

An abstract graphic featuring thick, expressive brushstrokes in yellow and red against a solid black background. The strokes form a complex, layered composition. A prominent yellow line starts from the top left, loops, and then descends. A red line forms a large, irregular, somewhat rectangular shape in the center, with internal strokes that suggest depth and movement. Other smaller strokes in both colors are scattered around the main forms.

TARRAGON  
THEATRE

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# Orestes

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Feb 3 – Feb 14,  
2021

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# Orestes

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Written by  
**Rick Roberts**

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## CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM

**Richard Rose**  
Director

**Shannon Lea Doyle**  
Set and Costume Designer

**Kimberly Purtell**  
Lighting Designer

**Thomas Ryder Payne**  
Sound Designer

**Frank Donato**  
Video and Stream Designer and Operator

**toasterlab - Ian Garrett**  
Web Interface

**Joey Morin**  
Lighting Interface Designer

**Makambe K Simamba**  
Assistant Director

**Sarah Miller**  
Stage Manager

**Alysse Szatkowski**  
Apprentice Stage Manager

**Jack Considine**  
Production Assistant

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## CAST

**Cliff Cardinal**  
Orestes

**Richard Clarkin**  
Menelaus

**Bren Eastcott**  
CASMR@NDRA

**David Fox**  
Tyndareus

**Eleanor Guy**  
Hermione

**Jeff Ho**  
Pylades

**Krystin Pellerin**  
Electra

**Anthony Perpuse**  
RuDaGold/Publicist

**Lisa Ryder**  
Helen/Clytemnestra

**Gabriella Sundar Singh**  
MandLbrot

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“Chains” - words and music by Eleanor Guy, Produced and Mixed by Thomas Ryder Payne  
Orestes is staged by arrangement with Pam Winter, GGA, [www.ggagency.ca](http://www.ggagency.ca).

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Tarragon Theatre is an active member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT), the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA), and engages professional artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement.

The performance of Orestes is powered by LIVELAB.



I demand so much of my screen. Sex, news, love, conversation, shopping. I'm addicted to my phone. And through the attention I lavish on it, a new someone emerges online, at least as real as the embodied me. Me and not me. A kind of ghost that shadows me, demands things of me, even on the bus or in the grocery store. I/not I takes form in the still-forming space of online, a space of whispers and shouts, intimate and vast at the same time. A spiritual space.



In the original *Orestes*, there is a presence that stalks the shadows and emerges as Apollo at the end. Some demonic, god-like hybrid. I feel the same way about the internet. The perfect place for Greek tragedy.

The rules kept changing as we put this together. I am so grateful that I got to gather (virtually) with the talented people who made this show. Working without any sort of net. None of us knew what we were saying "yes" to. When COVID took our spaces away, we made a space in here.

Rick Roberts - Jan 2021

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Tarragon Theatre acknowledges the land it calls home is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

We are grateful to work in this meeting place of Toronto as part of this community, on this territory.

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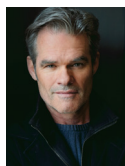
## Cliff Cardinal - Orestes

**For Tarragon:** *Debut*

**Selected Credits and Awards:** *Too Good To Be True* (Playwright, Actor, Director) *Huff* (Playwright, Actor) Buddies in Bad Times' Vanguard Award for Risk and Innovation, two Dora Mavor Moore Awards Outstanding Performance, Outstanding New Play, RBC's Emerging Playwright Award, The Lustrum Award (which recognizes the greatest moments at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival) and was shortlisted for Amnesty International's Freedom Of Expression Award. *Huff* has been published, translated into French, continues to tour and was released as a podcast by the CBC.

**Selected Film/ Television/ Music:** *Cliff Cardinal and The Skylarks'* first recording, *This Is Not a Mistake* was released in 2016 and is available online. Cliff's CBC Special, a songwriter/ storyteller performance, toured festivals in Ottawa, Calgary, St. Catharines, through Canada's North starting in Yellowknife and won the Jon Kaplan Spotlight Award for the top performance at Toronto's SummerWorks Festival. The band's new album *The Hard Way* is being released as singles.

**Other:** Cliff is an associate artist at *Video Cabaret* where he develops his new work. Born on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, he studied playwriting at the National Theatre School of Canada, fronts Toronto Pop-Reggae band *Cliff Cardinal and The Skylarks* and is the son of iconic Canadian actress Tantoo Cardinal. Cardinal lives in Toronto with his wife Sage Paul (Artistic Director of Indigenous Fashion Week Toronto), their dog, Frodo, and their cat, Tiga Louise.



## Richard Clarkin - Menelaus

**For Tarragon:** *Orestes, New World, The Faraway Nearby, Saltwater Moon.*

**Selected Credits:** *The Heart of Robin Hood, Scar in The Lion King, Biff in Death of a Salesman*(Mirvish); *Speaking In Tongues, Festen, A Whistle in the Dark* (Company Theatre); *Confederation, War of 1812, The Great War, Red River Rebellion* (VideoCab); *Half Life, The Echo Show* (Necessary Angel); multiple shows for RMTTC, PTE. Founding member of *Primus Theatre*.

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## Richard Clarkin (cont.)

**Selected Film/TV:** *Carmen, Stardust, The Drawer Boy, Goon I and II, Ordinary Days, Great Great Great, Molly Maxwell, The Anniversary, Solo, I Was Loreena Bobbitt, Nurses, Burden of Truth, Murdoch Mysteries.*

**Awards:** Canadian Screen Award for Drawer Boy, ACTRA Best Actor nominee *Drawer Boy*, Dora Ensemble Award VideoCab, Dora nominee Best Actor for *Confederation* and *Uncle Vanya*.

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## Frank Donato - Video and Stream Designer

**Past Video Design credits include:** *Daisy* (Great Canadian Theatre Company) and *The Revolutions* (SpiderWebShow Performance).

**As an Assistant or Associate Designer:** *Here are the Fragments* (The Theatre Centre), *Out the Window* (Luminato Festival/The Theatre Centre), *Le Wild West Show De Gabriel Dumont* (National Arts Centre Tour). When not working with video, Frank has also worked as an Assistant Lighting Designer at the Stratford Festival (*The Neverending Story, Little Shop of Horrors, Comedy of Errors, Paradise Lost*) and the Canadian Opera Company (*Barber of Seville, Hansel & Gretel*). Frank is a graduate of the National Theatre School's production program.

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## Shannon Lea Doyle - Set and Costume Designer

**For Tarragon:** *Girls Like That, The Jungle, Three Women of Swatow.*

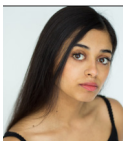
**Selected Credits:** *Getting Married* (Shaw Festival), *Maada'ookii Songlines* (Luminato), *Jesus Hopped The 'A' Train, Fool For Love, Little Menace: The Pinter Plays, La Bête, Vimy, The Just, The Heidi Chronicles, The Anger of Ernest and Ernestine, The Dybbuk, Concert Series* (Soulpepper Theatre), *Romeo and Juliet* (Canadian Stage), *Remembering The Winnipeg General* (zietpunktheatre), *This Is How We Got Here* (Native Earth), *Audible Songs From Rockwood* (SummerWorks), *The Philosopher's Wife* (Paradigm Productions), *Trout Stanley* (Factory Theatre), *Behaviour* (GCTC), *The Last Wife* (The Belfry Theatre / GCTC), *John* (Company Theatre), *Boy In The Moon, Breath In Between* (Crows Theatre), *Violet, Merrily We Roll Along, Billy Elliot, Hairspray, and Fiddler on the Roof* (YES Theatre).

## Shannon Lea Doyle (cont.)

**Awards:** Shannon received a Dora Mavor Moore Award in 2017 for Independent Set Design and was nominated again in 2020. She has received two My Entertainment Awards for her set designs and has been nominated for both the Virginia and Myrtle Cooper Costume Design Award and the Pauline McGibbon Award.

**Other:** Co founder of Triga Creative.

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## Bren Eastcott - CASMR@NDRA

**For Tarragon:** *Debut*

**Selected Film and Television:** *Ron Clark Story, How to be Indie, The Latest Buzz, Z-Squad and Degrassi - The Next Generation.*

**Selected Credits:** graduate Etobicoke School of the Arts

**Other:** Bren decided to take a hiatus from her acting profession moving to Montreal and later to Edinburgh, Scotland to pursue studies in Liberal Arts. Upon returning to Toronto Bren has been focusing her attention on writing and working on independent films and stage productions. Bren is thrilled to be a member of this innovative and brave show!

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## David Fox -Tyndareus

**Selected Tarragon:** *Orestes, Scorched, No Great Mischief, Democracy*

**Selected Other Theatre:** Actor David Fox C.M. premiered several significant collective creations at Theatre Passe Muraille, beginning with *The Farm Show*(1972). Other theatre credits include George F. Walker's *Nothing Sacred* and Angus in Michael Healey's *The Drawer Boy*, for which he received a Dora Mavor Moore Award. He played Ezra Pound in the 2001 Stratford Festival production of *The Trials of Ezra Pound* by Timothy Findley. He played Calum MacDonald in *No Great Mischief* by David S. Young in 2004 and 2012. In 2015, he played King Lear in a production by North Bay's Watershed Shakespeare Collective at Theatre Passe Muraille.

## David Fox (cont.)

**Other:** I thought I was in retirement 2 years ago, had decided I'd had my run; then, out of nowhere, Richard Rose offered me the opportunity to be part of this incredible project: Rick Roberts' *ORESTES*. I could not turn it down, especially in this Covid era-live-to-camera performance. Me, who can rarely get my cell phone to work! It is a huge and fascinating experience.

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## Ian Garrett (Toasterlab) - Web Interface

Ian Garrett is designer, producer, educator, and researcher in the field of sustainability in arts and culture. He is the director of the Centre for Sustainable Practice in the Arts; Associate Professor of Ecological Design for Performance at York University; and Producer for Toasterlab. He maintains a design practice focused on ecology, technology and scenography. Through Toasterlab's Mixed Reality Performance Atelier, recent work includes *The Stranger 2.0* with DLT Experience; *Groundworks* with Rulan Tangen and collaborating artists from Pomo, Wappo, and Ohlone communities; The locative audio project *TrailOff* with Philadelphia's *Swim Pony*; and *Transmission* (FuturePlay/Edinburgh and Future of Storytelling Festival/New York). With Chantal Bilodeau, he co-directs the biannual *Climate Change Theatre Action*, currently in its fourth cycle commissioning new plays on Climate Change topics. He serves on the Board of Directors for Associated Designers of Canada, and is co-chair for *World Stage Design 2022* in Calgary.

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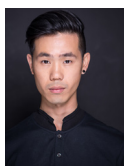


## Eleanor Guy - Hermione

**For Tarragon:** *Debut*

**Selected Credits:** *Anne of Green Gables* (Charlottetown Festival); *A Christmas Carol* (Soulpepper Theatre); *Peter Pan* (Drayton Entertainment)

**Other:** Eleanor is delighted to be performing at the Tarragon Theatre for the first time. As a Grade 10 student, balancing rehearsals and extra-curricular activities all online, Eleanor likes to walk away from her laptop on her breaks to practice piano, read, go to dance class or cook. Although she wishes it was an "in-theatre" experience, she is happy to be able to share the performance with more of her family and friends.



## Jeff Ho - Pylades

**For Tarragon:** *Debut.*

Jeff is currently a commissioned playwright with the Tarragon (*cockroach*), the 2020/2021 OAC Playwright in Residence (*rats too wish upon a star*), and was the recipient of the 2019/2020 Bulmash Siegal Award for a Young Playwright.

**Selected Credits:** *trace* (Factory Theatre, NAC); *Box 4901* (Buddies in Bad Times); *Ophelia in Prince Hamlet* (Why Not Theatre National Tour: Canadian Stage, PuSh Festival, National Arts Centre); *Hana's Suitcase* (Tour: Toronto/Montreal/Seattle/YPT); *Unknown Soldier* (IleMontree/Architect Theatre), *Murderers Confess at Christmastime* (OutsideTheMarch).

**Selected Film and Television:** *Kim's Convenience* (CBC), *The Handmaid's Tale* (Hulu), *Orphan Black* (BBC America).

**Awards:** Toronto Theatre Critics Award for Best New Canadian Play (*Iphigenia*); Four Dora Award Nominations (*Box 4901*, *Prince Hamlet*, *Hana's Suitcase*, *Iphigenia*); the Bulmash-Siegal Playwright Award (Tarragon Theatre); the Jon Kaplan Legacy Fund Award for a Young Canadian Playwright.

**Other:** Jeff is the Company Dramaturg with OutsideTheMarch. He is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada.



## Sarah Miller - Stage Manager

**For Tarragon:** *Yaga*

**Selected Credits:** *Monday Nights* (6th Man Collective/Theatre Centre); *I Send You This Cadmium Red* (Art of Time Ensemble); *6 Essential Questions*, *Bang Bang*, *The Crackwalker*, *Morro & Jasp: 9 to 5*, *Twisted* (Factory Theatre); *Of Mice and Morro and Jasp*, *Where the Wild Things Are* (Manitoba Theatre for Young People); *Freedom Singer*, *Towards Youth* (Project Humanity); *Lil' Red Robin Hood* (Ross Petty); *The Women*, *John Bull's Other Island* (Shaw Festival); *Sisters*, *Innocence Lost*, *Of Human Bondage*, *Spoon River*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hosanna*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Angels in America* (Soulpepper); *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Private Lives*, *It's a Wonderful Life* (Theatre New Brunswick), *The De Chardin Project* (Theatre Passe Muraille).



## Sarah Miller (cont.)

**Selected Film and Television:** *Child-ish* Web Series

**Other:** Sarah is a mentor and instructor of Stage Management students. She is excited to be back with the fine folks at Tarragon wishes the Orestes company a fantastic run.

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## Joey Morin - Lighting Interface Developer

**For Tarragon:** *The Message, Infinity, Carried Away On The Crest Of A Wave, This is War, Name In Vain (Decalogue Two)*

**Selected credits:** *Elle, Stupid Head, Alien Creature* (Theatre Passe Muraille); *The Monument, Morrow and Jasp 9-5, The Unplugging, Beatrice And Virgil* (Factory Theatre); *The Adventures of Pinocchio, Beauty and the Beast* (Young People's Theatre); *The Cherry Orchard* (Modern Times Stage Company in association with Crow's Theatre); *Caribou Cave* (Theatre by the Bay); *Our Town* (Theatre Rusticle); *Magic Hour* (The Theatre Centre); *ByoLogyc: Shadowfall, Visitations* (The Mission Business)

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## Krystin Pellerin - Electra

**For Tarragon:** *Debut*

**Selected Credits:** *Macbeth, Bunny, Possible Worlds* (Stratford Festival); *Long Day's Journey Into Night, You Can't Take It With You, Our Town, The Fantasticks, Travesties, Salt Water Moon, The Real Thing* (Soulpepper Theatre). *Floyd Collins* (Patrick Street/Talk is Free); *Oleanna* (Sweetline); *The Little Years* (Neptune/NAC).

**Selected Film and Television:** *Touch, Reign, The Listener, The Tudors, Republic of Doyle, Lost Girl*

**Awards:** Best Actress: UK Henley Film Festival (*Touch*); Canadian Screen Award Nomination: Best Performance by an Actress in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role (*Republic of Doyle*)

**Other:** So happy to be making her debut with Tarragon Theatre this year.



**Anthony Perpuse** - RuDaGold/Publicist

**For Tarragon:** *Theory* (Jorge)

**Selected theatre credits:** *Eraser* (Eraser Theatre); *Through The Bamboo* (Uwi collective)

**Selected Film/Television credits:** *Save me*, *Workin Moms*

**Awards:** Perry Schneiderman Comedy Award

**Other:** It's pretty rough out there but we'll make it through. Thanks for coming! Sending good vibes.

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**Kimberly Purtell** - Lighting Designer

**For Tarragon:** *Little One*, *Other People's Children*, *The Little Years*, *Was Spring*, *The Children's Republic*, *Decalogue 2: Name in Vain*, *Forests*, *After Akhmatova*, *If We Were Birds*, *Communion*, *A Beautiful View*, *The Fall*, *How It Works*.

**Selected credits:** Kimberly has designed for the Stratford Festival, Canadian Stage, Soulpepper, Studio 180, Nightwood, Crow's Theatre, Buddies in Bad Times, Factory Theatre, and YPT among others.

**Other:** Three Dora Awards. Recipient of the Pauline McGibbon Award.

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**Rick Roberts** - Playwright

**For Tarragon:** (as actor) *Enemy of the People*, *The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs*, *Moliere*, *John and Beatrice*, *Within The Glass*, *Rune Arlidge*; (as writer) *Mimi: or A Poisoner's Comedy* (written with Melody Johnson and Allen Cole); (as director) *Miss Caledonia* (Co-directed with Aaron Willis)

**Select theatre:** *Prince Hamlet* (WhyNot Theatre), *Waiting for Godot*, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, *Animal Farm*, (Soulpepper), *Zastrozzi* (Stratford Festival) As a playwright: *Fish/Wife*, *Kite*, *Gladstone Variations*. As a director: *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Soulpepper), *Person of Interest*

**Selected Film and TV:** *North of Albany*, *All My Puny Sorrows*, *Frankie Drake* (CBC), *Fortunate Son* (CBC), *This Life* (CBC)

## Rick Roberts (cont.)

*Far Cry 6* (Ubisoft, video game), *Jack* (CBC)

**Awards:** won an Actor Award and a CSA award for his portrayal of Jack Layton in the CBC movie *Jack*.

Graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada

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## Richard Rose - Director

**For Tarragon, as Director:** *The Message, Guarded Girls, Hamlet, The Bakelite Masterpiece, The Summoned, Wormwood, The Realistic Jones, Abyss, Much Ado About Nothing, The Bakelite Masterpiece, An Enemy of the People, A God in Need of Help, The Valley, This is War, No Great Mischief, The Real World?, Forests, Courageous, Another Home Invasion, Molière, Democracy, Scorched, Léo, Humble Boy, Remnants, 3 in the Back, 2 in the Head, It's All True, Prague.*

**Other:** Richard Rose is the Artistic Director of Tarragon Theatre. Prior to joining the Tarragon in 2002, Richard was Founding Artistic Director at Necessary Angel (a position he held from 1978–2002), Associate Director for Canadian Stage Company, Director of the Stratford Festival Young Company and spent ten seasons directing at the Stratford Festival.

He has directed plays across Canada, the United States, and in London's West End in styles ranging from the environmental to the classical. Richard is well known for developing new work, including four plays that won the Governor General's Award and nine other nominated plays. He is a four-time Dora award winner for direction and production and has had numerous nominations.

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## Lisa Ryder - Helen/Clytemnestra

**For Tarragon:** *Debut*

**Selected Theatre credits:** *Possible Worlds* (Theatre Centre), *Zadie's Shoes* (Factory Theatre), *Helen Lawrence* (Canadian Stage/International Tour) and *A Blow in the Face* (written, produced and co-starring Lisa at the Theatre Center last year)

**Selected TV and film credits:** *Happy Place* (Sienna Films), *Mary Kills People* (E1 Shaw), *Remedy* (Global), *The Newsroom* (CBC) and five seasons on Gene Roddenberry's *Andromeda* (SyFy, Amazon).

## Lisa Ryder (cont.)

She can currently be seen as Sci-fi, corporate baddy, Hewes, throughout the series, *Endlings* (Hulu, CBC).

**Other:** Lisa is delighted to continue her tradition of playing morally dubious women named Helen. Deep gratitude to fellow artists and crew of *Orestes* for their artistry, dedication and online camaraderie during this crazy time.

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## Thomas Ryder Payne - Sound Designer

**For Tarragon:** *This Was The World, Buffoon, Copy That, Guarded Girls, The Message, Hamlet, Marine Life, Sequence, The Realistic Joneses, The Circle, The Watershed, Wormwood, An Enemy of the People, Abyss, Sextet, Lungs, Soliciting Temptation, This Is War, The Little Years, The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs, The Golden Dragon, Forests, After Akhmatova, Hush, Rocking the Cradle, If We Were Birds, Alias Godot, Benevolence, Léo*

**Selected Credits:** Designs for Stratford, Shaw, Mirvish, Soulpepper, CanStage, Factory, Theatre Passe Muraille, YPT, Crows, Modern Times, Aluna, Buddies In Bad Times, Nightwood, Toronto Dance Theatre, NAC, Theatre Calgary, GCTC, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre and many others.

**Awards:** 4 Dora Awards, 25 nominations.

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## Makambe K Simamba - Assistant Director

**For Tarragon:** Urjo Kareda Emerging Theatre Artist

**Select Theatre credits:** *A Chitenge Story* (Handsome lice, Betty Mitchell Award Nomination for Outstanding Performance), *GIANT* (Ghost River Theatre), *Bea* (Sage Theatre), *SIA* (Pyretic Productions) and *inVISIBLE* (Handsome Alice).

**Select Film and TV credits:** *Burn Your Maps* (TIFF), *Grand Army* (Netflix), and *Young Drunk Punk* (Citytv).

**Other:** Makambe K Simamba is a Dora Award winning playwright and actor for her most recent solo work, *Our Fathers, Sons, Lovers and Little Brothers* (b current performing arts). She recently co-directed *inVISIBLE* (Too) at the University of Lethbridge.

## Makambe K Simamba (cont.)

Makambe is a national award winning playwright whose work includes *Our Fathers, Sons, Lovers and Little Brothers*, *A Chitenge Story*, *MUD* and *The Drum Major Instinct*. Makambe is a proud Zambian whose intention is to be of service through her ability to tell stories.

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## Gabriella Sundar Singh – MandLbrot

**For Tarragon:** *7 Stories* (Tarragon Acoustic), *Fugue* (Workshop)

**Selected Credits:** *Prince Caspian*, *Playboy Of The Western World*, *The Russian Play*, *Brigadoon*, *O'Flaherty V.C.*, *Secret Theatre*, *Sisterhood* (Shaw Festival); *Trident Moon* (Stratford Festival - Workshop).

**Selected Film and Television:** *Kim's Convenience*, *Designated Survivor*, *Taken*, *Frankie Drake*.

**Upcoming:** Assistant Director to Judith Thompson for Children Speak.

**Other:** Thankful to be working during these unprecedented times. Despite the distance, I will take every zoom rehearsal as another day I get to be with my theatre community and watch my peers excel.

She is a graduate of the University of Guelph, Centennial College and the National Theatre School of Canada.

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## Alysse Szatkowski – Apprentice Stage Manager

**For Tarragon:** *Copy That*

**Selected Credits:** *The Seagull* (Soulpepper), *BOOM X* (Thousand Islands Playhouse), *Copenhagen* (Soulpepper), *Shirley Valentine* (Thousand Islands Playhouse), *Two Pianos Four Hands* (Thousand Islands Playhouse), *The Mountaintop* (Theatre Kingston), *Venus and Fur* (Theatre Kingston)

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## THANK YOU TARRAGON DONORS!

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**David Young**

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## TARRAGON THEATRE STAFF

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**RICHARD ROSE**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster**  
Assistant Artistic Director

**Gerry Egan**  
Production Manager

**John Thomson**  
Technical Director

**Kathleen Johnston**  
Head of Wardrobe

**Shaw Forgeron**  
Head of Props

**Andrew Chute**  
Head Carpenter

**Lindsay Jenkins**  
Extraspace Technician

**ANDREA VAGIANOS**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

**Cameron Johnston**  
Director of Marketing & Communications

**Natasha Parsons**  
Director of Patron Services

**Danielle Bourgon**  
Manager of Education and Community  
Engagement

**Kayla Vanderlip**  
Interim Manager of Development

**Kirk Thomson**  
Manager of Patron Services

**Nicola Benidickson**  
Administrator

**Danielle Morgan**  
Publicist

**Emma Walker**  
Bookkeeper

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**Elaine Stavro** President  
**Adam Bryk** Treasurer  
**Anne Bermonte**  
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**Heather Yamoah**  
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