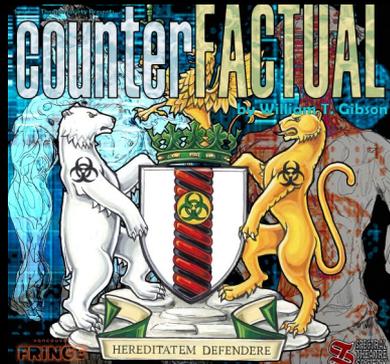


Spectral Theatre Society

Presents

By W. Thomas Gibson

counterFACTUAL



Oct. 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th & 9th, 2020

Performance Works

counterFACTUAL

Written & Directed by

W. Thomas Gibson

Statement on Cultural Safety

We acknowledge that this play will be performed on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the x^wməθkwəy'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl'ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

The fictionalized version of Vancouver presented here also exists on unceded Indigenous lands. If that were not the case, it would not properly reflect the real-world history of the city where we live, work and play.

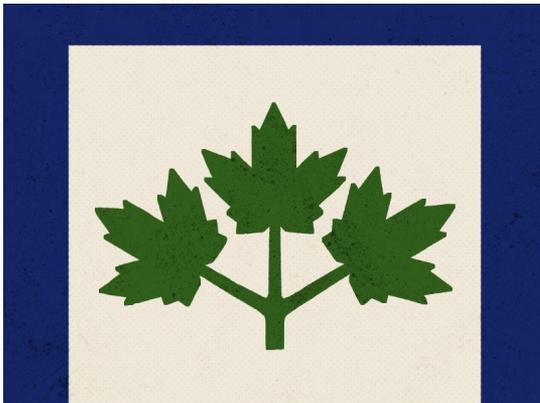
Arcadia is a fictionalized version of Canada, set in an alternate present day.

In the context of the play, Arcadia is intended to be a multiracial, multicultural, pluralistic democracy, though not a utopia by any means. The laws and systems that have been imagined for Arcadia are deliberately shown to include systemic biases and inequalities - some of the characters are more aware

of these inequalities than are others. The laws and systems depicted are not intended to be normative for real-world policies.

Any story that addresses policing and public protest, and in particular that addresses a turn toward dystopia and authoritarianism, may elicit negative emotions in some audience members. We are sensitive to the lived experiences of audience members who may have encountered injustice in the past, are experiencing it now, and who may experience it in the future.

The imagined history of Arcadia includes contacts between Indigenous peoples and colonizing/settler societies. We wish for the stories of these Indigenous peoples to be told in the future. We hope that these stories will be developed collaboratively with Indigenous artists who live in Canada and elsewhere.



The Players



AURORA CHAN

(Salimah Temmerlan + BGTD Dispatcher #2)

Aurora is excited to perform live again in the midst of these strange times, and with her Spectral comrades no less. She first joined the Spectral family twelve years ago, playing a killer alien bee. Since then she has had a blast playing a wide range of characters, from the Angel of Death to a leather clad lesbian. She hopes the audience will enjoy a return to a more old school form of entertainment in the form of the radio play - get ready to listen and let your imagination create the picture.



CK KAUR

(Kiranjit Hundal + BCB Announcer #1)

CK Kaur is a Vancouver-based actor and writer. She is thrilled to be a part of a play that indulges in her love of science-fiction, alternate timelines, and complex female characters grappling the issues of power and responsibility. Her most recent work in theatre includes Classic Chic's all-female version of 'Much Ado About Nothing' (2019) where she played Conrade, Balthasar, and Ursula; and in Exit 22's stage adaption of 'Sense and Sensibility' (2018) as Mrs. Jennings. She would like to thank Spectral Theatre Society and the Fringe Festival for the opportunity to be on stage during this year's apocalypse so she can pretend to be badass in an alternative version of a different apocalypse. CK is a graduate of Capilano University's Acting for Stage and Screen Program and is represented by Leo Management.



JULIAN PAUL

(Øyborg Durukan + MSAR Security Guard)

Julian Paul has 35 years of acting experience and 15 years of professional coaching experience. Previous credits with Spectral include "Birds of Tunguska" as part of "Spectral Theatre's Late-Night Double Feature" and "Automatic Pilot." He has played multiple roles in Theatre, Voiceover and Radio, as well as Film and TV roles across many genres, including roles in The A-team, Stargate: Atlantis and Batwoman, as well as recurring roles in Wu Assassins and iZombie. Julian is represented by MoGood Talent.



OSCAR DAVILA

(Enrique de Santiago)

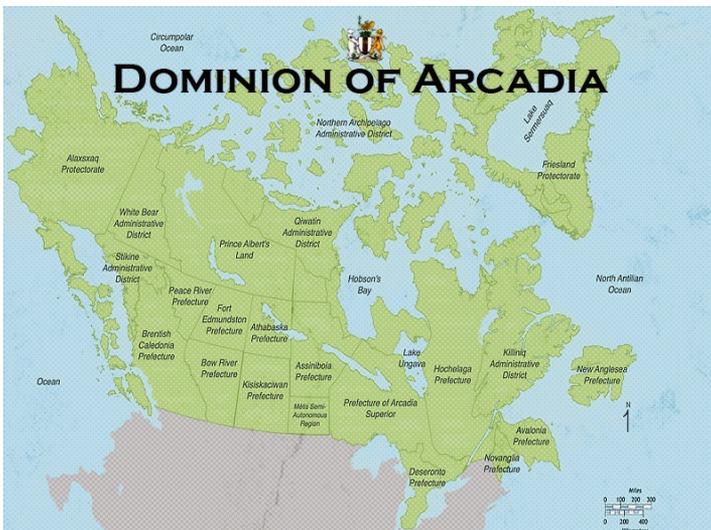
Oscar Davila is excited to be performing with the Spectral Theatre Society once again. This will be his second performance with the STS since donning the horns of Krampus in their original production 'Dead Ends VII - A Seasonal Feast of Freakishness for the End Times'. A Vancouver local of twenty plus years, he graduated from the New Image College of Fine Arts Acting program and continues honing his craft at Austin-Tuck Studios. With this fringe performance he will be ending a hiatus from the stage since last playing the role of Jerry in Edward Albee's 'The Zoo Story'. Other past performances include Anton Chekov's 'Solyony' in 'The Three Sister's' and Alan Ball's 'Ford' in 'Bachelor Holiday'. An avid reader of all genres, but enjoying science fiction and fantasy the most, he looks forward to bringing to life a dystopian character of his own.



Rosie Pidcock

(Antonia Joseph + Chromothrip #2)

Rosie is an actor and filmmaker based in Vancouver. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce from UBC, and a Diploma in Acting from VFS. She produced, directed and starred in the web series 'Thank You For Ghosting' and the short film 'Chime Me Again'. This Fall you can also catch her on stage at Rumble Theatre's Tremors Festival in a new work by Dusty Foot Productions. She is currently producing the 'The Fetishization of One Victor Mohdee', a short-film that explores contemporary Black male identity and sexual fetishization through the lens of a relationship. Rosie also volunteers her time with the youth non-profit Student Energy, where she serves as both Board Secretary and a Member of the Intersectional Equity Committee. Half-Chinese and fluent in Mandarin, Rosie's dream is to shoot a feature in China's beautiful Southwestern Province of Yunnan. She is excited to bring her creative talents to this production Counterfactual in her first appearance at the Vancouver Fringe! Her favourite reporter performances on screen include Rachel McAdams in Spotlight, Tina Fey in Whiskey Tango Foxtrot and Olivia Munn on The Newsroom.





Seth Little

(BGTD Director + Muscle Guy/Chromothrip #1)

Originally from Vancouver, Seth has been involved with Spectral Theatre since 2006, when the company mounted the science-fiction anthology play "Black Holes". Since then, he has gone on to appear in over 40 character roles in the last decade, a large number of them being with Spectral. He has also appeared in shows with United Players (Marriage of Figaro, Present Laughter, Ivanov, The Way of the World), Theatre Under The Stars (Anything Goes, Titanic the Musical) and most recently Seth appeared as the cannibal psychiatrist, Dr. Hannibal Lecter in Down Stage Right's production of "Silence! The Musical". You can hear him as eccentric science-fiction author Sir Edmund Gwynevere in his original audiobook "Rondo, Traveler of the Spheres" produced and recorded by Simon C Hussey at spectraltheatre.com.



Simon C. Hussey

(Everything Else)

As well as being one of the co-founding Artistic Directors of Spectral Theatre Society, Simon enjoys a barely smoldering career in the local film & TV industry appearing in such nuggets as 'The Flash', 'When We Rise', and a recurring role as Major Marcus Mason on 'Riverdale'. Current projects include a short film entitled, 'Summoning' and pre-production on a feature film collaboration with fellow Spectralien, Gerald Varga (Murder Box, GGG: One Night Stab). Simon is tickled pink for this opportunity to leer unsavourily at you from the dark confines of the sound booth and encourages you all to vote.



W. Thomas Gibson

(Writer, Director, Executive Producer)

Born in Vancouver and raised in a variety of locations, Bill has written for Spectral Theatre's productions of *Black Holes III* ("*M. finis*") and *Late-Night Double-Feature* ("*Experiment C-731*"), both in 2012, as well as "*Journey to the Centre of Forgotten Time*" and "*Demons of the Helix*," performed at Slickity Jim's in 2016 and 2017. He also wrote "*Combustion Medusa*" for Spectral's "*The Supernature of Things*" (2019). You can listen to our radio drama "*Demons of the Helix*" here:

<https://www.spectraltheatre.com/latenightdoublefeatures08>

Bill pays the bills by running a small research lab, where he routinely conducts experiments he can't discuss. He washes his hands frequently, and so should you.

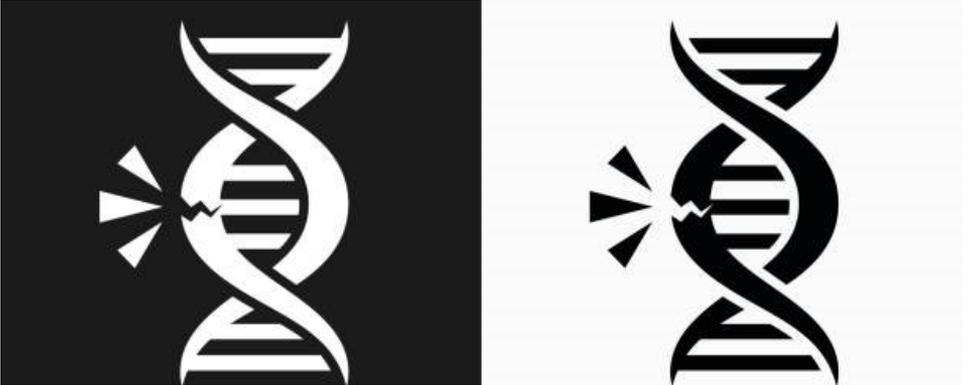
Director's Notes

I am both grateful and humbled to be working with such a thoughtful, enthusiastic and talented cast! Pandemic restrictions meant that we could not stage a live-action play with proper monsters and proper fight scenes the way we would have preferred, so we switched to what we call "*Live Radio Drama in 3D*," invoking the science fiction radio dramas of years gone by, such as *X Minus One* and *Stroke of Fate*.

I think of the BGTD as Arcadia's version of Department H or UNIT - of course the influence of the *X-Files* is there, too. Arcadia has been stuck in my head for some time, and I'd like to give a huge shout-out to the members of Spectral Theatre Society who have helped bring this Alternate Reality into our reality over the years. The character of Santiago was introduced in *M. finis*, and Hundal first appeared in *Experiment C-731*. Along with counterFACTUAL and *Demons of the Helix*, these works form part of the Arcadia series, all of which have been produced as live plays or radio dramas by Spectral. A huge shout-out is also due to the amazing staff and

volunteers at the Fringe (thanks, Rohit, Megan, Siobhan, Paige, Eduardo and Samantha!), to Lynne Lee, CK's Mom and Oscar's Mom for their help with translations, and to our Indigenous consultants, among them Agi Mathias-Paul and Daniel Voth.

Now please enjoy this trip into a universe next door..



Additional Thanks

Erica Faith Leduc, Fesarius, Mochi & Fang-Lee, Vincent Riel, J-C Roy, Gorilla Surplus, Dr. Bonnie Henry, APM Music, Bensound, Tasha Robinson, Jim Dreichel, Abby de Forest, and all our friends and families.

vancouver
FRINGE
festival · 2020
sep. 10 - 20 | oct. 1 - 10
oct. 29 - nov. 8 | nov. 26 - dec. 6



SPECTRAL THEATRE SOCIETY

Acting weird since 2002

Founded in the early winter of 2002 by a group of like-minded artists, Spectral Theatre is dedicated to producing dynamic theatrical works which awaken the imagination and challenge the mind. Spectral Theatre seeks to breathe new life into the rotting corpse of live theatre by thrilling audiences with fantastic stories delivered in unpredictable and innovative ways. By exploring a diversity of themes, Spectral Theatre endeavours to bring its love of spectacle to the stage; to deliver strange and wonderful tales, rich in flavour; and, above all, to offer a strikingly unusual experience of what live theatre can be. To that end, each member of the company brings a range of skills and talents, often wearing several hats in an effort to accomplish the many necessary tasks of building a new theatre company.

From science fiction for horror to ancient legend, Spectral Theatre seeks to engage its audience's imagination with strange and provocative tales. By using bold, colourful sets and costumes and employing many alternative or low-tech lighting effects, Spectral Theatre aspires to create a visually tantalising, emotionally engaging and consistently unforgettable theatre experience.

We hope that you enjoy our collection of the weirdest and most frightening tales to be found anywhere in the theatre world.

