

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) in shades of green and blue against a dark, starry night sky. The lights form a large, glowing arc across the upper and middle portions of the image.

The logo for the Superior Theatre Festival, featuring a stylized white wave icon to the left of the text "superior" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with "THEATRE FESTIVAL" in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font below it.

2017



program

JULY 28 – 30



for more information, visit:

superiortheatrefestival.com

The program

contents

About Superior Theatre Festival	2
Welcome from the Artistic and Managing Director	3
The Programming	5
Schedule at a Glance	5
Locations Map	6
Core Programming	7
Salt-Water Moon	7
Core Presenters	11
eating with lola	11
4 1/2 (IG)noble truths	13
North Shore indie Stream	15
Speechless	15
<i>maelstrom</i>	18
Scratchlings for Mothlight	19
The Angies	20
A Family Story	21
The Moose's Ransom	23
Scrabble	25
In Memory of Dane Gerrous	28
Rain	29
Golf Lessons	31
One for Norma	33
Sunday Wilde and Reno Jack	35
Youth Summer Initiative	38
Youth Summer Theatre Program	38
Dance Workshop	39
Hot Off the Press Dance Workshop	39
Thank You	41
Sponsors	41



About

superior theatre festival

Superior Theatre Festival is a professional multi-disciplinary festival that launched in Thunder Bay, Ontario on August 4th – August 7th 2016, activating a variety of indoor and outdoor sites, most notably the Spirit Garden at Prince Arthur's Landing. The festival is facilitating collaborations between artists from Thunder Bay and other parts of Canada, showcasing a variety of theatrical options and mentoring a Young Company. The performances were accessible and affordable to the public with many of the events free, PWYC or at a minimal ticket price. Our performance of *Night Wings* by Eleanor Albanese (a Thunder Bay playwright) involved actors from Thunder Bay and Edmonton speaking not only their text but also closed captioning within each performance. *Night Wings'* creative team engaged in many conversations and workshops with CNIB Thunder Bay in order to serve the needs of their community with this production. The rest of the Festival programming included Betty Carpick who created a community art-making project connected to *Night Wings* and delivered an improv workshop, Moez Surani (a celebrated poet from Toronto),

Susan Dunstan (currently on Broadway with *Come from Away*) and Danny Johnson (a local star) to perform at our launch party at The Foundry and Jon Lachlan Stewart's show *Big Shot* from Montreal. The Festival shows were rounded out by a community breakfast and a talk back with Jon Lachlan Stewart.

In October 2016 and February 2017, STF led workshops for youth in puppetry, musical theatre, directing, role-play, movement, improvisation, stage fighting and objective work. These workshops were in schools, with other arts organizations and at the location of one of our supporters, Urban Abbey.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lil Bergamo (*Chairperson*)
Carla Whitney (*Secretary*)
John Bergamo (*Treasurer*)
Lois Nuttall
Tina Zussino

ARTISTIC ADVISORY TEAM

Eleanor Albanese
Donna Marie Baratta
(*Artistic & Managing Director*)
Danny Johnson

Welcome from the

artistic and managing director

Superior Theatre Festival is in its second season and we are celebrating!! We celebrate the community, the artists, and the generosity of our sponsors and especially the Department of Canadian Heritage. With 4 venues, 15 performances and even more of a mixture of artistic disciplines this year - it reminds us that we've come very far in just 1 year.

Last year I spoke about our audience celebrating our potential and the possibility of a future life in Thunder Bay - this year we take pride in celebrating the artistic voices in our midst. We are interested in Celebrating the Changing Narratives in this country and so this year is a focus on perspectives: How do you look at a story? How does a story change over time? Whose lens are we seeing it through? Some stories are finally told - such as 41/2 (ig)noble truths' look at mental health. Finally - How do we look at our past? How is a love story set in 1926 still relevant and still accessible for an audience?

STF's priorities are: bringing new audiences to the work; nurturing

space for artistic experimentation; interdisciplinary exchange; professional/ artistic development; assessing how we can best serve you (the artist and audience) and sustainability in the future.

As we continue to build - We need to hear from you: What did you love? What do you want to see next year? and how can we be of service to this community?

A festival like this does not come without a dedicated team. I have called on a lot of incredible individuals who have gone above and beyond to make this a reality. A huge thank you to the STF board members and the artists in this festival - I admire the work you are doing and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Thank you for your support! Please know that we value your time and hope that you engage with us again.

This festival is our love letter to Thunder Bay - thank you for celebrating the artists in our midst.

DONNA MARIE BARATTA
Superior Theatre Festival
Artistic and Managing Director



“Superior Theatre Festival is a multi-faceted arts initiative devoted to showcasing professional and emerging artists locally, regionally and nationally.”

DONNA MARIE BARATTA
Artistic and Managing Director
Superior Theatre Festival

The programming

schedule at a glance

PERFORMANCES ARE RAIN OR SHINE!
(See rain locations in schedule)

friday, july 28

EATING WITH LOLA

2:30pm – 3:30pm
(Post-Show Chat 3:30 – 4:00pm)

Waverley Resource Library

SPEECHLESS

4:00pm – 5:00pm

Urban Abbey

SALT-WATER MOON

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Spirit Garden (Prince Arthur's Landing)

Rain Location: Urban Abbey

MAELSTROM & SCRATCHLINGS BY MOTHLIGHT, STORIES AND SONGS BY SEAN JESSEAU

9:00pm – 10:00pm

Urban Abbey

THE ANGIES

10:30pm – 11:30pm

Urban Abbey

saturday, july 29

A FAMILY STORY, SCRABBLE, IN MEMORY OF DANE GERROUS, THE MOOSE'S RANSOM

12:00 (noon) – 1:00pm

Urban Abbey

YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTATION – PRE-SHOW

2:00pm

Spirit Garden (Prince Arthur's Landing)

Rain Location: Urban Abbey

SALT-WATER MOON

2:30pm – 4:00pm

Spirit Garden (Prince Arthur's Landing)

Rain Location: Urban Abbey

SPEECHLESS

5:00pm – 6:00pm

The Urban Abbey

MAELSTROM, RAIN, ONE FOR NORMA, GOLF LESSONS

6:30pm – 7:30pm

The Urban Abbey

41/2 (IG)NOBLE TRUTHS

7:00pm – 8:00pm

(Post-Show Chat 8:00-8:30)

The Finlandia Club

SUNDAY WILDE AND RENO JACK

8:00pm – 9:00pm

The Urban Abbey

SALT-WATER MOON (SPECIAL NIGHT SHOW)

9:30pm – 11:00pm

Spirit Garden (Prince Arthur's Landing)

Rain Location: Urban Abbey

sunday, july 30

SALT-WATER MOON

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Spirit Garden (Prince Arthur's Landing)

Rain Location: Urban Abbey

SALT-WATER MOON

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Spirit Garden (Prince Arthur's Landing)

Rain Location: Urban Abbey

41/2 (IG)NOBLE TRUTHS

8:00pm – 9:00pm

(Post-Show Chat 9:00 – 9:30pm)

The Finlandia Club



locations map



1 *The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)

2 *The Urban Abbey* (308 Red River Road)

3 *The Finlandia Club* (314 Bay St)

4 *Waverley Resource Library* (285 Red River Road)

core programming

SALT-WATER MOON

BY DAVID FRENCH

Salt-Water Moon is set on a moonlit night in 1926 in Coley's Point, Newfoundland. It is a beautiful story of two young lovers who reunite after a year apart. A Canadian classic, this production will take your breath away, not only because of the beauty embedded in this text but also because it will be played outside in the beautiful Spirit Garden and will proudly feature two Thunder Bay actors in the leading roles.



director's note

Salt-Water Moon is a play that I've adored for a long time. The beautiful writing of David French keeps me coming back for more - the hopefulness of something better in the writing of Mary and Jacob makes me realize that no matter if this is set in 1926 or 2017 we want the same things: to be loved, to be respected and to be able to trust those around us.

We all know a Mary or a Jacob - and maybe we were once them - but this play serves as a good reminder that love is worth fighting for and that even though life can get in the way sometimes, true love can triumph.

It has been a pleasure working with Tia, Neil, Mary, Nancy and Victoria to bring this play to life in the rehearsal room. It's a dream come true for me to work with such an open and vulnerable team of artists. I hope you leave today feeling a little more hopeful and a little more aware of the beauty in those around you.

producing company

Superior Theatre Festival

artists

Playwright: David French, Director: Donna Marie Baratta, Designer: Nancy Anne Perrin, Actor: Tia Lunn, Actor: Neil Paterson, Musician: Mary Welby, Stage Manager: Victoria Carella, Technical Director: Mike Maki, Technician: Trevor Hurtig

author's agent

Charles W. Northcote, Core Literary Agency, Toronto, Canada

scheduled performance times

Friday, July 28th, 7:00 – 8:30pm
Saturday, July 29th, 2:00 – 4:00pm
(This performance includes the Youth Summer Theatre Program presentation)
Saturday, July 29th, 9:30pm – 11:00pm
Sunday, July 30th, 2:00 – 3:30pm
Sunday, July 30th, 7:00 – 8:30pm

venue

Spirit Garden, Prince Arthurs Landing / Urban Abbey as Rainout location

theme(s)

Reunion, young love, Canadian Classic, Newfoundland, post WWI, family friendly

The cast & crew bios



Donna Marie Baratta
Director

Donna Marie Baratta is a Director, Choreographer, Producer, Dramaturg, Educator and Performer who makes Toronto and Thunder Bay her home. She is the Founder and Artistic and Managing Director of Superior Theatre Festival, Artistic Producer and Co-Founder of Present Danger Productions and a core artist of [elephants] collective.

Donna Marie's career has taken her right across Canada, the United States and to Europe (Paris, Belgium and Luxembourg) working in dance, drama, musical theatre, industrials, opera, and film. Selected Directing credits include *girls! girls! girls!* (SummerWorks 2013), *Medea* (Studio Theatre), *Living with Henry* (Best of Fringe, Next Stage and NYMF 2012), *The Murmuration of Starlings* (New Works Festival), *How I Learned to Drive* (U of A), *Death and the Maiden* (U of A), *Fool for Love* (Playwright's Project), *Embedded* (U of A), *Low Level Panic* (U of A), *Strange Mary Strange* (SummerWorks 2011), *Aftershock* (SummerWorks 2010), *Candide* (U of T Opera MFA), *Footloose* (Rose Theatre/BMT), *Perfect Life* (Poor Alex Theatre), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (DaCapo Productions), *The Vagina Monologues* (TBVPAC), *Gone for a Dance* (Samsa Films) and most recently *Night Wings* (STF). She has performed in various mega-musicals: *Crazy For You* (Mirvish Productions), *Sunset Boulevard* (Live Entertainment) and in other productions at the Charlottetown Festival and Magnus Theatre.

She is a graduate of the MFA Directing program at the University of Alberta and a passionate Arts educator. Donna Marie is on the Steering Committee of the Directors Lab North and a member of Directors Lab West. She has trained with the SITI Company, Anne Bogart, Kim Collier, Ross Manson, Peggy Baker, Stephen O'Connell and many more.



Nancy Anne Perrin
Designer

Nancy is a set and costume designer, who recently completed her fourth season at the Stratford Festival as an Assistant Set and Costume Designer. She is pleased to be returning to Thunder Bay, after being a part of the Superior Theatre Festival's inaugural season last summer.

Designs include; *Othello* (Driftwood, 2017), *For the Love of Pie* (Toronto Fringe, 2017), *Of Human Bondage* (Magnus, 2017), *Deceitful Above All Things* (Storefront, 2017), *Desdemona: A Play About a Handkerchief* (Three Sisters, 2016), *Night Wings* (Superior Theatre Festival, 2016) *Hamlet* (Hart House, 2015), *Deceitful Above All Things* (Summerworks, 2015), *Parents Night* and *The Bigger Issue* (CrazyLady, 2015), *DeliMax* (Teatron, 2015), *Pitch Blonde* (Next Stage, 2013), *Waterfront: The Blessing* (Summerworks, 2011), *Shed* (Summerworks, 2010), *Rabbit Rabbit* (Summerworks, 2009), *Le Magicien d'Oz* (Théâtre La Roulotte, 2010), *Cabaret*, *Stop Heart*, and *Shouting* (National Theatre School, 2009-2010). Education; BFA in Theatre Production and Design, University of Victoria, Set and Costume Design program, National Theatre School of Canada. Awards; Ian and Molly Lindsay Young Design Fellowship and Tom Patterson Guthrie Award.



Tia Lunn
Actor

Tia Lunn is overjoyed to be a part of *Salt-Water Moon* and the Superior Theatre Festival this year. She's been involved in Thunder Bay theatre all her life. She has acted with various companies around the city, including Southside Performing Arts (*Bring it On: The Musical*), and Applauze Productions (*Broadway On Bay*), and has acted and directed with Paramount Live (*Grease*, *Godspell*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Outsiders*). She is currently studying drama and theatre at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.



Neil Paterson
Actor

Neil Paterson is a local actor, singer and musician. Neil is most recently known for his role as Jerry Lekowski in *The Full Monty* and has been featured in several Broadway review shows, including numbers from *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Oklahoma*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. He has appeared on independent features (*Days of Destitute*, *Poor Agnes*), short films (*Utak*), and several music videos. Neil excels at playing guitar and saxophone, performing on stage at many local venues. Neil thanks his family for greatly influencing who he is today and supporting his pursuits in the arts.



Mary Welby
Musician

Mary Welby was born in Toronto and graduated from the Royal Conservatory Scholarship program in Performance Cello A.R.C.T. Gold Medal, before heading to University of Arizona on full scholarship to complete the Bachelor of Music in Performance Cello degree. After participating in festivals in Colorado, Florida, Vermont and Banff, she attended the Orchestra Training Program in Toronto then joined the Thunder Bay Symphony, where she continues to live with her husband David and children Adam and Sarah. She now teaches, freelances and performs regularly with her trio "Women in Black". Mary also plays her Grandfathers 1912 French cello.



Victoria Carella
Stage Manager

Victoria Carella is entering her second year at York University in the Devised Theatre/Design stream. She recently worked on "*Inverted Spotlight*" for York's Devised Theatre Festival as Assistant Stage Manager. Victoria is happy to be a part of "*Salt-Water Moon*" and the Superior Theatre Festival to celebrate theatre in Thunder Bay!



Clint Butler
Dialect Coach

Clint began his performance career as a lead vocalist in the US cruise industry. He has since given rise to characters from Canadian coast to coast. Theatre: Harry in *Mamma Mia* (Rainbow Stage); Freddy in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, Bill in *Perfect Wedding* (Stephenville Theatre Festival); Frank in *Habib's Unforgettable All Night House Party* (RCAT, WCT); Policeman/Von Hussler in *Mary Poppins* (Globe); David in *Safeward's Nature of the Beast* (Storefront); Bergeron in *Artistic Fraud's Oil and Water* (RCAT, Neptune, Grand, National Arts Centre). TV: *Reign*; *Defiance*, *Republic of Doyle*; *Lost Girl*. Clint is originally from Newfoundland.





core presenters

EATING WITH LOLA

Lola is so old she has to be spoon fed by her granddaughter. but it wasn't always like this. it was always Lola's job to find food -- even if it meant stealing it. Over the course of Lola's last meal on earth, Lola's life and the modern history of Manila unfolds -- one spoonful at a time.



EATING WITH LOLA
Performed by: Catherine Hernandez

Location: Waverley Library 283 Red River Road
Date & Time: July 28th, 2017 @ 2:30pm-3:30pm
Tickets: \$10 each

For more information please visit our website at www.solongtheatrefestival.com

superior theatre festival
www.superiortheatrefestival.com

producing company

Sulong Theatre

artists

Written and performed by Catherine Hernandez, Directed by Ann Powell, Developed by Carlos Bulosan Theatre Company, Roseneath theatre, Kultura Festival, Lab Cab festival and the original full length version was workshopped by Fu-Gen Asian Canadian Theatre Company

scheduled performance time

Friday, July 28th, 2:30pm – 3:30pm
(Post-show chat 3:30 – 4:00pm)

venue

Waverley Resource Library

theme(s)

Intergenerational relationships, puppetry, object theatre, immigrant experience, family friendly, ages 10+

website

www.catherinehernandezcreates.com

press

"Hernandez is immediate and charismatic." – Mooney on Theatre re: Eating with Lola

"Hernandez is a captivating storyteller and performer"

– Torontoist re: The Femme Playlist

"Hernandez mesmerizes and delights."
– Toronto Social Review re: The Femme Playlist

The cast & crew bios



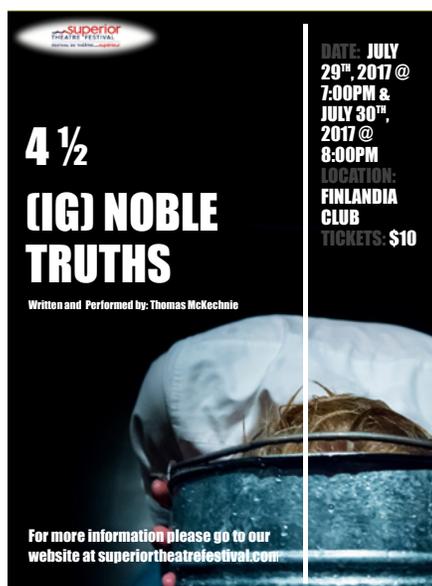
Catherine Hernandez
Writer & Performer

Catherine Hernandez is a proud queer woman of colour, radical mother, activist, theatre practitioner, burlesque performer, writer, the Artistic Director of b current performing arts, *Sulong Theatre Company* and the owner of Out and About Home Daycare. Her one-woman show, *The Femme Playlist*, premiered at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre Oct 2014 as part of the afterRock Play Series co-produced by b current, Eventual Ashes and Sulong Theatre. Her other plays include *Singkil*, (fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre Company in association with Factory Theatre), *Eating with Lola* (Sulong Theatre and Next Stage Festival, first developed by fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre) and *Kilt Pins* (Sulong Theatre) and *Future Folk* (collectively written by the Sulong Theatre Collective, produced by Theatre Passe Muraille). She has served playwright residencies at Theatre Passe Muraille, Carlos Bulosan Theatre, Shaw Festival Theatre, Blyth Festival Theatre, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre and Nightswimming Theatre. On September 21 2012, Catherine immersed herself in a lifeboat filled with filthy water for 24 hours without access to food. The event, named Operation Lifeboat, raised money and awareness for the unnatural recurring disasters in the Philippines. It involved more than 45 artists worldwide who performed each hour of the event and resulted in over 30 hours of watched video footage and more than 1100 viewers worldwide. Her children's book. *M is for Mustache: A Pride ABC Book* was published by Flamingo Rampant and her plays *Kilt Pins* and *Singkil* were published by Playwright's Canada Press. Scarborough's Catherine's first full-length fiction and she is so very honoured to have received the Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop Emerging Writers' Award and have been shortlisted for the Half the World Global Literati Award after just trying her hand at the art of fiction storytelling. Scarborough was written after several years working as a home daycare provider to Scarborough children.



4 ½ (IG)NOBLE TRUTHS

Let's pretend for a second that we're OK. What does that feel like? A lot of things are not OK with Thomas but he's got a ten-pound sledge hammer and is pretty sure that could solve at least one of his problems. This is a show that he wrote. Because we are walking around polishing silverware or running schools or arresting jaywalkers, and dying all the time and no one is saying anything. We aren't talking because we don't have words. Or we have those words but to say them could be worse. If he howls will you howl back? If we howl together will we be healed? Thomas McKechnie's 4 1/2 (ig)noble truths is a deeply personal attempt to articulate his experience living with clinical depression. Framed as a matter-of-fact lecture, when this method falls short Thomas makes use of objects, poetry, sound, and violent action to embody and share his perceived reality.



producing company

Why Not Theatre

artists

Writer and performer: Thomas McKechnie, Director: Michael Reinhart, Scenography: Claire Hill, Assistant Director: Julia Matias, Producer: Kelly Read, Stage Manager: Jesse Byiers

scheduled performance times

Saturday, July 29th, 7:00 – 8:00pm
Sunday, July 30th, 8:00pm – 9:00pm
(Post-show chat after each performance)

venue

The Finlandia Club

warning

Mature subject and theme, not suitable for young audiences

theme(s)

Part lecture/part theatre, depression, grand metaphorical visuals

awards

Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Performance (SummerWorks 2016) – Now Magazine

press

“dark, vulnerable and beautiful...we need more art like this” – The Theatre Reader

“Director Michael Reinhart accomplishes the rare feat of infusing grand metaphorical visuals and engaging action into a solo production. 4 1/2 (ig) noble truths is moving, funny, helpful and goddamn brave; you need to see it.”
A+ – My Entertainment World

“McKechnie and Director Michael Reinhart have found a unique way to present the story. The effect is startling... [we] feel the mounting pressures and high stakes involved” – NNNN Now Magazine

The cast & crew bios



Thomas McKechnie

Playwright/Performer

Thomas McKechnie is a Toronto-based playwright and creator and a playwright in the 2013-2015 Soulpepper Academy. Writing credits include, theatre: 4 1/2 (ig)noble truths (zeitpunktheatre SummerWorks 2016, The Theatre Centre 2016) The Thirst of Hearts (Soulpepper Theatre Company) Valkyrie (Rarely Pure Theatre Toronto Fringe 2013), ...and the aeroplanes fall into the sea. Film: One More Night (Short) (Courtesy Productions. Shortlisted for the Iris Prize). Collective: A Wake for Lost Time, there/GONE, A Kitchen Sink Drama ([elephants] collective), A Good Man is Hard to Find (Soulpepper Academy). He also plays in the folk punk duo We're From Out West.



Jesse Byiers

Stage Manager

Jesse Byiers is a Toronto-based theatre-maker, and puppet-maker. He is a core member of Toronto's [elephants] collective, (A Wake For Lost Time, Kitchen Sink Drama). Works in progress; Shitty Songs for Shitty Kids with Thomas McKechnie and An Existence of Dreaming Lovers written by Rachel Ganz. He currently builds puppets for Ronnie Burkett's Theatre of Marionettes under mentor Ronnie Burkett.

Michael Reinhart

Director

Michael Reinhart is a theatre/performance creator, performance scholar and theatre instructor, who has taught at The Randolph Academy and the University of Toronto. His work (both creative and academic) is based in exploring interdisciplinary art-making and collective-driven devised theatre creation. Much of this exploration/research has occurred through his work with [elephants] collective, of which he is a founding member, as well as through an array of external collaborations. Most recent projects include; Surplus Party Guest ([elephants] collective & vsvsvs), 4 1/2 (ig)noble truths (Zeitpunk Theatre - SummerWorks 2016), A Dream Play (Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts 2016), A Kitchen Sink Drama ([elephants] collective - Rhubarb Festival 2016), A Wake for Lost Time ([elephants] collective, SummerWorks 2015), there/GONE ([elephants] collective, Fringe 2015), Stare.Print. Blue (digifest 2015 & Open Spaces: SURVIVAL Festival, Berlin 2014).

Claire Hill

Scenographer

Claire Hill was born and raised in Scarborough, and has lived and worked in Halifax, Victoria, Banff and Vancouver, and designed for many indie theatre shows across the city including *Turtleneck*, *Donors*, *Nature of the Beast* (safeword), *Cockfight*, *Retreat*, *Liver* (Brouhaha), *Contractions*, *Human Furniture*, *Les Liasions Dangereuses*, *House of Yes*, *The Castle* (ROTC), *Firebrand*, *Ambrose* (Single Thread Theatre Company), *Adventures of a Red-Headed Coffee Shop Girl* (Rebecca Perry), and most recently *The Changeling* (Desiderata Theatre) and *Fake Nerd Girl*. She holds a BA from Dalhousie, an MA from The University of Victoria, and is currently working towards an MFA in design at York.

SPEECHLESS

Speechless is loosely inspired by actual events in Thunder Bay, and reflects some of the ongoing tensions between marginalized groups and the majority population. A 30-minute staged reading followed by facilitated audience discussion. A young law student in Thunder Bay urges caution and thoughtful dialogue at the cost of his own career aspirations following an assault which seems motivated by hate. The public responds immediately with an outpouring of support in online media and a protest rally, until the discovery of new evidence causes a shift of opinion.

artists

Playwright: Cathi Grandfield Director: Jeff MacKay,
Actors: Cornelius Beaver, Elliott Cromarty,
Andrea Jacobsen, Justin Parcher, Sarah Walker

scheduled performance times

Friday, July 28th, 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Saturday, July 29th, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

venue

Urban Abbey

warnings

Mature language and themes, not suitable for young audiences

theme(s)

LGBTQ+, politics, racism, public opinion

The cast & crew bios



Cathi Grandfield
Playwright

Cathi Grandfield is a Thunder Bay writer and musician. Her original plays have been produced in New York, Los Angeles and Thunder Bay. Cathi is the Artistic Director of the 10x10 Play Showcase.



Jeff MacKay
Director

Jeff has been messing around with live theatre for more than 60 years. Apparently he's still at it.



Justin Parcher
Steve Zinn

Justin is no stranger to the stage, having performed in dozens of productions over the past two decades right here in Thunder Bay. He was last seen in Cambrian Players production of Shakespeare's *PERICLES, PRINCE OF TYRE* as Pericles. He might have also tried to eat your brains as an undead zombie in *NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD LIVE* at Magnus Theatre. This is Justin's first time being involved with the Superior Theatre Festival and he's excited to work with theatre friends old and new. Guess how long his hair has grown and win a prize! [It's the source of his power – Ed.]



Andrea Jacobsen
Constable Kivi

Andrea is a BC transplant to Thunder Bay but has fallen in love with this weird place in the middle of the country. She grew up loving theatre and film, especially if there was music involved. Outside the theatre Andrea is an avid hockey and ringette player as well as a traditional archer. Her home is shared with her wife Shannon and a five pack of rescued chihuahuas.

speechless.

a work in progress
by cathi grandfield



Sarah Mendek-Walker
Rio Aromdee

Sarah lives in Thunder Bay Ontario. She has an Honours Degree in Dramatic Arts from Brock University. She is a proud supporter of local art and a member of Northwestern Ontario Writers Workshop.



Elliott Cromarty
Cal Mamakeesic

Elliott has had the great fortune to work with many wonderful people in various productions over the years. He is excited and thankful to take part in the creative process to help give shape to the character of Calvin Mamakeesic.



Cornelius Beaver
Frank Kakegamic

Cornelius is an aspiring young actor. He is enrolled at St. Ignatius High School, where he is entering the 11th grade. He has participated in Magnus Theatre's production, Invisibles. In his spare time, he enjoys reading and pursuing his creative pursuits.



MAELSTROM

This work is a dance duet based in contemporary and contact dance. The work is physical and aims to depict the layers of who we are as individuals and how these individuals relate to one another. The variety of people we have in our life and the range of relationships created with these people helps us to develop and grow.

The process of selecting who we create memories with, who makes us smile, or who we guard ourselves from is integral to who we are. Realizing your contribution to a relationship is understanding an intimate power.

How do you use it?

artists

Choreographers: Mikaela Demers and William Hamilton,

Performers: Mikaela Demers and William Hamilton,

Musician: Jack Aldous and Julie Balen, Sound Designer

& Costume Designer: Mikaela Demers

scheduled performance times

Friday July 28th, 2017, 9-10pm

Saturday July 29th, 2017, 6:30-7:30pm

venue

Relationship, kinds of love, contact dance

The cast & crew bios



Mikaela Demers

Dancer

Mikaela Demers is an emerging artist originally from Northern Ontario. She has been a member of earthdancers and Lila Ensemble and has worked with Denise Vitali, Vanessa Jane Kimmons, Allen Kaeja, Love Letters Cabaret, Dave Wilson, and Fernando Troya. Demers has also worked with The Dance Current, the Harbourfront Centre, Manifesto Festival, Dance Umbrella of Ontario, Dance Matters, SummerWorks, Kaeja D'dance, adelheid and Tribal Crackling Wind in administration, front of house and the rehearsal process.

Her current creative process is based on the physical study of vision and its' ability to produce relationships and to affect our concept of space. The content of Demers' work stems from noticing, discussing, and challenging societal issues and norms. Currently, Demers is working on developing a work titled I'm looking at you... slated to premier in the fall of 2017, creating a small art space, and producing a blog and podcast.



William Hamilton

Dancer

William Hamilton is a freelance performance artist based in Toronto. Performing as an actor from a young age, Will started dancing as a way of gaining more control over his body on stage and found that he wanted to push his understanding of movement further. He graduated in 2014 from the School of Toronto Dance Theatre where he performed works by choreographers such as Kate Alton, Tedd Robinson, and Paul-Andre Fortier. Since graduating Will has worked with Malgorzata Nowacka of The Chimera Project as well as interning for William Yong in Zata Omm's production vox:lumen. Will has also, danced, acted and taken part in many other organizations throughout The GTA. The most recent of which being Wake Up, a production with Dave Wilson of the Parahumans.

Will has recently started to try his hand at choreography. Collaborating with other artists in the multidisciplinary event Off The Wall in the summer of 2015 and more recently, adding his work to Checkbox, a show created and produced by Mikaela Demers in 2016. His career has been driven by passion, curiosity and expanding his understanding of culture and communication.

SCRATCHLINGS BY MOTHLIGHT – SONGS AND STORIES BY SEAN JESSEAU

Musician and writer Sean Jesseau sifted decades of his original songs, stories, poetry and monologues this year and took the pickings to the outrageously creative guitarist Mario Potestio. Enjoy two relentlessly adventurous artists stretching the boundaries of form with powerful, quirky, funny, touching and intriguing words and music.

producing company

A Night Noises Spectacle

venue

Urban Abbey

artists

Author/vocalist/hand-drummer;
Sean Jesseau, Guitar-scapes and
electronics; Mario Potestio

theme(s)

Transformation and awakening,
interdisciplinary, collaborative,
inventive

scheduled performance time

Friday, July 28th, 9:00pm – 10:00pm

The cast & crew bios



Sean Jesseau
Author / Musician

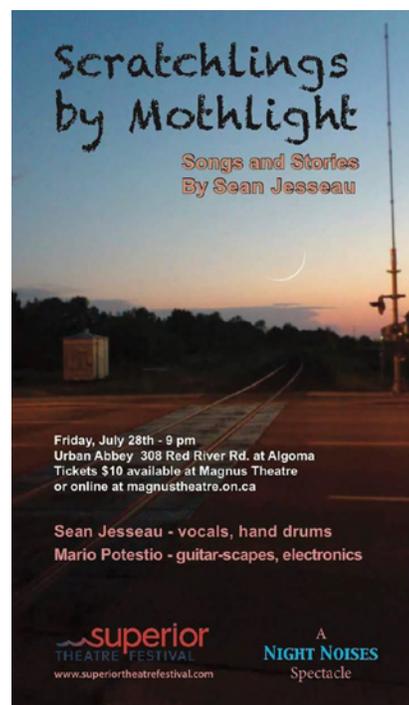
Sean worked as a paid actor starting in grade 10 and worked steadily for about 5 years before taking a long hiatus from acting. Most of this hiatus was spent learning to play hand and finger style drums and hand percussion. Sean has written quirky, funny, interesting, and touching songs, stories, poems and prose all his life but has kept it all locked in a rusty trunk.



Mario Potestio
Musician

Mario started playing the guitar at the age of 15. In a short time he began playing professionally in clubs in his home town of Thunder Bay, Ontario. He later moved to Toronto where he attended the Humber College Music Program. There he studied composition, improvisation, and arranging with some of Canada's top jazz educators. Mario has also studied with Lorne Lofsky, and Ted Quinlan in Toronto, Ben Monder, and Rez Abbassi in New York City, as well as John Abercrombie at the Banff School of Fine Arts.

Mario has performed all across Canada, United States, and the Caribbean. He has toured with the Garden Bros. Circus for 3 seasons and has performed in venues such as SkyDome, Correll Center, and Copps Coliseum. As well as being in demand guitarist, Mario currently leads his own trio with a focus on composition and improvised music. Mario is also currently a member of the new-jazz ensemble One Big Song. Besides being a busy performance artist, Mario is a dedicated music instructor. (Humber College, Snider Music) Mario currently resides in Thunder Bay, ON.



THE ANGIES

The Angies' is an all-female Rolling Stones tribute band formed out of their passion for the Stones and for playing music together as a group of talented women. While they enjoy putting their own spin on all eras of the Stones' music, it is the hard-rocking, gritty yet magical, post-Altamont 1970s era that most captivates 'The Angies'. Their set includes classic Stones songs from the 1970s as well as other surprises to help set the mood and bring us all back to the '70s.

artists

Lead Guitar: Sam Chong, Lead Singer: Nancy Freeborn,
Band Leader & Drums: Jenny McPhail, Bass &
Backup Vocals: Jen Swinstun, Backing Vocals &
multi-instrumentalist: Mary Walker

scheduled performance time

Friday, July 28th, 10:30pm – 11:30pm

venue

Urban Abbey

warnings

Drug reference and some crude language from the Stones' quotes and interviews

theme(s)

Rock n'roll, Rolling Stones songs, tribute band, all female band



A FAMILY STORY

Many families keep secrets. A Family Story by Taina Maki Chahal is a short play about being honest with a loved one even if one feels nervous about their response. It's Saturday morning and Ryan has come over to his Finnish Mummo and Paappa's to tell Paappa something he can't keep silent about anymore. Ryan needs Mummo's support on this. Mummo tries to mediate although she herself isn't so comfortable with Ryan's news. How will Paappa react to Ryan's revelation? Look for the birds as messengers.

producing company

Two Sisters

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 12:00pm – 1:00pm

artists

Playwright & Director: Taina Maki Chahal,
Co-Director: Della Bitove Actors: Martti Ahonen,
Della Bitove, Chazz Gogol

venue

Urban Abbey

theme(s)

Family relationships, personal struggles,
gender, LGBTQ+

The cast & crew bios



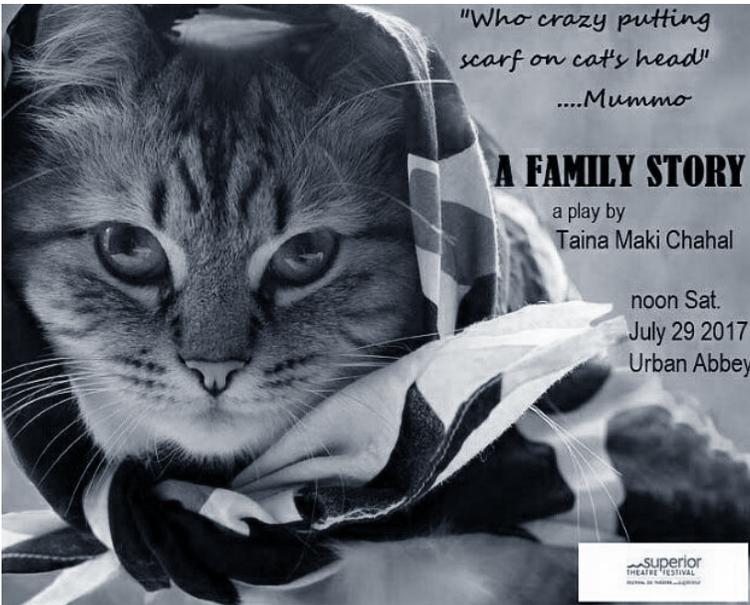
Taina Maki Chahal
Playwright & Director

Taina Maki Chahal is a published writer, teaches writing, loves writing. Her short plays include *Sylvester Comes for Coffee*; *Theatre of the Absurd*; and *A Family Story*. She co-wrote and directed *The Old Woman and the Barefoot Maiden* and *Minna Canth: There's No Stopping Her*. Her art installation *Leaving Jerusalem, Palestine, 1967* was in the juried exhibit "Ineffable" at Definitely Superior Art Gallery. She organizes feminist poetry workshops and readings, and reads poetry with Random Acts of Poetry. She's had four of her plays in Thunder Bay's 10x10 Showcases, including *The Death of Winter*, co-written with her sisters Katja and Della and *At the Bottom of Amethyst*, co-written with Della.



Della Maki Bitove
Co-Director & Actor

Della Maki Bitove wrote, produced and performed the one-woman performance piece *The Echo of the Ancestors*, a re-telling of Finnish myths, spells and laments. She co-wrote and acted in *The Old Woman and the Barefoot Maiden* and *The Death of Winter* with her sisters Katja and Taina. With Taina, she co-wrote *At the Bottom of Amethyst*. The last two plays were in the 10x10 Showcase, in 2014 and 2015. For 12 years, she acted with Kilmagig Players in Ireland, winning several acting awards. A singer-songwriter, Della recently released her second CD, *Tellukka* (2017). She teaches ukulele workshops at a seniors' residence in Toronto, makes faerie dolls, and writes found poems.



Martti Ahonen
Actor

Martti Ahonen played the role of Paappa in the 2017 10x10 Theatre Showcase production of *A Family Story*. He acted in various productions of the play *Wealth Secrets* at the Hamilton Fringe Festival 2012 and in Thunder Bay. He has also acted in Finnish language plays at the Finlandia Club, produced by the Ystavys Kerho. He is a Shiatsu and Reiki Practitioner and one of the first people in Canada to practice Shiatsu in 1973. He has taught Hata Raja Yoga in New York City and Vancouver.



Chazz Tovio Gogol
Actor

Chazz Tovio Gogol was born in Thunder Bay 22 years ago to Gloria Gogal and is the youngest in the family with an older sister. He studied dramatic arts at Sir Winston Churchill High School, with his most memorable role being the school production of *Grease* in 2009. He enjoys visual art and welding art. He performed as a drag king at various shows in Thunder Bay from January to April 2017 and continues to perform as Jack Frost, his stage persona.

THE MOOSE'S RANSOM

Mike, Stan and Brad are waiting for their friend Bob to meet them so they can start hunting the "Big One". Bob was the successful hunter in the big games draw and the only one of the group to have the Bull Moose Tag. The guys have already spotted the biggest bull moose they have ever seen, and desperately try to contact Bob. Brad finally gets a text from Bob who informs them that he gave the tag to his alternate: Mona. She shows up with the much sought after tag and proceeds to negotiate her divorce with Mike in exchange for the Tag.

artists

Playwright & Director: Carole Sauve, Actors: Dennis Dubinsky, Gabe Ferrazzo, Mike Hinsperger, Tamara Rose

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 12:00pm – 1:00pm

venue

Urban Abbey

themes

Comedy, moose hunting, divorce negotiation

The cast & crew bios



Carole Sauve

Playwright & Director

Born in Quebec City, raised as an army brat, Carole is a graduate of Concordia Film school in Montreal and studied screenwriting at UCLA. Recently, playwright of *In Memory of Dane Gerrous*, *Parent-Teacher Night*, *Shacked* and *The Moose's Ransom*. Carole lives in Thunder Bay with her husband and two children.



Dennis Dubinsky

Actor

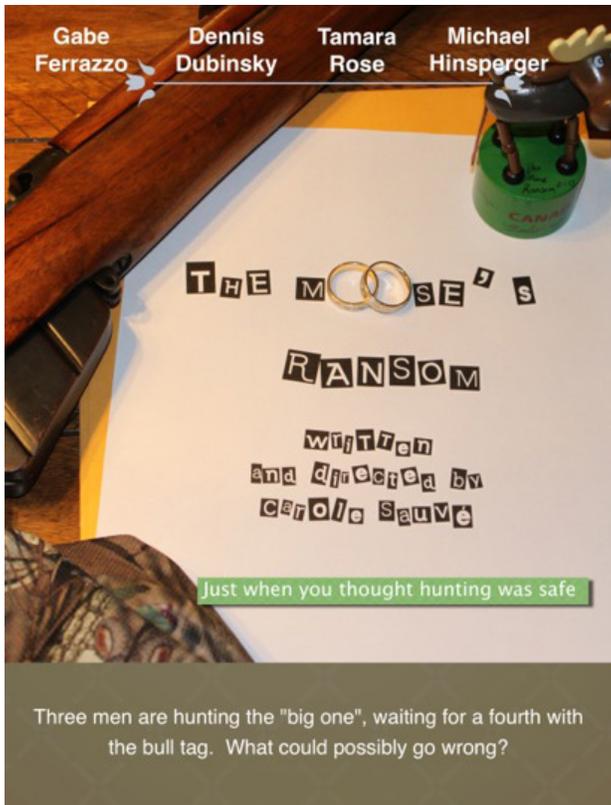
Dennis is currently in the Capitol Players production of *Canoe Unto Others at Chippewa*, and was recently in the Cambrian production of *The Full Monty*. Film credits include local productions *10-57*, *The Pineville Heist*, A.K.A. and the recently completed *Angelique's Isle*. Past film/tv work includes *The Addams Family*, *Strange Luck*, *The X Files*, and a Tommy Chong film that nobody seems to know the whereabouts of. Enjoy the festival!



Gabe Ferrazzo

Actor

Veteran actor and director of stages of many kinds in Thunder Bay music and theatre scenes. Gabe has actually hunted once or twice but thwacks through the bush for golf balls now. Being a lawyer for 10 minutes ticks off another box on the life achievement list. Thanks Carole.



Michael Hinsperger
Actor

Michael Hinsperger was born in 1985 in the city of Thunder Bay, Ontario. He caught the acting bug in his late twenties when he began performing Improv theatre with a local troupe. His raw talent and natural abilities quickly became apparent and it wasn't long before he made his foray into scripted theatre. In 2017, he took part in the Thunder Bay 10x10 showcase, winning audience favourite for *"The Moose's Ransom"*.



Tamara Rose
Actor

Tamara has been improv-ing her way around Thunder Bay for about six years now, infiltrating Cambrian Theatre and the 10 x 10 Showcase. Unstoppable silliness often ensues!

SCRABBLE

The lost art of conversation is explored in Scrabble, a 10 minute play where four friends gather to play the game of words. While they share passion for the game, they spend a lot of time talking and little time listening. Words built on the board are springboards for their separate interests. A drama bordering on the absurd side, Scrabble takes to the extreme the perils of what happens when we don't engage in a meaningful conversation.

artists

Playwright: Susan Rogers, Director: Jim Hobson,
Actors: Andrea Jacobsen, Chris Jason, Chris Minor,
Jasmine Petch

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 12:00 – 1:00pm

venue

Urban Abbey

theme(s)

Absurd, comic elements, words matter, a need for meaningful conversation

The cast & crew bios



Susan Rogers
Playwright

Retired from a long career in journalism, Susan is focusing on creative writing. She was delighted when the first play she ever wrote, *What's in a Name?*, was selected for Thunder Bay's 10x10 Showcase in 2015. That was followed by *Sperm in the Fast Lane* (2016) and *Scrabble* (2017). *Scrabble* is being restaged at the North Shore Indie Stream under a new director with three out of four different actors. She has won three awards for her creative nonfiction writing in the Northwestern Ontario Writers Workshop annual literary contests—one of her pieces will appear in an upcoming anthology.



Jim Hobson
Director

Jim started directing for various theatre groups in Thunder Bay in 1981 and he's still at it. Some of the plays he has directed are *The Dining Room* and *Death of a Salesman* for Cambrian Players, *Menopositive* and *Boiler Room Suite* for Capitol Players, *Carmen* for the Thunder Bay Symphony, and *The Zoo Story* for Way Off Broadway. He has also acted in several plays, including *Night Wings* for Superior Theatre Festival, *Midsummer Night's Dream* for Magnus, and *Dancing at Lughnasa* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* for Cambrian Players.



Andrea Jacobsen
Cate

Andrea is a BC transplant to Thunder Bay but has fallen in love with this weird place in the middle of the country. She grew up loving theatre and film, especially if there was music involved. Outside the theatre Andrea is an avid hockey and ringette player as well as a traditional archer. Her home is shared with her wife Shannon and a five pack of rescued chihuahuas.



Jasmine Petch
Andrea

Jasmine is thrilled to be playing once again with her old pal Jim Hobson. Her most recent performance was in Cambrian Player's production of *Goodnight Desdemona* (Good morning Juliet). This marked her fourth performance with Cambrian Players. She has also played in *A Streetcar Named Chippewa* (Rob MacLeod's Capitol Players) and in Magnus Theatre's *Little Shop of Horrors*. Jasmine's dream-come-true has been singing jazz with her husband in the Joe Petch Quartet.



Chris Jason
David

Some of the past plays I've appeared in over the past 10 years include *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Full Monty* and *Let's Grab Coffee* (as God!). I am thrilled to once again be on stage performing *Scrabble*. It is a rare treat to get to play a character twice, this time with new people. Thanks to Susan for having me back, to Jim for his guidance and wisdom, and to my fellow cast mates for making this play so much fun. Last but not least, thank you to our audience—you are why we do this.



Chris Minor
Ben

Chris is excited to be back home in Thunder Bay after a decade of seeking adventure, teaching yoga and ESL, and starting a family. He has played Romeo and Iago in *Goodnight Desdemona* (Good Morning Juliet), Mikado in *Mikado*, and Harold in *Music Man*.



IN MEMORY OF DANE GERROUS

Sam is overwhelmed with grief over the loss of his best friend Dane. His girlfriend Rita rushes over to console him. The truth about this friend and his relationship with Sam is not what she expected.

artists

Playwright: Carole Sauvé, Director: Maranda Dumas,
Actors: Justin Bresele, Sheena Larson

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 12:00pm – 1:00pm

venue

Urban Abbey

theme(s)

Comedy, gamer, virtual world vs. real world

The cast & crew bios



Carole Sauvé
Playwright & Director

Born in Quebec City, raised as an army brat, Carole is a graduate of Concordia Film school in Montreal and studied screenwriting at UCLA. Recently, playwright of *In Memory of Dane Gerrous*, *Parent-Teacher Night*, *Shacked* and *The Moose's Ransom*. Carole lives in Thunder Bay with her husband and two children.



Maranda Dumas
Director

Maranda is honoured to be directing another play by the talented Carole Sauvé. Having directed *The Moose's Ransom* for the 5th Annual 10x10 showcase, she is thrilled to see it ride again along with *In Memory of Dane Gerrous*. When Maranda is not in the director's seat, you can catch her acting with theatre companies all over town - Cambrian Players, Redwood Park Church, and most recently Rob MacLeod's Capital Players.



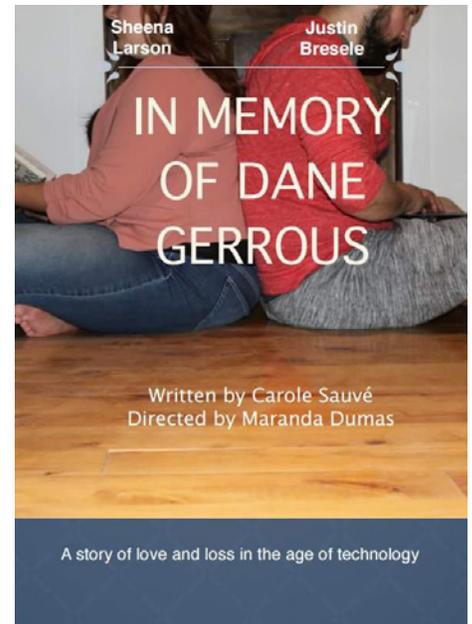
Sheena Larson
Rita

Sheena has always had a flair for theatrics. She found her passion for the stage in high school and carried it into her time at Confederation College, writing for and acting in shows with the Performing Arts Club. She recently acted in the 5th Annual 10x10 Showcase and will be on stage for her second summer as a part of Applauze Productions' Broadway on Bay.



Justin Bresele
Sam

Justin acted throughout high school and his time at Confederation College. He loved to participate in murder mystery dinner theatres back in his hometown of Red Rock. Most recently, Justin has written and performed in evenings of one act plays put on by the Confederation College Performing Arts Club. He is excited to be a part of this festival.



RAIN

Cathi Grandfield's RAIN invites us to experience the central questions in an abusive, discordant relationship; how can you be together or can you be together? Sarah, played by Emily Upper, retreats to her safe place. She invites Kevin, played by Justin Parcher, into that space to explore options for how to survive the impending storm. Upper and Parcher, two of Thunder Bay's finest young actors, have a long history of working together on stage, having appeared in many Rogue Productions. Their familiarity with each other brings a strong sense of confidence, maturity and empathy to the relationship explored in RAIN. Sobota is excited to be working collaboratively on RAIN with both the cast and the playwright. The content of RAIN refreshes his focus on issues he explored in his very first directorial effort while he was in university, Tennessee Williams' 27 Wagon Loads of Cotton.

producing company

Earnest Productions

venue

Urban Abbey

artists

Playwright: Cathi Grandfield, Director: Michael Sobota,
Actors: Emily Upper, Justin Parcher

warnings

Language not suitable for young children

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 6:30 – 7:30pm

theme(s)

Emotional, engaging, difficult relationship, dramatic

The cast & crew bios



Cathi Grandfield
Playwright

Cathi Grandfield is a Thunder Bay writer and musician. Her original plays have been produced in New York, Los Angeles and Thunder Bay. Cathi is the Artistic Director of the 10x10 Play Showcase.

Michael Sobota
Director

Michael is a director, designer, actor and playwright. He began directing plays while in high school. He has directed plays by George Ryga, Kelly Rebar, Edward Albee, Arthur Kopit, Tennessee Williams, and Andrew Paulsen, as well as helping build collective creations. His productions have been seen in Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, St. John's, Sioux Lookout, Thunder Bay and Kaministiquia. He previously directed Justin Parcher in Stephen Belber's *TAPE* for New Noise Productions. He lives and works in Thunder Bay by choice.



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Emily Upper
Sarah

Emily Upper has appeared both on stage and in films, most notably starring in both short and feature films for Imaginarium Studios (*Love & Hate*, *These Lovers*). She has appeared on stage in numerous productions for Rogue, including their annual reprise of *Dickens' A Christmas Carol* as well as several Shakespeare plays opposite Justin Parcher, her stage combatant in *RAIN*.



Justin Parcher
Kevin

Justin is no stranger to the stage, having performed in dozens of productions over the past two decades right here in Thunder Bay. He was last seen in Cambrian Players production of Shakespeare's *PERICLES, PRINCE OF TYRE* as Pericles. He might have also tried to eat your brains as an undead zombie in *NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD LIVE* at Magnus Theatre. This is Justin's first time being involved with the Superior Theatre Festival and he's excited to work with theatre friends old and new. Guess how long his hair has grown and win a prize! [It's the source of his power – Ed.]

GOLF LESSONS

Married couple, Hank and Margie, begin to play 9 holes of golf on a par 3 course. Hank is an experienced golfer and wants to mentor his wife who is a novice. As they move from hole to hole, tempers flare and who is the more skilled and unflappable golfer comes in to question.

artists

Playwright: Jane Crossman, Director: L.J Henshell,
Actors: Arlene King, Glen Paterson

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 6:30 – 7:30pm

venue

Urban Abbey

theme(s)

Comedy, golfing story, marital tension

The cast & crew bios



Jane Crossman
Playwright

In a former life, Jane Crossman was a professor at Lakehead University. From 2015-17, she was president of the Northwestern Ontario Writers Workshop and prior to that, a board member. Jane is a member of the Thunder Bay Writers Guild and delights in writing humorous creative non-fiction pieces. She has had short stories published in anthologies, literary magazines and wrote a play selected for the 10X10 Showcase 2017 entitled *Golf Lessons*. Jane divides her time between Thunder Bay, Arizona and Northern Ireland.



LJ Henshell
Director

LJ Henshell has been involved in theater for over 20 years. Most recently she's been involved in the local 10x10 InTensive Showcase as a director and was Assistant Director for the "Crackwalker" for The Organic Underground- Belleville Alternative Theater Collective. LJ has done everything from acting to set design, she studied acting at Thunder Bay's own Magnus Theater, as well as, studying on camera acting while taking Television Broadcasting. In her spare time LJ loves to read, volunteer with Army Cadets, work with animals in Animal Services, study Tai Chi and create art in various digital mediums.



Arlene King
Margie

Arlene King is an artist, feeding the muse in many forms as a producer, presenter, performer, promoter and picto-scribe. She has had extensive acting experience and her latest role was "Margie" in the play *Golf Lessons*.



Glen Paterson
Hank

Glen Paterson possesses a diverse skill set that has allowed him to perform Tenor solo roles with the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra (TBSO) in programming ranging from Opera to Broadway. Recently (2017) he played the role of Paleontologist in the *Carnival of the Dinosaurs* children's production with the TBSO. He is just as comfortable with guitar in hand leading a group of children on a musical adventure or leading a sing-song with a group of older adults. Dozens of concert appearances as a member of the vocal trio Broadway Bound have provided many memorable moments. His acting experiences have included the roles of Boris Kolenkov (a Russian ballet instructor) in *You Can't Take it With You* (2006), *Khlestakov* (a Russian fop mistakenly identified as an undercover government inspector) in *The Government Inspector* (2008), and Reverend Pringle (joins a curling team to play the devil's team) in *The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon* (2011) all with Magnus Theatre in Thunder Bay. The Cambrian Theatre production of *Halo* (2009) found "Donald" wrestling with his faith in the face of the tragic loss of his daughter. Glen was pleased to be asked to perform in the most recent 10x10 Festival (2017) as "Hank" striving for that frustratingly elusive "hole-in-one" in *Golf Lessons*. Not being a Paleontologist, Russian, religious, a curler or a golfer has provided welcome challenges at every turn.

ONE FOR NORMA

"Do you see me, Norma?"

"If I see you- "

"If?"

"Then I have to show you things you never saw before."

Fear of the future is suffocating Norma Bean. Her husband Jake tries to help her step back and breathe. Their encounter with Calliope, a mystical street vendor who offers stories as sustenance, beckons them into a world of wonder and possibility.

producing company

Pasquale Productions

venue

Urban Abbey

artists

Playwright: Cathi Grandfield, Director: Justin O'Brien,
Actors: Nancy Freeborn, Heidi Gordon, Keri Pidgen,
John Welyki

theme(s)

Experimental language-based theatre, playful exploration
of sound, voice and language infused with wonder

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 6:30 – 7:30pm

The cast & crew bios



Cathi Grandfield
Playwright

Cathi Grandfield is a Thunder Bay writer and musician. Her original plays have been produced in New York, Los Angeles and Thunder Bay. Cathi is the Artistic Director of the 10x10 Play Showcase.



Justin O'Brien
Director

Justin O'Brien is honoured to be part of this year's Superior Theatre Festival. He is no stranger to the stage, having acted in various shows over the past few years with Cambrian Players and 10x10. After making his directorial debut with *"Blue Jays in the Backyard and Other Life Lessons"*, Justin is looking forward to sitting in the director's chair once again to bring *"One For Norma"* to life. Enjoy the show!



John Welyki
Jake Bean

John is an occasional actor/
musician/operatic baritone.
He is super grateful for every
opportunity to perform he
gets, for real. He mentions his
daughter, Esther, in virtually
every bio he's had to write
since her entry into this world.



Heidi Gordon
Missy

You may have seen Heidi on
stage before, and you may not
have... why yes, she is that girl
from that thing!



Nancy Freeborn
Calliope

Nancy is a local performer
who can be seen acting,
singing, hosting, dancing and
otherwise hogging any stage
she can find. Her true passion
is acting and she's very
excited to have been given
this opportunity.



Keri Pidgen
Norma Bean

Keri was first introduced to
theatre through the improv
scene. A biologist by day,
performer (occasionally)
by night...she really enjoys
dissecting her roles.

SUNDAY WILDE AND RENO JACK

Award winning artists Sunday Wilde and Reno Jack perform original beat poems and songs, with upright bass and keys. Both Sunday and Reno are published writers and have released 8 albums, as well as involved in a poetry collective in the past 10 years with numerous tours under their belt as a duo: old school. Their last album was on the Grammy long list. Addiction, sadness, joy and family dysfunction are all subjects of their performance and expression. They blend powerful messages with intense vocals mixing poems and songs.

producing company

Hwy 11 Records

venue

Urban Abbey

artists

Poet, Pianist and Singer: Sunday Wilde & Poet, Upright Bass Player and Singer: Reno Jack

theme(s)

Beat poetry and song, addiction, family dysfunction, joy, sadness

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 8:00pm – 9:00pm

The cast & crew bios



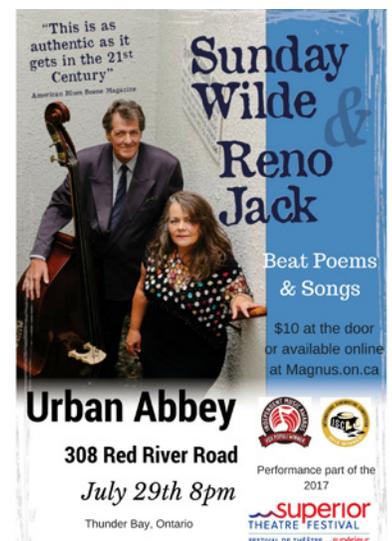
Sunday Wilde
Musician

Sunday Wilde is from the wilds of a northern Ontario small town, and has been found singing everywhere from small logging towns at funeral parlours, and blues joints and all the way to large festivals, and bars in bustling metropolises. She is a powerful and intense vocalist, a rare voice that speaks from the primal soul. Sunday is a songwriter who explores the subjects of grief, addiction, love and the torment of social and family dysfunction. Her lyrics and delivery make it abundantly clear that she speaks from experience and authority.



Reno Jack
Musician

Reno Jack, reknowned Queen Street (Toronto) rockabilly bassist has performed for decades across Canada and toured Europe. The Queen Street scene mid eighties The Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver scene early eighties. The Seventies no one can remember or desires to recollect. Herald Nix. Mike Van Eyes and Russ Young whom he backed up for four years Rocky Craig and Cadillac Bob. Handsome Ned. Jimmy "Demic" Weatherstone, Steve Koch and Reno backed that cat for a couple of years. Cris Houston subbing for Jailhouse Joe Myke in the Razorbacks, Pat Temple, King David and his own band formed with Johnny MacLeod over twenty years boasted the best fifty musicians in Toronto called the Jack Family. Later on in the nineties The Corndogs, Cadillac Bill, Kim Doolittle, and playing the Matador. Johnnie Lovesin who he still plays with today.





youth summer initiative



YOUTH SUMMER THEATRE PROGRAM

Superior Theatre Festival's Youth Summer Initiative for 2017 focuses on performance skills and play creation. This youth intensive will take place from July 24th - July 29th, 2017.

In its second year of existence Superior Theatre Festival will focus on uniquely Canadian stories throughout this summer exploration and they are especially interested in the Northern Perspective and Northern Voice. How can students access the power they have in their own stories and share those with others around them? How are their stories the same as other youth around the country and how do they differ? These and other questions will be explored in the workshops and students will have an opportunity for sharing and connection via Skype with an-other arts group outside of Thunder Bay that are engaging in an arts summer program. This will create further connections for the young artists with other youth across Ontario.

This program aims to create positive and healthy opportunities for youth to become involved in the community and learn in a supportive environment. STF's program will bring youth together to create in an inclusive environment with both an Ontario Certified Teacher and artist/educators to build confidence, risk taking, empathy and a vocabulary in the arts. Students will explore: improvisation, movement work, text work, choral reading, music composition, puppetry, mask work, and play creation. At the end of the week they will present the work that they've created during the week as part of the Superior Theatre Festival in the Spirit Garden.

STF's philosophy is to provide a fresh perspective to students that already have experience with drama and to ignite a fire in those that are new to it. This training is based on an experiential model. Students that are physically engaged in the work and encouraged to build from their own ideas, will be more engaged and apt to take ownership of their work.

producing company

Superior Theatre Festival

artists

Aidan Chetkiewicz, Isabella Fanti, Chelsey Flint, Dahra Gillen, Eliza Goodwin, Sidne Hodgins, Eric Hofmann, Jendaya Hopkins, Neebing Kuper, Franki-Lynn Mauro, Mallory McDonald, Chantal Narbonne, Jessica Nelson, Leah Rantala, Naomi Sutton, Faith Trelinski

teachers

Donna Marie Baratta, Eleanor Albanese, Danny Johnson, Betty Carpick

scheduled performance time

Saturday, July 29th, 2:00pm

venue

The Spirit Garden



HOT OFF THE PRESS DANCE WORKSHOP

It's an Intermediate/Advanced level workshop:

This workshop looks at a few fundamentals of contemporary training, including specific movement initiation, consequential action and the use of directional energies. The class will begin with a warm-up that takes the dancers from floor work to standing to across the floor, after which we will play with movement construction and invention, through the development of a short choreographic partner phrase.

date & time

Sunday, July 30th, 12:00pm – 1:30pm

location

Fay Gleeson Dance Centre (222 Leith Street)

entrance fee

\$10.00 / person

sign up

To sign up please contact Grace Pella at:
stfassistantgm@gmail.com

Instructor bio



Heidi Strauss
Dancer/Choreographer

Dancer/choreographer Heidi Strauss began training with Denise Vitali; in her teenage years Sudbury School of Dance was her second home. She was one of co-founders of Sudbury's earthdancers and is now the artistic director of adelheid, a company she began in 2008. adelheid's work looks at interaction between different people and groupings of people, with a specific interest in the situation of performance and how we consider each other (audience & performer) within that construct. Heidi was dance artist in residence at the Factory Theatre (2008-2012) and a resident artist at the Theatre Centre (2013-16). Her award-winning work has toured nationally. Heidi has choreographed for Toronto Dance Theatre, The Frankfurt Opera, The Canadian Opera Company, Volcano theatre, and the Stratford Festival. She has given workshops across Canada, and in the Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Singapore. Heidi received the KM Hunter Award for Dance (2012), and her most recent work what it's like recently won three Dora Mavor Moore Awards.

www.adelheid.ca





thank you

The City of Thunder Bay:
 Kathy Ball, Paul Burke, Paul
 Pepe, Michelle Giordano, Cory
 Halverson
 Fay Steadwell and Fay
 Gleeson Dance Centre
 Thom Currie and
 Magnus Theatre
 Gabe Ferrazzo and
 Cambrian Players

Gloria Baratta
 Cynthia Baratta
 Laura Nanni
 Frank Baratta
 Curtis Jensen
 Newfoundland Consultant:
 Steve Hussey
 The Stratford Festival
 Johnny Zussino

Tina Zussino
 Mike Zussino
 Kinnon Elliott
 JoAnne Odette
 Ruth Hamlin-Douglas
 Chiara Zussino
 Bianca Zussino
 Lynda Henshell
 Robyn Harvey

Meagan O'Reilly
 Cheryl Thacker
 Gloria Baratta
 Becky Prescott
 Kimberly Jaklitch
 Melanie Sebesta
 Jim Walton
 Sue Dunstan
 Ellen Harvey

sponsors

Without financial support this festival could never have happened. Our heartfelt thank you goes out to our sponsors who believed in us. We hope you will continue to support the arts and help us create a festival that we can all be proud of.





Thunder Bay Ventures

Community Futures Development Corporation

As a Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC), we finance new businesses and expansions, provide business services and referrals and fund economic development projects in the Thunder Bay Census Metropolitan Area (CMA).

Phone 807.768.6650

Fax: 807.768.6655

info@thunderbayventures.com

www.thunderbayventures.com

FAY GLEESON DANCE CENTRE



Summer is finally here!!!

But fall is just around the corner

FGDC IS GETTING READY FOR OUR 60TH SEASON

Check out our fall children, teen and adult classes available this dance season in the fall Key, on line or on our Facebook.

If you are tired of "competition" and just want to dance we might have the classes you are looking for this fall.

We will be holding our last "in person" registration Monday August 28th from 5 - 7 at 222 Leith Street, home of FGDC or you can visit our web site and complete our on line form.

*** Please note that some children's classes are either close to being or are now full***

For further information please contact us at faygleesondance@gmail.com, Facebook or Instagram.

Magnus Theatre

magnustheatre.com

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SUPERIOR THEATRE FESTIVAL



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Mailing Address
206 Park Avenue
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1C2

BARQUECREATIVE.CA



our arts

At Tbaytel, we believe “our” is a powerful concept. Why? Because what follows it makes a world of difference.

We are surrounded by jaw-dropping natural beauty. It is a backdrop of endless inspiration for artists, musicians, dancers, actors, photographers, and filmmakers. At Tbaytel, we believe in the arts and that’s why we support them.

Thank you Thunder Bay, for being connected to the community.

neighb**our**hood
– we’re in it **together**

tbaytel

“Theatre arts play a crucial role in stimulating creativity, fostering collaboration, developing vital communities and building the economy. Northwestern Ontario welcomes Superior Theatre Festival and their commitment to contributing to our quality of life.”

HONOURABLE MICHAEL GRAVELLE

MPP for Thunder Bay – Superior North

The logo for the Superior Theatre Festival features a stylized white wave icon to the left of the word "superior" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. Below "superior", the words "THEATRE FESTIVAL" are written in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font.

superiortheatrefestival.com