

Lark & Whimsy Theatre Collective, founded by Chris Baker and Erin Vandenberg, produces original Canadian plays that pair rich theatricality and language with challenging content. Their first production, *Salt*, was hailed “*a beautiful and harrowing portrayal of mental illness and abuse*” (Mooney on Theatre). An exciting new part of Toronto's indie theatre scene, Lark & Whimsy strives to create theatrical experiences that illuminate and engage. We love the slightly absurd, the handcrafted and the delicate. We explore the frictions that arise between conflicting viewpoints and the “*imponderable agony of just being here*” as Gwendolyn MacEwan once called it. We try to be funny sometimes too. Always, we work to try to understand more about ourselves and the time and place we live in. Learn more at larkandwhimsytheatre.com.

Flat Earth Global based out of Hamilton, Ontario, produces theatre that flies in the face of rational and attempts the impossible.

Janelle Hanna (Playwright/Performer/Producer) is a Toronto-based actor, educator, and short sassy woman, and is thrilled to be premiering her first full-length solo show *Bad Baby Presents: Rules Control the Fun* at the Toronto Fringe. This will be Janelle's 5th Toronto Fringe appearance. Previous Fringe credits include: *Eternal Friendship with a Spotless Smile* (Patron's Pick), *Virginia Aldridge, BSc*, *Sitting in a Tree*, and *Fantastic Extravagance*. Other credits include: *Frankenstein Live* (The Arts Engine), *Knot Tied* (Lab Cab Festival), *Eligible* (BravoFact), *Neighbourhood Watch*, *The Duvet* (Film Army), Carly in the Canadian Screen Award nominated *Out With Dad* (www.outwithdad.com), *Swell Broad, Commencement* (Convection Productions), Emily in *Clutch* (Indie Soaps Actress of the Week www.clutchtheseries.com), *Last Man Hanged*, *Ring Round the Moon*, *Pillar to Port Walkabout* (Gairbraid Theatre), *Anne of Green Gables* (Stirling Festival Theatre). Janelle is a graduate of the Masters in Acting program at York University where she played such roles as Cordelia/Foole in *King Lear*, the Knight in *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, Volumnia in *Coriolanus*, Alcestis in *Alcestis*, and Flute/Thisbe in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is also a graduate of the joint acting program at Sheridan College and the University of Toronto Mississauga (Theatre Erindale). @janellemhanna

Briana Brown (Director) is a playwright and theatre director based in Toronto. Selected directing credits include: *Salt* (Lark and Whimsy, Toronto), *Wait* (Theatre SKAM's Skampede, Victoria), *The Way Back to Thursday* (Theatre Passe Muraille, Toronto, In Tune Festival, Vancouver), *Pitch Blond* (Next Stage Festival), and assistant directing the Canadian premiere of *True Love Lies* with Brad Fraser. Selected writing credits include: *The Concessions* (Touchstone Theatre, Vancouver), which earned a Jessie Award nomination for Outstanding Original Script, *Almost, Again* (2010 Best of Fringe Toronto, published in *Out on a Limb* anthology), and *Cassandra* (2006 Canadian Fringe tour, 2007 Winnipeg's FemFest, published in *One for the Road* anthology). She was an invited participant in the Stratford Festival Playwright's Retreat, the Thousand Islands Playhouse Playwright's Unit, and recently completed a residency with Driftwood Theatre. The play she developed there, *Robert*, was shortlisted for the Playwright's Guild Stage West Pechet Family Comedy Award. This summer she will be one of 25 directors selected from around the world to participate in Directors Lab North, held annually in Toronto.

[The last time she directed Janelle she was playing a six year old girl talking about her vagina.]

Chris Baker (Producer) is a multi-discipline artist and producer in Toronto, Canada, and is very excited to be back at the Fringe co-producing Janelle Hanna's *Bad Baby Presents: Rules Control the Fun*. With his theatre collective Lark & Whimsy, Chris produced the world premiere of *Salt*, a new Canadian play, by Erin Vandenberg at the Alumnae Studio Theatre in September, 2016. As an actor for the Toronto Fringe, Chris played the title role in the Patron's Pick winning production of *Deadmouse: The Musical* (2015), and lovable dolt Mr. Brooke in *Women* (2016). Other acting credits include: *Nutcracker Story Time* (National Ballet of Canada), *Jelly Belly Makes Garbage Delight of Alligator Pie* (Carousel Players), *Forty-Second Street* (Drayton), *Murdoch Mysteries* (CBC), *Reign* (CBS), *InSecurity* (CBC), *Supernatural* (WB), *Psych* (NBC), Canadian indie features *Dead Before Dawn*, *GravyTrain*, and *Rock, Paper, Scissors: The Way of the Tosser* (Wango Films). He's also appeared in a bunch of TV commercials for all kinds of things. In 2014, Chris wrote and directed his first short film *SPUN* which premiered at the Zero Film Fest - Toronto, and went on to screen at the Zero Film Fest - Montreal, Laughing Devil Short Film Fest (NY), Toronto Short Film Festival, and online as part of the National Screen Institute's Short Film Festival. His second short film, *Dorothy's Secret*, written and directed by Matthew MacFadzean, screened at the Newport Beach FF, Toronto International Short Film Fest, We Make Movies Canada Slate 1 Gala, Orange County Film Society, We Make Movies Canada Los Angeles Film Fest, Summer Lights Film Fest, Hamilton Film Fest, and it won the People's Choice Award for Best Short Film at the Scenic City Film Fest. *Dorothy's Secret* is currently under license by CBC's *Canadian Reflections*. Presently, Chris is producing a web series in development with Matthew MacFadzean called *Free Space*, about a family that runs a bingo hall at the end of the American empire.

Erin Vandenberg (Stage Manager) is a Toronto based playwright, screenwriter and co-founder of Lark & Whimsy Theatre Collective. She is delighted to stage manage Janelle Hanna's *Bad Baby Presents: Rules Control the Fun* at the 2017 Toronto Fringe Festival, co-produced by Flat Earth Global and Lark & Whimsy. As a playwright and screenwriter, her work has been selected for Glasswater Theatre Company's Potluck Play Reading Series in 2012 and 2014, as well as Women On Screen's inaugural Short Film Incubator in 2014. Her full length play *Salt* was produced by Lark & Whimsy in 2016 after being shortlisted for Tarragon Theatre's 2013 RBC Emerging Playwriting Competition and for Nightwood Theatre's 2014 National Play Reading Series, part of the Groundswell Festival. She is currently developing her new play, *A Trick with the Light*, with Pat the Dog Theatre. Erin holds a BFA in Acting from Ryerson University and an MFA in Creative Writing and Playwriting from the University of British Columbia. You can find her on Twitter @Erin_MFA.

Gabriel Crolepy (Lighting Designer) is a Toronto based lighting designer and two-time Dora Mavor Moore award nominee. Recent credits include *Stage Door* for Randolph Academy, *Mapiko* for NAfro Dance (Winnipeg), *through your eyes* for Alias Dance Projects, *5 Elements* for Little Pear Garden Dance Company, *Loop* for Expect Theatre, *Salt* for Lark and

Whimsy Theatre, *Funny/Funeral* for Sabina Perry/Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie, and *The Mystery of Mr Leftovers* for Jillian Peever Dance Creations/Cinetic Creations.

Gabriel has had the privilege of collaborating with Theatre Gargantua, Peggy Baker Dance Projects, BoucharDanse, Julia Sasso Dance, dreamwalker dance, Angela Blumberg, Sook-Yin Lee, Simcoe Contemporary Dancers, Deviation Dance, Teatron Theatre, Newton Moraes Dance Theatre, Cadence Contemporary Ballet, Tracey Norman, Forcier StageWorks, Soulpepper Global Cabaret, RAW Taiko Drummers, Company Vice Versa, Ritmo Flamenco, Toronto Masque Theatre, Continuum Contemporary Music, JDdance, Tribal Crackling Wind, Toronto Dance Theatre, Art of Time Ensemble and Le Nouvel Opera (Montreal), and the School of Toronto Dance Theatre.