# **CREATIVE TEAM**

## **DONNA SPENCER | Director**



Donna Spencer is the Artistic Producer of the Firehall Arts Centre. Her many theatre directorial credits include Reflections on Crooked Walking, Yellow Fever, Mary's Wedding, House and Home, Social Studies, Refuge, The Yoko Ono Project, The Unnatural and Accidental Women, Reading Hebron, Mom Dad I'm Living With a White Girl, Only Drunks and Children Tell the Truth, The Ecstasy of Rita Joe, This is How We Got Here and many others. She is the winner of the Jessie Richardson Outstanding Direction

Award for *Urinetown, the Musical* and for *Reading Hebron*. She was honored to receive the City of Vancouver's Mayor's Arts Award for Theatre, and the British Columbia Community Achievement Award for her work in dance and theatre. An advocate for inclusivity in the performing arts she created one of Canada's first culturally diverse theatre production programs at the Firehall in 1985. She was recently awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal for her work in the arts.

#### CHERI MARACLE | Assistant Director



Cheri Maracle is an Award winning Actor/Singer/ Songwriter & Playwright of Mohawk & Irish ancestry, of the Six Nations of the Grand River, Ontario. She has performed across Turtle Island and abroad for the past 30 years. Recent tv credits include: *Alaska Daily* (CBC), *Bones of Crows* (CBC), *The Coroner* (CBC), *UNSETTLED* (APTN, TVO), *The Parker Andersons* (BYUtv), *Blackstone* (APTN, \*CSA nominated), *Tribal* (APTN), *DeGrassi* (MTV, Family Channel), *Murdoch Mysteries* (CBC) and more.

Selected Theatre credits include: *Women of the Fur Trade* \*Outstanding Performance Award Win/Rideau Awards, (The National Arts Centre, GCTC, Native Earth), *Tartuffe: An Indigenous Misadventure* (Arts Club Theatre), *WhiteNoise* (The Firehall Arts Centre), *Paddle Song* (Various \*Best Performance nomination at High Performance Rodeo), *The Unnatural & Accidental Women* (The National Arts Centre), and the *Keepers of the Salish Sea*, (The Cultch). Nia:Wen for the opportunity to assist direct this wonderful production!!

### KIMIRA REDDY | Set Design



Kimira Reddy is an accomplished Artist, award-winning Set Designer, and visionary Creative Director shaping the artistic landscape on the unceded Coast Salish Territories. She also serves as the Communications Director of Raven Spirit Dance. Her diverse portfolio spans immersive virtual reality experiences, exhibition designs, and art installations. Originally hailing from South Africa, she earned her MFA in Design from UBC. Her creative journey is enriched by collaborations with

UBC, Vancouver Opera, Ruby Slippers, Canada Wild Arts Society, Indian Summer Festival, Zee Zee Theatre, and other prominent organizations. Discover more at www.kimirareddy.com

#### REBEKAH JOHNSON | Lighting Design



It is a pleasure, as always, to be back at The Firehall Arts Centre! Past credits include 'Reflections on Crooked Walking' and 'This is How we Got Here' among many others over the years. Other recent designs include 'The Last Five Years' and 'Miss Julie' for Blue Bridge Theatre, 'A Doll's House Part 2' for Western Gold Theatre, 'Snow White' for Carousel Theatre' and 'Jeeves Goes To Sea' for Chemainus Theatre Festival, where she is also the Technical Director. Rebekah lives in the beautiful

Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island, traditional territory of the Coast Salish People and home to the Cowichan Tribes.

# **EMILY FRIESEN | Costume Design**



Emily is a multidisciplinary designer, artist, and graduate of the University of Victoria theatre program, who lives and works on ləkwəŋən and WSÁNEĆ lands. It is a pleasure for her to be making her Firehall Arts Centre debut, and contribute to this incredible show. Select credits: *Kindred* (Belfry), *Metamorphoses* (Studio 58), *The Last Five Years, Ride The Cyclone, Salt Water Moon, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (BlueBridge Repertory), *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, The* 

Allihipporhinocrocodilligtor (Kaleidoscope), Snow White (Carousel), The Mixolydian (Greent Thumb), The Great Bloom (Story Theatre), Othello, The Children's Hour (UVic Phoenix Theatre), and It's Just Black Hair (Staging Equality). http://emilyfriesen-theatredesigner.com/

### STEPHEN COURTENAY | Stage Manager



Stephen has stage managed about fifty Shakespearean productions over his twenty-seven year career with Bard on the Beach. Prior to that he spent ten years touring with the Vancouver Opera Touring Company. He has worked for many theatres including the Vancouver Playhouse, Theatre Calgary, The Citadel, Studio 58/Green Thumb, Touchstone Theatre, Pi Theatre, the Electric Company and numerous others. Previous ventures have included a number of newly minted pieces including

Leslie Mildiner's "Coming Up For Air". Stephen recently completed a run of Kat Sandler's "Yaga" at Richmond Gateway Theatre with director Roy Surette.

# JETHRO ALLEN-MARTIN | Technical Director



Jethro Allen-Martin is a technician and technical director. He is an alumni of Vancouver Island University's technical theatre program and is now based in Vancouver. They have lived and worked in the city in a variety of roles for the past six years. Jethro is very excited for the opportunity to be a part of this production, and to work and play at the Firehall Arts Centre.

# GABRIELLE MARCOLIN | Apprentice Stage Manager



Gabrielle has worked on several productions as a production assistant, dresser, stage manager and assistant stage manager. Her experience includes shows such as *Little Women* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *Lumberjacks in Love* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *The Foreigner* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *Miracle on 34th St* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *The Picture of Dorian Grey* (Vancouver Island University), *Into the Woods* (Vancouver Island University), *Chicago* (Schmooze Productions),

Reflections on Crooked Walking (Firehall Arts Centre) and various theatrical festivals on Vancouver Island and throughout the mainland. Gabrielle is pleased to continue her apprenticeship at the Firehall Arts Centre.

### MIKE KOVAC | Fight Director & Coordinator



Mike Kovac is a Certified Fight Director and Instructor with Fight Directors Canada, and works in film/television in Vancouver. A graduate of Capilano University's Acting for the Stage and Screen Program (where he is now an Instructor of Stage Combat), his theatre credits include: Noises Off, The Shoplifters, Beauty and the Beast, Misery, and Mustard (Arts Club), as well as Coriolanus, The Crucible and She Kills Monsters (UBC). Mike has appeared in various film and television projects, including Arrow,

Supernatural, The 100, Tin Star, Valley of the Boom, Deadly Class, and Batwoman. If you see him on the screen somewhere, he's probably about to die.