



# DEAUTIFUL/

CENTAUR THEATRE'S BRAVE NEW LOOKS SELECTION FOR 2023/24

# NOV 29 - DEC 9 🗟 CENTAUR THEATRE

453 RUE SRINT-FRANÇOIS-KRVIER - MONTREAL-QUEBEC

DIRECTION 6 DRAMATURGY BY CAITLIN MURRHY

STARRING : TONI ELLWAND + CARA REBECCA + SEAN RYAN
MADELEINE SCOVIL + STEPHANIE TORRIANI

SET & PROP DESIGN BY BRUNO-PIERRE HOULE ♦ COSTUME DESIGN BY SABRINA MILLER
WITH COSTUME ASSISTANCE BY GEORGES MICHAEL FANFAN ♦ SOUND DESIGN BY JULIAN SMITH
VIDEO DESIGN BY CHARLOTTE BAKER ♦ LIGHTING DESIGN BY AMBER HOOD

BOX-OFFICE: \$14-284-3161 \* FOR MORE INFO: INFINITHEATRE COM



Canada Council Consolidas arts for the Arts de Consoli





Canada



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BUT YOUR





#### **PRESENTS**

# EXTRA/BEAUTIFUL/U

Centaur Theatre's Brave New Looks Selection for 2023/24

# Written by Michaela Di Cesare Direction and Dramaturgy by Caitlin Murphy

CAST (alphabetical order)
Toni Ellwand - Angie Ferrante
Cara Rebecca - Dr. Sam Gagliardi
Sean Ryan - Beauté
Madeleine Scovil - Lara Ferrante
Stephanie Torriani - Louise Ferrante

Charlotte Baker - Video Designer
Florent Ghys - Composer
Amber Hood - Lighting Designer
Bruno-Pierre Houle - Set Designer
Georges Michael Fanfan - Assistant Costume Designer
Sabrina Miller - Costume Designer
Julian Smith - Sound Designer
Elyse Quesnel - Stage Manager
Corey Weiser - Apprentice Stage Manager

**Bryan Doubt** - Consultant **Sadie Leigh Bennet** - Consultant

#### INFINITHÉÂTRE TEAM

Zach Fraser - Artistic Director
Tristynn Duheme - General Manager,
Production Manager, Technical Director
Riley Wilson - Outreach Manager
Emily Enhorning - Box Office Manager
Trinity McQuillan - Season Intern
Georgia Holland - Assistant Technical
Director

INFINITHÉÂTRE'S BOARD
Gerry Lipnowski - President
Richard Santo - Treasurer
Helen Malkin
Gabriel Safdie
Caroline Hart
Hanna Hershman
Elisha Conway
Zach Fraser

#### **CENTAUR THEATRE TEAM**

**Eda Holmes** - Artistic Director **Hélène Turp** - Executive Director

**Fabien Bonnefoi** - Poster Design **Ashe Lang** - Graphic Designer

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**Micaela Fernandez** - Box Office Manager **Victoria Hall** - Assistant Box Office Manager

Scott Leydon - Outreach Coordinator
Sajida Masih - Accounting Assistant
Charlie McKendy - Maintenance
Haleema Mini - Director of Development
Aleksandra Oleszkiewicz - Accounting
Manager

**Rose Plotek** - Associate Artist **Eloi Savoie** - Communications & Marketing Manager

**Layne Shutt** - Front of House Manager **Megan Siow** - Development Assistant

# TECHNICIANS/SET-UP CREW Natalie Demmon Sam Lemieux Noah Mayr Jordana Natale Caroline Nowacki Luisa Pasturel Kitiya Phouthonesy Zachary Weibel

Set build by Shopdogs MTL

#### **PRODUCTION**

Daniel Barkley - Head Scenic Painter
Luciana Burcheri - Associate Producer
Peter Cerone - Audio & Video Engineer
Mary Hayes - Scenic Painter
Howard Mendelsohn - Production Manager
Liana Rose Mundy - Technical Coordinator
Michael Tonus - Head Technician

## A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome!

We're so glad you chose to join us at the theatre. This year, Infinithéâtre is proud to be presenting three world-premiere productions, and we're delighted to kick off our season with Michaela Di Cesare's *Extra/Beautiful/U*, right here at the beautiful Centaur Theatre.

Michaela has poured her heart and mind into *Extra/Beautiful/U* for a good many years now. Along the way she has had many fine collaborators and colleagues share their wisdom and artistry. Caitlin Murphy accepted to guide this ship through to its launch, bringing her intellect and sharp dramaturgical sensibility to the work. Our entire creative team; actors, designers, stage management, production, and administrative team, they are all courageous craftspeople, always game for an uphill challenge; always calm and full of humour as they navigate a new work finding its way to life.

As theatre-makers in this dynamic city, we savour every occasion to collaborate with our fellow artists and companies. In truth, many a theatre company yearn for the occasion to play at Centaur Theatre, one of Montréal's cultural pillars, and Infinithéâtre is tremendously grateful to Eda, Hélène and the entire team at Centaur for so warmly inviting us into their season of programming.

Infinithéâtre has a lot on the go these days, and we hope you'll join us for all the excitement still to come. We have two more original works on offer in the coming months: Kaie Kellough's *Dominoes at the Crossroads*, and Drew Hayden Taylor's *Open House*. Anana Rydvald's *The Sighlence of Sky / Le Silence de Cielle* continues to tour around Montréal and Québec throughout the spring. But even before all that, join us December 14th-17th for our InfiniPRESS Publication Launch and our annual Pipeline Play Reading Series featuring the winning scripts from our ever-popular Write-on-Q playwriting competition. Big thanks to our generous donors that make this show and all our various activities achievable throughout the year. And thank *you* for being here, and giving us the best reason to make theatre.

Enjoy the show!

**Zach Fraser** 

Artistic Director, Infinithéâtre

# A NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

"The beauty that [she] had when she was little didn't find an outlet and it all ended up on her face, in her chest, in her thighs and in her ass, places where it quickly passes and it's as if she never had it."

- Elena Ferrante, My Brilliant Friend

"The eyes of others our prisons; their thoughts our cages."

- Virginia Woolf, An Unwritten Novel

I wrote the first version of this play in 2017, a time when the image of a young woman with half her face masked was not as commonplace as it is today. It's hard to believe that six years have gone by and that nearly half of them were spent at the whim of an ongoing pandemic. There was a lot in the text that needed to be reexamined and, perhaps most frightening for me. I needed to ask myself if the themes, questions and concerns in the piece were still relevant. Ultimately, while aesthetic novelty in the form of a face covering was lost, the time many of us (especially children and teens) spent doom-scrolling during Covid strengthened the play's central exploration. How do the images we interact with every day affect us? How much of our own destiny is controlled by the way others perceive us? What are the different "masks" that we present to others? And is all of it ultimately inescapable? Before our brains start to intellectualize or pick apart an image, they have already been stimulated. "Beauty" takes mere seconds to elicit an emotional response. "The orbitofrontal cortex responds with greater activity to attractive versus unattractive faces" (Yarosh, 2019. Perception and Deception: Human Beauty and the Brain. ncbi.gov). So, while we might turn our noses up at beauty or consider it a trivial topic for literature, I would argue that it takes up a lot of space in public consciousness. Perhaps especially for women. To that end, it was important to me to share the perspective of five different women as well as to explore their relationships to one another: mother/daughter, friend/ frenemy, sister/sister, mentor/mentee, practitioner/patient.

I dedicate this work to Stephanie Boghen, who participated in the early workshops and two staged readings. Stephie infused the character of Louise with all of her own light, optimism and confidence. Her contribution was an incredible gift to me.

**Michaela Di Cesare** Playwright of *Extra/Beautiful/U* 

# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR & DRAMATURG

My headshot for this show is out of date. It was taken in 2017. And though that's more the result of laziness than vanity, I am self-conscious about my appearance and how it's changing as I age. Surely, you are too.

Which makes sense. Beauty is enormously valued in our world. More worryingly though, beauty bestows privilege and status too. So, as silly and superficial as beauty can seem, it is profoundly linked to power. And I believe that link is dangerous. But also, nearly impossible to break.

What we find beautiful is shaped by massive forces – ones that are cultural, evolutionary, biological – ones that operate below our conscious thought and beyond our control. We scroll through our phones, constantly trying to reconcile competing truths – image is important, but image is hollow; beauty is meaningful, pleasing and enviable, but beauty is random and filtered and fake. Usually, beauty works its magic on us before we get a chance to remember it's a trick.

We find ourselves in a historical moment in which we are intensely scrutinizing hierarchies that assign human worth based on ancient and unfair value systems. It strikes me that our biases concerning physical appearance might be the most elusive for us to recognize, confront or change. Which doesn't mean we shouldn't try.

As a woman settling into her middle-age, I've been feeling the icy chill of our culture's misogyny and ageism, prejudices informed by the imperatives of beauty. We've all felt the pinch of beauty's powers in our lives, even if that's come from finding ourselves on its winning side. We need to bring our damaging assumptions about beauty into sharper light and smarter critique.

But then again: pretty things are just pretty.

I really hope you enjoy the show.

#### **THANKS**

My thanks to Zach, Tristynn and the Infinithéâtre team, for this opportunity and all the hard work required to bring this play to the stage; to the Centaur Theatre for hosting and presenting us; Michaela for an exciting, new script. The design team – Charlotte, Amber, BP, Julian, Sabrina, and Georges – for their bright minds and mad skills. The cast – Cara, Madeleine, Sean, Toni and Stephanie – for so generously sharing their instincts and insights with both me and the script. To the stage management team, Elyse and Corey, for their mind-blowing competence and sustaining good humour. My wise and wonderful friend, Bryan, for coming when I called. Thanks to Georgia, Michael and Trinity for all the technical support in the room. Finally, to Stephanie's parents, Arlene and Andrew, for the collaboration and love that made it possible for her to come play with us. Thank you.

#### **Caitlin Murphy**

Director and Dramaturg of Extra/Beautiful/U

# BIOGRAPHIES



#### Michaela Di Cesare *Playwright*

Michaela is a playwright and performer with a Master's Degree in Drama from the University of Toronto. Among her recent plays, Extra / Beautiful / U won first place at Infinithéâtre's 2017 Write-on-Q competition, Successions premiered at Centaur Theatre (Outstanding New Text, METAs 2018), and FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) premiered with Geordie Productions (Outstanding New Text Nomination, METAs 2020). Michaela was playwright-inresidence at Centaur Theatre for the 2019/2020 season,

writing a spaghetti western now titled Mickey & Joe (Good. Bad. Ugly. Dirty). Michaela wrote and performed In Search of Mrs. Pirandello (2016 WildSide Festival Centaur Theatre). In 2021, she wrote Hot Blooded Foreigner, a commission with Tableau D'Hôte Theatre. Michaela's solo show 8 Ways my Mother was Conceived was presented in Toronto, Montreal, New York City, Ottawa, Hudson, Winnipeg and Stratford. *Headshot by Julien Stamboulieh* 



## Caitlin Murphy Director & Dramaturg

Caitlin Murphy is a writer, director and dramaturg. She has previously directed A Doll's House, Part 2 and Small Mouth Sounds, both at the Segal Centre, the latter for which she won the Montreal English Theatre Award for Outstanding Direction. She also previously served as Dramaturg-in-Residence and Artistic Associate at the Segal Centre. In addition to her work in theatre, Caitlin has written and directed short films, including Flushing Lacan and TOAST, which both won the Jury Award at the

Montreal ACTRA Short Film Festival. She has also performed in one-woman shows, stand-up, sketch comedy, and a web-series she created called Mothers Try. Most recently, Caitlin finished writing a book of essays called Rational Tantrums: 52 Essays on Mothering, and was awarded the Ian Ferrier Spoken Word Prize from the Quebec Writer's Federation. *Headshot by Leslie Schachter* 

# CAST

in alphabetical order



#### Toni Ellwand *Angi*e *Ferrante*

Toni Ellwand became a professional actress in 1984, at the Stratford Festival in John Hirsch's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream.* Since then, Toni has performed in western Canada, as well as in Ontario where Toni has also worked on plays such as *Beaver, The Trial of Judith K., The Open Couple, Escape From Happiness, 9 Parts of Desire, Between Pancho Villa And A Naked Woman, In Gabriel's Kitchen, Piazza San Domenico. Toni is no stranger to Montreal audiences. She recently did a* 

workshop of B.A. Markus: WMN3X3. And since 2019 she has been involved with A.D. Vittorio Rossi's company Magjusjen Ent. She has acted in several of their plays and films including: *The Chain* and *Legacy*. Toni has been in numerous T.V/FILM credits including: Mafia Inc., Bomb Girls, Forget & Forgive, Christman Time Capsule, What We Do For Love, Blindness (Netflix), Tiny Pretty Things (Netflix), and Murdoch Mysteries to name a few. Upcoming: KAIROS, feature film by Jennifer Alleyn. Toni dedicates this show to all her grandkids. *Headshot by Megan Vincent* 



Cara Rebecca Dr. Sam Gagliardi

Cara Rebecca is an actor, fight director, and budding director based in Montreal. An award-winning, and META nominated actor, she has performed for theatres across the country. Select credits include: The Importance of Being Ernest and A Midsummer Night's Dream (St Lawrence), Fall On Your Knees (Canadian Stage/Neptune/NAC/Grand), Cowgirl Up (ATP), Indecent (Segal), The Ward Cabaret (Harbourfront), Romeo & Juliet and Much Ado About Nothing (Repercussion). She is a

graduate of the National Theatre School, McGill, and is accredited with the Academy of Dramatic Combat. Cara is a co-founder of the Ragtag Collective, and is a participant of the QDF Director's Intensive. Outside of work, Cara can be found reading, cycling, and adoring every dog she meets. @caractor\_rebecca. Headshot by Emelia Hellman

## CAST

in alphabetical order



#### Sean Ryan Beauté

Sean Ryan (they/he/she) is a queer actor/performer/creator who finds joy in the exploration. They started their journey near the water, on Treaty 13A territory-a territory which was and remains under the care of the Mississauga of the Credit First Nation. They currently practice in Tiohtià:ke, the unceded territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka people, where they find themselves beginning a career that centers around love, death, decolonization, queerness, clown, and the chaos that

comprises a life. A recent graduate of Concordia University's acting program, they are both humbled and electrified to be playing Beauté in Infinithéâtre's *Extra/Beautiful/U!* Through their practice they hope to cultivate and create the spark that makes a room collectively and impulsively hold its breath...*Headshot by Jack Morgan* 



#### Madeleine Scovil Lara Ferrante

Madeleine is thrilled to be making her Infinithéâtre debut in *Extra/Beautiful/U*! She is a recent graduate from the acting program at the National Theatre School of Canada where favourite roles included Myrrha/Psyche/Hunger in *Metamorphoses*, Cop in *Middletown* and Sleep Paralysis Demon in *Flight of Fancy, Hold Me Close*. Madeleine also works as a theatre educator with the Segal Centre Academy and she recently directed her first Fringe show, *Perky*, at the Ottawa Fringe Festival.

Madeleine is eager to help bring another new play to life with this talented team! *Headshot by Maxime Côté* 

# CAST

in alphabetical order



#### Stephanie Torriani Louise Ferrante

Stephanie loves music and dance. When she was little, she went to ballet class, then as she got older, she took Hip Hop dance classes at 8 Count and H4L studios. She performed in talent shows in elementary school. At Summit School, Stephanie was in a play called You'll Never Walk Alone at the Rialto Theatre. Her second play was called Outta Here, produced by Jesse Heffring from Summit School and she was one of five lead actors. A representative of the Centaur Theatre watched that play

and asked if they could perform at the Centaur Theatre for a real audience. They did four shows over two days. Stephanie loves being on stage and seeing the audience smile and hearing them clap. That truly makes her excited. Headshot by Arlene Hauck

# CREATIVE TEAM

in alphabetical order



#### Charlotte Baker Video Designer

Charlotte is a passionate theatre designer specializing in projection design, whose heart beats for people and art. With a keen eye for aesthetics and a love for storytelling, she weaves digital imagery into the fabric of live performances. Fuelled by creativity and a love for collaboration, she embraces each project as an opportunity to merge technology with people and architecture. In addition to her projection design, she is also a sound designer, composer, and technical director.

Other works include: Sound Design/Composer for *Middletown* (NTS), Projection Designer for *Metamorphoses* (NTS), Lighting Designer for *Maybe Not Tomorrow* (NTS), Assistant Projection Designer for *Hamlet 911* (Stratford Festival). She completed the Production Design and Technical Arts program at the National Theatre School of Canada. *Headshot by Maxime Côté* 

# CREATIVE TEAM

in alphabetical order



#### Florent Ghys Composer

French double bassist and composer Florent Ghys' music has been described as "highly contrapuntal, intelligent and inventive..." (WQXR-FM), and a "thrilling breed of post-minimal chamber music" (Time Out NY). His pieces "blend elements of minimalism, pop music, and a dose of extravagant wit" (John Schaefer, WNYC) while his cat videos "have attained viral fame" (Alex Ross, The New Yorker). Ghys has written music for some of today's most influential ensembles and soloists, including the Bang on

a Can All-Stars, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, So Percussion, Nick Photinos, and Jack Quartet. His music has been performed at the Lincoln Center, BAM, the Barbican Center, MIT, Sydney Opera House, and the Muziekgebouw. Ghys holds a Maîtrise in ethnomusicology, a Diplôme d'Études Musicales in double bass performance, a M.M. in music theory and composition, a Masters of Fine Arts, and a PhD in music composition and technology from Princeton University. Headshot by Shervin Lainez



Amber Hood Lighting Designer

Many thanks to Infinithéâtre for the opportunity to collaborate on this bold new work and a huge congratulations to the entire team, both on stage and off, for bringing it to life! Selected companies: Mirvish Productions, The Stratford Festival, The Shaw Festival, The Segal Centre, Harold Green Jewish Theatre, Great Canadian Theatre Company, Orpheus Musical Theatre, The Lyric Theatre Singers, Celebrity Cruise Lines, Seattle Theatre Group, and ArtsWest Playhouse. To learn more

about Amber, her past works and future projects, please visit: www.AmberHoodLD.com. Headshot by Phanie Éthier

# CREATIVE TEAM

in alphabetical order



#### Bruno-Pierre Houle Set Designer

Bruno-Pierre Houle (he-him) designs for theatre, film, and immersive experiences. Theatre: Small Mouth Sounds; Superdogs the Musical; Josephine A Musical Cabaret (Segal Centre), Selfie (Geordie), Le Loup (Duceppe), Proje(c)t; Les Bonnes (Third Space Theatre), Chattermarks (Cabal), You/Emma (Wandering Bark Theatre Co.), Title Loading (Fusebox Festival), Die Zauberflöte (Butler Opera Center), Fit (Notch Theatre Co.) Film: Pas d'chicane dans ma cabane (Forum Films),

Sarah préfère la course (La boîte à Fanny inc.), My Name is Sandy (lammatteo Pictures) Other: Petite Plage Concert (Ingrid St-Pierre at Théâtre Outremont), Unravelling (Never Apart) and multiple escape games. Awards: META's Outstanding Set Design for Small Mouth Sounds Web: www.bphoule.com. Headshot by Dominique Coughlin



#### Georges Michael Fanfan Assistant Costume Designer

Georges Michael Fanfan is a costume designer and stylist born in Haiti and raised in the United States. Having always been devoted to fashion and clothing he has always seen clothing as the perfect tool for communication and storytelling. Michael aspires to make beautiful costumes that help immerse the public in a giving place; by recreating looks from different time periods, creating new designs from scratch or styling existing fashions. Michael hopes to create clothing that is

grounded in realism with subtle references that allow the costume to stand out or blend in. His credits include *Dixon Road* directed by Ray Hogg and written by Fatuma Adara (THE MUSICAL STAGE COMPANY & OBSIDIAN THEATRE COMPANY), *Cette Maison & Au Crépuscule* films directed by Miryam Charles and Holiday Inn for *the Shaw Festival* as a junior sewer. The services of Georges Michael Fanfan were made possible through the Associated Designers of Canada Mentorship Program funded by the Canada Council for the Arts. *Headshot by Nadia Zheng* 

# CREATIVE TEAM

in alphabetical order



#### Sabrina Miller Costume Designer

Sabrina is a set, costume and puppet designer originally from the west coast. Production designs include From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea and Around the World in 80 Days (Geordie Theatre), Birthmark (Teesri Duniya), Bluenose (Black Theatre Workshop) and Animal Farm (Kaleidoscope Theatre). Costume designs include Frankenstein: A Living Comic Book (Kidoons), The Sages of Chelm (Dora Wasserman Yiddish Theatre), Pride and Prejudice (Dawson College) and Elle's Black

Space Voyage: An Afrodiasporic Odyssey (MAI). Sabrina has won awards for Best Costume Design at YES! Let's Make a Movie Film Festival Canada for the short film Wraith (2023), and the META for Outstanding Costume Design (From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea, 2022). Headshot by Tudor Parau



Julian Smith Sound Designer

Julian Smith is a Designer / Manager, Originally from a small town in Newfoundland now living in Montreal! Recent Select Credits include - Rehearsal Tour Manager, Composer, Sound Designer (Geordie Two Play Tour), Composer, Lighting and Sound Design (Tamasha O' Tamasha- This Might be Satire Prod), and Sound and Projection Designer (The Flick- Pereshone Productions). This is Julian's first time working with Infinitheatre and I couldn't be more excited. Headshot by Maxime Côté

For Christopher.

# PRODUCTION TEAM



Elyse Quesnel Stage Manager

Elyse is a Montreal based stage manager. Selected stage management credits include: The Sound Inside, Between Riverside and Crazy, Category E and Orphans (Coal Mine Theatre), Cymbeline (Repercussion Theatre), Meet Me (LATP/Teesri Duniya Theatre), Omi Mouna (Infinitheatre), The Blonde, The Brunette and the Vengeful Redhead (Hudson Village/Lac Brome), Twelfth Night, As You Like It, Taming of the Shew, The Three Musketeers and Anthony and Cleopatra (St-Lawrence

Shakespeare Festival), 8 Ways My Mother is Conceived and In Search of Mrs Pirandello (Marybeth Productions). Selected assistant stage management credits include: At the Beginning of Time and Playing with Fire (Centaur Theatre), April Fools, Indecent and Top Girls (Segal Centre for Performing Arts) and The Snow Queen (Theatre New Brunswick). She has also worked as a technical co-ordinate for Just For Laughs. She is thrilled to be working with Infinithéâtre again on Extra/Beautiful/U. Headshot by David Cooper



#### Corey Weiser Apprentice Stage Manager

Corey is a graduate of John Abbott College's Professional Theatre Technical program. During his time at school, he developed interest in several theatre disciplines, however, Stage Management remained his true passion. At school, he was fortunate to experience working as ASM on Peter and the Starcatcher and as SM on Decomposed Theater; Or, The Human Trashcan. Since graduation, he has had the opportunity to Stage Manage Saltzman's Antiques at the Montreal Fringe Festival and

a workshop of *Remarkable Voices* by Gabrielle Soskin. Most recently, he took on the role of Production Manager at the Just For Laughs Montreal Festival. Corey is excited to be returning to Infinithéâtre as their Apprentice SM for the 2023/24 season. He is also looking forward to working with an incredible team to bring Extra/Beautiful/U to the stage!

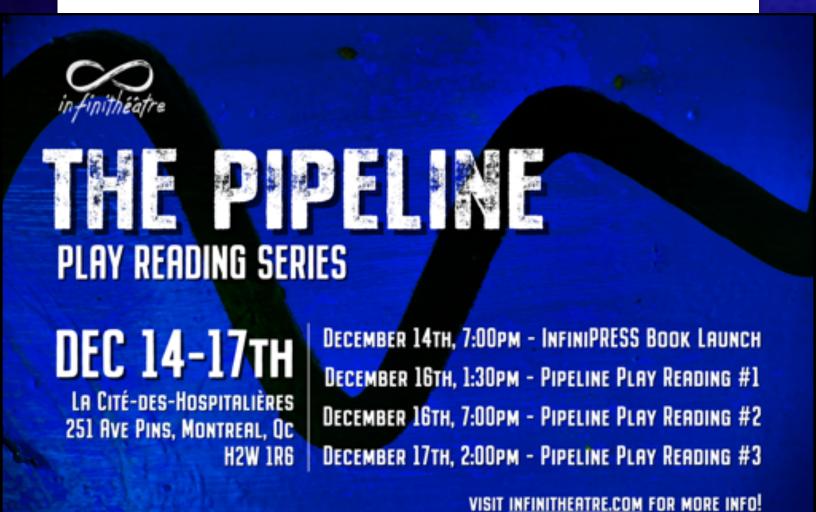
# PRODUCTION TEAM



### Georgia Holland Assistant Technical Director

Georgia Holland is a young theatre professional currently working towards becoming an equity stage manager in Canada. In 2022 she graduated from Concordia University with a Bachelors in Fine Arts specializing in Performance Creation. Having worked in live performance since she was only two years old, Georgia hopes to use her past experiences and expertise to continue to make the theatre a safe and fun environment for those who share her passion. Some of

Georgia's accolades include Stage Manager for Just For Laughs *The Nasty Show* and Apprentice Stage Manager for Centaur Theatre's *Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes*. *Headshot by Jack Morgan* 





PRESENTS

# Dominoes at the Crossroads

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY KAIE KELLOUGH ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY ZACH FRASER

MARCH 7-16<sup>TH</sup> 3680, RUE JEANNE-MANCE MONTRÉAL, QC

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APRIL 18-28TH

A NEW PLAY BY DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR <u>Directed by Dian Marie Bridge</u> INFINITHEATRE.COM



# InfiniPRESS Publication Launch!

Dec.14th, 7-9pm

La Cité-des-Hospitalières - 251 Ave Pins, H2W 1R6 FREE EVENT - Featuring readings from our authors, musical guests, and more!

Our InfiniPRESS publications are all available to purchase in the lobby or online at infinitheatre.com

InfiniPRESS is our in-house publishing press devoted to the publication of select theatrical works developed and produced at Infinithéâtre. For more information on our publications to date, visit: <u>infinitheatre.com</u>

# INFINITHÉÂTRE'S PLAY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Infinithéâtre is proud to offer the following play development initiatives for Québec-based playwrights and artists:

**Write-on-Q**, our annual English-language playwriting competition open to Québec writers and Indigenous writers from across Canada. Up to ten finalists are announced mid-Fall with cash prizes totalling up to \$3,000 announced by mid December.

**The-Write-Stuff**, our 10-minute playwriting competition for Québec youth, ages 12-19, with cash prizes up to \$500.

**Pipeline**, our year-end public reading series, featuring the winning plays from Write on-Q.

Park 'n Play Open-Air Play Reading Series, featuring the winning entries from The-Write-Stuff, in partnership with Les journées de la culture.

Emerging Voices Mentorship Program for Young Writers & Theatre Creators, a way to further expand our playwriting competition for youth by offering free writing and theatre creation workshops to a wide range of schools.

Infinite Voices - Establish & Emerging Artist-in-Residence Program, including mentorship and support from the company.

**Big Bang Artists' Laboratory**, providing time and space for projects in development in the form of extended exploratory residencies. These include free public presentations of works in progress.

**Action Infini, Extended Outreach to Students** via live performances, talkbacks and study guides.

**infiniPRESS**, our in-house play publication service, further extending the life of the plays developed and produced at Infinithéâtre.

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

Infinithéâtre acknowledges that we are located on the unceded lands of Tiohtiá:ke/Montréal, a place which has long served as a site of meeting, exchange and creativity amongst many First Nations including the Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron/Wendat, the Abenaki, and the Anishinaabeg (Algonquin).

As theatre artists, we cherish dialogue, collaboration, and always seek new ways to connect and to break down barriers. Infinithéâtre strives to support the Kanien'kehà:ka and Haudenosaunee Peoples, among other First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, as they create and tell their stories through theatrical means, and we savour every opportunity to come together in work & play.

Across all our activities, Infinithéâtre seeks to foster a safe space for creating art through collaboration and respectful dialogue. We strive to promote values of inclusion, respecting differences of ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, mental or physical capacity, age, religion, economic or social status, political ideology, and identity. The work is ongoing, and we are committed to hearing and learning from our colleagues and the wider community.

Infinithéâtre actively reflects upon the ways in which we can continually be more inclusive in our play selection and programming, in our work opportunities for artists, and within our administrative team and Board. We have made progress, but there is much more we can and should do.

In the spirit of a shared commitment to change, Infinithéâtre continually encourages submissions from applicants from all walks of life, including for our two annual playwriting competitions.

# MANDATE

Infinithéâtre stages exciting, entertaining, relevant theatre that explores and reflects the issues, challenges, and possibilities of contemporary Québec from the perspective of its diverse English-language minority. Our work is driven by the fundamental belief that theatre that speaks to and about the lives, the hopes, and the challenges of its home community has the best possibility of creating an electric connection between stage and audience that is the essence of great theatre.

Infinithéâtre develops, promotes, produces, and brokers plays written or adapted by Québec writers and Indigenous writers from within the territory called Canada. We do this because we believe fundamentally that producing our own writers will generate subject matter and themes relevant to Montréal and Québec and result in the strongest possible engagement and live interaction with our audience.

# OUR PARTNERS



Conseil des Arts du Canada Canada Council for the Arts





Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec



**Canadä** 

This production was made possible with the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts Digital Now program.

#### **PRESENTS**



## RICKI

by Joseph Shragge

presented by Scapegoat Carnivale

Jan 30-31, Feb 1-3



# SHORTEST STORY XIV

### **CHOOSE** YOUR END

presented by Wind Up Radio

with Sarah Blumel & Anisa Cameron

Jan 26-27





#### STILL LIFE

by Marie-Ève Milot & Marie-Claude St-Laurent

translated by Rhiannon Collett

A cutting-edge work in progress presented by Talisman Theatre

Jan 18-20



# **SERIES**

Montreal Music, by Sarah Segal & the Lasers

Feb 2 & 3

Presented in partnership with



Canadä







#### Arti≠ta

## Mentorship Program

Applications are open

imagotheatre.ca

#### Good Things To Do

Created by Mishelle Cuttler, Christine Quintana, Molly MacKinnon, Sam MacKinnon.

JANUARY 13 & 14, 20 & 21 - 2024

RUMBLE THEATRE \ VANCOUVER \ DIGITAL IMMERSIVE

#### **Upside Down**

Created by Micheline Chevrier, Clank, Cristina Cugliandro, Jackie Gallant, Chantal Labonté, Leslie Tina Mintz, Pablo Pugliese, Jennifer Roberts, Amelia Scott, Mireille Tawfik, Emma Tibaldo, Diana Uribe.

DECEMBER 2023

IMAGO THEATRE \ DIGITAL PLAYS AND DOCUMENTARY

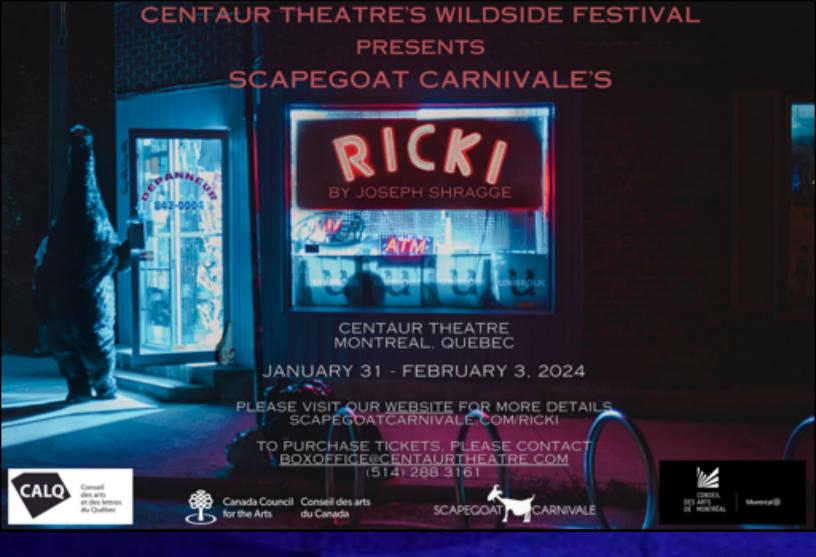
# The Flood By Leah-Simone Bowen Directed by Yvette Nolan

FEBRUARY 15 - 25, 2024

IMAGO THEATRE LUVE AT CENTAUR THEATRE







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# THANK YOUS

**Extra/Beautiful/U Workshop & Development Contributors** Alex Haber, Alex Petrachuk, Benoit Beaulieu, Cristina Cugliandro, Darragh Mondoux, Eda Holmes, Ellen David, Gabe Maharjan, Guy Sprung, Jesse Heffring, Jordan Moussa, Kathleen Stavert, Nadia Verruci, Pascale Drevillon, Stephanie Boghen, Teneisha Collins

Extra/Beautiful/U Consultants Bryan Doubt, Sadie Leigh Bennet, Jesse Stong

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