

THEATRE INCONNU PRESENTS

The Black Rider

The Casting of the Magic Bullets

A musical

by **Tom Waits &**

William S. Burroughs

*"A wickedly
sensuous world"
-Theatre Network*



directed by

**Clayton
Jevne**

Musical Director

**Brooke
Maxwell**

Nov 30 - Dec 17

8pm: Dec 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17

2pm: Dec 3, 10, 17

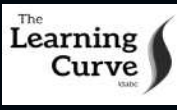


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We acknowledge the support of the CRD Arts Commission
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We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia

We acknowledge with respect that this show is produced on the ancestral territories of the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, as well as the WSÁNEĆ peoples, whose traditional relationship with the land continues today.

The Black Rider - The Casting of the Magic Bullets

by Tom Waits & Willam S. Burroughs

Cast (alphabetically)

Melissa Blank	Kathchen (the soon-to-be bride)
Colton Blum	Robert (her fiancé) & Man Tied to Stag)
Perry Burton	The Duke
Ian Case	Wilhelm's Old Uncle, William S. Burroughs & The Duke's Messenger
Cam Culham	Bertram (Kathchen's father)
Nicholas Guerreiro	Wilhelm (the clerk, whom Kathchen really loves)
Rosemary Jeffery*	Pegleg (the emissary from below)
Michael Romano	Old Kuno (in portrait), Young Kuno, Georg Schmid
Deirdre Tipping	Anne (Kathchen's mother)

Production Team

Clayton Jevne*	director, set & lighting designer
Brooke Maxwell	musical director, sound designer, arranger, and musician on all recorded tracks
Sylvia Hosie	movement coach
Sylvia Lindstrom	stage manager
Linda MacNaughton	costume design
Sophie Fuldauer	shadow puppets & props
Morgan Gadd	lighting board operator
Richard Patterson	running crew
Steven Aleck	running crew
Jennifer Pritchard	box office volunteer

Poster & program graphic by Robert Randall

Clayton Jevne is the artistic director & general manager of Theatre Inconnu

*The participation of these artists is arranged by permission of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the provisions of the Dance Opera Theatre Policy (DOT).

Special thanks to Mary Jane Crawley, Laurie Rubin, Langham Theatre Costume Rentals, the Victoria Operatic Society, and Lal O'Connor

Tom Waits (1946) - composer

Tom Waits is one of most influential singer/songwriters of the 20th - and now 21st - centuries. Some of Waits' accomplishments and recognitions include: ranked #55 in Rolling Stones' 100 Greatest Songwriters of all Time, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, 17 studio albums, over four million records sold, as well as being a movie and stage actor. Collaborating with his wife Kathleen Brennan, he has created four musicals. His songs have been covered by numerous artists such as Johnny Cash, Bruce Springsteen, Willie Nelson, The Ramones, Holly Cole, Bob Seeger, and many, many others. Waits' music has been influenced by many styles and traditions, and much of it simply defies categorization.

William S. Burroughs (1914-1997) - script

Along with other writers such as Allen Ginsberg and Jack Kerouac, Burroughs was a key component to the Beat Generation: a literary movement that laid the foundation for the counterculture of the 1960s. Burroughs work was often autobiographical and influenced by his long-term heroin addiction. Some of his novels include: *Junky*, *Naked Lunch*, *Cities of the Red Night*, and *The Soft Machine* (among others). His impact on 20th literature is immense, having influenced countless writers. He also had a major influence on musicians and rock groups including: The Beatles, David Bowie, Jimmy Page, Steely Dan, Tom Waits, and Kurt Cobain.

Director's comments - Clayton Jevne

The longer I do this, the less I seem able to come up with comments. Perhaps that is why I sometimes choose plays that are hard to say anything about. What is *The Black Rider* trying to say? Why did I choose it? Maybe, because - after directing Waits' *Alice* a few years back - I thought that by the end of the entire process I might arrive with just a tiny bit more insight into the mind of this mad genius. Approaching any musical carries with it many challenges, but I enjoy immensely the collaborative experience of this form - one that integrates such a variety of artistic mediums. It has been a great privilege to have worked with some of Victoria's best on this show. Everyone involved with the production has thrown themselves into it with tremendous enthusiasm and skill. If Mr. Waits and Mr. Burroughs are the spark that ignited this fire, then good on 'em!

We highly recommend reading the original German folk tale - *The Fatal Marksman* - that served as the inspiration for for Waits and Burroughs.

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The Company (alphabetically)



Steven Aleck. Steven is a **Nuu Chah Nulth** visual artist and has been helping to paint sets and crew for Theatre Inconnu since 2012. Shows include: *The Walworth Farce*, *Kafka the Musical*, *In the Next Room*, *The Golden Dragon*, *Antigone*, *Jocasta Regina*, *Trad*, *Dog See God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead*, *East of Berlin*, *Subway* and *Commencing*. Steven has also painted the set for Langham Court Theatre's *The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs*.



Melissa Blank. When Melissa studied musical theatre in College, it was *Oliver* and *Annie*. She never imagined her twisted journey of distinctive musicals thanks to Theatre Inconnu: the dusty western *The Collected Works of Billy the Kid*, Tom Waits' take on the classic story *Alice*, the dark, expressionistic *Shockheaded Peter* and the truly Kafkaesque *Kafka: The Musical* by Murray Gold. Now to dance with the Devil in *The Black Rider*. Thanks to her wonderful parents, Bob and Bonnie for their amazing support. Much Love!



Colton Blum. I grew up in southern Alberta, performing in show choir and music festivals. Since moving to Victoria I have been lucky enough to be in several shows and I am so excited to finally do one with Theatre Inconnu! Would you believe I am the hero of the show! No? The rest of the cast do not believe me either. Beware of Onion Eaters!



Perry Burton. Perry is happy to return to the Inconnu stage. Previous performances here include *Dead Man's Cellphone*, and *Spit Delaney's Island*. He has also stage managed, as well as sound and lighting design.



Ian Case. I studied acting at UVic and my first gig was with Theatre Inconnu's Shakespeare '91. I've had the good fortune to make my living as a theatre artist and administrator working with many companies on Southern Vancouver Island. I wouldn't be 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.



Cam Culham. Cam's thrilled to be performing in another musical with Theatre Inconnu. Past favourites are *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, *Love Kills*, *Kafka the Musical*, *The Collected Works of Billy The Kid*, *Alice* and *Shockheaded Peter*. He's a busy troubadour around Victoria, singing and acting with diverse groups. Cam holds a Masters in Theatre in Education (UVic) and teaches ELL at the department of Continuing Studies. He's on the boards of both the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Society and Atomic Vaudeville.



Sophie Fuldauer. Sophie Fuldauer is an artist living and working in Victoria, BC. She is a painter and illustrator who works in theatre as a multi-disciplinary maker of puppets, masks, theatre sets, props and costume design. Sophie has worked for various people and groups including Story Theatre and Theatre Inconnu in Victoria. She's an alumni of Dawson City's SOVA and has taken courses with various art schools across Western Canada. Her watercolours are on display in "The Farmstand" in Fernwood.



Morgan Gadd. Morgan returns to Theatre Inconnu, having directed *Dead Man's Cell Phone* in the 2020 season and *Dog Sees God*, in the 2021 Season. He enjoyed stage managing and running lights and sound for Theatre Inconnu's recent production of *Commencing*. An actor, director and theatre teacher, with a professional career of more than 30 years, Morgan has directed or performed in over 90 stage productions for academic, community and professional theatre companies in Canada, the United States and Hong Kong.



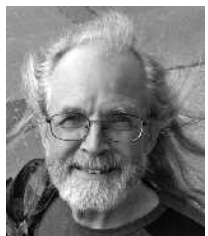
Nicholas Guerreiro. Nicholas previously appeared at Theatre Inconnu in *Neva* (2018.) Other performances include: *Men Overboard* and *Mazel Tov, John Lennon* with Bema Productions; *Money on the Table* with Buckethead Productions; and five mainstage productions at the UVic Phoenix Theatre, where he studied. Nicholas was nominated for the 2021 RBC Emerging Playwrights Award, and his plays have been staged in SKAMPede, PeekFest, Or Festival, the Victoria Fringe (as part of the *Sci-Fi Sampler*), and at the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.



Sylvia Hosie. Retired from a long and varied career in both professional and community theatre as performer, director, choreographer and teacher, Sylvia has enjoyed yet another adventure with Theatre Inconnu creating the movement for this challenging, dark, bizarre musical. Recent Inconnu credits include: *East of Berlin*, *Crumble*, *Svejk* and *Mating Dance of the Werewolf*.



Rosemary Jeffery. Rosemary is a Victoria based artist and is delighted to return to Theatre Inconnu and collaborate with such a talented team to bring this musical fable to the stage. Previous Inconnu shows include *Shadow in the Water* written by local playwright by David Elundene, *Neva*, *Shockheaded Peter* and *If We Were Bird*. Most recently she performed at Hermann's Jazz Club in the role of Billie Holiday in *Lady Day* at Emerson's Bar & Grill.



Clayton Jevne. Clayton has headed Theatre Inconnu officially since 1987. Since then he has been involved as either actor, director or designer in scores of productions. As Artistic Director of Inconnu, he also produced the Victoria Shakespeare Festival for 12 years. His solos shows have toured for hundreds of performances in six countries. Clayton has taught in the UVic Theatre Department since 2010 (he has a PhD in Actor Training Curriculum Development) and has been awarded two UVic research grants in the past five years to study the process of acting.



Sylvia Lindstrom. Sylvia has been involved in theatre for 42 years. Previous stage management work includes VOS (*Into the Woods*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Oliver*), GV Shakespeare Festival (*Twelfth Night*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Macbeth*, *Love's Labour's Lost*), Theatre Inconnu (*Spit Delaney's Island*, *Shock-headed Peter*, *The Shadow in the Water*), Langham Court Theatre (*The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The 39 Steps*, *Cabaret*, *August Osage County*, *Female Transport*, *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *Noises Off*, *I and You*), and numerous Fringe productions from 1989 to 2021.



Linda MacNaughton. In the early days Linda dressed pets in doll clothes, created temporary vignettes such as *Toadville* (old washtub in the garden, soil, twigs). At nine, she graduated to her own clothing "designs" (scraps begged from Gramma, cobbled together by hand, which she tried to get away with wearing to school). Community theatre has become Linda's grown-up play-box: props and set decor; then her first love, costume design. Collaboration with talented and creative stage folks like the Theatre Inconnu community is the best part!



Brooke Maxwell. Brooke is a freelance musician based in Victoria, BC. He is also a sound designer, composer, arranger and the co-creator of the acclaimed *Ride the Cyclone* (Chicago, NY Off-Broadway, Seattle, Atlanta and Minneapolis). He recently produced the cast album for RTC, which is now available through Warner Brothers on all major streaming services. He currently performs around the island with the Beautiful Maladies, The Chuckleberries, Wild Honey Pie and at his regular home base, Pagliacci's.



Richard Patterson. Richard started acting in theatre in Toronto 50 years ago. After Toronto, Richard split his time between Edmonton and Victoria, getting to play Macduff and a tightrope walker challenging Niagara Falls (*Blondin*) on tour, a pirate in *Pieces of Eight* and a Clown at the Citadel Theatre and on tour in California. Eventually Theatre Inconnu offered Richard some of the best characters he's ever had. Richard helps around Inconnu, pai is on the board, and is working with great friends.



Michael Romano. Michael has been in two previous Theatre Inconnu productions: *The Golden Dragon* and *What Happened Was*. He is delighted to chalk-up a third. Recent roles include: Harry in *Mamma Mia!* (VOS) , Dr. Harlow in *That Elusive Spark* (Langham Court Theatre, LCT), Charles in *The Clean House* (LCT), Gareth in *One Man Two Guvnors* (LCT), and Sir Bedevere in *Monty Python's Spamalot* (VOS).



Deirdre Tipping. Participating with the fabulous cast and crew in this rendition of *The Black Rider* has been a wonderful adventure for Deirdre, whom you may have seen before at Theatre Inconnu as a suffragist in *Age of Arousal* or a 100 year-old man in *Trad*, or at Langham Court Theatre: *Female Transport*, *Les Belles Soeurs*, *Her Big Chance*, the first (zoom) rendition of *Silent Skies*, and performances with St Luke's Theatre. Many thanks to all.

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Here is what is coming up in 2023

FEB 21 - MAR 11

Bull by Mike Bartlett. This black comedy delivers a blistering expose on work-place bullying. Bartlett is one of England's most celebrated modern playwrights, and his razor-sharp wit – combined with his remarkable gifts for creating dialogue and character – keep our allegiances in constant flux. Rooting for the good guys isn't as easy as it might seem when we're never sure who the good guys really are.

"Drills into the head and heart like a screwdriver... riveting" *The Guardian*, London

MAY 3 - MAY 20

Witch by Jen Silverman. Silverman has taken a 17th century play (*The Witch of Edmonton* by Rowley, Decker, & Ford) and infused it with modern sensibilities and vernacular to give us a comedic fable with serious undertones. Opportunism is creating havoc in the Duke's household as Satan's apprentice works his mischief, and Elizabeth - the village outcast with more sense than all combined - creates a magic that threatens to derail the best laid devilish plans.

"Utterly spell-binding" *The Daily News*, Los Angeles

SEPT 20 - OCT 7

Pamana Collection (Part 1) by Francis Matheu. Francis Matheu is the Founding Artistic Director of Twin Bill Theatre in the Philippines, and we are excited to have him work in-person at Theatre Inconnu in the development of this play: the first of a series of four that explore the essence of Filipino identity and historical development. In association with the Filipino Bayanihan Centre, he will draw on his many years of professional experience in directing, teaching, and script development to create an exciting and insightful celebration of cultural identity. Mr. Matheu is currently in Victoria completing his MFA Directing degree at the University of Victoria.

NOV 29 - DEC 16

Stupid Fking Bird** by Arron Posner. While remaining relatively true plot-wise to Chekhov's late 19th century masterwork *The Seagull*, Posner has created an irreverent but often poignant adaptation that is at once both hilarious and heartbreaking. What is an artist? What is art? What is the point? These are the questions Posner's characters ask themselves, ask each other, and ask (directly at times) the audience. And... when do we get to Moscow?

"You'd be advised to make haste and get to the theatre quickly before *Stupid F**king Bird* flies the f**king coop." *Broadway World*

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