

Photo by Emily Cooper

Co-Production with Marionetas de la Esquina and Presentation House Theatre AGES 3-7

Apr 28 - May 7, 2023





Co-Production with Marionetas de la Esquina and Presentation House Theatre

Dates and Times:

April 28 - May 7, 2023

Show length:

1 hour

Audience (adult, youth, children):

Ages 3-7

Young Eva is excited to learn new words and ideas. Her beloved Grandpa forgets – his memories and words aren't close at hand anymore. But that doesn't keep them from playing in the present and creating new stories together. This joyful learning in place theatrical experience for kids ages 3-7 explores intergenerational love with warmth, laughter and puppetry.

Eva and her brother lift Grandpa's spirits on moving day as he transitions into a new home. Follow along as they find joy in the moment and learn understanding for a lifetime.

Written by Amaranta Leyva

Directed by Kim Selody

Performers: Victor Mariano, Linda Carson, Manami Hara

Special guest artists as Grandpa: (see notice in lobby for today's actor)

Puppet Choreography: Amaranta Leyva and Lourdes Pérez Gay

Puppet design and construction: Emiliano Leyva, Humberto Camacho

and Lourdes Pérez Gay

Memory Puppet Design: Robert Leveroos

Lighting Design: Brad Trenaman

Original Music: Rodrigo Flores López

Video Design: Emiliano Leyva

Video Production: Joel Grinke

Set Design: Gabriel Pacale

Stage Manager: Giselle Clarke-Trenaman

Production Assistant: Angeles Paz Latapi, Adrien Hodgson

Props & Set Assistant: Monica Emme Head Technician: Kaeden Atkinson-Hill

Presentation House Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the jointly negotiated Canadian Theatre Agreement.

Many thanks to our sponsors, funders and supporters!



























vancouver foundation















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PLAY YOUR PART AT PHT

Did you know that Presentation House Theatre is a charitable organization?

Our small and mighty team has unlimited creativity, and with your support we can use that creativity to deliver the shows you know and love as well as our top-notch programming beyond the stage.

Please consider supporting Presentation House Theatre!

Your donation not only helps support the incredible performances you see on our stage, but our beloved programs:

- Our popular Firefly Project helps the very young to communicate with each other through writing, drama and art for north shore primary students.
- Seniors in our Golden Firefly Project explore and express shared life experiences through theatrical play, performance and original storytelling. The joy is contagious!
- Together with First Nations neighbours, we create inclusive community events such as Nchem?u?s Day and First Welcome Hych'ka.
- We embrace and share the stories of newcomers, new neighbours and new diversity though powerful events such as Weaving Our Humanity with the North Shore Multicultural Society.
- Each year nearly 3,000 students benefit from our subsidized School Matinee ticket prices.
- The PHT Creative Hub removes barriers for emerging and established artists to explore, create, and share their work

Giving is easy.

And every penny counts!

HOW TO GIVE:

Online: https://www.phtheatre.org/donate-today/

Phone: 604-990-3474

In person at the Box Office

BLACK HISTORY MATTERS SPONSOR

Help Share Black Excellence

Black History Matters (BHM) is a PHT initiative that uses our expertise in creative, play-based education to teach Canadian Black History. Students are asked to question, comment and connect with the material that is presented and see how it interconnects with the world around them.

- In its pilot year, BHM reached over 3,000 students.
- In the 2022-2023 season, our reach doubled to over 6,000 students.

PLATINUM POWER SPONSOR - \$5,000

Get top-level promotional benefits, including prominently featured logo placement, written recognition, social media posts, and lobby presence at Presentation House Theatre shows, plus a free "lunch and learn" Black History Matters session for your staff team and free tickets for your staff or clients to attend PHT shows.*

This level of sponsorship is equivalent to providing a school with the year-round Black History Matters program, including guest speakers and individually-selected books.

GOLD SPONSOR - \$2500

Get top-level promotional benefits, including prominently featured logo placement, written recognition, social media posts, and lobby presence at Presentation House Theatre shows, plus a free "lunch and learn" Black History Matters session for your staff team and free tickets for your staff or clients to attend PHT shows.*

This level of sponsorship is equivalent to providing a school with the year-round Black History Matters program, including guest speakers and individually-selected books.

SILVER SPONSOR - \$500

Your support for Black History Matters gets you two social media mentions and logo placement.*

This level of sponsorship is equivalent to providing two Black History Matters workshops to community groups.

*Don't see the right fit for you here? We love creating custom partnerships with the investment and benefits that are right for YOU. Email or call Andrea to discuss your priorities.

Claim Your Place

VOLUNTEERING AT PHT

Our wonderful volunteers help Presentation House Theatre bring entertaining, engaging and accessible theatre and programs to our audiences of all ages. Volunteering is a great way to be part of the theatre, connect with the community, meet new people, and contribute to our exciting season of shows year after year.

Are you friendly, reliable, outgoing, and keen about theatre and the arts?

Join our team of volunteers! There are a variety of ways you can volunteer with us from ushering, working in the concession, to bringing your own expertise to help the theatre.

Perks of Volunteering with us:

- While working an Usher shift, our Ushers get to sit inside the theatre and watch the show.
- All volunteers receive 50% off our Concession items.
- Take part in our Zoom Insider Sessions. This is for our volunteers to connect, learn insider info about the theatre, our shows and Q&A sessions with artists in our community.
- For those who volunteer in our Concession, they receive an extra ticket to bring a plus one on the night they are volunteering or two complimentary tickets to another show of the run. (This perk is only for those who volunteer in our concession.)



We do require all our volunteers to be 16 years or older.

Please note that we are currently not looking for volunteers for creative duties such as set painters, costume, prop, set, lighting and sound designers, actors and any other role involved in the creation of a show. These are all paid positions.



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DIRECTOR & PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES



This artistic collaboration began more than three years ago when playwright Amaranta chose to delve into her experiences with her father Lucio, who has dementia. We started with the idea of a grandchild learning, as her grandfather forgot. We wanted to discover how they connected through play. The pandemic interrupted this cross-border creative process several times, even making it impossible for the Marionetas team to be here for this Canadian step in the show's progress. But we've never

stopped. Last fall we mounted an "in process" public staging of the show in Mexico with Lucio performing with dementia. It was an unexpected and welcome return to the stage by the Marionetas founder. The result was touching for the public, healthy for Lucio, and healing for the family.

I would like to thank the whole Marionetas team for their talent, hard work, skills as artists, and their generosity in sharing Lucio's story. A special thanks to Lourdes, Lucio's partner and co-director of the show, and Amaranta, Lucio's daughter and current Artistic Director of the company. Their bravery and talent have inspired us all. This project could not have been realized without the incredible dedication and talent of the team here. Everyone has given their best towards this project. We all know someone who has been impacted by memory loss. Learning & Forgetting has helped us understand the importance of playing as long as you can.

- Kim Selody (Director)



When my father Lucio stopped performing because his memory began to fail, I accepted it as a marked fact of no return. I did not imagine that several years later we could find a way for him to return to the stage. Learning & Forgetting is the new play created by Marionetas de la Esquina and Presentation House Theatre to pay homage to those among us who are losing their memory. Call it Alzheimer's, call it Dementia, call it whatever you call it, those holes in the memory of people we love become sinkholes of loss and

sadness for those of us close to the one who forgets. Is there a way to talk about this process that is not so sad? Is there a way to be with them from joy? Yes. Through the eyes and acceptance of children, who live in the present, who play, who live without questioning or so many emotional burdens, they are just there. It is the children who guided me to *Learning & Forgetting*. Above all, this is a story of the love between a grandfather and his granddaughter. She learns, he forgets. I like the way Eva decides how we live this transitional day with her grandfather. That is why I share it and invite you to join me to see what happens on stage.



Kim Selody - Director

Kim Selody has worked as a writer, director and actor in Canadian theatre for over 30 years, directing more than 100 productions, many world premieres for youth and young audiences. He's delighted to direct the new production *Pop! Pop!* at PHT this Fall. Playwriting credits include *Silverwing*, *The Hobbit*, *Fool's Angel*, *Synthetic Energy*, *Suddenly Shakespeare* and *The Last Drop*. Kim wrote and co-created *L'en Vol Du L'ange* for Montreal's Dynamo Theatre and co-created and directed a musical version of *The Cat Came Back* with Jay Brazeau and Fred Penner for MTYP. Kim has served as Artistic Director of the Playwrights Theatre Centre, Carousel Players in Southern Ontario, and at Presentation House Theatre since 2011.



Amaranta Leyva - Playwright, Puppet Choreography

Playwright Amaranta Leyva is puppeteer and playwright who uses puppet theatre as a means of expression in developing works for young audiences. In her own words, "To explore a child's world allows me to find my most hidden, profound and intense emotions of being human." Born into a theatre family, Amaranta was introduced to the puppetry world at a very early age which influenced her life and writing and inspired her to explore and develop the art form. She is a leading children's theatre playwright in Mexico, creating stories that speak of children and their dreams, desires, fears and happiness. Her work is esteemed by the Mexican public and has been toured internationally. These include: El cielo de los perros (Dog's Heaven); Dibújame una vaca (Emilio and the Enchanted Cow), featured at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC; El Vestido (The Dress), awarded the National Award of Theatre for Children in Mexico; and Mía, a play that has been produced by many companies throughout Mexico. In 2015, her novel The Intruder won the National Young Literature Award. Amaranta has been a member of Marionetas de la Esquina since 1989.



Linda A. Carson - Performer

Linda, a graduate of Vancouver's Studio 58, has performed in theatres across Canada, Japan, Europe, Australia and the States. She has written several plays including *Mom's The Word* (co-wrote), *George and Martha* (Adapted from James Marshal), *Hear to Here* (Carousel Players), *Jack and The Bean* (YPT), *So How Should I Be?* (Nominated for a 2019 Tom Hendry Award), and *Driving Me Crazy*, which premiered June 2022 at PHT. Linda would like to thank all the staff and artists at Marionetas de la Esquina and Presentation House Theatre for making this wonderful opportunity happen. She would also like to thank her Aunty Margaret and Marion Selody for their courage as they taught her how to - literally – live and play in the moment.



Giselle Clarke-Trenaman* - Stage Manager

Giselle has roots in the Toronto theatre community and holds a B.F.A. Hons in Theatre from York University. She has worked with CanStage/Volcano Theatre on the acclaimed *Another Africa* as well as The National Arts Centre/Young Peoples Theatre's production of *i think i can*. Now a resident of Vancouver B.C., she was recently nominated for a Jessie Award for her work in Stage Management. Giselle has worked with Presentation House Theatre, Carousel Theatre, Goh Ballet, SoulPepper, Highlands Opera Studio and Opera Atelier to name a few. She is also on the Black Theatre Caucus 101 Black Stage Managers Celebration list. Since 2014 Giselle has been the Production Coordinator at Presentation House Theatre in North Vancouver helping artists and companies from all over the world realize their visions. She sits on the Board for Nova Dance and is the Founder of Black History Matters.



Rodrigo Flores López - Original Music

With two Master's degrees in film composing from the University of Bristol and New York University, Rodrigo has amassed more than fifty credits in film, television, theatre, dance, and the concert hall. His music has been performed throughout Europe and the Americas. He has composed for Beanca Films, FOX, Televisa, Wratislavia Chamber Orchestra and Marionetas de la Esquina, among many others, and is a member of the National System of Art Creators in Mexico.

Winner of the Silver Goddess 2015 for Best Original Score (the equivalent of the Golden Globes in Mexico) and nominated for Best Score - Drama - at the Reel Music Awards 2014 (UK) for the film *Guten Tag, Ramón* (2014).



Manami Hara - Performer

Manami immigrated from Tokyo, Japan to pursue Theatre career in North America. She's an actor, playwright, instructor, interpreter/translator, dramaturge, producer and a director. She's worked with companies across Canada including NAC, Theatre Passe Muraille, Factory Theatre, Grand Theatre, Globe Theatre, One Yellow Rabbit, Arts Club, Boca del Lupo, Carousel Theatre, The Cultch, Firehall Arts Centre, Frank Theatre, Gateway Theatre, ITSAZOO, NeWorld Theatre, Pi Theatre, Playwrights Theatre Centre, Presentation House Theatre (PHT), Ruby Slippers, Rumble Productions, Theatre Calgary, Theatre Replacement, Touchstone Theatre, vAct, Vancouver Playhouse and Yayoi Movement Theatre. Manami loves working as a Director of Applied Theatre with her amazing team at PHT. She recently premiered her new play COURAGE NOW at Firehall Arts Centre and Hiro Kanagawa's FORGIVENESS at Arts Club Theatre and Theatre Calgary. She's a graduate of Studio 58.



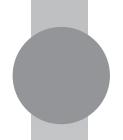
Victor Mariano - Performer

Victor (he/him) is a Vancouver-based theatre artist with a focus on physical theatre and work for young audiences. Recent and favourite stage credits include *Pop Pop* and *Where the Wild Things Are* (Presentation House Theatre), *The House at Pooh Corner* (Carousel Theatre for Young People and Presentation House Theatre), *The Velveteen Rabbit* (CTYP), *Reverberations* (Reverberations Collective), *Suddenly Slaughter* (The Biting School), and *Die Hard: The Musical-ish* (District 13 Presents). In addition to his work as a performer, Vic is also a drama instructor, currently teaching at Carousel Theatre for Young People and Gateway Academy.



Brad Trenaman - Lighting Designer

Brad's previous PHT credits include Where the Wild Things Are, Baking Time, So How Should I Be (set and lighting design) and The Magic Hour (in association with Electric Company Theatre / Innovation Lighting). Vancouver productions include Redpatch (Hardline Productions / Arts Club Theatre - Jessie nomination), Salmon Girl (Raven Spirit Dance - Jessie award), Kismet, Things Have Changed (The Chop Theatre), Mortified and Cerulean Blue (Studio 58). Brad has designed for many of Toronto's top dance companies and choreographers including Shawn Byfield, Ballet Creole, Debbie Wilson, Menaka Thakkar, Janak Khendry and The Stepcrew. Other notable projects include CATS (Panasonic Theatre, Toronto), singer Matt Dusk (Las Vegas Hilton), The National Chinese Acrobats with the Kitchener Waterloo Symphony (Sony Centre), His Holiness The Dalai Lama (Rogers Centre, Toronto), Menopause the Musical (Luxor Hotel, Las Vegas), and tours with the Virsky Ukrainian Dance Company and illusionists Ted and Marion Outerbridge. Upcoming designs include White Noise (Savage Society / Firehall Arts Centre) and Kindred (Belfry Theatre, Victoria). Brad is a regular contributor to Professional Lighting and Production Magazine, and he is a member of Associated Designers of Canada (IATSE ADC 659).



Lourdes Pérez Gay – Puppet Choreography

Lourdes Pérez Gay is an actress, activist, puppeteer, director, and active contributor to the vibrant cultural fabric in Mexico. In 1965, she founded the theatre group Mascarones and in 1977, with Lucio Espindola, Marionetas de la Esquina where she has served as artistic director and executive producer of the company for more than 45 years. Her work has resulted in more than ten thousand presentations, nearly 600 workshops, seminars and courses, and has been featured in 71 international theatre festivals and puppet shows across Mexico, the US and Europe. In this company she has directed more than 16 of its productions. Today she continues as the artistic director, executive producer, actress and puppeteer at Marionetas de la Esquina.



Joel Grinke - Video Production

Joel is an experience maker for museums, attractions, and theatre. He creates work that uses automation, audio-visual design, and stagecraft to tell stories that make the world around us magical. He has most recently co-created "So How Should I Be", a theatrical escape-game experience about anxiety for young audiences right here at Presentation House. Other favourite projects include co-creating a walk through exhibit of "The Christmas Carol" for Roedde House Museum in 2020 and the "Eerie Illusions" Halloween overlay at Burnaby Village Museum. As a multimedia designer for theatre, Joel has worked for companies such as The Arts Club, Neworld Theatre, and The Electric Company. Joel has won a Jessie Richardson award for design. Joel has a Bachelors of Performing Arts and is a graduate of Studio 58.

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PRESENTATION HOUSE THEATRE STAFF

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Joyelle Goldbard | Manager, Marketing marketing@phtheatre.org

Brad Trenaman | Technical Director headtech@phtheatre.org

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Kaeden Atkinson-Hill | Head Technician

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