



PRESENTS

Age of Arousal by Linda Griffiths

Wildly inspired by George Gissing's *The Odd Women*

Creative Team

Linda Griffiths—Playwright

As playwright and actor, Griffiths is the winner of five Dora Mavor Moore Awards, a Gemini Award, two Chalmer's Awards, the Quizzane International Festival Award for *Jessica*, and Los Angeles' A.G.A. Award for her performance in John Sayles's film *Liana*. She has twice been nominated for the Governor General's Literary Award (*The Darling Family*, 1992; *Alien Creature*, 2000). She is best known for writing and performing a triple role in the play *Maggie & Pierre* in which she played Pierre Trudeau, Margaret Trudeau, and a journalist called Henry. Since then, she has continued to create unique, highly theatrical plays that are magical, literate, and popular. Her plays include *Alien Creature: a visitation from Gwendolyn MacEwen*, *The Darling Family*, and *The Duchess: a.k.a. Wallis Simpson*. She co-authored *The Book of Jessica* with native author and activist Maria Campbell, creating a new hybrid of theatre book that fused a play of the same title with the personal and political process of its creation. An anthology of her work, *Sheer Nerve: Seven Plays by Linda Griffiths*, was published in 1999. She is an adjunct professor to the University of Toronto's Masters Program in Creative Writing.

Bear & Co. Ensemble



Eleanor Crowder—Actor (Mary Barfoot)

Eleanor Crowder revels in this ensemble opportunity. She last worked with Diana Fajrajsl in Peter Hinton's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. A founding partner of Bear & Co., she's just back from touring from Sioux Lookout to Halifax this fall with her script *Momma's Boy*. Featuring Eleanor, Anna Lewis, and David da Costa, the play garnered raves across half the country. Eleanor's interest is often in outdoor and site-specific work. Ottawa audiences know her for seventeen summers of outdoor Shakespeare in parks and curious sites across the city, her work as Mother Courage for Third Wall Theatre, the arsonist nun Mary in Wendy Lill's *Sisters* for GCTC, and a decade of successful gambles with Rachel Eugster where big musicals and big casts delight the Glebe.



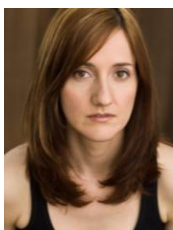
Rachel Eugster—Actor (Alice Madden) and Sound Designer

Rachel appeared most recently onstage as Luciana in Bear & Co.'s summer touring production of *The Comedy of Errors*, and in the Ottawa Fringe Festival as Clothos in Vanity Project Productions' *The Vanity Project* and Friedl in Bear's *Windfall Jelly*. At the Gladstone, she served most recently as music director for Bear's *The Taming of the Shrew*, and as a member of the Gladstone Sisters trio in Plosive Productions' *A Miracle on 34th Street*. Rachel pulled two other big irons fresh from the fire this year: In June, she founded Dragon's Tea Trio, in which she adds her soprano voice to the cello of Joan Harrison and the guitar of Andrew Mah. And in August, Tundra released her picture book, *The Pocket Mommy*, which earned a Canadian Toy Testing Council Great Books of 2014 award. (Available in bookstores or online from Random House or Amazon.)
RachelEugster.com



Diana Fajrajsl—Director and Sound Designer

Montrealer Diana Fajrajsl has spent more than 35 years in Canadian theatre as an actor, director, and teacher. She has played in more than 120 professional productions across Canada, and appeared in first productions of plays by Ann-Marie MacDonald, Norm Foster, Michael MacKenzie, and Banuta Rubess, to name a few. In 1991, she portrayed the infamous Canadian historical figure Gerda Munsinger in the film *Gerda*. In 1995, she began a parallel directing career. She has collaborated with playwright and actor Carolyn Guillet, directing *17 Anonymous Women* and dramaturging *Plucked, Hammered and Strung*, both for Infinitheatre in Montreal. She has taught and directed at the National Theatre School of Canada since 1996 and has been a guest director and instructor at several universities, including Bishop's, Concordia, and McGill. Well known to Ottawa audiences as both an actor and a director, Fajrajsl has appeared as an actor in *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* (GCTC; Nightwood Theatre National Tour), *GTT (Gone to Texas)*, *Seven Stories*, *Wrong for Each Other*, *Savage Finesse*, *Wedding Day at the Cro-Magnons* (all NAC); *The Czar's Daughter-in-law was a Frog*, *Don Juan*, *Turandot* (all Odyssey Theatre); *Criminals in Love*, *Clutching the Heat*, *Our Country's Good*, *Time After Time* (all GCTC); *Taming of the Shrew* (Ottawa Shakespeare Festival). As a director, Fajrajsl's Ottawa credits include *The Illusion* and *Bungsu and the Big Snake* (both Odyssey Theatre). She recently received a Capital Critic's Circle best director nomination for her direction of *Age of Arousal* cast member Margo MacDonald's play *Shadows* (Fringe Festival; GCTC Undercurrents Festival).



Lisa Jeans—Actor (Rhoda Nunn)

Lisa Jeans is an actor and writer. She has a BA (Drama) from the University College Drama Program at the University of Toronto. Ottawa credits include *Medea* (Third Wall) and *The Ventriloquist* (Evolution Theatre). Lisa is a recent alumna of the Arts Club Actor's Intensive, a conservatory-style boot camp for actors at the Arts Club Theatre (Vancouver). A new Edmontonian, when not writing or at the theatre, Lisa is most likely to be found staring through the viewfinder of her camera. www.lisajeans.ca



Anna Lewis—Actor (Monica Madden) and Production Manager

Anna Lewis is an Ottawa-based actor and theatre creator, with a BFA in Theatre from Concordia University. While in Ottawa, she has worked with Bear & Co. (*A Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like It*, *'Tis Pity She's A Whore*, *Momma's Boy*), A Company of Fools (*A Midwinter's Dream Tale*), 9th Hour (*Agnes of God*), and Chamber Theatre Hintonburg (*Edmund*, *Tongue and Groove*). Film credits include *Happy Suds*, and the title character in *Brown Sound Underground with Nona Leslie*, both filmed in Vancouver. Anna also works as a costume designer, stage manager, and director.



Margo MacDonald—Actor (Virginia Madden)

Margo MacDonald is a multi-award winning actor and theatre creator. She most recently appeared as Constance in Ann-Marie MacDonald's *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* at the Great Canadian Theatre Company (GCTC). She also appeared onstage at GCTC in last season's *Fly Me to the Moon*, for which she won the Prix Rideau Award for Outstanding Performance. Margo previously won that award for her role in *Iron* with SevenThirty Productions. Other credits include Eva Le Gallienne in *Shadows* (a play she also wrote) at the *undercurrents: theatre below the mainstream* festival; *Henry V* and *A Mid-Winter's Dream Tale* with A Company of Fools; *Swimming in the Shallows* with Arts Court Productions; and *Blood Brothers* and *Noises Off* with Gladstone Productions. Upcoming projects include *Much Ado About Feckin' Pirates*, an improv-based clown show she is co-creating with Richard Gelinias and AL Connors, which will appear at The Gladstone in March.



Tim Oberholzer—Actor (Everard Barfoot)

Tim Oberholzer is an Ottawa-based actor, and has appeared most recently in *Ethan Claymore* (Same Day Theatre), *Windfall Jelly*, *The Comedy Of Errors*, *The Taming Of The Shrew* (Bear & Co.), *The Chronicler* (Screaming Artists' Collective), *The Vanity Project* (Vanity Project Productions), and *Sparks* (NORT). In 2014 he will appear in Vanity Project Productions' *Hedwig And The Angry Inch* in April at The Gladstone. Tim is a founding member of the Ottawa-based theatre collective Bear & Co., Vanity Project Productions and the Ottawa Theatre Producers' Network.

Patrice-Ann Forbes—Costume Designer

Patrice-Ann Forbes is a professional costume, set, and props designer in Ottawa. A graduate of the University of Ottawa, Patrice specializes in textile arts. She is co-founder of Dead Unicorn Ink and enjoys writing, performing, and directing with them. Her recent shows include Salamander Theatre's *The Last Drop*, 9th Hour's *My Name is Asher Lev*, and Dead Unicorn Ink's *Space Mystery from Outer Space*. She won the Outstanding Design Award at the 2011 Ottawa Fringe Festival for her ombie puppets in *Playing Dead* from Dead Unicorn Ink.

David Magladry—Lighting Designer

David Magladry has been a professional lighting designer for over 20 years, working in theatre, television, museum exhibitions, and special events. He has also been a set designer for over six years. Clients include the Great Canadian Theatre Company, SevenThirty Productions, Plosive Productions, the Thousand Islands Playhouse, the University of Ottawa and Algonquin College theatre departments, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, the Canadian War Museum, CBC, BBC, and Rogers Television. David is also the Resident Set and Lighting Designer for the Classic Summer Theatre Festival in Perth, Ontario.



Jane Vanstone Osborn—Stage Manager

Based in Ottawa, Jane's career has taken her across the country with operas, school tours, a visually impaired theatre company, puppet theatre, and almost every community hall in Nova Scotia. Some highlights of Jane's stage management career include the Capital Critics Award-winning productions of *And Slowly Beauty* (NAC/Belfry), *A Christmas Carol* (NAC), and a Rideau Award for Stage Management on *The Turn of the Screw*. Jane has worked for five seasons as an ASM at the Shaw Festival, and for 10 years at the NAC as an SM, ASM, and shuttle van dispatcher. She has also worked at GTC (*Facts*, *The Net*, *Rock & Roll*) and the Thousand Islands Playhouse (*Little Shop of Horrors*, *Nonsense II*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *Up The River*). She is following in the footsteps of the amazing women in her life who shared their love of theatre, and her Mom, who taught her to type so she could always find a job and her essays would be legible.