

WIDC 2013 PERSONNEL BIOGRAPHIES

Acting Ensemble

(in alphabetical order)



DANIEL ARNOLD

DEMO: <http://danielarnold.workbooklive.com/Wbl.mvc/Page/Main>

Daniel is an award-winning actor and writer for the theatre and screen. In television he has had roles in *The Killing*, *Fringe*, *Supernatural*, *The 4400*, and Hallmark's *Lies Between Friends*, and he has played lead roles in the TV pilot *The P.I. Experiment* and the shorts *Still Dreams*, *Coloring on the Walls*, *Hearing Test*, and *Penguins*. In the theatre, he has worked for companies all across Canada and has toured theatre productions internationally, receiving an Edmonton Sterling Award, nominations for two others, and four Vancouver Jessie Award nominations for 'Outstanding Actor'. Also a writer, he has written/performed his stage plays all across Canada and internationally, and last year performed his stage play *Any Night Off-Broadway*. Daniel graduated with Honors and a 'Golden Key' from University of Alberta's BFA Conservatory Acting program, was a two-time nominee for Edmonton's Mayor Award "Emerging Artist of the Year", is a recipient of Alberta Theatre Projects "Emerging Artist Scholarship", and his mentor Daniel MacIvor recently honored him as the protégé recipient of The Siminovitch Prize, Canada's most prestigious theatre award. Currently his Telefilm-funded feature film "Lawrence & Holloman", which he co-wrote and stars in, is in post-production, and he has another feature film in development with financing from Corus Entertainment.



ALEX HARROUCH

ALEX HARROUCH

DEMO: <https://vimeo.com/43557915>

Alex Harrouch is a fully bilingual actor and filmmaker, born and raised in Montreal, QC. Realizing early on that sports were not to be his calling, he began searching for opportunities to perform for live audiences. He soon began acting, singing and dancing in school plays, talent shows and showcases, always commanding attention with his dynamic stage presence. After graduating from the Dawson College cinema, video and communications program with four semesters on the dean's honor roll, he began his professional acting career with a couple voice-over jobs and small roles, such as TV's 18 TO LIFE. In 2010, he landed his first leading role in Christos Sourligas' second feature film, HAPPY SLAPPING, the world's first feature film shot entirely on the iPhone 4. He was later cast in Ubisoft's long-awaited video game FAR CRY 3, in which he performed face, voice and body motion capture for the role of Riley Brody. Along with making several appearances in short films, such as Arid Sea Films' THE ONLY BAR IN TOWN directed by Adam Budd, Alex continued his studies at Concordia University, having been accepted into their Film Production program. He has choreographed and performed three EVOLUTION OF DANCE routines, which were inspired by Judson Laipply's famous 2006 youtube video and has taken up private singing lessons as of 2010. He is currently busy finishing his very own 30-minute film, STILL, a thriller starring twelve Montreal ACTRA performers, and hopes for many new and exciting ways to learn and practice his craft. He is thrilled (and shocked) to be a part of the Creative Women Workshops' 2013 Acting Ensemble and cannot wait to see what the experience has in store for him.

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JESSICA HEAFEY

DEMO: <http://www.jessicaheafey.com/index.htm>

Jessica Heafey has been performing across Canada for more than 10 years on stage and screen, in both French and English. A native of Ottawa, she began her training in both acting and singing while in high school. After a year at Ottawa University, she transferred to the Acting Programme at Dalhousie University in Halifax, graduating with Honours. She then toured the Fringe circuit with an original piece, *Take 2*, which garnered rave reviews throughout the 4 months of performance.

While fortune smiled when it came to finding theatre work, her experience on-set was minimal. She took on the position of assistant to the Director / Producer on a feature and got a true taste of working "in the business". The following years were spent travelling between Toronto and Vancouver acting in television and theatre. It was while working with *Théâtre la seizième* in Vancouver that Jessica received a Jessie Richardson Award for her portrayal of Pascal in *Cendres de Cailloux* (Stones and Ashes).

Her next significant stop was Montreal where she spent 6 months working on the dramatic-comedy *Ciao Bella*. Being a co-production between the CBC and Radio Canada, each episode of the series was shot in both French and English. Next came *Metropia*, a Canadian multi-cultural soap opera shot in Toronto. Here the challenge lay in shooting one 30-minute episode per day. She also played roles on short films such as *Drama Queen*, *Perennial* (both thanks to ACTRA TIPS program) and *Mordu*, as well as shooting her first sci-fi movie, *Earthstorm*, for the Space Channel.

Jessica took a hiatus from acting in 2007 and 2008 to find balance in her life as well as to study Massage Therapy. She was welcomed back to the industry with a wonderful guest starring role on CBC's *MVP: The Secret Lives of Hockey Wives*. Most recently, her work was seen in the films *Elopement* and *A Night for Dying Tigers* as well as a recurring guest star on the CW's *Supernatural* where she delighted beheading a vampire with a machete.



CARLY MARENTETTE

DEMO:

Born and raised in Winnipeg Manitoba, Carly Leanne Marentette had found her passion for acting in her early years. At age seven, after realizing she had no luck with school sports because of her childhood clumsiness, she finally found a place where her mature sensitivity fit in. Following in her Mother's footsteps, she had begged to train with Onalee Ames, her Mother's acting coach, and was soon enrolled in classes. At age seven, Carly was thrown into Winnipeg's film industry. After consistently training with Onalee for years, Carly had dreamed of what it would feel like to be on set. She had then started submitting herself for background roles in projects being filmed in Winnipeg. Such as *FALCON BEACH* and *HAUNTING SARA*. At the age of thirteen, she landed her first speaking role in The Lionsgate production *THE HORSEMEN*, casted for her intense emotional scene as Teresa Spitz, Peter Stormare's daughter. Soon after Carly joined ACTRA. By this point in time, Carly's life became much more focused on the passionate art and being able to tell a character's life through her own body adding her experiences. Living in Winnipeg, she was limited to how many parts her age were casted from the cold city. Carly then took part in her local High school's theatre productions such as *FAME* and *ONCE UPON A MATRESS*. However, her heart belonged to film. She loved the intimacy of it, and the ability to take risks therefore she decided to focus more on her training. Soon she had been signed with Carrier Talent Management in Vancouver, BC. Quickly after, landed a part on Award Winning Television series *LESS THAN KIND*. Carly had moved to Vancouver for two months in the summer of 2012. She had been accepted into the Summer Intensive Program at the newly renamed Railtown Theatre and Film Society, where she trained closely with Kate Twa and Voice Coach Dr. Iris MacGregor Bannerman on a theatre piece and performance from *SOME VOICES* by Joe Penhall. After her successful trip, Carly decided to move back home and take up some of the local training programs and Workshops. Since then she had completed personal workshops with Marissa Richmond and Candice Elzinga.

Carly strongly believes that her consistent training, from many Coaches, Casting Directors, Directors, and of course Actors is the key to her learning. Always walking into every situation that comes her way with an open mind ready for new exciting experiences. Carly is absolutely honoured to have the opportunity to apply for the Women's In The Director's Chair Workshop and to work with such an extraordinary team in this industry. She views this as a life changing event and welcomes this as a start for 2013.

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AMY MATYSIO

DEMO: <https://www.vimeo/54216814>



AMY MATYSIO

Born in Regina, Saskatchewan, Amy Matysio began her creative journey in music and dance. At age 15, she then auditioned and trained with the Canadian Improv Games, which is where she began honing her love for comedy and made the choice to pursue acting. Matysio went on to graduate from the University of Regina with a BFA in Theatre, as well as study stage and screen at the College of York St. John in England.

An award winning actor, with over a decade of work in Canadian Film, TV and Theatre, Matysio continues to make strong choices, be it big or small. Accomplished in drama and comedy/improvisation, Matysio has continued to set herself apart, creating success on both the stage and screen. With accolades that include ELLE Canada's "On the Radar" and Playback's "Top Ten to Watch", she is also a six time Canadian Comedy Award, a two time Lieutenant Governor's Arts Award, as well as a YWCA Woman of Distinction Award nominee.

Matysio has amassed an impressive list of credits in Film and Television. Small screen appearances include *inSecurity*, *Corner Gas*, *Little Mosque*, *Redemption*, as well as co-starring in the original Showcase comedy series *Single White Spenny*. Feature credits include playing opposite Ryan Reynolds in New Line Cinema's *Just Friends*, *Cadillac*, Jennifer Lynch's *Chained* and the family comedy *Vampire Dog*. In a busy 2013, she will appear in four feature releases; *Ferocious*, *The Shape of Rex*, *Lawrence & Holloman* and sci-fi thriller *Stranded*, starring opposite Christian Slater & directed by Academy Award winner Roger Christian. She can currently be seen as the title character "Saysha" in the edgy and hilarious new comedy *inSAYSHABLE*, the web series which she created and co-produced. In the past, *inSAYSHABLE* went on to land the dynamic actor a TV development deal with Minds Eye Entertainment and CityTV.

A celebrated stage actress and inimitable "tour de force", Matysio is known for her bold stage work. Credits include *Midsummer [a play with songs]* (Globe Theatre), *Rabbit Hole* (Persephone Theatre), *Antony and Cleopatra* (Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan), the North American premiere of *Mo and Jess Kill Susie* (Northern Light Theatre) and world premieres of *Burn* (Theatre Ecstasis) and *Songs of a Prairie Girl* (Prairie Scene, NAC). However, it was her turn in *The Syringa Tree* (Globe Theatre), the one-woman show featuring 23 characters, black and white, male and female, young and old, in which one reviewer touted her performance "One of the most powerful performances ever seen".

As a voice artist, she has been featured on CBC's *This is That, Go!*, *Ideas*, *Sound Xchange*, and was the voice for the award-winning novel *Lullabies for Little Criminals* for *Between the Covers*. She is also the co-writer of *First Generation Urbanite*, which aired as a comedy pilot for CBC radio.

Working with the Canadian Cancer Society, Matysio is host behind the 'Real Men Screen' campaign; a series of comedic and candid PSA's to support men's health. A passionate ambassador in the fight against Cancer, she recently went on to co-create/host and direct *#YouAreLoved*, a campaign to inspire and empower women. Continuing her work as a host, she is also the on air personality for *On Site*, a new documentary series for City TV.

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JENNY NG-TURNER

DEMO: <http://theactingstudiowinnipeg.com/tag/jenny-ng-turner/>

Jenny Ng-Turner (Ng Sau Yee) was born in Hong Kong and immigrated to Canada at the age of 10. Jenny's love for the camera started when she got a chance to be on a children television game show at the age of 5. As a young immigrant struggling to assimilate into Western culture; she was happily surprised when she landed a role in her Junior High Operetta Carmen.

Jenny's family owned a successful local Chinese restaurant. Her participation in the family business from an early age left her little time to discover her hidden passion to perform. This did however provide an excellent foundation in developing a solid, strong work ethic. She also learned about how to entertain guests and watched people and their social interaction very closely. Her desires to be creative and expressive would not go unexplored.

Jenny turned her focus to developing a Nursing career but knew deep down she still had a creative yearning that needed to be satisfied. The complexities of human nature, behaviour and relationships have always fascinated her. As a nurse, she was able to work with a myriad of individuals in many capacities whose lives were touched by multitude of painful and difficult challenges. This allowed her to gain a genuinely organic view and understanding of the emotional turmoil that people experience. Her compassion to help others opens a portal for her to use those experiences in her acting studies.

For over 15 years of her life, Jenny dedicated herself to training in Martial Arts: Kung Fu and weapons training. As a young child, she spent many hours watching traditional Martial Arts films. She appreciated the unique storytelling and physical beauty of the choreographed sequences.

As her passion for acting continued to grow, Jenny landed an opportunity to work on a short with well-respected actor Cary-Hirokyu Tagawa. His talents and love for the art inspired her to pursue her calling. Jenny has shot commercials with Frantic Films and Change Makers. She has also appeared in the feature films: Lucky Christmas, A Christmas Heart and My Awkward Sexual

Always keen on deepening her understanding of the craft, Jenny currently studies with Tamara Gorski, Bradley Sawatzky and Darcy Fehr. She recently obtained her full ACTRA membership and is thrilled to find new opportunities to pursue her passion. Jenny has plans to extend her studies to stage combat and stunt fighting with Rick Skene and she hopes one day to have an opportunity to work on a Martial Arts project.



DINA PINO

DEMO:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19x7njo11zl&list=UUBf4XFAFfAL2_UQAlYMhrfw&index=7&feature=plcp

"Dina Pino... a commanding presence... reminiscent of Gilda Radner" - The Toronto Star

Dina is a Comedic and Dramatic Actress (ACTRA). A SECOND CITY THEATRE ALUMNUS, she held Lead Roles with the renowned comedic theatre company (NATIONAL TOURING COMPANY, UNDERSTUDY MAINSTAGE, Lead Roles in TONY N' TINA'S WEDDING). Dina Pino has vast strengths in Comedy, as well as sincerity and power in her Dramatic work.

On screen credits include; the farcical news correspondent on CBC's pilot THE TRUTH ABOUT, the series TRAIN 48 (GLOBAL), Principal and Guest Roles on THE NEWSROOM (CBC), HOWIE DO IT (NBC), THE JON DORE TELEVISION SHOW (THE COMEDY NETWORK), JEFF LTD (CTV/THE COMEDY NETWORK), Lead Role in the Dramatic Short SWEET SIXTEEN (BRAVO) and Guest Comedienne CMT's TOP 20 COUNTDOWN. Dina Pino has many commercials airing across Canada and the U.S., where she leads such spots as Toyota, Walmart, Maple Leaf chicken, Casino Rama, Cooperators Insurance and CIBC, to name a few.

Dina Pino concurrently acts, writes and creates. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Communications, Television Production from Concordia University. Successful personal productions include THE DESSERT CLUB, (premiered at the Toronto Fringe Festival), winner of the Women in Film & Television development grant to create an original series through SunTV. Other Dramedy, Comedy and Lifestyle projects are in the works for TV and Web.

Dina Pino is based in Toronto and holds a strong love for the city she grew up in, Montreal, and for the French language she continues to adore and use. Dina Pino is also conversational in Italian and can say one sentence in Gaelic.

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TARA LEE REDDICK

DEMO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pe3Ld2Rr3Mk>

Reddick was born in Antigonish Nova Scotia; she is a mother to one beautiful young man. She is a writer actress and producer. She studied acting at the Neptune theatre school, attending the Pre-Professional Theatre Program; this was made possible by receiving a bursary from Nova Scotia Talent Trust. Tara has studied acting in Vancouver, Toronto and New York and is also a graduate of the Nova Scotia Community College specializing in Broadcast Journalism. Some of her acting credits include, award winning Two Planks and a Passion's "The crucible" and Neptune Pre professional's "Lily Alta" Tara has appeared on two CBC sires "North South" and "Mr.d". For the past two years Tara has been collaborating with Halifax film maker Ann Verrall, helping to run video camps for youth. Their Short film called "Stroll" was shot in October 2012 in which Reddick was co-producer, co-writer and also the lead actress. Reddick also appeared in the award winning Cory Bowles film "Heart of Rhyme" She has served on the board of directors at The Centre for Art Tapes and also The Black Culture Centre of Nova Scotia. She is the recipient of the Lieutenant Governors Hope and Inspiration award; and she won a communications Nova Scotia Diversity award for her radio documentary that was inspired by her experience in the Nova Scotia school system.

Her script "The West Woods" is currently in development with Mulgrave Road Theatre. She also developed this play at the Playwrights colony in Sackville, New Brunswick and has also workshopped the play in Toronto at Obsidian Theatre

Tara was a 2011 AFSCOOP One- Minute Film Scholar in which her film "Vanilla Sam" was chosen to be screened at the Calgary 100\$ film festival, it was also screened at the Emerging Lens screening showcase in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

In May of 2012 she attended the screen writer's boot camp in Prince Edward Island to further develop her feature length film script in which she is currently writing with filmmaker Ann Verrall. Her hope is to continue to tell stories about the African Canadian experience and to create dynamic roles for Black Women.



JOE ZANETTI

DEMO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uBQfF0lxRo&feature=youtu.be>

Joe caught the acting bug when he was 9 years old, performing in the musical OLIVER at the Cabaret Dinner Theatre in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Joe went on to star in numerous theatrical productions and received his Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Yale University. He then moved to New York City where he appeared on numerous soap operas including ALL MY CHILDREN, GUIDING LIGHT, and ONE LIFE TO LIVE and such television shows as THE SOPRANOS and SEX AND THE CITY. Joe moved to Los Angeles in 2001 where he performed in a number of independent films and a couple of national theatre tours. He studied with the Groundlings, Improv Olympic and the Upright Citizens Brigade and was an active member of the Open Fist Theatre Company where he performed plays with actors such as Matthew Fox (LOST, SPEED RACER), Nicole Parker (MAD TV) and Ron West (3RD ROCK FROM THE SUN). Joe took a short break from acting to pursue film development and production. He moved to Atlantic Canada in 2008 and has appeared in guest starring roles on HBO Canada's CALL ME FITZ, Showcase's HAVEN, and the feature film CHARLIE ZONE, directed by Michael Melski and coming to theatres February 8th, 2013. Joe started his own film/TV production company FROZEN FISH PRODUCTIONS (www.frozenfishproductions.com) in 2010 and received funding from the Film Factory in Prince Edward Island to direct his first short film THE SLUMBER PARTY, which premiered at the Atlantic Film Festival in 2011. In the fall of 2012, Joe premiered his latest short film entitled THE CHASE, and he's looking to direct his first feature film in the next couple years. When Joe is not acting, producing or directing, he produces video games with Longtail Studios, a Ubisoft affiliate based out of Halifax, Nova Scotia.