

Digital Program 1920's Walking Around In A Dream

Director's Note - Declan Meagher

Youths in Shakespeare's time and those in the Roaring Twenties had much in common; living through wars and pandemics, they knew life was short and unpredictable. Rather than sulk, they chose to celebrate – living life maximally – and created explosive cultural movements whose echoes can still be felt today. Our show strives to honour how the Bard's comedy and poetry begot vaudevillian farce and jazz-age standards; and, to show how great storytelling endures and evolves from sixteen- to nineteen- to twenty-twenties.

Ratings Guide

Our show is suitable for ages 13 & up. The production is rated PG 13 for mature themes, smoking, alcohol, sex references.

Donate

If you enjoy our show, please donate to our online fundraiser, all of the funds go to our cast & crew.



1920s Walking Around In A Dream will have added performances in August at St. James Park, 120 King St. E presented by Old Town Toronto BIA and Alumnae Theatre

Sat August 8 at 4pm & 7pm

Sun August 9 at 4pm & 7pm

Sat August 15 at 4pm & 7pm

Sun August 16 at 4pm & 7pm

Unspoken Theatre is celebrating it's 15th year!

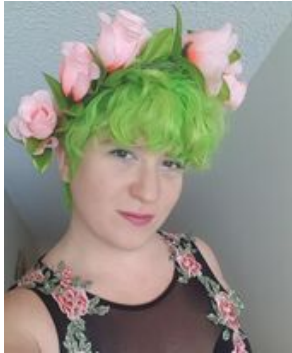
Follow us on Instagram @unspokentheatrecompany

Thank you to:

Ben Lewin, Natalie Stephenson, RTCC, Bad Dog Theatre, Derrick Chua, Alumnae Theatre, Old Town Toronto BIA, Don Bruce, Gary Kaye, El Cheapo Movers, Marion Linfield, Stageworthy, Daniel Shehori, Daphne St. Claire Ferguson, G. Gavin Gunhold, Young W, Jean-Paul Yovanoff, & YOU for attending!

Read on for Team Bios, Song info, 1920s Slang lexicon, Unspoken Theatre Company info

Production Team Bios



Natalie Kaye (she/her) Playwright. Natalie is an award-winning playwright and poet. A graduate of **York University** and the **University of Toronto**, Natalie has a Masters' in Drama. She has worked in theatre as a producer, director, playwright, actor and dramaturg. Her one-act play, *Mood Swings*, won first place in the Pat the Dog's 24-hour play contest. The play was workshopped by **Pat the Dog** in February, 2014 and received a full production at **Toronto Fringe** in 2016 where it was called "beautiful" "well-executed" and "poetic" by **Mooney on Theatre**. Her short plays, *Universe Inc.* and *A Toast* were produced by **Newborn Theatre** at the Odds and Ends Festival. She is a member of the **Vault Creation Lab's** writer's group. She co-wrote *#1 Clown Comedy With Victor & Priscilla* at **Toronto Fringe** in 2025. Most importantly, she is Nina Kaye's sister!



Declan Meagher (he/him) Director, Musical Director, Musical Arranger, Choreographer. Recently, he was thrilled to direct *Father Comes Home* at **Alumnae Theatre New Ideas Festival**. Past directing credits include *Godspell*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and [title of show]. He also served as Shipwide Show Director for **Disney Cruise Line** (*Disney Wish*, *Disney Treasure*) and Show Writer for *Sesame Workshop* (**Sesame Place Philadelphia**), helping to create and support immersive events, interactive dining experiences, and character programs. His original works include *The Bar at the Edge of [Blank]!*, a choose-your-own-adventure musical comedy. Declan thanks his family and friends for their encouragement—especially his best friend and wife, Sara.



Marnie Brunton (she/her), Stage Manager. Marnie is a versatile stage manager and visual artist with a rich background in theatre and screen. Her recent stage credits include *Other Desert Cities* and *The Greenhouse* at **Alumnae Theatre**, as well as *Stealing Home* at last year's **Toronto Fringe Festival**. Her screen work includes *The Umbrella Academy*, *Dream Scenario*, and *JANE*. Marnie values technical logistics as much as performance. She is a painter with three solo library exhibitions, supports the **Jane Goodall Institute**, and belongs to **Alumnae Theatre's New Play Development** group.



Nina Kaye (she/her) Producer, Publicity, Costumer. Nina is a multi award-winning playwright and the artistic director of **Unspoken Theatre**. She holds an MA in Drama from the **University of Toronto**. **Recent:** *Victor & Priscilla Go To The Circus* at **Theatre Gargantua**; *#1 Clown Comedy with Victor & Priscilla* at **Toronto Fringe**; *Father Comes Home* at **Alumnae Theatre**. She directed *The Matchmaker* at *Dead of Winter Festival* with **Eldritch Theatre/spindle collective**. **Upcoming:** *Theatre In The Wings Festival*, Sept 2026
Most importantly, she is Natalie Kaye's sister!



Aaliya Alibhai (she/her) Assistant Producer, Set Design, Props. Aaliya is a graduate of the **University of Toronto**, and is the Artistic Director of **Toronto Fringe Clown Comedy**. She produced and co-wrote the 2025 **Toronto Fringe** show *#1 Clown Comedy With Victor & Priscilla*, which had sold out performances, received an honourable mention for the **Strange Maker Award**, and was called "hilarious" by the **Toronto Star**. She also co-wrote the sold out Toronto Fringe show *Kitchen Sink Drama* in 2018, where her writing was praised for being "touching, funny and tender" in a review by **Life With More Cowbell**. With Unspoken Theatre she co-wrote *Lovesick* which featured her short play *Anthony*, and she performed in *The Red Deer*. She also co-wrote and starred in *Sexpectations: A Collective Procreation* with **Hart House Players**. Recent: *The Matchmaker* at the **Dead of Winter Festival** with **Eldritch Theatre/spindle collective**.

Cast Bios



Tom Beattie in the role of Eggs. Tom is a Toronto-based actor and theatre producer. He started his career in Stratford with **Playmakers!** theatre school and the **Stratford Festival** of Canada; since moving to Toronto, he has worked with various organizations including **Hart House Theatre**, the **InspiraTO Festival**, **Alumnae Theatre**, **Toronto Fringe Festival** and **Newborn Theatre**. Theatre credits include Quino in *Pie in the Sky*, Jean-Luc in *There's No Here Here* and He in *Mood Swings*. Tom is a founding member/producer of **Orphaned Egret Theatre**, which produced "*Zombie!*" and *She Kills Monsters*.



Ari Crooks in the role of Helen. Ari is a Toronto-based actor, artist, and dreamer, thrilled to be appearing in this production at the **Toronto Fringe**. She was trained at **George Brown Theatre School**. When she's not performing, you can find her creating digital art or 3D sculpting.



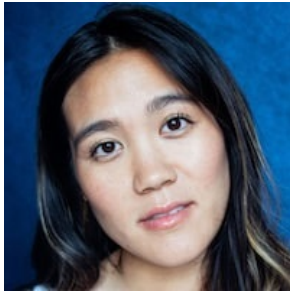
Gareth Finnigan in the role of Andy. Gareth is an actor from Hamilton, Ontario. He holds a BFA in Acting degree from the **University of Windsor** (his most prized possession). His most recent work was with **Disney Cruise Line**, where he performed a variety of comedy shows aboard the *Disney Treasure* and only got seasick once. A regular collaborator with local theatre companies in Hamilton, his past credits include William Barfee in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* with **Curtain Call Performing Arts Company** and Sir Bedevere in *Spamalot* with **Theatre Ancaster**. Gareth is thrilled to be making his **Toronto Fringe** debut alongside such a fine group of performers and creatives.



Fabiana Mercurio in the role of Hips. Fabiana holds a Bachelor of Education (2022) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Theatre Production 2020) from **York University**. She has recently performed as Carmen in *Heel*, presented at **Alumnae Theatre's New Ideas Festival**. Fabiana is excited to participate in her first **Toronto Fringe Festival** as the role of Hips in *1920's Walking Around in a Dream*. Her primary discipline is costume design; her most recent credits being *Circle Mirror Transformation* at **Alumnae Theatre** and *World On Fire* at **Assembly Theatre**. She has been greatly enjoying her exploration into the acting world. She would like to thank the 1920's team for their dedication and creative expertise!



Daytoni Raye in the role of Dimitry. Daytoni is a Toronto-based actor working across film, television, and theatre. Select screen credits include *Netflix's FUBAR*, *Peacock's The Miniature Wife*, and the feature film *I Don't Know Who You Are*. He will next appear in the stage production of *Orphans* by Lyle Kessler and is currently developing original work as a producer.



Kimberly Van Vo in the role of Hermie. Kimberly is a Canadian-Vietnamese-French multidisciplinary actor, dancer, and storyteller. She is a graduate of **The William Esper Studio** in New York City. Before trading Toronto for The Big Apple, she studied Theatre at the **University of Ottawa** and **The Second City Training Center**. With various theatre and film credits, she expanded into filmmaking and will debut her first short feature – an extension of her one-woman show – in 2026. Kimberly is also the founder and artistic director of **Studio 5: The Collective**, a Meisner-based theatre ensemble dedicated to diverse storytelling and amplifying unsung, marginalized voices. Outside of performing, she can be found hiking in the woods and road running around the globe.



Josh Welsh in the role of Thomas Theseus. Josh is thrilled to join the **Unspoken Theatre** team for his second **Toronto Fringe** show. He's a graduate of **Humber Polytechnic's** Bachelor of Journalism and Acting for Film & Television programs. During the day, he's a business journalist/writer for a leading B2B publication and is also a proud member of the **Arts & Letters Club of Toronto**. He's a film, TV and stage actor by night (or weekends)!

Recent credits: Theatre: *RENT* with **Theatre Etobicoke**, *Stealing Home* with **Toronto Fringe**, *Stranger Things: The Experience* with **Netflix/Fever**

Film: *Ukrainian but not Ukraine* with **Pierogi Pictures**, *Cherchez la Femme*, *Unlucky Penny*, *Em for Murder* with **Instafamous Productions**

TV: *Love You to Death* with **Our House Media**, *An Unexpected Killer* with **Our House Media/Oxygen Media**.



Jill Leavitt understudy in the role of Hermie. **See Jill perform in St James Park production in August!**

Jill is a Toronto and Vancouver based actress, and a graduate from **Randolph College of the Performing Arts**. Her most recent theatre credits include RCPA's *Legally Blonde* where she appeared as Margot, and *How Great is the Straight and Narrow*, her own autobiographical one act play which she wrote, produced, and starred in November of 2025. Having classical vocal training, she has appeared at Casa Loma's "*Legends of Horror*" walk-through experience for the Phantom of the Opera musical section as Christine Diae. Jill is seriously stoked about

making her Toronto Fringe debut and working with an extremely talented and passionate group of artists to make something that will last long in the hearts and memories of those who attend this summer!



Gordon Chan understudy in the role of Eggs. **See Gordon perform in the St. James Park production in August!**

Gordon performed at Alumnae Theatre in *Father Comes Home*, *The Great Kelleys*, *Boom Baby*, and *Xtro and Julie*. Select credits include *Le Médecin malgré lui* (La Troupe des Anciens), *A Knight to Remember* (Eltham Little Theatre – VDL award nomination), *Binequality (1812 Board Shorts)*, *Chekhov? You're Joking!* (ARK Theatre), *California Suite* (Kentwood Players), *DIA: Diagnosis To Dialogue* (UC Berkeley TPS), and *The Miser* and *Push* (both Gnu Ground

Players). Gordon also co-founded **Fly By Night Theatre Company**, where he directed *7 Stories*, *Autobahn*, and *Boy Meets Girl*. He was a member of **Tarragon Theatre's** Spring Training Program and mentored by Diego Matamoros at **Soulpepper Theatre's** Mentorship Program.

Public Domain Songs from 1920s Walking Around In A Dream musical comedy

New lyrics to jazz standards!

Medley - Love Me Or Leave Me One (Donaldson; Kahn) - **If I Could Be With You One Hour Tonight** (Johnson, Creamer) - **You've Got To See Your Mama** (Rose, Conrad)
Sung by Helen

Button Up Your Overcoat – by Ray Henderson, Buddy DeSylva, Lew Brown

Sung by the company, restyled as “At The Speakeasy”

Can’t Help Lovin’ That Man – by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II

Sung by Hermie, Eggs, Andy

Nobody Knows You When You’re Down And Out – by Jimmie Cox

Sung by Helen, Hermie

Crazy ‘Bout -- by Fats Waller, Alexander Hill

Sung by Dimitry

I’m Wonderin’ Who? – by Tilzer, De Rose, Trent, Grant

Sung by Andy and Hermie

(Keep Her) Satisfied – by Fats Waller, Ray Klages

Sung by Andy

I’m A Dreamer Aren’t We All - by Henderson, De Sylva, Brown

Sung by Helen

Let’s Misbehave - by Cole Porter

Sung by Andy

There’ll Be Some Changes Made – by Benton Overstreet, Billy Higgins

Sung by Dimitry

It Had To Be You – by Isham Jones, Gus Kahn

Sung by Hermie, Andy, Helen, Dimitry

1920's Slang Lexicon

And How - I strongly agree!

Bearcat - a hot-blooded or fiery girl

Carry a Torch - To have a crush on someone

Cat's Meow - Something splendid or stylish; similar to the bee's knees

Dogs - feet

Ducky - very good

Egg - a person, usually used in the phrase “a good egg”

Flapper - A stylish, brash, hedonistic young woman with short skirts & shorter hair

Hair of the Dog - a shot of alcohol

Handcuff - an engagement ring

Hard Boiled - a tough, strong guy

High-Hat - To snub

Hooch - Bootleg liquor

Kisser - Mouth

On the lam - fleeing from police

Ritzy - Elegant

Speakeasy - An illicit bar selling bootleg liquor

Spifflicated - Drunk. The same as canned, corked, tanked, primed, scrooched, jazzed, zozzled, plastered, owled, embalmed, lit, potted, ossified or fried to the hat

Tomato - a female

Zowie! - exclamation to describe amazement or sudden impact

About Unspoken Theatre Company, producing company

<https://unspokentheatrecompany.weebly.com/>

Unspoken Theatre is celebrating our 15th year, a female-run company that has produced over 20 new Canadian plays in Toronto! Company members include: Nina Kaye - Artistic Director; Natalie Kaye - Playwright in Residence; Aaliya Alibhai - Associate Artist.

Unspoken Theatre's motto is "Moving forward while looking back". We recognize the lengthy history and cultural span of theatre, and are interested in staging work that embraces and acknowledges this scope. The company has a focus on developing new plays and musicals by Canadian playwrights with a historical, classical, or mythological element.

Founded in Toronto in 2011 and based in Leslieville, our company has produced and developed award-winning plays in a wide variety of genres including TYP, Fantasy, Horror, Gritty Realism.

Unspoken Theatre selected Past Productions:

2026 - Dead Of Winter Festival's *The Matchmaker* with spindle collective & Eldritch Theatre "Hats off to the acting!" - Cup Of Hemlock

2025 - #1 Clown Comedy *With Victor & Priscilla* with Toronto Fringe (this show received development support from Unspoken Theatre). "Hilarious" - Toronto Star

2025 - *Victor & Priscilla Go To The Circus* with Theatre Gargantua

2018 - *Kitchen Sink Drama* a site-specific in a Leslieville kitchen with Toronto Fringe. "A theatrical feast" - Mooney On Theatre

2018 - *Play With Your Food*, Ralph Thornton Community Centre - A series of new short plays by local playwrights about the history of Leslieville/South Riverdale. Commissioned by RTCC as part of their anniversary celebrations.

2017 - *Death Meets Harlequin Kid's* Toronto Fringe -. A Commedia Dell'Arte play with music. Drew Rowsome's *Fringe Picks*

2016 - *Mood Swings* Shed Show, Toronto Fringe. A young woman at a bus stop is harassed by numerous men. Winner of Pat The Dog Contest - "Remarkable" - Mooney On Theatre