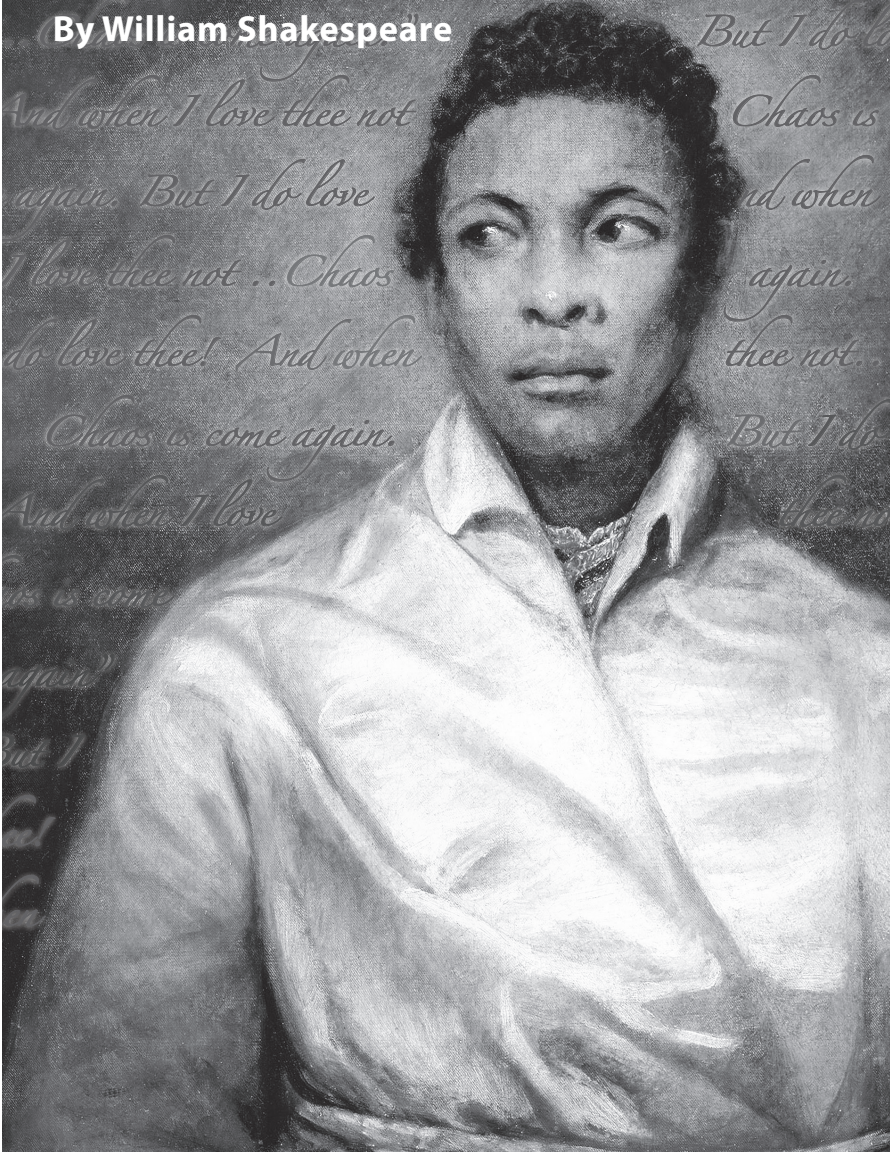


Othello

By William Shakespeare

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TIMES COLONIST

Othello

by William Shakespeare

CREATIVE TEAM

Director	Brian Richmond
Choreographer/Fight Director	Jacques Lemay
Set Designers	Conor Farrell & Logan Swain
Costume Designer	Emily Friesen
Lighting Designer	Michael Whitfield
Music Director, Designer, Composer, & Arranger	Olivia Wheeler
Voice & Text Coach	Michael Elliott
Stage Manager	Emma Jo Conlin
Dialect Coach	Iris MacGregor-Bannerman
Music & Sound Coach	Brooke Maxwell
Assistant Lighting Designers	Hina Nishioka & Harry Zhe Lin

CAST

Paul Cridge	Gentleman, Ensemble
Sivert Das	Clown, Senator, Ensemble
Georgia Duff	Desdemona
Miriam Dumitra	Musician, Ensemble
Maddy el Baroudi	Ghost of Barbary, Ensemble
David Elliott	Lodovico, Musician, Ensemble
Grace Fedorchuk	Emilia, Musica
David Gardiner	Ensemble
Aidan Guerreiro	Gentleman, Ensemble
Carter Gulseth	Ensemble
Daniel Handford	Duke of Venice, Gentleman, Ensemble
Emily Hay	Bianca, Ensemble
Sarah Hunsberger	Brabantia, Gratiano, Ensemble
Esmé Laidlaw	Musician, Ensemble
Justin Little	Ensemble
Teddy MacRae	Ensemble
Julie McGuire	Musician, Ensemble
Tallas Munro	Othello
Sophia Radford	Ensemble
Una Rekić	Michael Cassio
Dawson Rutledge	Montano, Ensemble
Aaron Smail	Roderigo
Branden Sugden	Herald, Senator, Ensemble
Ciaran Volke	Iago
Hugh Wilcox	Ensemble

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Notes from the Director: *Treking the Epic*



A student in tonight's production of *Othello* reminded me recently of how long we have been working on this play. It has been seeping into our collective imaginations and dreams for nearly 12 months, but it is only recently that we have truly awoken to the size of the epic challenge Shakespeare has presented us. Cram-packed with the conflicts surrounding issues such as race, gender, diversity and identity, the reasons *Othello* seems as fresh today as when it premiered more than 400 years ago is because of the depth of intellect that Shakespeare brought to these tragically timeless issues. And, as you will no doubt notice, it's long.

Shakespeare's sixth-longest play, the mere length of it makes it a huge challenge for student or professional interpreters.

My reading of Shakespeare supports the notion that he was a champion of the "other" throughout his career. But in *Othello* he does not let us fall into the comfort of an easy analysis of this sad aspect of the human experience. Rather, he suggests that the notion of the "other" resides within ourselves as well as in how others look at us. It is this that makes this play one of his greatest tragedies. Throwing off the easy moralizations found in earlier dramatists, Shakespeare paints a portrait of humanity as he saw it – full of beauty and ugliness in (almost) equal measure.

So back to dreaming. After many nights of grappling with this play, I have awoken in an uneasy sweat – worried about how we might match, if not the skill, then the courage of Shakespeare's remarkable invention. But then I walk into the rehearsal hall and I see all the young people who have committed to this epic journey on a night-by-night basis. And I think to myself. *"Hey Will... we may not make it to the finish line like you did but we're sure going to try. And the reason we will give it all our effort is because the issues you present in your remarkable work are just too important for us not to."*

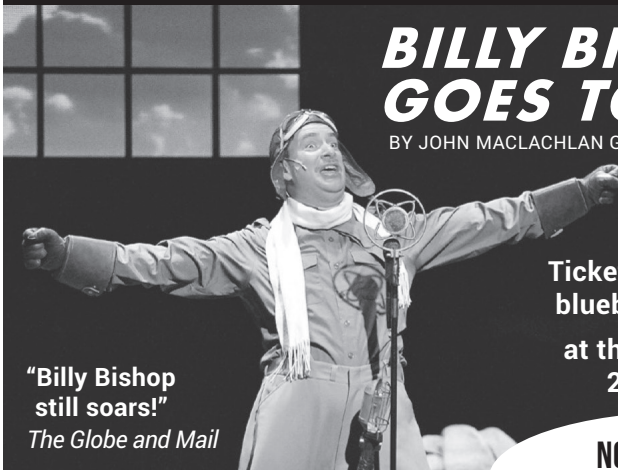
My thanks to all the many wonderfully talented collaborators on stage and off who have contributed their minds, hearts, bodies and souls to this journey. This is the human experience Shakespeare spoke to and I feel so privileged to have been invited along on the trek.

Brian Richmond

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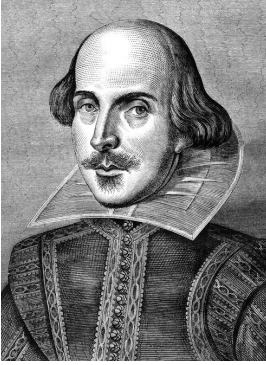
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About *the Playwright*



William Shakespeare's collection of work includes 38 plays, two narrative poems, 154 sonnets, and a variety of other poems. No original manuscripts of Shakespeare's plays are known to exist, however a group of actors from Shakespeare's company collected 36 scripts after Shakespeare died. They were brought together in what is known as the *First Folio*. Later, his plays, sonnets, and poems were compiled in various iterations of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*. His legacy is as rich and diverse as his work, which has spawned countless adaptations across multiple genres and cultures, as well as an enduring presence in film. Over 400 years later, William Shakespeare continues to be one of the most important literary figures of the English language.

Cover Credit:

The portrait on the cover is that of Ira Aldridge, the first black man to perform a Shakespearean role in Britain and to play the role of Othello. The cover is based on the portrait that was painted by James Northcote in 1826. Despite facing much racial discrimination, Aldridge became one of the most successful actors in the 19th century.

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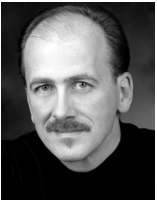
Journey to Israel, with Paul Chamberlain Nov. 17 to Dec. 4, 2020

Creative Team



Brian Richmond, Director

Brian is a multi-award-winning director of nearly 150 productions for major and smaller theatres across Canada, the US, Mexico and Europe. At the Phoenix, he has directed ***The Threepenny Opera, Romeo and Juliet, Dark of the Moon, Wind in the Willows, Tyrants, Guys and Dolls, He Who Gets Slapped, The Fever, The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui, Peer Gynt*** and ***Frogs***. As a dramaturge, he has worked with many of Canada's leading playwrights including Ken Mitchell, George Ryga, Dennis Foon, Paul Ledoux, David Young, Tomson Highway, Allan Stratton, Michel Marc Bouchard, Sally Clark, Sharon Pollock, Drew Hayden Taylor, Jennifer Wise, and his son, Jacob Richmond, among many others. The Founding Artistic Director of Saskatoon's Persephone Theatre, he has also served in this role for Thunder Bay's Magnus Theatre, Montreal's Playwright's Workshop, Toronto's Theatre Passe-Muraille and Victoria's Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre – which he founded in 2009. A former Chair of the Department of Theatre at UVic (2001–08), Professor Richmond currently offers courses in directing, acting and text analysis.



Jacques Lemay, Choreographer/Fight Director

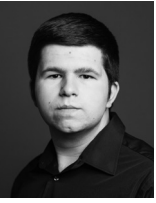
Jacques has directed and choreographed hundreds of theatre and opera productions across Canada, as well as film and television. He is the former Artistic Director of the Charlottetown Festival and Founding Director of the Jazz Dance department for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet (RWB). He gained renown as a choreographer for the RWB and other international dance companies. He was the Artistic Director and Senior Choreographer of the Calgary Olympics Opening Ceremonies; Producer/Artistic Director of the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games, Special Olympics World Winter Games, Canada Summer and Winter Games, Opening Ceremonies of Confederation Bridge; Creative Advisor for the Vancouver Olympics Opening and Closing Ceremonies; and Artistic Director of six royal visits. He has been retained by the Canada Council for the Arts as well as provincial and territorial arts councils. Mr. Lemay co-founded the Canadian College of Performing Arts.



Conor Farrell, Set Co-Designer

Conor is in his fifth year of his BFA, specializing in Theatrical Design, with plans of starting a Master's Degree in the near future. Recently he worked to adapt Ken MacDonald's original set design for Morris Panych's ***7 Stories*** for the Phoenix's Roger Bishop stage. He is glad to have had the opportunity to work with friend and colleague Logan Swain on their set co-design for this production. Conor ultimately believes in the power of stories and the importance of fun. He believes that everyone has a story to tell. What's yours?

Creative Team



Logan Swain, Set Co-Designer

Logan is excited to finish his time at UVic working on **Othello**. Recent credits include: Lighting, Set and Projection Design for **It'll Come to Me** (Theatre SKAM, 2019), Production Design for **Hegnimwaal** (Kelowna Fringe, 2019), and Sound Design for **Money on the Table** (Victoria Fringe, 2019). Select Phoenix credits include: Assistant to the Set Designer for **The Drowsy Chaperone** (2018), Sound Designer for **The Madwoman of Chaillot** (2017), and **Trojan Women** (2019). Logan would like to thank co-designer Conor Farrell for putting up with his crazy ideas while designing the show.



Emily Friesen, Costume Designer

Emily is a fourth-year set and costume design student at UVic. Select credits include: **Antigone** (Costume Designer, MFA Project), **Concord Floral** (Assistant Costume Designer, Theatre SKAM), **The Drowsy Chaperone, 7 Stories** (Assistant to the Costume Designer, Phoenix Theatre), **Hamlet, The Devil of Mondisque** (Designer, SATCo), and **The Robin Hood Caper** (Sound Designer, Saint Luke's Players). Emily has also worked in the community in various production roles: **The Master Builder** (Head of Wardrobe, Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre,) **Concord Floral** (Head of Wardrobe, Theatre SKAM,) **Lolcow** (Assistant Stage Manager, Victoria Fringe).



Michael Whitfield, Lighting Designer

For nearly 40 years, Michael Whitfield has designed the lighting for hundreds of productions internationally. As the Resident Lighting Designer at the Stratford Festival for over 25 years, his repertoire includes classics such as **The Mikado**, which toured North America and played at London's Old Vic Theatre. His designs have been featured at the Canadian Opera Company, San Francisco Opera, San Diego Opera, the National Ballet of Canada, and the Finnish National Ballet. Michael has mentored the careers of many young lighting designers and has been a frequent guest designer at the Phoenix, where his work was most recently seen in **The Comedy of Errors**.

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Creative Team



Olivia Wheeler, *Music Director, Designer, Composer & Arranger*
Olivia is in the final year of her undergraduate degree in Theatre and Music. Aside from being a Sound Designer and Music Director, she is also a composer, arranger, musician and multidisciplinary artist. Her most recent work includes assistant sound and video design for **The Wedding Party** (Alberta Theatre Projects), sound designs for **It'll Come to Me** (Theatre SKAM), **Antigones** (Maenads Theatre), and **7 Stories** (Phoenix Theatre), as well as music direction for **Two Gentlemen of Verona** and **Julius Caesar** (Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival). Olivia will also present her JCURA design installation **EVOKE** this spring.



Michael Elliott, *Voice & Text Coach*

Michael is a voice, text and dialect coach. He is the only North American to serve as resident Voice and Text Coach with the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, UK. He has also coached actors at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival and the Shaw Festival in Ontario. Michael is the only Canadian trained by renowned coach Patsy Rodenburg, and one of only nine graduates of the prestigious M.A. in Training Actors (Voice) at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London (GSMD). He was a professional actor for 14 years before becoming a voice and speech trainer. Prior to joining the Department of Theatre, he taught at a variety of institutions including the Royal Central School of Speech & Drama, GSMD, and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.



Emma Jo Conlin, *Stage Manager*

Emma Jo is a fourth-year production and management student. This summer she was the Season ASM at Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre. Recently, she was the Stage Manager and Sound Designer for **Fake News** (student project). Selected credits include **Are We All Dead?** (SATCo), **The Drowsy Chaperone** (Phoenix), and **Perestroika** (Intrepid YOUShow). She was also the playwright of **Abducted**, produced by SATCo. Emma Jo is incredibly grateful to complete her degree working on such a complex show and a great Shakespearean masterpiece.



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Cast



Paul Cridge *Gentleman, Ensemble*

Paul graduated from Camosun College studying Computer Science. He transferred into the theatre with a focus on performance, and has acted in directing scenes and in acting classes. This will be his first stage appearance. Enjoy the show!



Sivert Das *Clown, Senator, Ensemble*

Sivert is a fourth-year student in the performance focus and a graduate of the Second City Toronto Improvisation Program. Select credits include: **7 Stories** (Phoenix), **Yorkshire Tragedy** (MFA project), **Dining Room** (department project), **What the Buddha Never Taught** (exitStageLeft Productions), **Two Gentlemen of Verona** and **Julius Ceasar** (Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival).



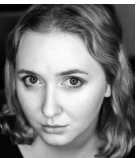
Georgia Duff *Desdemona*

Georgia is in her final year of the performance focus. She is grateful to start this year bringing Desdemona to life and working within such a talented ensemble. Previous Phoenix credits include **Trojan Women**, **Yorkshire Tragedy** (MFA Project), **Abducted** (SATCo), and **Drops in a Broken Fountain** (SATCo). See Georgia in **The Children's Hour** this spring.



Miriam Dumitra *Musician, Ensemble*

While Miriam is most often found hanging lights behind the scenes, she is thrilled to make her Phoenix Theatre debut with **Othello**. She also enjoys contributing to student-led performances as SATCo's Technical Director and as a translator for Austrian theatre company KISI. In her nonexistent spare time, Miriam writes, draws, and sleeps.



Maddy el Baroudi *Ghost of Barbary, Ensemble*

Maddy is a third-year student in the performance focus. She is excited to take part in her first mainstage with all of her classmates by her side. In addition to acting, Maddy is an active writer, director, and proud member of the Phoenix's Box Office and Front of House team.



David Elliott *Lodovico, Musician, Ensemble*

David is in their third year at the Department of Theatre in the performance focus. Past credits include **Trojan Women** (Phoenix) and **Drops in a Broken Fountain** (Winnipeg Fringe). They are a self-taught guitarist and are excited to be performing in **Othello**.



Grace Fedorchuk *Emilia, Musica*

Grace is a Calgary-based actor and singer in her final year of the performance focus. Select credits include: **Trojan Woman** (Phoenix) and **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum** (Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre). She will also be in **The Children's Hour** this spring. Love to Mom and Dad.

Cast



David Gardiner *Ensemble*

David is a third-year Theatre major in the performance focus. He is excited to be making his mainstage debut in one of his favourite Shakespeare plays. Besides theatre, he also has a passion for music. He thanks everyone who has supported him and hopes you enjoy the show!



Aidan Guerreiro *Gentleman, Ensemble*

Aidan is in his third year at UVic studying Theatre and Political Science and is very excited to perform in his first Shakespeare production. You may recognize Aidan as Leonard in **7 Stories** (Phoenix) or Husband in **A Yorkshire Tragedy** (MFA project).



Carter Gulseth *Ensemble*

Hailing from a dark valley, deep in the Rocky Mountains, Carter makes his Phoenix debut in **Othello**. Recent credits include **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum** (Blue Bridge), playing a salacious prostitute. Now in his second year of the performance focus, you can see him again in **Comic Potential**.



Daniel Handford *Duke of Venice, Gentleman, Ensemble*

Daniel is a fourth-year Theatre major in the performance focus. He is excited to perform in **Othello** after previously being seen in **The Drowsy Chaperone** and **7 Stories** (Phoenix). Other credits include: Assistant Stage Manager for **The Comedy of Errors** (Phoenix), **Ernie and Bethy** (Victoria Fringe), and Rachel in **Perestroika** (Intrepid YOUShow).



Emily Hay *Bianca, Ensemble*

Emily is a fourth-year student in the performance focus. Select credits include **Summer Bucket List** (Collectivus Theatre), **7 Stories**, **The Comedy of Errors** (Phoenix), **Antigones** (MFA Project). She thanks her friends and family for all their love and support.



Sarah Hunsberger *Brabantia, Gratiano, Ensemble*

Sarah is in her final year of the performance focus in the Department of Theatre. Previous Phoenix credits include Hecuba in **Trojan Women**, Mrs. Tottendale in **The Drowsy Chaperone**, and Witness in **Fake News** (student project). She is delighted to be working with the rich and riveting words of the Bard.



Esmé Laidlaw *Musician, Ensemble*

Esmé is a third-year Theatre major in the performance focus. This will be her mainstage debut and she is very excited to join her classmates on stage. Previous credits include **The Devil of Mondisque**, and **Oink, Oink** (SATCo).

Cast



Justin Little *Ensemble*

Justin is a third-year student studying performance at the theatre department. He is thrilled you are attending his mainstage debut in **Othello!** Alongside theatre, Justin's interests lie in photography, cooking, music-listening and general ruckus. Thanks for coming and enjoy the show!



Teddy MacRae *Ensemble*

Teddy is in his third year of the performance focus and has maintained his interest in backstage aspects of theatre as well. Credits include **A Drop in a Broken Fountain** (SATCo). He is excited to be in his first mainstage with this amazing and very large cast. Enjoy the show!



Julie McGuire *Musician, Ensemble*

Julie is a third-year student in the performance focus. She is thrilled to be working alongside such creative and hardworking artists in **Othello**. Recent credits include **Julius Caesar** (Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival) and **Trojan Women** (Phoenix, 2019). Catch her next spring as Trudi in **Comic Potential**, directed by Conrad Alexandrowicz.



Tallas Munro *Othello*

Tallas is a fourth-year student at UVic. Past acting credits include **A Queer Trial** (anniversary project, 2017), **Antigone** (MFA project), **Cornelius and Titania** (Victoria Fringe), **The Comedy of Errors**, and **7 Stories** (Phoenix). Tallas would like to thank everyone who has supported him through his education.



Sophia Radford *Ensemble*

Sophia is a second-year student in the performance focus. Previous acting credits include **Are We All Dead?** (SATCo), **Cyrano de Bergerac**, and **The Cagebirds**. **Othello** is her mainstage debut at the Phoenix, and she is thrilled to be able to collaborate with this incredible cast and crew.



Una Rekić *Michael Cassio*

Una is a fourth-year student in the performance focus. Select credits include **Trojan Women** (Phoenix), **The Fitting Room** (Collectivus Theatre), and **The Master Builder** (Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre). Una was the director of Theatre SKAM's Pop-Up Theatre this past summer and currently serves as the General Manager of SATCo.



Dawson Rutledge *Montano, Ensemble*

Dawson is a third-year Theatre major in the performance focus. **Othello** is his mainstage debut. Other credits include **This Room has 72 Lovers** (SATCo) and Hallmark Channel's **Flip that Romance**. He would like to thank his family for always supporting him wholeheartedly.

Cast



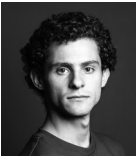
Aaron Smail *Roderigo*

Now in his fourth year, Aaron is acting in his final mainstage at the Phoenix. Acting credits include **Julius Caesar** (Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival), **7 Stories** and **The Drowsy Chaperone** (Phoenix). Aaron will be sound designing **The Children's Hour** later this season. He thanks his parents for their love and support.



Branden Sugden *Herald, Senator, Ensemble*

Branden is a second-year student in the self-directed focus in Theatre. Select credits include **This Room Has 72 Lovers** (SATCo), **Huck Finn** (Storybook Theatre), **Macbeth**, and **A Tale of Two Shoulders** (Calgary Young People's Theatre). He is excited to be making his mainstage debut with this incredible team.



Ciaran Volke *Iago*

Ciaran is a fourth-year student in the performance focus. Select credits: **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum** (Blue Bridge), **The Fitting Room** (Collectivus Theatre), **Trojan Women**, **The Drowsy Chaperone**, **The Madwoman of Chaillot** (Phoenix). He is thrilled to be working with so many talented artists on this production.



Hugh Wilcox *Ensemble*

Hugh is a second-year student in the performance focus who is making his mainstage debut at the Phoenix. Previous credits include **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee** and **The Actor's Nightmare**.

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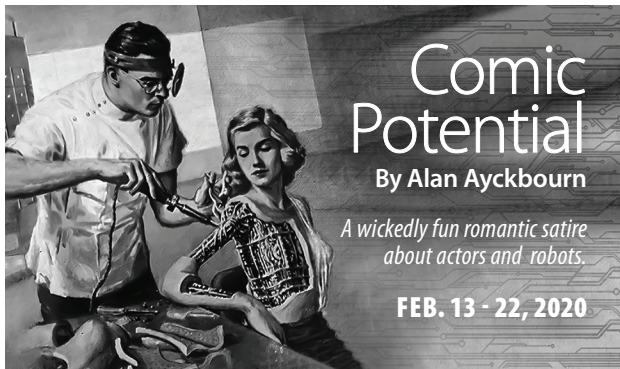
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Jeremy Herndl*

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Rachel Macadam, Lucien Lum, Yi Misty Buxton

Katri Tahvanainen*

Zoe Salvin, Holly Hamilton

Zoe Salvin, Holly Hamilton

Cristina Woods* of The Fox and the Hair Salon

**Kaitlyn Alderson, Kaylee Cavanagh, Sydney Ell,
Roan Foshaug, Nichelle Friesen,**

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Glen Shafer

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Raeleigh Aberg, Kevin Eastman, Carter Gulseth

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Sydney Hunt, Alison Roberts

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Grace Fedorchuk, Erin Boulter, Vanessa Wood,
Sophia Radford, Landon Wong, Taylor Williams,
Carter Gulseth, Raeleigh Aberg**

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**The Department of Theatre would like to thank the following
for their support of this production:**

Robert Baldwin, Bryn Finer, Matt Kerekanich for the Low Poly Chess Set,
and Cristina Woods* of The Fox and the Hair Salon.

Special thanks to Jean-Pierre Fournier



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Tickets and full season information at ccpacanada.com

*Caleb Marshall appears with the permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

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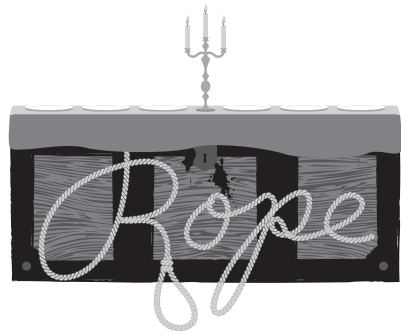
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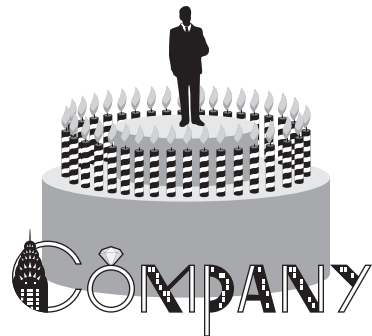
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