

October 30—November 25, 2018

Mustard

by Kat Sandler



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Photo by Jo Ann Richards, Works Photography



FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I would like to thank you for the exceptional response to *A Doll's House, Part 2*. I know the play engendered a lot of discussion and debate. I call that a success! Actors floating ideas from the stage to the audience – and an audience receiving those ideas as a group – aware of those around them having their own reactions to the same ideas – is one of the most glorious aspects of theatre. In fact, I think it's what theatre is all about.

Theatre is also about using your imagination. It's about looking at a set that you know was built in a carpentry shop and painted by scenic artists; a set that is pretending to be anything from an orphanage in a Jewish Ghetto to a baby store in Vancouver. That set is just wood and paint. And you know it! The magic only happens when you agree to play along and believe it is what we say it is.

And so here we are with a play where imagination and reality collide. A comedy – because theatre is also about laughter. In this case, it's about laughing at some of life's most difficult moments. Laughter is cathartic, and when a writer can make us see the comic in the painful, the laughter comes from a deeper place.

Welcome to this wonderful cast, this team of great designers, and our director, Stephen Drover, making his Belfry Theatre debut! And a thank you to our partners on this production, the Arts Club Theatre in Vancouver.

Michael

Photo by Jo Ann Richards, Works Photography



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This journey of imagination is the latest in a long and growing list of new Canadian plays produced by the Belfry. Among the many things that we do, the commissioning, development and production of new work by Canadian playwrights is one of the most gratifying and challenging. Whether, like with this production of *Mustard*, it is a new production of a recently premiered work, or if it is the full process of commission, workshopping, and premiering of a new play, the investment of time, money and care remains a cornerstone of our commitment in presenting you with funny, challenging, sad, and joyous professional theatre.

We have our funders: government, business, foundation, individual donors and our audiences to thank for supporting our ability to be the best contemporary theatre that we know. Thank you and enjoy!

Ivan



Kat Sandler Playwright

Kat Sandler is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter, director and is the Artistic Director of Theatre Brouhaha. She has directed and produced fourteen of her original plays in the last six years. In 2018-19 Kat will have plays staged in Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary, Victoria, Vancouver and Thunder Bay. Her play *Mustard* won the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding New Play (General Division), and her play *Bang Bang* was nominated for Outstanding New Play. Recently Kat began writing for film and television. She wrote for the second season of *Kim's Convenience*, is developing a handful of features and has an original show in development with eOne and an adaptation in development with Shaftesbury.

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Mustard

By Kat Sandler

Starring

Heidi Damayo *Thai*

Brett Harris *Bug*

Andrew McNee *Mustard*

Chirag Naik *Jay*

Shekhar Paleja *Leslie*

Jenny Wasko-Paterson *Sadie*

Director Stephen Drover

Set Designer Kevin McAllister

Costume Designer Carmen Alatorre

Lighting Designer Alan Brodie

Sound Designer Brian Linds

Stage Manager Jan Hodgson

Assistant Stage Manager Jennifer Swan

Assistant Lighting Designer Ranleigh Starling

Fight Directors Mike Kovac and Ryan Bolton

Mustard is approximately 90 minutes in length.

There will be no intermission.

Mustard was commissioned as part of the Tarragon Playwrights Unit.

World Premiere – Tarragon Extra Space, Toronto, ON – Richard Rose, Artistic Director

Mustard is staged by arrangement with Emma Laird, Gary Goddard Agency,
www.garygoddardagency.com

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ACTING COMPANY



Heidi Damayo Thai

Hailing from Calgary Alberta, Heidi first auditioned for “Crocodile” in her junior high production of *Peter Pan*, and is thrilled to have somehow ended up here! Theatre credits include: *Mustard* (Arts Club and Belfry Theatre debut), *She Kills Monsters*, *The Crucible*, *Wives and Daughters*, *Les Belles-Soeurs*, *Love and Information* (UBC Theatre) and *House of Arms* (Affair of Honor). She is a graduate of UBC Theatre, a Fight Directors’ Canada basic certified actor combatant, a member of Affair of Honor’s fight family, a commissioned playwright for UBC’s Centennial Celebration, and a Wesbrook scholar and recipient of the Stephen Woodhouse Memorial Prize.



Brett Harris Bug

This is Brett’s Belfry debut! Select Theatre: *Mustard*, *Rock of Ages* (Arts Club Theatre), *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Pride and Prejudice* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *A Christmas Carol* (Western Canada), *Creeps* (Rearwheels/Cultch), *Hidden*, *Mr. Marmalade*, *Mojo* (Itsazoo), *It’s All Over Orwell* (Pi), *The Learned Ladies*, *Laburnum Grove*, *The Miser*, *The Mousetrap* (Western Gold), *Trainspotting* (Rumble), *A Doll’s House*, *Look Back In Anger* (England, UK). Film and TV: *When Harry Met Meghan*, *The Lottery* (Lifetime), *My Boyfriend’s Dogs* (Hallmark), *Casualty* (BBC). Two-time Jessie Award winner, graduate of L.I.P.A (*England*). British dialect coach. Email brett-harris@live.co.uk for more info. Love to Kate...one big kiss and lots of little ones.



Andrew McNee Mustard

Andrew is a Vancouver born and raised actor in theatre, film, television and animation. He was most recently at the Belfry last year with *Onegin*; he is so excited to be here again. His theatre work has taken him on tour across Canada, to Europe and the UK. Most recently his film work has been making the rounds of the film festivals with *Adventures in Public School* and *Grand Unified Theory*. When not playing make-believe for a living, he spends his time with his wife Karen and wrestling his rascally kids Finn and Thomas. Andrew is a graduate of Studio 58.



Chirag Naik Jay

Chirag is a Vancouver-based actor who has performed in theatres all across Canada. Chirag is delighted to join the Belfry for the first time. Selected theatre credits include *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Merchant of Venice*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *The Tempest* (Bard on the Beach), *carried away on the crest of a wave* (NAC), *Alone Together*, *Showdown* (Greenthumb), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Arts Club Theatre), *Après Moi* (Ruby Slippers), *King Lear* (Theatre Calgary). Film credits include *No Tomorrow*, *Rogue*, *Samuel: The Birth of a Prophet*. Chirag is a graduate of Studio 58 and the recipient of the Sydney J. Risk award.



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ACTING COMPANY

Shekhar Paleja Leslie

Shekhar's theatre credits include: *Hand to God*, *My Granny the Goldfish*, *Men in White*, *Charles III* (Arts Club Theatre), *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello* (Bard on the Beach), *The Invisible Hand* (Pi Theatre), *Brothel #9* (Touchstone Theatre), *The Humans* (Theatre Calgary), *Frost/Nixon* (CanStage/Vancouver Playhouse), *A Doll's House* (Slamming Door), *Hippies & Bolsheviks* (Alberta Theatre Projects), *A Guide to Mourning* (Globe Theatre). Film and TV: Shekhar has appeared in over 40 television shows – some recurring roles include: *Arctic Air*, *Arrow*, *Gracepoint*, *Motive*, *Sanctuary* and *Second Chance*. Feature Films: *Elegy*, *Fantastic Four*, *The Age of Adaline*, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. Shekhar is also an award-winning author of the novel, *An Extraordinary Destiny*, published by Brindle & Glass. Shekhar has been nominated for a Betty Mitchell award.



Jenny Wasko-Paterson Sadie

Jenny is so thrilled to be back at the Belfry, one of her very favourite places to be. Previous productions here include *Homechild*, *Mom's the Word* and *Alice Munro Stories*. Other select credits include *The Rivals* (Blackbird Theatre), *Sister Judy* (Arts Club Theatre), *Initiation Trilogy* and *The Score* (Electric Company), *The Tempest* (MadDuck), *Proof* (CanStage), *Speed* and the North American tour of *Shape of a Girl* (Green Thumb Theatre), two seasons at the Stratford Festival, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Head Over Heels* and *The Orphan's Dream* (Caravan Farm Theatre). Jenny trained at the Stratford Conservatory and Studio 58. "All my love to my Wasko boys Mike, Dashiell and new addition Edmund."



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CREATIVE TEAM



Stephen Drover Director

Stephen is the Associate Artistic Director of the Arts Club Theatre Company, where he has directed *Skydive*, *The Patron Saint of Stanley Park*, and *Hand to God*. From 2012–2018 he was Artistic Director of Rumble Theatre in Vancouver where he directed *Penelope*, *Indian Arm*, *Cock*, and *The Society for the Destitute Presents Titus Bouffonius*. Projects elsewhere have included *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, *The Bond*, *Hamlet*, *Richard III*, and *Mary's Wedding*. He has taught and directed at Memorial University, Douglas College, Neptune Theatre School, and UBC where, as an adjunct professor, he teaches Shakespeare Text Analysis and Performance.



Kevin McAllister Set Designer

Kevin's theatre credits include: *King Charles III*, *Helen Lawrence*, *Xanadu*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *His Greatness*, *The Weir* (Arts Club Theatre), *on the edge* (Belfry Theatre), *Equivocation* (Bard on the Beach/Belfry Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bard on the Beach), *Singin' in the Rain* (Chemainus Theatre Festival). Film and TV: as Associate Designer: Vancouver 2010 Olympic Opening and Closing Ceremonies (David Atkins Enterprises), Exhibit Design: *Rewilding Vancouver* (MOV). Kevin has 10 Jessie award nominations, a BFA from UBC Theatre, and a Jewellery Art and Design Diploma from VCC. Thanks to Holly and Lila for their support. modelbox.ca



Carmen Alatorre Costume Designer

Originally from Mexico City, Carmen earned her MFA degree in Theatre Design at UBC and has worked as a theatre designer in Vancouver since 2006. Some of her recent design credits include: *Stickboy* (Vancouver Opera), *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Top Dog/Under Dog* (Arts Club Theatre), *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale* and *As You Like It* (Bard on the Beach). Carmen is the recipient of three Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards. For more information visit: carmenalatorre.com.



Alan Brodie Lighting Designer

Alan is delighted to return to the Belfry, where his credits include *A Christmas Carol*, *Alice Munro Stories*, *I Think I'm Fallin': The Songs of Joni Mitchell*, *Equivocation*, *Stones in His Pockets*, *The Syringa Tree*, *Mary's Wedding*, *When We Were Singing*, *The Drawer Boy*, *Two*, *Skylight*, *Come Rain or Come Shine*, *Anatol* and *The Collected Works of Billy the Kid*. A member of the Associated Designers of Canada, Alan lives in Vancouver with his wife Michele and their boxer "Ellie". Alan recently directed *The Father* for Peninsula Productions and *2BR02B* at Studio 58 in Vancouver. He is a 2016 MFA directing grad of the Phoenix at UVic. www.alanbrodie.ca



Brian Linds Sound Designer

Brian's sound design credits for the Belfry include: *The Valley*, *The Best Brothers*, *Goodnight Desdemona*, *Good Morning Juliet*, *God of Carnage*, *The Trespassers*, *The Turn of the Screw*, and *The Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*. His sound design/performance piece *Reverberations*, was presented during the Belfry's 2017 SPARK Festival and will be presented at Presentation House in North Vancouver in March 2019. Selected sound designs include: *The Full Light of Day* (Electric Company), *carried away on the crest of a wave* (National Arts Centre), *Sweeney Todd* (Vancouver Opera), *Romeo and Juliet* (Bard on the Beach), *The Skin of our Teeth*, (Phoenix), *Of Mice and Men*, (Blue Bridge Theatre), *August: Osage County*, *The History Boys* (Arts Club Theatre), *True West* (Vancouver Playhouse) and *No Exit* (Electric Theatre).



Jan Hodgson Stage Manager

Jan's stage manager credits include: *The Humans*, *Angels in America: Part 1* (Arts Club Theatre), *Titus Bouffonius* (Rumble Theatre), *Betroffenheit* (Kidd Pivot/Electric Company), *Law of the Land* (Caravan Farm Theatre), *Mump and Smoot*, *Tear The Curtain*, *Studies In Motion*, *No Exit* (Electric Company), *The Overcoat*, *I Am My Own Wife*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Hello Dolly* (Vancouver Playhouse) and *East Van Pantos* (Theatre Replacement). Grateful for this opportunity to work at the Belfry, with good friends.



Jennifer Swan Assistant Stage Manager

This is Jen's 14th season (over 19 years) stage managing at the Belfry. Other favourite Canadian theatres to work at include: Theatre SKAM, Electric Company Theatre, Vancouver Playhouse, Canadian Stage, Caravan Farm Theatre and Theatre Calgary. She also works as Company Manager for Electric Company Theatre in Vancouver.



Ranleigh Starling Assistant Lighting Designer

Ranleigh is a Seattle based lighting designer for theatre and dance and a third year MFA student in the University of Washington. Recent productions include *12 Ophelias*, *By The Way*, *Meet Vera Stark*, *Sueño* (UW School of Drama); *American Archipelago* (Pony World Theatre); *Terra Incognita* (Annex Theatre); as well as numerous dance productions. Ranleigh holds a BA from Bennington College with concentrations in Lighting Design, Dance, and Architecture.

Thank you!

The following individuals and groups have contributed to our 2017–2018 Capital upgrades.

The maintenance and improvements needed to ensure that your Belfry Theatre continues to be one of the most cherished and admired theatres in the country continue. This summer we replaced our heating and ventilation system for the Patrick Stewart Theatre, and this fall we made an upgrade to our hearing assist system. We will soon embark on upgrades to our Studio Theatre. Future needs and dreams include replacement of the stage lighting systems to bring us up to date (and greatly reduce our energy requirements), as well as new sound equipment to support our productions.

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Latecomers & Re-admission

The Director of each production designates moments in the show when the seating of latecomers will cause the least distraction for actors and audience members. Should you leave the theatre, our House Manager will not be able to reseat you until one of these breaks, but you can watch the performance on the monitor in our lobby.

Perfume and Cologne

Please refrain from using perfume and cologne when you come to the theatre. Some of our patrons are highly allergic to scents.

Drinks

To cut down on plastic we have moved to glassware in the lobby. If you still wish to take your drink into the theatre please transfer it to a disposable cup, available at the bar.

Food

Please feel free to take only food you've purchased from the Belfry bar into the theatre. Our goodies are packaged so that they don't make a lot of noise, to minimize disturbing your fellow audience members.

Lost and Found

Please check with our House Manager if you have lost an item in the theatre.

Script Library

Read the play before or after you see it. We have scripts of the season's plays available at the Box Office, plus a bookcase filled with Canadian plays, all for reading in the Lobby.

Lobby Touchscreen

The TV monitor in our new lobby is a touchscreen device. By touching the screen you can delve deeper into each production, learn about the artists who created the show, and much more. Give it a try.

PRE-PERFORMANCE

BPlay

Live talk shows hosted by CBC Radio's Gregor Craigie and featuring artists from the upcoming show, along with experts from the community, have been designed to provide insight into each Mainstage production.

Each event, held the Saturday prior to Opening, is free to attend and is also livestreamed on Facebook, and available as a podcast on our website.

Podcasts

Listen and download the full interviews from each B4Play, recent stories from The Flame, our storytelling series, and more at belfry.bc.ca/podcasts.

Upstage Magazine

Our magazine provides insight into each Mainstage production, further enriching your experience. Upstage is available in the Lobby and on our website. Drop us a line at hello@belfry.bc.ca for an advance copy.

FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE

Afterplay

Following every evening Mainstage performance (except Opening Night and Talkback Thursday) we offer facilitated discussions – audience member to audience member. Stick around – these are a great opportunity to discuss the play and the ideas it contains.

Talkback Thursday

Meet the actors post-performance when they return to the stage to answer questions and provide insight into the play.

ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES

VocalEye

For patrons with low or no vision, we offer one VocalEye performance during each Mainstage production. Trained Audio Describers provide descriptions of the visual elements of the show, allowing people with low vision to enjoy the theatrical experience without missing any of the details.

Hearing Assist

For patrons who are hard of hearing, the theatre is equipped with an infra-red hearing assist system. We have 6 devices available through the Box Office.

Babes in Arms and Free Childcare Performances

The Belfry is proud to produce adult contemporary theatre. Most of our productions are not suitable for young children. Sorry, we do not admit babes in arms. To help young parents experience the Belfry, we offer inexpensive tickets and free childcare on select afternoons. To book your tickets and a spot for your kids (between 3–10 years old), please call our Box Office at 250-385-6815.

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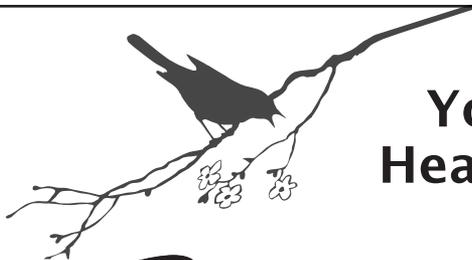
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