

THE 2023 - 2024 SEASON



Humour so surreal, it's probably a tragedy

FEAST by Guillermo Verdecchia

October 10 – 22, 2023

World Premiere

M, a jet-setting consultant feels he's going to slide off the face of the earth. Then again, a good meal might solve everything. Is the family in crisis or do they just need a holiday? Julia's not sure. She can't tell if she's having a hot flash or if it's just global warming. Oh, and the basement has flooded. Is that a catastrophe, or an invitation to renovate? A razor-sharp new work from one of Canada's premiere playwrights about world-travel, food-fixation, climate change, home renovations, an evolving society, and what it will take to finally feel safe.

A sweet romantic comedy about young love

THE WALTZ by Marie Beath Badian

A Factory Theatre Production

November 14 – 29, 2023

August 1993 – two 2nd generation Filipino Canadian teenagers unexpectedly meet at a rustic cabin in Northeast Saskatchewan, not realizing that they share a family history. Their mothers both came from the Philippines in 1967 to work at the same hospital in small-town Saskatchewan. Together, they share one magical evening with a boom box under the magnificent Saskatchewan sky. A funny and touching continuation of the story begun in the hit play *Prairie Nurse* (PTE, 2018).

In crisis, we reveal who we are

DIGGERS by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard

A co-production with Black Theatre Workshop

February 27 – March 10, 2024

World Premiere

There are those who stand apart by the merit of the work they do – whether they want to or not. Abdul and Solomon introduce newbie Bai to the intricacies and dignity of gravedigging for the town down the hill. But when illness hits the town in Sierra Leone, the three must make the best of a bad situation as their workload increases and their supports from the community diminish. Full of song, laughter, tears and beautiful humanity, *Diggers* is a tribute to essential workers.

A meditation on love, loss, grief and healing

THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING by Joan Didion

April 9 – 21, 2024

Acclaimed author Joan Didion lived a charmed and affluent life, with a loving husband and a daughter who recently got married – until her husband died at the dinner table a month before their 40th anniversary, while their daughter lay in an induced coma in the hospital. Based on the autobiographical book by the same name, this play is a painfully honest and painstakingly remembered examination of Didion's first year of grief, told with vulnerability and passion, offering a path through the unimaginable.

A transformative dark comedy about the mess that makes us human

THE OUTSIDE INN by Sharon Bajer & Elio Zarrillo

A Festival Antigonish Summer Theatre Production

May 7 – 19, 2024

Lily is an eccentric, outspoken woman who thought she had it all - until everything she knew about her perfect life falls apart. Patrick always knew things were a little off, never feeling right in their "perfect" family or their "perfect" body. A day full of surprises sets this mother and adult child on a transformative journey that will either bring them closer or blast them apart. A funny, messy tale about two souls struggling to understand each other... while stuck in a vintage camper in the middle of nowhere.

DIGITAL OFFERING

Sometimes you have to leave the planet to find yourself

SPACE GIRL by Frances Koncan

January 17 – 28, 2024

Lyra is the first person born on the moon, and the number one social media influencer in the galaxy. But her 21st birthday is off to a rocky start - she suddenly discovers that she's been knocked down to the number two position! Oh, yeah, and an asteroid is heading straight for the earth and all her followers. An emergency escape pod crash-lands Lyra on Earth to begin an epic journey to find her way home. Filmed immediately after the live run in March/April 2023, the digital version of *Space Girl* captures all the action, comedy, adventure and sci-fi special effects of the live performance.

LIVE PERFORMANCE ADD-ONS

A deliciously funny holiday treat!

OUTSIDE JOKE'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL: BIGGER DICKENS ENERGY

An Outside Joke Production

December 12 – 23, 2023

The talented musical improvers of Outside Joke are back by popular demand. Guided by suggestions from the audience, the classic Dickens tale *A Christmas Carol* takes on completely new and hysterically funny life that's different every single performance. What if Scrooge were the captain of a pirate ship or the owner of a space station? Find out where it all goes with this perfect escape from the holiday rush.

What would happen if every Filipino person in our society suddenly... disappeared?

EVERYTHING HAS DISAPPEARED by Mammalian Diving Reflex & UNIT Productions

Concieved and directed by Hazel Venzon & Darren O'Donnell
February 1 – 4, 2024

World Premiere

Everything Has Disappeared shines a spotlight on the special and unique relationship the Filipino diaspora has to the global economy: they are everywhere and deeply involved in our lives as central threads in a tapestry that defines human dignity itself. Don't think your life is interwoven with our Filipino brothers and sisters? Using digital interactive technologies - and a little magic - *Everything Has Disappeared* will prove otherwise. You will never look at your world the same again.

Missing voices and lost stories find their way to the light

RISE, RED RIVER by Tara Beagan

A co-production with ARTICLE 11 and Théâtre Cercle Molière

March 8 – 23, 2024

World Premiere

A woman walks the clay of the dried-up Red River, in a post-apocalyptic landscape, weighed down with her belongings and pulling an improvised plow. As she walks, guided by an Ancestor, Indigenous women emerge from the mud and tell their stories. Inspired by the work of Winnipeg-based Drag the Red, and focused through the lens of climate change, *Rise, Red River* is an act of reclamation, giving back the voices to those who were violently taken from this world. This work, performed in English, French and Anishinaabemowin, is dedicated to every woman who perseveres.