



# STF

2016 | program

AUGUST 4-7

 superior  
THEATRE FESTIVAL

for more information, visit:  
[superiortheatrefestival.com](http://superiortheatrefestival.com)

*The program*

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*About*

# superior theatre festival

August 4-7 2016, serves as Superior Theatre Festival's launch of its professional, multidisciplinary arts festival in Thunder Bay activating a variety of indoor and outdoor sites, including the Spirit Garden at Prince Arthur's Landing. The festival builds on Thunder Bay's cultural community and facilitates collaborations between artists from other parts of Canada.

The special talents and professional skills of Artistic Director Donna Marie Baratta, a team of artists and dedicated board members are undertaking all logistics, operations and fundraising.

The intention is for Superior Theatre Festival (STF) to become an annual event devoted to showcasing professional, emerging and youth artists in our community.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Lil Bergamo (Chairperson)  
Dave Shannon (Vice-Chairperson)  
John Bergamo (Treasurer)  
Lois Nuttal  
Tina Zussino

#### **ARTISTIC ADVISORY TEAM**

Eleanor Albanese  
Donna Marie Baratta  
(Artistic Director, Secretary)  
Danny Johnson

Welcome from the

# artistic director

This festival grew out of a desire to create something that would honour the artists in Thunder Bay and bring artists together from across the country. While spending my summer in Thunder Bay two years ago I contacted Paul Burke from the city about using park space for this project and he suggested that I look at the Spirit Garden. I was immediately captivated by its natural beauty and possibility. I love outdoor theatre because of the unpredictable nature of it and the possibility for a magical experience in a natural setting. What was to be a one or two show event, slowly turned into a festival with artists from other disciplines, in other venues in the city and a team of dedicated artists and supporters of the arts. This is due to the initial funding from the Ontario Arts Council and the Department of Canadian Heritage. We then began reaching out to our own community and found the necessary support that allowed us to move forward. We could not have done it without our sponsors - thank you for believing in this festival.

This year marks a beginning. An opportunity. It's our launch year and that means you are with us to celebrate the potential for our future.

We want to hear from you - what did you love? What do you want to see next year? What does community mean to you and how do we take part in building it?

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. First, I carefully called on my two artistic collaborators - Eleanor Albanese and Danny Johnson (who I've known since our days at the old Magnus building). Then I called together the most generous board members I knew, led by Lil Bergamo who has become a valued and trusted friend throughout this process. Finally, the rest of the STF artists - individuals that I admire and whose work I respect. Throughout all the uncertainty and the newness you never lost hope - thank you for making this a reality! We are here because a lot of people said YES! It's a simple word -but it's an important one. It's the green light we needed to move forward.

This festival has proven to be an incredible learning experience. It has challenged me in ways that other projects could not and it has asked so much of everyone involved. We only get one year to start this new adventure and you are here with us!! 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 - it's the only way I know how - through theatre.

**DONNA MARIE BARATTA**  
*Superior Theatre Festival  
Artistic Director*



“Superior Theatre Festival is a multi-faceted theatre arts initiative devoted to showcasing professional, emerging, and youth artists in Thunder Bay.

**DONNA MARIE BARATTA**  
*Artistic Director, Superior Theatre Festival*

# The programming

## shedule at a glance

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

### thursday, august 4

**HONEY I'M HOME LAUNCH PARTY**  
10:00pm  
*The Foundry* (242 Red River Road)

### friday, august 5

**NIGHT WINGS (PWYC)**  
2:00pm - 3:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)

**MEET AND GREAT WITH  
NIGHT WINGS PUPPET & PUPPETEER**  
3:00pm - 3:30pm  
*The Spirit Garden - Honouring Circle*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**NIGHT WINGS COMMUNITY  
ART-MAKING PROJECT**  
3:00pm - 5:00pm  
*The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**IMPROV WORKSHOP**  
4:00pm - 5:00pm  
*The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**NIGHT WINGS (PWYC)**  
7:00pm - 8:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)

**BIG SHOT**  
9:00pm - 10:15pm  
*The Finlandia Club* (314 Bay St)

### saturday, august 6

**NIGHT WINGS COMMUNITY  
ART-MAKING PROJECT**  
12:00pm - 4:00pm  
*The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**NIGHT WINGS (PWYC)**  
2:00pm - 3:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)

**MEET AND GREAT WITH  
NIGHT WINGS PUPPET & PUPPETEER**  
3:00pm - 3:30pm  
*The Spirit Garden - Honouring Circle*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**AN AFTERNOON WITH MOEZ SURANI**  
4:00pm - 6:00pm  
*The Urban Abbey* (308 Red River Road)

**NIGHT WINGS (PWYC)**  
7:00pm - 8:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)

**BIG SHOT & TALK BACK**  
9:00pm - 10:15pm  
*The Finlandia Club* (314 Bay St)

### sunday, august 7

**STF BREAKFAST WITH THE ARTISTS**  
10:00am - 12:00pm  
*The Finlandia Club* (314 Bay St)

**NIGHT WINGS COMMUNITY  
ART-MAKING PROJECT**  
12:00pm - 4:00pm  
*The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**NIGHT WINGS (PWYC)**  
2:00pm - 3:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)

**MEET AND GREET WITH  
NIGHT WINGS PUPPET & PUPPETEER**  
3:00pm - 3:30pm  
*The Spirit Garden - Honouring Circle*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: The Baggage Building*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)

**POETRY READING**  
3:30pm - 4:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden - Honouring Circle*  
(Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)

**NIGHT WINGS (PWYC)**  
7:00pm - 8:00pm  
*The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)  
*Rain Location: Urban Abbey*  
(308 Red River Road)



**locations map**



- 1** *The Spirit Garden* (Prince Arthur's Landing)
- 2** *The Baggage Building* (Prince Arthur's Landing)

- 3** *The Foundry* (242 Red River Road)
- 4** *The Urban Abbey* (308 Red River Road)

- 5** *The Finlandia Club* (314 Bay St)



shows



# HONEY I'M HOME LAUNCH PARTY

*Susan Dunstan (Toronto/Thunder Bay, Ontario) and Danny Johnson and his Band (Thunder Bay, Ontario)*

AUGUST 4 | THE FOUNDRY (242 RED RIVER ROAD) | \$5.00 AT THE DOOR | 19+

Two home grown talents will launch our first festival! This will be Sue's first appearance since she left to pursue her career in mega-musicals such as: *The Lion King*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and most recently *Kinky Boots*. She will share her extraordinary vocals while ruminating on what it means to be home. Come see Sue before she heads to Broadway to perform in a new musical this fall. Our hometown favourite Danny Johnson will also share his own songwriting that is influenced by his experiences in Thunder Bay and some of his favourite artists. You don't want to miss this unforgettable night!

## The artists

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**Susan Dunstan**  
Performance Artist

Susan is thrilled to be a part of Donna Marie's exciting new Theatre Company in her home town of Thunder Bay!

Select shows/workshops: *Kinky Boot* (Mirvish), *South Pacific* (Bloody Mary/Drayton), *The Lion King* (US National Tour), *Priscilla Queen Of the Desert*, *Lord Of The Rings & The Lion King* (Shenzi) with Mirvish. *Annie Get Your Gun* (Massey Hall), *Ragtime* (Livent), *Poodle Skirts* (Theatre Aquarius), *Lou Lou* (Banff Centre), *Somewhere In The World* (Canada Girl) & *The Princess and the Handmaiden* (Handmaiden) at the Charlottetown Festival.

Upcoming: You can catch Susan in the new musical *Come From Away* at the Royal Alex in Toronto in November/December before the show heads to Broadway in January!

When not on stage in a show, Susan can be found at the dog show with her Champion Dobermans and Standard Poodle, or teaching at her private voice studio. [www.susandunstan.com](http://www.susandunstan.com)



**Danny Johnson**  
Musician

Danny has performed in dozens of theatre productions both at Magnus Theatre and at theatres across the country. You may have seen him this year in *The Book Of Everything* and as Johnny Cash in *Ring Of Fire*. He is a respected songwriter who has opened for major touring artists such as Bob Dylan, The Tragically Hip and Johnny Cash. As a musician Danny has played with such artists as Bo Diddley, Paul Shaffer, Long John Baldry and The Temptations. When not playing live, he can be found in his recording studio, where he has worked on Juno and Gemini-nominated albums and films. As a producer/engineer he has recently worked with Coleman Hell and Android 16 and is producing an upcoming CD for *The Gryphon Trio* and the TBSO.

# NIGHT WINGS

*By Eleanor Albanese (Thunder Bay, Ontario), Produced by STF Company  
(Creative Team and Cast from Thunder Bay and all across Canada)*

AUGUST 5-7 | THE SPIRIT GARDEN (PRINCE ARTHUR'S LANDING) | RAIN LOCATION: URBAN ABBEY (308 RED RIVER ROAD)  
PWYC SUGGESTED DONATION: \$10.00 | A FAMILY SHOW

*Night Wings* centres around a 12 year old girl named Molly. The year is 1938 and Molly's world includes her brother Jari and her nearby grandfather, "Ukki". The family is under strain, not only because the father works out in the timber camps for weeks at a time but Molly has additional challenges due to the fact that she has vision loss. Jari's response is to become overly protective of his sister while Molly finds independence through an imaginary world of her own making. When Jari finds a wounded owl and decides to secretly nurse it back to health, a series of events unfold that puts both the children at risk.

\* Please bring a blanket or a seat cushion to sit on, sunscreen, water and a hat.

## director's note

*Night Wings* is a gift. Producing a new play is no easy task but it is easier with the most generous collaborators and from the beginning it has been a joy to work on this play. The desire to open the festival with a story set in Northwestern Ontario was always important to me but to find a play that is rooted in this place with so much heart and magic is a gift from Eleanor.

The connection to nature and the realization of ones own mortality is something that everyone can connect to. Superior Theatre Festival has been given the opportunity to bring this play to life. I hope you enjoy it and I hope you go away thinking about your own family, your roots and your responsibility to each other.

## playwright's note

So many influences and ideas are woven together in a creative project and sometimes it's difficult to pinpoint the exact moment when a story begins to take shape. I've always felt a deep connection with birds, and perhaps *Night Wings* was brewing inside me since I was a child. However, the first draft appeared not long after my father passed away and perhaps it was my way of keeping him close to me. Many people contributed to the the play's development, from bird banders to people in the Finnish community of Thunder Bay, including Finn

Thunder 2012. Also Theatre Direct, Ottawa Little Theatre, Carousel Players, dramaturgs Lila Cano and Iris Turcott were all involved at some point along the way. Without their support and the support of Superior Theatre Festival, this play would remain on the page. Thank you to all who've contributed their time and talent over the years.

## cast list

Molly: Kelsey Agnew  
Ukki: Jim Hobson  
Jari: Roland Piers

## young company

Gabby Carlin  
Eliza Goodwin  
Wesley Graham  
Leah Rantala

## creative team

Playwright: Eleanor Albanese  
Director: Donna Marie Baratta \*  
Sound Designer / Composer: Danny Johnson  
Production Designer: Nancy Perrin  
Puppet Makers: Shadowland Theatre

## production team

Publicity: Lindsay Fron, Gloria Baratta  
Stage Manager: Gillian Jones \*  
Technical Director: Mike Maki

\**Appearing courtesy of Canadian Actors Equity Association*



## The cast



**Kelsey Agnew**  
Character: Molly

Kelsey starred in her first big role at the age of 12 as Anne Shirley in the musical *Anne of Green Gables*. Growing up in the Ottawa Valley, she was also fortunate enough to play Nora in *A Doll's House* during her high school years. Having lived in Thunder Bay for over a decade now, she has thoroughly enjoyed being involved in many local theatre productions with various companies. She fondly remembers being a member of the *Laramie Project* cast, directed by Michael Sobota and; playing the role of Megan in *True Directions* - a screenplay adapted from the film "*But I'm a Cheerleader*" produced by New Noise Productions and directed by Yolanda Bonnell. Off stage, Kelsey spends her free time mountain biking, urban farming and playing guitar.



**Jim Hobson**  
Character: Ukki

Jim has been kickin' around the [theatre] boards for a couple of years now. This adventure, exploring Eleanor Albanese's newest play, *Night Wings*, has been an exciting and beautiful journey indeed. What a wondrous gift to work with Donna Marie, Kelsey, Roland and the lively puppet wizardry of the youth. Kudos also to Nancy and Gillian.



**Roland Piers**  
Character: Jari

Roland Piers is an aspiring actor, about to enter his final year at the National Theatre School of Canada in Montreal. Born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta, Roland has been a part of multiple Citadel Theatre productions including: *A Christmas Carol*, *Oliver!*, *Beauty & the Beast*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. He also featured in Freewill's productions of *Richard III*, and *The Winter's Tale* at Shakespeare in the Park. Recently he finished workshopping a site specific new work (*Everyone We Know Will Be There* by Elena Belyea) in an Edmonton house. This is Roland's first taste of Thunder Bay's beauty.



## The young company



**Gabby Carlin**  
Actor

Gabby comes from a long line of singers, musicians, and actors, and has been on stage since the age of 3. She loves to sing, dance, and act, and now she's giving puppeteering a try! Her lead roles include Alice in *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, Millie in *Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr.*, both with Paramount Live in Thunder Bay. Other credits include Tinkerbell in *Peter Pan Jr.* and Molly in *Annie* with Paramount Live, and as Cupid in *The Secret World of Santa* with Applauze Productions. She will also appear in her first film role later this year, in *The Hag: Bloodline*. In 2015, she won a spot with the prestigious Broadway Artists Alliance summer intensive program in New York City, and for this summer she successfully auditioned for Drayton Production's Children's Theatre Program in Cambridge, Ontario. She trains in dance with the Dream Dance Co. and SPC in Thunder Bay, and she receives vocal training from Denise Krawczuk at Applauze productions in Thunder Bay.



**Eliza Goodwin**  
Actor

Eliza Goodwin is 13 years old and born and raised in Thunder Bay. From a young age Eliza has been involved in local theatre, starting with her participation in the production "Clowns" when she was 6 years of age. Through this experience she discovered her love for the stage and the many aspects of theatre arts. She then took on the challenging role of Xanthias in the play *Frogs* that was produced by SLAC and also participated in their production *Colours*. By age 10 Eliza joined the Eleanor Drury Children's Theatre group. During the past three years Eliza has appeared as: the character Green (narrator) in *The Wizard of Oz*, the Mad Hatter in the production of *Alice in Wonderland* and most recently in *Cinderella* as Cinderella. She also enjoyed playing the role of Tinny Tim in Rogue Production's *The Christmas Carol* at Old Fort William. Her love of theatre has crossed over into school experiences where she has directed and performed in several different plays. To further enhance her theatre experience she has participated in vocal lessons. Eliza would like to personally thank Donna Marie Baratta (Artistic Director) for this amazing opportunity to be involved in this production of *Night Wings* by Eleanor Albanese.



**Wesley Graham**  
Actor

Wesley Graham is a Thunder Bay local actor / singer. Most recently he has been busy on stage in the hit musical sensation *Broadway On Bay* singing in a number of roles including numbers from *Oliver* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Wesley made his professional debut as Timothy in Magnus Theatre's presentation of *Moose on the Loose* in 2015. His portfolio continues to grow with roles in film (*The Maltese Guinea Pig*), commercials, PSAs and many theatre presentations.



**Leah Rantala**  
Actor

Leah is an experienced performer, as she started dancing when she was four, and began acting at the age of eight. Leah has been involved with many different musicals, such as *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* and *Beauty and the Beast* (BOUNCE Productions), *Wizard of Oz* and *The Little Mermaid* (St. Patrick's High School), and *#LovesAllYouNeed* and *Broadway on Bay* (Applauze Productions). She is currently taking singing and musical theatre with Applauze, and recently had a role in the film *The Pineville Heist*. Leah would like to thank Donna Marie for the amazing opportunity to get involved with such a wonderful event.

## The creative team



**Eleanor Albanese**  
*Playwright*

Eleanor Albanese has spent her life immersed in the arts through playwriting, arts education, theatre and filmmaking. Her many plays for young audiences have toured nationally from coast to coast. Her recent play *Night Wings* recently won the Sybil Cook award from Ottawa Little Theatre. Her film, *Under the Pearl Moon*, co-directed with Sonja Obljubek, received its premiere in Zagreb, Croatia and won the Peoples Choice award at the Bay Street Film Festival. *The Novena Sisters* aired nationally on CBC radio's Sunday Showcase Series and her full length drama *The Two Rooms of Grace* was included in the 1999 International Women Playwrights Festival in Ireland, as well as receiving its first production at Magnus Theatre. In all of her work, Eleanor seeks to engage community and encourage others to find and explore their own unique creative voice.



**Donna Marie Baratta**  
*Director*

Donna Marie Baratta is a Director, Choreographer, Producer, Educator and Performer who makes Toronto and Thunder Bay her home. She is the 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. She is a graduate of the MFA Directing program at the University of Alberta and a passionate Arts educator. Donna Marie has taught for the last fifteen years with the Lakehead Public School Board and TCDSB (Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts), at the University of Alberta, Randolph Academy and many other dance studios across Canada. She is also an inaugural member, of and on the Steering Committee, of the Directors Lab North. Check out her website [dmbaratta.com](http://dmbaratta.com) for more information.



**Danny Johnson**  
*Sound Designer*

Danny has performed in dozens of theatre productions both at Magnus Theatre and at theatres across the country. You may have seen him this year in *The Book Of Everything* and as Johnny Cash in *Ring Of Fire*. He is a respected songwriter who has opened for major touring artists such as Bob Dylan, The Tragically Hip and Johnny Cash. As a musician Danny has played with such artists as Bo Diddley, Paul Shaffer, Long John Baldry and The Temptations. When not playing live, he can be found in his recording studio, where he has worked on Juno and Gemini-nominated albums and films. As a producer/engineer he has recently worked with Coleman Hell and Android 16 and is producing an upcoming CD for *The Gryphon Trio* and the TBSO.



**Gillian Jones**  
*Stage Manager*

Gillian is pleased to be working with the Superior Theatre Festival. A life long resident of Thunder Bay, she has worked at Magnus Theatre for many years, stage managing the main stage shows as well as several TYA tours. She is a member of CAEA.



**Nancy Perrin**  
*Production Designer*

Nancy is a set and costume designer, who has recently completed her third season at the Stratford Festival as an Assistant Set and Costume Designer. She is pleased to be a part of the inaugural season of the Superior Theatre Festival.

Designs include; *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).

She graduated with a BFA in Theatre Production and Design at the National Theatre School where she graduated from the Set and Costume Design program in 2010. Recipient of the Ian and Molly Lindsay Young Design Fellow. Website: [nancyanneperrin.com](http://nancyanneperrin.com)



# BIG SHOT

**Jon Lachlan Stewart (Montreal, Quebec)**

AUGUST 5-6 | THE FINLANDIA CLUB (314 BAY STREET) | \$15.00 / PERSON | AUDIENCE - 14 YEARS AND UP

A 12 year old boy witnesses a shooting on Vancouver's SkyTrain. In the aftermath, he replays the scene in the style of his favourite action movies. By mining the perspectives of the witnesses, the boy uncovers a shocking reality under the veneer of his cinematic fantasy.

## Team

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Writer/Creator:  
Jon Lachlan Stewart

Projection Design:  
Matthew Schuurman

Japanese Speech Coach:  
Yukari F. Meldrum

Sound Designer:  
Dave Clarke

Director/Dramaturg:  
Georgina Beaty

Stage Manager:  
Bruce Lambie

Videographer:  
Cindi Au Yeung

Original LX:  
Cory Sincennes

## The creative team

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**Jon Lachlan Stewart**  
Writer / Creator

Jon is a director, playwright and performer, and artistic director of Surreal SoReal Theatre, as well as co-artistic director of a Quebecois theatre delivery company called La Fille du Laitier. Directing credits include *Miss Katelyn's Grade Threes Prepare for the Inevitable* (Centaur Wildside Festival, upcoming), *Caisse 606* (coup de Coeur festival Off Casteliers, festival international de marionnettes, Saguenay) *Before Her Time: 3 Plays by Samuel Beckett*, *The Skriker*, *A Number*, *Shopping and Fucking*, and *The Woman Before* (National Theatre School), assistant directing on *Funny Girl* (Segal centre) *The Seagull* and *The Changeling* (National Theatre School). Past directing credits include *What Where*, *The Zoo Story*, *Keeping Peace* (Surreal SoReal Theatre), *The Genius Code* (Catalyst Theatre / Surreal SoReal), *Guernica* (Hidden Harlequin, best director nomination) *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (asst director, Citadel Theatre), and the first Quebecois translation of *Tracy Letts' Killer Joe* (La Licorne staged reading). Acting credits include *Le Joueur* (Theatre La Veille / Prospero, upcoming) *Travesties* (Segal Centre), *Harry the King* (Repercussion Theatre), *Big Shot* (Centaur Theatre Wildside Festival, Toronto Nextstage Festival) *The Goat*, or *Who is Sylvia* (Citadel Theatre), *The Palace Grand* (understudy, Electric Company), *Whale Riding Weather* (Zee Zee Theatre), *Flocons Pour Alicia*, *Ecran Fumee* (Theatre la Seizieme), *Fraises en Janvier* (Lunitheatre). Selected playwriting credits include *Big Shot*, *Little Room*, *Boop*, *The Genius Code*, *Dog*, and *Edith Rex*, which have played or are in development with Theatre Network, Catalyst Theatre, Shadow Theatre and The Citadel Theatre. His new company, La Fille du Laitier, is currently transforming a foodtruck to become a mobile theatre for Montreal and greater Canada. Check it out at [lafilledulaitier.ca](http://lafilledulaitier.ca).



**Bruce Lambie**  
Stage Manager

Bruce Lambie is a Montreal-based theatre artist, active in all aspects of theatre. Most recently, he directed *Star Trek: Discovery (no relation)* with Black Box Montreal at the 2016 Montreal Fringe Festival. Other favorite credits include directing the premiere of Spider Robinson's *God is an Iron* (BlackBox Montreal), the Montreal premiere of Ariel Dorfman's *SPEAK TRUTH TO POWER: Voices from Beyond the Dark* (Scotch and Cookies Theatre), and the world premiere of Heather McCuen's 9/11 biographical drama *Hope in Chaos* (Simonsmith Theatre). He has also designed lighting for numerous shows, including *Winter and Stones in his Pockets* for the Gros Morne Theatre Festival in Cow Head, NL, as well as *Ruddigore* and *The Gondoliers* with the McGill Savoy Society. Bruce is a proud graduate of Bishop's University and the National Theatre School of Canada.

ancillary programming

DANCING





# AN AFTERNOON WITH MOEZ SURANI

*Moez Surani (Toronto, Ontario)*

AUGUST 6 | THE FINLANDIA CLUB (314 BAY STREET) | \$10.00 / PERSON | ALL AGES

A Canadian poet whose writing has been published internationally will share some work from his beloved collections: *Reticent Bodies* and *Floating Life*. Then he will take participants through a creative process of their own.

\* Please bring a notebook and 1 or 2 pages of your own writing.

# A POETRY READING

*Moez Surani (Toronto, Ontario)*

AUGUST 7 | THE SPIRIT GARDEN (PRINCE ARTHUR'S LANDING) | RAIN LOCATION: URBAN ABBEY (308 RED RIVER ROAD) PASS THE HAT | ALL AGES

Moez Surani reads from his collection of poems while listeners look out across Lake Superior. Come hear this incredible artist in this picturesque setting.

## The artist

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**Moez Surani**  
*Poet*

Moez Surani is a poet whose writing has been published internationally, including in Harper's Magazine, The Walrus, Best Canadian Poetry 2013 and Best Canadian Poetry 2014. He has attended artists' residencies in Finland, Italy, Switzerland and Taiwan, and among the awards his work has won is the Chalmers Arts Fellowship, which supported a research stint to India and East Africa. When his first collection of poetry, *Reticent Bodies*, was published, one critic assessed the book's impact: "Reticent Bodies is that rare book that has the power to be a lynchpin, a hinge in the history of Canadian poetry."

In 2012, Surani published a second collection, *Floating Life*, which was described as suffused with "stunning, simple images." Recently, he has been working on collaborations and on interdisciplinary art and performance art pieces.

# IMPROV WORKSHOP

*Betty Carpick (Thunder Bay, Ontario)*

AUGUST 5 | THE BAGGAGE BUILDING (PRINCE ARTHUR'S LANDING) | FREE | ALL AGES

This one-hour session will be inclusive and welcoming of all voices, perspectives, abilities and ages. Participants will be invited to take part in a number of fun and interesting group improvisation exercises.

# NIGHT WINGS COMMUNITY ART-MAKING PROJECT

*Betty Carpick (Thunder Bay, Ontario)*

AUGUST 5-7 | THE BAGGAGE BUILDING (PRINCE ARTHUR'S LANDING) | FREE | ALL AGES

Art has the ability to merge disciplines in an interesting, accessible and transformative way. The community art-making project at the Baggage Building will be complimentary and intertwined with STF's presentation of "Night Wings" at the Spirit Garden. Through collaborative efforts, an art piece will be created to serve as a "legacy" of the first year of the festival.

The art-making will focus on the bird themes; the great grey owl, the nuthatch, grosbeak and wren to create a "universal" bird. Using a large metal armature of a flying bird as the foundation, participants can cut strips of fabric and tie them on the armature or onto other strips of fabric. As time passes, the bird will gain wholeness and finally, at completion, be able to fly. Participants may also make bracelets out of fabric and beads as a take-home.

## The artist

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**Betty Carpick**  
Title / Role

Betty is a multi-disciplinary artist whose practice includes writing, design, photography, drawing, film, performance and installation. She's made a sustained and visible presence particularly at the community level. She was the instructor of the Theatre in Education program at Magnus Theatre from 2002 - 2015. Her most recent project was as director for the 10x10 Theatre Project. Prior to that she directed a 4-minute pseudodocumentary film, "Impersians", an exploration that incorporates the painting app, Brushes and documentary footage about Thunder Bay's iconic pastry. Betty is of Indigenous descent, from the Nelson House Cree Nation in northern Manitoba.



# POST-SHOW TALK-BACK WITH JOHN LACHLAN STEWART

*Jon Lachlan Stewart (Montreal, Quebec)*

AUGUST 6 | THE FINLANDIA CLUB (314 BAY STREET) | FREE | ALL AGES

Audiences have the opportunity to ask questions about Jon's process of creation. How do you create a solo show? Come find out!

## The artist



**Jon Lachlan  
Stewart**

*Writer / Creator:  
Big Shot*

Jon is a director, playwright and performer, and artistic director of Surreal SoReal Theatre, as well as co-artistic director of a Quebecois theatre delivery company called La Fille du Laitier. Directing credits include *Miss Katelyn's Grade Threes Prepare for the Inevitable* (Centaur Wildside Festival, upcoming), *Caisse 606* (coup de Coeur festival Off Casteliers, festival international de marionettes, Saguenay) *Before Her Time: 3 Plays by Samuel Beckett*, *The Skriker*, *A Number*, *Shopping and Fucking*, and *The Woman Before* (National Theatre School), assistant directing on *Funny Girl* (Segal centre) *The Seagull* and *The Changeling* (National Theatre School). Past directing credits include *What Where*, *The Zoo Story*, *Keeping Peace* (Surreal SoReal Theatre), *The Genius Code* (Catalyst Theatre / Surreal SoReal), *Guernica* (Hidden Harlequin, best director nomination) *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (asst director, Citadel Theatre), and the first Quebecois translation of *Tracy Letts' Killer Joe* (La Licorne staged reading). Acting credits include *Le Joueur* (Theatre La Veille / Prospero, upcoming) *Travesties* (Segal Centre), *Harry the King* (Repercussion Theatre), *Big Shot* (Centaur Theatre Wildside Festival, Toronto Nextstage Festival) *The Goat*, or *Who is Sylvia* (Citadel Theatre), *The Palace Grand* (understudy, Electric Company), *Whale Riding Weather* (Zee Zee Theatre), *Flocons Pour Alicia*, *Ecran Fumee* (Theatre la Seizieme), *Fraises en Janvier* (Lunitheatre). Selected playwriting credits include *Big Shot*, *Little Room*, *Boop*, *The Genius Code*, *Dog*, and *Edith Rex*, which have played or are in development with Theatre Network, Catalyst Theatre, Shadow Theatre and The Citadel Theatre. His new company, La Fille du Laitier, is currently transforming a foodtruck to become a mobile theatre for Montreal and greater Canada. Check it out at [lafilledulaitier.ca](http://lafilledulaitier.ca).



## STF BREAKFAST

AUGUST 7 | THE FINLANDIA CLUB (314 BAY STREET) | \$10.00 / PERSON | ALL AGES

STF Breakfast with the artists is a chance to meet the artists of the festival: Director, Designer, Sound Composer, Playwright, Creators, Actors, Poet – all of the artists.

Come join us at the Finlandia Club for 3 Finnish Pancakes, 4 sausages, coffee and some delightful conversation. We want to meet YOU!!

## YOUTH PROGRAMMING

### *Young Company*

This group of young actors experienced hands-on training with Superior Theatre Festival artists in workshops and through live performance. These youth are a part of the performance of *Night Wings*.

“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



# thank you

*People involved in the development of Night Wings:*

Lila Cano, Theatre Direct and Iris Turcott

*Workshop of Night Wings 2016:*

William Webster

Brendan McMurtry-Howlett

Sochi Fried

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The City of Thunder Bay:

Kathy Ball, Paul Burke

CNIB: Lisa Rozenbergs, Paul Dosen

Cynthia Baratta

Gloria Baratta

Bryce Brown

Eva Burkowski

Jessica Carmichael

Betty Carpick

Jim Comuzzi

Mary-Jo Carter Dodd

Donatos Bakery

Gabe Ferrazzo

Finnish Coaches: Eric Tatrallyay, Martti Ahonen

Finnish Consultants: Taina Maki Chahal, Katja Maki

Finn Thunder Committee

Michael Gravelle

Ken Isotalo

Marita James (female vocals on tracks)

Curtis Jensen

Gary McMahon

Laura Nanni

Lowery's

John and Mary Ellen Perrin

Matthias Rom

Kelly Ruberto (Believe in Beauty)

Fay Steadwell

St. Paul's Roastery

The Stitchers of the Story Blanket: Dana MacMillan, Carol Kajorinne, Stacey Hodgins, Jayal Chung, Olivia Macchione, Bet Haywood, Gail Fikis, Alana Forslund, Karen Saunders, Elaine Lynch, Geraldine Albanese, Wilma Kempe

The Stratford Festival

Nick Titan

Tory Tronrud

Chiara Zussino

Johnny Zussino

Mike Zussino

Tina Zussino

# 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.

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## 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.**

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– we’re in it **together**

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

[superiortheatrefestival.com](http://superiortheatrefestival.com)