PANOPLY
THEATRE COLLECTIVE

CLOWNS READING SHAKESPEARE

TORONTO FRINGE FESTIVAL

Guild Festival Theatre
A Youth Engagement Scarborough Project

Young People's Theatre Studio

June 30th, July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 11th, 12th

CLOWNS READING SHAKESPEARE

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CLASSICS. CREATION. COLLABORATION.
PANOPLY THEATRE COLLECTIVE (PAN-UH-PLEE) IS A TORONTO-BASED CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATION THAT PRIORITIZES **COLLABORATIVE CREATION** AND **RECLAIMING THE CLASSICS** THROUGH AN INCLUSIVE LENS. WE CREATE DYNAMIC **ORIGINAL PLAYS**, AND WE **ADAPT CLASSICAL STORIES** WITH A FEMINIST, INCLUSIVE, AND MODERN PERSPECTIVE. FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS **@PANOPLYCOLLECTIVE** OR VISIT US AT **WWW.PANOPLYCOLLECTIVE.COM**

***Clowns* 2025 production photo by Graeme Jokic**

Clowns Reading Shakespeare

A troupe of eager Clowns has arrived at the theatre to audition for a Shakespeare play. What play, you ask? One of William Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, of course! Which one, you ask? Well...

Can these Clowns handle Hamlet, the famous drama about a grief-stricken son? Or how about Romeo & Juliet, the beloved tale of star-crossed romance?
Or maybe Macbeth, Shakespeare's spooky play about witches and kings?

Can this intrepid group choose a play in time?
The show must go on!

This performance runs 55 minutes with no intermission.

Cast & Crew

Kenzia Dalie
Creator, Director, Designer

Kenzia **(she/they)** is a multidisciplinary artist, designer, theatre director, and producer currently based in Tkaronto. She is the co-founder of Full Haus Productions, a company dedicated to archival filming of new Canadian theatre, producing films highlighting the experiences of women and queer people, and creating events that uplift emerging independent artists. Kenzia gravitates towards stories that are silly, absurd and thought provoking. This was her fourth season with Panoply Theatre Collective; previous collaborations include production designing for *LoveSick*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Prove a Villain*, and she is very excited to share *Clowns Reading Shakespeare* after a few years of development (and many laughs)!

Alyssa Pothier
"DinkEE"
Panoply Co-AD

Alyssa **(she/her)** is an actor, writer, and producer based in Toronto, and co-founding Artistic Director of Panoply. She is a graduate of the acting BFA at Toronto Metropolitan University. As an actor, she is represented by Sheila Lopez at Choice Talent Management. She is passionate about challenging audience perceptions of storytelling through both classical reimaginings and new contemporary work. Selected acting credits include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *LoveSick*, *Peter Pan*, *The Bacchae*, *Macbeth* (Panoply Theatre Collective); *Street Hamlet* (emerGENce Theatre); *Deep End* (New Story Productions, Toronto Fringe). Writing credits include: *In Your Own Backyard* (shortlisted for 2019 Robert Beardsley Award, and presented as an audio drama by #CanadaPerforms by the NAC); *Falling Sickness* (Space Space Revolution).

Cast & Crew

Sienna Singh
"Puff"
Panoply Co-AD

Sienna **(she/they)** is a theatre artist and a graduate of Toronto Metropolitan University's acting program, and co-founding Artistic Director of Panoply. Select theatre acting credits include: *Mass Exodus* (BadFox Collective); *Prove a Villain; LoveSick*, *Peter Pan*, *The Bacchae*, *Macbeth*, *and Romeo & Juliet* (Panoply Collective); *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* (Shakespeare Bash'd) *Queen Margaret*, and *Portia's Julius Caesar* (Shakespeare in The Ruff). Select Film/Tv credits: Fingernails (Apple TV); Locke & Key (Netflix); Death She Wrote (Champlain Spring Prod); Grand Army (Netflix). Thank you so much for all the love and support for Panoply!

Paige Madsen
"The Director"
Panoply Co-AD

Paige **(she/her)** is a Toronto-based theatre artist, with a BFA in Performance Acting from Toronto Metropolitan University, and co-founding Artistic Director of Panoply. Paige's artistic practice includes work as an actor, director, writer, producer, administrator, and singer. She has worked with companies such as Motus O Dance Theatre, Shadowpath Theatre, Education Arts Canada, Skylark Vocal Trio, Youth Theatre Toronto, and the Toronto Fringe Festival. Paige is also an arts educator with Ovation! Performing Arts Academy. A favourite past acting credit is when she had the chance to be in the premiere production of the original Canadian play *In Your Own Backyard*, presented digitally through the National Arts Centre's #CanadaPerforms program.

Cast & Crew

PANOPLY THEATRE COLLECTIVE

Sebastian Biasucci
"Pockets"

Sebastian **(he/him)** is a multi-disciplinary actor-producer, born and raised in Toronto.
SOULPEPPER 2025: The Welkin. FOR THE HOWLAND COMPANY: Prodigal (Associate Producer), Entrances & Exits (Marketing Manager). OTHER THEATRE: Acting Credits include The Last Mammoth (Good Old Neon), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Panoply Collective), What A Guy: A Window Into Flavortown (The Assembly Theatre), Retreat (Hart House Theatre), String Quartet 14 in G Major (Rock Bottom Movement). Producing credits include The Children's Republic (Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company) Dead Elephants (Good Old Neon), Two Minutes to Midnight (One Four One Collective), A Christmas Carol Comedy (No Porpoise Productions).

Callan Forrester
"HotDog"

Callan **(they/them)** is a non-binary, multi-disciplinary artist originally from Montreal. They moved to Toronto in 2019 to attend Randolph College for the Performing Arts, where they graduated in 2021. To Callan, theatre is a way to connect with our community and spark creation. They hope their work will inspire you to tell stories of your own. Selected credits include *The Leading Player Project* (EveryBODY on Stage), *The Storyteller* (No Strings Theatre) and season 4 of Drag Heals (OUTtv).

Mitchell Graw
Stage Manager

Mitch **(he/him)** is a comedic actor and writer hailing from Cranbrook, BC. You may have seen him on stage with Good News Toronto and We're All In This Forever (TOSketchfest), or on screen in Toronto Apartment (Cut-Up Films) and Independence Dawn (Go Button Media). He recently embarked on the exciting new avenue of stage management and is pumped for his first production with Panoply!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WE AT PANOPLY RECOGNIZE THAT THE LAND ON WHICH WE ARE GATHERED IS THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF MANY NATIONS INCLUDING THE MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT, THE ANISHNABEG, THE CHIPPEWA, THE HAUDENOSAUNEE AND THE WENDAT PEOPLES, AND IS NOW HOME TO MANY DIVERSE FIRST NATIONS, INUIT, AND MÉTIS PEOPLES.

WE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT TORONTO IS COVERED BY TREATY 13 SIGNED WITH THE MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT, AND THE WILLIAMS TREATIES SIGNED WITH MULTIPLE MISSISSAUGAS AND CHIPPEWA BANDS.

PLEASE VISIT OUR CHECK-IN TABLE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON HOW YOU CAN LEND YOUR SUPPORT TO LOCAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CAUSES.

Special Thanks

PANOPLY THEATRE COLLECTIVE

Thank you to our village of supporters for this production, including:

Guild Festival Theatre's Youth Engagement Scarborough Fringe Initiative – thank you for supporting youth arts projects!

Our original 'Clowns' 2023 workshop team - Anna Kopacek, Chelsea Riesz, Eliza Smith, Elisabeth Bragale, Jacob Willis, Sebastian Biasucci, Tsipporah Shendroff. Bravo, bravo!

Motus O Dance Theatre - Your incredible support, mentorship, and generosity through this years' charitable organization transition is so appreciated!

Panoply's Board of Directors – Thank you to Eva Peringer, Kaitlyn Riordan, Amanda Webb, & Annaliese Loeppky for your generosity & enthusiasm.

Ovation Performing Arts Academy - Thank you for all your invaluable resources, artistic & business support, and rehearsal space.

Nightwood Theatre – Thank you so much for for your studio space.

Full Haus Productions and **Graeme Jokic** for your stunning photos and videos, and all your hard work.

Thank you to our innumerable Panoply pals for your feedback & friendship, and thank you to our audiences for supporting live theatre!

Thank you to the team at the Toronto Fringe Festival!

Thank you as well to Tarragon Theatre, the Toronto Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Foundation, and Arts in the Park Toronto for your funding & support.

We're proud to be part of the Toronto arts community!