

Announcing the 2024 TIP Casts and Creative Teams A season of long-awaited returns and much anticipated debuts

April 18, 2024 - With the 2024 theatre season just 6 weeks away, the Thousand Islands Playhouse (TIP) has announced the casts and creative teams for each of the 7 productions that will be on stage this summer. TIP will be welcoming some of the country's top talent to Gananoque, with credits that include the Stratford and Shaw festivals, Broadway, and regional theatres from across the country. From long-awaited returns to much anticipated debuts, this incoming group of more than 100 artists will be spending the summer at Canada's Dockside Theatre. They will be joined by, what is anticipated to be, the largest audience in the company's history.

"I am so excited to bring this incredible company of directors, actors, designers, and stage managers to Gananoque this summer," says Managing Artistic Director **Brett Christopher**: "the Playhouse's audiences are in for such a treat when they see the level of talent that will be gracing our stages in 2024."

Stratford star **Maev Beaty** will make her Playhouse debut in *Mary's Wedding*, as will Broadway's **Brandon Antonio** (Sky in *Mamma Mia!*), Shaw Festival veteran **Nora McLellan** (Mavis in *Liars at a Funeral*), and many more notable names from across the country, including: Jessica Sherman, Louise Camilleri, Wade Bogert-O'Brien, Jacklyn Francis, Kyla Musselman, Lucy Hill, Jeremy Legat, Nico Solarte, Scott Pietrangelo, Courtenay Stevens, and Annika Tupper.

There will also be many recognizable faces returning to the Playhouse stages in 2024, including: Karl Ang (Baskerville 2023), Laura Caswell (Bittergirl the Musical 2023), Michael Cox (Once 2023, The Music Man 2022), Deb Drakeford (Shirley Valentine, 2017), David Leyshon (The Music Man 2022), Melissa MacKenzie (Once 2023), Rob Torr (The Sound of Music 2023, The Music Man 2022), and Gloria Mampuya (Intimate Apparel 2023).

This season features Sophia Fabiilli's hit comedy *Liars at a Funeral*, the mega-musicals *Mamma Mia!* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, a new adaptation of Canadian favourite *Mary's Wedding*, the tragi-comedy piano duo *Murder for Two*, and two intimate dramas *Doubt* and *Sequence*.

"For these productions, our team has worked tirelessly with the season's directors to bring together a group of artists that can compare to that on any stage in this country. We are proud to celebrate theatre with the country's best here in our dockside home," says Christopher.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at www.1000islandsplayhouse.com

See below for the rest of the acting company and creative team members.

Springer Theatre

Liars at a Funeral May 31 - June 22, 2024
By Sophia Fabiilli

Director **Krista Jackson**'s production of Kingston born and raised Fabiilli's delightful comedy *Liars at a Funeral* will feature **Deb Drakeford**, **Lucy Hill**, **Nora McLellan**, **Justin Otto** and **Courtenay Stevens**

In addition to **Krista Jackson**, the creative team includes Set and Costume Designer **Sue LePage**, Lighting Designer **Louise Guinand**, and Sound Designer **Lyon Smith**. Stage management team of **Loralie Pollard** and **Emlyn Vanbruinswaardt**.

Mamma Mia! July 2 - August 4, 2024

Music and Lyrics by **Benny Andersson, Bjorn Ulvaeus** and some songs with **Stig Anderson**. Book by **Catherine Johnson**. Originally Conceived by **Judy Craymer**.

Director/Choreographer **Stephanie Graham**'s production of this beloved musical with it's iconic music will feature **Jessica Sherman** as Donna, **Annika Tupper** as Sophie, **Louise Camilleri** as Tanya, and **Laura Caswell** as Rosie.

The cast will also include **David Leyshon** as Sam, **Jeremy Legat** as Bill, **Rob Torr** as Harry and **Brandon Antonio** as Sky Rounding out the cast is **Marco DeLuca**, **Jen Fong**, **Taylor Garwood**, **Ali Hand**, **Jaden Kim**, **Ryan MacDougall**, **Kyla Musselman**, **Michelle Nash**, **Demi Oliver**, **Tyler Pearse**, **Eva Petris**, and **Patrick Stiles**.

In addition to **Stephanie Graham**, the creative team includes Music Director **Nick Burgess**, Set Designer **Brandon Kleiman**, Costume Designer **Julia Kim**, Lighting Designer **Amber Hood**, Sound Designer **Bex Tralli**, Assistant Director **Avery - Jean Brennan** and Assistant Choreographer **Kyla Musselman** Stage management team of **Dustyn Wales**, **Delaney Small**, and **Keleshaye Christmas-Simpson**.

Mary's Wedding August 16 - September 8, 2024

By Stephen Massicotte

Brett Christopher directs a new adaptation of the heartfelt Canadian WWI love story. The show will feature **Maev Beaty** as Mary and **Wade Bogert-O'Brien** as Charlie.

In addition to **Brett Christopher**, the creative team includes Set Designer **Joe Pagnan**, Costume Designer **Jayne Christopher**, Lighting Designer **Jeff Pybus**, and Sound Designer **Richard Feren**. Stage manager **Rebecca Eamon-Campbell**.

Jesus Christ Superstar September 24 - October 27, 2024

Music by **Andrew Lloyd Webber**. Lyrics by **Tim Rice**.

A Co-Production with Western Canada Theatre

Director **James MacDonald**'s production of the hit musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* will feature Kingston-born **Michael Cox** as Jesus, **Nico Solarte** as Judas, **Melissa MacKenzie** as Mary Magdalene, and **Oliver Castillo** as Herod.

The cast will also include Lauren Bowler, Will Lincoln and Jillian Cooper.

In addition to James MacDonald, the creative team includes: Music Director Clare Wyatt, Choreographer Nicol Spinola, Set and Lighting Designer Robert Sondergaard, Costume Designer Stephanie Kong, and Sound Designer Steve Marsh. Stage management team of Laurel O'Neill, Victoria Snashall and Finnley O'Brien.

Firehall Theatre

Murder for Two August 1 - August 25, 2024

Book and Music by **Joe Kinosian**. Book and Lyrics by **Kellen Blair**. A Neptune Theatre and Festival Antigonish Production

A direct transplant from its smash-hit runs in both Halifax and Antigonish, Director **Jeremy Webb's'** production of this hilarious musical mystery will feature **Scott Pietrangelo** and **Jackson Seib**.

In addition to **Neptune Theatre Artistic Director**, **Jeremy Webb**, the creative team includes Assistant Director **Matt Lacas**, Music Director **Avery-Jean Brennan**, Set Designer **Vickie Marston**, Costume Designer **Diego Dias**, and Lighting Designer **Ingrid Risk**. This team will be supported by stage manager **Sarah O'Brien**.

Doubt, A Parable September 5 - 29, 2024

By John Patrick Shanley

Straight off the heels of her smash-hit production, *Intimate Apparel* in 2023, **Lisa Karen Cox** returns to direct this Pulitzer and Tony Award winning play. This production will feature **Karl Ang** as Father Flynn and **Jacklyn Francis** as Sister Aloysius. Joining them to round out the cast is **Gloria Mampuya** as Mrs. Muller and **Cassandra Pires** as Sister James.

The creative team includes Set & Costume Designer **Jawon Kang**, Lighting Designer **Christian Horoszczak**, and Sound Designer **Jacob Lin**. This team will be supported by Stage Manager **Dustyn Wales**.

Sequence October 4 - 27, 2024

By Arun Lakra

We are delighted to welcome back to the Firehall Theatre former Playhouse founder, Associate Artistic Director and Firehall champion, Kathryn Mackay to direct this production of *Sequence*.

This production will feature **Krystina Bojanowki** as Cynthia, **Jordan M. Burns** as Mr. Adamson, **Jakob Ehman** as Theo **and Julie Stewart** as Dr. Guzman.

The creative team includes Set & Lighting Designer **Steve Lucas**, and Costume Designer **Jayne Christopher.** This team will be supported by stage management team **Rebecca Eamon-Campbell** and **Abigaile Gagnon.**