

COMING UP NEXT!
SHANAWDITHIT

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In 1828, the last known member of the Beothuk people, Shawnadithit, was taken to St. John's by William Cormack. In her final months, she created a series of ten drawings that speak of the loneliness of survival, the beauty of the land, and the life she used to know. A collaboratively-created, multidisciplinary opera, *Shanawdithit* brings together Indigenous artists from Nations across Turtle Island, interpreting the drawings to give voice to Shawnadithit and her people, and shining a new light and raising powerful questions on a story misrepresented by history. Starring Marion Newman as Shanawdithit.

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WORLD PREMIERE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Theatre Passe Muraille

HOOK UP

MUSIC BY CHRIS THORNBORROW | LIBRETTO BY JULIE TEPPERMAN
DRAMATURGY & DIRECTION BY RICHARD GREENBLATT



JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 9, 2019

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HOOK UP

Music by Chris Thornborrow | Libretto by Julie Tepperman

Direction & Dramaturgy by Richard Greenblatt

A Tapestry Opera world premiere in partnership with
Theatre Passe Muraille

January 30 - February 9, 2019
Theatre Passe Muraille Mainspace

CAST

Mindy: Emily Lukasik

Cindy: Alicia Ault

Tyler: Nathan Carroll

Steph/Mom/Heather: Alexis Gordon

Dad/Dude/Duke: Jeff Lillico

MUSICIANS

Music Director/Pianist: Jennifer Tung

Percussionist: Greg Harrison

Second Pianist: Andrea Grant

CREATIVE TEAM AND CREW

Director & Dramaturg: Richard Greenblatt

Set & Costume Designer: Kelly Wolf

LX & Video Designer: Monty Martin

Sound Designer: Chris Thornborrow

Stage Manager: Tamara Vuckovic

Assistant Stage Manager: Anna Spencer

Production Managers: Shawn Henry & Eric Read

This presentation is approximately 90 minutes long with no intermission.

Content Note: Contains explicit language and discussion of sexual violence.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Tapestry Opera recognizes that this land we now call Toronto has been the site of human activity for over 15,000 years; we are within the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Wendat. Toronto is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. It is the responsibility of all people to share in wise stewardship and peaceful care of the land and its resources. We are mindful of a history of broken treaties, and of the urgent need to work continuously towards reconciliation, and we are grateful for the opportunity to live and work on this land.

FROM THE CREATORS

How long does it take to create a new opera? In our case, five-and-a-half years! What began as a seven-minute piece about teenagers and cyberbullying that we started working on when we met at Tapestry's LibLab back in 2013, has, several discarded drafts later, evolved into Hook Up, a full-length opera about young people navigating their first semester of university. The setting of our opera may be a college campus, but we believe that rape culture and consent are incredibly pervasive issues throughout society, as evidenced by the groundswell of the #MeToo Movement, and the rigorous conversations taking place around the globe thanks to the strength of women like Christine Blasey Ford. We are especially grateful to Michael Mori and Jaime Martino at Tapestry Opera for sticking with us all these years; for supporting us in our desire to tell a story that puts complicated and complex young women at its centre, and for joining us in pushing the boundaries of traditional operatic forms in an effort to tell a story of our time. Sexual assault remains a brutal reality of modern campus life; we hope that our opera is the beginning of yet another vital conversation that we need to be having in our homes, schools, communities, and in society at large.

~ **Chris Thornborrow (Composer) & Julie Tepperman (Librettist)**

P.S. We are grateful to have the support of **Canvas Arts Action Programs**, who will be facilitating a series of **post-show conversations** for anyone who would like to stay (or come back and join us) after the following performances: **January 31, February 2, 5, 7** (starting at 9pm) and **February 3 & 9** (starting at 3:30pm).

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TAPESTRY SPECIAL THANKS

TAPESTRY AND THE CREATORS EXTEND THEIR UTMOST GRATITUDE TO... Andy McKim, Régine Cadet, Jenn Sartor, Chantel Martin, Eric Read and everyone at Theatre Passe Muraille. LibLab/Opera Briefs 2013: Michael Albano, Carla Huhtanen, Peter McGillivray, Krisztina Szabo, Keith Klassen, Greg Oh, Nicolas Billon, Morris Panych, David Yee, Cecilia Livingston, Jocelyn Morlock, Patrick Arteaga, Joanna Barrotta, Denyse Karn. The OAC Creators' Reserve Recommenders: Volcano Theatre (Ross Manson), Nightwood Theatre (Kelly Thornton), Theatre Direct (Lynda Hill), and Young People's Theatre (Stephen Colella & Karen Gilodo). Lois Adamson; Esther Arbeid & Bella; Marjorie Chan; Anna Chatterton; Mitchell Cushman; Jessica Dargo Caplan and Sarah; Colin Doyle; Tammy Fox; Tanya Greve & Amelia; Chris Hanratty; Sarah Henstra; Shira Leuchter; Jordi Mand; Mitchell Marcus; Robert McQueen; Sue Miner & Lily; Hannah Moscovitch; Jeff Newberry; Christopher Oldfield; Philip Pace; Katie Pounder; Brian Quirt; Ali Joy Richardson; Lorenzo Savoini; Laurence Siegel; Neil Silcox; Michael Wheeler; Kevin Wong; Peter Wylde; the third year George Brown Theatre School class. Workshop Participants and Hosts: Amy Lee, John Cleland, Andy Trithardt, Larissa Koniuk, Geoffrey Sirett, Stephanie Tritchew, Maika'i Nash, The Stratford Springworks Festival, Jesse Clark, Keith O'Brien, Erin Bardua, Maureen Batt, Essential Opera, Jordan de Souza, Meher Pavri, Asitha Tennekoon, Giovanni Spanu, Jane Honek, Derek Kwan, Amye Sagar, Amy Gottung, Blanche Israel, Michael Shannon, Jahlen Barnes, Sara Farb, Jeremy Carver, Lyndsay Promane, Neema Bickersteth, Natasha Ramondino, Anais Kelsey-Verdechhia, Hailey Gillis, Sabryn Rock, Jonathan Tan, Marketa Ornova, and Kate Porter. Canvas Arts Action Program, EmojiOne for providing free emoji icons, Don Kendal, Kate Porter, Yamaha Canada & Roger Yang. We are incredibly grateful to the current Hook Up creative team for all of their contributions: Alicia Ault, Emily Lukasik, Nathan Carroll, Jeff Lillico, Alexis Gordon, Kelly Wolf, Montgomery Martin, Jennifer Tung, Andrea Grant, Greg Harrison, Tamara Vuckovic, Shawn Henry, as well as Ayla Lefkowitz and Miriam Slick at Canvas Arts Action Programs. Finally, we are 4EVR indebted to our fearless leader Richard Greenblatt...for, like, everything.

CREATORS' SPECIAL THANKS!

CHRIS & JULIE EXTEND THEIR UTMOST GRATITUDE TO... absolutely everyone who has supported *Hook Up's* development over the last five-and-a-half years, especially: Michael Mori, Jaime Martino, Michelle Baynton, Linda Rogers, Jessica Derventzis, DeeAnn Sagar, Don Kendal, The Tapestry Board and everyone at Tapestry Opera.

Our Friends and Families: Rebecca, Derrick, Courtney, and Nick Thornborrow; Anna Weichert; Tim Crouch, Elisha Denburg, Monica Pearce, and Adam Scime; Risa, Perry, and Amy Tepperman; Aaron Willis and Cassandra.

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Peter McGillivray, Asitha Tennekoon and Keith Klassen in *Rocking Horse Winner*; Krisztina Szabó in *Tapestry Briefs*. Photos by Dahlia Katz.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Hook Up follows best friends Cindy and Mindy, and Mindy's high school boyfriend Tyler, through their first semester living on campus at Lanark University, a fictional small-town Canadian University.

The time is the present.



Hook Up Artwork by Patrick Hunter. <http://www.patrickhunter.ca/>



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Andrew Ritchie, playwright "Assist Ed"

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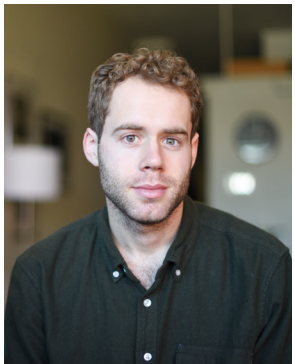
Emily Lukasik - Mindy

Select theatre credits: Chava in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Persephone Theatre); Belle in *A Christmas Carol*, Nightingale in *Wilde Tales*, Saint Joan, The Shaw Festival; Jo March in *Little Women*, Theatre New Brunswick; Réza in *Once*, Mirvish Productions (Dora Award for Outstanding Ensemble); *Love's Labour's Lost*, Dauntless City Theatre; world premieres of *St Anne's Reel*, *Kitchen Radio*, Blyth Festival; Nora in *A Doll's House*, Theatre Sheridan. Upcoming: world premiere of *The Team* (Theatre Aquarius/ECT), *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *Victory* (Shaw Festival). Online: emilylukasik.com



Alicia Ault - Cindy

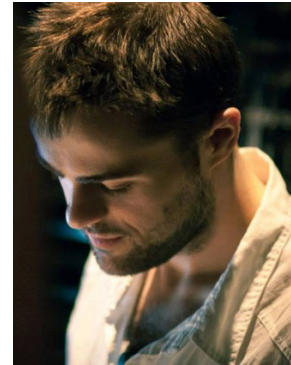
Toronto-born Alicia Ault is an actor and singer with a passion for opera, musical theatre, and jazz music. Alicia is excited to be debuting with Tapestry Opera as Cindy in *Hook Up*. Theatre highlights include performing the roles of Amalia Balish (*She Loves Me*), Emmie (*Albert Herring*), Maria (*Sound of Music*), Eponine (*Les Miserable*), and Joanne (*RENT!*). Recent concert highlights include soloist in *Mass In Blue* by Will Todd and in *Missa Gaia* by Paul Winter with the Achill Choral Society; soloist in *Hear My Prayer* by Felix Mendelssohn with Eastman Repertory Singers; and chorus of *Merry Mount* with Eastman Chorale at Carnegie Hall.



Nathan Carroll - Tyler

Nathan has performed on stages across Canada, from Vancouver to Charlottetown. His credits include: Vimy (Western Canada Theatre), Buddy in *The Buddy Holly Story* (1000 Islands Playhouse/WCT), *Once* (Grand/MTC), *Marathon of Hope*, *Honk!* (Drayton), *The Wizard of Oz* (YPT), *Chasse Galerie* (Storefront), *The Drawer Boy* (Port Stanley), *Once* (Mirvish), *Two Gentlemen of Verona/The Tempest* (St. Lawrence Shakespeare), *Floyd Collins* (TiFT/Patrick St.), *Salt-Water Moon* (Common Roof), *The Sound of Music* (Citadel), and *The Book of Esther/Bordertown Café* (Blyth). Nathan music directed *Peter Pan*

(Soulpepper/Bad Hats) and has directed *In On It* (EmerGENce) and *Little One* (Common Roof). He has been a member of 3 Dora award winning ensembles (*Once*, *Chasse Galerie*, *The Wizard of Oz*) and is a graduate of George Brown Theatre School. Upcoming: *Next to Normal* (Musical Stage Co./Mirvish).



Monty Martin - LX & Video Designer

Monty's recent video design work includes *Moro and Jasp in Stupefaction* (Kabin and U.N.I.T Productions), *A Wake for Lost Time* (Elephants Collective), *Riverboat Coffee House: The Yorkville Scene* and *A Moveable Feast: Paris in the 1920s* concerts (Soulpepper), and *Out the Window* (Luminato). He is a PhD candidate and instructor at the Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies at the University of Toronto, and a technician and writer for TroikaTronix, creators of the Isadora software.



Tamara Vuckovic - Stage Manager

Tamara is a Toronto based Stage Manager for both Opera and Theatre. She has been the Resident Stage Manager of the indie performance company ARC since 2014 and of the opera performance company Off Centre Music Salon since 2010. Selected Stage Management credits include: *Open Chambers* (Opera 5); *Portia's Julius Caesar* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Shakespeare in the Ruff); *The Glass Menagerie* (Grand Theatre); *La Bohème* and *A Little Too Cozy* (Against the Grain); *Dissidents*, *Pomona* and *Moment* (ARC); *Dead Man Walking* (Vancouver Opera); *Birds of a Feather* and *Outside* (Roseneath Theatre); *Title and Deed* (Tarragon Theatre); *Extremophiles* and *Little Death* (The Theatre Centre); *Far Away* and *The Trial of Judith K* (Theatre Passe Muraille); *Hairspray* (LOT).



Anna Spencer- Apprentice Stage Manager

Anna is thrilled to be joining the Tapestry team on this fantastic project. Born and raised in Cape Breton, NS; Anna's past shows include: *A Christmas Carol* (Soulpepper) *Prom Queen* (The Grand Theatre); *The 39 Steps* (Capitol Theatre); *The Barber of Seville* (Opera5), *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Kingfisher Days*, *Stage Kiss* (Festival Antigonish) Oksana G. (Tapestry Opera); *A Christmas Carol* (Highland Arts Theatre). Anna is a graduate of the Theatre Production Program at Ryerson University.



Julie Tepperman - Librettist

Julie Tepperman is a Dora-nominated playwright, actor, and educator, as well as co-artistic director (with Aaron Willis) of Convergence Theatre, thrice listed by NOW Magazine as the “Best Site-Specific Theatre Company in Toronto”. This is Julie’s second libretto with Tapestry Opera, having created *Bandits in the Valley* with composer Benton Roark in 2017. She is thrilled to be back at Theatre Passe Muraille, the home of her twice sold-out production *YICHUD (Seclusion)*, and where she was a Playwright-In-Residence from 2010-11. Julie has acted at theatres across the city, as well as two

seasons at The Stratford Festival, where she was recently part of their Playwrights Retreat. Selected playwriting: *Rosy* (as part of AutoShow), *I Grow Old* (as part of The Gladstone Variations – Dora nom), *The Father and The Stronger* (both adapted from Strindberg), *What Doesn’t Kill You...* (as part of The Unending). Julie is co-creator of the epic immersive “choose-your-own-adventure” *Brantwood*, and continues to work on her new musical *Polly Peel* (with composer Kevin Wong) commissioned by The Musical Stage Company. She is a regular guest teacher at George Brown & Humber Colleges, and teaches playwrighting at ACT II Studio (Ryerson) and UofT. Julie is a proud recipient of a 2016 Harold Award for her work in Indie Theatre, and is even prouder of her latest “co-production”, 15-month-old Cassandra Tepperman.



Kelly Wolf - Set & Costume Designer

For the Tapestry: *Sanctuary Song*
Theatre Credits (Selected): *A Christmas Carol* - costumes (Grand) *Judith*, *Berlin Blues* (Blyth); *Waiting Room* (Tarragon); *Pantalone’s Palace*, *Antigone*, *Radium Girls* (Brock); *Too True to Be Good* (Shaw); Site specific - Frost Bites Festival in Hamilton; *One Small Drop*, *In Sight*, *HERE* (Open Heart); *The Wars*, *A Christmas Carol* (Theatre Calgary); *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Stratford). Other: Instructor at Brock University and has taught and mentored students at Sheridan, Humber, McMaster and Ryerson. York

University (BFA), University of Toronto (MA), Central Saint Martin’s College of Art and Design. Member of ADC. www.kellywolf.ca



Alexis Gordon - Steph/Mom/Heather

Alexis hails from London, Ontario. Selected theatre credits include four seasons at The Stratford Festival: Virgilia in *Coriolanus*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Tempest*, Sarah Brown in *Guys & Dolls*, Anne in *A Little Night Music*, Julie in *Carousel*, Clara in *Passion*, *The Sound of Music*, Belle in *A Christmas Carol* (Grand Theatre), *Sunday in the Park With George* (TIFT), *The Gravitational Pull of Bernice Trimble* (Factory/Obsidian); *Obeah Opera* (Nightwood); *Starbright Christmas*, *Canada Sings*, *Godspell* (Petrolia Playhouse); Titania in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Driftwood). Awards: Banks Prize for Emerging Artists (Musical Stage Co). Education: BFA Acting, University of Windsor. Upcoming: Fiona in *Brigadoon* at The Shaw Festival.



Jeff Lillico - Dad/Dude/Duke

For Stage: *Soulpepper* (30 productions, including *Of Human Bondage & Spoon River* at The Signature Theatre on 42nd St in NYC), Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Shaw Festival (five seasons), Stratford Festival, Canadian Stage, Mirvish, Factory Theatre, Buddies in Bad Times, Tarragon Theatre, Studio180, Musical Stage Company, Theatre Panik, Theatre20, National Arts Centre, Theatre Calgary, Alberta Theatre Projects, GEVA Theater & Charlottetown Festival. Jeff received a Dora award for his work in *The Light in The Piazza*, and four Dora nominations for *Tom at the Farm*, *Grey Gardens*, *Our Town & The*

Glass Menagerie. For Screen: *On the Basis of Sex*, *Designated Survivor*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (2016), *Copper*, *Flashpoint*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Separation*, & *The Ticket*.



Greg Harrison - Percussionist

Toronto-based percussionist and Dora-nominated composer Greg Harrison is emerging into one of Canada’s finest talents in modern music. His eclectic resume includes performing with Jeremy Dutcher, Cirque Du Soleil, Video Games Live, R. Murray Schafer, and Fred Penner. He has quickly developed a reputation as a composer under the moniker grej, which has led to commissions from Human Body Expression, Toronto Dance Theatre, Fifth Wind Quintet, CCDT, Form CDT, Dr. Morris Palter (University of Arizona), and Division 85 Films. Greg’s compositions have been described as “sensitive, sophisticated and powerful” which navigates between

the worlds of classical and electronic. More info visit: www.gregpercussion.com

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Jennifer Tung - Music Director/Pianist

Currently the vocal department coordinator and vocal coach at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Jennifer is a versatile artist. As a singer and pianist, she has sung with orchestras, given recitals and master classes and has served on faculty in summer programs across North America, Europe and Asia. An advocate of contemporary music, Jennifer has worked closely with Jake Heggie, John Musto, Libby Larsen amongst others. Jennifer took on the role of assistant conductor with the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra since 2016. In the summer of 2017, she

debuted as Music Director/Conductor with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival for their production of *The Mikado* and has returned this summer to conduct their production of *Sweeney Todd*. Recently Jennifer was appointed to the position of Artistic Director with Toronto City Opera where she conducted their productions of *Fidelio* and *Magic Flute* this past season.



Andrea Grant - Second Pianist

Andrea Grant is the Head of Music Staff for Wexford Festival Opera, principal coach of University of Toronto Opera, and a member of the music staff of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis and the Canadian Opera Company. She has also worked with Opera Omaha, Calgary Opera, Opera Atelier, Tapestry Opera, The Banff Centre, Soundstreams, Queen of Puddings Music Theatre, Mirvish Productions, Highlands Opera Studio, and Opera Academy in Busseto, Italy. She is active as a freelance collaborative pianist and vocal coach, and enjoys a variety of experiences encompassing recital, opera and musical theatre. Andrea received her BMus

(Hons) in Piano Performance from Wilfrid Laurier University, a Master of Music degree in Collaborative Piano from the University of Western Ontario, and a Diploma in Operatic Performance from the University of Toronto.



Richard Greenblatt - Director & Dramaturg

Richard Greenblatt is an actor, director, writer, and musician who has been a professional theatre artist for the last 45 years. He was born in Montréal and received his acting training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in England. He has performed in theatres across Canada and abroad, as well as in feature films, television and radio.

He has directed well over 130 productions for theatres across the country, the vast majority being original and/or Canadian works, including many groundbreaking and award-winning plays for young audiences. Recently he directed *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at George Brown College.

He co-wrote and performed in *2 Pianos 4 Hands* with Ted Dykstra, as well as numerous other successful plays, including *Athabasca*, recently at the Next Stage Festival. He has taught acting, directing and play creation at almost all of the major theatre training institutions in Canada.



Chris Thornborrow - Composer & Sound Designer

Based in Toronto, Chris Thornborrow is a composer of chamber music, orchestral works, film-score, and opera. His music has been described as "complex and clear, with subtle playfulness" (Ludwig-Van Toronto), and "a rumblingly evocative pleasure" (IndieWire). He received multiple SOCAN awards for audio/visual composers, the Toronto Emerging Composer Award honourable mention, and the Karen Kieser Prize in Canadian Music. He is the CoFounder of the Toy Piano Composers, and has been commissioned by numerous organizations including Esprit Orchestra, The Bicycle Opera Project, and ArrayEnsemble. A leading arts educator, he directs a number of pro-

grams for children with the Canadian Opera Company, and facilitates numerous composition workshops with the Toronto District School Board.

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