

SEP 17 – OCT 12, 2025

The Veil

Written by Keith Barker
& Thomas Morgan Jones

Directed by Helen Juvonen



CROW/S



photo by Dahlia Katz

A Note From the Playwrights

Canadian playwrights being produced is becoming increasingly rare. Support of new work without name recognition or built-in IP carries risk, and we the audience are conditioned to choose the safer bet.

As former Artistic Directors, and theatre goers, we sympathize with the difficult choices companies face. Which is why we'll use this space to express our heartfelt thanks to Guild Festival Theatre for nurturing The Veil from infancy to full production. For a company celebrated for its remarkable outdoor theatre in Scarborough to partner with Crow's Theatre and take this risk speaks volumes. We remain humbled and grateful for this partnership, and this production. All our relations.

Keith Barker & Thomas Morgan Jones

A Note From the Director

Playwrights Keith Barker and Thomas Morgan Jones have created a chilling tale that plays upon many of our deep-seated fears and asks us to consider some difficult questions:

How far would you go to get what you want?

What would you do to protect those you love?

If all the wrongs you've ever committed were to haunt you, what would be waiting there?

Every play needs its audience but this play more than others. Your presence in the theatre is integral to the performance. How you react to the story is a vital part of the story itself.

Our hope is that you'll take this play with you after you leave the theatre with questions still buzzing in your head.

What's behind your veil? And are you willing to face it?

Helen Juvonen



The Veil

CAST

Byron Abalos*

Playwrights	Keith Barker & Thomas Morgan Jones
Director	Helen Juvonen*
Production & Lighting Designer	Jareth Li
Sound Designer	Ashley Naomi
Stage Manager	Kiera Doerksen Smith
Producer	Tyler J. Seguin

**The Veil is a Thought For Food production in association with
Crow's Theatre and Guild Festival Theatre**

The Veil was developed through In Conversation With Classics,
Guild Festival Theatre's program for new play development.

*The participation of this these Artists is arranged by
permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the
provisions of the Dance.Opera.Theatre Policy (DOT).

The Veil is produced by permission of the Playwrights and Marquis Literary
(Colin Rivers) www.MQlit.ca



BYRON ABALOS

Byron Abalos is a Filipino-Canadian actor, playwright, screenwriter and theatre producer based in Toronto. He is a published playwright, Dora Award-winning actor and a 2025 Canadian Screen Award nominee for his writing on the Filipinx-Canadian sketch comedy television show ABROAD. Select Theatre credits include: Monday Nights (6th Man Collective/The Theatre Centre), Twelve Angry Men (Soulpepper), Roshni (Theatre Passe Muraille), paper series (Cahoots), The Making of St. Jerome (EastBound Theatre) and Banana Boys (fu-GEN). Select film/TV credits include: The Man From Toronto, Luckiest Girl Alive, ABROAD, Coroner, Murdoch Mysteries, What We Do In The Shadows, Baroness Von Sketch, The Boys, Return to Christmas Creek, Mr. Dressup and The Magic Schoolbus. Watch him in The Unstoppable Jenny Garcia, which was just released this month on CBC Gem.



KEITH BARKER

Keith Barker is a member of the Métis Nation of Ontario.

He is a playwright, actor, and director from Northwestern Ontario. Keith is the Director of the Foerster Bernstein New Play Development Program at the Stratford Festival, and the former Artistic Director at Native Earth Performing Arts in Toronto. He is the winner of the Dora Mavor Moore Award and the Playwrights Guild's Carol Bolt Award for best new play. Keith was a finalist for the Governor General's Award for English Drama in 2018 for his play, This Is How We Got Here. He received a Saskatchewan and Area Theatre Award for Excellence in Playwriting for his play, The Hours That Remain, as well as a Yukon Arts Award for Best Art for Social Change. Keith was the recipient of the Arts and Letters Award in 2021. Keith is a participating playwright in Climate Change Theatre Action 2023 with his short play, Undertow.

THOMAS MORGAN JONES



For over 20 years, Thomas' work as a director, playwright, movement coach, dramaturg and instructor has been seen on stages nationally and internationally, garnering numerous awards and nominations. Working across genres, from new plays to TYA, musicals to dance-theatre and the classics, he has created productions on stages of all sizes. He has collaborated with companies including: The Stratford Festival, Prairie Theatre Exchange, Theatre New Brunswick, Theatre Passe Muraille, Theatre Direct, WeeFestival, Carousel Players, Manitoba Theatre for Young People, Young People's Theatre, Modern Times Stage Company, Cahoots, Charlottetown Festival, vAct, and many others. Thomas holds a BA from the University of Guelph, an MA from the University of Toronto, and has trained extensively in the Suzuki Method of Actor Training and Viewpoints with both SIT Company (New York) and also with SCOT (Japan). He is currently an alumni ambassador with SIT Company.

A former artistic director of Theatre New Brunswick and Prairie Theatre Exchange, he has programmed over 40 world premieres. Thomas is currently the Executive Artistic Director of the National Theatre School of Canada.



HELEN JUVONEN

Helen is the Co-Artistic Director of Guild Festival Theatre, the founder and Artistic Director of Thought For Food Productions as well as an independent actor, director, producer and writer. For GFT she has directed *The Drowning Girls*, *The Red Priest* and *Salt-Water Moon*. This summer she directed the world premiere of *Heratio*.

With Thought For Food she has produced, directed and/or appeared in over a dozen shows including her own play *The Aleatory Project*. TFF highlights include directing *Agnes of God*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, and *The Universal Wolf*; producing and performing in the Canadian Premiere of *The Memo by Vaclav Havel* (translation by Paul Wilson) and producing *Dark Heart*. As a screenwriter Helen has created the award-winning short film "Advances" and the web series "You're Never Alone". Helen is the recipient of the Cayle Chernin Award, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee pin and the King Charles III Coronation Medal. She is also a Jeopardy! Champion.



JARETH LI

Born in Singapore, Jareth is a stage designer now based in Toronto by way of Calgary. He has a love for new work that examines identity politics, culture, and heritage.

Select design credits: Sense and Sensibility, Every Little Nookie (Stratford Festival); The Orphan of Chao, Prince Caspian (Shaw Festival); A Midsummer Nights' Dream, Frozen: The Disney Broadway Musical, Jersey Boys, Ring of Fire (Citadel Theatre; The Home Project, The Wolves, Casimir and Caroline, Punk Rock, (The Howland Company); Iphigenia and The Furies (Saga Collectif, Dora Award Nomination). In addition to his artistic practice, he is a stagecraft instructor at York University. He believes strongly in mentorship, and creating opportunity for upcoming generations of designers.

Online @ Jareth.Li



ASHLEY NAOMI

Ashley Naomi (she/her), is a trans femme theatre artist, performer, and sound designer.

Sound design credits: Gringas (First Born Theatre), Isle of Demons, The 39 Steps (Guild Festival Theatre), The Little Prince (Theatre Passe Muraille), Every Day She Rose (Black Theatre Workshop, additional composition), Timon of Athens (Dandelion Theatre), Chez Moi (Elizabeth Staples/Chez Moi Collective, development workshop), Regarding Antigone (Sort Of/Sky is the Limit/Infinithéâtre), Talking to Dead Cats in the Night (Arrowwood/Bygone Theatres).

As performer-creator: Hip Hop 100 (Tarragon Theatre Greenhouse Festival, 2024), digitrans // analogirl (staged reading with Dead Name Theatre, 2024; upcoming further presentation with Summerworks, 2025)

Online @ a.chamele0n



KIERA DOERKSEN SMITH

Kiera is a Scarborough-based Stage Manager and graduate of the Performance: Production program at Toronto Metropolitan University. Kiera works in a variety of live performance disciplines including theatre, dance, improv, clown, stand-up, live journalism, and musicals. Through her work, Kiera aims to increase accessibility and sustainability within the live performance industry. Her favourite things include silly drinks, small mammals, soup, and listening to the same 3 songs on repeat.

Recent Credits: Stranger Sings! The Musical Parody (Mansfield Entertainment), Evil Dead The Musical (Starvox Entertainment), The 39 Steps, Isle of Demons (Guild Festival Theatre), Merrily We Roll Along, Ordinary Days (Shifting Ground Collective).

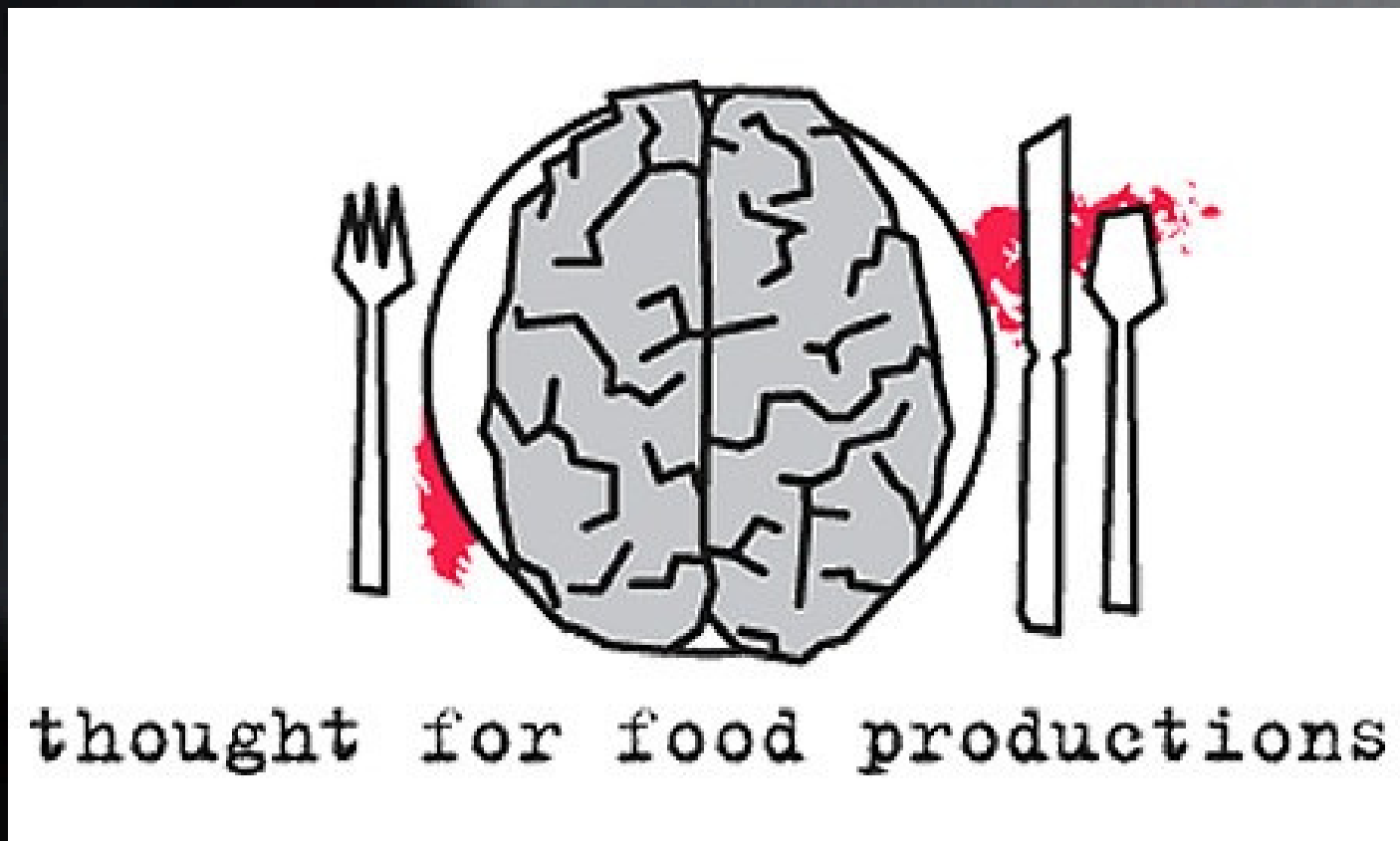


TYLER J. SEGUIN

Tyler is one of the Co-Artistic Directors of Guild Festival Theatre. For GFT, Tyler directed *The 39 Steps*, *Isle of Demons*, *Chekhov's Shorts*, *Anne*, and *Alice in Wonderland* (nominated for 7 Dora Mavor Moore Awards including Outstanding Direction). Previous Thought For Food credits include directing *Dark Heart*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Trial of Judith K.* and *The Memo*. He also produced the audio drama adaptation of the *New France Trilogy*.

Tyler has also worked with companies such as the Stratford Festival, the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival, Sudbury Theatre Centre, Theatre New Brunswick, and the Old Trout Puppet Workshop.

The web series he created with Helen Juvonen, *You're Never Alone*, has played at festivals around the world and was recently streamed on [Straatfest@Home](https://www.straatfest.com/home).



Founded in 1994, Thought For Food is a Toronto-based company that creates work exploring overt theatricality, an interest in performer/audience relationships, and an emphasis on spontaneous or random elements.

Recent TFF adventures have included the web series You're Never Alone and the New France audio drama series.

**Previous theatre productions include:
Dark Heart, Measure For Measure,
The Trial of Judith K. and The Memo.**



Guild Festival Theatre is Scarborough's only professional theatre company. Since 2011, tens of thousands of patrons have been enchanted by GFT's contemporary takes on theatre classics at the iconic Greek Theatre in Guild Park & Gardens. Presenting plays, concerts, and special events throughout July and August, GFT is committed to expanding the conventional definition of theatre classics by highlighting stories and artists that reflect the diverse, multicultural community that we call home. GFT is proud to champion local arts and culture and has been honoured with numerous awards and commendations including "Best Live Theatre" (Scarborough Mirror), 2017 OAC Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts (nomination), the Urban Hero Award (Metroland Media), the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Award, the King Charles III Coronation Medal, and 2 Dora Mavor Moore Awards.

CROWS THEATRE

Based in Toronto's East End, Crow's Theatre at Streetcar Crowsnest is an anchor performing arts hub in Toronto's east end, forging a new and adventurous audience for live art in the heart of one of Toronto's most dynamic neighbourhoods.

GFT audiences may be familiar with recent Crow's Theatre productions such as The Master Plan, Uncle Vanya, Fifteen Dogs, and Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812 which have been enjoyed by audiences across Toronto and beyond, and have had further lives at Mirvish, Soulpepper, Theatre Aquarius, and the Segal Centre.

Land Acknowledgement

The land on which our activities take place is the territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This land is also the traditional territory of many nations including the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

We are grateful to be able to gather and share stories here and we encourage you to take this opportunity to reflect on our shared responsibilities to the land and the people it sustains.

Special Thanks

Genevieve Adam, Bonnie Duff, Wulf Higgins, Josue Laboucane, Christine Luksts, Andrea Mapili, Mayari Mapili-Abalos, Jason Martorino, Azeem Nathoo, Stephanie Phoenix, Adrianna Prosser, Paolo Santalucia, Eric Woolfe, Rochelle Thevasagayam, Native Earth Performing Arts, Venvi Guildwood, and everyone at Crow's Theatre!

Thanks To Our Funding Partners



CROWS

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