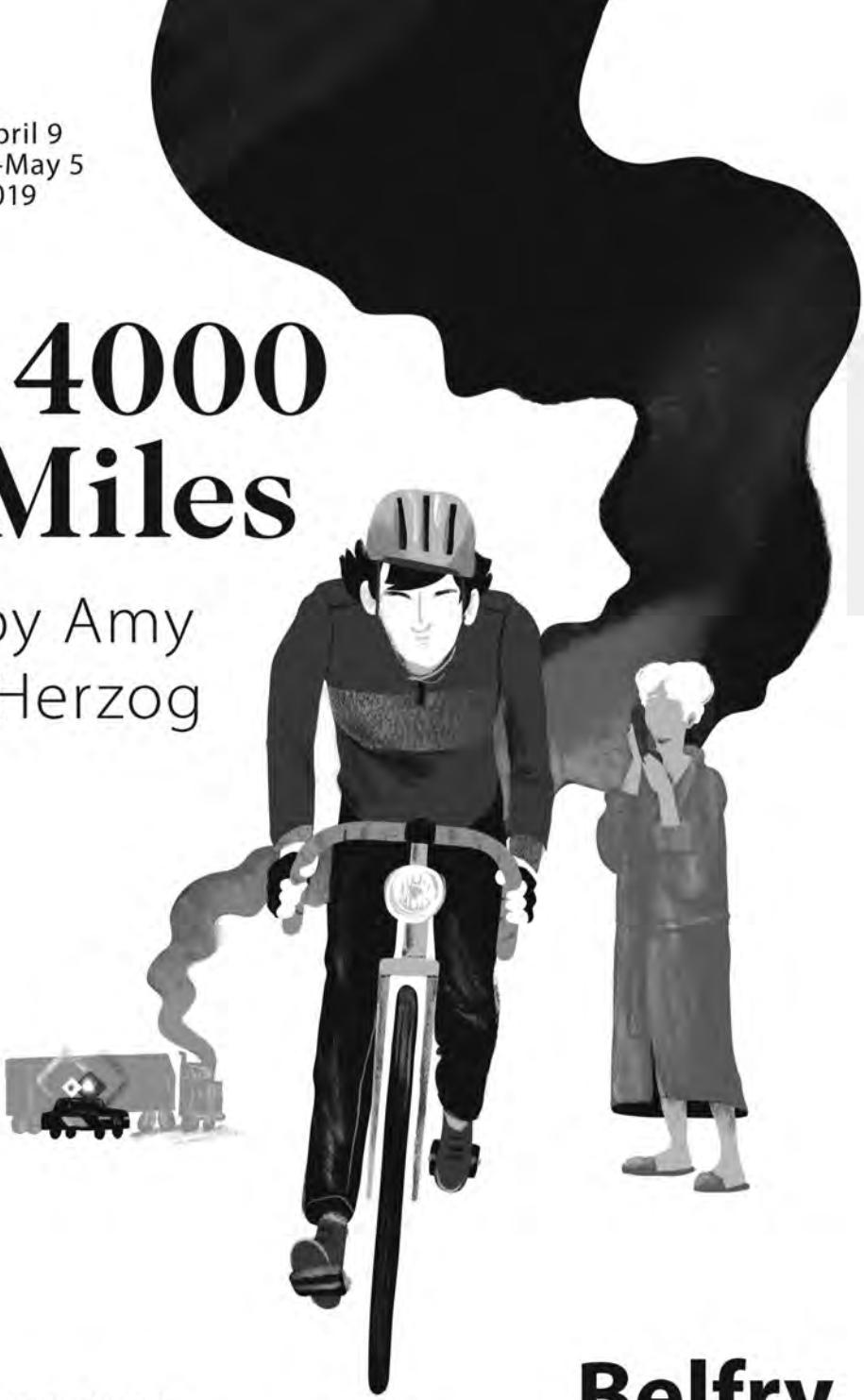
April 9
—May 5
2019

4000 Miles

by Amy Herzog



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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I am happy to have this opportunity to thank you for being in the audience for this performance. If this is your first time at the Belfry – welcome! If you have come to one or more shows this season – thank you for the patronage. And if you are a season subscriber– thank you for taking the journey from *A Doll's House, Part 2* to *4000 Miles*. Thank you for the trust and loyalty.

There are bound to be some of you reading this who have seen everything we put onstage this season – including *Mom's the Word* in the summer, *Griffin & Sabine* during the holiday season, *Pathetic Fallacy* and *Old Stock: A Refugee Love Story* during the SPARK Festival. I don't expect every piece to be to every person's taste. But I hope that you recognize the breadth of experiences and the scope of ideas that we have offered this season.

I am very excited about the work we have planned for the 2019–2020 Season. Most of you will have received a brochure in the mail – and if you haven't – please pick one up in the lobby.

At this moment, while you are reading this program note, I am most excited about beautiful *4000 Miles*. I consider this play to be an exquisite treat – a dessert at the end of the season. We have a master playwright, a smart and talented director, an acclaimed design team, and the perfect cast, led by one of the country's most respected and beloved actresses.

With sincere thanks for being the best part of this great theatre –

Photo by Jo-Ann Richards, Works Photography

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

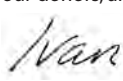
Another Belfry season comes to a close, this one ending with a charming intergenerational comedy.

This past season included the launch of the Indigenous Learning Exchange Program which provides opportunities for young indigenous theatre practitioners to hone skills while sharing their own creation methods with us. Also new is our Emerging Artist program which provides opportunity for young artists to have a paid internship working with some of the country's most experienced designers on a Belfry production. And the 2018–2019 season marks the first year of the new permanent staff position of Indigenous Cultural Advisor. As far as we know a first and unique full-time staff position in the performing arts in Canada. All this in combination with a season full of remarkable programming, development of new plays, and some of the country's best artists.

Our future is forecast with the recent announcement of the generous support of BMO Financial, the Province of BC, and our long-time benefactor Mr. Patrick Stewart supporting upgrades to our renamed BMO Studio Theatre.

Our proud legacy of producing the very best in contemporary theatre is the foundation for an exciting future.

Thank you to our corporate supporters, who deserve your applause and support, to the Foundation donors and special thanks to you our donors, and loyal community.



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We at BMO are committed to helping our local arts communities through various sponsorships and community involvement.

BMO is proud to support the **Belfry Theatre's production of 4000 Miles.**

THE BELFRY THEATRE PRESENTS

4000 Miles

by Amy Herzog

STARRING

Brenda Robins *Vera Joseph*

Nathan Howe *Leo Joseph-Connell*

Lucy McNulty *Bec*

Julie Leung *Amanda, Lily*

Director Anita Rochon

Set & Costume Designer Peter Hartwell

Lighting Designer Wendy Lundgren

Sound Designer Steven Charles

Stage Manager Christopher Sibbald

Assistant Stage Manager Emily Mewett

Assistant Director Shanae Sodhi

Assistant Sound Designer Aidan Dunsmuir*

Dialect Coach Adrienne Smook

4000 Miles is approximately one hour and fifty minutes in length, including a fifteen-minute intermission.

This production of *4000 Miles* is supported by a generous gift from Dr. Stephen Tax.

*Aidan Dunsmuir's participation made possible through the Belfry's Emerging Artist Enhancement Program, funded by the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

Indigenous Learning Exchange Participant: Elowynn Rose

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Joanne O'Sullivan in *She Grew Funny* — photo by Jonathan Ellul; Jan Derbyshire in *Certified* photo — supplied; Cory Tibert in *Awkward Hug* — photo by Pascal Huot.

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ACTING COMPANY

Brenda Robins Vera Joseph

Brenda is thrilled to be back at the Belfry, having last appeared here in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike.* Selected theatre credits include *Grace* (Nightwood Theatre), *Escaped Alone, A Delicate Balance, Noises Off, King Lear, Faith Healer* (Soulpepper Theatre), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Citadel, RMTC, Grand Theatre), *The Lion in Winter* (Grand), *August: Osage County, The Constant Wife* (Citadel Theatre), *Doubt, The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (Centaur Theatre), *Private Lives* (Grand, Canadian Stage), *Death and the Maiden, Hedda Gabler* (Vancouver Playhouse). Brenda co-adapted the scripts for *Picture This* and for the award winning *Parfumerie,* for Soulpepper Theatre. She is the recipient of Dora, Sterling and Jessie awards.

Nathan Howe Leo Joseph-Connell

Nathan is excited to be back at the Belfry this season after spending last spring here in *Salt Baby.* He is an actor/playwright/musician from Saskatoon, based in Toronto. He is a graduate of the BFA Acting program at the University of Saskatchewan (2011), and of the Globe Theatre Conservatory in Regina (2012). Recent acting credits include *Fiddler on The Roof, Treasure Island* and *Equivocation* (Persephone Theatre), *Wing Night at The Boot, Judith* and *Mr New Year's Eve* (Blyth Festival), *Seminar* (RMTC/Mirvish). Writing credits include *The Wild Dog Waits On The Concrete Path* (Theatre Howl: OSAC School Tour, Fringe), *Aiden Flynn Lost His Brother So He Makes Another* (Theatre Howl: Live Five, WildSide, Fringe) and *Matchstick* (Persephone Theatre/GCTC).

Lucy McNulty Bec

Lucy is thrilled to be spending the spring on the Island, in this beautiful theatre, with this incredible company. A theatre artist based out of Vancouver, her select acting credits include *Vimy* (Western Canada Theatre), *Dissolve* (Shameless Hussy Productions), *42nd Street* (Theatre Under the Stars), *Love/Sick* (Stone's Throw Productions), *King Arthur's Night* (Neworld Theatre), *Bull* (Rumble Theatre), *Rivulets: 3 Short Plays About a Flood* (Babelle Theatre), and *FLEE* (Electric Company). Lucy is a graduate of Studio 58. She received the Sydney J Risk Foundation Acting Award, and a Jessie Richardson Award for Outstanding Ensemble *(King Arthur's Night)*.

Julie Leung Amanda, Lily

Julie is absolutely delighted to be at the Belfry for her debut. As a Vancouver based actor, selected theatre credits include *The Matchmaker, Hand to God, The Day Before Christmas* (Arts Club Theatre), *Armstrong's War* (Western Canada Theatre), *Alone Together* (Green Thumb Theatre), *Flare Path* (Slamming Door Collective), *Our Town* (Caravan Farm Theatre), *The 4th Graders Present an Unnamed Love-Suicide* (Tremors/Rumble Theatre), and *Wondrous Tales of Old Japan* (Carousel Theatre). Julie is the recipient of the Trevor Craven Memorial Scholarship for Young Actors, the BC Arts Council Theatre Arts Award, and is a graduate of Studio 58.

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The Taming of the Shrew
Andrew McNee
& Jennifer Lines
Photo: Emily Cooper

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CREATIVE TEAM

Amy Herzog Playwright

Amy won the 2012 Obie Award for Best New American Play for *4000 Miles* (Lincoln Center). Her other plays include *After the Revolution, Belleville,* and *The Wendy Play.* She has had readings and workshops at Steppenwolf, Manhattan Theater Club, New York Stage and Film, Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., and Lincoln Center, among others. She has received commissions from Playwrights Horizons, Yale Rep, and Steppenwolf. Amy is a recipient of the Whiting Writers Award and the Helen Merrill Award. She is an alumna of Youngblood, Play Group, and the Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab. She has taught playwriting at Bryn Mawr and Yale. M.F.A., Yale School of Drama.

Anita Rochon Director

Anita is happy to be returning to the Belfry after a history of presenting work here with her company, The Chop (that she co-artistic directs with Emelia Symington Fedy). Belfry audiences may remember *KISMET one to one hundred, Through the Gaze of a Navel, How to Disappear Completely* or *Pathetic Fallacy.* She directs in a range of styles from classical texts to documentary work. She collaborates with some of the country's exceptional companies including the Shaw Festival, Electric Company Theatre, Bard on the Beach, Globe Theatre, Theatre Centre, Théâtre la Seizième and Vancouver Opera. She is a graduate of Studio 58 (Acting) and the National Theatre School of Canada (Directing). She is the recipient of the Ray Michal Prize for an Outstanding Body of Work by a New Director, the Siminovitch Protégé prize (awarded by Kim Collier) and a Mayor's Arts Award.

Peter Hartwell Set & Costume Designer

Previously at the Belfry: *Death and the Maiden, Red* and *Alice Munro Stories.* Peter has many design credits at the Shaw Festival, most recently, *Master Harold and the Boys.* At the Stratford Festival, most recently, *Long Day's Journey Into Night.* Peter has worked at theatres across Canada. In the United States he has designed at the New York Shakespeare Festival and the Guthrie Theatre, among others. In Great Britain he has worked for the Royal Court Theatre, the National Theatre, and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Peter received his theatre design training at Sadler's Wells' Opera Theatre Design Course.

Wendy Lundgren Lighting Designer

Wendy is thrilled to have been invited to make her debut at the Belfry! Select credits include *Outside Mullingar* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *Crees In The Carribean* (Theatre Aquarius), *Pride and Prejudice* (Persephone Theatre – SATA Nominee), *Mamma Mia!, Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story, Romeo and Juliet, The Hound of the Baskervilles, Man of La Mancha* and *Tuesdays With Morrie* (Globe Theatre), *HMS Pinafore, The Trials of Ezra Pound* (Stratford Festival), *Dream A Little Dream, Annie – The Musical* and *Miracle on 34th Street* (Grand Theatre). Theatrical lighting design for film/TV includes *Zombies* (Disney, Movie of the Week) and *Rocky Horror Picture Show 2016* (Fox TV, Movie of the Week).

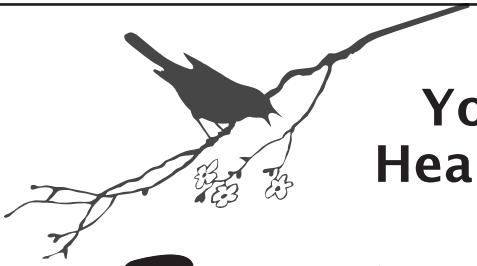
CREATIVE TEAM

Steven Charles Sound Designer

Steve is a composer and performer from Vancouver. Highlights include: *Once* (Arts Club Theatre), *Empire of the Son* (VACT), *Othello* (Bard on the Beach), *Love Bomb* (Shameless Hussies), *Urinetown: The Musical* (Firehall Theatre), *Brief Encounter* (Vancouver Playhouse/MTC), *Dance Marathon* (Bluemouth Inc.), the French-Canadian talent show *Galala* on TV Unis and *Pacifique en Chanson.* He is a member of the Escape Artists who created *Glory* with WCT/ATP in 2018 and produced *Miss Shakespeare* and *J.Caesar* in 2015, and he continues to perform in their show *Chelsea Hotel* in theatres across Canada. He tours internationally with bands *Viper Central* and *The Fugitives* as a multi-instrumentalist, and is very active in Vancouver's diverse music scene.

Christopher Sibbald Stage Manager

Christopher is thrilled to be back at the Belfry again this season. A graduate of the University of Victoria, he has worked for theatres across the country, but is very pleased to call Victoria home once again. Selected credits include: *Griffin and Sabine, A Christmas Carol, I Think I'm Fallin': the Songs of Joni Mitchell,* and *And Slowly Beauty…* (Belfry Theatre), *La Traviata, Fidelio* (Pacific Opera Victoria), *Rock Legends,* and *Grease* (Chemainus Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Christina the Girl King* (Stratford Festival), and *Anne of Green Gables – the Musical* (Charlottetown Festival). Love and thanks to Ang for all of her support.



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CREATIVE TEAM

Emily Mewett Assistant Stage Manager

For the Belfry: *Alice Munro Stories.* Other theatre credits include: *Orlando, A Christmas Carol, The Heidi Chronicles, The Just, Parfumerie, Yours Forever Marie-Lou, Eurydice, The Dining Room, A Tender Thing,* and *Angels in America* (Soulpepper), *Mary Poppins, The Secret Garden, James and the Giant Peach, Emily's Piano* (Young People's Theatre), *Hastings the Musical, Aleck Bell: a Canadian Pop-Rock Musical, Salt Water Moon, Godspell* (Tweed & Co. Theatre), *Belleville* (The Company Theatre), *6 Essential Questions* (Factory Theatre), *The Producers, Breakin' Up is Hard to Do* (Stage West Mississauga), *Robin Hood, Peter Pan, Oliver* (Stirling Festival Theatre). Emily attended Ryerson University for theatre production.

Shanae Sodhi Assistant Director

Shanae is a recent graduate of Studio 58, where he was one of the establishing members of Studio 58's Student Diversity Committee, a student-led group which works to give strength to marginalized groups within the theatre community by empowering students with the tools and knowledge to engage in the conversations of diversity around them. He currently works as the Associate Producer Intern at Green Thumb Theatre Company, an Ambassador for Culture Brew-Art and Producer for *Mx* by Lili Robinson (winner of PTC's Fringe New Play Prize) for the Vancouver Fringe Festival. Shanae is deeply grateful to Anita Rochon and the Belfry for the opportunity to work on such a heart-warming play.

Aidan Dunsmuir Assistant Sound Designer

It's already a busy year for Aidan. In January, his own play *Oink, Oink,* which was produced by his classmates at UVic, and has since been voted a favourite by the theatre department. During the February blizzard, Aidan provided sounds of the city for Charles Tidler's new play *7eventy 7even,* which premiered at SKAM's fresh Satellite Studio. In March, Aidan performed as Jack Kirwin in Janet Munsil's play *That Elusive Spark* produced by Langham Court Theatre. Aidan would like to thank the Belfry and RBC for their support through the Emerging Artist Enhancement Program. Also, thanks to Steve for his mentorship.

The audience is reading!

Would you like an advertising profile in the Belfry Theatre's house programmes for the 2019/20 season?

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Latecomers and 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

B4Play

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 FM 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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Congratulations!

to the Belfry Theatre for presenting such an engaging 2018/19 season: rich in strong themes.

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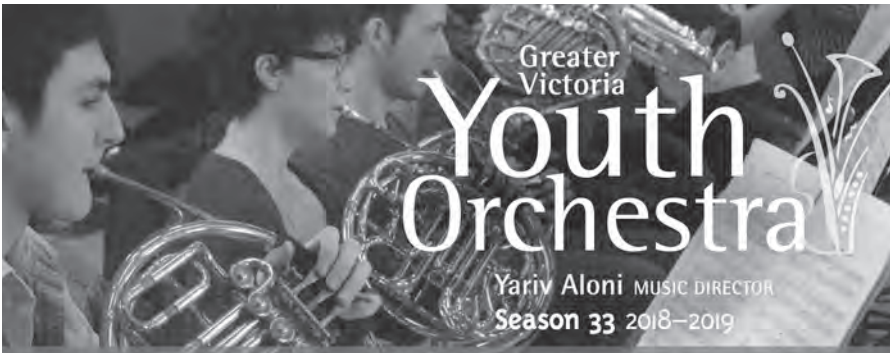

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