



Senior Have a Moment Festival!

OCTOBER 3 - 11, 2025



FESTIVAL HEADLINER

HOME

a revenge comedy
by MELODY ANDERSON

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



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the 3rd Annual
HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT Festival!

The idea for this festival came from a desire to turn the notion of “having a senior moment” on its head. Normally understood as a moment of forgetfulness, a foolish mistake, or a lack of understanding based on age, I wanted to change this perception and reclaim the term to mean a “senior moment” of creativity, artistry, laughter, and joy.

I wanted to celebrate the richness, fullness, and challenges of later life and the incredible productivity, ideas, and inspiration that comes with it. I particularly wanted to encourage the making of new work by older artists and offer up a space to look back and share achievements over the years.

Starting with an OOF! (On Our Feet!) production of Melody Anderson's brand-new comedy HOME, we have nine days chock-a-block full of performances, play readings, salons, films, workshops, gatherings, and conversations; all unleashing every iota of ingenuity, unbridled creativity, talent, and skill that Canada's most experienced artists have to offer.

It's all about bringing artists together with audiences in celebration of WGT's tagline: Creativity has no expiry date! C'mon, have a senior moment with us! Enjoy.

~ Tanja Dixon-Warren

NEXT UP AT WESTERN GOLD



GERTRUDE AND ALICE

By Anna Chatterton, Evalyn Parry & Karin Randoja
November 6 – 23, 2025
Directed by Lois Anderson

Gertrude Stein and Alice B Toklas visit PAL Studio Theatre to recount their forty-year relationship; their famous Paris salons where the who's who of artists gathered; and Alice's overwhelming, consuming devotion to Gertrude's genius. They survived in Paris in WW2. Now they want to find out how their lives are – or are not – remembered.
Starring Tanja Dixon-Warren and Kelsi James

SAVE THE DATE for our ONLINE AUCTION FUNDRAISER!

Starting November 9, 2025 at Midnight

Just in time for your seasonal shopping, you can get bidding on the many fabulous items in our 2025 online auction fundraiser! Proceeds from the auction will be used to support our Intergenerational Mentorship Program and Creative Access for Seniors Program along with production and artist costs for our 2026 season.

VISIT WESTERNGOLDTHEATRE.ORG IN NOVEMBER FOR THE LINK TO VIEW THE AUCTION!

Have a Senior Moment Festival Headliner

HOME

By Melody Anderson

Setting

Assisted Living Facility; A Hunting and Fishing Shop; Chris's Living Room

CAST

Sherry Bie ----- Dorothy
Patti Allan ----- Irene
Dolores Drake ----- Joan
Beatrice Zeilinger ----- Chris et al.
Jacob Leonard ----- Nathan

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM

Roy Surette ----- Director
Glenn MacDonald ----- Production Manager/Set Designer
Andrej Stanojlovic ----- Lighting Designer
Caroline Tang ----- Stage Manager
Colleen Bayati ----- Lighting Technician
Fraser Read ----- Production Assistant
Vadym Gannochka ----- Student Intern

HOME is produced by special arrangement with Melody Anderson

Western Gold Theatre engages under the terms of the INDIE 3.0, 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.

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





DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Working on a new play is always an exciting endeavour. Being a part of the Have A Senior Moment Festival with our On Our Feet workshop/reading presentation of HOME provides a great way to explore Melody's wonderful new play.

We're putting it on its feet in about 1/5 the time one usually rehearses a play! Yikes! Anything could happen.

Thankfully, we've assembled a wonderful group of artists who are up for the challenge and we're eager to share it with you. I'm so grateful to our marvellous cast and team.

Let's face it - bravery is needed while getting older. In HOME, three elderly women seek to rectify a wrong and take us on a bold adventure.

Thank you, our audience, for playing a vital role in this big-hearted new play's development and for supporting the awesome and unique Western Gold Theatre.

~ Roy Surette



PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES

As I age, I find myself thinking more and more about the elders in my life—my kind, generous mother Mabel, whose response to intolerant encounters was often, "They're doing the best that they can," or my mother-in-law Phyllis, who exhibited extraordinary resilience through difficult times. "Aging isn't for the faint of heart," she would say. "But it's better than the alternative." And then there was my grandmother, Agatha, who suffered a home

invasion shortly after the death of her husband of more than sixty years, which led to a reluctant move into an assisted-living facility. Inspired by my memories of these strong women, I took pen to paper to explore the challenges of aging, and the power of friendship. To my surprise, it would become a comedy.

There are so many people to thank for their support along the way: Tanja Dixon-Warren and everyone at Western Gold Theatre; the David King family; the National Playwrights Retreat at the Caravan Farm Theatre; Peter Anderson, Vicki Stroich, Lauren Taylor and Sherry Bie for dramaturgical feedback; the extraordinarily talented actors of this production and previous readings; director Roy Surette, who has championed my artistic work for so many years; and finally, you, the audience for supporting live theatre.

~ Melody Anderson

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM OF HOME (LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



Patti Allan (she/her): Irene Patti is thrilled to be performing in her second Western Gold's OOF! Staged Reading in Melody Anderson's wonderful new play, HOME! Patti was last seen at Western Gold as Mrs. Lunn in the spring staged reading of Shaw's OVERRULED and, last season, as Mildred in Kathryn Shaw's SUPER SENIORS - a tremendous experience with our wonderful team! Patti is a four-time Jessie Richardson Theatre Award recipient with multiple nominations. She was honoured to be the recipient of the Brian Linehan Online Award (Best Actress for short film, MIMI AND ME). Patti has been involved with theatre, film, TV, radio and voice-over work for over 30 years. She is also committed to theatre in education and is passionate about teaching both young people and seniors alike. Dedicated to all our relations who have paved the way.



Melody Anderson: Playwright In the course of her career as a theatre artist, specializing in mask design, Melody has created more than 3000 masks for over 50 productions, including the hit comedy THE #14 (directed by Roy Surette). She is the recipient of numerous Vancouver theatre awards and nominations. Her instructional book Making Masks is available at blurb.ca. In 2012 she expanded her creative focus to include playwriting. Her plays include THE EMPEROR'S NEW THREADS (co-written with Peter Anderson) for Axis Theatre (remounted this summer by Project X in Kamloops); and ME AND YOU, for the Arts Club in 2018. HOME received the David King Prize for best new comedy in 2022. Other scripts in development include MISTER AESOP, DITTO, FLING, and BACK WHEN. Melody lives with performer/playwright/poet Peter Anderson in Vancouver on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish people.



Colleen Bayati: Lighting Technician Colleen is a theatre technician, filmmaker, and performer. She enjoys creating work as a lead artist as well as alongside a team of other local artists spanning from indie and community productions to larger commercial productions. Colleen works with traditional and musical theatre processes, found footage, animation, gestural choreography, and devised scripted narrative. Her work revolves around hope, apathy, existentialism, individualism vs community, and rediscovering childlike wonder. Colleen's goal in her work is to create fantastical worlds as a vehicle of escapism, hope, and wonder, complemented by an underlying commentary about a difficult question that she is currently facing.



Sherry Bie: Dorothy HOME. What a timely project right now in my life. I recently returned home after 25 years away—in Montreal as Artistic Director of the English Section of the National Theatre School (2001-2012), then in Toronto doing a PhD at University of Toronto (2022). My doctoral research explored the actor's oral (playful) craft as a resource for Reconciliation. I have played on stages including the Vancouver Playhouse, Arts Club, Green Thumb, Caravan Farm Company, the National Arts Centre (Ottawa), Canadian Stage (Toronto), Centaur Theatre (Montreal), and the Odin Teatret's UR HAMLET at Elsinore Castle in

Denmark. Favourite first reading/productions are Morris Panych's SEVEN STORIES, Betty Lambert's JENNIE'S STORY, and the co-creation of THE VIRGIN IS A LOVELY NUMBER, THAT STORY. Thank you, Mel and Roy, for this one.

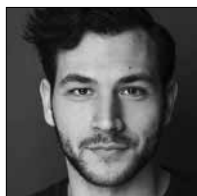


Dolores Drake: Joan Dolores has worked in theatre, TV and film for 35 years. In theatre, she has worked for the Arts Club, Citadel, Belfry, Western Canada Theatre, Theatre North West, and Richmond Gateway, to name a few. Favourite roles include Shirley in SHIRLEY VALENTINE, Truvy in STEEL MAGNOLIAS, Mary in OF THE FIELDS LATELY, and Rita, in HALFWAY THERE. Dolores has written and performed in RANDELL'S WAKE, FROM AWAY, and THE DISTANCE BETWEEN NEWFOUNDLAND AND TORONTO, receiving critical acclaim at both Vancouver and Atlantic Fringe Festivals. Film credits include principal and supporting roles in numerous TV movies and feature films. Recent credits include THE IRRATIONAL - NBC, VIRGIN RIVER - Netflix, LUCKY HANK - AMC, DEATH AND OTHER DETAILS – Hulu, and the soon to be released horror film, KEEPER.



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!



Jacob Leonard: Nathan Jacob is thrilled to be back at Western Gold doing another OOF! Reading. You may have seen his work in Bard on the Beach this summer where he played Proteus in the TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA. Thanks for coming to the theatre! www.jacob-leonard.com



Glenn MacDonald: Production Manager / Set Designer Glenn trained in all aspects of the theatre at the Manitoba Theatre Centre and has worked as an actor, stage manager, production manager, and designer for theatres across Canada and in the US. He is the recipient of the 2016 Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Set Design. Glenn sits on the Board of Trustees of PAL Vancouver and has been the General Manager of Western Gold

Theatre since 2012. Set design credits include for THE WOMAN IN BLACK at Jericho Arts Centre, THE BALLAD OF GEORGES BOIVIN, HILDA'S YARD, TOM CREAM and THE MARRIAGE PROPOSAL / OVERRULED for Western Gold Theatre and, most recently, AND THEN THERE WERE NONE at Metro Theatre, HONK, THE MUSICAL and INTO THE WOODS for Children's Theatre of Richmond Academy. Glenn also has over 100 TV and film set decoration projects to his credit.



Fraser Read (they/them): Production Assistant Fraser is a Vancouver-based, queer artist living and working on the unceded territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. Their experience in the performing arts started in kindergarten and they have been involved with programs such as Bard on the Beach, Theatre Under the Stars, The Cultch, and Theatre Temp/Dream Big Productions. Fraser has additional experience with competitive improv, musical theatre, film, and playwriting. They will continue learning and working at Langara College's Studio 58 this spring.



Roy Surette: Director Roy has served as Artistic Director for Touchstone Theatre in Vancouver, Centaur Theatre in Montreal, and The Belfry Theatre in Victoria. He has directed for many companies including The Arts Club, Vancouver Playhouse, National Arts Centre, Canadian Stage, Shaw Festival, Alberta Theatre Projects, Manitoba Theatre for Young People, Carousel Theatre, Ruby Slippers Theatre, United Players, Gateway Theatre, Axis Theatre, and Chemainus Theatre. Much of his work has been directing contemporary Canadian plays and creations. Roy, a long-ago Studio 58 grad, is thrilled to be at Western Gold working with this marvelous team—and many lifelong colleagues—directing dear friend Melody Anderson's awesome and instructive new play. What's the takeaway? Don't steal! Respect your elders. Or else! Oh. And laugh often.



Andrej Stanojlovic: Lighting Designer 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. He studied acting for three semesters at Studio 58 where he learned crucial production skills. Andrej aspires to become a lighting and sound designer. He has been working consistently with Western Gold since January of 2023 as a lighting technician, Assistant Production Manager and lighting designer.



Caroline 曉鳳 Tang: Stage Manager Caroline is a Chinese Canadian stage manager based on the unceded territories of the x̱məθkwəy̱əm, hən̓q̱əmiñəm, and Coast Salish Nations. A graduate of UBC's Theatre Production and Design program, she is grateful for her mentors, loved ones, and those willing to hire her before she was decent at her job. Select stage management credits include: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA (Bard on the Beach), SOMEONE LIKE YOU – ON TOUR (Arts Club Theatre) ROBIN HOOD, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Theatre Replacement), PARIFAM (Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre), CHINATOWN (City Opera Vancouver), and NEWSIES (Theatre Under the Stars).



Beatrice Zeilinger: Chris et al A graduate of Studio 58, Beatrice has worked with many local theatre companies and has done her share of touring in her younger years. She is a multiple Jessie nominee and three-time recipient, who works in film, TV, and theatre. She previously worked with Western Gold in THREE TALL WOMEN. Most recently, she just completed a run of the Arts Club's THE MOUSETRAP. She's excited to be working alongside this talented group of artists.

Have A Senior Moment Festival Lineup!

FESTIVAL TICKETS

- OOF! Staged Reading of HOME by Melody Anderson \$35/\$40
- Reading of SANDSPRITE by Peter Zednik \$20
- Reading of WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE by Mairy Beam \$20
- Closing Celebration \$20

All other events are PAY WHAT YOU CHOOSE so everyone can participate!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

FESTIVAL HEADLINER: HOME by Melody Anderson

Prepare to be tickled by this broad, farcical revenge comedy!

OOF! (On Our Feet) Staged Reading

Directed by Roy Surette

Starring: Patti Allan, Sherry Bie, Dolores Drake, Jacob Leonard, Beatrice Zeilinger

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 4:00 PM

FRONT PAGE CHALLENGE

Afternoon tea and artist salon with Kevin Dale McKeown, Lin Bennett, and Friends

It's a battle getting on the front page! Hang out with, and eavesdrop on, those who have had their ear to the ground and put pen to the paper as they have advocated for the arts over the past 60 years. Hear about late night highjinks as they wrestle with typewriters, deadlines, and promoting really, really bad plays. Not to mention navigating disgruntled artists! It's the history of Vancouver theatre through the eyes of those who valiantly battled to put the arts front and centre. Keep your ears perked – a name or two might be dropped.

Includes tea and scones with cream.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 7:00 PM

COME TOGETHER

We launch the second week of the festival by gathering and breaking bread together. Following a Welcome to the Lands, Sharon Jinkerson-Brass brings Ow-tah-pee-ka-kaw—The Opening—to PAL. The evening ends with feasting, sharing, and celebrating each other.

Ow-tah-pee-ka-kaw—The Opening

In the season of the “falling leaves” our world is going quiet, and this is when we began to share stories and wisdoms to keep our spirits strong. The teaching is that when there is less sunlight, we need to share our love and light with each other to keep our spirits strong.

This ceremonial performance will explore some of the universal themes found in the natural and supernatural world. The Anishinabek knew of the power of our dreams to bring about transformation in our lives and in our world. We revered the sacred gift of dreaming, and we evolved many sacred ceremonies to honour the great mystery and to invite this force to be part of our world. This interactive performance will offer ancient wisdoms, storytelling, drumming, singing, and an interactive experience. In this ceremonial space there will also be opportunity to reflect and share.

In partnership with Full Circle: First Nations Performance and The Talking Stick Festival

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1:00 PM

POPCORN & MOVIE

SUPER SENIORS by Kathryn Shaw

If you missed seeing SUPER SENIORS on the Western Gold stage last year, now is your chance to see the filmed version of this sell-out smash hit! Or, if you loved it, come and catch it again!

Ever wonder what it would be like to be alive and kicking at 105? In this hilarious comedy, Kathryn Shaw takes you to the Fairfield Residence to meet three women over the age of 105 who have differing responses to their extraordinarily long lives. Based on experience with her own ancient family members, the writer brings insight and humour to the conundrum of extreme old age.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 4:00 PM

A VIEW FROM THE HOUSE

Afternoon Tea & Audience Salon

Theatre lovers—share your stories with us! Were you there when the set fell down? What performance left you breathless? Why do you keep coming back to the theatre? Join a panel of audience members (with over 100 years of theatre going collectively under their belts) as they remember, reflect, and recount their theatrical experiences.

Includes tea and scones with cream.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2:00 PM

CEDAR BRACELET MAKING WORKSHOP

With Leonard “Tiger” Williams

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.

Limited spots available | Supplies included

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 7:00 PM

NEW PLAY READING #1

SANDSPRITE by Peter Zednik

Directed by Johnna Wright

Teenage lovers Brogan and Si meet again after 50 years. Ancient truths unfold, triggering high camp and low blows, love bites, and bitters tears. Can their vastly different lives intersect with a happy ending? A comedy about coming out of the closet at any age—and at any cost.

FEATURING BLAKE BUKSA, TOM McBEATH, ALLAN MORGAN

PETER ZEDNIK

After obtaining an MA in Drama from University of Toronto, Peter enjoyed a 25-year career in theatre. In 2000, he won a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Script by an Emerging Playwright, followed by three First Prizes in the Canadian One-Act Playwriting Competition. In 2023, his play TOCCATA AND FUGUE received Honourable Mention in the Voaden Prize Playwriting Competition. In 2025, he won the One-Act Category in Theatre BC's Playwriting Competition. His scripts have been produced across Canada and internationally. In 2024, Peter published his first novel, HALF MAN. Peter has lived in North Vancouver since 1992.

Followed by a Talk-With and Q&A with the playwright and creative team.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2:00 PM

LOVE ROCKS

Rock painting fun with Allan Morgan

Have you seen painted rocks peppering the city, tucked into shrubbery and lining sidewalks, spreading messages of love, joy, and sunshine? Come and paint your own! Create a gift for yourself or for someone else by joining Allan Morgan in this rock painting workshop. Supplies included.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 7:00 PM

NEW PLAY READING #2

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE by Mairy Beam

Directed by Johnna Wright

Lucy finally finds the courage to tell their partner they are non-binary. Carmelle isn't thrilled. Then Martina arrives, followed closely by the threat of COVID. Lucy, Carmelle, and Martina must navigate the threat of this new virus, shifting identities, and the vulnerability of aging while confined to a small apartment.

FEATURING EILEEN BARRETT, NIMET KANJI, LINDA POLLARD

MAIRY BEAM

Mairy is an older non-binary playwright interested in exploring themes of social and environmental justice, gender identity, and aging. She is a member of ACT II Studio, Alumnae Theatre in Toronto, and PHT hub, PTC in Vancouver as well as the Playwrights Guild of Canada. Recent credits include Playstorm Festival and Vancouver Fringe: MY

FRIEND FRITZ* (2025); Fresh Picks, Act II Studio: PEACH PIE* (2025); Firehall Arts Centre and The Vancouver Fringe: THE JUDGE'S DAUGHTER (2023); Vancouver Fringe: IRREPARABLE HARM? (2021); Alumnae Theatre: BODY PARTS, WAITING FOR ATTILA (2019); Ergo Theatre: THE NEXT MARY (2018) * winner, TMU Stella Award

Followed by a Talk-With and Q&A with the playwright and creative team.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 9:00 PM

GOLD BINGO! A FUNdraiser FOR WESTERN GOLD

Stay after this evening's new play reading for a few cards of BINGO! Prizes! Prizes! Prizes! \$2 a card! Fun for all!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 11:00 AM

55+ IMPROV WITH BLIND TIGER COMEDY!

Western Gold Theatre is excited to partner with Blind Tiger Comedy to host an improv jam for folks 55+! Led by a Blind Tiger faculty professional comedian, this workshop consists of fun games that will give you a taste of the joy, confidence, and discovery that improv can offer. No experience necessary! Whether you are comfortable performing or have never taken the stage, this workshop will make folks feel welcome, laugh, and learn a bit more about improvisation and collaborative storytelling.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 3:00 – 6:00 PM

SCRIPTS & SIPS

in partnership with Curious Cats Theatre Collective

Grab a beverage, get social, and be the first to hear cold readings of excerpts from new scripts. Wanna be an actor? Lend your talents by signing up to be a cold reader. It's fun, informative, and informal. Followed by feedback from established and published playwrights.

3:00 PM: Mix and mingle - Cold Casting begins

Lend us your chops and sign up to be a reader!

3:30 PM: Script Readings, Feedback & Talk-With

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 7:30 – 10:30 PM

CLOSING CELEBRATION

SPOTLIGHT CABARET & SHOWTUNE "KARAOKE" DANCE PARTY

Join us for a closing celebration of a fabulous festival. Hosted by the incomparable Linda Cullen, enjoy an array of spotlight performances in various disciplines including comedian Janice Bannister, songstress Judy Walchuk, plus spoken word, dance, and any combination thereof.

Bring your favourite show tune and discover the songster in you! It's open mic—we provide live "karaoke" accompaniment by pianist Peter Abando. Wrap up the evening by kicking up your heels and dancing the night away!

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2025)

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 +)

Anonymous

STARRING ROLE! (\$1,000 – \$1,999)

Louise Hutchison, Bonnie MacKenzie, Timothy and Hilary Temple

GO AHEAD – HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT! (\$500 – \$999)

Harry Cussen, Susan Duncan, Maggie Geiser, Rob Haynes, Deanne Henry, J.M. Hurst, John H. Kennedy, Donnie MacDonald, Tory Ross and Keith Martin Gordey, Anne Matheson, Salim Rahemtulla, Kathie Schwaia, Adele Vernon, Lily Yuan

ENJOYING BOLD AGE! (\$200 – \$499)

Kathryn Aberle, Elizabeth Dropko, Martin Gerson (in honour of Jane Heyman), Stephen Heatley, Arlene Howard, Linda Johnston, David C Jones, Terence Kelly, Gerry Kowalenko, Kate Lancaster, Tom McBeath, Margot McKenzie, Bill Millerd, Robin Montcalm, Lindsay Moyle, Nora D. Randall, Anita L. Romaniuk, Charlotte Rozsa, Diana Sandberg, Perry Schneiderman, Kathryn Shaw, Elizabeth Snow, Sally Stubbs, Malcolm Toms, Alan York, Audrey Zaharichuk

YOUNG AT HEART! (\$100 – \$199)

Julia Blockberger, Neal Boucher, Donna Celle, Valentina Cesaratto, Tony Cox, Kate Dahlstrom, Jane Heyman, Robert Heyman, Arlene Howard, Mary Jansen, Linda Johnston, Linda King, Lisa King, Helen Low, Diana Mitchell, Marjorie Munkley, Georgia Roxborough, Shamin Shivji, Elizabeth Stewart, Jane Srivastava, Christian Theriault, Magda Theriault, Delia Visscher, Jerry Wasserman, Johanna Wright

ON THE BOARDS! (\$50 – \$99)

Chris Adams, Marilyn Allan, Krishna Berman, Deborah Brown, Elizabeth Carney, Jane Clayton, Deborah Cooper, Leslie Dawson-Burns, Richard Dopson, Elizabeth Dropko, Thomas Ferguson, Nina Ferretti, Wendy Holtan, Susan Hughes, David Jensen, Lynn Katey, Joan Kirkwood, Helen Low, Judith MacPherson, Nicole Naaykens, Peter Nash, Ellie O'Day, Deborah Pound, Karen Vail, Helen Volkow, Maxine Wilson-Young

APPRENTICE! (UP TO \$50)

Amney Amery, Stephen Aberle, Sheila Margaret Anderson, Marilyn Patricia Allan, Rhonda Arab, Herbert Auerbach, Irma Beck, Brenda Benham, Keri Bennett, Monika Bergler, Mackenzie Birrell, Isabel Bleim, Irma Bodo, David Booth, Margo Boyer, Jim Brown, Shannon Browne, Janet Bruce, Anne Cowan Buitenhuis, Adele Cohen, Carole Christopher, Sue Culver, William B. Davis, Angela Dawson, Louise Dudar, Verna Faughnan, Monika Forberger, Barbara L. Fulton, Elan Ross Gibson, Leslie Goodbrand, Pamela Goossen, Sarah K Harlow, Margaret Harman, Pamela Hawthorn, John Holland, James Hurlburt, Sandra Hyslop, Mauro Joao, Sandy Keane, Lionel Johnston, Beverley Kanji, Sandy Keane, Heather Kennedy, Gabrielle D. Lacelle, Paddy Laidley, Raynard J. LeBlond, Lisa Lee, Cher Lewis, Maureen Leyland, Michael Louie, Carol MacDonald, Shawn Macdonald, Jordy Matheson, Susinn McFarlan, Chris McGregor, Catherine Miceli, Donna Mihm, Paul Moniz de Sa, Robin Mossley, Anne Murray, Joice Myers, Jayeson Nicols, Sean Nakatani, Linda Navotny, Regina Nebrida, JoAnne Lee Nelson, Georgia Nichols, Lorna Pawluk, Sally Petitpierre, Simone Plusa, Prudence Reid-Gogh, Murray Reinhart, Vanessa Richards, Georgia Roxborough, Gabrielle D. Rose, Paul Ross, Stuart Rush, Jo-Anne Salmon, Debra Sears, Leslie Sherlock, Philip Spedding, Miriam Smith, Ellawyn Stacey, Gordon Stahl, Nadia Stefyn, Catherine Still, Michelle Thorne-Speir, Joanne Thorpe, Vesna Toki, Jeffrey Turner, Greg Unsworth, Rosemary Diane Warriner, Douglas Welch, Marianne Brorup Weston, Rhiannon Williams, Katey Wright

OUR TEAM, OUR PARTNERS, OUR SUPPORTERS

WESTERN GOLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Donnie MacDonald
Vice President	Kathryn Aberle
Treasurer	Alen Dominguez
Secretary	Diana Sandberg
Directors	Anna Hagan, Nina Feretti, Morteza Moshtaghi

PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director	Tanja Dixon-Warren
General & Production Manager	Glenn MacDonald
Literary Manager/Artistic Associate	Seamus Fera
Casting Director	Stephanie Hargreaves
Creative Marketing Manager	Kate Lancaster
Publicist	Gwen Kallio

PAL STUDIO THEATRE STAFF

Theatre Manager	Matthew Bissett
Executive Director	Lynn Ross

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Western Gold Theatre would like to thank Chartwell Retirement Residences, sponsor of the October 4, 7:30 PM performance of HOME, and Tory Ross.

ABOUT WESTERN GOLD THEATRE

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 nine new Canadian plays as well as produced a further 14 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, and, in 2023, we launched our inaugural HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT FESTIVAL, a curated, multi-discipline series celebrating the performing arts for old folx and/or by old folx!

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

SO WHERE DO YOUR TICKET DOLLARS GO?

As a small, ambitious project-based company (aka, no government funding to support/sustain ongoing operations of staff etc.), we depend largely on you, the audience, to support us. Box office revenues, donations, concession, and fundraising events are approximately 60% of our operating budget. Your attendance supports all our artistic productions and ancillary events, as well as our hardworking team throughout the year. We have much to thank you for.

Working in the theatre is an extremely rewarding life—and vicarious one. Actors and many other theatre artists are gig workers and—at minimum industry standard—get paid less per week than many people get paid per day, and in some cases per hour. For older artists, this is further compounded because work is limited. Few roles are written for characters over 55, and they are frequently stereotypical characters that amplify preconceived notions of old people. Statistics cite the median age for a working actor is: Women Age 37 / Men Age 46. OUCH! We are trying to change this.

PAL's intimate theatre has a house capacity of less than 100. This means to break even we must sell to near capacity.

We invite you to be Western Gold Theatre's marketing team! If you enjoy our work—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. Many of the events in this festival are offered at PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE pricing. If you have enjoyed what you experienced, please consider paying market value based on ticket prices at other theatres in town.

Following is a breakdown of where your ticket dollars go (calculated on an 88% house at an average ticket price of \$18.00*)

*Average ticket price is calculated by totaling all ticket prices (incl. full price; Pay-What-You-Choose suggested minimums; concession prices for 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 ticket prices offered.

- Venue (including rehearsal space) -----10%
- Production (props / costumes / set / lights) -----8%
- Advertising / Promotions -----7%
- Administration -----4%
- Royalties -----3%
- Artist / Production / Cultural Fees -----60%
- Accessibility Initiatives -----2%
- Staff & Contractors -----6%

Our heartfelt thanks for your collaboration, support, patronage, and applause!

DSR PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

DRACULA

A COMEDY OF TERRORS

BY GORDON GREENBERG AND STEVE ROSEN

DIRECTED BY MARK CARTER

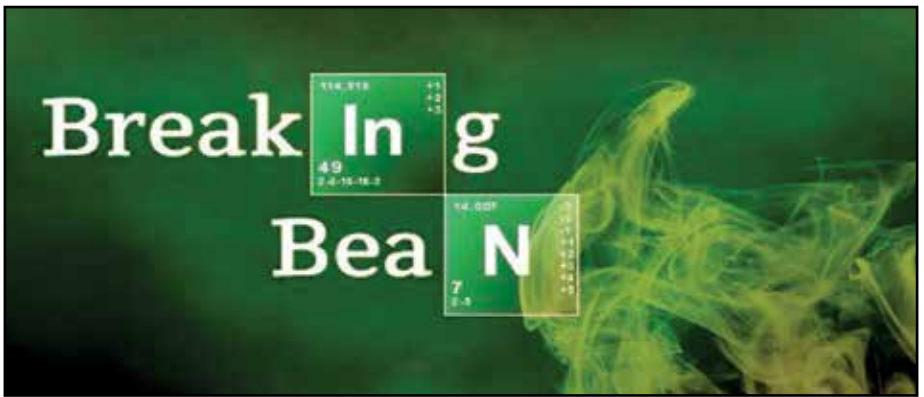


OCT 23-NOV 1

JERICHO ARTS CENTRE

DSRPRODUCTIONS.COM





The West End Journal

New features and photos online every month

West End Events • Small Space Gardening • King George High School News
Community History • Business, Community, and Restaurant Spotlights ... and More!

www.thewestendjournal.ca

Thank you to our generous sponsors, festival partners, and community partners!

