

THEATRE INCONNU PRESENTS

The Shadow in the Water

by David Elendune

Directed by Ian Case

8pm: Feb 22, 23, 24, 26; Mar 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12

2pm: Feb 26, Mar 5, 12

info@theatreinconnu.com

www.theatreinconnu.com



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We acknowledge the support of the CRD Arts Commission

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia

We acknowledge and respect that this show is produced on the ancestral territories of the lək'wəŋən peoples, know today as the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, as well as the W̱SÁNEĆ peoples, whose traditional relationship with the land continues today.

The Shadow in the Water

by David Elendune

Live cast

Rosemary Jeffery	Sharon
Wendy Magahay	Mary

Film cast

Cam Culham	Freddy
David Elendune	Customer
Nolan Fidyk	Jakob
Janine Fitzpatrick	Young Mary
Connie McConnell	Mother
Tenyjah McKenna	Betty
Christina Patterson	Michelle
Vuk Prodanovic	M1 & Newspaper boys
Melissa Taylor	Woman
Kenneth J. Yvorchuk	Father & M2

Production Team

Ian Case	Director & set design
Sylvia Lindstrom	Stage manager
Theodore Sherman	Lighting, projection & sound design
Caroline Mackenzie de Korte	Costume and props design
Perry Burton	Board operator
Mike Byrne of Clocktower Images	Video production
Richard Patterson	Crew
Steven Aleck	Crew
David Biltek	Original run (Victoria Fringe) producer

Box office volunteer - Jennifer Pritchard

Theatre Inconnu Artistic Director and General Manager - Clayton Jevne

We would like to thank: Jason King; Janet Munsil; Langham Court Theatre; Michael Shamata, Kevin Kerr, and Belfry Theatre; Emily Case; Hannah Case; David Biltek; Rebekah Johnson & Blue Bridge Theatre; Mike Figursky and The Farquhar at UVic; Heather Gropp; Sarvin Esmaeili; Doug Lyngard & DL Sound; The Victoria Fringe volunteers and staff; Intrepid Theatre and the Intrepid Team; Osiris de Korte; and Morgan Gadd.

This play is dedicated to the memory of Jane Greenall-Scott.

Playwright's notes from David Elendune

Shadow is the most scrutinized script I have yet written. Over the past two years it has been through feedback sessions at the Belfry & Langham Court, several independently hosted workshops, and a sold-out run at the Victoria Fringe Festival. It was originally conceived as a historical play focused on the 1916 New Jersey Shore shark attacks, reputedly the real-life inspiration behind *Jaws*.

However, during the early stages of the creative process my wife, Jane, was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. And so, the writing of *Shadow* quickly evolved into a way for me to attempt to channel my grief; an intimate exploration of how we struggle to come to terms with the ephemeral nature of our existence. However, as much as this play can be seen as a lament for love lost, it can also be perceived a celebration of life refound. David would like to thank all those who helped him (you know who you are) - Especially Lesley, the brightest light at the end of the tunnel.

Director's notes from Ian Case

I first stumbled upon David Elendune when Janet Munsil suggested that I would be a good director for a writing project called *Bucketful of Bees*. It was a Sherlock Holmes pastiche with bits of Dr. Who, James Bond, Tolkien and all manner of pop culture references thrown in. When I read it, I knew I needed to meet this guy. Since that time he's become one of my closest friends and I've worked on a number of his pieces over the years – adaptations of *1984*, *James Bond*, *Winnie the Pooh*, *Frankenstein*.

I think David is a fantastic writer - and as much as I love his homages to the works, stories and characters that we both love - I often nagged him to write something that wasn't an adaptation and that perhaps tapped into more personal themes. It was a point of friction for us.

David and I have a rare friendship in that we're able to disagree – sometimes vehemently – and still find a way to get along. We've had to develop tools and rules – mostly around how we work together on shows – almost like a long-married couple. But, we've always been able to find our way back to friendship and how best to serve the theatre that we've both committed so much of our time to.

The Shadow in the Water is born of grief and love. It transcends its historical, pop culture roots (the 1916 New Jersey Shark Attacks – the supposed inspiration for *Jaws*) and touches on deeply personal themes – love, loss, life and death. These are themes both David and I are intimate with. In the past 6 years, Heather and I have cared for 3 parents through illness and death. My mother's final illness and passing took place in parallel to Jane's. Through that time, David and I spent time together supporting each other and finding ways to distract and console each other.

So how does a close friend approach a play written by his best friend that deals with such personal and traumatic events? I suppose with love, kindness and a lot of care – much the same as how we looked after each other through Jane and my mother's illnesses and deaths.

Shadow is an ensemble piece with a cast of anywhere from 5-10 actors. As a director, ensemble theatre is my wheelhouse. But like all of us, COVID took away a lot of things we're comfortable and good at. I couldn't approach *Shadow* the way I normally would. It meant moving much of the ensemble work into a virtual format while looking for ways to ensure that what happened on screen was still a part of the living world we were creating on stage. I hope we've succeeded in this. Any success I've achieved with this has been because of the talent of the performers and Mike Byrne. I am hopeful that future productions will be able to explore in-person ensemble work.

What you're about to watch is the result of a lot of trust given to me by the playwright, the producer and the cast and crew who participated in both the filmed and live portions of this play. For their trust and talent, I am deeply grateful.

The Company (alphabetically)



Perry Burton: This is Perry's second show at Theatre Inconnu in the past three months. Aside from "working the board" he has also stage managed for - and acted in - a number of Inconnu shows. As a performer Perry has appeared in productions across Canada since childhood. He has also designed/operated lighting and sound, produced, stage managed, mentored for many local productions and companies.



Mike Byrne: Mike has worked as an independent filmmaker and photographer for 30 years. His work has taken him through much of Europe, Africa, South America, and to 48 American states and all 10 Canadian provinces. In various projects he has climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, filmed a sunset from the Acropolis, dodged howler monkeys in Brazil, explored the Ngorongoro Crater, and marched with soldiers in American Civil War re-enactments. He has worked at two Olympic Games. Mike has written, directed and produced over 500



Ian Case: I never planned on being a director. My work in theatre started when my God-mothers both encouraged my interest in puppetry at an early age. Dad built a puppet theatre and mum sewed gold curtains for it. In 1984, I walked out of the RSC in Stratford on Avon and knew theatre was my calling. I studied to be an actor at UVic and my first gig was with Theatre Inconnu in 1991. That first summer with Inconnu I was asked to direct a show. Turned out, I wasn't terrible at it and it kinda stuck. Of course I wouldn't have been able to do any of this without the love and support of my family and more often than not, the many friends I've made along the way.



David Elendune: Mostly a playwright, sometimes a director, David is a Canadian & English author of high concept intelligent entertainments whose writing has won awards in England, America, & Canada. Previous Victoria shows include *Sherlock Holmes & The Curse of Moriarty*, *Leer*, *Winnie The Pooh*, *Casino Royale*, *Frankenstein*, *One Nine Eight Four*, & *Good Night Uncle Joe* (which has upcoming productions in England & Sweden). His newest play (Seasons 1 thru 3) has been granted



Rosmary Jeffery: Previous performances at Theatre Inconnu include, *Neva*, *Shockheaded Peter* and *If We Were Birds*. Most recently she performed and co-directed in a collaborative theatre project co produced by Attitude Theatre, Bema Productions and Langham Theatre. She is a participant in the Leadership Arts Training program sponsored by the Belfry Theatre and is currently completing her internship at the Canadian College of Performing Arts.



Sylvia Lindstrom has been involved in theatre for 35 years. Stage management work includes Pacific Opera, VOS (*Sweeney Todd*, *Oliver*), Giggling Iguana Productions (*1.9.8.4.*), Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival (*The Winter's Tale*, *Macbeth*, *Love's Labour's Lost*), Theatre Inconnu (*Spit Delaney's Island*, *Shock-headed Peter*), Langham Court Theatre (*Sense and Sensibility*, *Noises Off*, *I and You*), and Fringe productions (1989 - 2018), including *Good Night Uncle Joe*, *Leer* and *Sherlock Holmes and the Curse of Moriarty* for Outpost 31.



Caroline Mackenzie de Korte: Caroline loved helping to create the magic of this production. Treasure hunting to find just the right period pieces to help the actors immerse themselves in the various eras was a particular joy. Many thanks to David and Ian for the opportunity to be a part of this show!



Wendy Magahay: A long time Victoria actor, Wendy has performed with companies that include Bēma Productions, SNAFU Dance, Theatre Inconnu, Outpost 31, Vino Buono, Theatre Skam, and the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival (where Wendy works as actor & company mentor). Previous performances at Theatre Inconnu include *Jocasta Regina*, *A Lie of the Mind* and *Dead Man's Cell Phone*.



Theodore Sherman: I often get called to do things at a place for an amount of money, sometimes that place is not in my home base of Victoria. I like to think of myself as my own boss, but let's face it, my cat gets that title, that's probably why she demands to be called *Ms. Pond*. I do design work for theatre as often as I can. Sometimes I build things because it's fun.

Theatre Inconnu's 2022 Season

We are excited to again offer you a full season of exciting theatre!
These four plays run the gamut of theatrical styles, all written by masters of their craft.
Please see the next page of the program for subscription purchasing information.

The Shadow in the Water by David Elendune

This play by local award winning playwright David Elendune was a recent hit at the Victoria Fringe Festival. "It is a highly personal and poignant tale of love, loss, and sharks... For where would we be without our monsters, Trapped someplace north of Hell, but south of Heaven – Where light breaks bread with darkness." playwrightsguild.ca

8pm: Feb 22 (preview), 23, 24, (no show Feb 25), 26; Mar 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12

2pm: Feb 26, Mar 7, 12

East of Berlin by Hannah Moscovitch

Governor General award-winning playwright Hannah Moscovitch questions redemption, love, guilt, and the sins of the father in *East of Berlin*. Ms Moscovitch is one of Canada's most celebrated and produced playwrights and this play is one of her most emotionally gripping. As young Rudi uncovers the mystery of his father's past, his own present and future are forever altered.

8pm: May 4 (preview) 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21

2pm: May 7, 14, 21

Commencing and ***Subway*** – two one-act plays by Jane Shepard

"Edgy, original, and with a darkly comic humanity, each play examines in very different ways the tender, funny, often tortuous quest for meaning. Jane writes incredibly rich and truthful female characters not often seen on stage."

theatermania.com

8pm: Sept 21 (preview), 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29; Oct 1, 5, 6, 7, 8

2pm: Sept 24; Oct 1, 8

The Black Rider- Casting of the Magic Bullets - a musical by Tom Waits and William S. Burroughs

"It is a wickedly sensuous world where nothing is what it seems: the devil sings, the animals laugh and the walls are painted with blood. A poetic and fantastical folk-tale comes to life in the form of a bizarre and macabre musical, created by rock icon Tom Waits and beat poet William S. Burroughs. To win the hand of his true love, Wilhelm makes a dangerous pact - a pact with the devil himself. He eagerly accepts the devil's enchanted bullets, taking aim for a shot that just can't miss!"

[Theatre Network](http://TheatreNetwork.com)

8pm: Nov 30 (preview), Dec 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17

2pm: Dec 3, 10, 17

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You can also purchase subscriptions and memberships, and donate directly through our website:

www.theatreinconnu.com

A Bit of Inconnu History

Theatre Inconnu was born in 1978 as a creative venture by Katya Aho-Kern and Clayton Jevne, who together co-created and performed the troupe's plays. For the first nine years the company – with Katya and Clayton both at the helm – toured their unique blend of theatre, puppetry, and clowning in Canada and in Europe. In 1987 The troupe registered as a non-profit society/charitable organization and established itself in what is now considered its “legendary” 50-seat Market Square cavern theatre space in “Olde Towne” Victoria, BC. The company gradually shifted to an “acting” approach style of theatre, focusing on plays of an “alternative” nature.

In addition to its regular season programming, in 1991 Theatre Inconnu launched an annual summer Shakespeare Festival. Beginning modestly in the Market Square venue, the event quickly grew to become a major tourist attraction in a giant tent in Victoria's Inner Harbour. After producing the festival for 11 years (the last four taking place at St. Anne's Academy Auditorium), Theatre Inconnu handed it over to the newly formed Victoria Shakespeare Society who continue to produce this well-attended annual event.

In 2004 the troupe became the resident theatre company in a new venue: the Paul Phillips Hall, in the historic central area of Fernwood in Victoria. This fully-equipped “black-box” theatre maintains the intimate and informal atmosphere of the troupe's original home.

Theatre Inconnu has also operated a youth/family component, and under the guidance of Timothy Gosley - one of Canada's premiere puppeteers - has delivered scores of workshops and classes and has produced a number of family oriented events, including: *Puppets for Peace* festivals; Canada Day and Victoria Day parade spectacles; and more recently, two summers of mounting a multi-medium, multi-cultural, stage adaptation of acclaimed First Nations Artist Roy Henry Vickers' (of Tsimshian, Haida and Heiltsuk ancestry) *Peace Dancer* book.

Over the years Theatre Inconnu has continued to take shows on the road, and has toured productions in every region in Canada, as well as trips to the UK, the USA, France, Switzerland, and Mexico.

Theatre Inconnu remains under Clayton Jevne's artistic directorship, and to date has produced more than 150 shows in Victoria.