

THE LONG SEA



TORONTO
FRINGE
FESTIVAL

Lose yourself in the new musical “Three Descending Notes” and join Odelia on her journey home.

Brought to life through the innovative use of new tech and old theatrical magic, this captivating musical will fill you with hope and fear, wonder and dread, as Odelia, creative, witty, and in the early stages of dementia, gets lost in the subway system and embarks on a fantastical odyssey to find her way home.

For thirteen years writer Robin North (story & book) was a support worker, and her main client for those thirteen years was a woman in her 70s who was kind and funny, and loved people, music and poetry. Just before Christmas 2024 this wonderful woman passed away from Alzheimer’s. Her death, and the experience of caring for her, affected Robin profoundly, and to honour her she wrote the short story that eventually became this musical.

The creation process for this show has been incredibly unique. To create the imaginary world of Odelia's odyssey through the subway system, we are using a modern form of the 18th century theatre trick Pepper's Ghost. Only instead of a separate room, mirrors, light, and a pane of glass, we are using lasers, mirrors, and a new material, woven through with metal yet completely transparent, called a "Pepperscrim". On this material, magical creatures and settings will appear like holograms or “ghosts”, to walk, talk, swim, dance and sing with Odelia (the marvelous Georgia Grant), the only live actor on stage! The designer of these apparitions is Nathan (Nae) Phillips, a motion graphics designer and animator with the CBC.

Rachael Cardiello (music & lyrics) is a prolific Toronto Indie session player and the bandleader of ZINNIA, and her music spans folk to indie to art pop. The narrative quality of her work make musicals a natural extension of her talents and the songs she has crafted for “Three Descending Notes are alternately haunting, uplifting, and bittersweet.

Three Descending Notes

The Long Sea Productions

presented as part of the 2026 Toronto Fringe Festival

Created by:

Robin North (Story & Book)

Rachael Cardiello (Music & Lyrics)

Nae Phillips (VFX Artist)

Directed by: Robin North

Starring: Georgia Grant

Liesl Adriaans

Ana Delgadillo

Blanca Espinoza

Francesca Argento

Jamie Salloum

Justan Myers Chapman

Stage Manager: Taylor Johnson

Set Designer: Kaiya Saravanja-Thomson

Associate Set Designer: Philip Ratcliff

Tech Director/Lighting Designer: Matt Hallworth

Sound Designer: Xavier Mohammed-Maharaj

Recording Engineer: Caleb Stull

Incidental Variations Arranger: Brendan Wong

Videographer: Will Innes

Projectionist: Hagop Ohannessian

<https://www.fringetoronto.com/fringe/show/three-descending-notes>

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