

WESTERN GOLD THEATRE WITH FULL CIRCLE: FIRST NATIONS PERFORMANCE,
TALKING STICK FESTIVAL & CURIOUS CAT THEATRE COLLECTIVE PRESENTS

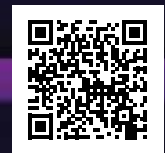
Senior Have a Moment Festival

OCTOBER 17 - 20 2024

PAL STUDIO THEATRE 581 Cardero Street

TICKETS & INFO

westerngoldtheatre.org



Four days chock-a-block full of exciting ticketed & by-donation events!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 7:30 PM

NEW PLAY READING
WAITING FOR THEM
By Simon Webb

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 7:30 PM

NEW PLAY READING
WOMAN AGAINST GRAVITY
By Olivia Etey

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 7:30 PM*

A NEW WORK BY MARGO KANE
Followed by a communal feast
and DANCE PAR-TAY with DJ STANIML

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 2:00PM

SCRIPTS AND SPIRITS
Cold-cast Script Readings
Open Mic Jamboree

*Indigenous programming presented by Talking Stick Festival

PLUS! Many more fabulous by-donation-events, including a bus tour of Xway Xay (Stanley Park) with Chief Ian Campbell and two creative workshops!

Creativity has no expiry date!™



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



Have a Senior Moment Festival 2024

In partnership with Full Circle: First Nations Performance and Curious Cats Theatre Collective

October 17, 18, 19, 20 2024

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

581 Cardero Street, Vancouver B.C

TICKETS

\$15/play reading or \$35 All Events Package plus a number of events by donation.

Our second annual HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT FESTIVAL! featured four days chock-a-block full of exciting events:

- Explore and hear for the first time two new Canadian plays* by BC theatre makers Oliva Etey and Simon Webb, read by a wonderful array of Vancouver's best older actors.
- Come and be amongst the lucky few to witness Cree-Saulteaux Metis performing artist Margo Kane sharing her new work in development.
- Join Chief Ian Campbell (Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish)) on a guided bus tour of Xway-Xway (Stanley Park) as he relates tales of the land and those that came before us.
- Shake it on the dance floor with DJ Staniml and gather for the festival closing Scripts and Spirits, including cold-cast script readings and an open mic Jamboree.
- Plus: creative workshops, informal gatherings, and the ever-important opportunity to feast together.

**The two plays were chosen via a call for submission and with the support of an adjudicator who did not know the name/gender of playwrights to allow for an unbiased decision. Each playwright gets a four-hour workshop of their play with professional actors, a public reading at PAL Studio Theatre, and a digital recording of the event.*

Artistic Director Tanja Dixon-Warren says:

I wanted to turn the notion of "have a senior moment" (normally understood as a moment of forgetfulness, a foolish mistake, or a lack of understanding based on age) on its head! I wanted to change the perception of seniors "having a moment" and reclaim the term to mean a moment showing older adults living their lives in richness, fullness, and in relationship with their communities and environments. I wanted to do this by giving senior artists "a moment" and by encouraging the voices of senior artists who, with so much life experience, are daring to be bold and are creating from their hearts! I am thrilled that Have a Senior Moment Festival is back for a 2nd year celebrating the Western Gold Theatre tagline: *Creativity has no Expiry Date!*

THANK YOU TO OUR FESTIVAL PARTNERS!



FESTIVAL LINEUP

Thursday, October 17 at 7:30 PM

READING #1 – *Waiting for Them*

By Simon Webb

Two old friends, rehearsing *Waiting for Godot*, wait for the Director.

Read by Tom McBeath, Richard Newman, Rosy Frier-Dryden

\$15 or included in Festival Pass

Friday, October 18, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CEDAR BRACELET MAKING WORKSHOP

With Leonard “Tiger” Williams

Presented by Talking Stick Festival

Join Leonard “Tiger” Williams, a master cedar weaver and member of the Quatsino First Nation, for a hands-on workshop designed to foster deeper understanding and appreciation of First Nations culture through the art of traditional cedar weaving. With over 20 years’ experience, Leonard brings knowledge passed down through generations to guide participants in creating their own cedar pieces while learning about the cultural significance and ecological practices tied to this ancient art form. This workshop is open to all and encourages cultural appreciation and awareness.

Admission by donation: Suggested donation \$10 - \$20

Friday, October 18 at 7:30PM

READING #2 – *Woman Against Gravity**

By Olivia Etey

Original Dramaturgy by Tamara McCarthy

Armed with her motto: “Suck life dry!” and her late husband’s words: “You have energy and only one life—so use it!” Tessa launches herself into the world of seniors’ online dating. This is the story of one woman’s fierce battle against gravity, as she seeks to master the art of living in the moment. Can Tessa find someone to savour “the present” with her?

Read by Jennifer Higgin, Eileen Barrett, Tom McBeath, Rosy Frier-Dryden

\$15 or included in Festival Pass

**Woman Against Gravity* received professional development through the Emerging Voices Program at TheatreOne (2024) and the Stage One Festival of New Canadian Work (2021) at the Lunchbox Theatre in Calgary, AB. The play was also developed during the Arts Club LEAP program in 2018.

Saturday, October 19 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM

STANLEY PARK BUS TOUR (cancelled due to storm)

Presented by Talking Stick Festival

Admission by donation

Saturday, October 19 at 7:30 PM
A NEW WORK BY MARGO KANE
Presented by Talking Stick Festival

Legendary Cree-Saulteaux Metis performing artist Margo Kane, renowned for her contributions to Indigenous performance, returns to the stage with a new work in development. Drawing from her acclaimed storytelling legacy, including *Reflections in the Medicine Wheel*, *Moonlodge*, *Confessions of an Indian Cowboy* and her iconic Kokum character associated with the Talking Stick Festival: Gala, Margo stands with all her relations, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, as she questions an important transition in her Life, in our Lives What territories did we traverse in this Life? What has led us to this place? Where do we go from Here? Where are we standing? What are we standing for? Why stand? Why not SIT! Reflect, consider, muse, and sometimes chuckle with this consummate storyteller!

\$15 or included in Festival Pass

DANCE PAR-TAY with DJ STANIML
Presented by Talking Stick Festival

Get yer groove on! Stick around after the show and cut a rug with DJ Staniml! Or simply kick back, gather with friends, and enjoy the party while listening to some great tunes! The evening includes a feast and fire on the rooftop patio.

Included in Festival Pass or purchase of ticket for Saturday Evening Programming, or Admission by Donation at the door.

Sunday, October 20, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
ART AND MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP
With Jessie Au

For anyone who wishes to create art while focusing on their breath and mindfulness, this workshop guided by Jessie Au will encourage participants to connect to their creativity while being aware of their relationship with themselves and others in the space. The craft may include the use of paint, so bring clothes you don't mind getting slightly dirty. Everyone will have a beautiful creation to take home at the end of the workshop.

Admission by donation: Suggested donation \$10 - \$20 | Limited spots available

Sunday, October 20 at 2:00 PM
SCRIPTS AND SPIRITS
Presented in partnership with Curious Cats Theatre Collective

Please join us for our closing party! Raise a glass, hang with friends, jump in and read a script cold, or "have a senior moment" of your own during our Open Mic Jamboree!

2:00 PM Cold Casting
2:30 PM Script Readings
4:00 PM Open Mic Jamboree

Admission by donation

PLAYWRIGHT BIOS

OLIVIA ETEY

Olivia Etey is a playwright, producer, and the creator of the OR FESTIVAL, an annual 10-minute play festival in Vancouver (www.orfestival.com). Its mandate is to build a bridge connecting the Deaf and Hearing Theatre Communities across Canada. She graduated from UBC with a double major in Creative Writing and English Honours. Her plays include: *Foreplay* (2015), her musical: *The Midnight Serenade* (2015), *The Hoarder* (2016), *Living on The Grid* (The Only Animal, 2017) and her juke-box opera: *Forever Hold Your Peace* (Opera Unbound, 2022). Olivia's play *Woman Against Gravity* received professional development through the Emerging Voices Program at TheatreOne (2024), the Stage One Festival of New Canadian Work at the Lunchbox Theatre in Calgary (2021), and the Arts Club LEAP Program (2019). Recently, the play was short-listed for the Lee Playwrighting Prize for new Canadian works. An excerpt of her bilingual play *Emberré Váltam/I've Become Human Again*, written in Hungarian and English, was showcased in Rice & Beans Theatre's DBLSK Program (2024). Olivia is ecstatic to be a part of the HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT FESTIVAL with Western Gold Theatre.

Synopsis of play: Armed with her motto: "Suck life dry!" and her late husband's words: "You have energy and only one life—so use it!" Tessa launches herself into the world of seniors' online dating. This is the story of one woman's fierce battle against Gravity, as she seeks to master the art of living in the moment. Can Tessa find someone to savour "the present" with her?

SIMON WEBB

Simon was first described as a Senior Artist 35 years ago. Before that he was briefly described as a Veteran, after no longer being considered Young.

MARGO KANE

Cree-Saulteaux performing artist Margo Kane is the Founder and Artistic Managing Director of Full Circle: First Nations Performance. For over 45 years she has been active as an actor, performing artist and community cultural worker. Her desire to share artistic performance that has meaning for her people is the catalyst for her extensive work, travels, and consultation within Indigenous communities across Canada and abroad. *Moonlodge*, her acclaimed one-woman show, an Indigenous Canadian classic, toured for over 10 years nationally and internationally. The Sydney Press (AU) during THE FESTIVAL OF THE DREAMING praised it as being "in the top echelon of solo performance."

She developed and runs the annual TALKING STICK FESTIVAL, celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year, and numerous programs including MOCCASIN TREK: ARTS ON THE MOVE!, INDIAN ACTS and an Indigenous Ensemble Performing Arts Program in Vancouver.

Margo has received numerous awards and honors including an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of the Fraser Valley, the Order of Canada from the Governor General, an International Citation of Merit from ISPA – International Society for the Performing Arts, and, most recently, an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from SFU – Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, BC, Canada.