

Deafy

Chris Dodd | Canada

April 22–23, 2022

Part of CoMotion International Deaf and Disability Arts Festival

Harbourfront centre

Cover Photo:
Marc J Chalifoux Photography

About Deafy

Deaf public speaker Nathan Jesper has arrived at his venue desperately late. As he launches into his speech, he soon realizes that things are not what they seem. Written and performed by Deaf actor Chris Dodd, *Deafy* is a stand-up/sitdown tragicomedy blending ASL, the spoken word and surtitles, which leads you on an unexpected journey of belonging.

60 minutes | No intermission.

"Disability is political. Disability is community. Disability is identity. Disability is an experience of living in a world with a 'one size fits one' design. An international artistic and cultural movement is growing, and Deaf and Disabled artists are shouting 'We exist!'"

– Alex Bulmer, CoMotion Curator

Special Thanks:

Vern Theissen, Milane Pridmore-Franz, Heather Inglis, Workshop West Playwrights' Theatre, Darrin Hagen, Andrea Fraser Konowalec, Pam Brenneis, Marion Brant, Honor Carlyon, Rachel Marks, Shay Erlich, Becky Gold, Sean Lee, Eliza Chandler, Syrus Marcus Ware, Véronique Leduc, Kyle Rawn and Colin McCarthy.

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Biographies

Chris Dodd, Actor/Playwright

Chris Dodd is an award-winning Deaf actor, playwright and accessibility advocate. He is the founder and artistic director of SOUND OFF, Canada's annual national theatre festival dedicated to the Deaf performing arts. Notable performances include *Ultrasound* with Theatre Passe Muraille, and recent film credits include the role of Odin in the upcoming feature film *Finality of Dusk*.

Ashley Wright, Director

Ashley Wright is an award-winning actor, playwright and director. In his 30-year career, Wright has worked at every major theatre in Canada, and in 2017 he earned an MFA in directing from the University of Alberta.

Sarah Karpyschin, Lighting Designer (She/Her)

Sarah Karpyschin is an Edmonton-based theatre designer who has worked on shows across Canada. She has her BFA in Theatre Design from the University of Alberta and a Diploma of Fine Arts from MacEwan University.

Dave Clarke, Sound Designer

Dave Clarke is an award-winning Edmonton-based actor, playwright and sound designer. His most recent play, *Songs My Mother Never Sung Me*, is a bilingual piece, performed in sung English and ASL.

Roxanne Côté, Stage Manager

Roxanne Côté is an Edmonton-based stage manager who loves the sun, reading, travelling and pigeons. Some of her previous credits include the production of *Hamlet* online with Thou Art Here Theatre, *Une exploration en attendant* with l'UniThéâtre and a production of *A Christmas Carol* with Carter-Ryan Productions in Banff, AB.

Ainsley Hillyard, Choreographer

Ainsley Hillyard is an Amiskwacîwâskahikan (Edmonton)-based choreographer, performer and educator who works in contemporary dance and theatre. Hillyard has worked as a choreographer and performer for various theatre and dance companies in Amiskwacîwâskahikan and received numerous Sterling nominations and awards for her performances and choreographies.

Deafy

Written, Performed by Chris Dodd	ASL Coach Amorena Bartlett	Dramaturg Kat Germain
Director Ashley Wright	Photographer Marc J. Chalifoux	Quality Assurance Lauren Wu
Stage Manager Roxanne Côté	Additional Photographs Katherine Fogler	Audio Engineer Dev Ramsawakh
Sound Designer Dave Clarke	Audio Description Production Superior Description Services	ASL Interpreter Coordinator Gaitrie Persaud Phoenix The Fire
Lighting Designer Sarah Karpyschin	Audio Describer Letizia Binda-Partensky	ASL Interpreters Marcia Adolphe Amanda Hyde Timothy Keslick

Harbourfront Centre

Chief Executive Officer Marah Braye	Accessibility Coordinator Katherine Hale	Front of House Manager, Visitor Services Christopher Hackett
Chief Programming Officer Iris Nemani	Production Director Jamie Rodriguez	Assistant Manager Ian McNulty
Cultural Engagement Manager, Interim Diana Webley	Production Manager, Theatres LJ Savage	Manager, Hospitality Norm Maschke
Associate Producer Pam Briz	Harbourfront Centre Theatre Head Electrician Giulia D'Amanzo	Front of House Supervisor Stephanie Dotto
Assistant Producers Andrea Castaneda Melanie Dubois	Stage Carpenter Mike Susz	Stage Technicians at the Harbourfront Centre Theatre and Fleck Dance Theatre are represented by Local 58 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, its territories, and Canada.
Company Manager Rosie Driscoll	Audio Engineer Howie J. Howlett	