



HOPKINS CENTER
FOR THE ARTS

presents

Jabber

by Geordie Productions

Post-performance discussion with the artists

Funded in part by the C. Henry Hathaway 1907 Memorial Fund No. 3 and David E. Skinner II 1942 Fund

Sun • February 4, 2018 • 2 pm
Spaulding Auditorium • Dartmouth College

Program

Today's performance is presented without intermission.

Credits

Playwright Marcus Youssef
Director Amanda Kellock
Stage Manager..... Kevin Olson
Production Manager..... Amy-Susie Bradford

Cast

Mr. E.....David Sklar
Fatima.....Mariana Tayler
Jorah..... Aris Tyros

About the Artists

Geordie Productions is a professional theater company that has been presenting live English theater for young audiences since 1980. Pushing artistic boundaries with provocative and important stories, Geordie delivers more than 300 performances each season. Geordie's annual seven month 2Play Tour (the longest in Canada) makes its way across Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, visiting schools, libraries and community centers. Geordie annually visits such communities as the Eastern Townships, the Lower North Shore, the Gaspé, the Magdalen Islands, the Abitibi, the Outaouais and James Bay. Often, its shows are the only theater these communities are exposed to.

Through Geordie's Mainstage Series, an annual season of plays for family audiences presented in downtown Montreal, the company continues to open up new worlds for the young and young at heart. Geordie offers exciting, insightful theater that is sure to enchant, educate and entertain. Geordie Productions is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (P.A.C.T.), the Quebec Drama Federation, and La Maison Théâtre. This is Geordie Productions' first Hopkins Center engagement.

David Sklar is an actor/playwright who currently divides his time between Montreal and Calgary. He

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is a graduate of theater from Dawson College and the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He also holds a BFA in playwriting from Concordia University. He has toured with the Montreal Shakespeare Theatre Company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Hamlet* as well as playing Banquo in Humber River Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. *Crazy Love*, his first play, has been published in an anthology entitled *Out on a Limb*. His latest play, *Dance with Desire*, has appeared at the Dapopo Theatre in Halifax. He has been an invited guest lecturer at McGill University to teach Shakespeare to opera students as well as assistant director at the Stratford Shakespeare School. He is currently in a fourth extension of the Dora Award nominated and META Award winner, *Jabber*, which has toured Canada and the US. Last year he was artist in residence at Shakespeare-in-the-Rough, the Jerusalem-based, English-language theater company. Recently, he was the director's assistant for the Canada Badland's *Passion Play*. He can also be seen in the upcoming *X-MEN* movie.

Mariana Tayler, having been born in Colombia and grown up in Montreal, is a multicultural artist; her ability to easily partake in and traverse from one culture to another has enabled her to act in French, English, Spanish and Italian, with each of their own distinctive cultural nuances intact. In 2011, through an exchange with the National Academy of Chinese Theater Arts (NACTA), she completed her diploma requirements and was awarded a bachelor's degree with distinction in theater performance through Concordia University. Since completing her work at Concordia, Tayler has acted in various plays, short films and independent films, and has continued her training and education in performance with some of Montreal's best coaches.

Aris Tyros, originally from Montreal, graduated with honors from Dawson's Professional Theatre Program. Upon finishing he was snapped up to work

by many of Montreal's finest theater companies including Repercussion (*Harry the King*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*), Tableau d'Hôte (*Elizabeth Rex*) and Geordie (*Jabber*) with whom he's toured to Vermont, Maine and PEI. He then moved to Toronto where he performed at Theatre Passe Muraille (*Billy Wigglesticks*), Sterling Theatre (*Mrs. Warren's Profession*) and the Toronto Centre for the Arts (*Delimax*). Most recently he played the lead role in the BRAVO film *Magic Mushrooms*. He's also traveled to Switzerland with the award-winning short *How I Became a Movie Theatre Murderer*, his filmmaking debut. There he met collaborators for his next project *Little Death* (a feature length virtual reality film). In his spare time he volunteers as an audio-book narrator at the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind).

Marcus Youssef is the author of a dozen plays and performance events that have been produced in theaters and festivals across North America, Europe and Australia, from New York to Dublin to Berlin. His awards include Rio-Tinto Alcan Performing Arts, Chalmer's Canadian Play, Arts Club Silver Commission, *Seattle Times* Footlight and Vancouver Critics' Choice Innovation (three times), as well as numerous local awards and nominations for best new play, production and director in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. Youssef has been artistic director of Vancouver's Newworld Theatre since 2005, where he also co-founded Progress Lab 1422, a collaboratively managed, six-thousand-square-foot studio and production hub. Youssef has served as an assistant professor at Montreal's Concordia University and implemented Canada's first joint BFA degree program at Capilano University. He was the inaugural chair of Vancouver's Arts and Culture Policy Council, teaches regularly at the National Theatre School of Canada and Langara College's Studio 58, and is an editorial advisor to *Canadian Theatre Review*. Youssef lives in East Vancouver with

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his partner, teacher Amanda Fritzlan, and their sons Oscar and Zak.

Amanda Kellock is the artistic director of Repercussion Theatre and is a Montreal-based director, actor, writer and teacher with a BFA from Concordia University and an MFA in directing from the University of Ottawa. She loves Geordie Productions, with whom she has collaborated on many occasions: as an actor in Harry Standjofsky's adaptation of *Pinocchio* (directed by Dean Fleming) and Andersen's *Inkwell* (by Gina Wilkinson, directed by Micheline Chevrier), and as a director for the touring productions of *Shape of a Girl* (by Joan Macleod), *Derwent is Different* (by Jamie Norris), *Jabber* and *Once Upon a Home* (which she co-wrote with about 75 children), as well as the mainstage production of *For Art's Sake* (by Colin Heath) and *The Halloween Tree* (which she also adapted from the Ray Bradbury classic). She has also worked with other companies, like Centaur Theatre in Montreal and Third Wall Theatre in Ottawa. She was artist-in-residence at Playwrights' Workshop Montreal in 2010, and the 2007/2008 Directing Intern at Canada's National Arts Centre. Kellock was artist-in-residence in the Theatre Department of Concordia University from 2014-16, she has taught at McGill University, Dawson College and as part of the Geordie Theatre School, and she led workshops as part of an exciting conference entitled "Building Bridges Through the Arts" at the University of Pinar del Rio in Cuba (with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts). Two monologues from her first play *Fair(L)y (S)Tale—A Story Unbound* have been published in a book of monologues by Roger Ellis. *Jabber* is one of her very favorite shows.

Kevin Olson is thrilled to be returning to Montreal, having last worked on New Canadian Kid with Black Theatre Workshop. Past tours include *Danny King of the Basement*, *The Incredible Flight of Marnie McPhee* (Carousel Players) and *Offensive Fouls* (Roseneath Theatre). He also stage manages at Smile Theatre, touring Canadian musicals to retirement homes and long-term care centers for the past nine years. Smile highlights include *In Flanders Fields*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Christmas Carol*, *Made in Canada*, *Newfoundland Mary*, *Sweet Marie* and *Becoming Carol*. Other credits include *The Gift of the Magi*, *Stag and Doe* (Theatre Orangeville), *Looking*, *Rum Runners* (LFT), *Real Estate*, *The Birds and the Bees* (PSFT), *Little One* (Common Roof), *Dead Metaphor*, *39 Steps*, *Red*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, and *Time Stands Still* (Theatre Aquarius). Sincere thanks to the wonderful team at Geordie, the fabulous cast and guiding light DS.

Amy-Susie Bradford is excited to be part of the Geordie Production Team once again this season. Bradford started her theater career in Connecticut and continued to study production management at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. She currently resides in Montreal while continuing to manage events and productions throughout North America. She can be found working with various companies including NJPAC, Starvox Entertainment and Just for Laughs Montreal. Thanks to her family for their continued support as she follows this path less traveled.

Connecting Artists to the Community

While at Dartmouth, Geordie Productions will perform in the School Matinee Series and participate in post-performance discussions.

Free Online Study Guide

In conjunction with its School Matinee Series, the Hop prepares study guides to enhance student learning prior to and following performances. The study guide for Jabber can be found on its performance page at hop.dartmouth.edu/online/ and on the Outreach and Arts Education section of the Hop's website.

Upcoming Events



Music Department Residency
Qyrq Qyz (Forty Girls)

Thu • March 1 • 7 pm

Ancient epic of Central Asian "girl power" told through music, poetry and contemporary film.



Dayme Arocena

Thu • April 12 • 7 pm

Dazzling young Havanan sings Afro-Cuban music suffused with jazz, soul and funk.



For tickets or more info, call the Box Office at 603.646.2422 or visit hop.dartmouth.edu. Share your experiences! #HopkinsCenter

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Assistive Listening Devices available in the lobby.



If you do not wish to keep your playbill, please discard it in the recycling bin provided in the lobby. Thank you.