

**Persephone Productions Presents**

# **THE FLICK**

**By Annie Baker**

**Directed by Rebecca Gibian**

**Time: 2hr30 including a 15 minute intermission**

**Please note that this performance features offensive language, themes of self-harm, and mild sexual content.**

# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

"People always freak out when like, you know, like art forms move forward" -Sam

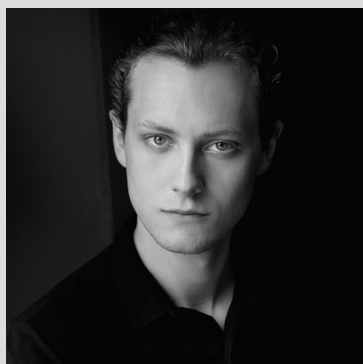
Like so many great works of art, *The Flick* is its own distinctive, perhaps even unique, genre. This makes it both a treat to experience, and difficult to write about. Annie Baker evades our need to categorize or lock stories into rigid types—and yet it doesn't sink into the murky waters of general, universal thematic washes—it is specific. I was not in small town Massachusetts in 2012, and yet this play speaks to a part of me that feels so authentic it is almost secret.

I first encountered Annie Baker's writing while understudying in her adaptation of *Uncle Vanya* at the Shaw Festival. Like Chekhov, *The Flick* works in similarly mysterious ways. It presents us with questions instead of answers, zooms in on the micro moments of life, without panning out to show us the larger picture. The answers are for after the credits roll.

*The Flick* might be a story about friendship. It might be a play about status. Above all it might be a play about art: how art forms—like theatre and film—evolve, how they survive, and how we commodify art into the stuff of the everyday. Set in our not so distant past, a few hours south of us, Annie Baker's Pulitzer-prize winning play still rings true today, echoing across these Centaur theatre walls.

## CAST

### Andrew Cameron as Sam



**Andrew Cameron** is a Montreal & Toronto based actor, producer, theatre and creator graduate of George Brown Theatre School (17/18). He is a member of The Lakeside Players (*Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Robin Hood*) who are currently gearing up for their second national tour of Andrew's new adaptation of "The Three Musketeers: Now With Only Two Actors!". He is also the founder of indie theatre label 'Elkabong Theatre Projects' which was nominated for the Segal Centre Outstanding English Production

award in the 2022 Montreal Fringe for the original play *DOWN BOY!* Andrew staged an adaptation of Albert Camus' *The Fall* at The Diving Bell Social Club which will be featured in the Kick and Push Festival in Kingston this year. Additionally Elkabong will be mounting another original production entitled 'Fatal Charade' in the Toronto Fringe Festival this summer. Andrew is absolutely thrilled to be a part of this production of *The Flick* having fallen in love with Annie Baker's writing back in theatre school.

## Steve-Jamal Azémar as Avery



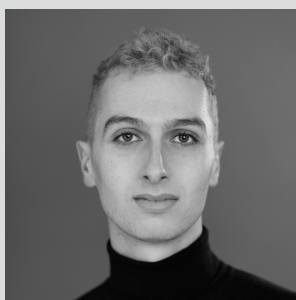
**Jamal Azémar** is a bilingual actor from Montreal, whose love for acting started at the age of 11 when he starred in his elementary school play. His most recent credits include *Witchboard* (Chuck Russell) and the short film *Through your Eyes* (Alessandro Montiel) After obtaining his BFA in Acting for the Theatre from Concordia University, Jamal spent his time appearing in short films to develop his skills as a performer. He seeks to work on projects that challenge him and part of a community where he can learn and grow as an artist. When he is not busy with his art, Jamal works alongside his family on helping children from impoverished communities in Haiti and he plans to visit the country one day. Outside of acting, his interests include photography, video editing, watching anime, movies and TV shows, as well as cooking.

## Caitlyn Sponheimer as Rose

Award winning Canadian filmmaker, **Caitlyn Sponheimer**, is a Director Guild of Canada nominee, Reykjavik Talent Lab alumna and Telefilm Canada and Canada Council for the Arts grant recipient. As an actor, Caitlyn is a graduate of Meisner's Neighborhood Playhouse, was shortlisted for TIFF Rising Stars, and is an ACTRA Best Performance nominee for her work in "Little Hope". Her work has been shown at festivals around the globe with her co-written/lead role feature premiering under Telefilm's Best of New Canadian Cinema at Cannes Marche ('18). Caitlyn produced and costarred in the multi-award-winning Telefilm Canada and Alberta Media Fund feature "Jasmine Road" ('20). In 2021, Caitlyn wrote, directed, and produced a project for 20th Digital Studios/Freeform, "The Ugliest of Them All", which garnered nearly 3 million views in under a week. Currently, Caitlyn is in post on her debut feature film, the Telefilm and Crave/Bell Media "Wild Goat Surf", which she wrote, directed, and starred in. Acting credits include Amazon's "The Boys", NBC's "Transplant", and Supermassive's horror video game from the Dark Pictures Anthology "Little Hope" starring opposite Will Poulter.

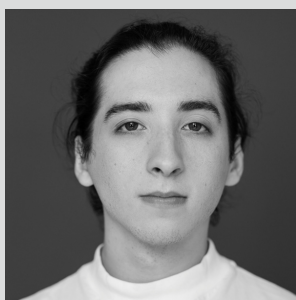


## The role of "Skylar" will be played by:



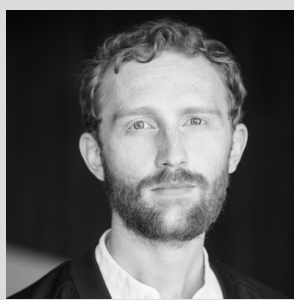
**Adam Capriolo**

June 1st, 6th and 11th



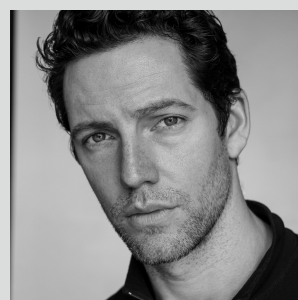
**Cordbeau Sandoval**

May 31st, June 2nd and 7th



**David Noel**

June 4th, 8th, 9th and 10th



**Brett Donahue**

June 3rd

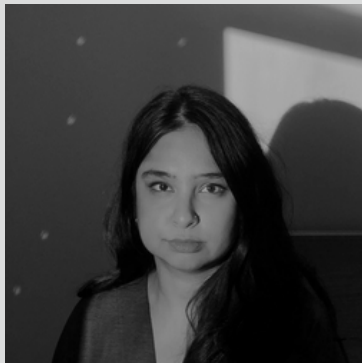
# CREATIVE TEAM

## **Rebecca Gibian - Director**

A bilingual Montrealer, Rebecca Gibian grew up between two languages and their artistic identities. A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada's Acting program, she spent years splitting her time between Quebec and Ontario, working as an actor and director for various companies including the Shaw Festival, The Centaur Theatre, Studio 180 Theatre and Repercussion Theatre. Somehow, still, forever emerging, Rebecca is driven by the desire to raise the proverbial bar for emerging artists, and to bridge the gap between the english and french theatre traditions by leading with equal parts narrative and form-expanding approaches. Above all, she strives to create room at the various tables that make up the landscape of our Canadian theatres.



## **Sruti Islam - Assistant-Director**



**Sruti Islam** is a reader, and sometimes writer. She has several years of experience working in publishing—formerly a book publicist for Drawn and Quarterly, Anteism, and Metatron Press. In 2019 she founded a literary space: Weird Era, which has since developed into Weird Era, a literary podcast, as well as a literary arts journal. She continues to freelance in literary and cultural coverage. She is a libra.

## **Leila Ghaemi - Dramaturg**

**Leila Ghaemi** (she/elle) is a MENA (Middle Eastern and North African) theatre-maker. She recently returned to her hometown of Montreal, Quebec after a decade of working for theatre companies in the United States, including American Conservatory Theater, New Repertory Theatre, and Boston Playwright's Theatre. Leila received her BFA in Theatre Arts and MFA in Theatre Education & Direction from Boston University's School of Theatre. She is a teaching artist at The Study School, dramaturg at Playwrights' Workshop Montreal, and freelances in cultural consultation and new play development. A lover of all things theatre, Leila's main artistic pillars are new play development, MENA representation, and radical theatre empowerment.



## Zachary Weibel - Technical Director



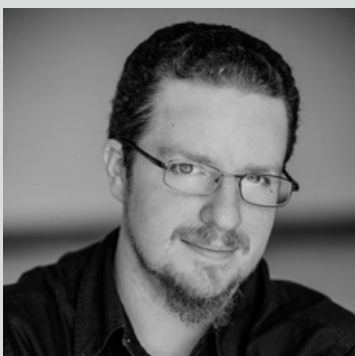
**Zachary Weibel** is a theatre artist from the Seattle area, based in Montreal. He is a recent graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada's Production, Design, and Technical Arts Program. He also holds a BA in Humanities from Washington State university – with a focus on music, anthropology, and English. While there, he was active in the theatre community on campus, and in the Palouse region within Washington and Idaho. He is keenly interested in understanding the nuances of style & aesthetic, and their relationship to the practical side of the creation process. He hopes to bring forward a more open, diverse space for meaningful creation, with those values. Notable credits include: Assistant Technical Director Montreal St Ambroise Fringe; Technical Director Maybe Not Tomorrow (Monument National); Assistant Technical Director Cabaret (Monument National).

## Annalise Peterson-Perry - Stage Manager

**Annalise Peterson-Perry** is a Montreal-based theatre practitioner and graduate of Concordia University's Theatre and Development program. Having worked in theatre and film for over ten years, Annalise is interested in multiple avenues of creating and supporting great storytelling. Recent credits include: Stage Manager for Celestial Bodies (Geordie Theatre tour to Young People's Theatre Toronto), The One (Hopegrown Productions) and Strawberries in January (Hudson Village Theatre), Apprentice Stage Manager for Sir John A: Acts of a Gentrified Ojibway Rebellion (Globe Theatre Regina), All Shall Be Well (Repercussion Theatre), and From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea (Geordie Theatre), Assistant Stage Manager for The Blond, the Brunette and the Vengeful Redhead (Hudson Village Theatre), and Tour Manager for Geordie Theatre's 2 Play Tour (2022). Annalise grew up watching movies and theatre and is excited to bring you into the world of The Flick that merges them together!

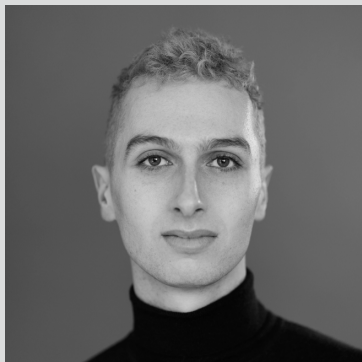


## Bruce Lambie - Lighting Design



**Bruce Lambie** is a multidisciplinary theatre artist. His most recent credit was as Stage Manager/Lighting Designer for Watching Shadows at Dawson College. He has production designed at many theatres and festivals in Montreal and across the country, notably at the Gros Morne Theatre Festival in Cow Head NL, and for shows touring to Toronto, Winnipeg, and Spokane WA. Bruce teaches technical theatre in the Dawson College Professional Theatre Program, and is a proud graduate of Bishop's University and the National Theatre School of Canada.

## Adam Capriolo - Costumes & Set Design



**Adam Capriolo** is an actor, writer, director, and designer. He has directed and done production design for music videos for artists like Fleece, Aiza, and Maya Malkin, and directed a short film starring Meghann Fahy of *The White Lotus*. He was the assistant costume designer on the DGC nominated film *You Can Live Forever*. He most recently assistant directed Peter Hinton-Davis' production of *At the Beginning of Time* at the Centaur Theatre.

As an actor, he has appeared in numerous stage productions in Montreal, where he played characters like Mercutio in *Romeo & Juliet* and Sir Andrew in *Twelfth Night* for Repercussion Theatre. He was nominated for a Montreal English Theatre Award for both performances. On screen, he played the role of Andrew for five seasons on the TV series *The Bold Type*, and he also appeared in *Single All the Way* (dir. Michael Mayer, Netflix) and *Brad's Status* (dir. Mike White, Amazon). He is currently developing a comedy TV series with Play Management Media Inc.

## Julian Smith - Video & Sound Design

**Julian Smith** is a recent graduate of the National Theatre School's PDTA Program (2022). Originally from Newfoundland, he now calls Montreal home. Recent credits include *Redbone Coonhound* (Tarragon and Imago). *Frankenstein The Living Comic Book* (Kidoons and Geordie) *Out of It & Woke Island* (Rising Tide Theatre). Julian is also currently producing a play with some colleagues of his back in Newfoundland, named *Tamasha O' Tamahsa* which received the Concept to Realization grant from CCOA for \$60,000 and opens in early June 2023. Julian is excited to work with Persephone productions for the first time and hopes you enjoy this show!



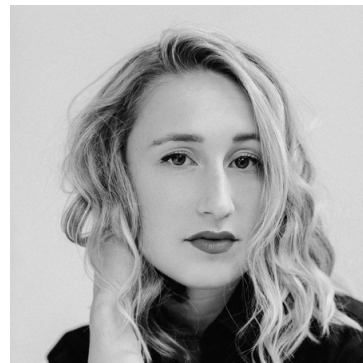
## Isabella Robert - Assistant Sound & Video Designer

**Isabella Robert** is a bilingual, multi-disciplinary artist based in Tiohtià:ke, QC. Isabella is a recent graduate of the Production Design and Technical Arts program at the National Theatre school of Canada (2023) as well as a graduate of the Dawson Professional Theatre Program (2018). Working in the theatre from the age of 10, Isabella has always had a passion for storytelling on and off the stage. Having worked as a stage manager, livestream director, sound and video designer, Isabella is excited to be part of the team and continue to build new skills and try new things!



## **Meagan Schroeder - Intimacy Coordinator**

**Meagan Schroeder** is a queer actor, educator and Intimacy Director. Her training and approach to performance is based in compassion, playfulness and physics storytelling methods. She believes in vivid story-telling that transcends language; and strives to create sensorial images that explore the universality of breath and body. Intimacy Direction is the intersection of all of her passions and she feels honored to hold space for such precious work.



# SPECIAL THANKS TO :

Michael Tonus, Gabrielle Soskin, Amy Blackmore, Michael Novak, Youtheatre, Centaur Theatre, Segal Centre for Performing Arts, Victoria Laberge, Quebec Drama Federation, and Persephone Productions Montreal's loyal donors, supporters and board members.

Persephone Productions Montreal acknowledges that this performance is held on the unceded traditional lands of the Kanien'kehà:ka peoples, part of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. As such, a portion of the proceeds from each ticket sold for this play will be donated to a local indigenous organization.

## **Centaur Staff**

Persephone Productions Montreal is renting Centaur Theatre with the Permission of Centaur Theatre Company.

Artistic & Executive Director - Eda Holmes

General Manager - Charles Childs

Production Manager - Howard Mendelsohn

Assistant Production Manager - Liana Rose Mundy

Head Technician - Scarlet Fountain

Front of House Manager - Layne Shutt

Box Office Manager - Micaela Fernandez

Outreach Coordinator - Scott Leydon

Manager, Communications & Marketing - Eloi Savoie

**To Make a Donation to  
Persephone Productions  
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