

The role of Dramaturg

I took on this role because of my tenuous relationship to my
Indigeneity.

“What tribe are you a part of?”

I honestly don't fucking know.

I don't know if I'll ever know.

I could do a 23&me test

I'm born to runaways,

I've been taking this note so seriously,

Because the playwright ~~will~~ may read it.

Hey, Yvette,

We don't make the colonizers cute in this show, we don't soften
the corners, we aren't on flies.

I'm going to do a really funny quack at one point!

Please be impressed, Yvette Nolan.

I don't read dramaturgical statements in programs.

This vision of the dramaturg as some enlightened being,

Fuck that.

I think the art is good and the art can stand on its own

And that you are smart.

And the playwright is smart.

I'm not saying that because they are reading this

Maybe I am.

The only tool I can give you

Because the playwright gives so many

Is to think of the birds of your hometown

Think of your blood

How fucked up blood quantum is

Think about violence

Think about finding humour in the violence

Think about the colour blue

A painful blue

Wave to one of the birds

Think about how this play was written for university students
(read: mostly settler/colonizer student body) to take baby steps
towards reconciliation and how very few in this room are doing
enough, that this might be someone's only step.

I go to less protests than I should, I donate less than I should.

But that's ok,

Because I'm in this show!

All of my problems are solved.

You are a good person for watching this show.

Signed **Jackson Thompson**, Dramaturg

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Meghan Moe Beitiks, *Assistant Professor*

Raymond Marius Boucher, *Senior Lecturer*

Ana Cappelluto, *Professor*

Jessica Carmichael, *Associate Professor*

Shana Carroll, *Artist-in-Residence*

Noah Drew, *Associate Professor; Department Chair*

Lesley Ewen, *Artist-in-Residence*

Peter Farbridge, *Artist-in-Residence*

Gene Gibbons, *Associate Professor*

Shauna Janssen, *Associate Professor*

Menka Nagrani, *Artist-in-Residence*

Ursula Neuerburg-Denzer, *Associate Professor*

Robert Reid, *Associate Professor*

Luis C. Sotelo Castro, *Associate Professor*

Warona Setshwaelo, *Artist-in-Residence*

Mark Sussman, *Professor*

Emma Tibaldo, *Artist-in-Residence*

ADJUNCT PROFESSORS

Floyd Patrick Favel

PART-TIME FACULTY 2022/23

Leslie Baker, John Battye, Suzanne Cerreta, Elisabeth Couture, Joe

De Paul, Jean-François Gagnon, Amy Keith, Mark Krupa, Jonathan

Monro, Lenka Novakova, Brian Mitchell Peters, Cathia Pagotto,

Gabriela Petrov, Rose Plotek, Catherine Quirk, Anne Sabourin,

Warona Setshwaelo, Harry Standjofski, Liz Valdez.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Maud David Lerebours, *Department Administrator*

Katherine Scribner, *Department Assistant*

Karl Lebel Viens, *Department Assistant*

Samantha Treglia, *Receptionist & Office Assistant*

Visual Poster Design for Season 2023-24

by Rim Fekhar

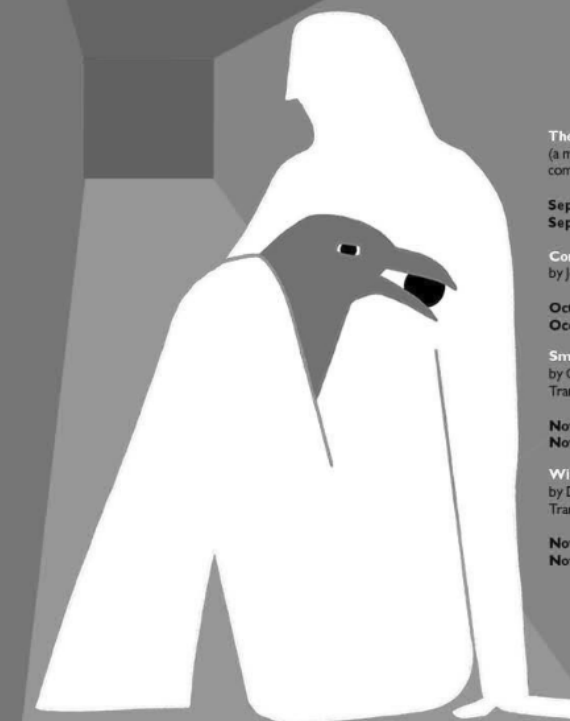
supervision by Raymond Marius Boucher

The Department of Theatre presents

STAGED READINGS

OF CANADIAN
CONTEMPORARY PLAYS

Directed by Emma Tibaldo



The Birds
(a modern adaptation of Aristophanes'
comedy) by Yvette Nolan

September 28th, 2023 at 7:30pm
September 30th, 2023 at 3pm

Concord Floral
by Jordan Tannahill

October 21st, 2023 at 3pm
October 24th, 2023 at 7:30pm

Small Talk
by Carole Fréchette
Translated by John Murrell

November 7th, 2023 at 7:30pm
November 9th, 2023 at 7:30pm

Wildfire
by David Paquet
Translated by Leanna Brodie

November 28th, 2023 at 7:30pm
November 30th, 2023 at 7:30pm



MAKING THINGS
HAPPEN
THAT MATTER.

CONCORDIA
FINE ARTS



September 28, 2023 7:30pm
September 30, 2023 3pm

John Molson Building
1450 Guy St, Montreal MB 7.270

concordia.ca/theatre

The Birds

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright- Yvette Nolan
Director- Emma Tibaldo
Stage Manager- Oliver Gullikson
Dramaturg- Jackson Thompson
Designer, Set, Costumes- Zoë Heffring
Designer, Lights- Zoë Heffring
Designer, Sound- Natalie Harrison, Madeline Savoie, Eric Von Arx, Julien DaSilva and the Chorus of Birds
Technical Director- Elisabeth Nyveen
Production Assistant- Angela Millette, Ines Mentec
Board Operator- Bella Jenkin

CAST

In order of appearance

Sarah Rodricks- Narrator/Conductor
Esmé Steadman Gantous- Crow, Agent, Lawyer
Noah Kaulbach- Hawk, Surveyor
Julien DaSilva- Jack, Peacock
Anika Paterson- Playwright Footnotes
Eric Van Arx- Gulliver, Loon
Violette Perron- Sandpiper
Milo Chauveau- Hoopoe/Tereus
Natalie Harrison- Nightingale/Procne
Schuyler Garfield- Raven
Madeline Savoie- Priest/Poet, Goose
Joseph d'espinoze de Lacailliere- Surveyor, Swallow
Gill Hurd- Eagle

Chorus of Birds:

Oliver Gullikson- Goose
Zoë Heffring- Chickadee
Anika Paterson- Duck
Sarah Rodricks- Owl
Jackson Thompson- Duck

How to Design for a Reading

Designing for a reading is an interesting challenge. How can you convey this play's all-encompassing atmosphere and full imagery in a small studio where you can only use what you have? The answer: get an incredible cast of actors, a keen dramaturg, an industrious stage manager, an all-knowing technician, and a brilliant, compassionate director to stand at its helm (who will thoroughly dislike that I said that). Everyone in the room worked so hard to serve the project, and that teamwork, energy and imagination is what defined its edges. I might have placed the tables, blocks and wedges, but it's the people in the room who made them mountains.

My only goal was to give what I could to deepen that collective imagination. The lights create the parameters of the world: the painful blue, the colorful stories, the playwright sitting in the audience. I made these newspaper costumes and runners to match so we could understand how the bodies of these birds are rooted in the space, whose home it is, and whose home it is not.

I hope it has all come together such that, like our lovely flying friends, your imagination is able to soar about the room and find itself perched in places it hadn't quite expected.

Zoë Heffring, Set, Costume, and Lighting Designer

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to Yvette Nolan for sharing her work and time with us. It has been a real privilege. A shout out to A Tribe Called Red, and their song *Electric Pow Wow Drum*. The Nightingale song is inspired by the lullaby *All the Pretty Little Horses*.

PRODUCTION

STAFF

Jen Strahl, *Supervisor; Performance Production and Venues Faculty of Fine Arts*
Peter Cerone, *Technical Coordinator; Multimedia*
Jon Cleveland, *Technical Coordinator; Lighting*
Tristynn Duheme, *Stage Supervisor; Concordia Theatre*
John Davis, *Stage Supervisor; Loyola Campus Performance Venues*
HeatherEllen Strain, *Performance Production Assistant; Front of House & Box Office Coordinator*

COSTUME SHOP

Laura Acosta, *Head of Costume Shop*

SCENE SHOP

Marlène Lucas, *Head of Scene Shop*

PROPERTIES SHOP

Dominique Coughlin, *Head of Properties Shop*

COMING UP NEXT:



November 8-10, 2023