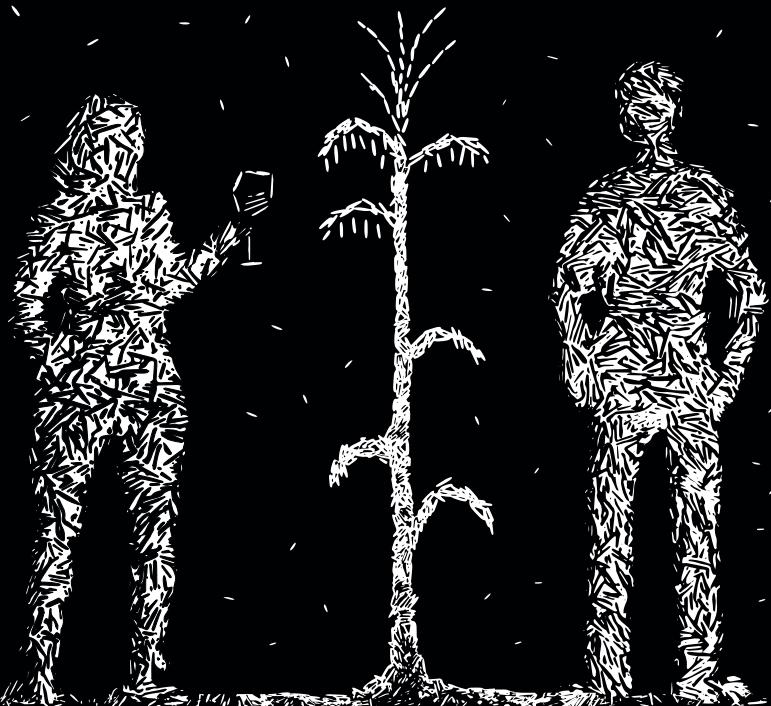


COTTAGERS AND INNKEEPERS

DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR



OCTOBER 20 - NOVEMBER 13, 2021



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Postcommodity, *Truck Hunting Out Near Agua Caliente Reservation*, 2021, wood, metal fasteners, bolts, suspension cables. Courtesy of the artists. Installation view, *Time Holds All the Answers*, 2021, Remai Modern, Saskatoon. Photo: Carey Shaw.

Saskatoon

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We wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory, the traditional territory of Cree peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live, create and perform on this territory.



COTTAGEERS AND INDIANS

DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR

PRESENTED IN THE



Persephone Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement.

Professional actors are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

Production staff are members of I.A.T.S.E. Local 300.

No recording devices or photographic equipment are allowed in the theatre. The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

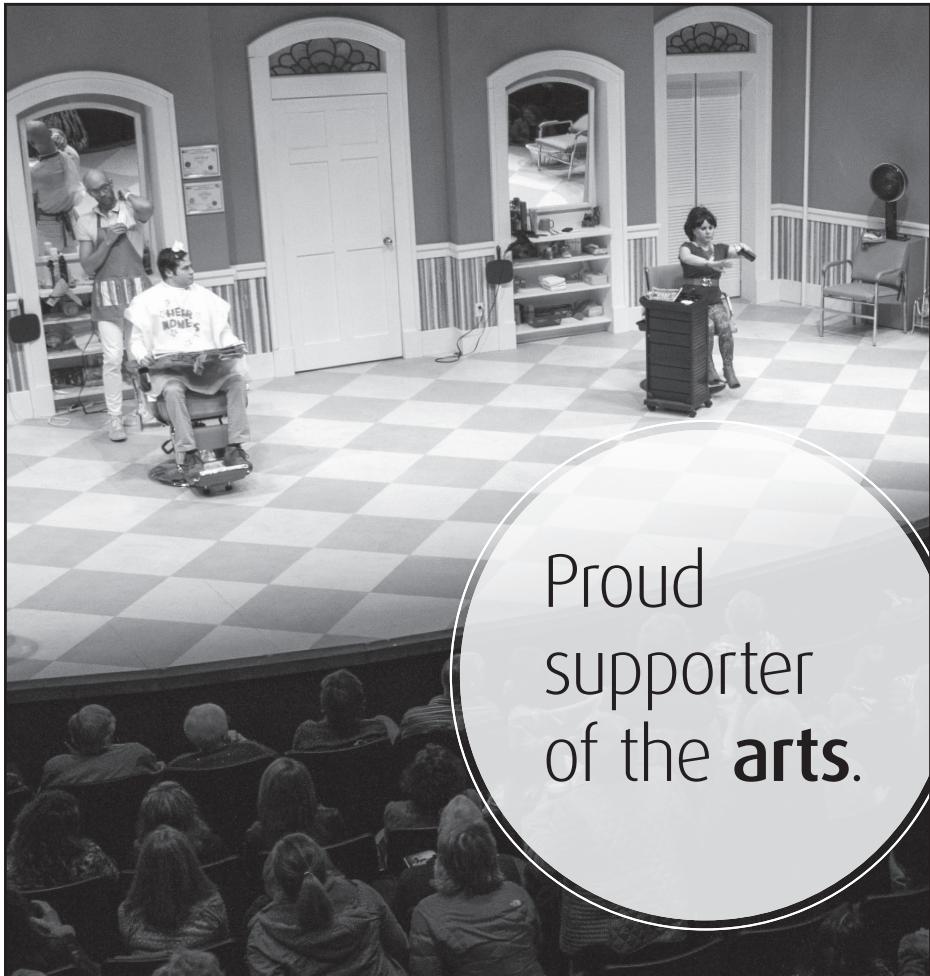
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CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

CAST

Lisa Bayliss	Maureen Poole
Jeremy Proulx	Arthur Copper

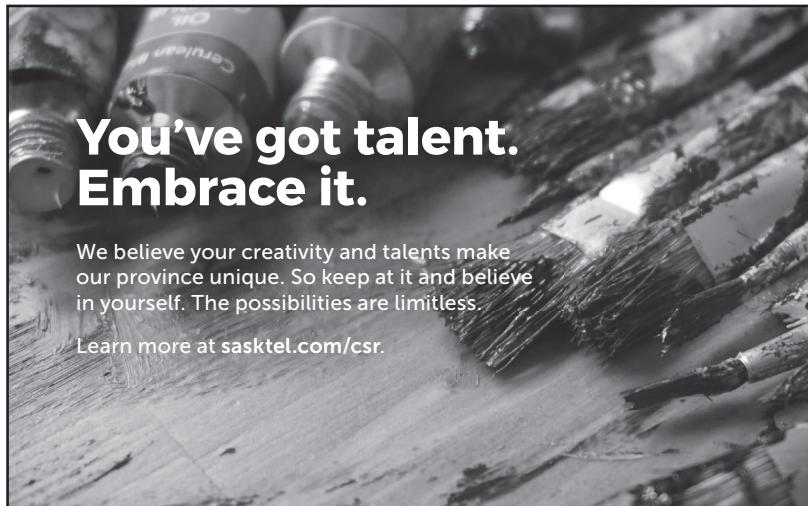
CREATIVE

Jennifer Dawn Bishop	Director
Drew Hayden Taylor	Playwright
David Granger	Set Designer
Jeff Chief	Costume Designer
Jess McNabb	Lighting Designer
Cory Dallas Standing	Sound Designer
Ricardo Alvarado	Stage Manager
Emily Rempel	Apprentice Stage Manager

Cottagers and Indians was originally commissioned and produced by Tarragon Theatre, Richard Rose, Artistic Director. It received its world premiere at the Tarragon Theatre Etrospace on February 20, 2018, directed by Patti Shaughnessy, performed by Herbie Barnes and Tracey Hoyt.

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It is my great pleasure to welcome you back to Persephone Theatre. It has been 20 months now since a production has graced our stage. As someone who has always struggled to imagine my life without theatre, this reality was inconceivable. But, we are back - and having you here means the world to us.

While this year's season is smaller to better navigate audience, artist, and staff safety during this persistent pandemic, we have packed all the comedy, drama, reflection, and entertainment you expect from us into these four shows. I hope we can look forward to seeing you again at *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *The Mountaintop*, and *The Revolutionists*.

Cottagers and Indians, by the always funny and thought-provoking Drew Hayden Taylor, marks my first production at Persephone Theatre as Artistic Director. I have been on the job for a month now and I am already in love with this city and its incredibly vibrant arts community. I so look forward to getting to know you, our audience, and enjoying incredible live performances together.

Thank you for being here and for your ongoing support of Persephone Theatre. We literally couldn't do what we do without you.

Sincerely,
Heather Cant



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It's hard not to take sides, but it is something we as individuals tend to do. Directing *Cottagers & Indians* has indeed been both wonderful and challenging

In this story, you have two very different worlds occupying the one space. There's an obvious division literally, and also symbolically. As the Director, it was important for me not to take one side, but to listen and see both as a neutral mind, to recognize that in the end we are human. We are just trying to survive and do what we think is right, even if the other disagrees. That makes us our own persons.

I've been blessed to be here working with all these amazing artists, designers and builders. The work everyone has done in making this a welcoming environment, the generosity, collaboration and kind hearts has made this experience inspiring.

Family, friends, community, from me to all of you, thank you for being here and I hope you enjoy *Cottagers & Indians* by Drew Hayden Taylor! Also, thank you Persephone Theatre for taking a chance on me.

--

Jennifer Dawn Bishop

COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION

Persephone Theatre believes the performing arts have an essential part to play in the work of reconciliation. We believe our work as a theatre organization can and should consider how it can contribute. Persephone Theatre offers this as an aspirational statement to communicate our dedication to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in our community, Canada, and throughout Turtle Island.

Persephone Theatre creates theatre in Misâskwatôminihk, meaning "at the Saskatoon berry" in Nêhiyawewin (Cree), which is colonially known as Saskatoon. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and create on this land. We acknowledge and renew our obligations to the original caretakers of this land, our Treaty 6 partners, the Cree, Saulteaux, Nakota, and Dene. This place is also the homeland of the Métis, as well as home to other Indigenous nations, and we extend the same commitment to them and all Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Persephone Theatre exists to enrich society by providing a supportive venue for artists and audiences to create and experience theatre to inspire and reflect our community. It is a place to encourage dialogue, curiosity, empathy, and respect. These values inform the actions we can and will take to further reconciliation:

To create artistic programming and processes which:

- aid in understanding our colonial past and visioning a new future;
- celebrate Indigenous culture and history;
- foster dialogue in our community;
- honour the artistic sovereignty of Indigenous artists;
- support the creation of projects funded by the Creating, Knowing, and Sharing: The Arts and Cultures of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples program developed by the Canada Council for the Arts in response to Call to Action 83 issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

To provide arts education which:

- creates access to inclusive learning and training experiences that supports Indigenous approaches to storytelling and theatre creation;
- examines the intersection between Indigenous culture and storytelling with western theatre techniques;
- considers and overcomes social, economic, geographic, and cultural barriers so arts education can be for all young people.

To ensure Persephone Theatre:

- builds meaningful and respectful relationships with Indigenous theatre artists, technicians, administrators, educators, and audiences;
- uses its means as a well-resourced organization to uplift the work of Indigenous artists and theatre makers, as well as provide mentorship and support in our community;
- provides ongoing education opportunities of those employed by Persephone on colonial history, systemic injustice, and anti-oppression practices.

As an organization, Persephone Theatre recognizes our past actions have not always been in alignment with these stated aspirations and intentions. The organization has been complicit in contributing to a history of oppression, exclusion, and anti-Indigenous racism in our own work and in our industry. Moving forward, we are committed to our ongoing growth and learning in pursuit of equity and justice and furthering the broader call for action in Canadian theatre. We support the emergence of truth and shall actively contribute to shifting perspectives with the work we do in and with our community moving forward.

Reconciliation is a collaborative endeavour; it cannot be accomplished in isolation.

We encourage community dialogue on this topic as we collectively work toward reconciliation.

We invite you to share your thoughts on how Persephone Theatre can contribute further.

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM



RICARDO ALVARADO - Stage Manager

Ricardo Alvarado is a local theatre artist with strong ties to Saskatoon's theatre scene, working intimately with companies like SUM Theatre, Persephone Theatre, and La Troupe du Jour. He is a member of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association and the co-founder of Ppl r Ppl Productions. For the last few years, musicals he directed have either won "Best Live Theatre Production" (*Little Shop of Horrors, Annie*) or been runner-up (*Avenue Q*) in Planet S's annual 'Best of Saskatoon' edition. Ricardo believes in music, energy, diversity, and teamwork; and is passionate about the strength and magic they bring to our community!



LISA BAYLISS - Maureen Poole

Lisa Bayliess is honoured to be back performing on Persephone's Main Stage and joyous to see a live audience once again. Lisa has worked in Canadian theatre, film and television for more than 40 years. Appearances at Persephone include Mrs Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*, Gertrude in *Rozencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, Marion in *Between the Sheets* and Alice in *Sexy Laundry*. She has also worked with Live Five (*The Wolves*); Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan (*Taming of the Shrew, Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, Richard III*) and in numerous productions for Bard on the Beach, the Arts Club Theatre, Belfry Theatre, Firehall Theatre, Western Canada Theatre, Theatre Northwest and Richmond Gateway.



JENNIFER DAWN BISHOP - Director

Jennifer, a Metis artist of the Treaty Six Territory is an actor, playwright and director. She is the Artistic Director of the Gordon Tootoosis Nikaniwin Theatre (formerly Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company). She started with the company when it first opened its doors in 1999 with the Circle of Voices Program. Keeping a connection with arts, culture and community is important to her. Her most recent work includes directing 2 audiobook projects with Penguin Random House Canada and her play *Shadows Among The Prairies* had its world premiere presented at the new SOTS site. Jennifer is proud of the opportunity in debut directing for Persephone Theatre's season opening show!



JEFF CHIEF - Costume Designer

COSTUME DESIGNS: *Sky Dancers* (Place des Arts); *Café Daughter* (Blyth Festival); *COV-Spirit World* (GTNT); *Being Here-The Refugee Project* (Belfry Theatre); *Leave it to Weavers* (GTNT); *Life After Hockey* (La Troupe du Jour); *Ministry of Grace* (Belfry Theatre); *Kronborg-The Hamlet Rock Musical* (Confederation Centre of the Arts); *Honour Beat* (Theatre Calgary); *Hedda Noir* (Theatre NorthWest); *Le Wild West Show de Gabriel Dumont* (National Arts Centre); *Ipperwash* (Blyth Festival); *In Care* (GTNT); *Popcorn Elder* (SNTC/Dancing Sky Theatre); *Dreary and Izzy* (Theatre NorthWest); *Othello* (Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan); *Where the Blood Mixes* (Western Canada Theatre); *A Man A Fish, God of Carnage*, *The Berlin Blues* (Persephone Theatre).



JESS MCNABB - Lighting Designer

Jess McNabb is from Smiths Falls, Ontario. She attended theatre school at X University in Toronto, specializing in lighting design. In Toronto, she worked at Canada's Wonderland, the Betty Oliphant Theatre, and Westbury National Show Systems. She moved to Whitehorse in 2012 to work as technician and lighting designer at the Yukon Arts Centre. In September 2019, she arrived in Saskatoon to work as Head of Lighting at Persephone Theatre. Previous lighting design credits include *Macbeth* (Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan), *The Born-Again Crow* (Gwaandak Theatre), *Wake 2.0* and *Dark, Cold, Quiet* (Borealis Soul), and *The Drowsy Chaperone* (The Guild Hall Theatre).



JEREMY PROULX - Arthur Copper

Jeremy Proulx is an award-winning actor and multi-disciplined (actor, writer, filmmaker) First Nation storyteller of both Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) and Haudenosaunee (Oneida) descent, originally from the community of Neyaashiinigmiing, First Nation. His acting career has taken him nationally across Canada, as well as internationally throughout the USA. Globally, he has performed in such countries as Brazil, United Kingdom, Poland, Italy, Macedonia and Greece. Select theatre credits: *BONES: An Aboriginal Dance Opera*, *An Aboriginal Journey with Brecht, Miinigooweziiwin... The Gift and From the Aztlan to the Zocalo* (Banff Centre), *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe* (Western Canada Theatre and the National Arts Centre), *King Lear* (National Arts Centre) and *Where the Blood Mixes* (Teesri Duniya Theatre), *Only Drunks and Children Tell The Truth* (Magnus Theatre). International credits: *Red Forest* (The Young Vic in London, UK; Teatro Vascello in Rome, Italy and Teatro Ermanno Fabbi in Modena, Italy)

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

Jeremy Proulx (Con't) for Belarus Free Theatre and the MOT International Theatre Festival in Skopje, Macedonia, *Of Mice and Men* (Maples Repertory Theatre in Macon, Missouri), *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, GA) for which he won a BroadwayWorld.com award for Best Actor in a Play. After much success with performing the role within North America, he remounted the role internationally in the UK to great critical acclaim with Sheffield Theatres at their historic Crucible Theatre. Most recently, he won a Wilde Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Play for his professional debut with Flint Repertory Theatre in Michigan back in 2020.

Jeremy was last seen performing with the Centre for Indigenous Theatre (CIT) in their year-end production of *Bannock Republic* written by Kenneth T. Williams and directed by Ed Roy. Upcoming theatre: Jeremy is thrilled to announce that he will be making his Australian stage debut in Melbourne next year! Visit www.jeremy-proulx.com for future updates on this exciting new stage production!



EMILY REMPEL - Apprentice Stage Manager

Emily is a local emerging artist delighted to be working on this production! She recently received her BFA Honours Drama degree, studying both acting and design. Recent design credits include: Co-digital design for Gordon Winter and co-costume design for *Secret in the Wings* (Greystone Theatre). Recent acting credits include: *The Unforgettables* (Fight or Flight Theatre) and *The Romeo Project* (The Studio). Emily also recently apprenticed stage managed *Macbeth* (Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan) and stage managed *Secret in the Wings* (Greystone Theatre). She is excited to be part of a stage management team once again.



Cory Dallas Standing - Sound Designer

Cory is an actor, musician, graphic designer and radio host. Recent sound design credits include: *Two Indians, Dominion* (Gordon Tootoosis Nîkâniwin Theatre). Recent acting credit include: *Leave It To Weavers, Alone @ Home, Vegas Vacation* (GTNT) and *Popcorn Elder* (Dancing Sky Theatre/GTNT). He is trained by the Gordon Tootoosis Nîkâniwin Theatre and the Centre of Indigenous Theatre. Sound design trained by Gilles Zolty. He is happy to join the Persephone Theatre team on this production. You can follow his work on social media Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @corystanding.



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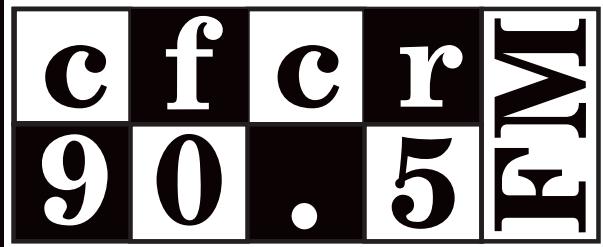
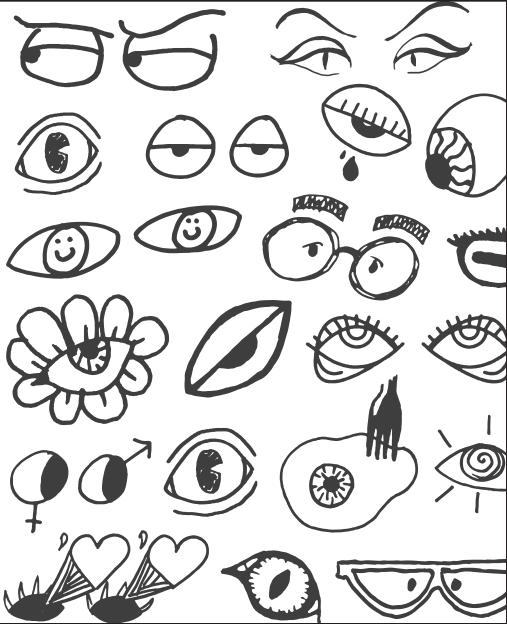
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