

AUGUST 22 - SEPTEMBER 3

# Romeo X Juliet

A PLAY BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge this **ki land** on which we **maawnjidwak** *gather*

**Maanpii** *here*

**Nongo** *Today*

**Bjiinaago** *Yesterday*

And **Waabang** *Tomorrow*

**Bmakmigaa** *be a stretch of land* known today as  
the Greater City of Sudbury

**Kiins** *lands* of the traditional territory of  
the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek

**Kiins** cared for by the **Atikamehsheng Anishnawbe**, the **Sagamok**

**Anishnawbek**, and the **Wahnapiatae** First Nations

**Kiins** also cared for by the Métis and Inuit People

**Mnaaj'aa** *honour*

**Nsidwinaajge** *recognize*

**Mnaadenmaa** *respect*

**Bemaadizig wiijiwe maawnzondwak**

*Life is with people*

**MORGAN COOK**

*Oji-Cree Artist Residing in Sudbury*

*of North Caribou Lake First Nation, Production Manager*

# LETTERS FROM THE YES & STC BOARD



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUAN ECHAVARRIA

On behalf of the YES Theatre board of directors, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the theatre. As chair, I am honored to introduce you to our diverse and dynamic world of theatre.

Our past year has been a very exciting one with the partnership between YES Theatre and STC and the building of the Refettorio. With record breaking attendance to cutting edge and impactful works of art, theatre in Sudbury is thriving!

We are proud to offer a wide range of performances that showcase both established and emerging talent, from delightful musicals, thought-provoking plays, to experimental and avant-garde performances that challenge the status quo. There will be performances for all at our brand new Refettorio and the recently updated and renovated Sudbury Theatre Centre.

## **MARETT MCCULLOCH**

*Chair, YES Theatre Board*

Our team this year has programmed 6 mainstage shows that all celebrate a journey of overcoming and that all have a certain and specific relationship with our patrons. Whether you've heard Frankie Valli on the radio, studied Shakespeare or Mark Haddon in highschool, been inspired by Matilda's ferocious wit, or fell in love with Donny Osmond 20 years ago, this year you can have a special and familiar experience at the theatre. In fact, this entire season will foster relationship and connection.

A huge congratulations to the YES and STC staff who have lent their hearts and initiative to continuing to build and lift our city's theatrical identity to new heights and towards new initiatives. To quote Martin Luther King, Jr.: "The question is not whether we will be extremists, but what kind of extremists we will be... The world is in dire need of creative extremists". We in the theatre are one of the world's oldest institutions, and this means we must always look to be a pillar of our society in the way that most benefits our society.

I believe that this year we can continue to change the world by supporting our artistic community as we train a new generation of thespians at our drama camps, create theatre in three different theatrical spaces across our city and invite artists ranging from our local nurses to Broadway's most promising stars to our stages. I'm joyful that this year we can all celebrate spaces full of life, light, people, new and old friends and art. These are the things that can lend us a little necessary hope for a future that we can all be proud of. This is the 2023 YES/STC Season. Enjoy.

## **JOHN DOW**

*Co-Chair, STC Board*



# THE STORY OF THE REFETTORIO

**BY SCOTT DENNISTON**  
*General Manager & Executive Producer*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUAN ECHAVARRIA

## IT WAS A SUNNY FALL AFTERNOON; ALESSANDRO & I WERE SCOUTING A LOCATION FOR THE 2021 SUMMER FESTIVAL.

The revitalization of downtown is important to us, so we focused on looking for an outdoor space downtown. We were intrigued by this vacant lot that seemed to have been abandoned for years, right across from the YMCA. I brought a step ladder so we could peer over the boarded up wall to see what was on the other side, and immediately we were in love with the space. The exposed brick wall of the old Roy's Furniture Building, the canopy of this miraculous downtown tree (sadly it was dying and had to be removed), and the intimacy of the three walls enclosing the space, just made it a magical place to imagine theatre happening. From that moment forward, Alessandro would tell people "Oh, we're building a theatre there!" as if it was a done deal. At that moment, the Refettorio was born.

Alessandro's ability through sheer will and positivity to remind us that no hurdle was too great, is amazing! For instance, when the project jumped from \$345,000 to over \$1,000,000, my initial thought was "wow, that's way too much". But then we looked at what funding was available, crunched the numbers, and we were able to figure out a plan to make it work. Through that positivity, "can-do" attitude, and overwhelming desire from the public to see this thing happen, we were able to find our way from a small idea to a \$2,900,000 fully funded capital project - and a permanent arts and culture fixture in our downtown core.

Today, as I write this, I got to step onto the Refettorio stage for the first time. Sure, it's still just blocks of styrofoam, and outcrops of concrete and rebar, but the dream is becoming reality. What an incredible thing it is to stand in a space that was once just an idea in your head.

What I'm most looking forward to now is how the space will engage the imagination of artists and audiences. I've already seen how Alessandro looks around the space and asks questions on how different areas can be used. "This little alley way - that could be a backstage area" or "that window could be Juliet's balcony". It's going to be a blank canvas for artists to explore and make their own.

Beyond that, I'm excited to see how our downtown changes because of it. It truly is unique to anywhere in the country, and when the artists in our community bring it to life, I think that life is just going to flow through the streets and completely transform the energy of the area.

As a theatre company, we do what we do to facilitate human connection - to move people. As an arts administrator, I do what I do to support that work; so that artists in my community have the resources they need to realize their impact. The Refettorio is a physical long-term resource that will be in our community for decades to come, ensuring that artists will always have a place that fills them with imagination... where they can share their imagination with the people of Sudbury.

# CAST



COOPER  
BILTON



STÉPHANIE  
CHARBONNEAU



MAXWEL  
CULL



DIETER  
LISCHE-PARKES



ADRIANO  
REIS



DEIVAN  
STEELE



TRINITY  
THIBEAULT



BREANNE  
TICE



KATIE  
WISE



EMMANUELA  
VAN ALLEN

## **COOPER BILTON** | Mercutio / Montague

Cooper Bilton is a Dora Award nominated actor and a recent graduate of the George Brown Theatre School. Selected Theatre: Bone Cage (Assembly Theatre), Table Top (Pea Green Theatre), Another Word For Pomegranate (Island Fringe), Doing Our Bit (Sanderson Centre), Second Self (Edmonton/London Fringe) & Dracula, A Love Story (Casa Loma). Film/Television: The Changeling (AppleTV), Brave New Works (Theatre Orangeville), Indisposable (Grandview Theatre). He is also one half of a comedy duo behind a string of recent shows in Toronto, including the upcoming Moonshine Run: A Prohibition Tale (Breakaway Entertainment). Cooper is pumped to be spending the summer in Suds alongside his second best friend, Adriano Reis. Follow him on instagram @cooperbilton to see what's next!

## **STÉPHANIE CHARBONNEAU** | Tybalt / Nurse

Stéphanie is a graduate student at Laurentian University. When she isn't crying about her dissertation, she's writing a silly (and gloriously stupid) puppet play with her long-suffering bff and roommate. She had the privilege of training in the (now defunct) francophone theatre programme at LU, studying performance and franco-Ontarian theatre with Miriam Cusson, Alain Doom, and Hélène Dallaire. Community theatre credits include Les Aveugles and Martyr (Théâtre aux Quatre Vents), Thérèse et Pierrette à l'école des Saints-Anges (Théâtre du Nouvel Ontario), and The Vagina Monologues (LU Women's Centre). She's so excited to be taking to the stage in one of her favorite Shakespeare plays!

## **MAXWEL CULL** | Prince / Peter

Maxwel (he/him) is an emerging actor and theatre artist from Sudbury, Ontario. He is a 2023 graduate of the BFA in Acting program at the University of Ottawa. His recent credits include Howard Barker's The Possibilities (Lieutenant/Alexander), and Andy-Spandy/Narrator in the TYA as adaptation of Elsie Piddock Skips in Her Sleep. Maxwel is thrilled to be returning to his hometown to make his YES/STC debut!

## **DIETER LISCHÉ-PARKES** | Abraham / Paris / Friar John

Dieter recently finished his second year of theatre training at George Brown theatre school. Select credits include YES/STC production of Hockey Dreams, YES/STC's The Wizard of Oz, The Rover (Belville), Alice in Wonder-

land (The White Rabbit), The Theory of relativity (Mike) and various other YES Cabarets and more. Dieter has also had the opportunity to venture into film in 2022 where he completed two movies, Mistletoe Time Machine (Crave), I'm Glad it's Christmas (CTV). Alongside Acting Dieter dances, having taught dance to the Sudbury Secondary Dance majors. He has also choreographed over 30 dances. Dieter is so beyond excited for this show and he hopes you all enjoy it!

## **ADRIANO REIS** | Romeo / Sampson

Adriano Reis is a Brazilian-Canadian Dora Award nominated actor raised in the suburbs of Newmarket, Ontario. After graduating from the George Brown Theatre School during the height of the pandemic, he has performed on stages across Toronto and the GTA. Selected Theatre credits: MARTYR (ARC Stage), Shanty Show (The Lakeside Players), Cyrano de Bergerac (Theatre on the Ridge), Cowgirl of Suburbia (Theatre by the Bay), Table Top (Pea Green Theatre), A Midsummer, Night's Dream (Theatre Orangeville). Film credits: Haunted Museum (Crave TV), Fear Thy Neighbor (Prime Video), Brave New Works (Theatre Orangeville). Adriano is beyond excited to be playing one of his dream roles in the Big Nickel surrounded by the most wonderful of friends. He hopes you enjoy the show! He gives a special thank you to Lizz & Thomas, the best roomies! (Oh, and coop).

## **DEIVAN STEELE** | Capulet

Deivan Steele is a Dora award-winning actor, writer, and director originally from Halifax, Nova Scotia. His work in theatre includes: King Lear (Shakespeare BASH'd); Behind the Moon (Tarragon); Romeo & Juliet and Action, 3 Tempests (Shakespeare in Action); Hamlet, Henry V, Love's Labour's Lost, Cinderella, Wizard of Oz (Shakespeare by the Sea); and rihannaboi95 (Unwrap Theatre). Original theatre works include: The Assembly (co-created with Breanne Tice/Theatre Direct, Eastern Front Theatre); Palany (Neptune INKubator writer-in-residence); The Book of Kit and Mel (with Garry Williams/Shakespeare in Action); and Froxeaglousey (Driftwood). He also appeared in the Canadian Screen Award-winning film Weirdos. Fave foods include: tacos, ramen. Fave wives include: Breanne Tice. Thanks for joining us at the theatre!

## **TRINITY THIBEAULT** | Benvolio

Trinity is super excited to be working alongside these beautiful people and George Brown grads. Trinity is en-

tering her last year of George Brown Theatre School and couldn't be more thrilled. You may have caught Trinity last summer in STC / YES' Ride the Cyclone as Ocean, where she lived out her musical theatre dreams and now gets to bring the world's greatest love story to life. She is immensely proud to call this place home, and thankful for the people in this city who are here to listen, support and watch us play.

**BREANNETICE** | Friar Lawrence

Breanne Tice (she/her) is an actor and creator who has worked with companies including Theatre Direct, Shakespeare BASH'd, Eastern Front Theatre, Theatre by the Bay, Bard in the Park, and Theatre on the Ridge. She is the co-creator of The Assembly, an interactive theatre experience designed to strengthen our democracy and build long-term thinking, that tours to schools and community spaces around the country. She also works as an intimacy choreographer and is an artist educator at Soulpepper Theatre and Shakespeare in Action. Love to Grandma Edna, the Sudbury girl.

**KATIE WISE** | Juliet / Gregory

Katie Wise is a multidisciplinary artist from Sudbury, ON. A recent graduate of George Brown Theatre School, Katie is thrilled to be back onstage working with YES/STC doing what she loves, and to be some small part of welcoming audiences into this new and wonderful space, ushering in a new era of Sudbury arts experiences. How grateful I am to be doing this show in this place in this city with these people. Thank you for coming.

**EMMANUELA VAN ALLEN** | Lady Capulet / Apothecary

Emmanuela is thrilled to be doing this show with such incredible artists in the new beautiful Refettorio! She will be heading into her final year at George Brown Theatre School this September. Select theatre credits include The Wizard of Oz at YES/STC, The Rover (Hellena), Munsch Garden (Millicent) at GBTS, Godspell (Gilmer), and Alice In Wonderland (Alice). When she's not performing, you can find her roaming art galleries, listening to Elton John, reading, or talking about beluga whales to anyone who will listen. Thank you for supporting the arts! Enjoy the show!





KIERAN  
JENSEN



KALEM  
MAHAFFY



BRIAN  
MARISTELA



JULIA  
NISH-LAPIDUS



MATT  
NISH-LAPIDUS



JAMES  
WALLIS



JENNIFER  
DZIALOSZYNSKI

# CREATIVE TEAM

## **JENNIFER DZIALOSZYNSKI** | Fight Director

Jennifer is a fight director, stage combat instructor, actor, and voice artist. She is thrilled to be making her YES/STC debut, working with such a great team. Selected Credits include: *Is God Is* (Obsidian/Canadian Stage/Necessary Angel), *Three Women of Swatow*, *Theory*, *Girls Like That* (Tarragon Theatre), *The Nether* (Coal Mine/Studio 180), *Poison* (Coal Mine), *Hello Bertha*, *Talk To Me Like The Rain And Let Me Listen*, *Rococo*, *Lithuania* (Shaw Festival), *Boeing, Boeing*, *Perfect Wedding* (Magnus Theatre), *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Taming of the Shrew* (Shakespeare Bash'd). As an actor, Jennifer has appeared in theatres across Canada including; The Shaw Festival, Canadian Stage, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, The Citadel, St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare Bash'd, Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company, The Grand Theatre, among others.

## **KIERAN JENSEN** | Apprentice Director

Kieran Jensen is a 20-year-old actor from Sudbury. He graduated from Sudbury Secondary School as a theatre major in 2021. This is his first opportunity with YES/STC. Kieran has been involved in Sudbury's theatre scene for most of his life: past acting credits include *The Case of the Missing A.Y. Jackson*, *A Christmas Story*, *Dickens' A Christmas Carol* (STC); *New Normal* (PlaySmelter); *A Family Story*, *The Addams Family* (Theatre Cambrian); *Godspell* (Sudbury Performance Group). He will enter his second year at George Brown Theatre School in the fall. Enjoy the show!

## **KALEM MAHAFFY** | Apprentice Director

Kalem Mahaffy (she/her) is an 18-year-old performer, artist, and aspiring entrepreneur. This is Kalem's first production with YES/STC! She made her directorial debut in Sudbury Performance Group's 2023 One Act Festival directing *Boxed In* by Julia Lederer. Kalem's true passion is performing onstage. Recent credits include *Helga/Gorilla* in *Cabaret* (Sudbury Performance Group), *Pigpen* in *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (Sudbury Performance Group), and *Antigone* in *Antigone* (Lo-Ellen Secondary School). Kalem plans on continuing with theatre as she starts at Sheridan in September.

## **BRIAN MARISTELA** | Costume Designer / Head of Wardrobe

Brian Maristela is a multi-talented visual artist and fashion designer who completed his studies in Fashion De-

sign at Fanshawe College. Born and raised in Sudbury, Ontario, Brian has always had a passion for fashion and the arts. He started out designing his own fashion Label Lizares, a menswear collection that fused his cultural background and modern fashion trends. Brian has also worked with many influential designers and companies over the years, being the first menswear designer to showcase his work in the Cashmere campaign and winning the 3M Brand award for his graduating collection. Brian's perseverance and creativity have led him to the theater where he continues to grow and work on his craft.

## **JULIA NISH-LAPIDUS** | Co-Director

Julia Nish-Lapidus is a director, actor, and producer, as well as a Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Toronto's Shakespeare BASH'd (Best Site Specific Theatre Company, NOW Magazine Readers' Choice 2018, 2019). For Shakespeare BASH'd, Julia has directed *Cymbeline*, *Richard III*, *The Comedy of Errors*, and *The Duchess of Malfi* (staged reading). She was a member of the Michael Langham Workshop for Classical Directing at the Stratford Festival, acting as the Assistant Director on *Private Lives* and Associate Director on *All's Well That Ends Well*, and as co-facilitator of the *WordPlay* series in the Forum. In the Festival's 2021 season she was Co-Director and Co-Curator of *Play On! A Shakespeare-Inspired Mixtape*. Selected Additional Credits: *3 Tempests* (Shakespeare In Action), *The Duchess of Malfi*, *The Revenger's Tragedy* (Co-Director, Toronto Metropolitan University), *The Tom & Gertie Letters Project* (Co-Director), *Modern Love* (Co-Creator, Canadian Stage), *As You Like It* (Text Coach, Theatre By the Bay), *Titus Andronicus* (Text Coach, Hart House). Julia is a graduate of the joint acting program at UofT and Sheridan College.

## **MATT NISH-LAPIDUS** | Sound Designer

Matt Nish-Lapidus is an artist and musician based in Toronto. His varied practice includes publications, recordings, installations, performances, software, and objects. Recent projects include *The Tragedy of King Lear* with Shakespeare BASH'd, the EDAA award winning *Finger Plays*, and *Only the Dreamer Knows It* at MOCA Toronto. Matt has performed and exhibited with *The Power Plant* (Toronto), *INDEX Biennial* (Braga), *ACUD Macht Neu* (Berlin), *Electric Eclectics* (Meaford), *InterAccess* (Toronto), *ZKM* (Karlsruhe), *The Plumb* (Toronto), and more, including many DIY community spaces.

**JAMES WALLIS** | Co-Director

James Wallis is a director, educator, actor, and Co-Founder & Co-Artistic Director of Shakespeare BASH'd. For BASH'd, James has played the title roles in Hamlet, Richard III, Petruchio in The Taming of the Shrew, and Benedick in Much Ado About Nothing. With BASH'd, James directed over a dozen productions and staged readings. James spent four seasons at the Stratford Festival. He was a member of the Michael Langham Workshop for Classical Directing in 2016/2017 assistant directing Macbeth with director Antoni Cimolino (2016), the world premiere of Bunny by Hannah Moscovitch, directed by Sarah Stanley (2016), Romeo and Juliet (2017) and Julius

Caesar (2018) directed by Scott Wentworth. Additionally, James worked with the Birmingham Conservatory. For Stratford, James co-created and co-directed, with Julia Nish-Lapidus and Robert Markus, Play On! A Shakespeare-Inspired Mixtape outdoors for the Festival's 2021 season. His other directing credits include: As You Like It (Theatre by the Bay), Titus Andronicus (Hart House Theatre), Antony and Cleopatra (Secret Shakespeare Project), Scenes from The Tempest (Playing for Free), Henry IV Part 1 and 2 (Theatre Erindale), Romeo and Juliet and Joni (Workshop Production), Pygmalion, The Revenger's Tragedy, The Duchess of Malfi (Toronto Metropolitan University).



# PRODUCTION TEAM

**Producers**

Alessandro Costantini and Scott Denniston

**Production Stage Manager**

Morgan Cook

**Rehearsal Assistant Stage Manager**

Kendra Jackson

**Refettorio Head Technician**

Taylor Blanchette

**Carpenter**

Keagan Bishop

# YES / STC STAFF

*Artistic & Managing Director*  
Alessandro Costantini

*General Manager & Executive  
Producer*  
Scott Denniston

*Associate Artistic Director /  
Head of Marketing*  
Ruthie Nkut

*Metcalf Intern*  
Janie Pinard

*Production Coordinator*  
Morgan Cook

*Venue Coordinator*  
Jake Deeth

*Assistant Venue Coordinator*  
Cole Cowtan

*Technical Director*  
Frank Donato

*Head Technician*  
Petr Balaz

*Administrative Assistant*  
Lizz Reisler

*Volunteer Office Administrator*  
Leslie Cassidy

*Facilities*  
Terra Weiler

*Box Office*  
Katie Corbeil

*Marketing Intern*  
Dana Yawney

*Front of House Manager*  
Jordyn Fitzgerald

*Director of Education*  
Ralph McIntosh

*Education Instructors*  
Chelsea Papineau  
Sophia Papineau  
April Perrin  
Kelsey Rutledge

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## 2023 ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

The Artistic Director's Circles comprises community members who believe in the Artistic Vision of the Company and donate \$2000 or more.

*Angela Bradley  
Kent James  
Diane Leblanc and Norm Glaude  
Sue and Brian Gates  
Marett McCulloch  
Alexis Bernier  
Daniela Filippone  
Maya Ceming*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUAN ECHAVARRIA

## SPECIAL THANKS

Julian Mirabelli  
Shannon Lea Doyle  
Crystal Lee Chettiar  
Matteo DeSimone  
Micaela Langlois  
Rob Gregorini  
Irene Costantini  
Marzia Cahill  
Our generous Front of House  
volunteers!



SEPTEMBER 7 - 24

FOREVER & FOR ALWAYS

The Music Of

*Stevie*

TWAIN

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# THE CURIOUS INCIDENT

of the dog in the night-time

A PLAY BY SIMON STEPHENS



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# MATILDA

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