

2024
25

THEATRE
AND DRAMA
STUDIES



We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

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We are delighted to invite you to the 2024/25 Theatre and Drama Studies season! Our graduating students will perform in four exciting shows on the Erindale Studio Theatre mainstage, all of which explore the relationship between past and present, between old texts and contemporary political and social concerns. Two of our shows are productions of major classics: *Edward II* by Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare's contemporary and, until his early death, his closest rival; and *The Threepenny Opera* by Bertolt Brecht, Elisabeth Hauptmann, and Kurt Weill, one of the greatest theatrical hits of 1920s Berlin and the closest we have ever come to staging a piece of musical theatre. Our other two mainstage productions are of cutting-edge contemporary plays that both turn to the past to speak to the present: Yvette Nolan reinvents Aristophanes's *The Birds* in a 21st-century Canadian context, in our first-ever play by an indigenous author; and Charlie Josephine reimagines Joan of Arc as a non-binary queer icon in *I, Joan*, in a play that was a huge (if controversial) hit in London in 2022 and which will receive its Anglophone Canadian premiere in our production. Meanwhile, on our studio stage, the third-year students will present their Devised Project – always a celebration of theatrical creativity – and two different takes on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*.

2024 has been yet another banner year for our graduates. A small sampling: David Yee (Class of 2000) won the Siminovitch Prize in Playwriting, Canada's most significant prize for theatre artists. TDS grads had a year of unprecedented recognition at the Dora Mavor Moore Awards: most notably, Lindsey Middleton (2013) won for her performance in Tennessee Williams's *Suddenly Last Summer* – the second acting Dora for a TDS graduate in a row! Also nominated were Cameron Laurie and Hallie Seline (both 2011) for their performances in the Howland Company's production of *Heroes of the Fourth Turning*, Julia Nish-Lapidus (2007) for *The Two Noble Kinsmen* (Shakespeare BASH'd), Hailey Gillis (2013) for *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* (Musical Stage Company/Crow's Theatre), Chiamaka Glory (2014) for *Truth* (Young People's Theatre), and Reena Goze (2023) for *Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls* (Roseneath Theatre). Other graduates saw their plays produced on stages all over Canada, including Mark Crawford (2004), Sophia Fabiilli (2010), and Andrea Scott (1996), whose play *Get That Hope* is part of the 2024 season at Stratford. Paolo Santalucia (2011) was appointed Associate Artistic Director of Crow's Theatre, where he also directed *The Wrong Bashir*. And TDSers acted in shows on all the major stages in Canada: Qasim Khan (2008), played lead roles in *Playboy of the Western World at Shaw*, the Coal Mine production of *Hedda Gabler*, and Canadian Stage's *The Inheritance*, which won the Dora for Outstanding Production; this summer, he is playing Hamlet in High Park. Marissa Orjalo (2019) is enjoying her second year at Stratford, where Anthony Palermo (2023) joined her this year, and Lindsay Wu (2019) is in her second season at the Shaw Festival. Alexia Vassos (2019) played the title role in Shakespeare in the Ruff's 2023 *Richard Three*; Spencer Bennet (2017) and Jewell Bowry (2023) both starred in Shakespeare in Action's *Otíhêw*. On screen, Mercedes Morris (2015) continues as one of the stars of the show in season three of CBC's *SkyMed*; other grads with major recurring roles include Sara Mitich (2010), Sarah Hime (2017), Hannah Termaat (2018), George Alevizos (2019), Ben Steele Caldwell, Daniel Gravelle (both 2020), Christina Orjalo, and Daniella Dela Peña (both 2021). And *On a Dark, Cold Night*, the podcast Kristen Zaza (2011) writes and performs, keeps winning Canadian Podcast Awards and assorted prizes internationally.

The TDS mainstage and studio seasons give you a chance to see the next generation of adventurous Canadian theatre artists in their first professional productions. Tickets for individual shows can be purchased online or in person at our box office. We would be delighted to welcome you to our theatre spaces!



2024/2025 Season

The Threepenny Opera

by Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, with Elisabeth Hauptmann

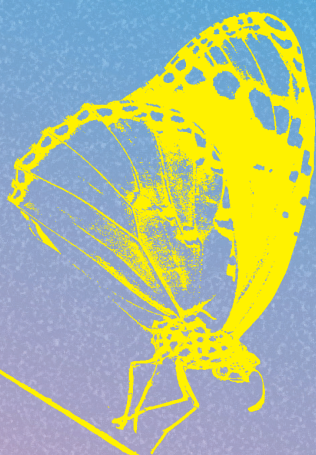
Translation by Simon Stephens

Director: Anita La Selva

October 3 – 12, Erindale Studio Theatre

Not an opera nor exactly a piece of musical theatre, but a cutting, cynical, and often grimly funny satire – with lots of songs, including such cabaret classics as “Mac the Knife” and “Pirate Jenny.” Brecht, with a lot of help from Elisabeth Hauptmann, wrote the script in a few frantic weeks in 1928 Berlin, a city that was simultaneously reinventing modern gender relations and witnessing the excesses of turbocapitalism, and the play, with its raw and edgy score by Weill, preserves that helter-skelter atmosphere. A wild, merciless, utterly captivating ride!

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2024/2025 Season

I, Joan

*by Charlie Josephine
Director: Lee Stone
November 21 – 30, Erindale Studio Theatre*

Charlie Josephine's complete reimagining of the story of Joan of Arc upset some critics when it opened in London in 2022, but was celebrated by others, and by audiences, for its extraordinary, exuberant energy. This Joan is a non-binary person, fighting for their freedom as well as for France's liberty from English rule, fueled by their utter belief in their mission (and its divine support), curbed by a small-minded establishment, but ultimately triumphant. A gloriously counterfactual, rivetingly theatrical rethinking of history by one of the most exciting voices in contemporary drama.

Mantage Productions

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2024/2025 Season

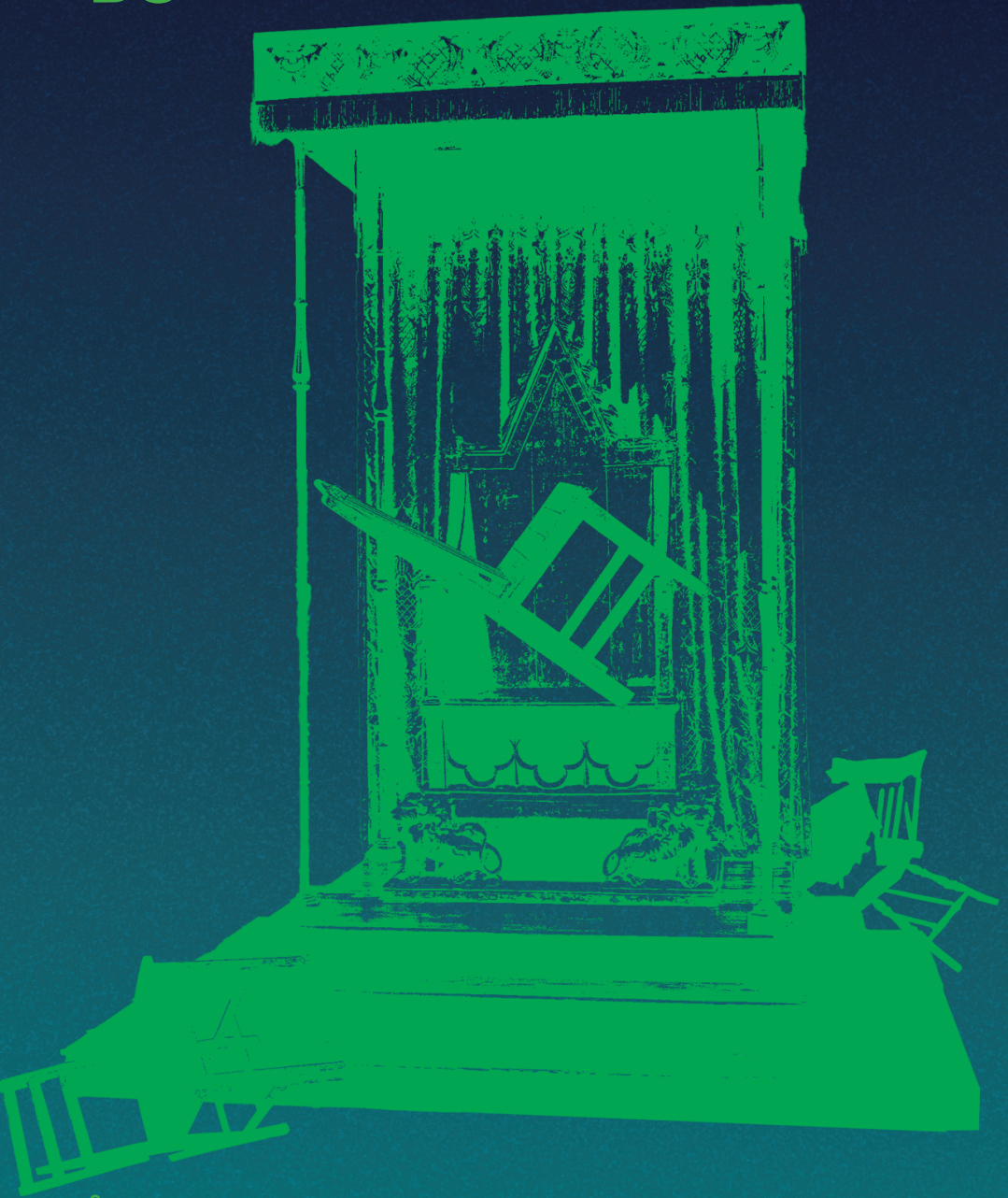
The Birds

by Yvette Nolan, based on the play by Aristophanes

Director: Marcel Stewart

February 6 – 15, Erindale Studio Theatre

Aristophanes's 2400-year-old comical allegory of the relationship between humans, nature, and the Gods is refashioned as a playfully satirical examination of the relationship between First Nations and settlers in this comedy by Yvette Nolan, one of the country's most prominent indigenous theatre makers and playwrights. A play about profound questions, about land and ownership, about reconciliation and appropriation, about utopian escapism and real-life politics that wears its seriousness lightly, set in a richly imagined, song-and-dance-filled land of the birds.



2024/2025 Season

Edward



by Christopher Marlowe
Director: Melee Hutton
March 27 – April 5, Erindale Studio Theatre

If Christopher Marlowe had not been killed at 29 in a brawl, he might have become a more canonical playwright than Shakespeare. His *Edward II* is one of the greatest examples of the English history play: ostensibly factual, drawn from authoritative sources, but populated by characters as vividly drawn as those in any of the great tragedies of that age. Edward is a fascinating figure, caught between his impossible love for another man, a desire to rule as an absolute monarch, and an aristocratic class that curbs his will at every step. One of the most complex political plays in the repertoire, driven by what Ben Jonson called the “mighty line” of Marlowe’s inimitably punchy blank verse.

T+
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The Classical Project: Twelfth Night



by William Shakespeare

Directors: Cameron Grant and David Matheson

October 17 - 26, MiST Theatre

Twelfth Night, or, in one of Shakespeare's most delightfully throwaway titles, *What you Will*, is maybe his most brilliant comedy, a riot of confused loves and identities, as hilarious as it is sad – a play that ends in marriages and loneliness in equal measure. In this studio production, two casts drawn from the third year of the TDS program explore the play in two different versions of the text, guided by two different directors. See both! Compare and contrast!

T+
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The
Devis
Project

seed

Director: Rachel Blair
February 27 – March 1, MiST Theatre

For their second show of the year, the third-year students of the TDS program devise a show made up entirely of original work, under the guidance of an established director. They choose a theme and their own approach to the material. They may write songs; they will probably choreograph dance and movement sequences. The Devised Project is always a showcase of theatrical collaboration and exuberant creativity.

2024/2025 Season Schedule

● 2:00 pm
◐ 7:30 pm

Studio Series

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
The Classical Project						
Twelfth Night				17	18	19
				A◐	1◐	A● 1◐
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
				1◐	A◐	1● A◐
Cast A				October, 2024		
Cast 1						

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
The						
Devised Project				27	28	01
				◐	◐	● ◐
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
				◐	◐	● ◐
						February/March, 2025

Mainstage Season

	M	T	W	T	F	S
The Threepenny Opera				03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12

October, 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
L, Joan				21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November, 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
The Birds				06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15

February, 2025

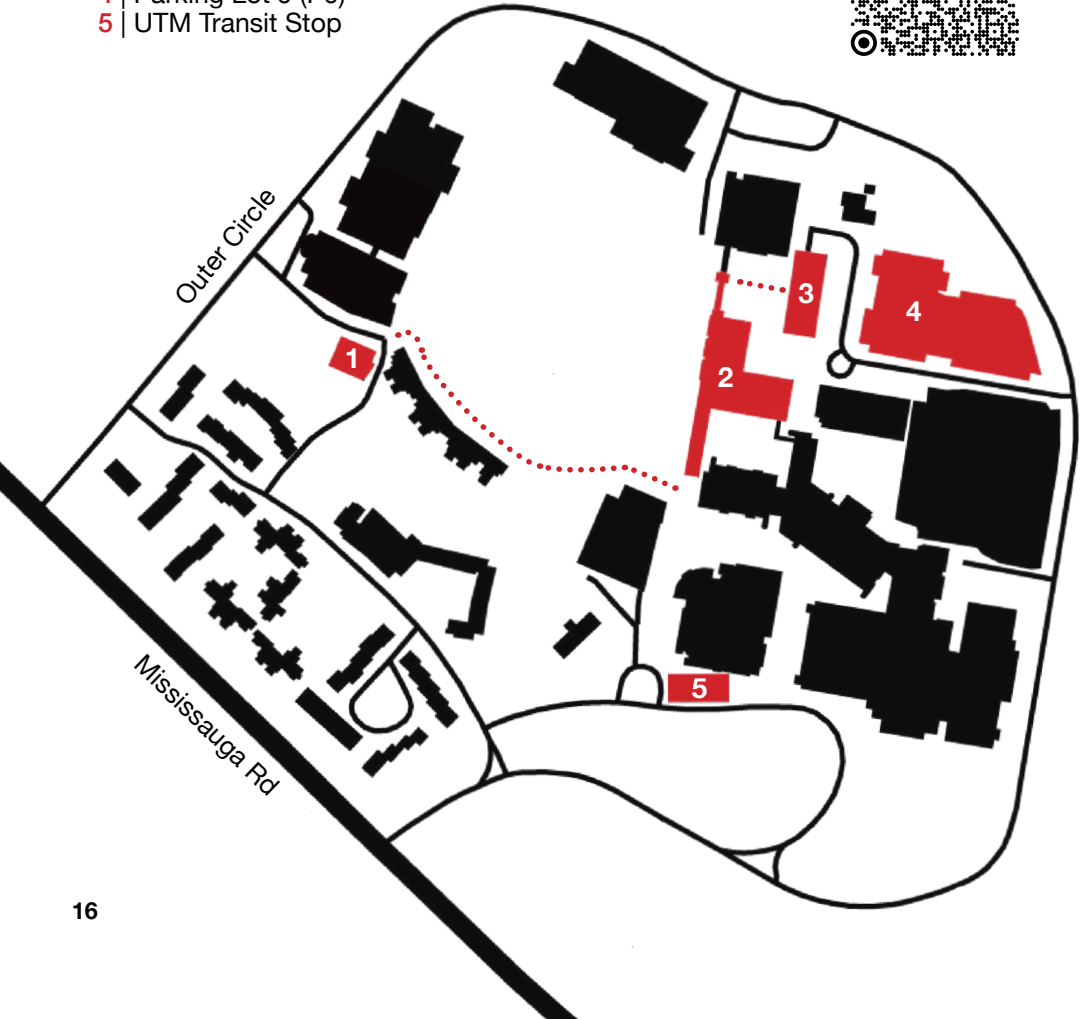
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Edward II				27	28	29
30	31	01	02	03	04	05

March/April, 2025

Maps + Tickets

3359 Mississauga Rd,
Mississauga, ON L5L 1C6

- 1 | Erindale Studio Theatre
- 2 | MiST Theatre
- 3 | CCT Underground Parking entrance
- 4 | Parking Lot 9 (P9)
- 5 | UTM Transit Stop



2024/2025 Season

Tickets

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/o/theatre-erindale-73419573463> to secure your tickets in advance!

\$21 | Adult
\$16 | Student/Senior
\$5 | Studio Series

Public Transit

The UTM campus is serviced by Mississauga Transit, GO Transit, Brampton Transit, Oakville Transit, and other Accessible transit options.

Scan the QR code or visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/visitors/maps-and-direcions to discover your options.

Parking

Please park in **Parking Lot 9 (P9)** or the **CCT Underground parking**. Lots are monitored by the Mississauga Parking Authority. Parking is \$6 evenings and weekends.

UTM Shuttle Bus

The UTM Shuttle operates a fare-free service for UTM students with an active T-Card.

Scan the QR code or visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/visitors/maps-and-direcions for more information.

Maps + Tickets



Season Schedule 2024/2025

October 2024
November 2024
February 2025
March/April 2025
October 2024
February/March 2025

Theatre + Drama Studies

The Threepenny Opera
I, Joan
The Birds
Edward II
The Classical Project: Twelfth Night
The Devised Project

T+ 2024
DS 25



Theatre and Drama Studies (TDS) is a professional actor training program offered jointly by the University of Toronto Mississauga and Sheridan College. Its graduates can be seen all over Canada, from Bard on the Beach in Vancouver to the Neptune Theatre in Halifax, on all the major Toronto stages (from Canadian Stage and Crow's to Soulpepper and the Tarragon), at the Shaw and Stratford Festivals, and on screen in shows on CBC, Crave, Netflix, and elsewhere. TDS graduates have also gone on to award-winning careers as directors and playwrights, and have founded some of the most successful independent Toronto theatre companies of recent years. Our Studio and Mainstage seasons offer an exciting opportunity to see these future leading lights of Canadian theatre in their first professional productions, under the guidance of established directors.

