

tHEATRE NETWORK

THEATRE NETWORK PRESENTS A KEEP FROZEN PRODUCTION



POCHSY IV

**Written & Performed
by Karen Hines**

There will be no intermission

MAINSTAGE SEASON PARTNER:



SEASON 49 PARTNERS:



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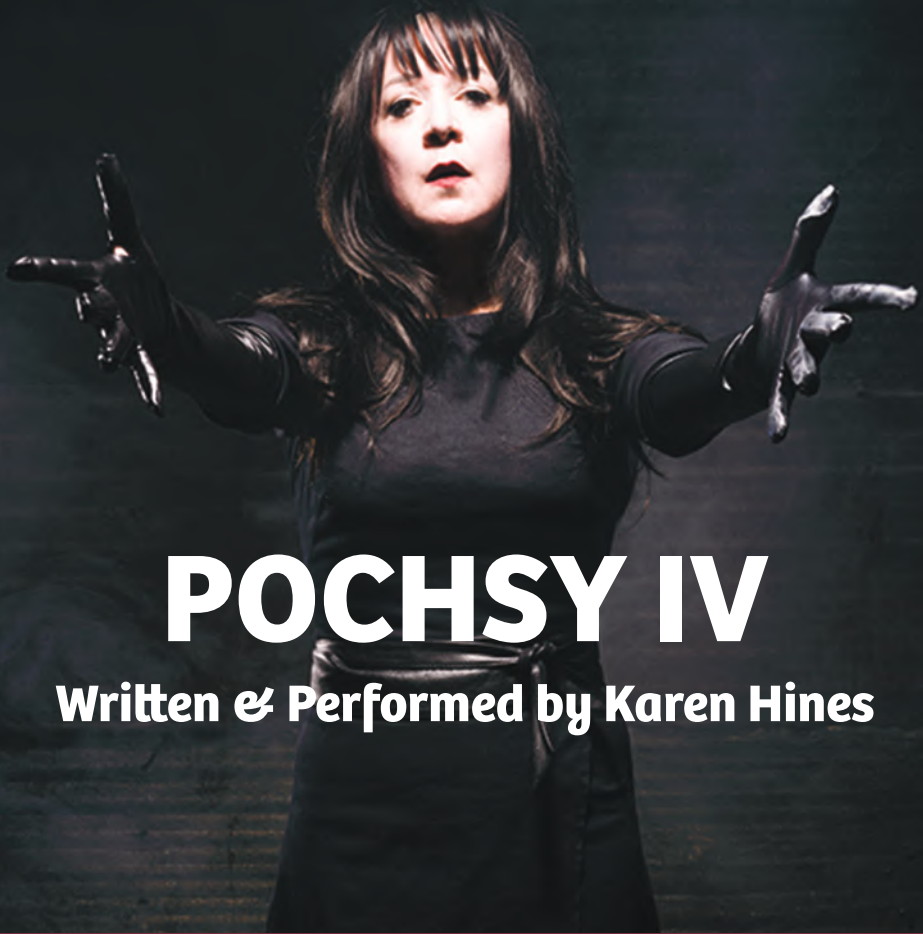
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CREATIVE



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POCHSY IV

Written & Performed by Karen Hines

A Keep Frozen Production

Written and Performed by: Karen Hines

Director: Michael Kennard

Co-Produced by: Dianne Goodman

Assistant Director: Alexandra Dawkins

Set & Lighting Design: Sandi Somers

Composition & Sound Design: Chantal Vitalis

TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge and honour that the Roxy theatre and our city is located on Treaty 6 land, which is traditional territory of the Nêhiyawak and a traditional home to the Niitsitapi, Nakota, Dene, and Anishinaabe. As well as an important trading centre and home to the Métis people of Alberta. We also recognize and are honoured to be Treaty people; therefore, we seek to uphold the spirit and intent of Treaty and strive to live in good relations based upon the Treaty principles of Peace, Friendship, and Respect.



The Innocence of Trees

by Eugene Stickland,
2022



Joni Mitchell's Songs of a Prairie Girl

Created and Directed
by Jim Guedo, 2023



Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes

by Hanna Moscovitch,
2023

WELCOME TO THE ROXY!

We believe that live theatre should be unexpected and surprising. We want you to be safe and comfortable here but we also want to provide you with an unpredictable and exciting experience. Any of the productions you may see here could contain:

- **Coarse language or nudity**

Blame it on the Playwright

- **Violence**

The actors are always safe

- **Loud or abrupt noise**

Plays can have "jump scares" just like the movies

- **Flashing or bright lights**

The actors can't see you but they look great

- **Fog or haze**

Safe and produced from water

- **Difficult or challenging subject matter**

Cause we gotta talk about the tough stuff

If you have any questions on what you're about to see, please feel free to ask to our box office staff.

Photos: Left: Maralyn Ryan; photo by Epic Photography. Centre: L to R: Cayley Thomas, Christine MacInnis; photo by Ian Jackson. Right: L to R: Gianna Vacirca, John Ulyatt; photo by Eric Kozakiewicz.

KEEP FROZEN (AKA Pochsy Productions)

KEEP FROZEN (AKA) Pochsy Productions was founded in 1992 for the company's first show, *Pochsy's Lips*, which won a loyal cult following, and went on to play theatres and festivals across Canada, the U.S.A. and in Germany.

Oh, baby (Pochsy's Adventures by the Sea, 1993) and *Citizen Pochsy (Head Movements of a Long-Haired Girl, 2002)* followed on. Earliest collaborators include John Turner (collaborator/director), Michael Kennard (collaborator/coach), Greg Morrison (composer), Michel Charbonneau (designer), and Sandra Balcovske (director and dramaturg) all of whom helped bring Pochsy into being.

Since then, the company has developed and produced many more award-winning performances. Under the umbrella of "Keep Frozen," the shows and the short films adapted from them have travelled from Dawson to Boston, Palm Springs to Kuala Lumpur, winning prizes and loyal fans along the way. A book of the Pochsy Plays was published in 2004, and was a finalist for the Governor General's



Literary Award (and is available at the bar!)

In 2008, "Pochsy Unplugged" offered a cabaret melange of the three plays, and filmed adaptations as well.

Hines is the daughter of scientists, and since 1992 her plays have included darkly comedic meditations on environmental peril; her performances aim to reflect North American consumer culture in what seems to be a perilous time. Combining such disparate elements as magical realism, satire and horror, *Keep Frozen* : Pochsy Productions has won a growing audience over the years, numerous production and literary nominations and awards, and the opportunity to creep around the globe.



Pochsy IV:

Literary Acknowledgements:

Blake Brooker, Gia Tolentino, Sandra Balcovske, Marcus Aurelius, Imajyn Cardinal, Sam Harris, Douglas Harding, William MacAskill, Joni Mitchell, Roland Griffiths, Gordon Tisdall, Michelle G., Sara M., Guillermo Verdecchia

Cultural and Scientific Consultants:

Michelle Thrush, Imajyn Cardinal, Jade Hines and Richard Peltier

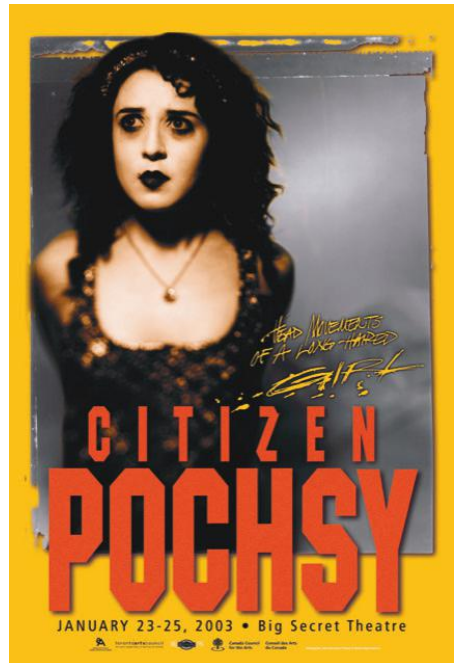
Production Acknowledgements:

Darryl Cooksey - Set Construction and Build.
Barry Eldridge
Jonathan Lewis - Solo Violin
Peter Moller - Graphics and Sound Support
Gary Mulcahey - Photography.
Shelly Schwieder
Matrushka Construction - Pochsy's Poster Dress (www.matrushka.com)
The High Performance Rodeo Team

Books available for purchase in the lobby.



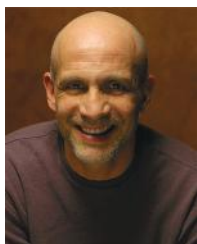
Pochsy's Lips (above); *Citizen Pochsy* poster (right)





KAREN HINES - WRITER & PERFORMER

Karen started out on the Fringe and emerged as the author of a number of plays which have been presented across North America at venues including One Yellow Rabbit, Tarragon Theatre, Boca del Lupo, Alberta Theatre Projects, Factory Theatre, Dallas Theatre Centre, Soulpepper, and Joe's Pub NYC (Public Theatre). She is a two-time finalist for Canada's Governor General's Literary Award, and a finalist for the Siminovitch Prize for Playwriting. She is a Dora Mavor Moore Award-winning performer and director and has collaborated on the works of beloved Canadian theatre artists such as Linda Griffiths (*Age of Arousal*), Michelle Thrush (*Inner Elder*) and adult horror clowns Mump & Smoot (Mike Kennard and John Turner), whom she has directed since their inception. Karen has been an actor in Canadian and American television and film, and her own short films featuring the character Pochsy have screened around the world. Recent presentations include her real estate horror *CrawlSpace*, which has toured to micro-theatres across Canada and is now available as a CBC Podcast on Radio One. *CrawlSpace* was just translated for its spring 2023 French premiere at Théâtre Français de Toronto, and her *All the Little Animals I Have Eaten* played at Edmonton's Shadow Theatre last April, directed by Alex Dawkins.



MICHAEL KENNARD - DIRECTOR

For thirty-five years Michael has been a co-creator (with John Turner), performer, and producer with internationally acclaimed clown duo Mump & Smoot, Some of Michael's directing credits include: *The Christmas Carol*, *The Hobbit* and *The Wizard of Oz* at The Globe Theatre in Regina. *The Hollow* at Berkeley St Theatre in Toronto. The Second City's *Family Circus Maximus* and *Insanity Fair* in Toronto and co-directed *Embryo's on Ice* in Chicago. *Half a Sizpence*, *Echoes*, *Pandemonium*, and *Alice Through the Looking Glass* at Bishops' University. *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* and *A Glass Half Fulfilled* at the University of Alberta where Michael is currently an Associate Professor. Michael has received a Dora award (Toronto) a Sterling award (Edmonton), a Jessie award (Vancouver), two Canadian Comedy awards, a Boston Theatre award, and a Drama Logue award (California) for his work in performance, coaching, and directing.



DIANNE GOODMAN - CO-PRODUCER

Dianne is thrilled to be reunited with her favourite clown people on *POCHSY IV* for this production at Theatre Network, having co-produced the premiere at the One Yellow Rabbit Rodeo in January of this year. Since retiring in 2021 from 38 years with Alberta Theatre Projects, Dianne has been honoured to have been invited to join her talented friends with their productions. These include *Playing with Fire* in Yellowknife with Shaun Smyth, *Vigil* at the Belfry in Victoria with Glynis Leyshon, and most recently two shows with Making Treaty 7 Indigenous Theatre in Calgary with Artistic Director Michelle Thrush, *Napi and the Rock* (in partnership with the Calgary Philharmonic) and *O'kosi*. Dianne is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Regina, the Betty Mitchell Award for Distinguished Achievement in Production, and the Harry and Martha Award for Significant and Sustained Contribution to Theatre in Calgary. She resides in Calgary where she spends time with and cooks for her beloved family and friends, gardens, and volunteers in her community.



JOHN TURNER - CLUNIC CONSULTATION

John is best known as "Smoot" of the award winning Canadian clown duo Mump & Smoot, and until 2020, the founder and Artistic Director of The Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance (a.k.a. The Clown Farm). He now coaches, teaches, dramaturges, directs, and performs across the country. Coaching and/or Directing credits include Justin Miller's *Pearle Harbour*, in *Distant Early Warning*, Christine Moynihan's *Inside Ethel: Outside*, Jennifer Dallas' *Kittly-Bender* and *Known*, Morro and Jasp (multiple shows), Karen Hines' *Citizen Pochsy* and *Crawlspac*, Michael Kennard's *Puzzle Me Red*, Sandrine Lafond's *Little Lady*, and De-ba-jeh-mu-jig Theatre's *A Trickster Tales*, and *The Gulch*.

23/24

No.2

Ps

Phoenix Series



GIRL BRAIN

Written, directed and performed by Alyson Dicey, Ellie Heath and Caley Suliak

OCTOBER 19 - 29, 2023

Come join Girl Brain, #yeg's hottest all-female comedy troupe for 2 packed acts of ALL NEW sketches in the Lorne Cardinal Theatre that will put the HA in Halloween!

PS - Girl Brain are back in December for a Christmas edition, December 14-17 and 21-23, 2023.



BWDC Presents:

KISISKÂCIWAN

by Jeanette Kotowich

MARCH 15 -16, 2024

The Kah-tep-was (Nêhiyaw for river that calls) is a two-kilometer wide, 180-meter deep valley is a sacred place that calls generations of peoples for gathering, hunting, and spiritual replenishment.



ALEXANDRA DAWKINS - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Alexandra Leigh Dawkins (she/her) is a theatre performer and director, musician, and writer based in ᓄᓯᓄᓯᓄᓯᓄᓯᓄᓯᓄᓯ (Amiskwaciwâskahikan) / Edmonton, AB, on Treaty 6 Territory. She holds a BFA in Acting from the University of Alberta (2017), and a certificate from Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance. She made her directorial debut in March of 2023, with the world-premiere of Karen Hines' latest revision of *All The Little Animals I Have Eaten*, and is absolutely thrilled to be working with Theatre Network on *Pochsy IV* as assistant director. Her studio LP *Virgo's Last Stand* will be released in March 2024, so keep an eye out if you're into folksy guitar and sultry sarcastic vocals. She would like to thank those in the audience for supporting live theatre, Theatre Network for the opportunity to work on this show, and Karen Hines for the continued trust and opportunity to collaborate.



SANDI SOMERS - SET & LIGHTING DESIGN

Over the last few decades, Sandi has lit and designed stages for companies such as OYR, ATP, The Alberta Ballet, and Lunchbox Theatre. Her productions include lighting and projection design for *Making Treaty 7*, set and lighting design for The University of Lethbridge's *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, lighting design for Karen Hines' *All the Little Animals I Have Eaten*, and *Crawlspace*. Outside of designing for theatre, Sandi is the lighting designer for The Royal Tyrell Museum of Palaeontology in Drumheller, Alberta, and is an award winning filmmaker.



CHANTAL VITALIS - COMPOSITION & SOUND DESIGN

Chantal Vitalis is a Calgary-based composer, lyricist, and songwriter whose primary instruments are electric guitar and pedal steel. Her compositions for films include *Istotsi*, *Elder in the Making*, *The Girl Who Married a Ghost*, *Screaming Fish*, *Gens de Phoque* and animations *The Trade* and *Haiku 2: Wait*. Selected theatre work includes *Making Treaty 7*, *Modern Times Redux*, *Gold Rush Redux* and *Mesa*. You can catch her playing with the following Calgary bands: The Lovebullies, Wild Rose County, and Bryson Waind & the CB.





BLAKE BROOKER - PRODUCTION DRAMATURG

Blake is an award-winning director and writer and Artistic Director of One Yellow Rabbit. OYR produces adult-oriented performance theatre. Co-founded in 1982 with Michael Green, with a vision to engage and inspire the Calgary community, the company has become one of Canada's leading creation-based ensembles, having toured to theatres on four continents. Blake has directed most of the company's more than 100 productions and is often also writer, adapter or co-writer with his ensemble. Productions include *Kawasaki Exit*, *Dream Machine*, *Doing Leonard Cohen*, *Tears of a Dinosaur*, *Serpent Kills*, *Thunderstruck*, *Breeder*, *Ilsa Queen of the Nazi Love Camp*, *The Land The Animals*, *Permission*.



KATE PALLESEN - PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE, SOUND PROGRAMMING, & SOCIAL MEDIA

Kate has been active in theatres across Alberta since graduating in Theatre Production at the University of Lethbridge in 2017. While she specializes in stage management, she's enjoyed exoanding her craft to new roles! Kate fulfilled these same roles for the workshop of *POCHSY IV* at Play the Fool Festival in Edmonton last fall. You can catch Kate next as the assistant stage manager on Ghost River Theatre's *STRUCK* and on Calgary Opera's *Macbeth* in April.



RICHARD FEREN - ADDITIONAL SOUNDS

Richard has been creating music and soundscapes for theatre, dance & film since 1992. He has won seven Dora Awards, the 1999 Pauline McGibbon Award, and was the first sound designer ever shortlisted for the Siminovitch Prize, in 2012. Recent credits: *Grand Ghosts* (The Grand Theatre); *Public Enemy*, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Measure for Measure* (Canadian Stage); *The Jungle Book* (Alberta Theatre Projects); *Hamlet* (Stratford Festival); *The Cold War* (VideoCabaret); *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Perfect Wedding*, *Miss Caledonia* (Thousand Island Playhouse); *Going*, *Going* (short film by Fiona Highet); *Carmen* (feature film score); *The Flick* (Outside the March/Crow's Theatre). Upcoming: *Controlled Damage* (The Grand Theatre).



JUSTIN MILLER AKA PEARLE HARBOUR - COSTUME CONSULTANT

Justin Miller is a queer Toronto-based writer, performer, designer, and Fool. As his drag alter-ego, tragicomediienne Pearle Harbour, he has been called “one of the most engaging and thoughtful performance artists around” (NOW Magazine). As a playwright, his award-winning original works have been presented to rave critical and audience acclaim across Canada, as well as on CBC-Gem (CSA nomination: Outstanding Variety Special), and published in Canadian Theatre Review. As a screenwriter, he has developed work for NBC-Peacock. Selected accolades include the Audience Choice Award (Summer Works), 3 Dora Mavor-Moore Award nominations (Outstanding Performance and Outstanding Costume Design), Outstanding Solo Performance (My Entertainment World), and the Jon Kaplan Legacy Fund for a Candian Stage Performer. See more at www.pearleharbour.com.



MAC FERREIRA - COSTUME STYLIST

A self-described “Fashion Clown” and maximalist, Mac is the wrong person to ask “Is this too much?” After moving to Calgary in 2019 to explore the inclusive and diverse community, he found himself wishing for a career where he could exercise the passion for fashion that had been with him since childhood. When he’s not styling he can be found combing the racks at vintage stores, making unique pieces to expand his eccentric wardrobe, skateboarding around the city, or relaxing with his cats and a vinyl record. Being an Aries he is outgoing and friendly, and believes a stranger is a friend you just haven’t met yet!



NICO - SOUND TECHNICIAN

Nico was a 2017 graduate of the Theatre Production program at MacEwan University. Since then he has had the opportunity to work on many corporate events, including concerts, AGM’s, and conventions, as well as at many of the great festivals here in the province, including Westerner Days, Heritage Days, Thousand Faces Festival, Edmonton International Fringe Festival, and Theatre Network’s own NextFest! While lighting has been his main focus, Nico enjoys many aspects of the technical theatre world.



ASHLEY CARTER - HOUSE TECHNICIAN

Ashley (She/Her) has been a full time Theatre & Live Event Technician since 2019. She greatly enjoys all her work, engaging in events such as concerts, conventions, galas, festivals, and, of course, live theatre. From events as small as a mic on a stand to as big as spending a whole week putting together a single day exhibit, there is never a boring day in live events. She is honored to be a part of the incredible Theatre Network team at the new Roxy Theatre!

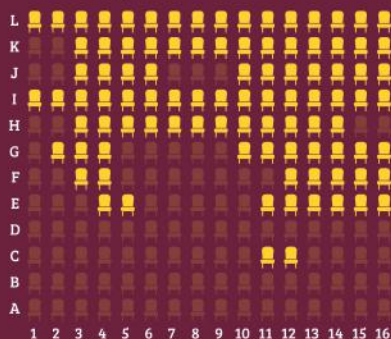
Ashley believes that art, in all of its forms, is and should be a place of community, of expression, and of acceptance. Anybody anywhere, no matter their age, language, orientation, experiences, or tastes, can find art that speaks to them, and that's the way it should be. As a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Ashley hopes to continue the work this industry has done to create spaces that are inclusive, welcoming, and safe to all members of all communities, by incorporating the Métis values of Unity and Harmony, as well as honoring Tatawaw, the Cree phrase meaning "Welcome, there is room".



2023 SEAT SALE CAMPAIGN

IN SUPPORT OF THE ROXY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Nancy Power Theatre



Leave your mark on The Roxy and purchase a seat today! A \$500 donation will be recognized with a plaque on the seat in the Nancy Power Theatre (while supplies last) and helps to ensure that The Roxy will continue to be a vibrant and beautiful venue for years to come.

For the fine print & to purchase a seat, visit:
<https://theatrenetwork.ca/seatsale>



23/24

No.49

tN

Theatre Network

WITH BELLS ON! THE MUSICAL**Book by Tommy Newman & Devanand Janki****Music & Lyrics by Tommy Newman****Based on the play by Darrin Hagen****DECEMBER 5 - 23 , 2023**

"I know that I'm not finished/ But I've weathered every storm/ We're never truly finished/ No, we're never fully formed."

Nancy Power Theatre

Previews: December 5 & 6

Opening Night: December 7

2-for-1 Tuesdays:

December 12 & 19

Featuring: Zachary Parsons-Lozinski (aka Lilith Fair) and Thomas Jones

Directed & Choreographed by:

Devanand Janki

Music Direction by: Ryan Sigurdson

Set & Costumes by: Brianna

Kolybaba

It's Christmas Eve and accountant Ted—in the midst of a nasty divorce and a persistent bad-luck streak—heads up to the roof of his building to end it all. His plans are interrupted when he gets trapped in the elevator with Natasha, a 7-foot drag queen who has created the Ultimate Christmas Queen Pageant Outfit. Both Ted's plan and Natasha's dream of winning the title of "Christmas Queen" are held in the balance as this unlikely duo is forced to work together to escape.



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Sexual Misconduct Of The Middle Classes
by Hannah Moscovitch
Opening Night - April 27, 2023

Photos by Eric Kozakiewicz



THANK YOU!

As a registered charity, Theatre Network Society plays an important role in Edmonton and Canada's theatre ecology. Support from our community means we can continue to employ local professionals to create the challenging, engaging, and risk-taking theatre you see on our stages. As a medium-sized company that takes pride in "punching above our weight," your donation to Theatre Network goes further than you may think.

OPERATIONAL DONATIONS

Your gift to Theatre Network's ongoing operations will go directly to where we need your support most: our productions.

Every dollar we raise is used to support: playwright and artist commissions; artist wages; production expenses; emerging artist programs through our sister company, Nextfest; TN's Summer Academy for high school students, and more. Operational Donations allow us to maintain an affordable ticket price so everyone can enjoy live theatre.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

Nearly eight years after the devastating fire at the original Roxy Theatre, Theatre Network has come home. We're closer than ever to reaching our goal of raising \$12M for The Roxy rebuild.

Your support of our Capital Campaign goes towards The Roxy rebuild and equipment purchases. Through to the end of our 2023 season, your support will be acknowledged in the following ways:

- \$100 or more will receive a limited edition ROXY pin.
- \$1000 or more will receive recognition on our Builders' wall.
- There are naming opportunities available for large gifts of over \$15,000 (subject to availability). Please connect with Bradley Moss, Artistic Director, at brad@theatrenetwork.ca or 780.453.2440 for more information).

Art Gallery Donations

Theatre Network's newest year-round undertaking is our visual art programming in The Roxy's Miller Art Gallery. Your donation to the art gallery will support exhibition costs, as we welcome many different artists and styles each season.

Theatre Network Society is a registered charity, number 119214302 RR0001. Donations of \$20 or more will receive a charitable tax receipt.

WONDERFUL JOE

Created & Performed by Ronnie Burkett

APRIL 2 - 21, 2024

"Paint gold in the part of me that is broken. Let my faultline shine, these golden precious scars are fine, divine, and mine."

Nancy Power Theatre

Previews: April 2 & 3

Opening Night: Thu April 4

2-for-1 Tuesdays: April 9 & 16

****World Premiere****

Joe and his dog Mister lose their home, and facing separation, head into the world for one last grand adventure together. The world seems broken, but Joe sees magic in the mundane, beauty amidst brutality, and life in the lost and lonely. He and Mister encounter Mother Nature, Santa Claus, Jesus and the Tooth Fairy, witness a troupe of homeless players in a cardboard theatre, and show a disenfranchised teen how to jump over the moon in a playground rocket ship. A seemingly simple tale of a simple man, Wonderful Joe is a love letter to imagination, hope, and the art of filling broken hearts with gold.

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Volunteers play an integral role at Theatre Network and The Roxy in welcoming patrons and assisting our Front of Staff in the smooth operation of the theatre. Thank you for your help!

Interested in joining our volunteer team? Call or email Interim Operations Manager, Kate Couture (780.453.2440 or volunteers@theatrenetwork.ca) for a volunteer application form.



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NEXTFEST 2024

May 30 to June 9, 2024

Festival Director:

Ellen Chorley

Festival Producer:

Kena León

Nextfest was created out of the need to support the voice of the emerging professional artist, a place where the young artist was nurtured. Like any occupation, you cannot get opportunities until you get the experience, a twenty-something loop that is hard to break. Nextfest is a multidisciplinary festival where artists from different fields develop relationships, a meeting place to exchange ideas and grow. What we did not realize is that what Nextfest is truly doing is building our artistic community.

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