

Globe Theatre Presents:

# Blind Date



Starring Tess Degenstein  
A Spontaneous Theatre creation by Rebecca Northan  
October 18th - November 5th, 2023

# BLIND DATE

Starring Tess Degenstein

A Spontaneous Theatre creation by Rebecca Northan

October 18th - November 5th, 2023 | 90 minutes.

## Cast & Creative Team

Tess Degenstein .....Mimi

Rebecca Northan .....Creator/Producer

Jordy Matheson .....Scenographer

Ali Froggatt .....Scenographer

Meredith Johnson .....Stage Manager/Sound Improvisor

Dustyn Wales .....Associate Producer

Christopher Oldfield ... Associate Producer



Globe Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages, under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, professional Artists who are members of the Canadian Actors Equity Association. Globe Theatre acknowledges the support of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

**All production crew are members of I.A.T.S.E Local 295**




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Indicated designers with an (\*) on this production are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

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Globe Theatre Reimagine Capital Campaign



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We are all Treaty people.



## Jennifer Brewin Artistic Director

*Blind Date* invites us to an improvised encounter between two strangers. When I first saw this show, I was blown away by its audacity and joy. Its unusual format is anchored in theatre's magic and a performer's courage. No one knows what's coming, as each night a different, and equally willing, audience member steps bravely into the footlights

by volunteering to be Mimi's blind date.

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Rebecca Northan premiered this extraordinary creation 16\* years ago. Now, some 1500 performances later, *Blind Date's* potency and humour sparkle with the same exuberance as it did on that opening night in 2007. What explains its lasting impact? I'd say it's because at its core *Blind Date* celebrates humour and fearlessness and — most of all — kindness.

It is a thrill to host this production at Darke Hall and honour Regina's deep roots in comedy and improvisation. To spend an evening with the incomparable Tess Degenstein as Mimi, is to be on a roller coaster ride with your favourite people at the end of summer and you can't stop smiling. The memory of it lasts a lifetime.

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## Jaime Boldt Executive Director

I would like to start by acknowledging that last year at this time we were celebrating local hero and beloved community member George Reed. Mr. Reed and his family and friends attended a number of the performances of #34; the story of George Reed by Munish Sharma. It was an honour and a privilege to showcase a life of a resilience, determination and passion for the prairies, community and football. The world will shine a little less bright without Mr. Reed. Condolences to his family, friends, and the entire community who will mourn his loss.

Last season Darke Hall was home to #34, and we are thrilled to be back again with *Blind Date*. I can't wait to see what adventures Mimi will get up to as each night will be a different experience with local Saskatchewan talent - Tess Degenstein.

Be sure to get your tickets for our Christmas show *Making Spirits Brighter*. It has been a sold-out performance for the last 2 years. You don't want to miss out on this updated version with 4 new radio style plays that will get you into the holiday spirit!

Welcome to the 2023/24 season! We are so happy to have you back!



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# Creator's Note

Rebecca Northan

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The idea for *Blind Date* arrived in a flash - I experienced it as a “thunk” on the very top of my head as I was rounding a corner, on my way to a pitch meeting in 2007. Not in a million years did I think I would be asked to write director/creator notes for it over 15 years later!

“Mimi” has now been on over 1500+ dates across Canada, through the States, off-Broadway, in London’s West End, and at the Edinburgh Festival. I recall thinking mid-pandemic, when we were all back in lock-down, that our lovely, lovelorn, loving French clown might never sit at her café table ever again. I am so grateful that Jennifer Brewin has invited us to return to the stage!

*Blind Date* is an ever-evolving, living, breathing piece of theatre that responds to the world around us. While there is a loose structure to it, we never know just how the scaffolding will be embellished each night, because the details and nuance are brought to it by the Date, and their chemistry with Mimi. What IS consistent though is our love and respect for our on-stage guest, and the audience who has gathered to witness Magic unfold in real-time.

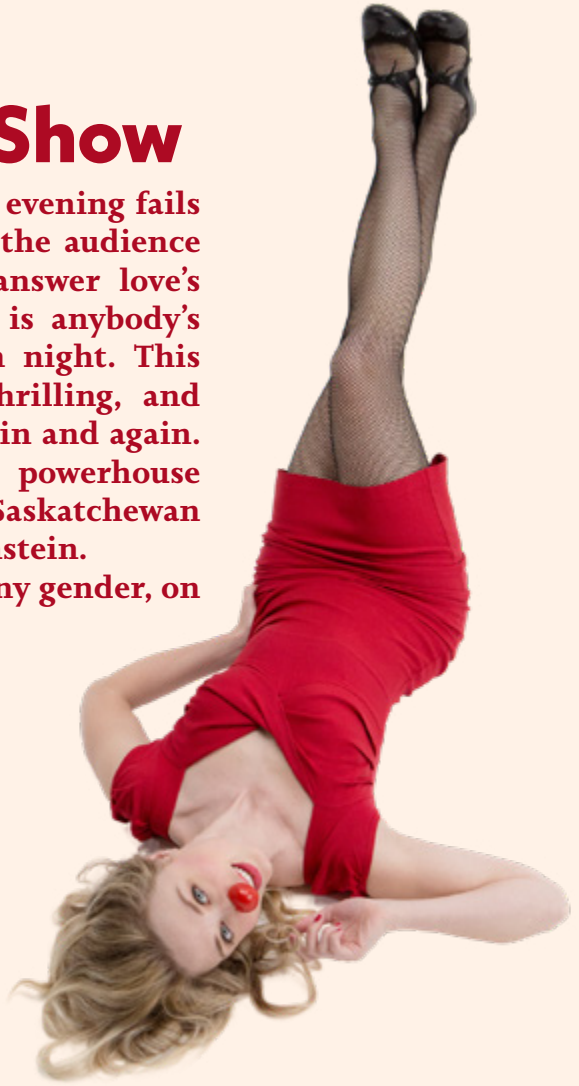
It seems now, more than ever, the immediate need for connection, a desire to be seen, and a longing for empathy and understanding are critical. The guiding principle behind *Blind Date* is an unwavering belief that everyone is loveable, and it is the clown’s job to create an arena in which that truth can be revealed. Enjoy the ride - it is only when we gathered together that these sorts of miracles occur. Tonight, our aim is to have you fall in love with a stranger.



# About the Show

When Mimi's date for the evening fails to show up, she turns to the audience for someone willing to answer love's call. What happens next is anybody's guess, and different each night. This is theatre at its most thrilling, and you will want to see it again and again. Featuring international powerhouse actor and home-grown Saskatchewan talent - Tess Degenstein.

Mimi is open to dates of any gender, on any night.



## BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY NO 7 CLASSICS SERIES

NOVEMBER 18, 2023 | 7:30 PM | CONEXUS ARTS CENTRE

One of Canada's leading cellists, Cameron Crozman will make his debut with the Regina Symphony Orchestra to perform the enigmatic and brilliant concerto by Robert Schumann. Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 will inspire the concert hall with an energetic opening and wild journey to the final movement.

TICKETS & INFO  
[reginasymphony.com](https://reginasymphony.com)



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Discounted tickets for those under the age of 30 to attend any RSO concert for only \$20! (including service fees and tax)

# Cast & Creative Team



**Tess Degenstein | Mimi**

Tess Degenstein is an actor, screenwriter, director, improviser, and voice-over artist from Regina, now living in Vancouver. She's thrilled to be home.

As an actor and improviser, Tess has performed and taught across the country, as well as in Vienna, Berlin, Athens, London, Oslo, Atlanta, and New York. She has been nominated for multiple

ensemble Canadian Comedy Awards and a Sterling Award for Best Actor. She was awarded a Jessie Richardson award for her comedic turn in *Noises Off* at the Arts Club. Television credits include featured roles in *New Eden*, *Frankie Drake*, *King*, and *Murdoch Mysteries*, as well as multiple international commercials and music videos.

Tess has written a handful of features, and has directed two shorts. She has a series and feature film (set in Regina!) in development. Thank you so much for being here and supporting the arts! Go Riders!

**Previously with the Globe:** *The Alice Nocturne*, *The Wizard of Oz*

**Upcoming:** *Blind Date* - Vancouver, various screenwriting.

Partners on the path to

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The University of Regina is proud to support the arts in Saskatchewan, and shares the Globe Theatre's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.



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*together.*



# Cast & Creative Team



## **Jordy Matheson | Scenographer**

Jordy Matheson is a theatre artist and improviser working primarily in Vancouver on Unceded Coast Salish territories. He is a graduate of the Douglas College acting program, and has a BA in Theatre Studies from UBC. As an actor he primarily works in improv and live comedy, performing with

Tightrope Theatre, QueerProv, Little Mountain Improv and others. He has also had plays developed through Pull Festival and Arts Club's LEAP program. Since 2021 he has been a co-deviser and director of We Deserve to Work with the Community Living Society and Canadian Institute for Inclusion and Citizenship.



## **Ali Froggatt | Scenographer**

Ali is thrilled to be making her Globe debut with the love & magic of *Blind Date!* Originally from Calgary, Ali started her journey as an improviser at the Loose Moose Theatre Company founded by the world renowned Keith Johnstone. A graduate of Toronto's Randolph Academy of Performing

Arts she is now based in Vancouver where she is the founding artistic director of Tightrope Theatre, a company specialising in improvisation. This is Ali's 3rd run of *Blind Date*, previous runs include The Arts Club (Vancouver) & The Canada Hub (Edinburgh Fringe Festival). She hopes you enjoy the show!

## **Meredith Johnson | Stage Manager**

Meredith is a Calgary based stage manager and this is her first time at the Globe here in Regina! Meredith has previously stage managed with Alberta Theatre Projects, Bad Knaps Theatre, Black Radish Theatre, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Calgary Young People's Theatre, Handsome Alice Theatre, Heritage Park, Lunchbox Theatre, Making Treaty 7, Major Matt Mason Collective, One Yellow Rabbit, Theatre Calgary, The Shakespeare Company, Spontaneous Theatre/Arts Club Theatre, Quest Theatre, Vertigo Theatre and Verb Theatre. Meredith would like to thank Rebecca and the whole BD team for bringing Mimi back out into the world.



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# Full Time Staff



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Chief Financial Officer



**Kenilee Kehler**  
Director of Production



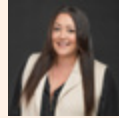
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Accounting Manager



**Jayme Oakley**  
Manager of Sales &  
Patron Services



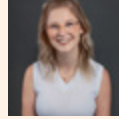
**Caleb Rogers**  
Accounting Clerk



**Carissa Trenton**  
Fundraising &  
Communications Strategist



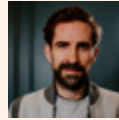
**Arunpreet Kaur**  
Executive Assistant



**Tessa Kozun**  
Marketing Strategist



**Heather Ervin**  
Producer



**Greg Ochitwa**  
Theatre School Director/  
Artistic Associate



**Devon Bonneau**  
Technical Director

# Production Staff

**Devon Bonneau** .....Technical Director  
**Norm Daschle** .....Head of Props  
**Kevin Federko** .....Head of Scenic Carpentry  
**Patrick Fitzsimmons** Head of Lighting  
**Aren Okemaysim** .....Head of Sound  
**Anastasia Pearce** .....Head of Wardrobe

# Front of House Staff

Kim Brown  
Barb Cameron  
Cheryl Egger  
Mackenzie Garbe  
Karen Jurzyniec

Bobbie Katuin  
Kirk Leier  
Anne McLellan  
Wanda Mohr  
Jaki Minett

Philomena Reid  
Rhea Sali

# Fall Theatre School Staff

**Sarah Janz** .....Lead Instructor  
**Billie Liskowich** .....Lead Instructor  
**Greg Ochitwa** .....Lead Instructor  
**Vanessa Prevost** .....Lead Instructor  
**Lucas Babcock** .....Teaching Assistant  
**Amber Fink** .....Teaching Assistant  
**Shelby Kaytor** .....Teaching Assistant  
**Eleanor Suggitt** .....Teaching Assistant  
**Ashanta Tanner** .....Teaching Assistant  
**Madison Tyndale** ....Teaching Assistant

# Volunteers

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Bonnie Briere  
Frank Briere  
Laurie Collins  
Heather Entner  
Penny Forrest  
Ted Forrest  
Peggy Forsberg  
Gail Fry  
Larry Fry  
Judy Gates  
Shuana Gebhart  
Shirley Gieni  
Blair Gullickson

Jan Gullickson  
Donna Harries  
Catherine Hologroski  
Eugene Hologroski  
Gail Lambert  
Carlton Larsen  
Marilyn Leask  
Bonnie Mann  
Dave Mann  
Darlene McClelland  
Trina McDowell  
Brenda Miller  
John Miller  
Darwin Rogers

Janice Rogers  
Edith Seiferling  
Gabe Seiferling  
Robert Stradeski  
Heather Sweet  
Donna Whitelaw  
Murray Whitelaw  
Jacqueline Wight  
Lorraine Wihak  
Kathy Willis  
Kathy Willner



The University of Regina's Theatre Department presents

## All Good Things Must Begin

November 1 - 4 at 7:30 pm, Shubox Theatre

This is a series of short plays on our climate crisis which inspire hope, and creatively reflect our times through humour, absurdism, drama, and the possibility of a better future for our planet.

Join us for an inspired evening of change!

Directed by the Globe Theatre's Artistic Director Jennifer Brewin



# Funders



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November 29th - December 23rd, 2023

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**