



Centre for Drama, Theatre & Performance Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

DIRECTORS' SHOWCASE

2025



SERIES B

NOV 22 7:30 PM

NOV 23 2:00 PM

THIS IS A PLAY

MACBETH

MEMBERS ONLY

SAVAGE/LOVE

DIRECTORS' SHOWCASE 2025

THE CDTPS PRESENTS THE 2025 DRM402 DIRECTORS' SHOWCASE, FEATURING EIGHT SHORT PLAYS STAGED OVER TWO EVENINGS AND TWO MATINEE PERFORMANCES. THIS FRINGE FESTIVAL-STYLE THEATRICAL EVENT RUNS FROM NOVEMBER 21 TO 23 AT THE PLAYHOUSE. THE DIRECTORS' SHOWCASE IS A CAPSTONE COURSE THAT GIVES STUDENT DIRECTORS THE OPPORTUNITY TO FLEX THEIR CREATIVE MUSCLES ONSTAGE.

EACH SHOW IS APPROXIMATELY 10 TO 15 MINUTES.

THERE WILL BE A TALKBACK SESSION WITH STUDENT DIRECTORS AND ACTORS FOLLOWING THE MATINEE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025.

SPECIAL THANKS

LEAH CHERNIAK

DANIEL TESSY

ARIEL MARTIN-SMITH

ADRIEN WHAN

TARA MAHER

KIT DIXON

NIAMH MOLL

MELIS VANLI

LEAH CHERNIAK NOTE

Eight student directors, twenty student actors, numerous teachers, teaching assistants, and staff have all generously made this year's CDTPS theatre-making adventure a very full, lively, human experience.

It began with each of our eight directors finding and choosing a short piece that they felt drawn to direct and bring to an audience—with a maximum time of 15 minutes. With the students invested in their choices, the pieces challenged each of them to return to the question of why they chose it, why their play might be important to make and bring to an audience. And of course, how to go about making it—and have a good time doing it.

The directors have been brave and committed, focused and necessarily nimble through all the levels of growing their short plays.

With a festival feel and a distinctly human scale of making theatre, the directors partnered with the design and production students to collaborate on finding other ways to support the worlds of their plays through sound, light, and projections.

And of course, the wonderful student actors who, in working with the directors, bring other levels of imagination, talent, usually good questions...and collaboration with the work that this sort of theatre festival environment invites.

All collaborated to support a series of directorial theatrical visions with a slim budget and a ticking clock!

I have recently felt, while watching the directors discover different levels of meaning and experience in the work, or of finding another way to create a moment onstage, that there exists always the potential to experience a kind of joy within a live collective creative endeavour. That there are many levels of life-affirming interaction, and this can especially exist within the environment of making theatre. And I am grateful for that.

I hope you enjoy the directors' offerings made here today/tonight.

THIS IS A PLAY

CREATIVE TEAM:

PLAYWRIGHT: DANIEL MACIVOR
DIRECTOR: SICHUN XIA
LIGHT DESIGNER: JADE MIRANDA
SOUND DESIGNER: YIFEI FAN

CAST:

FEMALE ACTOR: ANGIE LEI
OLDER FEMALE ACTOR: HANNAH DEVELLIS
MALE ACTOR: QILIN YU
COMPOSER: JINNY KIM



DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

Important note from the director: *We are a group of lettuce artists from the Lettuce Universe. We were inspired after hearing about the concept of the "play" on Earth. It sounds so interesting, so we created this heartwarming piece, No Strangers Among Us. We hope you enjoy the show.*

This Is A Play is a play about a play. Normally, when we go to the theatre to watch a play, we are already prepared to watch a play. But what is a play? What makes it a play? What exactly are the actors doing on stage? When people say they want to go to the theatre and watch a play, what are they looking for? Is it the actor or the character? Is it the set, the costumes, the lighting, the music, or the makeup? Is it the playwright's past? Is it the director's vision? Or perhaps it is the audience themselves... So, what have you come for today?

Daniel MacIvor's script is disruptive, exceeding my expectations for a short comedy when I was selecting a piece for my Directors' Showcase proposal. I laughed out loud the first time I read it. Later, during the rehearsal process, I realized that what really made me laugh wasn't just how funny the lines were, but how the play overturned my expectations of what should happen on stage. Complaints, mistakes, and accidents are common in life and the same is true in theatre. Yet, those involved in making a play are not supposed to allow such things, because they break the world of the play. Sometimes the fourth wall is broken intentionally but what about unintentional breaks? What do the actors think? What does the audience think? Is it still a play?

Special thanks

I'm deeply grateful for Leah, Soykan, and Raphael for their advice and guidance. I want to thank Ivan Anard for his contribution and dedicated time to this show. Lastly, I want to thank everyone I've worked with in the theatre, for giving me a deeper understanding of the art of theatre.

THIS IS A PLAY CREATIVE TEAM



SICHUN XIA
DIRECTOR

Sichun Xia 夏思纯 is currently a forth-year drama specialist student from China. She is very excited to be a director in this year Directors' Showcase. This is her third time participating in the Directors' Showcase and first time to be a director. She is grateful to work with this amazing team. Recently selected credits for stage management include *Pool(no water)* (CDTPS), *Exchanged Souls*, *On Spring's Promise* (UC Follies); selected credits for design include sound design for *Pool(no water)* (CDTPS), sound design for *Exchanged Souls*, assistant set and costume designer for *The Trials* (CDTPS).



JADE MIRANDA
LIGHTING DESINGER

Jade Miranda is delighted to be a part of the production team as a designer and operator for the first time after spending many years focusing on acting and playwrighting. As a student at University of Toronto Scarborough majoring in theatre and production, she is proud to design and operate the lighting for *This is A Play* and projection for *Savage/Love*.



YIFEI FAN
SOUND DESINGER

[Yifei Fan (Fei) is currently a third-year student at the University of Toronto, double majoring in cinema Studies and drama. Outside of her studies, she has been a dancer since elementary school, focusing on choreography, hip-hop, and jazz funk. Along with her dance training, Fei brings technical experience from operating for her high school theatre program, Mainstage 2025, and most recently for Camp XULF. She is thrilled to join the production team of the Directors' Showcase and hopes you enjoy the shows!

THIS IS A PLAY CAST



ANGIE LEI
FEMALE ACTOR

Angie is an undergrad at the University of Toronto. This is her first time acting in a play, and she is super excited to be part of the Directors' Showcase! When she is not acting, you can find her trying to figure out how to adult, dabbling mixed media art, or getting lost in a good book.



HANNAH DEVELLIS
OLDER FEMALE ACTOR

Hannah is graduating from the University of Toronto with honours bachelor's degrees in both theatre and English. She completed U of T's drama program in acting and playwriting and is absolutely thrilled to be back performing in the Playhouse for the first time since her time in the Mainstage Show in third year. Hannah has a deep appreciation for comedy and is elated to be part of a comedic play. Her romantic comedy play, *Universes*, received its debut staging this year, and she is a writer and actor for the sketch comedy group, The Funnies. She is so happy to be part of *This is a Play*, a witty, amusing exploration of what it means to be a performer. She extends her sincerest thanks to Sichun for this wonderful opportunity and hopes you enjoy watching the show just as much as she has enjoyed acting in it! ♥
@HannahEvy

THIS IS A PLAY CAST



QILIN YU
MALE ACTOR

Qilin (he/him) is a recent alumnus of CDTPS currently in his 2nd year of the master of teaching program at OISE, specializing in intermediate/senior drama and social science. He was actively involved with CDTPS and campus theatre in production roles, mostly as stage manager or producer. Qilin is excited to be acting in a production again after three and a half years. Past credits at CDTPS include *I Am The Village* (stage manager); *The Trials* (associate sound designer); *The Most Massive Woman Wins* (stage manager); *Oskar* (stage manager); *He Said Yes / He Said No* (stage manager).



JINNY KIM
COMPOSER

Jinny is in second year studying drama and sociology at the University of Toronto. This is her first production at the school, aside from making funny voices during D&D sessions. She is excited to be getting into theatre.

MACBETH

CREATIVE TEAM:

PLAYWRIGHT: WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DIRECTOR: SAMUEL BARNES

LIGHTING DESIGN: FAITH CHHOYANG

SOUND DESIGN: JIALING YOU, ALIZE

ZHAO

PROJECTION DESIGN: MAHI

CHOWDHURY

CAST:

MACBETH: RAPHAEL GLAZOV

LADY MACBETH: ISABELLA

BLACK



DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

About a month before the Directors' Showcase, I had to abandon the play I had intended to show you and find an entirely new one. I landed on *Macbeth*. One scene in particular—act 1, scene 7—spoke to me because it is about finding the motivation to do something you don't want to do. In the scene, *Macbeth* steps away from the party he's hosting because he's having second thoughts about killing King Duncan, so Lady Macbeth must talk him into following through with the plan. That's where my presentation begins.

Some of the ideas, props, and set pieces that I had intended to use for my first play I repurposed for *Macbeth*. The result is a *Macbeth* set in what appears to be an artist's loft in the 80s. Obviously, I did not have much time to plan or rehearse, so I hope you will be charitable in your assessment of my team's work.

Thank you to everyone who made *Macbeth* happen: Ariel, Daniel, Adrien, Raphael, Izzy, Faith, Alice, Mahi, Jialing, and Shan. And thank you to Jade, whose work on my first play did not see the light of day, but is nevertheless appreciated.

MACBETH

CREATIVE TEAM



SAMUEL BARNES
DIRECTOR

Samuel Barnes is a fourth-year student in Victoria College.



FAITH CHHOYANG
LIGHTING DESIGNER

Faith Chhoyang is an emerging arts management professional, currently in her final year pursuing a bachelor of arts, majoring in arts management with a double minor in theatre and psychology at the University of Toronto. Passionate about storytelling through light, movement, and projection, Faith's work bridges the artistic and technical sides of production.

She previously worked as an assistant stage manager for *She Kills Monsters* by Qui Nguyen at the Leigha Lee Browne Theatre, where she coordinated props, costumes, and backstage transitions to support six sold-out performances. She was also the sound operator for *Cornelia Sheik* at Drama Fest with the UTSC Drama Society, operating at both Leigha Lee Browne Theatre and Hart House Theatre. Dedicated to cohesive storytelling across the production, Faith will be the producer for upcoming play, *Lady in the Red Dress*, by David Yee, at the Leigha Lee Browne Theatre in Spring 2026.

Beyond the stage, Faith is the founder and president of the Catalyss Fashion Society (CFS). She produced two professional-level fashion shows since it was founded in 2023, alongside fundraising events, and community engagement initiatives. The shows combine performance, fashion, and community engagement to support local causes. With the next show in spring 2026, CFS will continue to unite students from diverse disciplines and industry professionals in a celebration of artistry and social impact.



JIALING YOU

Co-SOUND DESIGNER

Jialing You is a drama specialist and computer science major at the University of Toronto. She is thrilled to be part of *Macbeth*. Her interests lie in performance, dramaturgy, and the relationship between technology and storytelling.



ALIZE ZHAO

Co-SOUND DESIGNER

Alice(Yingxuan) Zhao is currently a second year theater and social sciences student at the University of Toronto. She has a great passion for music and design, and aims to use her work to spread social awareness and artistic expressions. She also does band performances, social activism and fashion-related works occasionally outside of theater.



MAHI CHOWDHURY

PROJECTIONS DESIGNER

My name is Mahi, and I'm a fourth-year architecture student at U of T. I love art and music and working on designing sets and productions, and I wish to work on more shows in the future!



SHAN HSIEH

LIGHTING ASSISTANT

I'm a fourth-year architecture student interested in production design and related fields. I also love making art and painting :)

MACBETH CAST



RAPHAEL GLAZOV
MACBETH

Raphael Glazov is a PhD candidate, actor, and director, here at the CDTPS, the working title of his project is: "The Enchantment of Hope: Audience Reception of Shakespeare's Faerie Arts of Enchantment & their North American Indigenous Adaptations through Tolkien's Lens." He has a passion for Shakespeare and storytelling and very grateful to be lucky enough to be involved in a truncated adaptation of *Macbeth*. He is very glad to work with such talented student directors and with Leah as one of her TAs. Please forgive this "poor player" as he "struts and frets upon the stage". And please applaud the hard-working directors, cast, and crew, and teaching staff that have poured so much hard work into this showcase!



ISABELLA BLACK
LADY MACBETH

Isabella is a recent grad of U of T and is very excited to be working with her close friend Samuel Barnes in his production of *Macbeth*. She wants to thank Sam and the CDTPS team for giving her the opportunity to play Lady Macbeth and don the playhouse stage one last time.

MEMBERS ONLY

CREATIVE TEAM:

PLAYWRIGHT: JANE CAFARELLA

DIRECTOR: VALERIA MACGREGOR-
ORDONEZ

LIGHTING DESIGNER: HERO DELA CRUZ

SOUND DESIGNER: HERO DELA CRUZ

PROJECTION DESIGNER: FAITH
CHHOYANG

CAST:

KAREN SMITH: KENNEY
VANDELINDE

CONCIERGE: JUDE KILLORAN

GABRIEL: ADAM ROWAN



DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

I am so excited to share this piece with you. It's been an incredible experience full of creative growth, self-discovery and most importantly — laughter. I hope you all enjoy watching it as much as my team and I have enjoyed working on it. You can feel the passion and effort we put into every detail. The story we want to share with you is about more than life after death. It's about life itself, human connection and the little moments that matter the most.

MEMBERS ONLY CREATIVE TEAM



VALERIA MACGREGOR-ORDONEZ DIRECTOR

Valeria is a drama specialist in her final year at the University of Toronto. She has extensive experience in television and theatre, having started acting as a child. She has used her time at CDTPS to explore other dramatic disciplines like design and directing. Most recently, she served as costume designer on *Suppressed Desires* for Directors' Showcase 2024. Ready now to step into the director's role herself, Valeria is excited and grateful to direct her first play alongside the talented production team and her fellow directors.



HERO DELA CRUZ LIGHTING AND SOUND DESIGNER

I am very grateful for the opportunity to be working on this year's Directors' Showcase! Born and raised in the Philippines, I moved to Toronto five years ago with little to no knowledge about theatre, but since then, my experiences have led me to discover the liveliness of the communal and artistic workspace involving productions—which keeps me bound to the passion I uncovered. I am currently in my third year of study, double majoring in drama and cell & molecular biology, and most of my experiences in theatre involve being a production crew member (i.e., stage manager, lighting and sound designer). Just last semester, I had the chance to work as a lighting and sound operator for the CDTPS Mainstage Show. Some of my other interests lie in physicality on stage, stemming from choreography, spoken word, and abstract movements/vocals. I feel a profound emotional tie between my personal life and the shows I'm working on for the showcase, therefore, I am indebted to have the theatre as a space to share my sentiments through art. As a drama student, I look forward to gaining more experience and furthering my involvement and contributions to the department.

MEMBERS ONLY CREATIVE TEAM



FAITH CHHOYANG **LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Faith Chhoyang is an emerging arts management professional, currently in her final year pursuing a bachelor of arts, majoring in arts management with a double minor in theatre and psychology at the University of Toronto. Passionate about storytelling through light, movement, and projection, Faith's work bridges the artistic and technical sides of production.

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MEMBERS ONLY CAST



KENNEY VANDELINDE
KAREN SMITH

Kenney Vandelinde is a first-year student at the University of Toronto, hoping to study drama and political science. She is thrilled to be performing in the CDTPS Directors' Showcase, and has had an amazing time working on both *Members Only* and *Savage/Love*. Her previous works include the Mother in *The Secret in the Wings* at Canterbury High School, and Sylvie in *The White Crocodile* at the 2024 Ottawa Fringe Festival. Outside of theatre, Kenney is also quite passionate about film, and has worked both behind the scenes and on screen. Outside of acting, you can usually find her curled up with her cats and dogs, listening to Taylor Swift, or rewatching the same tv show over and over again.



JUDE KILLORAN
CONCIERGE

Jude Killoran is a second year drama student at the University of Toronto. While this is his first performance with the university, Jude has been keenly interested in acting for over eight years, and has performed a variety of roles in dramas, comedies, and the occasional musical. Jude would like to temporarily cheat the rules of a third-person perspective to say how thankful and grateful he is to have worked with the wonderful cast and phenomenal crew that have made this production possible. If Jude were able to be reached for comment, he would probably say something to the effect of "I hope you all enjoy the show!" but since he is in no way affiliated with the creator of this bio section, that's all pure speculation.



ADAM ROWAN
GABRIEL

Adam Rowan is a second-year drama specialist at U of T. After his work on *The Shawshank Redemption* as Tommy Williams, he is excited to step into more varied roles. And with a passion for voice acting, Adam is ecstatic to play this part!

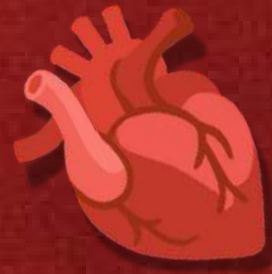
SAVAGE/LOVE

CREATIVE TEAM:

PLAYWRIGHT: SAM SHEPARD
DIRECTOR: LEV TOKOL
LIGHTING DESIGNER: HERO DELA CRUZ
SOUND DESIGNER: HERO DELA CRUZ
COMPOSER: LEV TOKOL
SET BUILDER: JADE MIRANDA
PROJECTION DESIGN: JADE MIRANDA
REHEARSAL STAGE MANAGER: IRENE YU

CAST:

ADELAINÉ ANIAG
ARTEMIS RIEDMUELLER
KENNEY VANDELINDE



DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

Savage/Love is a painting and a dream and a nightmare all wrapped into one, a stained glass mosaic exploring the infinite facets of love and viscosity and unconscious involuntary transformations. It's been a wonderful pleasure to work with this team to explore textures and palettes of movement and light and voice, and delve into discovering characters and throughlines and moments that give me goosebumps. Every actor, crew member, and collaborator on this project takes my ideas to eleven, and seems to be natural creative catalysts and accelerants. As you watch this play, I encourage and invite you to fall in love with each of the characters and their desperate, fumbling journeys toward love and connection. There's romance and insecurity and heartbreak and evolving identity, and it all swirls in the fever dream of *Savage/Love*.

CONTENT WARNING: THEMES OF VIOLENCE, SOME INTENSE AUDIO STROBING AND PULSING AND STAGE BLOOD.

SAVAGE/LOVE CREATIVE TEAM



LEV TOKOL DIRECTOR, COMPOSER

Lev Tokol is a theatre-maker and music-maker from Windsor, Ontario, currently based in Toronto. Select performance credits include Jack (*Into the Woods*) and Matt (*The Fantasticks*) with Korda Artistic Productions, and Ernst Ludwig (*Cabaret*) and Cooley (*Anyone Can Whistle*) with campus groups. Also on campus, Lev has directed *All In The Timing*, *Twelve Angry Men* and *Company*, and music directed productions of *Ordinary Days* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. At the CDTPS, Lev will be performing in the mainstage performance of *Kostroma* later this academic year. He hopes you enjoy the Directors' Showcase, and the fantasia that is *Savage/Love*.



HERO DELA CRUZ LIGHTING AND SOUND DESIGNER

I am very grateful for the opportunity to be working on this year's Directors' Showcase! Born and raised in the Philippines, I moved to Toronto five years ago with little to no knowledge about theatre, but since then, my experiences have led me to discover the liveliness of the communal and artistic workspace involving productions—which keeps me bound to the passion I uncovered. I am currently in my third year of study, double majoring in drama and cell & molecular biology, and most of my experiences in theatre involve being a production crew member (i.e., stage manager, lighting and sound designer). Just last semester, I had the chance to work as a lighting and sound operator for the CDTPS Mainstage Show. Some of my other interests lie in physicality on stage, stemming from choreography, spoken word, and abstract movements/vocals. I feel a profound emotional tie between my personal life and the shows I'm working on for the showcase, therefore, I am indebted to have the theatre as a space to share my sentiments through art. As a drama student, I look forward to gaining more experience and furthering my involvement and contributions to the department.

SAVAGE/LOVE CREATIVE TEAM



JADE MIRANDA
PRODUCTION DESIGNER, SET BUILDER

Jade Miranda is delighted to be a part of the production team as a designer and operator for the first time after spending many years focusing on acting as well as a playwrighting. As a student at University of Toronto Scarborough majoring in theatre and production, she is proud to design and operate the lighting for *This is A Play* and projection for *Savage/Love*.



IRENE YU
REHEARSAL STAGE MANAGER

Irene is studying philosophy at the University of Toronto and loves theatre. They're excited to work with such a fantastic cast and crew and even more excited to see it performed!

SAVAGE/LOVE CAST



KENNEY VANDELINDE
ACTOR

Kenney Vandelinde is a first-year student at the University of Toronto, hoping to study drama and political science. She is thrilled to be performing in the CDTPS Directors' Showcase, and has had an amazing time working on both *Members Only* and *Savage/Love*. Her previous works include the Mother in *The Secret in the Wings* at Canterbury High School, and Sylvie in *The White Crocodile* at the 2024 Ottawa Fringe Festival. Outside of theatre, Kenney is also quite passionate about film, and has worked both behind the scenes and on screen. Outside of acting, you can usually find her curled up with her cats and dogs, listening to Taylor Swift, or rewatching the same tv show over and over again.



ARTEMIS RIEDMUELLER
ACTOR

Artemis is a human person who does acting, writing, and stage managing. She is almost done with her double major in drama and HPS at U of T, and she had a great time working on this show with some cool people!

SAVAGE/LOVE

CAST



ADELAINE ANIAG

ACTOR

Adelaine Aniag (she/her) is in her last year at the University of Toronto pursuing a double major in archaeology and drama. She has been a part of U of T's campus theatre community throughout her undergrad, from graphic design for the UC Follies, performing in Drama Fest, to being a part of the CDTPS' Directors' Showcase and Mainstage Show production coming in 2026. She additionally pursues work behind and in front of the camera for various student films. Outside of theatre, she is also the co-president of the Anthropology Student Association. Working on this production has been such a wonderful explorative creative process. She gives her thanks to the incredibly talented creative team and cast.

Selected Credits:

Jo March, *Little Women*, 2025 (SMC)

Actor 2: *Lyra, Preacher, Danny, Eleanor, Three Plays and a Conversation*, 2024 (Hart House Drama Fest, SMC)

Upcoming Productions:

Kostroma, March 2026 (CDTPS Mainstage Show)