NIKKI SHAFFEEULLAH’S

A POEM FOR RABIA

A Tarragon Theatre production in association with Nightwood Theatre and Undercurrent Creations.

CO-DIRECTED BY CLARE PREUSS AND DONNA-MICHELLE ST. BERNARD

TARRAGON THEATRE
OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 12, 2023
A Poem for Rabia is A Tarragon Theatre production in association with Nightwood Theatre and Undercurrent Creations.

Nightwood Theatre

As Canada’s preeminent feminist theatre, Nightwood cultivates, creates, and produces extraordinary theatre by women and gender-expansive artists, liberating futures, one room at a time. Founded in 1979, Nightwood Theatre has created and produced award winning plays, which have won Dora Mavor Moore, Chalmers, Trillium and Governors General’s Awards.

Undercurrent Creations is a small arts organization that dreams of a big world with joy, possibility, and freedom for everyone. Here in the not-too-distant present, we work toward that end through the creation of new theatrical work, films, and changemaking initiatives. We see artistic creation as a means of fostering community dialogue and transformation at every opportunity – in creation, in sharing with audiences, and beyond. We believe that artistic processes that enable us to better understand ourselves, our communities, our ancestral lives, and our possible futures, is a kind of social justice work: healing and action in one, that moves us all closer to liberation. undercurrentcreations.ca.
Cast

Nikki Shaffeeullah
Zahra

Virgilia Griffith
Sheree/Martha

Michelle Mohammed
Betty/Anu

Adele Noronha
Rabia

Jay Northcott
Jem/Tom

Anand Rajaram
Farooq/Ramesh
Creative team

Nikki Shaffeeullah
Playwright

Donna-Michelle St. Bernard
Co-Director and Dramaturge

Clare Preuss
Co-Director

Becky Ablack
Assistant Director

Sonja Rainey
Set Designer

Jawon Kang
Costume Designer

Echo Zhou 周芷會
Lighting Designer

David Mesiha
Composer and Sound Designer

Amani Dorn, Gurkiran Kaur, Andrew Prashad
Dialect Coaches

Jack Rennie
Fight Director

Sandi Becker
Stage Manager

Kayleigh Mundy
Apprentice Stage Manager

Intisar Awisse & Sasha Tate-Howarth
Additional Dramaturgy

Rachel Penny
Consulting Creative Producer
Tarragon Theatre, Nightwood Theatre and Undercurrent Creations acknowledge that we all are a part of a larger ecosystem within our community, Tkaronto, where our theatre lives and operates – and that we also commit ourselves and in turn energize our audiences to continually reflect on and respond to our relationship to the land around us. This country has been cared for by generations of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nations, and the land on which Tarragon rests and is able to share this story has been cherished and protected by, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Toronto is a word that originates from the Mohawk word “Tkaronto,” meaning “the place in the water where the trees are standing,” which is said to refer to the wooden stakes that were used as fishing weirs in the narrows of local river systems by the Haudenosaunee and Wendat. The paths we still walk today, from Davenport to Dupont, are built on the portage trails first established and walked by Indigenous peoples. It is in the spirit of being on the portage route that we invoke our local Indigenous oral history – though covered up by the industrial progress of Toronto – and maintain that those stories are not lost.

Tarragon is committed to engaging with these communities in meaningful ways that open dialogue, while acknowledging our own history. We look towards a recognition of our shared humanity to create deeper community connection and accountability. Tarragon’s recognition of the contributions and the historic significance of Indigenous peoples to this land is directly connected to our promise to meet the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation. Making our commitment real in our work and through our community building. Please do check out the QR codes in the lobby to find out how you can extend your support.
Thank you for continuing an exciting journey with Tarragon this season!

We hope you will not only be moved this year by the scope of powerful Canadian storytellers and their world premiere productions, but that you will also encourage those around you to be swept up by the impact of theatre in their lives. Live theatre uniquely lends a vision of the here and now, while cherishing the past and looking forward into the future.

We are thrilled to share our next show with you, *A Poem for Rabia* by the incredible Nikki Shaffeeullah and co-directed by Canadian theatre leaders Donna-Michelle St. Bernard and Clare Preuss. Over ten years of development, the epic scope of Nikki’s cross-generational new play is as monumental as the women who paved the way for justice and independence for generations after. Though the singular and collective journeys of these people are confronted with many challenges, Nikki asks us to consider lineage and bloodlines as the force that can empower us today. It is a feast for the ancestors and our world alike – together in celebration of our resilience.

We are thankful to our collaborators Nightwood Theatre and Undercurrent Creations for working with us to finally give this piece its long-awaited premiere.

Thank you again for being with us every step of the way and beyond. There is lots more to come!

Bon spectacle!

Mike Payette and Andrea Vagianos
Artistic Director & Managing Director
Many years ago, a mentor encouraged me to make a play about Guyana. I tried, and I couldn’t. A place is a setting, not a story, I thought. And after all, I am from many places – where I was born (Toronto), where my parents and their parents and their parents and their parents were born (Guyana), and where most of my ancestors are from (India).

A few years later, I participated in an Arrivals Legacy Project workshop, in which artists explore the stories of one’s own ancestors. This set me on a path I have been on and off of for the past decade, a path that has taken many forms and has included archival research, conversations with family, workshops with community, trips to motherlands, and life-affirming explorations with fellow artists.

Throughout all of this, I was thinking about the symbiotic relationship between how we connect with ancestors, and how we build a better future. I thought about how some (all?) impossible-seeming goals have actually been done before, and about how writing can facilitate time travel. I made art in prisons and parks, and dreamed with friends about what a future without punishment could look like. I read a reflection by author Suzette Mayr where she says: “I tell you this story as truth about my ancestor even though it is 100 percent fiction.” I thought about how history repeats itself. I thought about how a series of places, when collaged together, can start to tell a story.

Like a person, a play is born from the collaboration of many people across time, space, and generations. I am grateful for the very many who have helped nurture A Poem for Rabia into existence.

Nikki Shaffeeullah
“All good things must begin.” - Octavia Butler

As we enter into Nikki’s story we are reminded that, in our work and in our world, we are at various stages of various processes. We are witness to some change in its seed state and other changes coming to fruition.

The layering of realities in Nikki’s nuanced play brings us to vital questions as artists and community members. How can we find value and nourishment in the evolution of those who have come before us while also challenging the present and envisioning ever growing possibilities? Can we inherit the fruits of our ancestors' struggles without the trauma? What is the point of hoping beyond what currently seems possible?

This play lets us see our present as a seed for the future, so that we will contemplate what we cultivate. Good luck with that. We believe in you – in all of us.

Clare, DM & Becky

**Special thanks from Undercurrent Creations:**
Arrivals Legacy Project, Miriam Fernandes, Ravi Jain, Cristine Khan, Adam Harris Levine, Amina Mohamed, Michelle Mohammed, Betty Moulton, Jackie Omstead, Visali Rajaram, Aaron Ramharak & AceEats TO, Diane Roberts, Afzal Shaffeeullah, Alisha Shaffeeullah, Jasmine Shaffeeullah, Jenny Shaffeeullah, Khalil Shaffeeullah, Sarah Garton Stanley, Sasha Tate-Howarth, Why Not Theatre, Nesha Williams, Michelle Yagi.
Many Waters
Lobby art exhibit

Presented by Undercurrent Creations
In partnership with The AMY Project & SASOD Guyana.

The lobby exhibit features original work created through Undercurrent Creations’ Many Waters community arts program, including visual art, photography, and poetry by queer/trans Guyanese artists from the Toronto diaspora and in Guyana.

Many Waters team:
Diaspora Artists (Toronto): Guy Anabella, Shaharah Gaznabbi, Daniel Lyght, Chantele Sitaram, Bethany Sukhnanan
Featured Artist (Guyana): Christina Izbaşa
Program Coordinator: Morgan Davis
Writing & Theatre Facilitator: Michelle Rambharose
Photography Facilitator: Roya DelSol
Producers: Daniel Carter & Nikki Shaffeeullah
Program Concept & Curation: Nikki Shaffeeullah
Guest Curator (Guyana): Joel Earl Simpson
Administration: Sasha Tate-Howarth
Special thanks to: Heather Caplap

Many Waters is made possible with funding from the Toronto Arts Council.

To learn more about SASOD Guyana and to support their important LGBTQ+ human rights work, visit @SASODGuyana on social media or at sasod.org.gy.

For more information, please visit undercurrentcreations.ca/manywaters.
NIKKI SHAFFEEULLAH  
Playwright and Actor, Zahra

For Tarragon: Half Life.

Selected Theatre Credits: TomorrowLove (Why Not Theatre/TMU); Calpurnia (RMTC/NAC); Lilies (lemonTree Creations/Buddies in Bad Times Theatre/Why Not Theatre); The Shell (UTSC); Lion Woman, Almeida The Glorious (The AMY Project/Summerworks); un(earthed), Escape Velocity (Undercurrent Theatre).

Selected Film and Television: The Lower Plateau, Fly Away With Me, Purgatory (forthcoming).

Selected Awards: Patrick Connor Award; Canadian Association for Theatre Research Award for Intercultural Theatre, Toronto Arts Foundation’s Arts for Youth Award (for The AMY Project). Nominated for: Pauline McGibbon Award, OAF Arts Educator Award, PGC Emerging Playwright Award, Nancy Dean Playwriting Award.

Other: Nikki is an artist, facilitator, researcher, and community worker. Her work has included serving as Artistic Director of The AMY Project; Editor-in-Chief of alt.theatre: cultural diversity and the stage; and Assistant Artistic Director of Jumblies Theatre. With the National Arts Centre - English Theatre, she conceived, curated and produced Stages of Transformation, a multi-year research and creative project exploring how theatre intersects with abolition movements and transformative justice. She is a founding member of Confluence Arts Collective, and is a Fellow of the Salzburg Global Forum for Cultural Innovators.
VIRGILIA GRIFFITH
Sheree/Martha

For Tarragon: Harlem Duet, Guarded Girls.

Selected Theatre Credits: Our Place (Cahoots Theatre/Theatre Passe Muraille), Queen Goneril/King Lear (Soulpepper Theatre Company), Serving Elizabeth (Stratford Festival), 21 Black Futures (Obsidian Theatre Company/CBC Gem), Iphigenia and the Furies (on Taurian Land) (Saga Collectif), Contractions (Studio 180), Betrayal (Soulpepper Theatre), Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom (Soulpepper Theatre), The Wedding Party (Crow's Theatre), Other Side of the Game (Cahoots/ Obsidian Theatre), Da Kink In My Hair (Theatre Calgary/ NAC), Up The Garden Path (Obsidian Theatre Company).

Selected Film and Television Credits: Murdoch Mysteries, Frankie Drake Mysteries, Nurses and The Expanse.

Awards: Winner of the Dora Mavor Moore award for Outstanding Performance for Harlem Duet written by Djanet Sears. Winner of the Meta Emerging Artist Award for Gas Girls written by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard. She was also a Dora Mavor Moore nominee for Outstanding Female in an Independent Division for her performance of Honesty directed by Jordan Tannahill and a Dora nomination for Iphigenia and the Furies (On Taurian Land) (Saga Collectif) written by Jeff Ho and Our Place (Cahoots/ Theatre Passe Muraille) written by Kanika Ambrose. She was also a recipient of the Jon Kaplan Legacy Award for Canadian Theatre Performer in 2021.
MICHELLE MOHAMMED
Betty/Anu

For Tarragon: *The Hooves Belonged to the Deer* (Assistant Director).

**Selected Theatre Credits:**
**Acting:** Des in *Yerma* (Coal Mine Theatre), Olga in *Orphans for the Czar* (Crow’s Theatre), Villager in *Chitra* (Shaw Festival), Puck in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Shakespeare BASH’d), Devisor/Creator in *Mahabharata* (Workshops) (Why Not Theatre/Shaw Festival).

**Directing/dramaturgy:** *Twice Blessed* (Workshop) (fu-GEN Theatre) by Marissa Orjalo, *The Trick to Walking Backwards* (STRATFEST@Home) by Aria Sharma, Apprentice Assistant Director to Peter Hinton in *Oh What a Lovely War* (Shaw Festival), Assistant Director to Danielle Wilson in *Top Girls* (Brock University).

**Selected Film and Television Credits:** *Murdoch Mysteries* (CBC), *Drive* (Live Portrait), *Ruby and the Well* (Shaftesbury), *The Handmaid’s Tale* (Gilead 3 Prod).
ADELE NORONHA
Rabia

For Tarragon: Debut.

Selected Theatre Credits: Happy Place, Brothel #9 (Touchstone Theatre), The Orchard (Arts Club), Jabber (MTYP), Inside The Seed (Upintheair Theatre), Much Ado About Nothing (Classic Chic Productions), Walt Whitman’s Secret (frank theatre) and multiple seasons at Bard on the Beach.

Awards: Jessie Richardson Best Actress in Leading Role for Brothel #9.
JAY NORTHCOTT  
Jem/Tom  

For Tarragon: Debut  

Selected Theatre Credits:  
Director: King Lear (Stratford Festival, Assistant Director), Cottagers and Indians (Watermark Theatre, PEI), Concord Floral (Randolph College), Blacktop Sky (Obsidian Theatre); Passover (Obsidian Theatre, Assistant Director).  
Actor: Parasite (Theatre Outré), Premium Content (Major Matt Mason, High Performance Rodeo).  

Film/TV: Contestant on Big Brother Canada 10.  

Upcoming: Adventures of Young Turtle (Persephone Theatre/Expanse Festival), Seven Methods of Killing Kylie Jenner (Obsidian Theatre).  

Awards: 21 Black Futures Canadian Screen Awards.  
2022 BEST WEB PROGRAM OR SERIES, FICTION.
ANAND RAJARAM
Farooq/Ramesh

For Tarragon: Buffoon, Mustard, Much Ado About Nothing.

Selected Theatre Credits: improviser, actor, playwright, director, musician & puppeteer working with VideoCabaret, CORPUS, Second City, Stratford Festival, Canadian Stage, Grand Theatre, Thousand Island Playhouse, Odyssey Mask Theatre, Puppetmongers & others.

As playwright/director: Rohinton Mistry’s The Scream, Hys Unauthorized Lyfe & Tymes, Communist Til Payday, Cowboys & Indians.

Select Film & TV: Miss Sloane, Save Me, Harriet the Spy, Men With Brooms (tv series), Suits, Working The Engels, The Jon Dore Show, Majority Rules, You Are Here, Suck, Silent But Deadly, Old Stock, Across The River To Motor City, Vikram Dasgupta’s award-winning Calcutta Taxi, Mira Nair’s My Own Country, Deepa Mehta’s Beeba Boys, Ken Finkelman’s God & Country.


Other: He teaches shadow puppetry and is artistic director of DiaspoRadicals theatre & @N@f@N@.
DONNA-MICHELLE ST. BERNARD
Co-Director and Dramaturge

For Tarragon: Our Fathers, Lovers, Sons and Little Brothers (director).

Selected Theatre Credits:
Director: The F Word (Downstage Theatre).

Selected Film and Television Credits: Baroness von Sketch (story editor), 21 Black Futures (writer).

Upcoming: Three Fingers Back (Tarragon), Diggers (Prairie Theatre Exchange, Black Theatre Workshop).

Awards: Dora Award for Original Play (Gas Girl), CATR Patrick O’Neill Award (Indian Act), Herman Voaden Playwriting Award, Enbridge PlayRites Award, Three-time finalist for the Governor General Literary Award, nominated for the META, SATA, Siminovitch Prize.
CLARE PREUSS
Co-Director

For Tarragon: Infinity (Assistant Director).

Selected Theatre Directing Credits: Climate Shorts: 14 Short Plays About the Climate Crisis (Downstage, World Stage Design, University of Calgary), She Spreads (Dead Roads Collective), A Dinner Party, Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet), Myth of the Ostrich (Guild Theatre Whitehorse), Real Job (Cardiac Theatre, Downstage, Alberta Queer Calendar Project), Men Express Their Feelings (Downstage, Hit & Myth Productions), Bystander (Gwaandak Theatre), White Girls in Moccasins (Rhubarb Festival), CAKE (New Harlem Productions, Theatre Passe Muraille), Tartan Lady, Tuesdays & Sundays (Sundown Theatre), L’armoire des ombres (Theatre Monnot Beirut), Dead Roads (Why Not Theatre’s Riser Project), Salome’s Clothes (SummerWorks), Give It Up (New Harlem Productions, SpringWorks), CAKE (New Harlem Productions, MayWorks, Bayimba Festival for the Arts Uganda).

Selected Film Acting Credits: Mean Girls (Paramount), The Prince and Me (Paramount), Loser (Sony), Urban Legend Final Cut (Phoenix).

Upcoming Directing Projects: All Good Things Must Begin (Downstage, Immigrant Council for Arts Innovation, Climate Change Theatre Action), Beautiful Man (Downstage, Handsome Alice Theatre, Verb Theatre), Magnetic Bodies (Downstage, University of Calgary). Clare is in post production for Hunt/Peck - her first short film directing project - written and co-produced by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard.

Awards: Clare is a recipient of the Houselighters of the Citadel Theatre Award and has been nominated for the Pauline McGibbon Award, John Hirsch Director Prize, John Hirsch Director Award and twice for the Gina Wilkinson Award.

Other: Deep appreciation to Donna-Michelle and Nikki for this co-directing opportunity and to the whole team for their generous approach. Thanks always to Spencer for his playful and iridescent love. Clare is the current Artistic Director at Downstage on Treaty 7 Territory.
BECKY ABLACK
Assistant Director

For Tarragon: Debut.

Selected Theatre Credits: *Do You Think You’re Better Than Me?* (Co-Creator, Co-Director, Performer; Small Friend Tall Friend/Toronto Fringe Festival/Hamilton Fringe Festival).

Selected Film and Television Credits: Actor: *Ginny & Georgia* (Netflix), *Good Karma Hospital* (Disney+/Tiger Aspect Productions), *Kim’s Convenience* (CBC).
SONJA RAINEY
Set Designer

For Tarragon: Debut.

Selected Theatre Credits: Sweat, This is the Point, What Dream it Was, A Fool’s Life.

Selected Film and Television Credits: Production Designer: Dada, Art direction: Ugly Chickens, The Love Issue, Gay Mean Girls series, Prop Master: Hell of a Summer (TIFF), Darkside of the 2000s series, Young Arsonists (TIFF).

Upcoming: Production design for: Purgatory - short film by Nikki Shaffeeullah and Dada - feature film directed by Aaron Poole.

Other: I’m honoured & delighted to debuting work at Tarragon with the incredible team of A Poem for Rabia.
JAWON KANG
Costume Designer

For Tarragon: Redbone Coonhound (Set design).

Selected Credits: Set design for Mizushobai (Tableau D’Hôte Theatre); set and costume design for CRAVING (Curveball Theatre); costume design for Armadillos (Factory Theatre); set design for Fairview (Canadian Stage); design assistance for Of The Sea (Tapestry Opera and Obsidian Theatre); design assistance for Choir Boy (Canadian Stage); set designs for Mary Stuart, Ubu Roi and Fefu and her friends (Directors’ Workshop Project/ Stratford Festival); associate set design for Death and the King’s Horseman (Stratford Festival); costume design for Venus (NTS); costume design for Mother and Child and 3..2...1 (NTS); design assistance for 21 Black Futures (Obsidian Theatre and CBC).

Upcoming: Set design for Rocking Horse Winner (Original design: Camellia Koo, Tapestry Opera); Set design for This is how we got here (Persephone Theatre); set design for Come Home: The Legend of Daddy Hall (Tarragon Theatre).

Awards: 2022 Tyrone Guthrie Award for theatre design study. 2023 Dora Mavor Moore Awards - Nominated for outstanding scenic design and projection design with Frank Donato and Dezmond Arnkvarn (Redbone Coonhound, Tarragon Theatre).

Other: Get well soon bro!
ECHO ZHOU 周芷會

Lighting Designer

For Tarragon: My Sister’s Rage, Benevolence (Greenhouse Festival), Mr. Shi and His Lover.

Selected Theatre Credits: Dragon’s Tale (Tapestry Opera); The Chinese Lady (Studio 180); Benevolence (Benevolence Collective); Between a Wok and a Hotpot (Cahoots Theatre); The Year of the Cello (Theatre Passe Muraille); HMS Pinafore (Vancouver Opera); Every Brilliant Thing (Thousand Island Playhouse); White Girls in Moccasins (Manidoons Collective); Mr. Shi and His Lover, I Swallowed Moon Made of Iron (Music Picnic).

Upcoming: Rocking Horse Winner (Tapestry Opera).

Awards: The Dora Mavor Moore Award for the Outstanding Scenic Design. The Harold Award.

Other: Echo is an award-winning, proud Chinese immigrant, Tkaronto-based scenographer working in live performance. In her professional career, she is focused on IBPOC and queer storytelling, and one of Echo’s passions is to make live performances as accessible as possible. She has designed for the National Arts Centre, Tarragon Theatre, Studio 180, Buddies in the Bad Times, Theatre Passe Muraille, Thousand Island Playhouse, Frog in Hand, The Theatre Centre, SummerWorks Festival, The Next Stage Festival, etc. Her design works have been presented in Japan and China as well. Echo is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.

www.echozhoudesign.com For Grandpa. 献给最親愛的嗲嗲.
DAVID MESIHA
Composer and Sound Designer

For Tarragon: Debut.

Selected Theatre Credits: 15 Dogs (Crow’s Theatre), Same Difference (Theatre Conspiracy), asses.masses (with Milton Lim, Patrick Blenkarn and Laurel Green), You Should Have Stayed Home (live + VR performance - Spiderwebshow), Foreign Radical (Theatre Conspiracy).


Awards: Winner: Jessie Richardson Award, Outstanding music composition and sound design for The Busy World is Hushed by Pi Theatre. Winner: Jessie Richardson Award, Innovation for Foreign Radical by Theatre Conspiracy and Project (X) by Leaky Heaven. Nominee: Jessie Richardson Award, Outstanding music composition and sound design, The Humans by Arts Club Theatre. Nominee: Dora Mavor award for Outstanding Music Composition and co-Sound Design for Oraltorio by IFT Theatre.
SANDI BECKER  
Stage Manager  

For Tarragon: Our Fathers, Sons, Lovers and Little Brothers.  

Selected Credits: The Waltz (Factory Theatre), Maggie (Charlottetown Festival), Requiem for a Gumshoe, Two Weird Tales, Space Opera Zero, The Harrowing of Brimstone McReedy (Eldritch Theatre), Simone Half and Half (Black Theatre Workshop), This London Life, The Hobbit, Miracle on 34th Street, Dreamgirls (Grand Theatre), Every Brilliant Thing (Festival Players), The Black Drum (Deaf Culture Centre/Soulpepper), Romeo and Juliet/Midsummer Nights Dream, King Lear/Twelfth Night (Canadian Stage), Silence (Grand Theatre/NAC), seven seasons with Driftwood Theatre Group.  

Upcoming: Macbeth: A Tale Told By an Idiot (Eldritch Theatre).
KAYLEIGH MUNDY
Apprentice Stage Manager

Tarragon: Debut.

Selected Credits:
Stage Manager for An Incomplete List: Of the Things I’m Going to Miss When the World is No Longer (2023 Toronto Fringe), and In Studio (Sheridan College). Production Assistant for Lighting/Lighting Board Op for otihew (Shakespeare In Action), Lighting Board Op for Urinetown (Sheridan College).

Upcoming: Apprentice Stage Manager for 3 Fingers Back (Tarragon Theatre).
Nightwood Theatre Staff

Andrea Donaldson
Artistic Director

Naz Afsahi
Managing Director

Charlene Wolf
Head of Partnerships & Giving

Ashley Elliott
Administrator – Operations & Partnerships

Jade Silman
Artistic Associate & Head of Communications

Tiffany Lam
Metcalf Intern Producer*

Angela Sun
Digital Content Manager

Amanda Lin
Program Director (Rising Moon & Nightwood Innovators)

Keshia Palm
Interim Write From The Hip Program Director

Faith McQueen & Andrea Villegas
Website Designers

Cynthia Grant, Kim Renders, Mary Vingoe, Maureen White
Founding Members

Chris Mustard
Financial Advisor, Young & Associates

*Made possible through the Metcalf Foundation
Up next at Nightwood

Universal Child Care

Created by Quote Unquote Collective commissioned by BroadStage, Santa Monica, in association with Nightwood Theatre, Why Not Theatre and The National Art Centre’s National Creation Fund, presented by Canadian Stage.

Playing February 13-25, 2024 at the Berkeley Street Theatre.

Mad Madge

by Rose Napoli

A Nightwood Theatre production in association with VideoCabaret.

Playing April 9-21, 2024 at The Theatre Centre.
Nightwood Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages, under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, professional artists who are members of the Canadian Actor’s Equity Association. It is a member of the Toronto Alliance for Performing Arts (TAPA) and Theatre Ontario. Registered Charitable Number: 123709339 RR0001

Thank you Nightwood Donors

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Donations received since July 1, 2022. Last updated, October 2023. If your name has been misspelled or omitted, please accept our sincere apologies, and don’t hesitate to reach out to Charlene Wolf, Head of Partnerships and Giving, at charlene@nightwoodtheatre.net.
# Tarragon Theatre Staff

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike Payette</td>
<td>Artistic Director</td>
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<td>Jeff Ho</td>
<td>Associate Artistic Director</td>
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<td>Gerry Egan</td>
<td>Director of Production</td>
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<td>Leslie Hernandez</td>
<td>Technical Director</td>
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<td>Carley Melvin</td>
<td>Assistant Technical Director</td>
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<td>Karen Elizabeth</td>
<td>Mainspace Technician</td>
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<td>David Mallette</td>
<td>Extraspace Technician</td>
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<td>Andrew Chute</td>
<td>Head Carpenter</td>
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<td>Ashley MacDonald</td>
<td>Head of Props</td>
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<td>Head of Wardrobe</td>
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<td>Head Scenic Painter</td>
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<td>Emma Walker</td>
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<td>Danielle Morgan</td>
<td>Publicist</td>
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<td>Andrea Vagianos</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courtney Fiddis</td>
<td>Director of Development</td>
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<td>Cameron Johnston</td>
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<td>Natasha Parsons</td>
<td>Director of Patron Services</td>
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<td>Heather Caplap</td>
<td>Education and Community Engagement Manager</td>
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<td>Justin Miller</td>
<td>Artistic Producer &amp; Greenhouse Festival Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monica Bradford-Lea</td>
<td>Communications and Development Assistant</td>
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<td>Micaela Molina Morales</td>
<td>Manager of Patron Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anita Soutendam</td>
<td>Assistant Manager of Patron Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleigh Adams, Dhanish Kumar Chinniah, Jonnie Lombard, Jackson Nair, Alyssa Obrigewitsch, Amin Shirazi</td>
<td>Patron Services Representatives</td>
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Withrow Park

World premiere
By Morris Panych
Directed by Jackie Maxwell

Three people gaze out their living room window as the days pass. Across the street in Withrow Park life goes on – or is it a dream?

November 7 – December 3, 2023 at Tarragon Theatre.
Greenhouse Festival

A exciting festival showcasing brand new works, micro-performances and special presentations throughout Tarragon Theatre.

Artists include: Graham Isador, Guilty by Association, Marium Masood, Shira Leuchter, Animacy Theatre Collective, Pickles Theatre Co., Jesse Wabegijig, Tan Vu, Alex Cameron, and Art Is Hard.

January 11-13, and January 18-20, 2024.
Season sponsor 2023/24

BMO

Government and program support

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TD READY COMMITMENT

The Kingfisher Foundation

wuchien michael than foundation
Great theatre lives here.

BMO is pleased to support the Tarragon Theatre and the artists that are captivating audiences with exciting, innovative, and entertaining productions.

We are proud to be the 2023/24 Season Sponsor.
During these extraordinary times, The Slaight Family Foundation Theatre Initiative has helped Tarragon invite artists and audiences back to the creation and experience of live performance.

Over two years this initiative is supporting commissions, Tarragon’s Indigenous Dramaturgy Circle, artistic process, production and marketing.

Tarragon is thankful for this transformational gift from The Slaight Family Foundation.
Adam Bryk (President)
Brendan Dellandrea (Treasurer)
Dahabo Ahmed-Omer
Anne Bermonte
Naomi Brown
James Buchanan
Jenny Gumbs
Naguib Keval
Caroline O'Brien
Joan Pierre
Katherine Pollock
Laurence Siegel
Elaine Stavro
Heather Yamoah
Thank you to our supportive donors

Foundation support

The Slaight Family Foundation
The Youssef - Warren Foundation
The Steve and Sally Stavro Family Foundation
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The Balfour Bowen Family Foundation
The Graham Family Fund

Tarragon is generously supported by the Toronto Arts Foundation Resiliency Fund, created to provide support for artists and arts workers who have suffered significant financial loss throughout the pandemic. The Fund was made possible thanks to donations from the Hal Jackman Foundation and The Slaight Family Foundation.
The Rose Directing Fund

The Rose Directing Fund, developed to continue Richard Rose’s vision of bringing excellence to the creation and development of Canadian theatre by celebrating a professional director each season. We are grateful to the individuals whose gifts to this fund will support the future of directors at Tarragon over the next 10 years.

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Thank you Tarragon donors

**Individual donors**

Tarragon Theatre is extremely grateful for the support of our donors, which allows Canadian stories, education, and community to remain at the heart of our work. Donations to Tarragon allow us to develop meaningful, enriching stories that speak to our audiences today in an environment that welcomes all voices and perspectives within our theatre.

**Premiers ($5,000+)**
- Anonymous (2)
- James Buchanan & Julia Robertson

**Ambassadors ($2,500 - $4,999)**
- Anonymous
- Sherri & William Appell
- Naomi Brown
- Shira Hart
- Don & Marjorie Lenz
- Pauline G. Morris
- Robert Sherrin
- Dr. Elaine Stavro

**Advocates ($1,000 - $2,499)**
- Anonymous (2)
- Josh Ashekenas & Julie Brill
- Neville Austin
- Anne Louise Bannon & Maggie McMillan
- Anne Bermonte
- Adam Bryk & Melony Duranovich
- Laurie Clark
- Marsha J. Copp
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- Fäggie & Curt Oliver
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- Katherine Pollock & OrysiaSemotiuk
- David Southen & Susan Carlyle
- Ann & Ross Stewart
- Barbara E. Tangney
- Darlene A. Varaleau
- Andrea Vagianos & ZisParras
- Heather Yamoah

**Collaborators ($500 - $999)**
- Anonymous (3)
- K. Beckermann
- Alan & Helen Billing
- Brenda Brooks
- Ed Cabell & Roy Forrester
- Bob & Jane Clapp
- Beth Driscoll & Duncan Reith
- Christine Dunbar
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- Almos Tassonyi & Maureen Simpson
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- Barbara Watson
- Donald Wilson
- Judith Winston
- Pat & Gerry Wood
- Joanne Wordham
- Anthony & Marianna Wright
- Hersh Zeifman
Thank you Tarragon donors

**Legacy gifts**

The Estate of Kenneth Charles Dawe
The Estate of Ellen (Helen) Joan Kates
The Estate of Marjorie Eileen Kelley

**Legacy society members**

Tarragon Theatre is honoured to recognize the following for committing to support our work of rigorous play development, best possible first productions and Canadian playwrights through their estate plans.

Anonymous (3)
Larry Lubin
Lynne Patterson
David Southen & Susan Carlyle
Sybil Wilkinson
Hersh Zeifman

**Tribute gifts**

We are grateful for donations made by family and loved ones.

**In honor of:**
Sherri and Bill Appell’s 50th Anniversary

**In memory of:**
Annie Buktaw
Robert Fothergill
Colin Krivy
Margaret Stevens
Ronald Youd
Thank you, enjoy the show

If we have made any errors in the spelling, listing or omission of your name please accept our apologies and contact Courtney Fiddis, Director of Development at: courtney@tarragontheatre.com

Thank you to our volunteers!

Stage Employees of Tarragon are represented by Local 58 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

Tarragon Theatre is an active member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT) and the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA).