

## Production Team Biographies

Silver Lining Productions is in its inaugural season after putting together a wonderful team of local artists who express a shared interest in telling meaningful stories through theatre and promoting Canadian works of art.

*Every Silver Lining's* book writer, Laura Piccinin, was born to tell stories. Whether as a dancer with *Tokyo Disney*, a writer for Alumnae Theatre's *Gay Play Day*, a teacher at the *Toronto District School Board*, or as a comédienne with *Just for Laughs*, Laura's unstoppable passion lies in telling people all sorts of eccentric stories, in all sorts of ways, whether they want to hear them or not. As a member of the *Playwrights Guild of Canada* and the *Union des Artistes*, Laura is committed to a life-long journey of creation, collaboration and performance as a means to push social and personal boundaries, and to contribute to the unification of a global community.

*Every Silver Lining's* composer and lyricist, Allison Wither is a graduate from Sheridan College for Musical Theatre. She has actively been performing and composing since she graduated the program in 2015. She has performed as Mrs. Banks in *Mary Poppins* (The Lower Ossington Theatre), Ali/co-writer in *Make Your Mark* (Smile Theatre), Enid Hoopes in *Legally Blonde* (The Lower Ossington Theatre), and Joanne in *Godspell* (Theatre Sheridan). Allison co-wrote '*Fables From Faraway Lands*' which won Patrons Pick in the 2017 Kids Fringe Festival. She is currently a part of the CMTWC Advanced Writer's Workshop taught by Leslie Arden.

*Every Silver Lining's* director, Jennifer Stewart, is a theatre director as well as an actor, singer and dancer. Most recently she was the assistant director for *Othello*, *Long Day's Journey into Night* and *HMS Pinafore* and a participant in the Michael Langham Workshop for Classical Direction at the Stratford Festival. Her directing credits include: *The Shape of a Girl* (Calder Theatre, London, UK), *The Music Man*, *Bye Bye Birdie* (Talk Is Free Theatre), *Emily*, *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, *Best of Enemies*, *The Heiress* (Bluff City Theater, Hannibal, Missouri), *Hairspray* (YES Theatre) and *Shakespeare's Women* (Theatre Sheridan). As an actor she has worked for Mirvish Productions as Penny Pingleton in the Original Canadian Company of *Hairspray* and Lisa in *Mamma Mia!* Other favourite roles include: Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Stratford Festival), Peggy Sawyer in *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* (Drayton Entertainment), Jolene Oakes in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Theatre Calgary), Demeter in *Cats* (Theatre Aquarius), Mrs. Wilkinson in *Billy Elliot* (YES Theatre), Belle in *i think i can* (NAC and YPT), Lois Lane in *Kiss Me Kate* (TIFT) and Gertie Pye in *Anne of Green Gables* (Charlottetown Festival). Jennifer holds an MFA in Theatre Directing from East 15/University of Essex in London, UK and is a graduate of the Music Theatre Performance Program at Sheridan College.

*Every Silver Lining's* music director, Aaron, is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University with degrees in Composition and Theatre, and is the recipient of the NUMUS Award for Composition for *The Poison Tree* (New Art Quartet). Selected credits as Music Director include: *Trey Parker's Cannibal!* (STARVOX), *Little Women* (Theatre New Brunswick), *The Addams Family* (SLC), *Dreamgirls* (LOT), *Mary Poppins* (LOT), *In Flanders Fields* (Smile Theatre), *Beauty*

*and the Beast* (SLC), *Evil Dead: The Musical* (STARVOX), *Let the Sunshine In* (Welcome Wood), *Central Park Tango* (Theatre Sheridan/CMTP) and *The Last Five Years* (Angelwalk). Musical supervision on Season one of *Acting Up!* (Marble Media) and *The Journey That Saved Curious George* (Stephen Schwartz ASCAP). Also an accomplished choral conductor and vocal arranger, Aaron conducted the Note by Note Singers in a tribute concert for Canadian choral composer Alfred Kunz. Aaron arranged music for *The Nick Drake Project* and composed six new songs for *Trey Parker's Cannibal!*