



2019 Lawyer Show ensemble of *Mamma Mia!*  
Photo by Jeremy Mimnaugh

NIGHTWOOD THEATRE PRESENTS

# THE STARS OF MARS

Book and Lyrics by Ashley Botting  
Music and Lyrics by Daniel Abrahamson

The first-ever professional  
**AUDIO RECORDING**

Performed by the cast of the 12th annual Lawyer Show  
Launching June 2021

**NightwoodTheatre** 

Canada's flagship feminist theatre company since 1979  
Registered charitable organization No. 123709339 RR0001



2018 Lawyer Show ensemble of *The Drowsy Chaperone*.  
Photo by John Lauener.

## ABOUT THE LAWYER SHOW

The Lawyer Show is Nightwood's main annual fundraiser. Every year, supported by a team of directors, designers and vocal coaches, over 40 members of the legal community rehearse for three months to be able to stage an exhilarating, entertaining, professionally led production.

Since the Lawyer Show's inception in 2010, some 300 legal professionals have appeared in 11 shows to raise more than \$1,265,000 in support of Nightwood.

This season we are producing our first audio recording for the 2021 Lawyer Show! In June 2021, look forward to *The Stars of Mars*, a new Toronto-born musical comedy.

"It does my heart good to see our profession being showcased so well and for a good cause."

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE GLORIA J. EPSTEIN  
LAWYER SHOW CAMEO PERFORMER, 2016-2019

"For a few months each year the women at Nightwood take a group of hard-working, analytic, often stressed-out lawyers who have careers that dictate they live most waking hours in their heads, and they teach us to live in our hearts... I have left the experience with a new passion for my life in general and inspired to make other positive choices. In short, for a few months each year, Nightwood gives us a little magic."

CHRISTINE MARCHETTI, MARCHETTI LEE FAMILY LAW - LAWYER SHOW ALUMNA

# THE STARS OF MARS

Book and Lyrics by Ashley Botting (Second City Toronto)

Music and Lyrics by Daniel Abrahamson (Musical Director, *Boy Falls From The Sky*)

Being entirely responsive to COVID protocols, we look forward to hosting the 2021 Lawyer Show rehearsals over Zoom, facilitating safe, professional-quality recording sessions. The final recording will be launched in June 2021.

*The Stars of Mars* is a new homegrown musical comedy set inside the first human colony on Mars, about a mother and daughter who are worlds apart. When Heather, the first human born on Mars, begins to ask questions about where she's from, the astronauts and scientists decide to put on a show about the Earth they've all left behind. *The Stars of Mars* is a hilarious feminist musical about family, the future, our precious planet, and the rocket science required to put on a show in space.

This Toronto-born musical was developed for Sheridan College's Canadian Music Theatre Project – just like another musical you may have heard of, called *Come From Away!*

We are so excited that this year's Lawyer Show cast will be in on the ground floor of the development of a new Canadian musical by producing the first-ever full professional audio recording of this piece.

Your Sponsorship of the Lawyer Show audio recording of *The Stars of Mars* will go directly towards supporting local Toronto artists.



Rona Ghanbari and the 2019 Lawyer Show ensemble of *Mamma Mia!* Photo by Jeremy Mimnaugh

# ABOUT NIGHTWOOD THEATRE

As Canada's foremost feminist theatre, Nightwood provides an essential home for the creation of extraordinary theatre by women\* (it should be noted that our organizational understanding of women\* extends beyond the limitations of cis-womanhood). Founded in 1979, Nightwood Theatre has created, produced and toured award-winning plays that have garnered Dora Mavor Moore, Chalmers, Trillium and Governor General's awards. The company is helmed by Artistic Director Andrea Donaldson and Managing Director Beth Brown, whose leadership has received public acclaim for artistic excellence, the successful training and development of emerging female talent, and their on-going advocacy around gender equity.



*Good Night Desdemona  
(Good Morning Juliet)*  
by Ann-Marie MacDonald, winner of  
the Governor General's Award



*The Penelopiad*, written by Margaret  
Atwood and starring Megan Follows -  
nominated for 6 Dora Mavor Moore Awards



*School Girls; Or, The African Mean Girls  
Play*, winner of the 2019 Dora Award for  
Outstanding Production and  
Outstanding Direction

In 2020, Nightwood entered its fifth decade as the nation's leading feminist theatre company.

Nightwood has launched the careers of countless leading theatre artists in the country. As recipients of Canada's highest literary and performing arts awards, our success proves the need for theatre that propels the voices of women and celebrates the diversity of Canadian society.

Nightwood Theatre's incredible history has had a massive impact shifting the weight of what's produced, and what key artists are at the helm of projects. While we still see only 31% of plays by women, with less than 0.5% of plays by trans women, we continue to fight for parity in our industry. Our office, our rehearsal halls, including our production tables are armed with the finest artists our city has to offer. We create inclusive, intersectional spaces that seek to insert humanity into how we work, placing care at our work's centre – as with our longstanding commitment to the five-day rehearsal work-week, a trailblazing action in an industry based around a standard six-day rehearsal work-week.

We believe that feminism serves everyone – and that when we centre those most vulnerable we have a greater chance at lasting change.

# TRAINING & MENTORSHIP INITIATIVES

The success of the Lawyer Show is vital to Nightwood's mission to develop powerful, provocative feminist theatre while extending support to the artists of tomorrow.

## RISING MOON

Upcoming in January 2021: A new six-week creative writing program, offered for free to youth aged 16-19

## WRITE FROM THE HIP

Now in its 14th year and led by award-winning emcee, poet and playwright Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, our annual emerging playwrights program Write From The Hip has become a key milestone for women playwrights. In it, four to seven writers meet and write over a year, each creating a full-length play that is professionally read at the Groundswell Festival, our annual festival of new works.

## YOUNG INNOVATORS PROGRAM

The Young Innovators Program accepts a diverse group of approximately 12-15 women theatre artists aged 18-30 into this year-long program. In spending a theatre season with Nightwood, the Young Innovators attend internal and external events, participate in talks, attend workshops, as well as work as a team to produce Femocalypse, a cabaret commemorating International Women's Day which benefits a local charity of their choice.

2020-21



Patricia Cerra, Caitlin Kelly, Kemi King, Christine Lee, Sai Macikunas, Qianna MacGilchrist, Hazel Moore, Robin Luckwaldt, Kiera Publicover, River Oliveira, Natasha Ramondino, Jessica Rose and Lucy Wong.

# PAST PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

## MOUTHPIECE

Produced by Quote Unquote Collective, and presented by Nightwood Theatre as part of our 2016/17 and 2017/18 Seasons.

*Mouthpiece* follows one woman, for one day, as she tries to find her voice. Nominated for 9 Dora Mavor Moore Awards, and winner of 3.

We were honoured to be joined at the show by Jodie Foster and her wife Alexandra Hedison, who were so blown away that they then flew the artists to Los Angeles for a private presentation at the Odyssey Theatre.

*Mouthpiece* was subsequently adapted as a feature film directed by award-winning film director Patricia Rozema, and was selected as the Special Presentations Opening Night film for the 2018 Toronto International Film Festival.



## UNHOLY

A Nightwood Theatre Production  
World Premiere presented as part of our 2016/17 Season,  
then remounted by popular demand in 2017/18.

Four female panellists face off in a wild, whip-smart public debate about religion and misogyny, posing the loaded question “Should women abandon religion?” Nominated for the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding New Play.

In 2018/19, we were thrilled to partner with Zoomer Studios for a Nightwood Theatre and Vision TV co-presentation, staging the play for cameras and a live studio audience.



## EVERY DAY SHE ROSE

A Nightwood Theatre Production  
World Premiere presented as part of our 2019/20 Season  
Slated to tour in January 2022  
Co-Directed by Andrea Donaldson and Sedina Fiati

The personal becomes political in this collaboratively created new work from playwrights Andrea Scott and Nick Green. When racial and queer politics collide with the Black Lives Matter protest at the 2016 Toronto Pride Parade, two best friends discover that the things that brought them together may now drive them apart. A hilarious and heartbreaking stare-down of privilege and oppression.

One of NOW Magazine’s best Toronto stage shows to see in November 2019



# 2020/21 SEASON

Nightwood Theatre and our community are undergoing massive change due to the pandemic and the urgent issues of 2020. We have deepened our anti-oppression anti-racism (AOAR) aims, investing in consultation, and implementing a four-year AOAR work plan that is meaningful, transformative, and sustainable. As a feminist theatre company, we are acutely aware of the multitude of challenges that women are facing today as a result of COVID, especially those residing at the intersections of multiple marginalized identities.

We are proud of how we have adapted to continue to serve our many communities. Though we are unable to gather around live productions, we have enhanced our community and artist development offerings, and increased pay for the many mentorships and contract employment opportunities we provide. Thanks to the longstanding generosity of our supporters, we are honoured to be able to present the majority of our offerings this season free of charge in recognition of the financial hardship the pandemic has caused for so many.

## GROUNDSWELL FESTIVAL - NOVEMBER 2020

The 2020 Groundswell Festival was Nightwood's first-ever digital festival, offering an invitation inside the creative process with readings of brand new works from Nightwood's Write From The Hip playwright's unit, led by Program Director Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, as well as opportunities to gather for provocative conversations and workshops on anti-oppression, Deaf-hearing cultural collaboration, and more.

## EMBODYING POWER AND PLACE - MARCH 2021

In 2019, the federal commission on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls released their final report, Reclaiming Power and Place. In 2020 a dozen artists were commissioned by New Harlem Productions to read and respond to specific chapters of the report through their artistic medium. *Embodying Power and Place* weaves together visceral digital offerings of song, poetry, dance and theatrical works by such incredible creators as Tiffany Ayalik, Renelitta Arluk, Tara Beagan, Yolanda Bonnell, Darla Contois, Deborah Courchene, Aria Evans, Eekwol, Jessica Lea Fleming, Falen Johnson, Émilie Monnet, Yvette Nolan, Michelle Olson, Natalie Sappier and jaye simpson curated by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard and New Harlem Productions.

## LOST TOGETHER - SPRING 2021

In this micro-performance, audience members enter one at a time to share a story about something they've lost. Once shared, Michaela and Shira build and present a small object that encapsulates their guest's story, which is added to an ever-evolving exhibition, reminding us that loss doesn't have to be a solitary reckoning. This piece will be presented in four locations, starting south in the Distillery District, moving to the west side of Toronto, to the east in Scarborough and then up into Northern Ontario at the Nippising First Nation's Big Medicine Studio. An online version will also be made available to enable flexibility during these uncertain times.

# LAWYER SHOW SPONSORSHIP

Nightwood Theatre's Lawyer Show is among the most successful in Canada. As always, as a Sponsor, you will continue to receive direct access to a large cross-section of the legal community, as well as the opportunity to **demonstrate your support of our nation's foremost women-driven arts organization** at a particularly challenging time for the theatre industry.

The Lawyer Show has remained a beloved tradition for over a decade. Cast members benefit from invaluable networking opportunities, all while putting on a truly spectacular show. The people in this community are passionate, dedicated, and incredibly talented. We invite you to join our circle!

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## SINCERE THANKS TO THE 2021 SPONSORS WHO HAVE JOINED US SO FAR:



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### 2020 SPONSORS



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### 2019 SPONSORS



FASKEN



Brent Vickar



# 2021 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

From the Lawyer Show's usual sold-out, three-night performances to 2,000 audience members at Toronto's prestigious St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, we are so excited to capitalize on the possibilities of **hugely expanding our reach this year**, unlimited by time and location!

As always, we would be pleased to tailor a Sponsorship Package that suits your needs and budget.

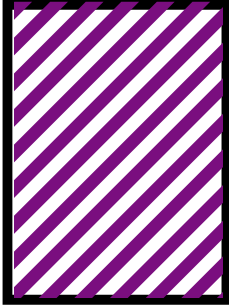
	Lead Sponsor <b>\$10,000</b>	Appeal Sponsor <b>\$5,000</b>	Superior Sponsor <b>\$3,500</b>	Justice Sponsor <b>\$2,000</b>
<b>WEBSITE</b> We have invested in a comprehensive upgrade of Nightwood's website, and recently launched its stunning new design.				
Hotlink on the Lawyer Show Sponsors webpage throughout the 2020/21 Season	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hotlink on our Supporters webpage throughout the 2020/21 Season	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>NEWSLETTER</b> Reach: 7,000. Since implementing the Social Distancing Care Packages, we have seen a marked increase in reach and readership.				
Firm profile in Nightwood's e-newsletter	✓	✓		
Logo and link in Nightwood's bimonthly e-newsletter	✓	✓	✓	
<b>MARKETING MATERIALS</b> Your firm will benefit from increased online visibility as digital promotion of the Lawyer Show proves more important than ever.				
Top billing recognition in all Lawyer Show marketing materials	✓			
Ad in the 2021 Lawyer Show e-book	Full page	1/2 page	1/2 page	1/4 page
Title and logo recognition in the 2021 Lawyer Show e-book	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo recognition in Lawyer Show press release	✓	✓		
Ad in the digital program for <i>Lost Together</i>	1/2 page	1/2 page	1/4 page	
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b> Nightwood boasts a robust online following and a social media-savvy staff.				
Firm profile across all social media platforms	✓	✓		
Acknowledgement Facebook post with link to website (4,000 Followers)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgement Twitter post with link to website (8,500 Followers)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgement Instagram post (4,000 Followers)	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>ENTERTAINMENT AND NETWORKING</b> Opportunities to connect and gather online.				
Complimentary access to <i>The Stars of Mars</i> audio recording	✓	✓	✓	✓
VIP Pre-Listening Party cocktail with <i>The Stars of Mars</i> directing team	✓			
Complimentary tickets to Nightwood's upcoming production of <i>Lost Together</i>	2 tickets			

**SPONSORSHIP DEADLINE: Friday, May 7, 2021**

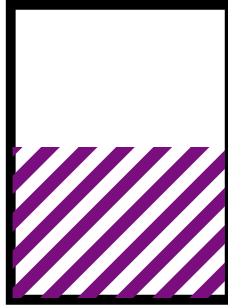
# 2021 AD RATES

Nightwood will be engaging professional artists and designers to produce a stunning visual accompaniment to the audio recording of *The Stars of Mars*, including behind-the-scenes Lawyer Show history, artistic renderings of scene and costume designs, and more.

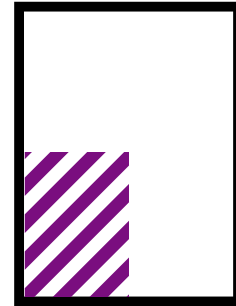
Advertise in the first-ever **full colour** Lawyer Show e-program, and expand your reach! The digital e-book will be made available free of cost to the community, offering your organization additional visibility online.



Full Page  
\$900



1/2 Page  
\$750



1/4 Page  
\$600

**AD DEADLINE: Friday, May 7, 2021**

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## MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

We gratefully accept contributions at any level in support of the Lawyer Show.  
Our donors benefit from:

- A charitable tax receipt for the full value of your donation
    - Recognition in the 2021 Lawyer Show e-book
  - Increased visibility amongst your peers in the legal community
  - Relationship-building opportunities with colleagues and clients
- 

## CONTACT

For more information on how to support the 2021 Lawyer Show, please contact:

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