



PLAY•SMELTER

NEW WORK THEATRE FESTIVAL

MAY 9-13, 2017
5PM & 8PM

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL FEDERATION
130 FROOD ROAD, SUDBURY

FOR TICKETS & MORE INFORMATION VISIT
PLAYSMELTER.CA



Message from the Mayor



PO BOX 5000, STN 'N'
100 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY, ON P3A 5P5
C.P. 5000, SUITE A
200, RUE BRADY
SUDBURY, ON P3A 5P5
705.674.4433 x. 14714
705.673.3096 &
www.greater Sudbury.ca
www.gosudbury.ca



As Mayor of the City of Greater Sudbury, I am pleased to welcome you to the Pat the Dog Theatre Creation's 2017 PlaySmelter Festival held at the Ukrainian National Federation from May 9th-13th.

It is increasingly clear that art, in all of its forms, serves an important role in ensuring the vitality of Greater Sudbury. We are incredibly fortunate to have many talented local playwrights, directors, actors, and supporting crew members that contribute so much to our cultural identity and quality of life.

I am very proud that Pat the Dog Theatre Creation for the first time in festival history will be including two full productions created by local playwrights and will also offer many opportunities for emerging artists to learn from professionals. This has helped showcase emerging talent and encourage others across the community and northern Ontario to consider how they can unleash their creative side.

On behalf of City Council and all citizens, I want to congratulate and thank Pat the Dog Theatre Creation for another successful PlaySmelter Festival and best wishes to all of the participants!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Bigger'.

Mayor Brian Bigger
City of Greater Sudbury



PLAY•SMELTER

NEW WORK THEATRE FESTIVAL

Pat the Dog Theatre Creation provides transformative support for playwrights and theatre creators. This laboratory for new voices and new ideas collaborates with theatre creators to develop their work in a supportive yet rigorous environment that encourages the creative process and creates innovative new works of Canadian theatre.

Without an audience, there is no theatre. PTD is unique in its efforts to integrate audiences into the creative process from its initial stages. We recognize the kinetic energy that is shared by those who create plays and those who receive them, so PTD encourages a diverse community to observe and participate in our work. We engage people of all ages in the process of making theatre because we see it as a model for community cooperation and problem solving.

Pat the Dog Theatre Creation has been serving emerging and established playwrights in Ontario since 2006. It is the only playwright development centre in Ontario open to theatre creators at all stages of their career. A registered charitable institution, Pat the Dog is a member of the Playwrights' Development Centres of Canada, the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and the Playwrights Guild of Canada.

Lisa O'Connell
Artistic Director

Matthew Heiti
Artistic Associate

From Page to Stage

by Kim Fahner

A commissioned piece for PlaySmelter 2017

Go deep. Dig.
Prospect with pick axe
so that scraps and shards
of ore fling themselves up
from black rock outcrop,
reveal origins and speak story.

Map this northern place,
gather pieces of history,
see yourself reflected
in words, first written on page,
and then, raised to stage.
Voices projected from past,
pulled into present,
this receiver of wreck and
a spare blind nickel pig.

Start over there,
under darkest shadow
of mine's headframe;
find your breath,
before descending,
mining minds and
spelunking through drifts,
curating thoughts, scenes, acts,
and then ascending, again,
trailing glittering bits of etched out
nickel or copper, stuffed
into your pockets, a reminder
of where you come from
and what you are now.

Speak your debwewin,
the truth that is yours alone to tell,
so that one story becomes more than,
so that voice is pluralized,
so that words are embodied
by those who tread the boards,
who shift words from page to stage,
leaving them in hearts, so that breath
is taken, borrowed, and then given back
in cupped palms; an offering.



PLAY•SMELTER

NEW WORK THEATRE FESTIVAL

PlaySmelter Festival Staff

Lisa O'Connell: Artistic Director
Matthew Heiti: Artistic Associate
Nicole Smith: Metcalf Producing Intern
Haritha Popuri: Dramaturg
Jennie Egerdie: Communications
Mark Walton: Design

PRODUCTIONS

RECEIVER OF WRECK
by Matthew Heiti
May 10th & 12th @ 8pm

BLIND NICKEL PIG
by Lara Bradley
May 9th, 11th @ 13th @ 8:00PM

WORKSHOPS

PAKISTANI SUGAR
by Brigitte Gall
May 9th, 2017 @ 5PM-7PM

DEBWEGIN (TRUTH)
by Sarah Gartshore
May 11th, 2017 @ 5PM-7PM

THE SANDCASTLE
by Eli Chilton
May 11th, 2017 @ 5PM-7PM



Receiver of Wreck

By Matthew Heiti

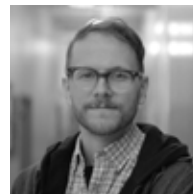


RECEIVER OF WRECK BY MATTHEW HEITI

Produced by Pat the Dog Theatre Creation

Premiere Production Directed by Trevor Copp. Set and Lighting Design: Nick Blais Sound Design: Marc Donato Dramaturgy: Lisa O'Connell. Stage Manager: Elizabeth Kenny

A shoe salesman chops off his foot with an axe. An aesthetician has hers amputated by an outboard motor. At opposite sides of the same country, staring out at two different oceans, two people each lose something on the same day and are sent crashing together toward the heart of Canada. Inspired by the Salish Sea human foot discoveries, *Receiver of Wreck* is a quirky comedy about human waste and the potential of change.



Matthew Heiti

Playwright, Pez Born in a meteor crater, Matthew is a writer, teacher and theatre creator living and loving in North Ontario. He is a

graduate of Ryerson University's Acting program and has an MA in Creative Writing from the University of New Brunswick.

His plays have been workshopped across Canada and produced at various festivals and theatres. *Black Dog: 4 vs. the world*, is published by Playwrights Canada Press. He is also a Genie-nominated screenwriter and his novel, *The City Still Breathing*, is published by Coach House Books.

A proud advocate for developing voices in neglected landscapes, Matthew has served as Playwright-in-residence with the Sudbury Theatre Centre and Pat the Dog Theatre Creation. With Lisa O'Connell, he is the co-director of PlaySmelter, Northern Ontario's first festival of new theatre creation.

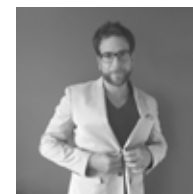
He explores new work in strange places at crestfallentheatre.com. In his spare time, he is usually working.



Jenny Hazelton Chase

Jenny is an instructor of Acting and Mime at Laurentian University in Sudbury. She has trained at Ecole International de Theatre

Jacques Lecoq, in ensemble creation, physical theatre and mime; as well as at the Mime Centrum Berlin in Berlin, Germany, training in Meyerhold's system of Biomechanics. For the last several years, she has continued her training in Clown and Bouffon training with John Turner of Canada's horror clown duo Mump and Smoot at the Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance. Recently, Jenny has traveled extensively to work with both Canadian and international students in several intercultural educational theatre exchanges. She is also a director, designer, puppeteer, playwright, and a theatre technician having worked on various projects with groups such as the Sudbury Theatre Centre, Encore Theatre Company, Carrefour Francophone, CFOF Sudbury, Salon du Livres, Musagetes, Crestfallen Theatre Cabal, and Pat the Dog Theatre Creation.



Len Silvini

The Weatherman Len is super excited to be working again with Pat The Dog and long time friend Matt Heiti on *Receiver of Wreck*. Having work shopped

the play 5 times, Len is eager to stage this great play for an audience. A Graduate from the Ryerson Theatre School with a BFA in performance, Len started acting at 15 in theatre and featured in the Toronto Centre of Performing arts annual Drama Fest four years running. Len has been fortunate in the last 10 years with many theatrical appearances, working with award winning directors, such as Marianne McIsaac, Ted Dykstra, Eda Holmes and Stratford's Paul Miller. Many credits includes *LoveSexMoney* at the Factory Theatre with Theatre Brouhaha, *Paradise By The River*, *Shadow Path Prod.*, *A Life in the Theatre* at the Globus Theatre, *Romeo and Juliet*, Theatre BLUR and *Deathtrap* for the Northern Lights Drama Festival. Len has also appeared on the big screen as of late. Such credits include the feature films *Scratch* and the horror film

The Door. Len also appeared in an episode of Paranormal Activities and the MOW Quest For Gold as the infamous criminal mastermind Mickey McIlroy.



Marc Donato
Sound Design

Marc has been part of the music scene in Sudbury for over 20 years. He started as a solo performer and has since been part of many rock and roots bands playing in the clubs and festivals. Further pushing his creativity into installation/performance and theatre, Marc spends a lot of his time making beautiful noise in his home studio scoring for short films with traditional recording methods as well as some unorthodox methods for sound design using a pile of instruments as well as whatever is around like children's toys and buckets of chain.



Nick Blais

Set and Lighting Design
Nick Blais designs across Canada in all manner of discipline and venue from Toronto's Royal Alexandra Theatre to the base of the Calgary

Tower. Board Member for the Associated Designers of Canada since 2013, resident designer for Actors Repertory Company, and Head of Design for Outside the March.

Featured in the Fall and Winter issues of Professional Lighting and Production Magazine for his innovation in "off-the-grid" lighting design and site specific scenography. Nick devotes his design efforts to bringing emotive and transformative visuals to life through the never-ending experimentation and exploration of creative risk.

Some favorite credits include: Moment (ARC); TERMINUS, Tomorrow Love, Mr. Burns (Outside the March); BRANTWOOD (Theatre Sheridan); Domesticated (Company Theatre and Canadian Stage); Hound of the Baskervilles, All Shook Up (Globe Theatre); Madama Butterfly (Saskatoon Opera); Prince of Homburg, I Claudia (Talk is Free Theatre).

Elizabeth Kenny

Stage Manager

Elizabeth is delighted to be back in Sudbury, working on two wonderful shows with the PlaySmelter Festival. She has previously worked with various companies including YES Theatre and the Sudbury Theatre Centre.



Lisa O'Connell

Dramaturg

Lisa O'Connell is the founding Artistic Director of Pat the Dog Theatre Creation Ontario's only inclusive playwright development centre. Work created at PTDC has been presented at the Magnetic North Theatre Festival, SummerWorks, Canadian Stage, Tarragon Theatre, MT Space, Sudbury Theatre Centre, Theatre Aquarius, The Grand Theatre, among others. Theatre pieces that have received dramaturgy by O'Connell have received or been nominated for the Governor-General's Award (Drama), RBC Tarragon Playwright Award, RBC Emerging Directors Award, the Carol Bolt Award, among others.

O'Connell serves on the Advocacy Committee of the Playwrights Guild of Canada, is the Artistic Practices Committee of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres. She is the recipient of a Special Jury Award and the Literary Award from Arts Awards Waterloo and has delivered the closing Keynote address at the Canadian Association of Theatre Researchers Conference. O'Connell has been published in Canadian Theatre Review, The Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, Chatelaine, among others. She divides her time between her artistic homes in Waterloo, ON and Sudbury, ON with her partner Mark Walton.



The space transformed - PlaySmelter is in the house.



Prepping for PlaySmelter: Playwright Lara sees her first play come to life in rehearsal.



BLIND NICKEL PIG BY LARA BRADLEY

Produced by Pat the Dog Theatre Creation

Directed by Matthew Heiti, Production Design: Jenny Hazelton, Sound Design: Dan Bédard, Dramaturgy: Lisa O'Connell, Stage Manager: Elizabeth Kenny

A rollicking tale of times past, Lara Bradley's *Blind Nickel Pig* brings to life a heart-warming and hilarious cast of characters living in Sudbury at the turn of the last century; The sisters Flyberry: Annie and Frannie, Fast Willie Dorland, barfly Pickles and songstress Miss Mabel-Lynn – to name just a few. An original, local, and (maybe) true story by one of Sudbury's most talented writers.

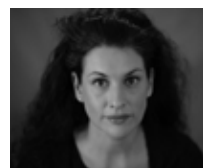


Lara Bradley

Playwright

Lara Bradley writes plays, thanks to the support of Pat the Dog and the wicked dramaturgy of Lisa O'Connell and Matthew Heiti. She has also collaborated with the talented Cait

Hepner, Cora Eckert, and Rick Duthie (with Matt pulling it all together) on the recently produced #TheWatertower at the Sudbury Theatre Centre. A former Sudbury Star reporter, Lara's day job is now in communications. She lives with her family – Peter, Sebastian and Quinn – in a little log cabin in Sudbury and is grateful for their encouragement and support. *Blind Nickel Pig* is about storytelling and inspired by sisters: her own sister Kari, her grandmother and great auntie, Loretta and Aileen, and two teenage sisters who broke out of the Sudbury Jail in the early 1900s (who may have been called Annie and Frannie).



Miriam Cusson

Mabel Lynn

Miriam Cusson is a bilingual actor, director, creative advisor, writer and costume designer.

As an artist, her personal approach is strongly based in site specific production as well as the composition of visual poetry through bodies and words in motion. Miriam's work challenges traditional conventions while questioning notions of violence, power

distribution and identity in modern society.

Her stage credits include *Violette sur la terre* by Carole Fréchette (2001), *Autour d'un foyer Crise 2* by various authors (2004), *Stuff ou les aventures en catalogue* by Miriam Cusson and Mélissa Rockburn (2007), *À la gauche de Dieu* by Robert Marinier (2009), *Fara Lifa* by Miriam Cusson and Mélissa Rockburn (2012) and *À tu et à moi* by Sarah Migneron (2013).

Miriam is also a literary advisor for the poetry collection at les Éditions Prise de parole in Sudbury, Associate Artistic Director of the Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance as well as a part-time lecturer for Laurentian University's francophone Theatre Program.



Ron Tough

Pikey/Mason

As a venerable (not venereal) member of the theatre community I am more than happy to be here in Lara's play with such an accomplished creative assembly. Most of us in the cast have grown

with the play over a good many iterations and have the pleasure of seeing it mature through Pat The Dog's (PTD) guidance and unflagging support over the years.

My first "professional" play was in 1974, at the Sudbury Theatre Centre and since then I've acted in Theatre, Film, TV, and Radio and more widely, just acting up. My last part was in Emil Sher's "Conviction" with some of tonight's cast members, with Matt directing and PTD supporting. Creating live theatre is a challenge and is only met when the final ingredient is added, you, the Audience. Please join us and enjoy your part.



Daniel Aubin

Piano Man

Greater Sudbury's second-ever Poet Laureate, Daniel Aubin writes and performs poetry in both English and French, often switching

back and forth between the two. His books of poems, *Plasticité* (2004) and *Néologismes* (2012), are published by Sudbury's own Éditions Prise de parole. Having studied theatre at Laurentian University, it's no surprise that Daniel enjoys reading his poems aloud and thusly crafts

them with an ear for the musicality of the strung along words. He writes an original poem every week for Le Voyageur newspaper in a column he's titled Primordialogues. As an actor, he most recently appeared as Abraham in Encore Theatre's 2015 production of Abraham Lincoln Goes to the Theatre.



Cassandra Rene

Frannie Flyberry/Mrs. Dorland
Cassandra Rene is a full-time student at Thorneloe University in

the Bachelor of Fine Arts - Theatre Performance program, which she will be completing next year. Cassandra is no stranger to the stage as she has worked on a number of projects within the community. Some past performances include: Stephen Berkoff's Greek (Thorneloe University), All's Well That Ends Well (Shakespeare's 400th at Elsinore Castle), There's A Mouse in the House (Sudbury Theatre Centre). Cassandra is excited to have had the opportunity to work with such an incredible cast and crew on this amazing production.



Greg Tremblay

Jib/Willy

Greg is a film actor and writer, every once in a while joining up with local theater creation

processes. He is honored to be a part of BNP and has been waiting for it's premiere since inception.



France Huot

Annie Flyberry

Born in French River, France holds a BA from Laurentian University's Art d'expression program. Currently, she is a graduate student in the Theatre Theory

and Dramaturgy program at the University of Ottawa working on completing her masters on the "Pochinko" clown as taught by John Turner at the Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance. As a performer, France works in both English and French. Recent credits include Survivance (Sarah Gartshore), Brokedowntown, (Crestfallen/Mathiew Heiti), Le sac d'école (reading/TNO/Miriam Cusson), Nowhere du Nord (Musagete/Miriam Cusson),

and Alphonse (Encore Theatre Company/Jenny Hazelton).



Dan Bedard

Sound Design

Daniel Bédard has been creating music and soundscapes for multimedia installations

ever since the "original" Trudeau was Prime Minister :) . Among the many projects he has worked on : Creatures of the Abyss – Hong Kong Science Center 2012 (winner of the Trille Or for best score in 2013) ; Otis' Migration – McNeil Avian Center - Philadelphia Zoo 2009 (winner of the Trille Or for best score in 2011) and Extinction Theater – Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa 2006 (winner of the Trille Or for best score in 2007)

He has crafted the sound design for several plays, including Unifers (winner of the Masque for best Franco-Canadian production 2005) , and Du pépin à la fissure (winner of the Masque for best Franco-Canadian production 2003).

He frequently works as composer/sound designer/mix engineer on documentary and short films, and on various large format films such as Rhythms of The North- Borealis Theater, Assiniboine Zoo, Winnipeg (a film in 360o and in 12.2 surround) and Wonders of the Arctic (IMAX 3D) , both produced in 2014.

As a record producer/arranger and musical director, he has worked with many artists, including Stef Paquette / Salut de l'arrière-pays (winner of the Trille Or for Best Album, 2013) and Jacinthe Trudeau / Echo (winner in the Best Folk Album category at the 2000 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards and of the Trille Or for Best instrumental album 2001)



Matthew Heiti

Director/Designer

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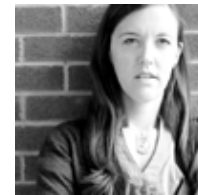
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FOTO RE

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WORKSHOPS

PAKISTANI SUGAR BY BRIGITTE GALL

Date: 5-7 PM May 9, 2017

Playwright and Performer Brigitte Gall
Director: Nicole Smith, Dramaturg: Lisa O'Connell,
Haritha Popuri

Pakistani Sugar is the darkly comedic re-telling of true events that took a white-trash-bingo-queen from Creelman, Saskatchewan (population 101) to the small village of Chalk Pacheese, Pakistan. From Ignorance to awakening, it is a story that stumbles blindly toward a heart-wrenching decision in which a life hangs in the balance.

Capable of opening beer bottles with her teeth and completely ignorant about the world outside her door, eighteen year-old Brigitte Gall had never met a black person, believed that 'the Jews killed Jesus', and wasn't aware that books were written in languages other than English. When this red neck from the bible-belt of Saskatchewan finds herself living and working in rural Pakistan, an odyssey of impossible transformation shoves, pinches, and gently reveals how the deepest sorrow can catapult us to heights we never thought we'd see.

Pakistani Sugar contains mature themes and language.



Brigitte Gall is an award winning Performer, Writer, and Producer. She has completed 52 episodes of the Gemini nominated design and renovation television series Me, My House

and I, and 52 episodes of the travel/lifestyle show, The World's Greatest Spas, covering 3 countries in 4 years (aired on W Network, Discovery Channel USA/Latin America, and in 85 other countries).

Gall is the proud owner of a Gemini award for her one woman show Joan of Montreal, a Gemini nod for her dramatic turn as a serial killer for the series Blue Murder, a Genie (Moving Day), a Golden Sheaf (Twisted Sheets), and Gold at the Houston Film and Television festival (Joan of Montreal). She

has been the Keynote Speaker and Guest Speaker for numerous fundraising galas and events sharing her experiences of growing up in the small farming community of Creelman, Saskatchewan to living in Toronto and Ottawa working as a female comic, performer, writer & producer.

When not working or writing, she can be found burning hotdogs over the campfire with her husband Michael and their two daughters on the banks of the Gull River in Minden Hills, Ontario.

DEBWEWIN (TRUTH) BY SARAH GARTSHORE

Date: 5-7 PM May 11, 2017

Playwright and Director: Sarah Gartshore
Dramaturg: Lisa O'Connell, Haritha Popuri

Debwewin (Truth) is a new work by Sarah Gartshore. The truth is that this land and its Indigenous people have a relationship that stretches back much further than the 150 years that many Canadians are celebrating in 2017. The truth is that Canada, as we know it, is at the beginning. The next short 150 years will be shaped, in part, by this time of truth telling as we navigate our way towards reconciliation. Debwewin is Gartshore's humble offering to the rising collective Indigenous voice.



Sarah Gartshore is an emerging playwright from St. Joseph Island who lives in Sudbury. Sarah's intention, as a playwright, is to offer a platform for voices from the margins. Her play Survivance has

received dramaturgical support, a workshop and reading with Pat The Dog Theatre Creation. Survivance will be work-shopped in Stratford with Muriel Miguel, renowned playwright, director and founder of Spider Woman Theatre in New York. Survivance was performed during Shkagamik-Kwe's National Aboriginal Day celebration at Sudbury Theatre Centre and an excerpt was performed at Native Earth Performing Arts in Toronto during their Weesageechak Begins To Dance Festival, as part of it's Animikiig Creators offering. Sarah is currently writing ArmHer, a CCA funded, multi-year collaboration with Myths and Mirrors and

community members with lived experience in sex work. Sarah is also developing POW!, a play for and about Aboriginal youth, funded by OAC's Theatre Creators Reserve.



Aurora Ominika-Enosse is currently a grade 11 student living in Toronto, but is from Wikwemkoong Unceded Territory. She has always

had a passion for performance, she loves to sing, dance both modern and traditionally, and her most recent theatre experience was with her drama class where she played one of the main roles in her school production. I would like to thank Sarah for giving me this opportunity to gain some professional experience in the theatre and my mom for encouraging me to appreciate and love the arts. Miigwetch!



Madeline McGregor is in her final year at Sudbury Secondary School graduating from the Drama major. Previous productions acted in include: Camp Rock, The Crucible, and most recently The Unknown Part of the

Ocean. Madeline also has experience with stage managing and directing gained from school productions. She is very excited to be a part of this production and hopes you enjoy the show!



Kathy Savage has been involved in theatre in Sudbury for two years and this years PlaySmelter of New Works will be the third time she has worked with Sarah Gartshore. Kathy is very excited to be participating in Pat

The Dog's theatre festival and proud to be a part of Debwewin's development.



Lisa Cromarty is a First Nations actress based out of Sudbury and is from Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. She is an alumni of the Centre for Indigenous Theatre, Canada's National

Voice Intensive and the Aboriginal Writer's Program at the Banff Centre. In addition to acting, Lisa is currently a Vocal Coach Intern at the Stratford Theatre Festival. Theatre Credits: Moose on the Loose (Sudbury Theatre Centre), Maria Gets ANewLife(Cardinal/Kantor Productions), An Honour Story (Debajemuhijg Theatre Company). Film Credits: Indian Horse (Screen Siren Productions), Wave a Red Flag (NFB).



Lois Apaquash is delighted to participate in Pat the Dog's PlaySmelter, and to work with Sarah Gartshore and Lisa O'Connell. Miigwech for Debwewin that carries the day forward, honeycombed in honesty, wisdom, humility, love, respect, and bravery.



Brad Robinson is a multi-media Aboriginal artist whose talents includes acting in various on and off-stage performances, video production, graphic design, photography and

several traditional forms of Aboriginal carvings. Brad has always been passionate towards independent films and film makers and is committed to progressing the arts in his own ways within the Greater Sudbury area.

THE SANDCASTLE BY ELI CHILTON

Elsa and George Whitefeather are living out their golden years surrounded by family and friends in a tight knit community, in their small family home. The play takes place in a day where their lives unfold with routine and community happenstance, and it is a day where

their lives will change forever. We find that Elsa has a unique gift in her world, however, her family are more and more convinced that with her elderly age she is possibly stricken with an undiagnosed illness. Can Elsa and George's family save their parents in time before they are forgotten, or is Elsa a force of nature unknown by those closest to her?



Eli Chilton lives and works in the community of Moose Factory, with his wife and three children. He is currently working at the John R. Delaney Youth Centre, as a radio DJ/producer and youth worker. Along with being a dramatist with the completion of *The SandCastle*, he is a poet, who has poems published in the Poetry Institute of Canada's national book competition. He is also an avid photographer, outdoorsman, and a qualified cook.



Lois Apaquash is happy to be a part of the read for Eli Chilton's play 'The Sandcastle'. Lois is pleased to be working with Sarah Gartshore, Lisa O'Connell (Pat the Dog) and fellow readers.



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Unknown Part of the Ocean. Madeline also has experience with stage managing and directing gained from school productions. She is very excited to be a part of this production and hopes you enjoy the show!



Shelly Moore-Frappier is an Anishinaabe educator who had dabbled in film and theatre through acting. She is excited to be returning to the stage in *PlaySmelter 2017*.



Vanessa Ominika has been acting and writing for theatre for over ten years. She is thrilled to be back in Sudbury performing in *Pat The Dog's PlaySmelter* with this fine group of people.



Rick Ouellet PhD, was raised in a small Aboriginal community that still engages in hunting and trapping activities. His work examines contemporary attempts at reconciling

Canadian/Indigenous relations. Rick has a strong interest in developing initiatives based on research that facilitate opportunities for a greater Indigenous presence in urban Canada.



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forms of Aboriginal carvings.

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Haritha Popuri
Dramaturg

After ten years of trying Ireland, New York, Kentucky, and Kansas on for size, Haritha Popuri finally clasped the Nickel Belt around her waist and found it

to her liking. Eight winters later, she traded her frost-tipped mitts for a pair of wellies and trudged off to Halifax. After completing her liberal arts B.A. at the University of King's College, she pursued an M.A. in Theatre and Performance Studies at York University. During her year in Toronto, she has interned for the 37th Rhubarb Festival, interned with Obsidian Theatre Company, and performed in the Toronto Fringe Festival. She is ecstatic to join PTD.

THE PRODUCER'S UNIT

The chance to be a part of *PlaySmelter* as Facilitator of the inaugural Producer's Unit has been significant. The amount of work that goes into getting a production (or two productions and three readings) up and running never ceases to amaze me, and the dedication Adric, Justine, Karen, Michael, Morgan and Ruthie have had during this production process has been full. The point of The Producer's Unit was to equip Theatre Creators with the basic knowledge and skills necessary in Producing their work. Congratulations to our first participants - I've no doubt that following *PlaySmelter*, we can look forward to seeing your own work, produced by you, in Sudbury, Summerworks or some place completely new and exciting. Thanks always to Lisa O'Connell for the opportunity to work, learn and grow everyday as your Metcalf mentee. What you've built inspires. ~ Nicole Smith - Facilitator

Producer's Unit Intensives by:

Geneviève Pineault - Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario (TNO)

Judi Straughan

Matthew Heiti - Pat the Dog Theatre Creation,

Crestfallen

Lisa O'Connell - Pat the Dog Theatre Creation

Caleb Marshall - Sudbury Theatre Centre

Alessandro Costantini - YES Theatre



Michael Boyce is from Sudbury, Ontario. He is a recent graduate of George Brown Theatre School's classical acting program where he played Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Feraillon in *A*

Flea in her Ear, Prince Ronald in *Munsch-O-Mania*, Voynitsev in *Platonov* by Chekhov, and Antony in *All for Love* by John Dryden. Elsewhere: *The Velveteen Rabbit* and *Black Dog: 4 vs the World* (the Sudbury Theatre Centre); *Motel in Fiddler on the Roof* and *Mark in Rent* (Yes Theatre).



Justine Christensen is a Toronto-born actor and theatre creator. She and her co-run theatre collective *Let Me In* produced their first show in her apartment last August. *Let Me In* will be producing its second production at the

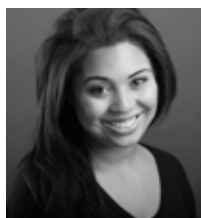
Toronto Fringe this summer; this show, *The Miserable Worm*, is Justine's first play adaptation, based on Anton Chekhov's "Untitled Play". She would like to thank Pat the Dog for helping her develop her producing abilities, and thank this community for their support of Canadian theatre.



Adric P. Spock Cliff has been a part of the theatre community in Sudbury since just shortly after losing his first baby teeth. He first worked with both Theatre Cambrian and the Sudbury Music

Society. In University, Adric produced and ran several original productions as part of the Thorneoloe Student Playfests. Adric was a proud member of the inaugural Playwright's Junction and the subsequent *PlaySmelter*, where a scene from his original play *Dealing With Monsters* was read. After spending a

year doing theatre in the UK, Adric returned to Sudbury, where he and a group of northern filmmakers and talent produced the film THC Positive (coming soon). With film projects lined up for the foreseeable future, Adric has turned his attention toward the development of an original historical drama and through the lessons learned over the course of this intensive, he will have a complete suite of talents to bring his next crop of original productions to bigger and better venues.



Ruthie Nkut is an actor, musician and creator raised in Sudbury. In Sudbury she has worked extensively with YES Theatre appearing in 6 productions with them including Jesus Christ Superstar

(Ensemble), Les Miserables with the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra (Fantine) and Fiddler on the Roof (Frumah Sarah). She has studied classical singing and piano since she was young has won many awards at the Kiwanis music festival including Top Senior Vocalist and Top Intermediate Pianist. When she was 1 year out of high school she auditioned for the George Brown Theatre Performance Program and is now finishing her second year. At George Brown she has worked closely with her 15 fellow classmates and many wonderful directors/teachers. Some highlights there include Eliza Doolittle in Pygmalion, Neyssa in In This World and Lady Teazle in School for Scandal. Next year she hopes to return to George Brown for the third year showcase season!



Morgan St. Onge is a bilingual, multi-disciplinary artist who grew up in Sudbury. She began her training as a drama and dance major at Sudbury Secondary School and recently graduated from

George Brown Theatre School's classical theatre program in Toronto. For Pat the Dog: Blind Nickel Pig (workshop), Double Blind, The Intermediaries. Other theatre credits: Two in Black Dog: 4 vs the World, Wilbur in Charlotte's Web (Sudbury Theatre Centre), Thea in Muskeg & Money (North Road Theatre), Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream, As You

Like It, Cavalcade, The Penelopiad (GBTS). She is so grateful to return to her home town for this wonderful opportunity. Her future plans involve creating and producing more innovative theatre for young people.



Karen Thistle is grateful for the entrance into the world of theatre through playwriting. She participated in the 2nd annual STC Playwrights' Junction and continues to meet and work with fellow playwrights in

the writing group Inklings. Born and raised in Sudbury, she grew up with both literary and imaginary friends. She thanks her parents for teaching her that nothing is impossible and hopes audience members believe the same.



NICOLE SMITH (FACILITATOR) is a Metcalf Foundation Producing Intern with Pat The Dog Theatre Creation and holds a BA in Theatre Studies from the University of Guelph. In 2015 she

co-founded The Muddy Mary Project, a theatre festival for emerging artists. Finding Temperance – a play she co-wrote and performed in – was produced by The Muddy Mary Project the same year and supported by the Shaw Festival through a TCR grant. Nicole is the founding Artistic Director of Sonderlust, a KW-based women's theatre collective, and Producer of four of the organization's projects-in-development (with awards from the OAC, Canadian Stage (Toronto, ON), Pat the Dog Theatre Creation (Kitchener, ON), Carousel Players (Niagara, ON) and the Region of Waterloo). In collaboration with Lisa O'Connell (founding AD of Pat the Dog), she facilitates The Women's Room – the first and only female Playwrights Unit in the Waterloo Region.

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Kim Fahner lives and writes in Sudbury, Ontario. She is the first female poet laureate of the City of Greater Sudbury. Her fourth collection of poems will be released this fall by Black Moss Press, in Windsor. She has written two plays that have been workshopped at the Sudbury Theatre Centre, and is currently completing her first novel, a historical piece set in a northern mining town outside of Sudbury. Kim is a member of the League of Canadian Poets, the Writers' Union of Canada, and PEN Canada. She blogs at The Republic of Poetry at kimfahner.wordpress.com

