Lawyer Show. She previously played in the Lawyer Show band for *Legally Blonde*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Mamma Mia!* Ilana works as a tax litigation associate at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, specializing in complex corporate tax disputes. Fun fact: she's one of three tax litigators in the Lawyer Show band!



James Dunphy -
McCoy

James is likely Ireland's first musical astronaut; an incredible achievement given his fear of singing in low oxygen environments. James is also a litigator, who practices commercial and estates litigation.



John McGowan -
Bass Guitar/Keyboard 2

John has played bass in all of the Nightwood shows since they stopped doing Shakespeare. John was formerly an employment lawyer at Cassels, but now spends most of his time deleting cat videos that his mother sends him, bless her soul. He also plays keyboards, but prefers bass because there are only four strings so you've always got a 25% chance of getting it right.

John Rider - Gregory ("Jim")/Chorus

John leads the Title Division – Retail and Commercial for Chicago Title Insurance Company Canada (CTIC). He joined CTIC in July of 2015, bringing a wealth of experience in setting up businesses for expansive growth, improved customer service and increased profitability. His goal is to make CTIC the number one title insurer in Canada and believes the key to achieving this goal is working to people's strengths, motivating the team to always go the extra mile for their customers and having fun in the process. John is a "recovering" lawyer who practiced at Stikeman Elliott and Fraser and Beatty (now Dentons) in the area of Commercial Real Estate before successfully leading the commercial department of another title insurance company in Canada. He is a graduate of Queen's University and Western University. He has a partner of 15 years and two wonderful children and really enjoys biking, walking, reading and eating, not necessarily in that order.



John Sorensen - Guitar/Effects

John Sorensen's career as a tax lawyer funds his guitar equipment addiction. He joined the Lawyer Show family in 2015 for the last of the Shakespeare adaptations, playing shaky flamenco guitar behind Danny Kastner's understated Don Armado and the Hockey Song behind a pack of

marauding Canadian suitors. Like a weird footlight, his shiny pate has blinded audiences from his low perch in the "orchestra pit" for each of *Guys and Dolls*, *Legally Blonde: The Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Mamma Mia!*

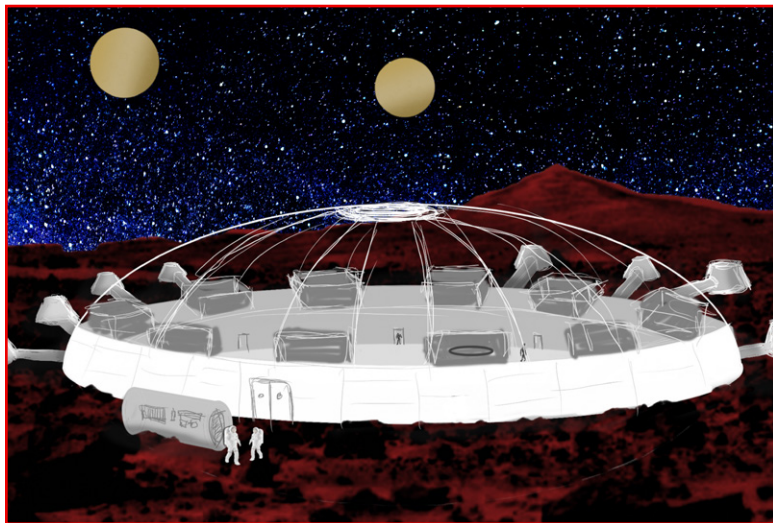


Kaley Duff - Allison/ Chorus Captain

Kaley Duff practices union-side labour and employment law at Cavalluzzo LLP. Kaley has been a proud member of the lawyer show community since 2019 when she played a window washer in *Mamma Mia!* She is very excited to portray the role of Allison in this year's production of *Stars of Mars*.

Before becoming a lawyer, Kaley was a piano teacher and professional musician for several years. In her spare time Kaley fosters kittens for the Toronto

Humane Society. Kaley has fostered over 100 kittens. Does this mean she is a dedicated volunteer, or simply a crazy cat lady? You decide.





Kate McNeece Cruess - Kate

Kate McNeece Cruess is thrilled to be taking part in her fourth Lawyer Show! Previous Lawyer Show roles include Margot (*Legally Blonde: The Musical*), Kitty (*The Drowsy Chaperone*) and Excited Vacationer (*Mamma Mia!*). Kate also serves on the Lawyer Show steering committee.

When offstage, Kate is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault LLP's leading Competition/Antitrust & Foreign Investment Group, where her

practice encompasses all aspects of competition law, including mergers and acquisitions, marketing and distribution practices, abuse of dominance, criminal and civil investigations, and compliance matters. She also provides strategic advice on foreign investment merger review under the Investment Canada Act, including with respect to SOE investment and national security issues. Kate holds a degree in economics from Yale University and a law degree from Columbia University, and is licensed to practice in both New York and Ontario.

To forestall any confusion between Kate and her astronaut character, Kate would like to note that she is an excellent cook (but she does love to dance).

Keri Bennett - Chorus/ Spectator/Newcomer

Keri Bennett is a Nightwood Lawyer Show Alum, having performed in three previous Shakespeare productions: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Twelfth Night* and *Comedy of Errors*. After Fringe adventures with other Lawyer Show alum in *Watching Seana McKenna Watch Paint Dry*, Keri headed west to Vancouver where she joined Touchstone and Carousel Theatre for two of their Lawyer Show productions. Keri is thrilled to be back with Nightwood on this special journey to Mars.



Khryстина McMillan - Chorus/Alien/Reporter

Khryстина has been a member of the Nightwood Lawyer Show family since 2016. Before she was a reporter turned alien (*The Stars of Mars*, 2021), she has been a Marilyn Monroe-wig-wearing nightclub performer (*Hot Box Girl*, *Guys and Dolls*, 2016), a sassy sorority sister (Pilar, *Legally Blonde: The Musical*, 2017), and a “bro” sporting a glorious, not-at-all-creepy, pencil moustache and dancing the night away in a full-body scuba suit and flippers (*Sky’s Crew*, *Mamma Mia!*, 2019).

When she’s not pretending to be able to act, she is a civil/commercial litigator at Mathers McHenry & Co.

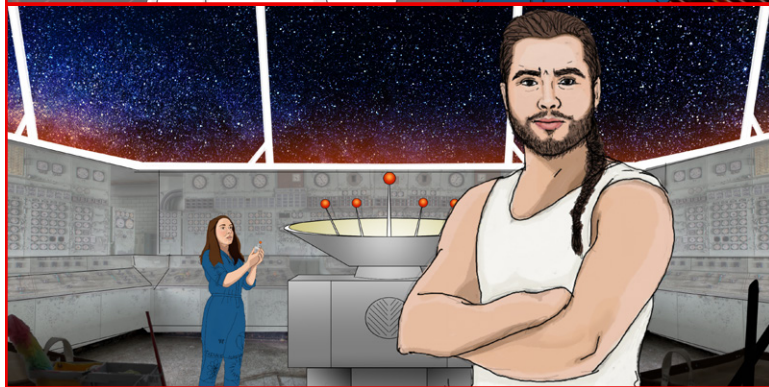
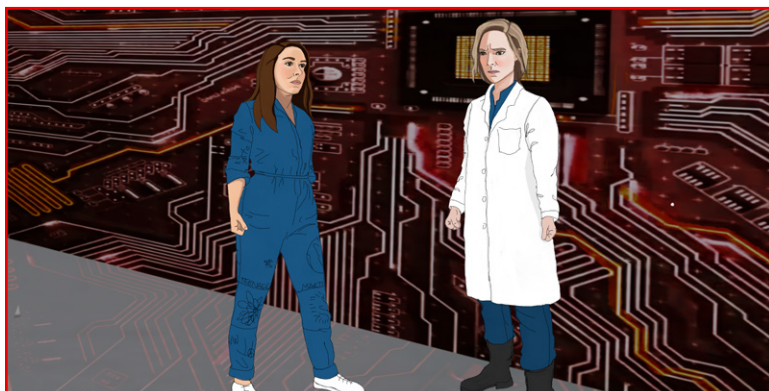


Leanne Goldstein - *Chorus/Alien/Newcomer*

In her real life Leanne owns and runs an all women law firm, MK Disability Lawyers LLP with her female partners. The firm adopts a trauma-informed approach to lawyering with an emphasis on advocating for individuals with disabilities and disability claims. The firm is mindful that many of our clients are marginalized due to their disabilities, but they may face additional oppression as a result of intersecting identities due to gender identity, racial identity, ethnic identity, and sexual orientation.

The firm believes in being an ally when observing discrimination in all its manifestations including overt, implicit, or systemic and seeks to actively advocate for those who are marginalized and oppressed in our society. Leanne has dabbled in community theatre and made it her mission in life to see every musical theatre show on Broadway. Leanne was attracted to Nightwood's mission and vision and once she understood that she could combine her undying passion for all things theatre in support of Nightwood, she was fully signed on for the mission to Mars!





Melanie Herbin - Chorus/Alien

By day, Mel is a government lawyer. By Nightwood, though, she has been a steampunk band member (Chorus, *Twelfth Night*), a raging alcoholic with a womanizing husband (Adriana, *Comedy of Errors*), a German princess' maid (Boyet, *Love's Labour's Lost*), a gambler (Harry the Horse, *Guys & Dolls*), Gloria Steinem's biggest fan (Enid Hoopes, *Legally Blonde: The Musical*), a theatre producer at the end of his rope (Victor Feldzieg, *The Drowsy Chaperone*), an ABBA tribute band member/fisher of men (Rosie, *Mamma Mia!*), and finally, an alien from outer space (Chorus, *The Stars of Mars*). Nightwood, on balance, is a bit more fun.

Mel is very much looking forward to theatre (and school, and basically everything else) being in person again soon. Till then, grab a comfy spot on your couch, fire up the laptop, and strap in: We're Gonna Go To Mars!



Olivia Danylchuk - Chorus/Spectator

Olivia has just completed her articles at McCague Borlack LLP. She will be joining Goldenberg Nahmias LLP as an associate. Olivia is thrilled to be making her Nightwood Lawyer Show debut! She hopes you enjoy this recording!



Rona Ghanbari - *Dr. Cooper*

Rona is a music & theatre lover, and a corporate associate practising at Stikeman Elliott LLP. She is thrilled to be a part of her third lawyer show and so grateful for the amazing people who've supported her habit of tricking people into listening to her sing, including (but not limited to J) the incredible team at Nightwood Theatre, the brilliant creative team, and this wonderful cast.

See you on Mars!

Saroja Kuruganty - *Chorus/Alien/Newcomer*

Saroja Kuruganty is trade counsel with Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG). This is Saroja's 6th year in Nightwood's Lawyer Show - from the days of Shakespeare in 2011's *As You Like It* to *Mamma Mia!*, the last live Lawyer Show musical in 2019. Saroja is excited to be participating in *The Stars of Mars* and thanks Nightwood for being even more creative than usual in bringing us together for our first ever audio Lawyer Show musical!



Sharlene Atkins - *Meryl*

Sharlene used to practice law in New Zealand and England but she opted for an easier life in corporate banking compliance at BMO. Many years later she is still ecstatic not to be time-recording. The thought of actually going to Mars is terrifying, so Sharlene is very happy she gets to pretend from the safety of her basement. Supporting Nightwood through this musical is as much a huge honour as it is huge fun, Sharlene thanks her lucky stars for the chance to play with this beautiful group of people, and for the incredible work Nightwood will do in the community with the money we raise together.



Tamara Thomas - *Mutt*

Tamara is very happy to have the opportunity to return to the (audio) stage this year with Nightwood Theatre's Lawyer Show. This is technically her second year being involved in the Lawyer Show, having joined for the first time as part of the 2020 production. Tamara's first big love was acting and theatre and she absolutely loves bringing stories to life, so she is pretty stoked to have this opportunity to pretend that she is still an actor. Outside of the Lawyer Show, Tamara works in an adjudicative role with an administrative tribunal in Toronto.



Teja Rachamalla - Chorus/ Spectator/Newcomer

Teja is thrilled to be joining this year's Lawyer Show after a long hiatus. She joined Nightwood's inaugural Lawyer Show as a fairy in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is delighted to be back as part of the chorus in this amazing, home-grown, original audio production of *The Stars of Mars*. When she is not frolicking in enchanted forests or hurtling through space, she is a government lawyer. She hopes you enjoy this gem of a musical! Thank you for supporting Nightwood Theatre!

Tracy Pratt - Chorus/ Alien/Reporter

Years ago, mild mannered Tracy was happily riding her mountain bike when she was bitten by a radioactive spider. This particular spider was from the theatre district, and when it bit Tracy she gained the power to sing, dance and spin a web of arguments guaranteed to convince a judge to find for her client. Actually, she already was known as a long-time Fasken litigator; but now she also is known for her top hat, cane, and the big finish involving a shim sham shimmy, backflips and a high C.



This is Tracy's third Lawyer Show in support of Nightwood's creative vision. Her fourth, back on stage with the Lawyer Show family in front of a live audience, can't come soon enough!!

Valérie Duchesneau - Chorus/Camera Person

Valérie creates tax law for Ontarians (do they have taxes on Mars?)

In her spare time, Valérie sits on the Lawyer Show committee. She debuted with Nightwood (and in any musical) in 2019's *Mamma Mia!* as a hard-working, partying islander (chorus), and performed as a stand-up for the 2020 Lawyer Show Cabaret. This year she is left on Earth as a press corps member (chorus), happy to witness history in the making!



Valérie Lord - Reporter

As an associate at Howie, Sacks and Henry LLP, Valérie Lord advocates for Canadians across the country in personal injury class actions and mass torts. Valérie's personal experience surviving the crash landing of Air France Flight 358 led to a lifelong passion in representing victims of airline disasters (fortunately, no cases involving crash landings on Mars have come across her desk... yet!) Outside of her aviation practice, Valérie is also dedicated to advocating for women's rights through her involvement in cases involving defective birth control devices and

breaches of privacy. Outside of work (and pre-Covid...) Valérie enjoyed traveling, trying new restaurants in the city and of course, being a member of The Lawyer Show. She looks forward to reuniting with the Lawyer Show cast in person and on stage in the near future. #GetVaccinatedOntario

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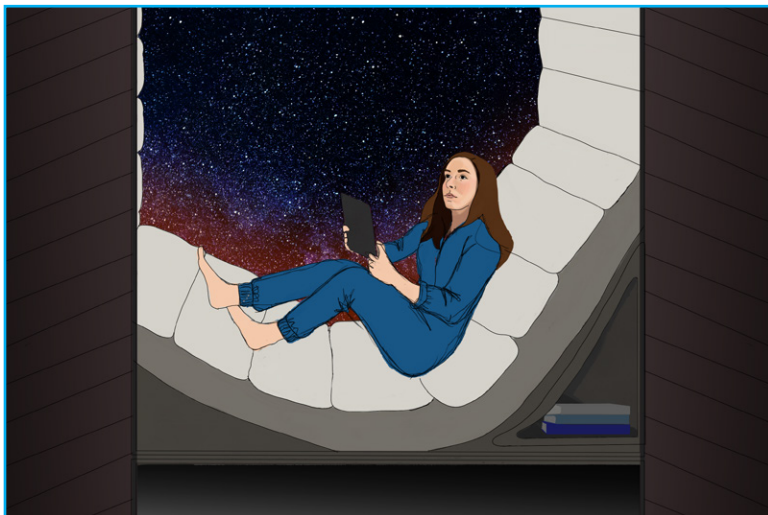
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Creative & Production Team Bios _



Andrea Donaldson - *Director*

Andrea has directed productions for theatres across the country including Soulpepper, Factory Theatre, Tarragon Theatre, Theatre Passe Muraille, Theatre Direct, Great Canadian Theatre Company, Festival Players in Prince Edward County, NTS, Summerworks, St. Lawrence

Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare in the Ruff, Espace René-Provost, Toronto Fringe, Red Sky Performance, and Nightwood Theatre. For two decades, Donaldson has played a pivotal role in fostering new works for the stage, both in her role as Tarragon's Associate Artistic Director and as the program Director for Nightwood Theatre's Write from the Hip program – a unit for exceptional emerging playwrights, in which she developed Rose Napoli's *Lo (or Dear Mr. Wells)*, *Grace* by Jane Doe, and *Every Day She Rose* by Andrea Scott and Nick Green.

Andrea was invited into The Stratford Festival's Michael Langham Workshop in Classical Direction, and was honoured with Stratford's Jean Gascon Award for Direction. She won the Best Director Award at the International Youth Drama Month in Shenzhen, China for *Mistatim*, which has played to over 750,000 children internationally. Andrea has been nominated twice each for the Pauline McGibbon Award, the John Hirsch Directing Award and the Gina Wilkinson Award, as well as for several Dora Awards. Andrea received a Dora Award for Outstanding Performance & Outstanding Production for performing in the Urge Collective collaboration *And By the Way, Miss* (Theatre Direct). Andrea is Nightwood Theatre's Artistic Director.

Sedina Fiati - Assistant Director

Sedina Fiati is a Toronto based performer, producer, director, creator and activist for stage and screen. Proudly Black, queer and femme, Sedina is deeply invested in artistic work that explores the intersection between art and activism, either in form

or structure or ideally both. Sedina holds a BFA in Music Theatre from the University of Windsor. Favourite and recent artistic projects: *Peace Camp* (Children's Peace Theatre, director), *Every Day She Rose* (Nightwood Theatre, co-director), *Switch: The Village* (collective member, QTBIPOC street performance, Buddies in Bad Times 2018 & 2019), *Feminist Fuck It Festival* (multidisciplinary festival, co-creator and co-producer), *Tokens* (performer, web series). Upcoming projects: *Switching Queen(s)* (devised street performance), *Last Dance* (a web series). Sedina is also a Principal with BIPOC Executive Search, working on equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives. In 2021, Sedina joined the Nightwood Theatre team as Artist/Activist in Residence.*

**This position is made possible through the Canada Council for the Arts*



Paul Moody - Music Director

Paul (he/him) is thrilled to be joining Nightwood Theatre as music director for his sixth Lawyer Show! Since last year, he has worked as music director for *One Song Glory* (Music Stage Company), completed a Masters from University of Toronto and

he has increased his teaching at Ryerson University. Highlights from “the before times” include *We Will Rock You* (Fallsview Casino), *West Side Story* (World Tour) and seasons at the Shaw Festival and Charlottetown Festival. In addition to being newly minted a master in music education from U of T, he has a degree in classical piano performance from McGill University and additional Jazz studies from Humber College. For more information, please visit www.paulmoodymusic.com.



Emily Porter - Sound Designer/Engineer

Emily is a theatrical sound designer, audio system designer & teacher; she is currently pursuing an MSc in Acoustics. Recent theatrical designs include: *Billy Elliot*, *Beauty & The Beast* (Globe Theatre); *SPAMALOT* (Stratford Festival); *Obeah Opera* (Luminato/ Asha Productions); *Titanic The*

Musical, *Prom Queen* (Grand Theatre); *Cinderella*, *Strike! The Musical*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Shrek The Musical* (Rainbow Stage); *Ring of Fire* (Thousand Island Playhouse); *Mamma Mia!*, *Mary Poppins*, *Into the Woods* (Neptune Theatre); *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *The Jazz Singer*, *Kinderstransport*, *Sister Rosensweig* (HGJT); *Jacob Two Two* (Young People's Theatre); *Apocalypsis* (Associate SD, Luminato); *On the Rocks*, *The Way Back to Thursday* (TPM); *The Arsonists* (Canadian Stage); *Bloodless* (Theatre20); *The Admirable Crichton* (Shaw Festival); *Love Form Afar* (COC).

Hazel Moore - Production Facilitator

Hazel Moore is not a lawyer but does have the entirety of *Legally Blonde: The Musical* memorized.

She is a recent graduate of the Humber College's Theatre Production Program where she discovered making lists, spreadsheets and schedules brought her great joy. She was a member of Nightwood's 2020-21 Young Innovators Program and has been greatly inspired by the Nightwood team's resilience during this trying year.



This is her first time working with the Lawyer Show. As a lover of science fiction and musical theatre, she could not be happier to be working on this project.



Michelle Tracey - Visual Design

Michelle Tracey is a designer based in Toronto, Ontario. Her work spans scenic, costume, lighting and projection design within the fields of theatre, opera, dance, film, live events & installation art. Michelle earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts from

York University in theatre design and production and she is a graduate of the Soulepper Academy under the mentorship of Lorenzo Savoini where she specialized in dramaturgical scenography. Michelle is also a trained wardrobe technician and has constructed costumes for numerous professional productions.

Michelle's design experience has led her to several outdoor and site-specific projects, including the world premiere of *Maada'ookii Songlines* with Luminato Festival, *M'dea Undone* at the Evergreen Brickworks with Tapestry Opera, multiple seasons with Canadian Stage's Shakespeare in High Park, two productions of Convergence Theatre's *The Unending*, and a performance residency at the Art Gallery of Ontario with Soulepper Theatre.

Michelle is a founding member of Triga Creative, a collective of designers committed to intergenerational artistic exchange and the development of new sustainable working models. Michelle has designed for such companies as the Stratford Festival, Soulepper Theatre, Canadian Stage, Zou Theatre, Theatre Smith-Gilmour, Tarragon Theatre, U of T Opera, the red light district, Luminato Festival, Tapestry Opera, Soundstreams and Convergence Theatre.

Throughout the pandemic Michelle has been exploring scenography for broadcasted theatre performance. She designed visuals for Nightwood's online Groundswell Festival and Bard on the Beach's *RAC(E)ING OTHELLO*. She has also been designing and sewing facemasks and has made over 700 masks thus far.



Jake Schindler - Copyist

Jake Schindler is a Toronto-based musician, educator, and composer who has a specific interest in creating and performing new Canadian musical theatre.

Originally from London, Ontario, a music education graduate from Western University, Jake currently works as a music director, music teacher, orchestrator, and audio

engineer for various organizations around Toronto. As a composer, his first full length musical, *Where Do We Begin?* premiered in August 2019 to a sold-out run. His newest work, *Ursa: A Folk Musical* was part of the Watershed Festival's New Works Showcase (Queen's University) in May 2021. During the pandemic, Jake has been the audio editor and engineer for more than 20 musicals and virtual-projects, helping everyone from young students to professional actors make virtual theatre.



Ashley Botting - Book and Lyrics

Ashley Botting is an actor, writer, improviser, singer, and TV/Radio contributor. Ashley is an alumna of The Second City where she wrote and performed in four Mainstage revues. *Ashley With a "Y"* - an improvised one-woman musical cabaret, was NOW Magazine's

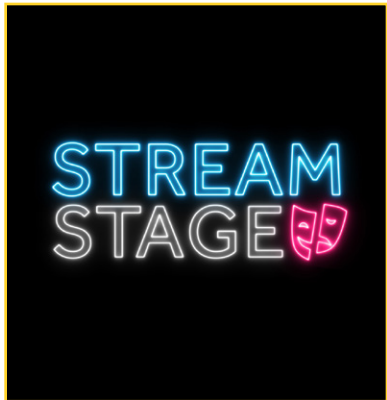
#1 Toronto Comedy Show, and *The Stars of Mars* was awarded "Best New Musical" by The Playwrights Guild of Canada. She's a panelist and writer on CBC Radio's *Because News*, and has written episodes for the Emmy-winning *Odd Squad*, Nickelodeon's *Zoofari*, and Apple TV's *The Snoopy Show*. Selected acting credits are TV: *Odd Squad*, *What We Do In The Shadows*, *Schitt's Creek*. Animation: *The Ridonculous Race*, *Arthur*, *Beywheelz*, *Z-Squad*. Theatre: *Undiscovered Sonnets* (Stratford Festival) *The Second City Guide to the Symphony* (The Kennedy Center, Roy Thomson Hall), *Beautiful Man* (Factory Theatre), *She The People* (The Second City), *One Night Only* (Kliffert Entertainment). She's a Canadian Comedy Award winner, and a Dora Award nominee.



Daniel Abrahamson - Music and Lyrics

Daniel Abrahamson is an award winning composer and lyricist in Toronto, ON. He composed the scores for *Funny Business* (Best of Fringe, published by Samuel French), *Act Now* (Best of Fringe), and *Hugh and I* (Patron's Pick). He's the 2019 recipient of the Tom Hendry Award for Best

Musical in Development from the Playwrights Guild of Canada for *The Stars of Mars*, which premiered at Sheridan College February 2020. In May 2020 his new musical *Super School!* premiered at Bravo Academy, and was an O'Neill Festival Semifinalist in NYC, where Daniel is a second year member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and sold out a concert of his songs at 54 Below in March 2019 and Birdland Theatre in December 2019.



Stream Stage

Stream Stage is Daniel Abrahamson and Kayla James, a young married couple in Toronto, ON with over a decade of experience in producing live theatre including musical direction, direction, and choreography. They've added video/audio engineering, internet broadcasting, multi camera concerts to their arsenal to help theatres bring high quality live streaming to their audiences.

Please visit streamstageproductions.com to learn more, including our newest offering of 3D virtual meetings and conferences.



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Nightwood has collaborated with jeweller and multi-disciplinary artist Miranda Britton to create a collection of hand-made necklaces inspired by Nightwood's seven core values: **Feminism, Empowerment, Opportunity, Provocation, Inclusivity, Integrity, and Respect.**

You can support feminist art and artists by gifting yourself or someone you love with a custom-made piece that will be treasured for years to come — something to represent live art, and specifically what Nightwood has done for Canadian theatre, encapsulated in a cherished object.

Each stunning piece is handcrafted from sterling silver with an oxidized and brushed finish and is custom made to order at the artist's studio in Muskoka, Ontario. Using only traditional hand fabrication tools, Miranda's artisanship imbues each and every piece with its own unique story. Click [here](#) to learn more about Miranda Britton's process.

Each piece includes a \$150 charitable tax receipt for the donation portion, with the remaining portion of the fee going directly to the artist.

With your purchase of a necklace, we invite you to also honour a woman of your choice through the **10,000 Women Fund**, which aims to celebrate the strength and brilliance of women everywhere.

For more information and to place your order, visit

<https://www.nightwoodtheatre.net/miranda-brittons-nightwood-collection/>



Join the Cast of The 13th Annual Lawyer Show! _



The cast of the 2018 Lawyer Show, The Drowsy Chaperone. Photo by John Lauener.

"I was thrilled to be involved in the production. I learned a great deal... and was very proud of the lawyers. Doesn't get better."

- **The Honourable Justice Gloria Epstein**, *Lawyer Show* cameo

"For a few months each year the women at Nightwood take a group of hard-working, analytic, often stressed-out lawyers who have careers that dictate they live most waking hours in their heads, and they teach us to live in our hearts. For a few months each year they encourage us not to future think, to drop the clever, and to live in the moment. This is not an easy feat; we can be stubborn, we are, after all, lawyers.

These few months in turn, I believe, make us better people, and even better lawyers. Nightwood provides for us a safe place to be brave, and to risk take. In these few months with Nightwood, we remember to be creative and connected and we get to experience a little bit of extraordinary in our ordinary. I have left the experience with a new passion for my life in general and inspired to make other positive choices. In short, for a few months each year, Nightwood gives us a little magic."

- **Christine Marchetti**, *cast member*

"It never ceases to amaze me how you all take a group of non-professionals and achieve such great outcomes." - **John Sorensen**, *band member*

Break out from behind the Bar!

Join us onstage in the 13th annual Lawyer Show in June 2022! Contact naz@nightwoodtheatre.net to join our mailing list for more details.

Coming up at Nightwood Theatre _

Embodying Power and Place

Witness *Embodying Power and Place*, on now until July 1st as part of Talking Stick Festival's Summer Sojourn! In 2019, the federal commission on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls released their final report, [Reclaiming Power and Place](#). In 2020 over



EMBODYING POWER & PLACE

a dozen artists from a wide range of disciplines were commissioned by New Harlem Productions to read and respond to specific chapters of the report. This digital iteration of *Embodying Power and Place*, co-produced by Nightwood Theatre and Native Earth Performing Arts, offers twelve audio-visual works that seek to honour the missing and murdered Indigenous cisgender and trans women, girls, and Two-Spirit people, and strives to create a sacred space in which to reflect, heal, and find renewed hope. Watch each of the moving pieces for free at embodyingpowerandplace.com.

2021 Groundswell Festival

Nightwood's annual Groundswell festival goes digital once again in Fall 2021, offering an invitation inside the creative process with readings of brand new works from our Write From The Hip playwright's unit.

The Feminist Unconference

Theatre practitioners are invited to listen, lead and dive deep at this third annual hierarchy-smashing, participant-driven unconference.

For more information on upcoming productions and to join Nightwood's biweekly Social Distance Care Package mailing list, visit nightwoodtheatre.net.