

**Bruce Dow's *The Wounds of Love and Other Gifts* to play the Toronto Fringe Festival**

New musical features a score by the award-winning artist, with the words of Oscar Wilde

New musical *The Wounds of Love and Other Gifts* will premiere at Theatre Passe Muraille this June 30th-July 13th, as part of the Alliance for Canadian Musicals at the 2026 Toronto Fringe Festival.

Created, composed, and directed by award-winning theatre artist **Bruce Dow** — a two-time **Dora Award winner** with **five featured roles on Broadway** and **12 seasons at the Stratford Festival** — this new work of music theatre draws on the writings of Oscar Wilde and his contemporaries to explore questions of love, sacrifice, meaning, and what it means to care for one another.

Shaped in its current form by Dow's work in existential psychotherapy, and informed by his practice as a registered psychotherapist and certified psychospiritual therapist, the piece approaches these fables not as moral lessons, but as lived dilemmas — intimate, complex, and deeply human. Inspired by Wilde's *The Happy Prince and Other Tales* — originally written for his sons — and the words of his contemporaries — the piece moves beyond the familiar comfort of "stories for children" to ask more challenging questions of us as adults: What does it cost to care? What does it mean to give? And how do we live meaningfully in relation to others?

Featuring choreography by internationally renowned choreographer, artist, and creator **Jeff Dimitriou**, and new orchestrations by Musical Director/Music Supervisor **Ethan Rotenberg** (Shaw Festival, Shifting Ground Collective), the production brings together a cast of emerging voices from across the Canadian theatre, dance, and opera worlds, including **Kendra Dyck, Priya Khatri, Braeden Soltys, Ronan Hayes, and Erinn Bekkers**. Blending chorus, aria, movement, and text, the work emerges as a unique piece of music theatre.

Rounding out the team are Producer **Olivia Daniels** (whose past Fringe hits include the award-winning 2025 musical *Playground*), and Stage Manager **Bella Szpala**.

-30-

Tickets for *The Wounds of Love and Other Gifts* are now on sale and can be accessed at [www.fringetoronto.com/fringe/show/wounds-love-and-other-gifts](http://www.fringetoronto.com/fringe/show/wounds-love-and-other-gifts)

The 60 minute Fringe performance is one movement from within a larger work. For information about the complete work, future development, or production opportunities: [thewoundsoflove@gmail.com](mailto:thewoundsoflove@gmail.com)

Media Inquiries: Creative Producer **Olivia Daniels**  
[oliviadaniels29@gmail.com](mailto:oliviadaniels29@gmail.com) | (416) 319-0244

Toronto Fringe Publicist: **Damien Nelson**  
[damien@wantandable.ca](mailto:damien@wantandable.ca)

Performance Times

Thursday July 2nd, 4:00 pm  
Saturday July 4th, 7:45 pm  
Sunday July 5th, 1:00 pm  
Monday July 6th, 5:15 pm  
Thursday July 9th, 9:30 pm  
Friday July 10th, 9:30 pm  
Saturday July 11th, 4:15 pm

## ARTIST BIOS

### **Bruce Dow, Writer/Composer/Director**

Bruce Dow (any/all) is a multi-Dora Award-winning theatre artist whose career spans Broadway, Toronto, and twelve seasons at the Stratford Festival, where they became widely known as a defining presence on Canadian stages. During the pandemic, Bruce returned to Knox College, University of Toronto, completing a master's degree in intercultural psychotherapy and multi-faith psychospiritual therapy. They are now in private clinical practice as a Registered Psychotherapist, Registered Counselling Therapist, and Certified Psychospiritual Therapist, while continuing to explore the human experience through creative work whenever possible.

### **Ethan Rotenberg, Music Director and Pianist**

Ethan Rotenberg (*he/him*) is a Toronto-based music director, conductor, and collaborative pianist. He is passionate about using music as a vehicle for telling bold and thought-provoking stories, along with creating spaces for performers to grow their craft. An active member of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) theatre scene, he regularly music-directs musical productions, concerts, and cabarets, including recent successes *Falsettos* (Bowtie Productions), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Doctor Bird Productions), and *Merrily We Roll Along* (Shifting Ground Collective). In 2019, he co-founded the Impromptu Concert Series, a platform dedicated to featuring Toronto's top emerging talent and brought the series outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic as The Front-Lawn Series. He was the 2025 Metcalf Music Intern at the Shaw Festival, and recently conducted the 55 piece orchestra for *A Charlie Brown Christmas - Live at the Symphony! At Meridian Hall*.

### **Jeff Dimitriou, Choreographer**

An international Award Winning Queer Artist, choreographer & director, Jeff Dimitriou's artistic projects include creating for film, television, world ceremonies, theatre, live events, and art installations. From Emmy and Oscar winning film and TV, to world touring theatre productions, to choreographing and directing for mass ceremonies such as The Pan American Games, Parapan Games Opening Ceremonies, and FIFA World Cup Opening Ceremonies, he has worked with such esteemed organizations as Cirque du Soleil, the NHL, MLB, and Mirvish Productions. He works extensively in Film & Television as a choreographer, director and producer with such projects as Schitt's Creek, The Next Step, Blues Clues & You, Frankie Drake Mysteries, ODD Squad, Warehouse 13, Anne of Green Gables, UnReal, Degraasi: Next Class, amongst others. In theatre, he has choreographed such acclaimed musicals as Phantom of the Opera, Return to Grace (Princess of Wales Theatre/Mirvish) We The Men (Off Broadway), Cabaret, Evita, Jungle Book, Alice in Wonderland, Cinderella (Asian Tour), Return To Grace (World Tour), Candide, Top of Pops: British Invasion, Summer in the City, Chess the Musical (Canadian Premiere), amongst others.

### **Olivia Daniels, Producer/Associate Director**

Olivia Daniels (*she/her*) is an award-winning, multi-disciplinary theatre artist. Recent projects include: *I Was Unbecoming Then* (Producer; Next Stage - 2025 Dora Nom.), *Playground* (Director/Producer; TO Fringe - T.O. Live 'Best of Fringe' Award), *Into The Woods* (Asst. Director; Koerner Hall). Some favorite acting credits: Rona Lisa Peretti in *...Spelling Bee* (SGC - 3x 2025 Dora Award Winner), Trina in *Falsettos* (Bowtie Prod.), and Fanny 'Bobbie' Rosenfeld in *Bobbie* (TBTB). During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Olivia co-founded *Artists in Residence* (AIR), a theatre platform supporting artists' mental-health through community based creative projects. She holds a BFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Upcoming: Asst. Director for *Fiddler on the Roof in Yiddish* (HGJT/Theatre Folksbiene, dir. Joel Grey), Director for *Pippin* (Bowtie Productions), and 'Tzeitel' in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tweed and Co.)