



WESTERN GOLD
THEATRE

the
IMPORTANCE of being
EARNEST
by oscar wilde



JUNE 2 - 4, 2023

We gratefully acknowledge that we are on the traditional and unceded territories of the x^wməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwataʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations. We deeply thank them for so generously allowing us to live, work, and play on their beautiful lands.

The Window Outside

Raw and provocative, delicately funny and beautifully told, a powerful new play for the stage about the power of love!

By Belinda Lopez

Directed by William B. Davis

With Douglas Abel, Susan Hogan, Liz Connors
and Sarah Jane Redmond

Bookings at:

<https://tickets.phtheatre.org>

Box Office at: 604 990-3474

Tues – Thurs 10 am - 4pm

10 – 25 June 2023

Presentation House Theatre

333 Chesterfield Avenue

North Vancouver

IN SUPPORT OF THE

Alzheimer Society
BRITISH COLUMBIA

WISE OWL THEATRE



presentation
HOUSE THEATRE

This is a Canadian Actors' Equity Association production under the Artists' Collective Policy
In Association with the PHT Creative Hub

A NOTE FROM DIRECTOR ANNA HAGAN

Because of their commitment, experience, and longevity, senior members of any profession—be it medical, musical, business, or entertainment—have much to offer!

It is with this belief in mind we are proud to present our version of Oscar Wilde's legendary comedic masterpiece, *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Enjoy!

~ Anna Hagan

A NOTE FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR TANJA DIXON-WARREN

I love a good classic comedy of manners! I love quick witty text. I love witnessing dexterous, skilled, and inventive actors who embrace style, good posture (and posturing!), and know how to dance with words. I love how incredible actors are. How they can transform into anyone they want to be. I also love how wonderful audiences are; how they will gamely go on this journey with us and allow preconceptions to be turned on their head. This is the magic of theatre.

When this play was suggested to me by the wonderful Anna Hagan, I leapt at it, with the caveat that we ignore the limitations of age appropriate casting and fully embrace the notion that creativity has no expiry date! Some of the actors you see tonight are re-visiting roles, others are playing them for the first time. All are leaping with their hearts, trusting in their talent, skill, and life experience, knowing this adds a layer of nuance.

Our On Our Feet! (OOF!) Series is a master class in performance. In four short days, we are up; books in hand, flying by the seat of our pants, unleashing every iota of technique, intuition, ingenuity, and unbridled creativity that Canada's most experienced artists have to offer.

For me, theatre is a dance. It's a dance that begins with the playwright—who dances inside their own heart and head—and in magnificent ways writes the score to which the rest is choreographed. Directors dance with writers, actors, and designers. Designers dance with fabric and paint and gels. Actors dance with words, with blocking, with silence, and with each other. We dance with lights and sound and props. Stage managers call our dances. And suddenly, opening night, the audience comes to dance with us—we are all on our feet (OOF!) dancing together!

I LOVE that!!!

~ Tanja Dixon-Warren

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

BY OSCAR WILDE

Directed by Anna Hagan

Time: The Present (1895) - London

Act I: Algernon Moncrieff's flat in Half Moon Street W.

Act II: The Garden of the Manor House, Woolton

Act III: Drawing Room of the Manor House, Woolton

There will be two ten-minute intermissions

CAST

Bernard Cuffling	Reverend Canon Chasuble
Nancy Ebert	Miss Prism
Keith Martin Gordey	Algernon Moncrieff
Patrick Keating	Lane/Merriman
Terence Kelly	John Worthing
Annabel Kershaw	Gwendolen Fairfax
Ellie King	Lady Bracknell
Denyse Wilson	Cecily Cardew

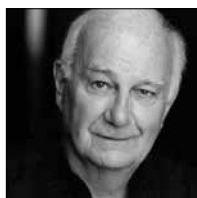
CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Designer	Glenn MacDonald
Stage Manager	Ingrid Turk
Assistant Stage Manager	Fraser Read
Photographer	Javier Sotres
Lighting Technicians	Colleen Bayati
	Lulan (Nicole) Huang
	Andrej Stanojlovic
Set up Crew	Johnathan Stone
Box Office Manager	Kareem Marie

Western Gold Theatre engages under the terms of the INDIE 2.2, professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

The making of electronic or other audio/visual recordings of this production is strictly prohibited and is actionable under international copyright law.

CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES



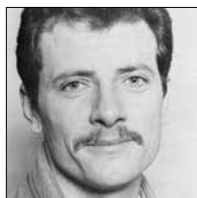
BERNARD CUFFLING – Reverend Canon Chasuble

Bernard has been a professional actor/director in Vancouver for 45 years. He was born in London, UK but is now [since 1974] a Canadian citizen. Bernard has appeared or directed in major theatres in Western Canada. As an actor, he has worked on productions at National Theatre in Ottawa and has been seen in more productions at the Arts Club Theatre than any other actor. Bernard recently directed and acted in *The Woman in Black* for Classical Act Company and has been seen in copious TV and film productions including a recent stint on *The Good Doctor* as well as a guest starring role in the new TV series *Reginald the Vampire*. In the year 2000, he was the recipient of the Sam Payne award presented by UBCP/ACTRA. He received a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for his lifelong commitment to theatre and is also proud that he is a member of the BC Walk of Fame.



NANCY EBERT (she/her) – Miss Prism

Nancy is delighted to be appearing with Western Gold Theatre again and thrilled by the opportunity to work with such a talented cast and director. In 2022, she played Leontine in the OOF! production of *The Triumph of Love*. Other recent performances include Miss Fozzard in *Miss Fozzard Finds Her Feet* and Erma Bombeck in *At Wit's End*. Working as a teacher for 35 years, Nancy was also active in the community theatre scene. Favourite roles include Vera in *4000 Miles*, Annie in *Calendar Girls*, Nana in *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again*, and Polly Wyeth in *Other Desert Cities*. Her film and TV credits include many roles too small to mention, although she did appear in one movie as "Vomit Woman 3."



KEITH MARTIN GORDEY – Algernon Moncrieff

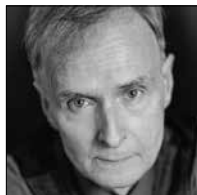
Having performed in ten Western Gold shows so far, Keith, in all earnestness, is keen to be in an eleventh: *The Importance of Being Earnest* (he really, really means it). He is a Past President of Western Gold Theatre, a Director on the board of CAN (Canadian Artists Network), a Past President of PAL Vancouver, a Director on the board of The Motion Picture Arts & Sciences Foundation of British Columbia (the Leo Awards), Treasurer and Past President of UBCP/ACTRA, and Vice President of ACTRA. As well as numerous stage performances, Keith has appeared in over 70 film and television productions to date including such shows as *The Order*, *Watchmen*, *Center Stage*, *Supernatural*, *Alcatraz*, *Men in Trees*, *Smallville*, *The Dead Zone*, *Flight 93*, *The 4400*, *Da Vinci's Inquest*, *Cold Squad*, *Stargate SG-1*, *A Storm in Summer* and, being a local Vancouver actor, many Hallmark movies. Love to Tory and Sasha.

**ANNA HAGAN (she/her) – Director**

Anna's accomplished career has been honoured with a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Career Achievement, as well as being inducted into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame. She served as assistant director of the Stratford Festival's Young Company and was mentored by the internationally renowned director Robin Phillips. Anna then went on to be one of three Canadians invited to participate in the International Directors Seminar in London, England. Favourite directing credits include: *Waiting for Godot*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and all the OOF! productions for Western Gold Theatre. Her extensive acting credits include: *Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Music Man*, *Our Town*, and the acclaimed World Theatre production of *The Mill on the Floss* (Soulpepper Theatre, Toronto). Vancouver audiences will have seen her in *A Delicate Balance*, *Half Life*, *Home Child*, *Three Tall Women*, *Vigil*, *Red Birds*, and *Escaped Alone*. Anna was the Artistic Director of Western Gold Theatre for a total of 12 years. She now serves on the Board of Directors.

**LULAN (NICOLE) HUANG (she/her) – Lighting Technician**

Lulan (Nicole) graduated from SFU majoring in Theatre Production and Design. She is currently in Vancouver, on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations where she started being exposed to art. With a passion for live performance, she is still learning and experimenting.

**PATRICK KEATING (he/him) – Lane/Merriman**

Patrick graduated with a B.A. in theatre from Simon Fraser University. He has worked as an actor in Vancouver for the past 30 years in film and TV, and in theatre with The Firehall Theatre, Rumble Theatre, Touchstone, Headlines Theatre, Pi Theatre, and Main Street Theatre amongst others. Patrick has been nominated for two Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards for Acting. Patrick recently digitized an adaptation of his play *Inside/Out: A Prison Memoir* that he screens in prisons and penitentiaries across the country to encourage inmates to tell their own stories. Last summer, he was a keynote speaker at The International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services conference in Berlin. He is also a peer co-leader with the Transformative Health and Justice Research Cluster that supports initiatives at the intersection of Health and Justice. This is Patrick's first time working with Western Gold Theatre, and he is grateful to be included with these incredibly talented artists.

**TERENCE KELLY (he/him) – John Worthing**

Terence has been a professional actor for over sixty years, working in stage, film, TV, and radio. He is delighted to use the experience to play with Western Gold Theatre. Western Gold keeps the traditional theatre alive to those who enjoy its magic: you, our audience. He thanks you for sharing with us.

**ANNABEL KERSHAW (she/her) – Gwendolen Fairfax**

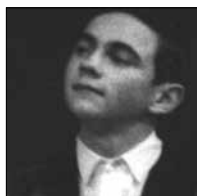
Growing up, Annabel loved drama passionately, but her high school drama teacher did not love her back. When *The Importance of Being Earnest* was staged, Annabel desperately wanted to play Gwendolyn . . . the drama teacher cast her as the butler. Needless to say, there was a very tear-stained pillow. So, it is with immense gratitude and joy that a teenage dream has finally been realized. Despite that drama teacher, Annabel has had a long and varied career. For Western Gold, she has joyously appeared in *Opening Night*, *Funny Money*, *Comfort Cottages*, *Splitting Heirs*, *Jack of Diamonds*, and more. She is a recipient of two Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards for *Aunt Dan and Lemon* and *The Elephant Man*. Film and television appearances include *Get Shorty*, *Unreal*, *iZombie*, *Arrow*, *Married Life*, *The L Word*, *Smallville*, *Jumanji*, and several Hallmark movies. Annabel is also a certified 500-hour yoga instructor.

**ELLIE KING (she/her) – Lady Bracknell**

Ellie was born and raised in England where she made her stage debut aged 2½. She immigrated to Canada in 1982. On stage, she just finished a tour of Serendipity Theatre's *Driving Me Crazy* playing Liz, but is perhaps best known for her signature role of Shirley in *Shirley Valentine*. She also works in TV and film, both live action and animation, most recently voicing Lujanne in the hit Netflix series *The Dragon Prince*. Ellie was the Founding/Managing Artistic Director of the Raymond Burr Performing Arts Centre and of the Royal Canadian Theatre Company, from which role she retired in 2022. She now looks forward to spending more time on stage rather than behind the scenes and dedicates all of her work to her amazing family and to her dear late husband Geoff King.

**JOY-ANNA LEGGASEE (she/her) - Head Hog Of Fundraising**

Joy-Anna has retired from her long career teaching fiscal management and the importance of saving to children so they can achieve their financial goals—be they Beanie Baby acquisitions or saving for post-secondary. She has created investment portfolios from paper routes, babysitting, and Christmas cheques from the grand folks. She steps away from her usual perch atop a chest and you will now find Joy-Anna in the lobby at every show. A foodie at heart, her favourite meal is loose change and cheques. She's very hungry, so please feed her!



*Glenn as Algonon
1966*

GLENN MACDONALD (he/him) – Production Designer

Glenn has worked as an actor, stage manager, production manager, and designer for theatres across Canada and in the US including The Vancouver Playhouse, Arts Club Theatre, Stratford Festival, Charlottetown Festival, and Studio Arena Theatre (Buffalo, NY). He worked in production management for Expo '86 entertainment department, stage managed the opening and closing ceremonies of the Calgary Winter Olympics, and was operations director for BC's MUSIC '91 province-wide festival. He currently works in television and film in set decoration, with over 100 projects to his credit. He sits on the Board of

Trustees of PAL Vancouver and is the recipient of the 2016 Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Set Design. He recently created the set designs for *No Man's Land* and *Opening Night* here at PAL and *The Woman in Black* at Jericho Arts Centre. Glenn played Algernon in a 1966 Manitoba Theatre Centre Theatre School production.



FRASER READ (they/them) – Assistant Stage Manager

Fraser is a young, Vancouver-based, queer artist living and working on the traditional unceded territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh nations. They have always been passionate about live theatre. They have been immersed in the performing arts since kindergarten and worked in programs such as Bard on the Beach, Theatre Under the Stars, and The Cultch. Fraser has experience

in competitive improv, musical theatre, and film. They have been writing poetry and scripts throughout their life and, in their graduating year of 2022, wrote and acted in their first original production titled *Impact*. Fraser hopes to continue studying the arts post-secondary and always has ideas percolating for their next big project!



ANDREJ STANOJLOVIC – Lighting Technician

Andrej is an emerging artist and designer currently residing in Vancouver, originally from Belgrade, Serbia. Since moving to Canada at the age of 13, Andrej found love and passion for theatre and acting. His ongoing journey as an artist started when he discovered a theatre production program in high school. He studied acting for three semesters at Studio 58 and hopes to return there and switch

to the production program. In the future, he aspires to become a lighting and sound designer. Andrej has previously worked with Western Gold Theatre on their staged reading of Norm Foster's *Opening Night* as a lighting board operator and set up crew.



INGRID TURK (she/her) – Stage Manager

Ingrid is a daughter of settlers, fortunate to live here in the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish people, and grateful for their stewardship of the lands and waters here. Ingrid has been a stage manager of theatre, dance, and opera for 35 years. She particularly enjoys doing theatre for young audiences and has been fortunate to work with Green Thumb Theatre many times. She's a House Manager at

Bard on the Beach and sometimes works for VocalEye, the organization that provides descriptions of live performances for patrons with limited vision. She's delighted, as always, to be a part of Western Gold's On Our Feet (OOF!) staged reading series.



DENYSE WILSON (she/her) – Cecily Cardew

Denyse is earnestly delighted and grateful to be back being on stage and earning something important. Learning too! She played many an ingénue in her day, along with many other roles of note, working for such theatres as The Vancouver Playhouse, The Arts Club, Bard on the Beach, Theatre Calgary, and The Atlantic Theatre Festival. Most recently, Denyse played Juliet in *A Tender Thing* for United Players.

ABOUT WESTERN GOLD

Western Gold Theatre was founded in 1994 by Joy Coghill O.C. in response to the dearth of roles for veteran professional artists in the Vancouver area. It is one of only two professional theatre companies in Canada solely devoted to providing work for senior (55+) artists. We are committed to centering the voices and supporting the stories of seniors and Elders across cultures and communities. We also take great pride in the opportunities we offer to emerging theatre artists.

We have commissioned, developed, and staged eight new Canadian plays as well as produced a further 11 mainstage presentations from major playwrights. In 2012, we launched the highly popular On Our Feet (OOF!) series: fully staged readings with all the hallmarks of a full production. In 2020, in response to COVID-19, we initiated VIRTUAL GOLD: online theatrical offerings, creative workshops, and cultural conversations. In 2021 we began a Creative Accessibility Program specifically designed for senior artists.

Western Gold has been helmed for the majority of its time by a number of Canada's leading theatre artists including Founder Joy Coghill, Artistic Directors Pamela Hawthorne, Colleen Winton, and Anna Hagan, and General Manager Glenn MacDonald—trailblazers all. Tanja Dixon-Warren was appointed Artistic Director in 2019.

GET INVOLVED WITH WESTERN GOLD!

*There are lots of ways to get involved with Western Gold Theatre,
and we'd love to have you on board!*

Volunteer!

Help with fundraising events, serve on our board and committees, work at our concession, or be our frontline usher/box office attendant.

Spread the word!

If you liked the show, please tell your friends, family, colleagues, etc.

Become a member!

Be the first to know about upcoming events and auditions, and enjoy special members-only events.

Donate!

All gifts of \$20 or more will be acknowledged with a tax-deductible receipt. Donate online at westerngoldtheatre.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Thank you to our donors, sponsors, community partners,
volunteers, PAL Vancouver residents, and you, the audience.

Without your support there would be no theatre!

Legacy Donors

Johanna Hickey, J. M. Hurst

Marquee Headliner! (\$2,000 +)

William Davis, Mark, David and Geoffrey Lecovin

Starring Role! (\$1,000 – \$1,999)

Keith Martin Gordey and Tory Ross, Johanna Hickey, Bonnie MacKenzie,
Salim Rahemtulla, Leonard Schein, France Trépanier

Go Ahead – Have a Senior Moment! (\$500 – \$999)

Myra Andrews, Elizabeth Ball, Tanja Dixon-Warren and Michael Fera, Deanne
Henry, J. M. Hurst, Dawn Johnston, Donnie MacDonald, Anne Mathisen,
Diana Sandberg, Elizabeth Snow, Vicki Webster, Wensley Architecture

Enjoying Bold Age! (\$200 – \$499)

Kathryn Aberle, Loretta Bogert-O'Brien, Doug Cameron, Rena Cohen, Virginia
Cooke, Louise DeVita, Alen Dominguez, Anna Hagan and Terence Kelly, Rob
Haynes, Terri Johnson, Linda Johnston, John H. Kennedy, Phyllis Lavelle
(to support an artist in need), Glenn MacDonald, Bill Millerd, Marjorie
Munkley, Vicki Patenaud (in memory of Janet Sala), Patricia Phillips, Hesein
Rahemtulla, Shehin Rahemtulla, Zahida Rahemtulla, Pat Regan, Pat Ritchie,
Gene Rumley, Kathie Schwaia, Marsha Sibthorpe, Christian Theriault, Magda
Theriault, Katey Wright, Hang Yuan, Audrey Zaharachuk

Young at Heart! (\$100 – \$199)

Victor Martinez Aja, Herbert Auerbach, Neil David Boucher, Dave Campbell,
Arthur Close, Louis Chirillo, Catherine Condon, Harry Cussen, Patricia Curtis,
Kate Dahlstrom, Lesley Dawson-Burns, Dhirendra, Heloise Dixon-Warren,
Adrianna Bakos Donaldson, Elizabeth Dropko, Ian Farthing, Sarah Flemming,
Michele Fontana, Jan Gilchrist, Jane Heyman, Arlene Howard, Joan
Kirkwood, Kelly Marshall, Robin Montcalm, Francesca Moore, Madeleine
Nelson, Jayeson Nichols, Monica Morten, Malcolm Page, George Plawski,
Anita Romaniuk, Jordan Samek, Kathryn Shaw, Shamim Shivji, Cecil Sigal,
Elizabeth Snow, Sally Stubbs, Tim and Hilary Temple, Malcolm Toms, Karen
Vail, Shemin Virjee, Laura White, Janet Wynne-Edwards

On the Boards! (\$50 – \$99)

Jo Scott Baxendale, Scott Bellis, Mary Black, Kathryn Bracht and Cavan Cunningham, Brenda Brandle and Alan York, Anne Carew, Vickie Carter, Noeleen Cassidy, Irene Caudwell, Susanne, Paul and Tosé Moniz de Sá, Louise DeVita, David Diamond, Adrianna Donaldson, Bruce Dow, Kathleen Duborg, Carey Erickson, Patricia Fong, Jan Gilchrist, Marie Gleason, Rachel Goddyn, Corinne Hebden, John Innes, Yasmin Kassam, Lynn Katey, Kung-Jaadee Kennedy, Kathy Kent, Annabel Kershaw, Steph Kirkland, Phiroza Lakhdar, Kate Lancaster, Judith MacPherson, Robin Mossley, Shelley Neill, Craig Neill, Chuck Newson, Ellie O'Day, Susan Osmer, John Prowse, Sarah Rodgers, Elfrede Rolhoff, Bronwen Smith, Gloria Sully, James Stevenson, Malcolm Toms, Lori Valteau, Helen Volkow, Jerry Wasserman, Brian Wilson, Johnna Wright, Karen Vail, Audrey Zaharachuk

Apprentice! (up to \$50)

Sheila Adams, Patti Allan, Salim Ahmed, Moezin Baloo, M. Bates, Eileen Barrett, Paul Batten, Martin Bellemare, Linda Brooks, Lesley Dawson-Burns, William Byrd, Scott Campbell, Albert J. Cochrane, Ann Cowan-Buitenhuis, Wendy Craig, Beverly Cramp, David Critoph, Laura Di Cicco, Tim Dixon, Michael Dobbin, Barbara Anne Eddy, Angela Falbo, Nina Ferretti, Monika Forberger, Claude Garceau, Marc Gelmon, Michelle Gerber, Elan Ross Gibson, Lynna Goldhar, Jenn Griffin, Victoria Henderson, Wendy Holtan, Janet Hopkins, Cara Hunter, Layla A. Jaffer, Simon Johnston, Gary Jones, Azmina Kassam, Alice Kamani, Lynn Katey, Byung Joo Keum, Brian Kipp, Joey Lesperance, Jennifer Louise, Jean Lum, Judith MacPherson, Heather Main, Bill Mak, Tim Matheson, Minaz Mawji, Sandra McNulty, Marjorie McPhee, Donna Mihm, Cheryl Mitchell, Rozmin Mitha, Jennifer Wightman Morabito, Laura Morrison, Robin Mosley, Linda M Navotny, Christine Nicolas, Jayeson Nicols, Melissa Oei, Jen Raguz, Anassa Rhenisch, Julie Robinson, Marlene Rodgers, Paul Ross, Oliver Schulte, Mary-Virginia Shaw, Shamim Shivji, Sue Sparlin, Jane Srivastava, Danny St. Andrews, Roy Surette, Chelle Tanner, Zahir Teja, Magda Theriault, Rob Thomson, Gillian Thompson, Chandan Toor, Mary Ungerleider, Almas Virani, Daniele Walker, Gilliam A. Walker, Brian Wilson

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



WESTERN GOLD & PAL ADMINISTRATION

WESTERN GOLD TEAM

Artistic Director: Tanja Dixon-Warren
General Manager: Glenn MacDonald
Literary Manager: Seamus Fera
Casting: Stephanie Hargreaves
Creative Accessibilities Facilitator: Dr. Julia Henderson
Publicity: Gwen Kallio
Creative Marketing Manager: Kate Lancaster

WESTERN GOLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Donnie MacDonald
Vice President: Bonnie MacKenzie
Treasurer: Louise DeVita
Secretary: Diana Sandberg
Directors: Kathryn Aberle, Alen Dominguez,
Keith Martin Gordey, Anna Hagan

PAL STUDIO THEATRE TEAM

Executive Director: Lynn Ross
Theatre Manager: Matthew Bissett
Development and Communications Manager: Marina de Pina-Jenkins

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Malcolm Toms, Flax Brownson, Nigel Brownson

THREE BIG CHEERS FOR WGT'S AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

**HIP HIP HOORAY!
HIP HIP HOORAY!!
HIP HIP HOORAY!**

We thank you from the
bottom of our hearts



CREATIVE ACCESSIBILITY at WESTERN GOLD THEATRE

Western Gold Theatre was founded with the aim of supporting, nurturing, and providing opportunities for senior artists and audiences.

Instead of hiding the normal experiences of the life process, we aim to shine a light on them and make them integral to creation, design, rehearsal, and performance processes.

It is no secret that challenges come with aging, including physical mobility, stamina, memory loss, cultural displacement, and the inherent emotional barriers that result. We believe all older adults can and should participate in the arts—and not just any arts, but high-quality, innovative, and contemporary arts that engage them fully and reflect the lives they lead.

Thus, as part of every project we embark upon, we examine these barriers and challenges and find opportunities and solutions therein.

The questions we ask are:

- What are the barriers?
- How do we fully support senior artists on stage/in rehearsal?
- Are there commonly used accessibility tools we can apply to theatrical creation?
- How do we bring practices such as viewpoints, Laban (a method and language for describing, visualizing, interpreting, and documenting human movement), or biomechanics to senior artists?
- What new technologies and digital media can be used to support our artists and audiences?
- How can we ensure cultural comfort?
- How can we aesthetically illuminate the experience of seniors' day-to-day living?

For the Audience: This means ensuring our venue is fully accessible and offering ASL and VocalEye performances for each production as well as audio assist. It means we acknowledge, support, and advocate for Cultural Ceremony and Protocols.

For the Artist: This means actors may be seen using an earpiece / having a prompter to the side of the stage / integrating a teleprompter into the set design / incorporating the script as a prop (i.e. a diary, a memoir, a journal) / the set being wheelchair accessible / adjusting the lighting / using sound cues to facilitate memory / increasing visual markers, or only rehearsing two hours per day for six weeks, instead of seven hours a day for two weeks. It means we acknowledge, support, and advocate for cultural safety and protocols. It varies and adapts to each artist and each production.

This is what you will see on our stage: An artistic form suited to senior artists; one which also reflects the experience of our audience. It embraces adaptability and, at heart, celebrates the notion that life experience fully informs artistic practice.

SO ...WHERE DO YOUR TICKET DOLLARS GO?

As a small, ambitious company operating on a project-to-project basis (meaning we have no government support to sustain our ongoing operations), we depend largely on you, our audience, to support us. On Our Feet (OOF!) productions operate on a shoestring; box office revenues are approximately 40% of our budget. Your attendance supports all our artistic productions and ancillary events, as well as our hardworking team throughout the year. We can only hope that the quality of our work will put the “bums in seats” that we rely on to meet so many of our costs. We have much to thank you for.

PAL's intimate theatre has a house capacity of less than 100. This means we must sell to near capacity over a very short, five-performance run.

Working in the theatre is a vicarious life, and many of us who choose it survive on passion, commitment, and the hope of things to come. Actors and many other theatre artists—at minimum industry standard—get paid less per week than many people get paid per day, and in some cases per hour.

Our marketing and advertising budget is very limited, so if you enjoyed today's performance—or any other work by any other theatre company—tell anyone and everyone! Share on social media. Write us a review on Google. If you are really feeling passionate, contact your local MP and encourage ongoing funding for the arts. If you are even MORE passionate, connect with Joy-Anna Leggasee, our Head Hog of Fundraising! Yes, she's a piggy bank, and she can be found in the theatre lobby.

Following is a breakdown of precisely where your ticket dollars go for tonight's performance (based on an 88% house at an average ticket price of \$18.00*)

**Average ticket price is calculated by totaling all ticket prices (including full price, concession prices for youth, students, PAL residents, and members of the community with financial restrictions, comps for volunteers, and promotional comps which offset our marketing budget) and dividing it by the number of different ticket prices offered.*

- Venue (including rehearsal space) 18%
- Production (props / costumes / set / lights) 6%
- Advertising / Promotions 9%
- Administration 4%
- Royalties 3%
- Artist / Production Fees 53%
- Accessibility Initiatives 1%
- Staff wages 6%
- TOTAL 100%

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS - HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT!



Western Gold Theatre is seeking submissions of plays for our new mini festival: ***Have a Senior Moment!*** taking place in September 2023. We are seeking scripts by writers who identify as seniors/ elders or scripts highlighting senior stories. The chosen scripts will receive a four-hour workshop with professional actors and a public reading filmed for archival purposes. The recordings will also be included in our Virtual Gold Series.

The successful script should have one or more of the following criteria:

- Highlight and/or celebrate seniors and their stories
- Give opportunities to senior artists
- Have an estimated runtime of 45-120 minutes
- Be an unproduced original script
- Fulfill any of Western Gold Theatre's Mandates or Objectives (see the About Us page at www.westerngoldtheatre.org/about)

We welcome and encourage submissions from playwrights of all identities, ethnicities, and abilities, and equity seeking groups. Western Gold Theatre seeks to engage with seniors and elders from all communities.

Please note: We will accept applications from out of province playwrights; however, Western Gold Theatre is unable to provide remuneration for travel and accommodations.

The chosen playwright will receive a minimum honorarium of \$200.

Deadline to submit is June 30, 2023

- Please email your submissions to literary@westerngoldtheatre.org with the subject line: Have a Senior Moment - Play Submission - Title of Play
- Please ensure that your script document is in PDF or Word format
- To maintain impartiality in the curation process, please ensure that your name is included in the email, but not on the script document

If you have any accessibility requirements for your submission, please contact us:

- By email: literary@westerngoldtheatre.org
- By phone: 778 952 1536

Successful candidates will be notified by July 30, 2023

UP NEXT ON STAGE AT WESTERN GOLD

Buy tickets online at westerngoldtheatre.org
or call the Box-Office at 604-363-5734



A Doll's House Part 2

November 9 – 26, 2023

By Lucas Hnath | Directed by Seamus Fera

Fifteen years after Nora Helmer infamously slammed the door on her stifling domestic life, there is a knock at that same door. Nora has returned. But why? And what will it mean for those

she left behind? Tony nominated playwright Lucas Hnath's funny, probing, and bold play continues Nora's story as she confronts her husband, daughter, and the nursemaid who raised her children. It is both a continuation of Ibsen's exploration of traditional gender roles and a clever contemporary take on marriage and the complexities of all human relationships. Sharp, witty, invigorating, and somewhat naughty.

ROTTERDAM

By Jon Brittain



DIRECTED BY DAVID C. JONES

STARRING: CLARA NOWAK, KAI SOLANO, MARLEE SPICER & KEVIN T.S. VUN

SET: GLENN MACDONALD & JASON SOO

LIGHTS: GLENN MACDONALD & JILLIAN BURKE

STAGE MANAGER: BRENNAN LOEWEN

COSTUME DESIGN: SEBASTIAN ELBERS

SOUND: NESTOR CASTILLO

PAL THEATRE
JUNE 22 to JULY 2nd, 2023

581 Cardero St. (off W. Georgia)

TICKET INFO: EVENTBRITE



VIRTUAL GOLD: LOOK!

When theatres went dark because of the pandemic, Western Gold launched VIRTUAL GOLD, featuring online presentations, podcasts, and workshops. Although we're now back live on stage, we're still offering virtual programming for you to participate in from the comfort of your own home.

Visit westerngoldtheatre.org for more info and links!



The Pinch Penny Poker Players Christmas Light Tour

EPISODES 1 - 5 are available for viewing!

Written and performed by Nora D Randall

This delightful series carries the magic of the holiday season through the year. Follow cantankerous bus driver Mavis as she shuttles a gaggle of old poker playing ladies around Southern Vancouver Island. Watch the first five episodes on our website now, and stay tuned for more episodes being released over the year. The series is a fundraiser for Nora's favourite charity, *Rainbow Refugee*. Find out more about the series and how you can donate on the Virtual Gold page of our website at westerngoldtheatre.org.



90 DAYS PAY-PER-VIEW SCREENING

By Salim Rahemtulla

Directed by Melissa Oei

In 2022, we premiered Salim Rahemtulla's moving new play *90 DAYS*. Now it's available to view online as part of our Virtual Gold programming!

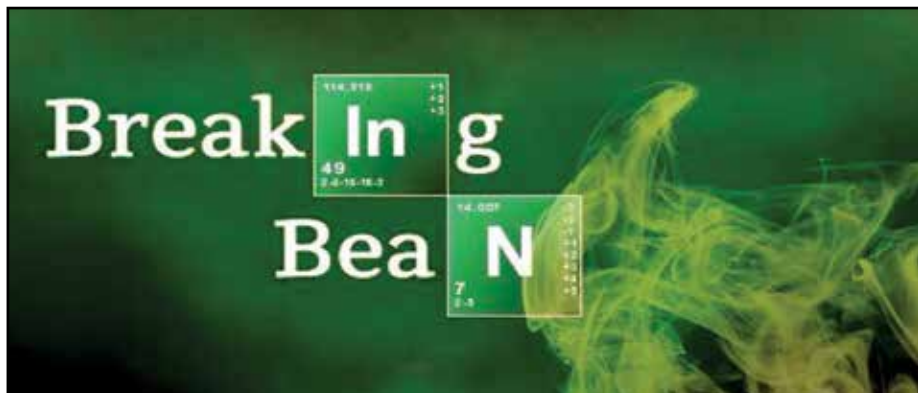
To mark the 50th anniversary of the 1972 Ugandan exodus of Asians, and based on his own experiences, Salim Rahemtulla brings one of the largest expulsions of the 20th century to life through the lens of a modest Ismaili family tearing themselves away from what they thought was home. Humorous, moving, and completely authentic, audiences loved this fascinating new play!

Buy your pay-per-view tickets at westerngoldtheatre.org/virtualgold

TIERED TICKET PRICING

We are offering three tiers of ticket prices so as many people as possible have the opportunity to watch *90 DAYS* online.

- Regular price: \$25
- Concession price: \$15 – this ticket is for those who want to commit but can't pay the full amount, ie students, seniors, artists, those on the front lines – you know who you are!
- Pay what you can: If you are stretched in the pocketbook – no worries! Pay only what you can by donating – and if you can't, that's fine too!



The West End Journal

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