

Production Dramaturg Note:

This play makes me uncomfortable. It makes me squirm in my seat. It makes me want to run away. But I also love this play. Why?

Is there artistic merit in discomfort? I think so. Because if you sit through the discomfort that lies within this play, you get everything else. You get three sisters trying their best to not pass on their trauma to the next generation. Two people falling in love, not knowing the cursed blood they share. And a woman having a moment of pure bliss, despite the horrific circumstances all around her. This play is about intergenerational trauma. Of a family so screwed up, you can't tell where it begins and where it ends. This play is about everyday people. People whose lives are beset by troubles of the ancient Greek variety. This play is about nothing. A play that allows you to sit with the discomfort, with the characters, with us and just watch. To just enjoy. Even if what you are enjoying is uncomfortable.

But, before you can enjoy this play, I would like to leave you with a question. A question that David Paquet, the author of *Wildfire*, was asking himself as he wrote the piece. How can you live a dignified life when your blood is poison?

Enjoy, **Noah Kaulbach**

Designers Note:

We wanted it to feel suffocating. The lights push the action inwards. It is a world that is collapsing in on itself over and over again. It's a growing wildfire constantly aflame in their lives. We wanted to bring this flame to life in this world with a crackling fire and a dark yet poetic song about love. Our characters are exposed, vulnerable to the unpredictability of their own lives, desperate for equilibrium. Locked in their own boxes with a toy tethering them to their destined past. But still so grotesquely and beautifully connected. Yarn on the curtains being the fire that is always behind them ruling their lives. We wanted to bring this suffocation to the stage and for you to see and experience it.

Julien DaSilva (Lights and Sound) and **Zoë Heffring** (Set, Costume, Sound)

Music included in this presentation: Al Bowlly's *Heartaches* and Caretaker's *It's Just a Burning Memory*

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*
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

Kevin Pinvidic, Raissa Simone

PART-TIME FACULTY 2023/24

Leslie Baker, Suzanne Cerreta, Elisabeth Couture, Janet Feindel, Jean-François Gagnon, Amy Keith, Amanda Kellock, Mark Krupa, Gabriela Petrov, Rose Plotek, Koby Rogers Hall, Harry Standjofski, Alessandro Simari, Liz Valdez

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Maud David Lerebours, *Department Administrator*
Karl Lebel Viens, *Department Assistant*
Katherine Scribner, *Department Assistant*
Samantha Treglia, *Receptionist & Office Assistant*

Visual Poster Design for Season 2023-24

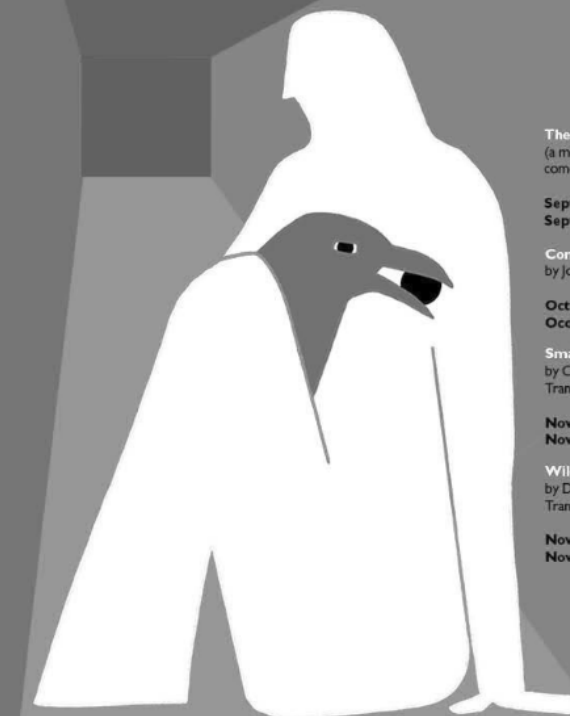
By Rim Fekhar
Supervision by Raymond Marius Boucher

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



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

John Molson Building
1450 Guy St, Montreal MB 7.270

concordia.ca/theatre

Wildfire

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright- David Paquet

Translator- Leanna Brodie

Director- Emma Tibaldo

Stage Manager- Oliver Gullikson

Production Dramaturg- Noah Kaulbach

Designer, Set, Costume, Sound- Zoë Heffring

Designer, Lights & Sound- Julien DaSilva

Technical Director- Elisabeth Nyveen

Board Operator- Bella Jenkin

Production Assistant- Ines Mentec, Angela Millette

CAST November 28th

Claudine- Violette Perron

Claudia- Jackson Thompson

Claudette- Natalie Harrison

Carol- Esmé Steadman Gantous

Collum- Joseph d'espinoze de Lacailliere

Caroline- Madeline Savoie

CAST November 30th

Claudine- Milo Chauveau

Claudette- Schuyler Garfield

Claudia- Sarah Rodricks

Carol- Anika Paterson

Collum- Eric Von Arx

Caroline- Gill Hurd

Stage Management Note:

Wildfire is a play of cycles, so it feels only fitting to end our reading series with it.

Since September, this ensemble has been in constant movement,

Going from a duck to a greenhouse to a father to a mother, Or a designer to an actor to a dramaturg to a designer again. To see this constant cycle of death and rebirth has been a wonderful privilege.

This movement has taken us away from ourselves, but at the same time we've remained the same.

Who are we but sisters calling each other in the same house?

Who are we but a mother begging our daughter for forgiveness?

Who are we but teenagers regretting what we've done in the past?

Who are we but birds who want to fly free?

And when everything is all over, what else can we do but try again and hope it goes better this time?

By **Oliver Gullikson**

Special thanks to David Paquet and Leanna Brodie for speaking to us about their artistic work. It was extremely inspiring.

Content advisory: During this play we will see characters struggle with the effects of generational trauma. There is a description of a suicide that occurred before the events of the play. Additionally, this play contains descriptions of sexual impulses, and sexually explicit language.

The play is 1h20 in length, with no intermission. Each presentation will feature a different cast.

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 30-December 3, 2023