



For Immediate Release: August 27, 2019

4th Annual St. John's Short Play Festival, September 5-22, 2019

LSPU Hall, 3 Victoria Street, St. John's, NL

St. John's Shorts is proud to announce their **4th Annual Short Play Festival** at the fully accessible LSPU Hall from **September 5-22, 2019**.

"A One-Act Play is Like a Confession" – Steven Berkoff

Find your seat and lean in as **26** plays produced by an eclectic mix of local theatre practitioners captivate audiences through the power of storytelling in brevity and boldness; short they might be, but long on talent and taste, appealing to all. The St. John's Short Play Festival has become the home for one-act plays by Newfoundland and Labrador artists, who have taken the sub-genre of skit, further, faster, and mightier, providing audiences a variety of affordable theatre that ranges from the absurd to the dramatic to the comedic to the poignant.

From Thursday to Sunday over three weeks, this festival will feature premieres of original plays, from established theatre veterans including: Paul David Power, Charlie Tomlinson and Monica Walsh to emerging playwrights, like Marie Pike, Krista Legge, and Santiago Guzmán, and will present emerging directors whose re-envisioning of Pinter and Chekov will breathe new life into timeless classics. Many past participants have returned this year such as prominent local comedian, Mike Hammond; and festival founding member, Jamie Skidmore, whose play, *The Brass Button Man*, will appear in the festival's ***Theatre for Young People***, a weekend matinee comprised of two productions. From heartbreak to horror to hilarity, there is something for everyone at the **4th Annual St. John's Short Play Festival**.

Tickets are on sale now at the LSPU Hall Box Office. In person at the LSPU Hall, 3 Victoria Street, St. John's, Monday-Friday from 12-5 pm; or by phone (709) 753-4331 ext 200; or online at rca.nf.ca/purchase-tickets

For the full festival schedule and show info, please see attached Festival Info Package, or visit: www.shortplaystjohns.ca or www.rca.nf.ca

Follow **@sjshortsnl** on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram for more Festival info.

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September 5 - 22 2019



4th Annual Short Play Festival



@SJShortsNL

LSPU Hall

3 Victoria Street St. John's

**FOR TICKETS AND SCHEDULE VISIT
WWW.SHORTPLAYSTJOHNS.CA**

ST. JOHN'S



Sept 5 - 22 2019

Visit www.shortplaystjohns.ca for details and tickets

WEEK ONE			
THUR SEPT 5	FRI SEPT 6	SAT SEPT 7	SUN SEPT 8
7 pm			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One for the Road Log Kya Kahenge? Garden by Mattel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecstasy of Gold SNATCH Invictus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I Live to Serve: A Science Fiction Radio Drama Ecstasy of Gold The Happiest Place on Earth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One for the Road Garden by Mattel Log Kya Kahenge?
9 pm			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Happiest Place on Earth Invictus SNATCH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I Live to Serve: A Science Fiction Radio Drama One for the Road Log Kya Kahenge? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SNATCH Garden by Mattel Invictus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I Live to Serve: A Science Fiction Radio Drama The Happiest Place on Earth Ecstasy of Gold
WEEK TWO			
THUR SEPT 12	FRI SEPT 13	SAT SEPT 14	SUN SEPT 15
7 pm			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALTAR Head and Heart Here nor There 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head and Heart The Fantasy Bond ALTAR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barely Mary The Office Barracuda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not the one The Fantasy Bond Here nor There
9 pm			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barely Mary The Fantasy Bond Barracuda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barely Mary The Office not the one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not the one ALTAR Here nor There 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head and Heart Barracuda The Office
WEEK THREE			
THUR SEPT 19	FRI SEPT 20	SAT SEPT 21	SUN SEPT 22
MATINEES			
		12 pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Brass Button Man Tell 3 pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell The Brass Button Man 	12 pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell The Brass Button Man 3 pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Brass Button Man Tell
7 pm			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revelations (Not That Kind) An Image Now of You Then In Your Eyes" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Boor I'm Just a Girl Revelations (Not That Kind) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'm Just a Girl The Boor Voices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not the one The Fantasy Bond Here nor There
9 pm			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My Three Husbands and Other Dating Stories Me and Spock: A Short Play Voices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My Three Husbands and Other Dating Stories In Your Eyes An Image Now of You Then 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revelations (Not That Kind) Me and Spock: A Short Play An Image Now of You Then 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voices In Your Eyes Me and Spock: A Short Play



2019 ST. JOHN'S SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL WEEK 1

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2019 | THURSDAY-SUNDAY @ 7 PM & 9 PM

Playing at the fully accessible LSPU Main Stage Theatre, 3 Victoria St., St. John's

STAGED FRIGHT presents **One for the Road** by Harold Pinter

Directed by Patrick Dawson | Featuring: Brandon Hillier, Andrew Halliday & Melissa Ralph

'One for the Road' is a thought experiment in tyranny and oppression by the prolific Theatre of the Absurd writer Harold Pinter. It follows the story of a family of three who are held as political prisoners by an insidious government official. Walking the line between Black Comedy and nail-biting Horror/Drama, this play explores the isolating and degrading effects of living under a government with uncontrolled power. ^{A V}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 5 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 6 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 8 @ 7 pm

DIFFERENT STROKES presents **Log Kya Kahenge?** by Prajwala Dixit

Directed by Santiago Guzmán | Featuring: Reshma Amanat & Nabila Qureshi

People, many a time, base life changing decisions on one question – Log Kya Kahenge? Or: What will people think? Exploring this complex occurrence, 'Log Kya Kahenge?' weaves a poignant, multilingual story of a parent coming to terms with their child's choice. Parental love knows no bounds, but will it be shackled by the age-old question – Log Kya Kahenge? Will the parent and child see eye to eye? Will their worlds become one?

The 4th Annual St. John's Short Play Festival will be making history by putting forth a multilingual South-Asian story directed by a Mexican-Canadian, starring Desi-Canadian Muslims, written and produced by an Indian-Canadian Hindu. Join us at The Hall to create history! ^P

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 5 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 6 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 8 @ 7 pm

MARIE PIKE presents **Garden by Mattel** by Marie Pike

Directed by Alison Woolridge | Featuring: Marie Pike & Brian Marler

After an impromptu wedding ceremony, Barbie and Ken come to life and explore existentialism. ^{A P}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 5 @ 7pm | Sat, Sept 7 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 8 @ 7 pm

MIKE HAMMOND & SARAH WALSH present **The Happiest Place on Earth**

by Mike Hammond & Sarah Walsh

Directed by Russell Cochrane | Featuring: Sarah Walsh, Mike Hammond, Stephanie Curran & Spence Bellows

A dark comedy about two theme park mascots coming to the bitter realization that they have lost their lust for life while on their lunch break. ^{A P}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 5 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 7 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 8 @ 9 pm

LONE WOLF PRODUCTIONS presents **Invictus** by Fionn Shea

Directed by Marie Jones | Featuring Fionn Shea

Jack Kenyon mans the radio on the U.S.S. Barnett during the invasion of Normandy, obsession haunting his mind. Talia, a young political refugee, struggles to exist in the New World. 'Invictus' is the trauma-fueled tale of two lives, caught up in the wrath of chance and cycles of world war, familial strife combined with childlike glee to question the extent of human agency. As Jack's obsessive world bleeds through his tough facade, Talia fabricates a new truth – and together they weave a tale of political strife, longing, trauma, and hope for a brighter future. ^{ALP}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 5 @ 9 pm | Fri, Sept 6 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 7 @ 9 pm

THEATRE PERIMETRIC presents **SNATCH** by Robyn Vivian

Directed by Robyn Vivian | Featuring: Bailey Jackson, Leahdawn Hiscock, and Ryan Andrews

What if you could live in a memory? Talk to yourself? What would you say? 'SNATCH', a surrealist glimpse at the reality of domestic violence, asks these questions. Told through the separation of Innocence and Experience, it is an exploration of liminal space– the transitory, fleeting points in life. In the false dichotomies of love and hate, sickness and health, past and future, survivors of abuse are often left behind; lost in transit. 'SNATCH' aims to help us look at the fragments left in between with the nuance, sensitivity, and compassion they deserve. ^{ALV}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 5 @ 9 pm | Fri, Sept 6 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 7 @ 9 pm

HIGH STREET PRODUCTIONS presents **Ecstasy of Gold** by Jeremy Nolan

Directed by Jeremy Nolan | Featuring: Nora Barker, Colin O'Keefe & Randy Follett

A brother and sister are on their way to British Columbia with dreams of the 19th Century Gold Rush. As desperation hits they come across a lonely prospector making the opposite trek home. Tensions boil over the campfire's heat as both party's demons creep from the shadows. ^{LPV}

Showtimes: Fri, Sept 6 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 7 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 8 @ 9 pm

LADIES WHO LUNCH PRODUCTIONS presents **I Live to Serve: A Science Fiction Radio**

Drama by Philip Goodridge

Featuring: Phil Goodridge, Théa Morash, Lynn Panting, Mark White & Chris Panting

This thrilling original science fiction tale is written in the style of radio plays from times gone by. Travelling salesman Mr. Crisp arrives at the suburban home of one Mrs. Evelyn Porter. Little do they know their cordial interaction will soon descend into a terrifying game of cat and mouse with a creature from beyond the stars! The theatre will transform into a recording studio from the past as four voice actors and one foley artist bring this terrifying story to life!

Showtimes: Fri, Sept 6 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 7 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 8 @ 9 pm



2019 ST. JOHN'S SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL WEEK 2

SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2019 | THURSDAY-SUNDAY @ 7 PM & 9 PM

Playing at the fully accessible LSPU Main Stage Theatre, 3 Victoria St., St. John's

TODOS – THEATRE AND FILM FOR ALL presents **ALTAR** by Santiago Guzmán

Directed by Meaghan Greeley | Featuring: Santiago Guzmán

Eugenio's ex-boyfriend ghosted him several months ago and he is still not over him. Taking Día de Muertos and his mother's previous experience with paranormal activities as references, Eugenio hopes that by setting up an altar he will be able to summon his ghost to sort out their past and talk about the end of their relationship once and for all. Would setting up an altar be enough for Eugenio to forgive, forget, and love again? ^{A P}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 12 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 13 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 14 @ 9 pm

CHARLIE TOMLINSON presents **Head and Heart** by Thomas Jefferson, edited & amended by

Charlie Tomlinson & Lois Brown

Directed by Courtney Brown | Featuring: Charlie Tomlinson

In the spring of 1786, while serving as the US minister to France, Thomas Jefferson met—and probably fell in love with—a young, married Englishwoman named Maria Cosway. After Cosway left Paris in October, Jefferson composed a remarkable letter to her in which his Head argued with his Heart.

*As a theatrical experiment, Charlie performs this letter. His personal one-person show, *An Aid to Pain*, about his confused relationships with Romantic Love, Gender and Nostalgia (to say nothing of his passion for the novels of Georgette Heyer), is in progress. Perhaps this letter is the box that show comes in. ^P*

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 12 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 13 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 15 @ 9 pm

ANDRYA DUFF presents **Here nor There** by Andrya Duff with sound design by Megan Allison

Rehearsal Direction by Andrea Tucker | Featuring Andrya Duff

How much needs to be revealed in order to be considered 'authentic'? This is a solo trip down memory lane, but whose memories exactly? ^P

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 12 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 14 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 15 @ 7 pm

SW | FT presents **Barely Mary** by Wendi Smallwood

Directed by Ruth Lawrence | Featuring Wendi Smallwood

After blowing out the candles on yet another year, a female comedian merrily bares all in her barely merry 'review' which will make you laugh, cry & reconsider shapewear. ^{ANP}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 12 @ 9 pm | Fri, Sept 13 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 14 @ 7 pm

AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL presents **The Fantasy Bond** by Jules Tasca

Directed by Melanie Fleming | Featuring: Melanie Fleming & John Bowden

Charles and Alice are a "Couple of old marrieds" on their second honeymoon. After thirty years of marriage it's hard to imagine anything could come between them. But Charles is holding on to a difficult secret; one that he must tell Alice today. This trip was meant to spark some romance back into their marriage, but it may just spark something else. 'The Fantasy Bond' gives us a glimpse into that fateful conversation. Will their bond bring them through, or has their marriage been a momentous fantasy?

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 12 @ 9 pm | Fri, Sept 13 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 15 @ 7 pm

SIGNPOST PLAYERS presents **Barracuda** by Jon Aylward

Directed by Meghan Keating | Featuring: Chris Langdon, Tim Murray & Nicole Woodman

Barry isn't stupid. He knows something is going on with Grace, and when she doesn't tell him a confrontation ensues. When their exchange takes a turn, Barry moves to confront the man she may (or may not) have been involved with. ^{A P V}

Content Warning/Advisory: Contains scenes of intimacy and violence which may be disturbing to some.

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 12 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 14 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 15 @ 9 pm

DEAD RAT PRODUCTIONS presents **The Office** by Sophia Merritt

Directed by Nora Barker | Featuring: Elizabeth Dane, Colin O'Keefe, Jeremy Nolan & Nora Barker

Tom is trying to get his report done before the deadline but is constantly interrupted by his aggressive boss Karen and his obnoxious co-worker Gavin. ^A

Showtimes: Fri, Sept 13 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 14 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 15 @ 9 pm

PENNYTHOUGHTS THEATRE presents **not the one** by Chris Hibbs

Directed by Janet O'Reilly | Featuring: Chris Hibbs

In between birth and life rests the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). It is a place of waiting, a place of pause. One man grapples with lofty ideals and lowly idiosyncrasies while rocking the time away with his newborn. ^{A P}

Showtimes: Fri, Sept 13 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 14 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 15 @ 7 pm



2019 ST. JOHN'S SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL WEEK 3

SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2019 | THURSDAY-SUNDAY @ 7 PM & 9 PM

Playing at the fully accessible LSPU Main Stage Theatre, 3 Victoria St., St. John's

STRIDENT PRODUCTIONS presents **Revelations (Not That Kind)** by Christine Hennebury, Trudy Morgan-Cole & Lori Savory

Directed by Christine Hennebury | Featuring: Jean Graham, Jamie Pitt & Greg Whalen

Keeping a secret can be powerful. Revealing one might be devastating.

Three scenes by three writers. Three mothers who keep secrets to protect their daughters ... and themselves.

In 'Every Good and Perfect Gift', Elsie never intends to tell Abel what happened in the past – until her daughter's future is threatened. In 'What You Sow', Rosene hopes the truth will set her new cellmate free. And in 'Understanding', discovering her mother's long-buried secret solves the mystery that has shaped Ally's life. ^{A P}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 19 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 20 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 21 @ 9 pm

MAD AS HOPS PRODUCTIONS presents **An Image Now of You Then** by John Bowden

Directed by Trevor Menchions & John Bowden | Featuring: Erica Foote, Cole Williams, Cam Johnston, Rachael Currie, Grant Hayden & Amelia Mitchell

Alan had a brother, and now he has a tattoo. Does the tattoo really embody his memory of his brother, or is it a vain attempt at a memorial? Tattoos, photos, recordings, letters – all things we bring to the future from the past. But are these things truly permanent, when even we ourselves aren't? ^{A P}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 19 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 20 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 21 @ 9 pm

POWER PRODUCTIONS presents **In Your Eyes** a work in development by Paul David Power

Directed by Janet O'Reilly | Featuring: Paul David Power & Michael Nolan

A father and son's relationship changes in the face of dementia, causing both men to learn and accept different ways to appreciate life and each other. ^P

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 19 @ 7 pm | Fri, Sept 20 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 7 pm

ARTSIRK PRODUCTIONS presents **My Three Husbands and Other Dating Stories**

by Krista Legge

Directed by Anthony Allen | Featuring Krista Legge

Autobiographical tales of the ups, downs – and embarrassing tumbles – of modern relationships and online dating. ^{A P}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 19 @ 9 pm | Fri, Sept 20 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 9 pm

KANUTU THEATRE presents **Me and Spock: A Short Play** by Monica Walsh

Directed by Kevin Woolridge | Featuring: Monica Walsh & George Robertson

'Me and Spock: A Short Play' tells the story of two roommates: Spock, a well-known Vulcan, and Monica, his roommate in St. John's. What would it be like to go bowling with Spock? What if Spock listened to you complain about your life? What advice would he give, and would you follow it? ^{AP}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 19 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 21 @ 9 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 7 pm

MUN DRAMA presents **Voices** by Kyle Saunders

Directed by Kyle Saunders | Featuring: Nick Gushue, Alyssa Fradsham, Nicole Obiodiaka, Ches Petten, Kusal Tennakoon & Kyle Saunders

This play explores the difficult tasks of recognition of a mental health problem. Following a main character struggling with auditory hallucinations, the psychological experience allows the audience a window into the thoughts and struggles of someone afflicted with mental illness, and the fight for those who want to help understand. ^{ALP}

Showtimes: Thurs, Sept 19 @ 9 pm | Sat, Sept 21 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 7 pm

AARIZ THEATRE presents **The Boor** by Anton Chekhov adapted by Azal Dosanjh

Directed by Azal Dosanjh | Featuring: Sarah Parsons & Patrick Dawson

Witness in 'The Boor' – or 'The Bear' – or a joke in one act – how chaotic, ridiculous, irrational, innocent and fierce overwrought grief and unrequited love can be in this farce about death, debt, duels and duets. ^L

Showtimes: Fri, Sept 20 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 21 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 9 pm

MOM'S GIRLS present **I'm Just a Girl (and Life is a Nightmare)**

Directed by Allison Kelly | Featuring: Stephanie Curran & Elizabeth Hicks

Stephanie and Elizabeth are gonna do some sketch comedy about being pals and being gals. 'I'm Just a Girl (and Life is a Nightmare)' is a series of satirical skits and general hilarity from your favourite foolish feminists. ^{AP}

Showtimes: Fri, Sept 20 @ 7 pm | Sat, Sept 21 @ 7 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 9 pm

YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE at the **2019 ST. JOHN'S SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL**

SEPTEMBER 21 & 22, 2019 | SATURDAY & SUNDAY @ 12 PM & 3 PM

Playing at the fully accessible LSPU Hall Cox & Palmer Second Space, 3 Victoria Street, St. John's

QUILLS ON THE EDGE presents **Tell** created by Young People made for Everyone

Facilitated & Directed by Stacy Gardner & Monique Tobin | Featuring: Workshop Participants

Young people discover how storytelling can empower self-understanding and positive social change through creative workshops and same-day performance. Participants tell personal, community or cultural stories through short improv-based theatre using language and shadow puppetry. This is a unique and theatrical invitation for a diverse range of young voices and perspectives to be experienced by ALL. ^{kids!} P

Showtimes: Sat, Sept 21 @ 12 pm & 3 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 12 pm & 3 pm

UNDER THE BRIDGE PRODUCTIONS presents **The Brass Button Man** by Dylan Farrell,

Adapted by Dylan Farrell, Louise Gauthier, David Lane, Baptiste Neis & Jamie Skidmore

Directed by Jamie Skidmore | Puppeteers: Darren Ivany & Michael Rodri Smith

The Brass Button Man is an original shadow puppet play, reflective of the storytelling traditions of Newfoundland and Labrador. It's a folktale from Burnt Islands, which tells the story of the Brass Button Man, a local legend, who haunts the local strait on foggy nights. If you're on the strait in the fog he will sneak up on you, tap you on the shoulder, and ask for brass buttons. If you have one – you're safe, but if you don't, he will take you away in his dory, never to be seen again. ^{kids!}

Showtimes: Sat, Sept 21 @ 12 pm & 3 pm | Sun, Sept 22 @ 12 pm & 3 pm

CONTENT ADVISORY & OTHER INFO:

- A Adult Content or Language
- ^{kids!} Young People & Young at Heart
- L Loud or Abrupt Noises
- N Nudity or Partial Nudity
- P Premiere Production
- V Violence