

|Soulpepper|

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

DIRECTED BY WEYNI MENGESHA





What a rare gift it has been for me as a director to dive back into this extraordinary play.

Tennessee once said that *Streetcar* was “a plea for the understanding of delicate people.” When he wrote the play, America was going through an enormous and, for some, destabilizing cultural shift: tensions and resentments emerged between generations of settled Americans and the many immigrants coming to seek a better life in post-World War II America. Old ways of the South collided with modern, urban sensibilities; plantations became impoverished while city centres began to flourish; veterans were integrating back into society while women

fought to maintain their place as they made room for returning men.

All of the characters also come from different racial and economic backgrounds, but are connected through their desperate need to survive. Although they share in this need, their differences, insecurities, and egos limit their ability to understand each other. In writing about the characters in *Streetcar*, Tennessee notes: Nobody sees anybody truly, but all through the flaws of their own ego. That is the way we all see each other in life. Vanity, fear, desire, competition – all such distortions within our own egos – condition our vision of those in relation to us. Add to those distortions in our own egos, the corresponding distortions in the ego of others – and you can see how cloudy the glass must become through which we look at each other.

Working on this play has made me reflect on how we can see each other more clearly when we have patience, accountability, and ultimately love for each other. I am so grateful to have the chance to revisit this piece with these wonderful artists, and to share it with you.

Upcoming at Soulpepper, you can continue your journey through New Orleans with our concert, *The Big Easy: Music of New Orleans*. We’ve also announced our 2024/25 season, including *What the Constitution Means To Me* by Heidi Schreck, starring Amy Rutherford, and the concert *Billie, Sarah, and Ella: Revolutionary Women in Jazz*, starring Divine Brown and Shakura Dickson.

Find out more about our upcoming season, including our new subscription and membership options at soulpepper.ca. It’s going to be an exciting year of your city and your stories, at your theatre. Come join us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Weyni Mengesha'.

WEYNI MENGESHA

Director, *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Artistic Director, Soulpepper Theatre Company



Rehearsal photo of Amy Rutherford and Shakura Dickson by Dahlia Katz

It has been fascinating – or as Blanche would say “fascinatin’” – to return to this production almost 5 years after the first one. Returning to much of the same company has been exhilarating. While many of the words have had to be relearned, the spirit of Blanche is still there, perhaps even stronger than it was in 2019. I think that this is one of the reasons that Tennessee Williams' plays endure. They are never prescriptive and always human. The world may change, but the human experience does not. Each of his characters is flawed, wounded and full of contradictions. Each of his characters is in need of connection and safety. This is something that can be easily forgotten in the violence and deception that occurs throughout the play. I have had to meet Blanche with empathy, imagination, and a good dose of humour. I have had to fight for her and care for her. I have had to meet her experiences with my own experiences. Tennessee demands it.

Amy Rutherford

Actor, Blanche DuBois, *A Streetcar Named Desire*

Tennessee Williams once said, “My heroines always express the climate of my interior world at the time (they) were created.” Blanche DuBois, his most famous character, was created after the Broadway success of *The Glass Menagerie*. Apparently, fame made Williams feel fragile, susceptible to demons.

I don't want realism. I want magic.

A Streetcar Named Desire is set in the magical city of New Orleans and it pulses with the city's energy, music – what the playwright calls the blue piano – and raucous intermixing of cultures, ethnicities and languages. Like their creator, the characters live in the French Quarter.

The play begins in spring when Blanche moves in with her sister Stella and brother-in-law, Stanley, who she's never met. They clash immediately. Where Blanche is delicate, Stanley is robust. Where she wants magic, he insists on reality. Attraction and repulsion drive them. He, a working-class son of Polish immigrants, resents her air of superiority; she, a daughter of the southern plantation class, finds him brutish. He is also stirred by her disgust and she is also dazzled by the vigour of his appetites. Her conviction that her 'refined' upbringing makes her superior to him is one of her many illusions. The world she mourns was built on racism and exploitation and her past is a good deal more complicated than she can bear to admit.

Living together in a cramped apartment, the characters grapple with what Camille Paglia calls the “... searingly revolutionary force” of sexuality. In this world, white men are permitted, even forgiven, their sins and peccadilloes while women are crucified for theirs.

I won't be looked at in this merciless glare!

In a way, it's all in Blanche's first line: “They told me to take a streetcar named Desire, transfer to one called Cemeteries, ride six blocks and get off at – Elysian Fields!” It sounds lyrical but there actually was a streetcar that terminated on Desire Street in the Ninth Ward. In Williams' hands that ordinary reality acquires poetic resonance, and sets us upon the track of Blanche's fate. Autumn will come, and with it, as one critic said, the shipwreck of beauty upon the rock of the world's vulgarity.

I, I, I took the blows in my face and my body!

PLAYWRIGHT BIOGRAPHY

Thomas Lanier (Tennessee) Williams III was born in 1911 in Mississippi. In his 30s, he settled in New Orleans and fell for a volatile young man (the model for Stanley Kowalski). *The Glass Menagerie*, his breakout play, came in 1944 and *A Streetcar Named Desire* premiered in 1947. This period also included *Sweet Bird of Youth*, *Camino Real*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Difficulties with alcohol and drugs led to hospitalization in 1969 and persisted until he died. In addition to plays, he wrote novels, essays, film scripts, poetry and an autobiography. He died in New York City in 1983.

Background Notes by Paula Wing

This production builds on the work of the artists who were a part of the 2019 process: actors Leah Doz, Akosua Amo-Adem, and SATE, Alexander Coach Kelly McEvenue, and the stage management team of Arwen MacDonell, Emily Mewett, Andrea Baggs, and Kim Moreira. We gratefully acknowledge their contribution to our work. Thank you as well to Andrew Leeke, Corey MacVicar, and Kurt Nicholson.

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

Cast

Divine Brown
Nurse/Willie-Mae/Ensemble

Kaleb Horn
Young Collector/Ensemble

Amy Rutherford
Blanche DuBois

Oliver Dennis
Doctor/Ensemble

Sebastian Marziali
Pablo/Ensemble

Ordena Stephens-Thompson
Eunice Hubbell

Shakura Dickson
Stella Kowalski

Lindsay Owen Pierre
Steve Hubbell

Mac Fyfe
Stanley Kowalski

Gregory Prest
Harold "Mitch" Mitchell

Creative Team

Tennessee Williams
Playwright

Debashis Sinha*
Sound Design

Burcu Emeç
Remount Intimacy Director

Weyni Mengesha
Director

Imogen Wilson*
Associate Lighting Designer

Diane Pitblado
Dialect Coach

Tanya Rintoul
Assistant Director

Mike Ross
Original Music Director

Joanna Falck
Dramaturg

Lorenzo Savoini*
Set Design

Kaleb Horn
Music Director

Robert Harding
Stage Manager

Rachel Forbes*
Costume Design

Simon Fon
Original Fight Director

Laura Baxter
Assistant Stage Manager

Kimberly Purtell*
Lighting Design

Daniel Levinson
Fight Director

Frank/ie
Apprentice Stage Manager

Production

Gunes Agduk
Sound Operator

Andy DeVries
Head Carpenter

Jacqueline Roberston-Cull
Head of Wigs

Christopher Blanchenet
Scenic Artist

Erin Halls
Stitcher

Ethan Robinson
Lighting Operator

Paul Boddum
Head Scenic Artist

Ellie Koffman
Head of Wardrobe

Bill Stahl
1st Carpenter

Meave Byrnes
Dresser

Lisa Nighswander
Head of Props

Dalton Villeneuve-Marini
Deck Hand

Greg Chambers
1st Props Builder

Kalina Popova
Assistant Head of Wardrobe



Soulpepper Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the jointly negotiated Canadian Theatre Agreement



*Indicated designers on this production are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, Local ADC659.

Please be advised *A Streetcar Named Desire* contains brief nudity, derogatory language, and violence including sexual violence.

Running time:
3 hours, 15 mins,
including one intermission



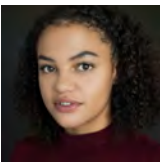
LAURA BAXTER was born in Grimsby, and raised in Kingston, ON. FOR SOULPEPPER: 'da Kink in My Hair, Pipeline, 27 Club, Dirt, Jitters. OTHER THEATRE: Sweat, Love and Information, Venus in Fur, 9 seasons at Dream in High Park (Canadian Stage); Indecent, Oslo, My Name is Asher Lev, My Night With Reg, You Will Remember Me, God of Carnage (Studio 180); Black Boys, Arigato Tokyo, Obaaberima, The Maids (Buddies in Bad Times Theatre); Actually (Obsidian/ Harold Green); The Story, Tails From the City (Common Boots Theatre); Trout Stanley, Little Pretty and the Exceptional (Factory Theatre); 11:11, Elle (Theatre Passe Muraille); Soliciting Temptation (Tarragon Theatre). Thank you to my amazing wife Shawn, and daughter Amari for your unwavering love and support.



DIVINE BROWN SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire, Billie, Sarah & Ella: Revolutionary Women in Jazz (remount), The Secret Chord: A Leonard Cohen Experience (tour). SOULPEPPER THEATRE: Father Comes Home From the Wars (Parts I, II, III), A Moveable Feast: Paris in the 20's, 88 Keys, The Golden Record, Billie, Sarah & Ella: Revolutionary Women in Jazz (Creator), The Secret Chord. OTHER THEATRE: Rainbow World (ensemble), Mama I Want To Sing (Dorothy understudy, ensemble), Obeah Opera, Rent ('Seasons of Love' soloist), Ain't Misbehavin (ensemble, 'Squeeze Me solo), Little Shop of Horrors, Passing Strange (mother), Natasha, Pierre and The Great Comet of 1812 (Hélène). OTHER: As an artist, Divine has placed three top-10 singles on major radio in Canada, her debut self-titled album was awarded a gold certification and generated her first Juno Award nomination in 2005. Her sophomore album The Love Chronicles won her a Juno Award for best R&B Soul Album in 2009. FILM AND TV: Schitt's Creek (recurring principal), American Gods (Actor), BAXTER (recurring principal), Amelia (feature), Undercover Brother (feature).



OLIVER DENNIS was born in Montreal and raised in Carbondale, Illinois. SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire. SOULPEPPER 2023: The Seagull. FOR SOULPEPPER: Around 100 productions since the first season. Here, he has had the opportunity to play Shakespeare and Moliere, Miller and Williams and Albee. Beckett, Ionesco, Orton. Simon. Sarah Ruhl and Suzan-Lori Parks and Tracey Letts. David French and Morris Panych/Brenda Robins and Mike Ross/Sarah Wilson and Lee MacDougall and Vern Thiessen and Michael Shamata. Shaffer, Story, Stoppard, Frayn and Ayckbourn. To name some. FILM & TELEVISION: Please support Canadian Film by catching American Hangman and Don't Get Killed in Alaska on a popular media platform. And also, Slings and Arrows!



SHAKURA DICKSON SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire; Billie, Sarah & Ella: Revolutionary Women in Jazz (Remount). SOULPEPPER 2023: Alice in Wonderland (with Bad Hats), Billie, Sarah & Ella: Revolutionary Women in Jazz. OTHER THEATRE: 'da Kink in My Hair (Soulpepper/TO Live), Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill (Theatre Calgary); Dear Evan Hansen (Mirvish); I am William, Freedom 2.0 (Stratford); Jerusalem (Outside the March/Company Theatre); Light, Girls Like That (Tarragon); Trout Stanley (Factory Theatre); Other Side of the Game (Obsidian/Cahoots). FILM & TELEVISION: Coroner; Grand Army; Private Eyes.



BURCU EMEÇ is based in Toronto. **FOR SOULPEPPER:** A Streetcar Named Desire (2024). **OTHER THEATRE:** White Muscle Daddy (Buddies in Bad Times), Pipeline (Black Theatre Workshop). **FILM & TELEVISION:** Ghosts (Season 2, Season 3), Fellow Travelers, Doin' It, Call Me Mother. **OTHER:** Burcu is also an accomplished theatre/live art creator and performer, whose work has been shown at OFFTA Live Art Festival, Festival TransAmériques (FTA), MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels), and SummerWorks Festival, amongst others. More at www.burcuemec.com



JOANNA FALCK is the Literary Associate at Soulpepper Theatre. **OTHER THEATRE:** Joanna was previously the Literary Manager at Tarragon Theatre and the Shaw Festival. As a freelance dramaturg, she has worked with companies including Blyth Festival Theatre, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, fuGen Asian Canadian Theatre, Nightwood Theatre, Tapestry New Opera Works, Studio 180, Arts Club Theatre Company, Native Earth Performing Arts and Canadian Stage Company. **OTHER:** She was awarded the 2021 Honorary Membership Award from the Playwrights Guild of Canada.



SIMON FON With over 600 professional credits in TV, Film and Stage and 30 years of experience stretching from Broadway to Stratford, Mirvish, Canadian Stage, Resident Fight Director at Soulpepper (2002 – 2020), Simon specializes in all areas: Weaponry, Aerial Flying (NAAFED certified), Unarmed Combat (Eastern and Western). Simon has coached and performed with actors Christopher Plummer, Rachel McAdams, Martin Short, Billy Connolly, and Colm Feore to name a few. Fight Master with FDC. Executive Director and Founder of RIOT A.C.T. earning 17 nominations and 8 awards, including Simon for Male Action Performer of the Year 2009 AOF Festival – California. www.simonfon.com and www.riotact.ca



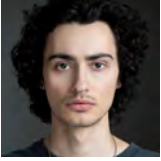
RACHEL FORBES Rachel is an award winning set and costume designer working in theatre, opera, dance and film. **SOULPEPPER 2024:** A Streetcar Named Desire. **FOR SOULPEPPER:** Da Kink in My Hair (2023), The Brothers Size (2019). **OTHER THEATRE:** Topdog Underdog, Fairview, Choir Boy, New Monuments (Canadian Stage); Of The Sea, 21 Black Futures, School Girls (Obsidian Theatre); Treemonisha (Volcano Theatre); Death and the King's Horseman (Stratford Festival); Harlem Duet (Bard on the Beach); The Doctor's Dilemma, Trouble in Mind, Victory, 1837: The Farmers' Revolt (Shaw Festival); Calpurnia, The Mountaintop (Manitoba Theatre Centre); **OTHER:** Rachel received a Dora Mavor Moore award for costume design for The Brothers Size (Soulpepper 2019) and a Merrit Award for set design for The Bridge (2B/Neptune 2019).



MAC FYFE was born in Fergus, Ontario, and raised in Toronto. **RECENT THEATRE:** Heroes of the Fourth Turning (The Howland Company/Crow's Theatre), Streetcar Named Desire (Soulpepper). **OTHER THEATRE:** Dionysus, The Bacchae (Stratford Festival), Trudeau and the FLQ (Dora award) (VideoCabaret), The Thirst of Hearts (Soulpepper); Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet (CanStage); The Elephant Song (Stratford); Narcissus, Britannicus (Next Junction). **FILM/TV:** Frankie Drake (CBC), Saving Hope (CTV) Reign (The CW/Netflix).



ROBERT HARDING was born and raised in Lewisporte, NL. SOULPEPPER credits include: Three Sisters (co-production with Obsidian), The Guide to Being Fabulous, The Seagull, Queen Goneril, King Lear, Pipeline, Draw Me Close, Almighty Voice and his Wife, Rose: A New Musical, Waiting for Godot, Spoon River, Of Human Bondage, The 39 Steps, Accidental Death of an Anarchist. Production Stage Manager 2015-2019. OTHER THEATRE: Treemonisha (Volcano Theatre/Soulpepper/Luminato), Things I Know To Be True (Company Theatre/Mirvish Productions), Once on this Island (Musical Stage Co./Obsidian), Clybourne Park, Stuff Happens (Studio 180/Mirvish Productions), The Best Brothers, Communion, A Beautiful View (Tarragon Theatre).



KALEB HORN was born in Ottawa, ON. FOR SOULPEPPER: A Streetcar Named Desire (2019). OTHER THEATRE: As You Like It (Shakespeare Bash'd, co-composer/music director); Fritz & Kale (Toronto Festival of Clowns); MANICPIXIEDREAMGIRLS (Rock Bottom Movement). FILM & TELEVISION: Chucky; Dream Scenario; Glamorous; Hardy Boys; The Kid Detective; Condor. MUSIC: You can find his debut album "Scars To Take Care Of" on all music streaming platforms or support him directly here: kalebhorn.bandcamp.com



DANIEL LEVINSON was born in Ottawa and made Toronto his home in 1987. OTHER THEATRE: Daniel has created fights for The Stratford Festival (5 seasons), Canadian Stage, Jesus Christ Superstar Broadway, Second City, A.C.T. Productions, Factory Theatre, Shakespeare in the Rough, Theatre Aquarius, The Actor's Repertory Company, Theatre Passe Muraille, and The Tarragon Theatre. OTHER: Daniel founded Rapier Wit Canada's oldest stage combat company in 1991 and has been fight directing, instructing, and directing across Canada. He is proud of being a fight master with Fight Directors Canada.



SEBASTIAN MARZIALI is a Uruguayan-Canadian performer based in Tkaronto. FOR SOULPEPPER: A Streetcar Named Desire (2019). OTHER THEATRE: Blood Weddings (Aluna & Modern Times), Wring the Roses (Madonna/High-Performance Rodeo) FILM & TELEVISION: Dark Side of Comedy, Rachel & Raha. OTHER: Sebastian is also an accomplished scenographer having designed for theatre, dance, burlesque, concerts, and film both locally and internationally.



WEYNI MENGESHA is the Artistic Director of Soulpepper Theatre Company and an award-winning director, known for her groundbreaking work and community engagement. Weyni has directed shows across Canada that have gone on to tour nationally and internationally, and have been developed into television shows playing on CBC, Global, and Netflix. She has also directed in London, New York, Los Angeles, garnering a NAACP nomination for Best Direction as well as Dora, Drama League, and Drama Critics Circle award nominations and awards for Outstanding Direction. She has been an instructor at Soulpepper Academy, the National Theatre School of Canada and the Canadian Film Centre and was Co-Artistic Director and teacher with A.M.Y Project for 7 years. In 2017, Weyni was named one of the Women In View's "Five in Focus" identifying five rising film directors across Canada. She was recently named one of the 50 most influential people in Toronto by Toronto Life Magazine.



FRANK/IE was born in so-called St. Albert, Alberta and moved to Toronto in 2018. SOULPEPPER 2024: *A Streetcar Named Desire*. OTHER THEATRE: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Canadian Stage), *The Incredible Adventures of Mary Jane Mosquito* (Carousel Players). OTHER: Frank/ie is a performer, writer and math enthusiast. He is proudly autistic and has been fortunate to find home in many theatres across Turtle Island.



LINDSAY OWEN PIERRE is an African-Canadian actor currently based in Toronto. SOULPEPPER 2024: *A Streetcar Named Desire*. He is presently working on *Popularity Papers* and *Jack Reacher* on Amazon. His recent credits include *O'sir* on Star Trek Discovery, *Raymond Haskins* on *Suits*, and also appears on Sci-fi's *The Expanse*, *Dark Matter*, and *The Strain*. He is also an accomplished voice actor for children's shows, including *Let's Go Luna* and the CBC series *Game Savers* as well as numerous video game franchises. He has voiced over 30 characters for games such as *Assassin's Creed*, *Ghost Recon*, *Splinter Cell*, *Farcry* and many more. As well, he is an accomplished singer, bassist and guitarist and is happy to show you what he can do with a trombone in this show.



DIANE PITBLADO was born in Toronto. She has lived in Toronto, Montreal, and London, UK. SOULPEPPER 2024: *A Streetcar Named Desire*. FOR SOULPEPPER: over seventy productions since the inaugural season. OTHER THEATRE: National Arts Centre, Canadian Stage, Tarragon Theatre, *Buddies in Bad Times*, Studio 180, Mirvish Productions, Royal Manitoba Theatre, among others. FILM & TELEVISION: select credits include Emilia Jones in 'Locke and Key', Tom Hopper and Robert Sheehan in 'Umbrella Academy', Margot Robbie in 'Suicide Squad', Mads Mikkelsen in 'Hannibal', Kristen Stewart in 'On the Road', and Julie Christie in 'Away from Her'.



GREGORY PREST was born and raised in Pictou, Nova Scotia. SOULPEPPER 2024: De Profundis: Oscar Wilde in Jail (writer/director), A Streetcar Named Desire (actor). FOR SOULPEPPER: Over 45 shows in 12 seasons as actor, director, and creator, including Rose (Dora Award), Hosanna, Bed & Breakfast, August: Osage County, La Bête, Of Human Bondage (Dora Nomination), Spoon River, Angels in America, Alligator Pie (Dora Award), Father Comes Home from the Wars, Long Day's Journey, and Ghosts. OTHER THEATRE: As actor: The Inheritance (Canadian Stage), Harry Potter and the Cursed Child (Mirvish – Dora Nomination), The Seagull (Crow's/Canadian Stage/Company), Tarragon, YPT, Canadian Opera Company. As director: Bremen Town (Next Stage), Punk Rock (Howland), Fish Eyes (TPM, Canadian Tour, Other Festival – Chennai, India). FILM & TELEVISION: Pillow Talk (Canadian Screen Award Nomination). OTHER: Graduate of the National Theatre School and the Soulpepper Academy. UPCOMING: The Bidding War (Crow's Theatre). More info at gregoryprest.com



KIMBERLY PURTELL was born and raised in Thornhill, ON. SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire. FOR SOULPEPPER: (selected) Wildwoman; Queen Goneril; King Lear; Pipeline; A Streetcar Named Desire; Sisters; The Goat or Who Is Sylvia; The Last Wife; The Virgin Trial; Mother's Daughter; Crash; Twelve Angry Men; Happy Place. OTHER THEATRE: Mirvish Productions, Stratford Festival, Shaw Festival, Canadian Stage Company, Soulpepper Theatre, Arena Stage, DC, National Arts Centre and the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Pacific Opera Victoria, Opera Philadelphia, Edmonton Opera, Theatre Calgary, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, Citadel Theatre, Place des Arts, among others. OTHER: Recipient of three Dora Mavor Moore Awards, the Pauline McGibbon Award, a Montreal English Theatre Award, a Toronto Theatre Critics Award, an Ottawa Critics Circle Award and an Elizabeth Sterling Award. Kimberly is the Vice President of the Associated Designers of Canada and ADC659.



TANYA RINTOUL was born and mostly raised in Toronto, ON. SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire. FOR SOULPEPPER: A Streetcar Named Desire (2019), Innocence Lost (2018), Father Comes Home from the Wars Parts 1, 2, and 3 (2016) OTHER THEATRE: Director: Everybody (TFS); Orlando (Theatre Erindale); The Secret in the Wings (TFS); The Worst Thing I Could Be Is Happy (Tiny Bear Jaws); The Queen's Eulogy (the orchid beauty shop/Toronto Fringe); The Nails (SummerWorks); The Last Five Years (Rural Stages Productions); Deceitful Above All Things (The Storefront Theatre); The Listening Room (NTS); Gruesome Playground Injuries (NTS) OTHER: Tanya is the Education Manager and the TENT program director at the Toronto Fringe. She is a graduate of the Humber College Theatre Performance program and The National Theatre School of Canada.



MIKE ROSS was born in Charlottetown P.E.I., raised in Toms River, New Jersey. SOULPEPPER 2024: De Profundis: Oscar Wilde in Jail (Composer, Music Director, Arranger & Orchestrator), A Streetcar Named Desire (Original Music Director). FOR SOULPEPPER: Selected: Sound Designer & Composer: Of Human Bondage. Composer, Co-Adaptor, Music Director & Performer: Spoon River. Composer: The Dybbuk. Sound Designer & Composer: Of Human Bondage. Composer, Arranger, & Music Director: Marat/Sade. Co-Creator: Alligator Pie. Actor: Angels in America, Glenn, True West, Alligator Pie, Death of a Salesman, Oh What a Lovely War. Co-Creator: (re)Birth: E.E. Cummings in Song. OTHER THEATRE: Assassins (Talk is Free/Birdland); Fire, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Theatre Calgary); No Great Mischief, Molière (Tarragon). OTHER: Five Dora Awards, two Robert Merritt Awards. Graduate of the Soulpepper Academy.



AMY RUTHERFORD is a graduate of The National Theatre School of Canada and Stratford Birmingham Conservatory. SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire, What the Constitution Means to Me. FOR SOULPEPPER: A Streetcar Named Desire (2019); Odd Couple (2008), As You Like It (2008). OTHER THEATRE: Fifteen Dogs (Segal Centre), Liars At A Funeral (Blyth Festival), An Undeveloped Sound (Electric Company Theatre), Public Enemy (Canadian Stage) FILM & TELEVISION: Kim's Convenience (CBC), Killyjoys (Syfy), Remedy (Global) OTHER: Amy's play Mortified (2018) won The Playwright Guild of Canada's Carol Bolt Award for Best New Play and was published by Playwrights Canada Press.



LORENZO SAVOINI was born and raised in Thornhill, ON. SOULPEPPER 2024: A Streetcar Named Desire, De Profundis: Oscar Wilde in Jail. FOR SOULPEPPER: Over forty productions, most notably set design for King Gilgamesh and the Man of the Wild (2023), Pipeline (2022), A Streetcar Named Desire (2019), set and lighting for Rose (2019), Idomeneus (2018). OTHER THEATRE: Pomegranate (Canadian Opera Company); New (RMT/CanStage); set and lighting for Grand Magic (Stratford Festival), Kelly V. Kelly (Musical Stage Co./Canadian Stage), Network (Citadel/RMT/CanStage), Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo (Crow's Theatre), Of Mice and Men (Joffrey Ballet). OTHER: Lorenzo is the recipient of five Dora Awards for outstanding design and is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada. www.lorenzosavoini.com



DEBASHIS SINHA was born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba. SOULPEPPER 2024: Casey and Diana, A Streetcar Named Desire. FOR SOULPEPPER: *Death and the King's Horseman, *Hayavadana, A Streetcar Named Desire, Mother's Daughter, Wedding At Aulis, Idomeneus, The Just, Happy Place, Eurydice, *Around the World in 80 Plays audio plays. OTHER THEATRE: world premieres and productions at Stratford Festival, Shaw Festival, Why Not Theatre, Volcano Theatre, Theatre Passe Muraille, Peggy Baker Dance Projects and others. Film and Television: 21 Black Futures (sound design); Station 11 (music coordinator). OTHER:2023 Louis Applebaum Composer's Award Laureate; multiple Dora awards incl Outstanding Achievement in Design, Opera Division.



ORDENA STEPHENS-THOMPSON was born in Jamaica, West Indies. SOULPEPPER 2024: Three Sisters (co-production with Obsidian), A Streetcar Named Desire. FOR SOULPEPPER: For Coloured Girls (2017); Da Kink in My Hair (2022). OTHER THEATRE: Fairview (Canadian Stage/Obsidian Theatre); Sweat (Canadian Stage/Studio 180); Fences (The Grand Theatre); Harlem Duet (Tarragon Theatre). FILM & TELEVISION: Skymed; Christmas at the Drive Inn; Ruby and the Well. OTHER: Two Dora Award nominations.



IMOGEN WILSON Imogen is a Toronto based Lighting Designer. FOR SOULPEPPER: A Streetcar Named Desire (2024), 'da Kink in My Hair (with TO Live, 2022). Imogen has designed with The Stratford Festival, Canadian Stage, Crows Theatre, Chemainus Festival, Musical Stage, Against the Grain, & Toronto Dance Theatre. Imogen has also worked as an assistant lighting designer for Mirvish, Canadian Opera Company, and the Stratford Festival. She is also a scenic painter, proud member of ADC 659, and loves to go for a canoe at sunset.

LICENSING INFORMATION

“Let’s Get Lost” and “Soul Catcher” originally composed by SATE and Kaleb Horn and arranged with Mike Ross. Additional composition and arrangement by Divine Brown

“Dooky Chase” originally composed and arranged by Mike Ross with SATE

“Goodnight Ladies” originally arranged by Mike Ross with SATE

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE is presented by special arrangement with the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, and by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

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Created by Divine Brown
Directed by Weyni Mengesha

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ON STAGE
STARTING
OCT 15

Photo by: Dahnke Katz

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WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME

By Heidi Schreck
Directed by Weyni Mengesha
Starring Amy Rutherford

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