

Cycle

by Andrew Ritchie
May 19 & 20 7:30pm
Fringe Arts Barns Studio B



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FRINGE THEATRE



THOU ART
HERE
THEATRE

Director's Notes

At the beginning of this process I looked down at the notes I had taken during our first read and at the top of the page was scrawled in barely recognizable cursive: "Andy is Bike". I joked to the group that that was going to be what I submitted as my Director's Notes. Just one sentence: Maybe handwritten on a soiled napkin. "Andy is Bike".

This became a running joke during our rehearsal days (I do love a jovial, joke-filled room as well as a good teasing) but the more I kept repeating this mantra the more I delved into the reflection of what it means to become one with our bicycles or other vehicles that help us move through the world (for myself I reflect on my prosthetic leg as the vehicle that moves me through life as my main vehicle).

In *Cycle*, Andy is bike and we get to watch him delve into the traffic of life and we invite you to literally join him on his journey (please try out experiencing the show from a bike if that's your jam!). This is also a love letter to Edmonton and what it means to move around a city and whose "right" it is to move through these city streets. It was an absolute joy to collaborate with Ainsley (a fellow Maximalist and Leo), Liv, Dayna and Galen throughout this process and Andy was a true rock star with all we had to throw at him. Thank you for being part of our process and for your help in bringing this workshop presentation to life... or bike.



Andrew Ritchie

Performer, Playwright

Andrew is a director, theatre maker, improviser, and producer born and raised in Amiskwaciwaskahikan (Edmonton) on Treaty 6 territory. He is thrilled to be creating and acting in his second solo theatre creation *Cycle* and involved in such a positive and collaborative workshop process. Currently he is artistic director of Thou Art Here Theatre and program coordinator with Theatre Alberta. He has an MFA in Directing/Creation from York University, BA in Drama from University of Alberta, is a graduate of the Banff/Citadel Professional Theatre Program and the Rozsa Arts Management Program. Previously he created and performed his play *Assist Ed* in Edmonton and Toronto including Theatre Passe Muraille. He was the Sandbox Series coordinator & theatre school director at Globe Theatre (Regina, SK) and a co-founder and festival director of the Found Festival (Common Ground Arts). He sends his love to Marlee and Elton.



Kristi Hansen

Director

Kristi Hansen (she/they) is a disabled theatre artist who has called Edmonton home for the past 22 years. Kristi is the co-founder and co-Artistic Director of The Maggie Tree and the former co-Artistic Producer of Azimuth Theatre in Edmonton, AB. She is currently working with the Citadel Theatre as an Associate Artist and is a researcher and budding technologist with Moment Discovery, a body-art tech company that specializes in the human body in tech. momentdiscovery.ca



Ainsley Hillyard

Choreographer

Ainsley Hillyard (she/her) is an Amisk-wacîwâskahikan (Edmonton)-based artist of settler descent. She is a choreographer, administrator, educator and performer who works in contemporary dance and theatre. Her work is immersed in the curiosities and connections between these two forms.

Ainsley is a co-founder, a co-artistic director and general manager for the Good Women Dance Collective and is currently being mentored into the role of Artistic Director at the BWDC. In her free time she enjoys going for very long walks with her French bulldog Jezebel and reading feminist sci-fi.



Liv McRobbie

Sound Designer

livmcrobbie (They/She) is a music producer based out of Millwoods. They take inspiration from all genres and mediums. Deeply inspired by horror movies and visual artists such as Ralph Steadman and Shintaro Kago, Liv seeks to create surreal, yet accessible music that encompasses the spirit of Edmonton and the people who live there.



Galen Hite

Stage Manager

Galen Hite (any pronouns) is a queer Edmonton-based theatre artist specializing in Stage Management! They're very excited to be joining the *Cycle* team for this engaging and captivating show. A passionate creative of many interests, Galen also enjoys tabletop RPGs, creative writing, and playing their guitar. They want to thank their partner, their friends, family, plants, cat Paintbrush, (and Google) for always being there for them. Enjoy the show!



Geoffrey Simon Brown

Dramaturg

Geoffrey Simon Brown (he/him) is an award-winning Albertan playwright, actor, dramaturg, and theatre creator. He is a founding member of the Major Matt Mason Collective where he has produced small-scale independent theatre for the past decade. He has served as the director of the collective's Wildfire National Playwriting Competition since 2015. Through the competition, and the company's recent playwriting unit, he has helped to support dozens of new Canadian plays alongside his collaborator Evan Medd. Geoffrey's plays include *Michael Mysterious*, *Night*, *The Circle*, *Still Still Still*, *Control*, *Air*, *If I Could Tell You Everything*, and the most recent adaptation(s) of *A Christmas Carol* for Theatre Calgary. More at geoffreysimonbrown.com



Dayna Lea Hoffmann

Producer

Dayna Lea Hoffmann (she/her) is a bi-racial multidisciplinary artist, actor, and administrator from the Unceded Coast Salish Territories now living in amiskwaciwâskahikan. She is a recent graduate University of Alberta's BFA Acting Program, holds a diploma in Theatre from Douglas College, is a former circus performer, student and teacher of the Vancouver Circus School, and alumnus of Canada's National Voice Intensive.

May 20th performance will be ASL interpreted by Diane Deandrade and Robyn Lavender. ASL Consultation by Thurga Kanagasekarampillai

Thou Art Here Theatre acknowledges that the land we gather and work on is amiskwacîwâskahikan on Treaty 6/Métis Territory colonially known as Edmonton. This territory is the traditional gathering place of many Indigenous people including the Nehiyawak (Cree), Saulteaux, Metis, Papachase, Stoney, Nakota Sioux and many more. We honour and respect the history, traditions, and culture of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit who have cared for this land and called it home. We acknowledge our treaty obligations and are committed to working together in peace and friendship with the community. Thou Art Here is actively examining its hiring practices and programming to include and uplift Indigenous voices and people.



The Alberta Election is on Monday, May 29, 2023. Look up who is running in your riding and their party's platform for active transportation.

Advocate for safer, more livable streets today!

Special Thanks

Dave Belyea

Stuart Hoye

Michael Janz

Miles Janz

Monica Nagel

Stephen Raitz

Ren Pilkington

James Wilt

Marlee Yule

Connor Yuzwenko-Martin

Bike Edmonton

Paths for People