

THEATRE INCONNU PRESENTS

*"Riveting"*  
-The Guardian,  
London



By

**Mike Bartlett**

directed by **Don Keith**

**Feb 21 Mar 11**

**The Paul Phillips Hall at 1923 Fernwood Road**

8pm: Feb 21, 22, 23, 25, Mar 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11

2pm: Feb 25, Mar 4, 11



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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 ɫəkʷəŋən peoples, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt nations, as well as the WSÁNEĆ peoples, whose traditional relationship with the land continues today.

# ***Bull***

**by Mike Bartlett**

## **Cast (alphabetically)**

Rebecca Elliott	Isobel
Nolan Fidyk	Tony
James Johnson	Thomas
Alan Penty	Carter

## ***Production Team***

Don Keith	director, production design
Brianna de Jong	stage manager
Linda MacNaughton	costume design & props
Richard Patterson	running crew
Steven Aleck	running crew
Jennifer Pritchard	box office volunteer
Robert Randall	poster & program cover

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

**The play is about 70 minutes long with no intermission**

Special thanks to Perry Burton

## Director's notes by Don Keith

**Bull** is an intriguing play. It is beautifully crafted by Mike Bartlett, and it continues to astonish and haunt us with its insights into the darker side of human nature. The story, compared to a bullfight, is billed as a comedy, but it seems to be far from that. It is sharp, electric and horribly truthful. And how ruthless! It may have the same effect on you! Thanks so much to my outstanding cast and production team. Enjoy the Bullfight.

## Mike Bartlett

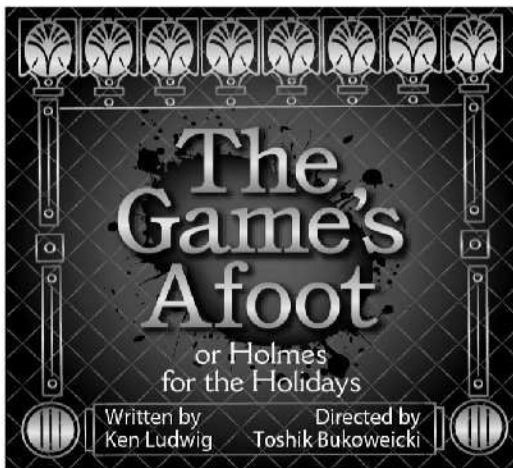
Mike Bartlett (1980-) emerged on the British theatre scene with his play *My Child* at the Royal Court Theatre in May 2007. *The Stage* heralded him in as "one of the most exciting new talents to emerge in recent times." He is a winner of the Old Vic New Voices Award for *Artefacts* (Bush Theatre). In 2009, his play *Cock* won the Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre, while *Contractions* was nominated for the TMA Best New Play award. Bartlett was Pearson Playwright in Residence at the Royal Court in 2007, and is currently Associate Playwright at Paines Plough. Other notable plays by Bartlett include *Love, Earthquake*, and his stage adaptation of *Chariots of Fire* for the West End. His script writing for the TV crime drama, *The Town* won him a BAFTA award in 2013. In 2013, *Bull* (the companion piece to *Cock*) won for Best New Play at The National Theatre Awards, and his play *King Charles III* won the Critics' Circle Award for Best Play of 2014.



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# The Company (alphabetically)



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



**Brianna de Jong** is thrilled to be stage managing her first production with Theatre Inconnu. Previous stage management credits include *Survivors* (Bema Productions), *Ouroboros* (Hollow Hound Arts Collective), and *Homecoming* (ICA and UVic Applied Theatre). She has loved the process of working on *Bull* with such a brilliant group of artists and is thankful for being given this opportunity. Enjoy the show!



**Rebecca Elliott.** Becca offers a piece of friendly advice to anyone that wants a higher level of employment stability: "People who don't want to knuckle down and wise up to this job are expendable. The only ones who last have strong convictions at their core." Also colour coding your calendar can be fun! When not on the stage Becca can be found causing general mischief with her husband and two cats in the Fernwood neighbourhood. Becca wants to thank the cast and crew for their hard work and being so wonderful.



**Nolan Fidyk** grew up in Victoria amidst the local theatre scene and is a graduate of the Actor training program at Studio 58, Langara College. He is excited to be back in his home town, and a part of his first Theatre Inconnu production! Recent credits include: Eric Arndt/Kurt Weinbach, *Survivors* (Wendy Kout) and Jakob, *Shadow in The Water* (David Elendune).



**James Johnson**, who has performed on a variety of stages in Victoria, is excited to be back at Inconnu. He wants to thank the cast and crew for being so talented, lovely and fun! While not on the stage James enjoys playing chess in the garden, cuddling his cats and being a part of his local cinéophile group “The Movie Knights”. He’d like to give a shout out to his actual real life coworkers who are always supportive and kind (thank god!).



**Don Keith BA MA(Directing)**. Don has developed a reputation for producing challenging and diverse productions. He has designed many sets at St Luke’s Players and Langham Court Theatre, where he directed *Doubt* and *Noises Off*. For Theatre Inconnu he has directed *The Good Soldier Schweik*, *Crumble*, *East of Berlin* and now *Bull*. Don is a great supporter of the arts in Victoria, and he works as a tour guide when not directing or designing.



**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 company is the best part!



**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, and 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 and is on the board, and is working with great friends.



**Alan Penty** Alan is excited to be performing at Theatre Inconnu for the first time. Ever since teaching theatre at Vic High, he has been interested in this theatre company. Recently, he has been choosing plays for Langham and running a small tour company. He couldn’t have done this without the support (and permission) of his wife and family.

**U P N E X T !**

May 3 - May 20



**"Utterly spell-binding"**

*The Daily News, Los Angeles*

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If, after seeing *Bull*, you decide you want to take advantage of our 4-show subscription package, you can - after the show at our box office table - apply your admission payment for *Bull* to the subscription package cost. See the following two pages for more details.

[www.theatreinconnu.com](http://www.theatreinconnu.com)

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## Our 2023 season.

### FEB 21 - MAR 11

**Bull** by Mike Bartlett. Directed by Don Keith. 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. Directed by Wendy Gail. 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

**Pepe** by Malou Jacob. *Pepe* will be directed by Francis Matheu, the Founding Artistic Director of Twin Bill Theatre in the Philippines. *Pepe* is a monodrama on the events of the life and times of Jose Rizal, the national hero of the Philippines. The play "focuses on the roots of Rizal's oppression while exploring his relationship with his family and country, always reminding the audience that although a hero, he was first and foremost an ordinary human being, an ordinary Filipino. We even share a common plight: exploitation by a foreign power" explains playwright Malou Jacob. Jacob is a Filipino playwright and a recipient of the S.E.A. Write Award. She has also been creative consultant of Communication Foundation for Asia.

### NOV 29 - DEC 16

**Stupid F\*\*king Bird** by Arron Posner. Directed by Morgan Gadd. 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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