

Soulpepper

ACT I
★
FEBRUARY
—
JUNE 2023



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WELCOME TO ACT I OF OUR 2023 SEASON



The artists and staff of Soulpepper and the Young Centre for the Performing Arts acknowledge the original caretakers and storytellers of the land on which we are situated – the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishanabek First Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit. We commit to honouring and celebrating their past, present and future.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Dear Friends,

We are thrilled to share the first 'Act' of our 2023 season.

This brochure includes a look at the first four productions of the year. These stories offer theatregoers a passport to the world and celebrate global voices, exploring what it means to be part of a community, to find your place, a home.

The rest of our season will unfold in three more distinct 'Acts' with their own unique flavour. Act II is a summer celebration of community, Act III focuses on work by female identifying artists and Act IV brings families together for some holiday cheer. We'll announce more details as the year progresses.

We have spent the last year rebuilding and are reenergized by the extraordinary audiences back in our building. The 2023 season continues our proud tradition of artistic excellence and uplifting our community.

We look forward to welcoming you to our space.

Weyni Mengesha
Artistic Director

Gideon Arthurs
Executive Director

Cover & season illustrations by Gracia Lam.
Above: Gideon Arthurs & Weyni Mengesha. Photo Dahlia Katz.

FEB 9
–
MAR 5

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ENGLISH

SANAZ TOOSI

A CO-PRODUCTION WITH THE SEGAL CENTRE

What gets lost – and found – in translation

English Only! That is the class rule in Iran as four adult students prepare for the language exam that will unlock their futures. As the class devolves into a linguistic mess, the students navigate a maze of prepositions and word games, while questioning how they can be funny in another language. Mastery of the English language promises to make them whole – but it might be splitting them in half. A heartfelt and humorous look at what gets lost in translation.

NEW YORK TIMES CRITICS' PICK

WINNER! 2022 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PLAY

PRODUCTION SPONSOR



SUPPORTED BY
THE TD BIPOC
CREATOR'S FUND

DIRECTED BY

Anahita Dehbonehie
& Guillermo Verdecchia

PERFORMED IN

The Marilyn & Charles Baillie Theatre



FEB 22
–
MAR 5

CANADIAN PREMIERE

BILLIE, SARAH, AND ELLA: REVOLUTIONARY WOMEN IN JAZZ

DIVINE BROWN

A brand new Soulepper concert experience!

It was the birth of the modern era, and Jazz was the soundtrack for change. These are the stories of the women that transformed the music industry and gave Jazz its social purpose – Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan, and Ella Fitzgerald. Soulepper Slight Music Associate Divine Brown pays tribute to the heroes – known and unknown – that inspired a movement.

MUSIC SPONSOR

THE
SLAIGHT
FAMILY

SUPPORTED BY
THE TD BIPOC
CREATOR'S FUND

DIRECTED BY

Weyni Mengesha

PERFORMED IN

The Michael Young Theatre



APR 6
–
APR 30

RUSSIA 1896 + U.K. 2017

THE SEAGULL

ANTON CHEKHOV,
A NEW VERSION BY
SIMON STEPHENS

The stage is set for a little family drama

Unrequited love. Creative jealousy. Guns. Vodka. A summer weekend at a lakeside estate falls apart when a famous writer comes to visit. Switching effortlessly between the ridiculous and the profound, Chekhov's masterpiece examines the burning need to create art and the destructive power of love.

PRODUCTION SPONSOR

Sylvia Soyka

DIRECTED BY

Daniel Brooks

PERFORMED IN

The Marilyn & Charles Baillie Theatre



MAY 25
–
JUNE 18

SOUTH AFRICA 1972

SIZWE BANZI IS DEAD

ATHOL FUGARD, JOHN KANI
AND WINSTON NTSHONA

What is your name worth?

In apartheid-era South Africa, the only way for Banzi to survive is to fake his own death. From one of the world's great playwrights Athol Fugard (*Master Harold... and the Boys*), comes a soaring and personal comedy of identity, memory, and the resilience of the human spirit.

BEST PLAY – TONY AWARD NOMINATED

SUPPORTED BY
THE TD BIPOC
CREATOR'S FUND

DIRECTED BY
Mumbi Tindyebwa Otu

PERFORMED IN
The Michael Young Theatre



FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
	6	7	8	9 ENGLISH (7:30)+	10 ENGLISH (7:30)+	11 ENGLISH (7:30)+
12	13	14 ENGLISH (7:30)+	15 ENGLISH (7:30)+	16 ENGLISH (7:30)Ⓢ	17 ENGLISH (7:30)	18 ENGLISH (1:30/7:30)
19	20	21 ENGLISH (7:30)	22 ENGLISH (1:30/7:30) JAZZ (8:00)Ⓢ	23 ENGLISH (7:30) JAZZ (8:00)	24 ENGLISH (7:30) JAZZ (8:00)	25 ENGLISH (1:30/7:30) JAZZ (2:00/8:00)
26 ENGLISH (1:30) JAZZ (2:00)	27	28 ENGLISH (7:30) JAZZ (8:00)				

MARCH 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 ENGLISH (1:30/7:30) JAZZ (2:00/8:00)	2 ENGLISH (7:30) JAZZ (8:00)	3 ENGLISH (7:30) JAZZ (8:00)	4 ENGLISH (1:30/7:30) JAZZ (2:00/8:00)
5 ENGLISH (1:30) JAZZ (2:00)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6 SEAGULL (7:30)+	7 SEAGULL (7:30)+	8 SEAGULL (7:30)+
9	10	11 SEAGULL (7:30)+	12 SEAGULL (7:30)+	13 SEAGULL (7:30)Ⓢ	14 SEAGULL (7:30)	15 SEAGULL (1:30/7:30)
16 SEAGULL (1:30)	17	18 SEAGULL (7:30)	19 SEAGULL (1:30/7:30)	20 SEAGULL (7:30)	21 SEAGULL (7:30)	22 SEAGULL (1:30/7:30)
23 SEAGULL (1:30)	24	25 SEAGULL (7:30)	26 SEAGULL (1:30/7:30)	27 SEAGULL (7:30)	28 SEAGULL (7:30)	29 SEAGULL (1:30/7:30)
30 SEAGULL (1:30)						

MAY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 SIZWE (8:00)+	26 SIZWE (8:00)+	27 SIZWE (8:00)+
28	29	30 SIZWE (8:00)+	31 SIZWE (8:00)+			

JUNE 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 SIZWE (8:00) ①	2 SIZWE (8:00)	3 SIZWE (2:00/8:00)
4 SIZWE (2:00)	5	6 SIZWE (8:00)	7 SIZWE (2:00/8:00)	8 SIZWE (8:00)	9 SIZWE (8:00)	10 SIZWE (2:00/8:00)
11 SIZWE (2:00)	12	13 SIZWE (8:00)	14 SIZWE (2:00/8:00)	15 SIZWE (8:00)	16 SIZWE (8:00)	17 SIZWE (2:00/8:00)
18 SIZWE (2:00)	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- ① OPENING NIGHT PERFORMANCE
 + PREVIEW PERFORMANCE

ENGLISH – English
 JAZZ – Billie, Sarah, and Ella:
 Revolutionary Women in Jazz

SEAGULL – The Seagull
 SIZWE – Sizwe Banzi is Dead

TICKET PRICING

What you see is what you pay! All prices include service charge, facility fee and HST.

PRICING FOR ALL SHOWS

PREVIEW PRICING

\$25 • \$35

REGULAR PRICING

\$25 • \$45 • \$65

TUESDAYS

Pay What You Choose

FLEX PACK DISCOUNTS

Buy more, save more! – valid until January 15

BUY 2 – Save 10%

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WE STRIVE TO MAKE THEATRE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO SAVE:

- FREE 25 & UNDER PROGRAM SPONSORED BY SUN LIFE FINANCIAL
- SAME DAY RUSH TICKETS
- ARTSWORKER DISCOUNT
- GROUP & STUDENT DISCOUNTS

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: SOULPEPPER.CA/WAYSTOSAVE

ALL THEATRES ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Please call the Box Office to book accessible seats and additional details.

Visit soulpepper.ca for detailed seating maps.

HOW TO GET YOUR TICKETS

ONLINE

soulpepper.ca

BOX OFFICE

In person: Tue-Sat, 1-8pm

PHONE

416.866.8666

SOULPEPPER THEATRE COMPANY

Young Centre for the Performing Arts

50 Tank House Lane, Toronto, Ontario M5A 3C4

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Canadā

SOULPEPPER ON THE STAGE



Sylvia Soyka

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