

MountAllison
Motyer-Fancy Theatre

2024-2025 SEASON

THE DARK

A PROCESSION OF MUSIC AND LIGHT

CREATED BY

IAN MCFARLANE &
KIERA GALWAY

POEM BY **KEAGAN HAWTHORNE**

MUSIC BY **HOPE SALMONSON** | FEATURING **THE ELLIOTT CHORALE**

Creator's Note



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

It is difficult to locate the centre of a poem. It arises from the poet's words but is animated through the reader's eyes and the speaker's breath. The poem's meaning transforms with each encounter. Likewise, this project began as a seed but has proliferated (as a patch of loosestrife might) through many leading hands, travelling in many directions. The creation of this new work has been, above all, a collaboration. Thank you to all who have generously given their energy and trust as we imagined something new together.

Tonight's performance will take place in two parts. The first will be a procession through Waterfowl Park where we invite you to turn your ear to the landscape and hear it speak. The second part will take place in Normandy Field, where the Elliott Chorale will perform an original composition by Hope Salmonson, accompanied by our courageous team of puppeteers. If you joined us for our lantern building workshops, or have a lantern of your own design, you are welcome to share your light throughout the experience.

Thank you to the Mount Allison Drama and Screen Studies department, the Fine Arts department, and the Music department for your support. In particular, thank you to Valmai Goggin for your contributions to the production management of this show, to Andrea deBruijn for your facilitation in operating the letter press, as well as LauraBoo Stinson for your ongoing guidance, inspiration and support.

Co-creators - Ian McFarlane and Kiera Galway

Creative Team



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Ian McFarlane (He/They)

Co-Creator, Puppetry Direction, and Designer

For MFT - Set and costume design for: Never Swim Alone, The Juliet Project, Ubu '24, The Drowning Girls, Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street. Ian is the Resident Designer at the Motyer-Fancy Theatre and a lecturer for the Drama and Screen Studies program. He enjoys carpentry, poetry, jazz music and going for long walks in the woods with his dog, Odin.

Kiera Galway

Co-Creator, Music Director

Choral conductor, musician and educator Kiera Galway was born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland, where a supportive family and community encouraged her musical growth. Kiera's research interests centre on placed-informed approaches to music and music education. Her PhD dissertation focused on cultural and musical geographies in Canada, mapping the intersections of space, identity, and music.



Hope Salmonson

Music

Composer-tubist Hope Salmonson is queering her music through a cross-genre style and a burning desire to help performers represent themselves. With a focus on process over product, Hope seeks to ensure that every voice in the room is valued, on and off the stage. Hope is always chasing opportunities to connect with others through music, valuing community first and foremost. Photo by Chloe Mantrom

Creative Team



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Keagan Hawthorne Poetry

Keagan Hawthorne is a poet, letterpress printer, and proprietor of The Hardscrabble Press. His poetry has appeared in journals across Canada, as well as in Ireland and England, and was awarded the 2021 Alfred G. Bailey Prize.



Percy Austin Sound Installation

Percy is a 3rd year English, Religion, and Drama Studies student. They've helped with many shows at Mount A, but this is their first time working with sound. Outside of theatre, they're fond of folktales, half-writing poems, and wandering around Waterfowl Park.

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Elliott Chorale



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Michaela Cabot	Alto 1
Belle Colwell	Soprano 2
Skye Cote	Soprano 1
Emily Forest	Soprano 1
Maeven Gaskell	Soprano 1
Anna Grear	Soprano 1
Danica Jollimore	Soprano 2
Clare Lowe	Soprano 1
Christina Kipping	Soprano 1
Kenzie MacIntyre	Alto 2
Eden McFadden	Alto 2
Gabrielle Pottie	Alto 1
Emma Poulsen	Alto 2
Margaret Stapleton	Alto 2
Hannah Stilwell	Soprano 2
Meredith Sy	Soprano 2
Olivia Veale	Soprano 2
Emily Wong	Alto 1

Puppeteers



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Ben Blue
Maika Branch
Elena Carter
Anabel Donison
Charlotte Harriman
Kody Hatfield
Rachael Liddell
Emma Neilson
Maya Noelle
Leon Teixeira
Aiden Woodin

Crew



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

Will Davis (He/They)

Stage Manager*

For MFT: Précipice, Seven Stories, Sweeney Todd, UBU 24, The Juliet Project. Will is a 3rd year Fine Arts student. He is extraordinarily grateful he has gotten to work with such an amazing group of people and help to bring this beautiful piece to life. When he isn't trying to be involved in every production possible, Will can be found in the printmaking studio or creating something in his bedroom.

Production Managers:

Ian McFarlane, Valmai Goggin

Assistant Stage Manager:

Violet Troop

Understudy: Aiden Woodin

Emergency Lighting Technician:

Kylie Vienneau

*Indicates 4011 Project

Crew



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Lantern Building

Percy Austin, Benjamin Blue, Maika Branch, Dawson Cormier, Will Davis, Erica Duncan, Laura Torriero, Kylie Vienneau

Letter Press

Will Davis, Ian McFarlane, Andrea deBruijn

Crew

Nevan Barar, Alecsandra Bjurstrom-Evans, Jocelyne Sirois

Special Thanks

The River Clyde Pageant, LauraBoo Stinson, Andrea deBruijn, Andrew Kerr, Municipality of Tantramar, Mount Allison Athletics, Dwayne Action, Kevin Morse, KC Hingley, Peggy Craig

MOTYER-FANCY THEATRE

SARAH FANNING | Director of Drama & Screen Studies

VALMAI GOGGIN | Instructor in Applied Theatre

IAN MCFARLANE | Resident Designer

ALEX FANCY | Professor Emeritus

JAY WHITEHEAD | Crake Drama Fellow

STEPHANIE DOTTO | McCain Postdoctoral Fellow

PAUL GRIFFIN | Lecturer

DAWSON CORMIER | Carpentry & Paint

JACOB FARRELL | Marketing & Publicity

DANICA JOLLIMORE | Costume & Props

HENNA MATHARU | Screen Intern

CATE MCNAIR | Front of House

DANAE MORRISON | Theatre

THE DARK

When she was little my mother wanted to hear
what the river had to say.

She pressed her ear to the ice
and it spoke.

A neighbour saw,
guessed where to chop a hole downstream.

A miracle, they said, our Lazarus.

Her father gave the man a cow.

Three weeks in bed and no one asked
what the lights were like beneath the ice,
what darkness.

A shame, she thought.

It was beautiful.

Next at the MFT



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!



ALBERTINE
IN FIVE TIMES

By Michel Tremblay

Translated by Linda Gaboriau | Directed by Paul Griffin