



**T H E  
K I S S I N G  
G A M E**

5333 Casgrain #507 Montreal, QC H2T 1X3  
514-833-8781 info@youthatre.ca



# About The Company

8500  
young  
people  
reached  
each  
season

For the past 50 years, Youtheatre's aim has been to engage its audience through compelling theatre which provokes, questions, challenges and entertains. Our major area of focus is the creation, development and production of new works for young people.

The company strives to bring new voices, new visions and new technology to its audiences. The work often pushes traditional boundaries to tell stories in a way that can resonate with today's digital natives.

The Canada Council has recognised Youtheatre as a leader among Canadian theatre companies producing work for young audiences, citing the company's "achievements in maintaining high production standards" as well as "the depth of its commitment to developing new work and original voices."

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# The Kissing Game

friendship  
betrayal  
identity  
love

Kate and Sam are best friends, but there's a tension building in their relationship. When Kate's sister falls victim to an act of violence, they are determined to bring the perpetrator to justice.

On a summer evening, their actions tear a hole in reality as the assailant's heart falls out of his chest and onto the pavement, just as it begins to snow. Their relationship crumbles in the aftermath and the girls are left to question whether any of us are truly worthy of forgiveness.

*The Kissing Game* is an urban fantasy that explores love, betrayal, friendship, and identity.

The Kissing Game was developed with support from Young People's Theatre Leaps and Bounds Program, as well as the Banff Centre Playwrights Lab.

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*"...I was very pleasantly surprised that an LGBTQ+ perspective was being presented. It's great to have some of our more invisible students access stories that speak directly to them."*

— Educator from École Secondaire Jeanne-Mance

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# Playwright

Rhiannon  
Michel  
Martin  
Sarah

**Rhiannon Collett** is an award-winning non-binary playwright, performer, director and translator based in Montreal and Toronto. Their work explores the ritualization of grief, gender performativity, queer/trans identity and sexual labour.

Selected playwriting credits include *Miranda & Dave Begin Again* (2016 RBC Emerging Playwright Award); *Wasp* (Nightswimming/Rhubarb Festival); *The Kissing Game* (Youtheatre/YPT/Banff); *Tragic Queens* (CABAL), and *The Revolutions* (Spiderwebshow).

Their theatre criticism has been featured in *The Globe and Mail*, *Now Magazine*, *Intermission Magazine* and *HowlRound*.

Rhiannon was a guest artist at the LungA festival in Seyðisfjörður, Iceland and artist-in-residence at the Mauser Eco House in Costa Rica.

They are a graduate of Generator's Performance Criticism Training Program, Buddies in Bad Times' Emerging Creators Unit, Playwrights' Workshop Montreal's Young Creators Unit and Black Theatre Workshop's Artist Mentorship Program.

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# Director & Dramaturge

(Original English Version 2018)

Rhiannon  
Michel  
Martin  
Sarah

Actor and director **Michel Lefebvre** has been working professionally in the theatre for over 40 years. He was Executive Director of Youtheatre from 1992-2019.

As an actor, Mr. Lefebvre has worked at some of the most prestigious theatres across the country, performing lead roles at the Grand Theatre in London, (Ontario), Alberta Theatre Projects in Calgary, The National Arts Centre in Ottawa and Theatre Passe Muraille in Toronto among others.

As a director, Mr. Lefebvre's work has been seen throughout Canada, in Toronto and at the major regional theatres as well as several important venues in the United Kingdom.

Michel's pre-occupation with Canadian work has been evident during his tenure at Youtheatre, where he has commissioned some of the most important Canadian writers to create works for young audiences.

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# Lighting Designer

Rhiannon  
Michel  
Martin  
Sarah

**Martin Sirois** is a light artist who works primarily in theatre. His signature geometric lighting designs were recently seen in creation with Christian Lapointe, Eric Jean, Wajdi Mouawad, Hanna Abd El Nour and Alexandre Marine.

Focusing on the architectural features of light, Sirois shapes the darkness and then the setting with angles and colours. Cut with surgical precision, the darkness creates a space above the body and sets the stage.

In short, it gives the scene a decorative and scenic value, instilling psychological and emotional intent into the light even before attempting to show an object or a character. This technique brings the viewer into a place where they are ready to listen, so that they may feel and discover the piece.

Sirois graduated from the production program at the National Theatre School of Canada in 2005.

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# Sound Designer

Rhiannon  
Michel  
Martin  
Sarah

As a Montreal-bred musician, **Sara Magnan**, a.k.a. Magnanime, takes inspiration from the people, places, and happenings she experiences in her cosmopolitan setting.

As a female pioneer in the Montreal experimental techno house scene, in 2015 she released her first 12" EP *Don't Wait For Me* on the Chicago-based label Siteholder records with remixes from Akufen and Brian Ffar. She since has been part of releases such as *The Fable*, a double-vinyl compilation on Klangscheiben, and she was also part of the *Horror Inc Remixed* compilation with Brandt Brauer Frick, Dimbiman and Stephen Beaupré on Perlon 106.

Sara has recently worked on sound design for theatre with Youtheatre's *The Kissing Game* and *Crossing the Ocean*.

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