



This project is made possible by Grow funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. An agency of the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), is one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF awarded more than \$120 million to some 700 projects last year to build healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario.



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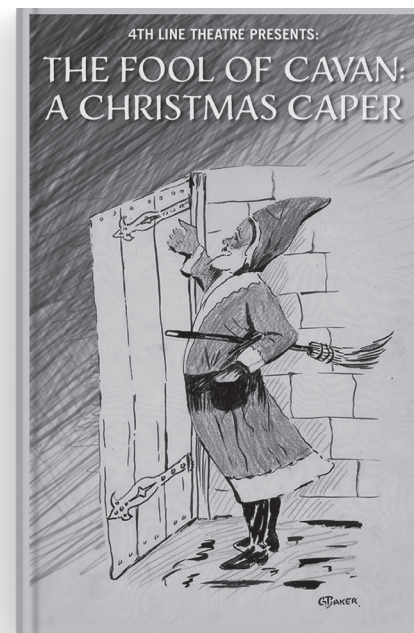
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**WORLD PREMIERE!**

# THE FOOL OF CAVAN: A CHRISTMAS CAPER

WRITTEN BY **LINDY FINLAN**

DIRECTED BY **KIM BLACKWELL**

MUSICAL DIRECTION AND ORIGINAL COMPOSITION BY **JUSTIN HISCOX**

**St. Thomas Anglican Church, 16 Centre Street, Millbrook**

**PERFORMANCES ON**

**December 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

Followed by Christmas-themed music concerts on December 6, 7, 12, 13, 14

This Project is made possible with funding from Celebrate Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund



**4TH LINE THEATRE • MILLBROOK, ONTARIO  
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**KIM BLACKWELL, MANAGING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
ROBERT WINSLOW, CREATIVE DIRECTOR/FOUNDER**

*4th Line Theatre claims no responsibility for incidental injuries on the guided walk.*

From all of us at the Township of  
Cavan Monaghan we wish you the  
best of the Season!

Don't miss the Millbrook BIA's annual Christmas In The  
Village event, December 5th, 2019, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
or the Millbrook Royal Canadian Legion's Santa Claus  
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**JD Nichol森,  
Actor/Musician**

Having had one of the best summers of his career appearing in 4th Line's productions of *Bloom: A Rock and Roll Fable* and *Carmel* this year, JD (Jack) is delighted to return performing in Lindy Finlan's *The Fool of Cavan*. A founding member of the Juno award-winning band The Leslie Spit Treeo, Jack is a veteran actor of 30+ years. He has appeared in theatres across Canada including the Blyth Festival (seven seasons), Tarragon Theatre, NAC, Theatre Passé Muraille, Neptune Theatre, Volcano Theatre, Drayton Entertainment, PTE, Charlottetown Festival, The Citadel Theatre as well as productions in Scotland, New York and Rwanda. He has just under 50 film and television credits to his name, most recently appearing in episodes of "The Boys," "Murdoch Mysteries," "Suits," "The Expanse" and "Designated Survivor." Recent notable film credits include "Falls Around Her," "The Shape of Rex" and the as yet to be released "Lune." His voice can be heard on the Audiobooks "Ragged Company" and "The Secret History of Soldiers" available at Penguin Random House.



**Laurel Paluck, Actor**

Laurel is a community arts animator who believes the power of local stories, told by local artists, have the ability to share global concerns and create unifying voices for significant change. She has had the privilege to work with 4th Line Theatre, Peterborough's Union Theatre, Trent Radio, Public Energy, Max's Cabaret and now serves as the Artistic Director of Atelier Ludmila which brings theatrical and visual arts programming to Peterborough and beyond.



**Tristan Peirce,  
Actor/Musician**

Tristan is thrilled to return to 4th Line for his seventh production with the company. Involved in theatre since he was 12 years old, he is delighted to have worked in many capacities: as an assistant stage manager, musician, lighting and sound operator, and as a production assistant. He is also an emerging photographer and full-time barista. Tristan is excited to return to the stage in such a unique show that travels throughout the picturesque town of Millbrook!



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**DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

4TH LINE HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT GIVING PEOPLE OPPORTUNITIES to expand their artistic practice, to step outside their comfort zone and to try something new. Ever since the theatre began in 1992, we have had this supportive training ethos at the heart of much of our work. So it was a no-brainer when our General Manager Lindy Finlan approached me, in 2018, about wanting to submit an idea for our next Christmas play. I immediately told her yes! She submitted a scene outline and a couple of scenes and I immediately knew we had the makings of a wonderful play. Lindy has created a family-friendly piece which draws on stories gathered from local elders in the community, of their memories of Christmases past. The play is set on three wintery nights in December 1964, in a time we might now call kinder and simpler. But to the people living then, they were on the precipice of major social upheaval - with the advent of rock and roll music and the rise of a new kind of teen culture which was stating to push back against the status quo. Lindy added in a dash of mystery, some romance, a Nancy Drew-esque heroine and an impending Christmas concert to make for a fun, funny and thoughtful piece of theatre. I am so grateful to her and the over 40 artists involved in getting the play up and on its feet. I am excited to share it with you. Bundle up and enjoy!!!

**Kim Blackwell  
Managing Artistic Director**

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## Erin Humphry, Actor/Musician

Erin has been living, creating, and recreationally protesting in Toronto for five years. This is her first time ever being in an interactive, mystery-style show and she cannot wait to share it with the amazing people of Millbrook and area. Previous theatre credits include the Toronto premiere of Laura Wade's *Breathing Corpses* (Coal Mine Theatre); *Bombers: Reaping the Whirlwind* (4th Line Theatre); *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Hart House Theatre); *Beneath the Bed* (Theatre Born Between) and *A Wake for Lost Time* ([elephants] Collective).



## Megan Murphy, Actor

After graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance from

York University, Megan co-founded the Toronto-based theatre company Column 13. She is a graduate of the Second City Conservatory and the Documentary Film Institute at Seneca College. Megan's film and television appearances include "Dark Matter," "Flashpoint" and "Urban Legends." Her feature film "Murphy's Law" won best documentary at the Fingal Film Festival in Ireland in 2016. She is thrilled to be celebrating the holidays with 4th Line Theatre this year! You can find Megan at [www.murphyslawfilm.com](http://www.murphyslawfilm.com) and @MeganMurphyLtd

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**Matt Gilbert, Actor**

Matt has been acting in Peterborough since the fall of 1992, and has been proud to be associated with the 4th Line Theatre since 1995. Recent performances include the nefarious Richard Brockton in last summer's *Bloom: A Rock 'n' Roll Fable* and your humble tour guide in last fall's *The Shadow Walk of Millbrook* which also toured around the village. Enjoy the show and happy holidays.

**Mark Hiscox, Actor/Musician**

Mark is thrilled to be part of yet another unique 4th Line Theatre show. Mark has enjoyed working at 4th Line since 1999. He has been involved with all of the recent off-season productions at 4th Line including *The Shadow Walk Of Millbrook* (Halloween show), *The Other: A Strange Christmas Tale* (Christmas show) and the touring version of *Wounded Soldiers*. Mark is heavily involved with the arts community in and around Peterborough as an actor, conductor and musician. He is honoured to be a member of Peterborough's Pathway Of Fame. Mark wishes to thank Kim, Lindy, Kelsey and his loving family for their constant support.



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**PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES**

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SINCE 2010, WHEN I SAW MY FIRST SHOW AT THE WINSLOW FARM, I have been so impressed and inspired by 4th Line Theatre's artistic work. The epic scale of the productions, the focus on the Canadian rural experience and the beautifully impactful storytelling have given me and so many others much joy over the years. As 4th Line's General Manager, I have had the opportunity to see the behind-the-scenes work that it takes to mount a play. A 4th Line show relies on so many people to grow it from its early stage of development to the final production—the community elders and storytellers, the actors who workshop the play, animating it for the first time, and the creative minds who transform words on the page into a communal sensory experience for audiences.

When I first approached Kim Blackwell with my Christmas play idea, she invited me to submit a draft for consideration. I was delighted when she and Robert Winslow saw enough potential in my story to make the decision to program it as 4th Line's 2019 off-season production. I thank them from the bottom of my heart for giving me this opportunity. It is a dream come true to collaborate on an artistic project with Kim as she is such a talented and passionate director.

I would also like to thank: the amazing staff at 4th Line who work so hard to make each season a success—Sarah De Vouge, Sara Mountenay, Annette Nadeau and Kelsey Powell; the cast and crew of *The Fool of Cavan* for all of their hard work bringing the play to life this holiday season; the residents at the Millbrook Manor, several who are no longer with us, who shared their memories of Christmases past—Doris Hubbard, Joe and Betty Lunn, Mary Ridge, Ben and Jean Olan; and, the incredibly helpful actors who workshoped the play this past summer—Kait Dueck, Sarah Flanigan, Matt Gilbert, Maggie Grant, Justin Hiscox, Mark Hiscox, Linda Kash, Jack Nicholzen, Tristan Peirce, Aiden Playford and Riley Tutert. And a final thank-you to all of the remarkable community volunteers who are the backbone of this theatre—we could not do it without you.

I hope you enjoy the show and leave with a touch of traditional holiday-time ritual as well as a heart full of Christmas cheer.

**Lindy Finlan**



**\*Please note that strobe lights will be used in the show!**

## SPECIAL THANKS

### Front of House Team:

Abigayle Anderson, Sarah DeVouge, Avril Ewing, Aisling MacQuarrie, Caoimhe MacQuarrie, Dierbhile MacQuarrie, Riordan MacQuarrie, Saoirse MacQuarrie, Jessica McDougall, Kathy McIntyre, and Kelsey Powell.

4TH LINE THEATRE would like to offer a Special Thanks to Erin Adams, Karen Bouchard, Jason Craig, Maude Rose Craig, Sarah De Vouge, Fraserville Mechanical & Collision Centre, Matt Gilbert, Mel Green, Josh Helms, Doris Hubbard, Kathie Lycett, Joe and Betty Lunn, Laci McDonald, Sara Mountenay, Lance Nachoff, Annette Nadeau, Maggie O'Donnell, Ben and Marion Olan, Jean Olan, Laurel Paluck, Kelsey Powell, Mary Ridge, Reverend Rob Ross, St. Thomas Anglican Church Wardens, Kate Story, Orville Thertell, Paul Tinney, David & Bonnie Tong, and Robert Winslow.

We would also like to recognize the multitude of volunteers that have collaborated with us in order to make this production a success! Beginning with the community members who came to our Community Reminiscence, to the community volunteers offering their time as ushers, back stage assistants and front-of-house helpers, to volunteer actors braving the brisk temperature of rehearsals and performances, we could not do it without you. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



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## ACTORS



### Rita Dottor, Actor/ Musician

Rita is a singer/songwriter and actor/multi-instrumentalist currently living in Toronto. Broadway tours and regional theatre: *Oliver!* (Networks); *The Secret Garden* (Capital Repertory Theatre Company, NY); and *The Other: A Strange Christmas Tale* (4th Line Theatre). Opera: *The Magic Flute*, *Werther*, *Tosca*, *Aida*, *Hansel und Gretel* and *Carmen* (Sarasota Opera Company); and *Un ballo in maschera* (Greensboro Opera). TV/Film: "Vinyl," "The Good Wife," "Nurse Jackie," "Sex and the City Movie 1&2" and "Law and Order: SVU." Education: MM Opera (University of North Carolina, Greensboro) and BM Violin & Voice (Southeastern Louisiana University). She studied

theatre in NYC at the Atlantic Theatre Company Acting School and HB studios. Rita has performed at various NYC venues including Feinstein's/54 Below, Rockwood Music Hall, City Winery, Laurie Beechman Theatre, Pete's Candy Store, Knitting Factory, The Bowery Electric and Joe's Pub.



### Sarah Flanigan, Actor/Musician

Sarah is excited to step out from backstage and make her acting debut with 4th Line! She is a graduate of Queen's University with a BA Honours degree in Drama. Favourite stage management credits include: *Concord Floral* (Theatre Kingston/Queen's University); *Crow Hill: The Telephone Play*, *Carmel* (4th Line Theatre). Sarah is so excited to again be working with such a wonderful group of people.



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Theatre/Citadel Theatre); *Life, Death And The Blues*, *Such Creatures*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Beast on the Moon* and *Sleeproom* (Theatre Passe Muraille); *Trudeau Stories* (Long Black Car); *el Retorno/I Return*, *Chile con Carne*, *The Intruder* (Alameda Theatre); *Bitter Girl* (Marquis Entertainment); *Banana Boys*, *Trout Stanley*, *Cold Meat Party*, *Tiger of Malaya*, *Home is My Road*, *Belle* and *Life Sentences* (Factory Theatre); *An Acre of Time*, *The Road to Hell*, *The Wines of Tuscany*, *one word* and *The Retreat* (Tarragon Theatre); *Death of a Chief* (Native Earth); *The Danish Play* and *Smudge* (Nightwood Theatre).



**Tara Lember,  
Production Manager**

Tara has more than 12 years of experience working in the not-for-profit arts, culture and heritage sector in the region. She has previously worked as General Manager for performing arts organizations 4th Line Theatre and Public Energy, where she cultivated her administrative and creative skills. Currently she serves on the Board of Directors for the Peterborough Academy for Circus Arts. Tara is excited to be back working at 4th Line on an off-season production!



**Jessica McDougall,  
Off-Season Production  
Coordinator**

Jess is a recent graduate of Trent University with a Bachelors of Business Administration specializing in Marketing & Consumer Culture. Originally from Pickering, she now lives in Peterborough and is excited to start her career working with 4th Line Theatre as a Production Coordinator. She is thrilled to work with such a unique theatre company and to celebrate her love of the arts while helping to coordinate Lindy Finlan's *The Fool of Cavan: A Christmas Caper*.



**Esther Vincent,  
Lighting Designer**

Esther has worked in theatre and performance for over 25 years. Among many others, she has worked with Public Energy, New Stages, The Ode'min Giizis Festival, Indigenous Performance Initiatives at Trent University, Mysterious Entity in Peterborough and Dusk Dances, Firebrand Theatre, Old Men Dancing, Vaguardia and Spiderwoman Theater on tour. She is excited to be working with 4th Line doing lighting design for *The Fool of Cavan*.

# THE FOOL OF CAVAN: A CHRISTMAS CAPER

**December 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 at 7 p.m.**

Production made possible by  
Grow Funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation

Writer **Lindy Finlan**  
Director **Kim Blackwell**  
Musical Direction,  
Original Composition  
& Arrangements **Justin Hiscox**  
Costume Design **Madison Costello**

Stage Manager **Fiona Jones\***  
Assistant Stage Manager **Mike Ryan**  
Choreographer **Julie Fallis**  
Mask Designer  
& Maker **Brad Brackenridge**  
Lighting Designer **Esther Vincent**  
Sound Advisor **Steafán Hannigan**

Off-Season Production  
Coordinator **Jessica McDougall**  
Production Assistant **Marisa Bonnetta**  
Production Manager **Tara Lember**  
Backstage  
Assistant **Abigayle Anderson**  
Set Construction **Charlie Ryan**  
Wardrobe Assistant **Tristan Cruise**  
Choir Members **Crystal Blundell,  
Lisa Bristow, Katherine Carleton,  
Elaine Day, Tyler Evans-Knot,  
Jordyn Fordt, Keith Goranson,  
Tim Jeffries, Heather Knechtel,  
Maureen Markle, Theresa McMullen,  
Brandon Rummelgas, Sherri Soucie,  
and Rebecca von Criegern,**

**CAST**  
Rabbit **Rylee Dixon**  
Wren **Rita Dottor\***  
Evelyn "Evie" Davis **Sarah Flanigan**  
William "Willy" Wyndham **Matt Gilbert**  
Deer **Justin Hiscox**  
Reverend Peter Greene **Mark Hiscox**  
Joan "Joanie" Sweetnam **Erin Humphry**  
Fox **Meah McGahon**  
Euna Wyndham **Megan Murphy\***  
Albert "Dunnie" Dunn **JD NicholSEN\***  
Doris "Dolly" Sweetnam/  
Post Master Chase **Laurel Paluck**  
William "Billy" Peel **Tristan Peirce**  
Susanna "Speedy" Armstrong/  
Mummer Dancer **Katrina McGahon**  
Edward "Eddie" Armstrong **Ryan Tobin**  
  
Mummer Chorus/Diana **Freyja Adams**  
Mummer Chorus **Michael Cripps**  
Mummer Chorus **Georgia Dueck**  
Mummer Chorus **Keeva McGahon**  
Mummer Chorus **Joanne Rowland**  
Mummer Chorus/  
Doctor **Peter Spasov**  
Mummer Chorus/Alma **Deb Tobin**  
Mummer Chorus **Simone Watson**  
King Mummer **Slappy**

\*The participation of these Artists is arranged by the permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the provisions of the Dance.Opera.Theatre Policy.

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## CREATIVE & PRODUCTION



### **Kim Blackwell, 4th Line's Managing Artistic Director/Director**

Kim is a veteran 4th Line director/producer – 2020 marks her 26th season with 4th Line Theatre where she has directed 24 productions including 12 world premieres. Selected credits include: Artistic Director (2014 - Present), Artistic Producer (2009 – 2014), Artistic Associate (2001-2009), directing: *The Fool of Cavan: A Christmas Caper*, *Bloom: A Rock 'n' Roll Fable* (2019), *The Other: A Strange Christmas Tale* (2018), *The Shadow Walk of Millbrook* (2016, 2018), *Who Killed Snow White?* (2018), *The Hero of Hunter Street* (2016), *The Bad Luck Bank Robbers* (2015, 2016), *The Real McCoy* (2013), *Queen Marie, St. Francis of Millbrook* (2012), *The Berlin Blues* (2011), *The Right Road to Pontypool* (2009, 2010), *Schoolhouse* (2007, 2008), *The Art of Silent Killing*, *That Summer*, *Crow Hill*, *The Cavan Blazers*, *Attrition*, *Gimme That Prime Time Religion* and many development workshops. She was nominated for the John Hirsch Award for Directing Excellence in 2009 (Canada Council) and 2014 (Ontario Arts Council). Kim was inducted into Peterborough's Pathway of Fame in September 2016.



### **Marisa Bonnetta, Production Assistant**

Marisa has lived in Millbrook for six years and is originally from Oshawa. She has just finished studying to be a permanent make-up technician and is very passionate about animal fostering and rescue. Marisa has been working as a Production Assistant with 4th Line Theatre since August 2019. She is very excited to work on Lindy

Finlan's *The Fool of Cavan: A Christmas Caper* this holiday season.



### **Brad Brackenridge, Mask Designer/Maker**

Brad is a performer and designer in Peterborough and has been at it for nearly 30 years. 10 of those years acting at 4th Line starting with Dane Swain in *The Cavan Blazers*, among others. Brad created The Nervous System, a puppet based company that he designs, builds and operates for his own productions as well as for 4th Line productions such as the buffalo puppet for *The Berlin Blues* and a little boy for *The Shadow Walk of Millbrook*.



### **Madison Costello, Costume Designer**

Madison is a recent graduate of the Fine Arts program at Queen's University and is originally from Peterborough. As an emerging artist, she looks forward to beginning her career in the artistic world and is excited for everything theatre has to offer. This is the third 4th Line production Madison has worked on and her first as a Costume Designer. She is thrilled to be joining the team for the winter season.



### **Tristan Cruise, Wardrobe Assistant**

Tristan is a local artist who has worked in multiple fields related to theatre. She is a cosplayer, a professional makeup artist, painter, actor and props builder. She also directed *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* with The Anne Shirley Theatre Company, a mantle she would love to take up again. Tristan is incredibly passionate for the theatre and it shows in her work. She is excited to join the team of amazing artists again this year!



### **Julie Fallis, Choreographer**

Julie is the Owner and Artistic Director of Move N' Groove Dance Studio in Fraserville. She is a full member of Performing Arts Educators of Canada specializing in ballet, jazz & tap/ musical theatre. She is excited to work with 4th Line Theatre for the first time!



### **Lindy Finlan, 4th Line's General Manager/Playwright**

Born and raised in the rolling hills of Northumberland County, Lindy spent many weekends on her family farm in Wooler, Ontario, directing her obliging younger relatives in silly dramas. She has a BA Honours Degree in English/Cultural Studies from Trent University and a B.Ed Degree from Queen's University. She is thrilled to have started her career in the arts at 4th Line Theatre. She is currently 4th Line's General Manager and has worked with the company in various roles since 2010, including as an apprentice assistant director on Judith Thompson's *Who Killed Snow White?* in 2018. She has written, directed and performed in shows at The Theatre on King in Peterborough. She is excited to see her latest creation come to life under the expert direction of her friend and work partner Kim Blackwell and a cast and crew of talented 4th Liners.



### **Steafán Hannigan, Sound Advisor**

Steafán has been a technical director, head carpenter, musician, audio technician, set builder, painter and actor and that is just at 4th Line! Canadian theatre highlights include *Come from Away*; *Nuit Blanche*; Toronto

Fringe; Education Arts Canada; TaDa Festival; NAC Ottawa, Weesageechak Begins to Dance Festival; Voices from the Adoption files; Soulepper; Education Arts Canada; 4th Line; Lighthouse; Prince Edward County Players; Jumbles; Anmaitaagzi; Thinking Rock Community Arts; Odaabaanag LaL at MoMa, Sol Express; SWANS; Capitol Theatre.



### **Justin Hiscox, Musical Director & Actor/Musician**

Justin is a composer and multi-instrumentalist. He has studied musical composition and free experimental improvisational music with James Tenney and Casey Sokol, respectively. A former principal bass trombonist with the Peterborough Symphony Orchestra, Justin also teaches music with Peterborough New Horizons Bands, and is the Resident Music Director for both 4th Line Theatre, and Trent University's Anne Shirley Theatre Company. He is a Peterborough Pathway Of Famer and conducts Canada's largest seashell choir. Justin is thrilled to once again be braving the great winter winds of Millbrook with his trusty accordion at his side.



### **Fiona Jones, Stage Manager**

Previous 4th Line credits include: *Crow Hill: The Telephone Play*, *Bombers: Reaping the Whirlwind*, *The Hero of Hunter Street*, *The Bad Luck Bank Robbers*, *Wounded Soldiers*, *Winslows of Derryvore* and *Queen Marie*. Selected credits: *Scadding* (Common Boots); *Helen's Necklace* (Canadian Rep); *What A Young Wife Ought To Know* (2b Theatre/GCTC/ Grand Theatre/Crow's Theatre); *Disgraced* (Mirvish/Hope In Hell