

PROGRAMME / CREDITS

OREN SAFDIE (Playwright / Co-Director) was born in Montreal and attended St. George's High School before heading to New York where he graduated from Columbia University with master's in architecture and creative Writing, which was followed by his off-Broadway / London hit, *Private Jokes, Public Places*. (The Wall Street Journal named it as one of the *top ten plays of the decade*.) Other Montreal / NY productions include *Beyond Ken Dryden, The Last Word, Gratitude, Unseamly, Jews & Jesus, False Solution, The Bilbao Effect* and La Compagnie, which he developed into a pilot for CBS. (5 of his productions were NY Times Critic's Picks.) As a screenwriter, Oren wrote *You Can Thank Me Later* (Best New Feature, Newport Film Festival) with Ellen Burstyn and Amanda Plummer; *Bittersweet* (Wolgin Prize, JFF), *The Man Who Saved The Internet With A Sunflower* (Best in Show, IndieFest), and the forthcoming *Lunch Hour*, with Thomas Middleditch, Krysta Rodriguez, Alan Cumming, Jamie Kennedy and MJ Kang.

FATIMA LOPEZ (Co-Director/Choreography) is an Argentinian actor who, after spending many years in Montreal/Tiohtià:ke, is currently loving living in Toronto/Tkaronto. Fatima graduated from John Abbott College's Professional Theatre program and NTS's acting program. You might hear her voice if you enjoy dubbed content or you can catch her on screen in season 3 of *Plan B*, in *Casse-Guele* or the upcoming movie *François.e*. Some productions at NTS include: *As You Like It* directed by Haysam Kadri, *Antigonick* directed by Ruth Madoc Jones, *Macbeth* directed by Matjash Mrozewski and *Trojan Kids* directed by Alison Moira Kelly. Since graduating she's had the pleasure of going back to NTS to work with Azal Dosanjh, 2026 directing student, on his play *What is in a Flame?*. She loves working on new plays and hopes to continue this work now that she's in Toronto. Fatima is a drama teacher at StageCoach TorontoWest and just directed a production of *Shrek Jr*.



QUINLAN WELCH (Josh) is an Interlochen Arts Academy graduate, who has been a professional equity actor in New York City since he graduated. He has worked with the likes of Santino Fontana, Sydney James Harcourt, and Lindsay Mendez. Quinlan Welch is thrilled to be a part of this incredible and very progressive piece by Oren Safdie.



ISAAC WOLF SILVERS (Ben) is thrilled to be making his debut in *Gratitude* at the Toronto Fringe Festival. Hailing from San Francisco, and proud Interlochen Arts Academy alum, he recently fulfilled his rockstar dreams playing Tommy in *The Who's Tommy: The Musical*. Starting at NYU Tisch School of the Arts in the fall, he plans to study acting, songwriting, and playwriting. Huge thanks to the cast and crew, Jim Van Slyke, and playwright Oren Safdie.



IMAN RAMADAN (Dariya) is very excited to be playing Dariya in *Gratitude* at the Toronto Fringe Festival! She is currently a student at Pace University studying Musical Theatre, and previously attended Interlochen Arts Academy. It is Iman's first time at the festival, and she is thrilled to be working with Oren Safdie, everyone else involved in production, and her phenomenal cast mates! She'd like to thank her family for always supporting her.



TIERNAN TAJALLI (Drew) recently graduated from Interlochen Arts Academy. He is beyond thrilled to be making his Canadian debut in *Gratitude* and will continue his dramatic education at the National Theatre School of Canada this fall. In addition to being an actor, he is also a writer and director who is excited by new work. He would like to thank his mother, Daphne, for being ruthlessly supportive of his artistry.

ROSE BELHUMEUR (Sets/Costumes) is based in Montreal, working at the intersection of costume, scenography, and immersive visual storytelling. Her practice is driven by the desire to build tactile and atmospheric worlds that carry narrative and emotional resonance, where every detail, no matter how subtle, contributes to the final image. Her work blends texture, fabrication, and digital aesthetics, drawing connections between theatre, circus, cinema, and 3D animation. With a strong belief in collaboration, she approaches each project as a collective process where communication, respect, and shared expertise are essential to bringing ambitious creative worlds to life. She holds a degree in Production Design, Scenography profile, from the École de théâtre de Saint-Hyacinthe (2017) and a Bachelor's degree in 3D Animation and Digital Design from the NAD School, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (2024).

JULIET SORONGON (Sound Design) is a recent Interlochen Arts Academy alum, where she majored in Theater Design and Production, and is continuing to pursue this path at New York University. Juliet focuses on Sound Design and is very excited for you to see this powerful production, featuring many of her fellow Interlochen alumni. You can get in touch with her at juliet.s.eames@icloud.com.

TSZ TING LAM (Stage Manager) is a Toronto based stage manager and art administrator. She loves observing, supporting and collaborating with the talented individuals in this unique art form that raises awareness, questions and challenges people on important issues like mental health. She is currently in training towards becoming a certified mental health coordinator and a certified sensitivity specialist for the entertainment industry.