

Titus-on-the-Run Productions presents

Who's Afraid of Titus?

a workshop production of
an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus*
created and directed by Sky Gilbert

CAST

Titus Andronicus (a noble roman general) — Brian Smegal
Tamora (Queen of the Goths and later Empress): — Elley-Ray Hennessy
Aaron the Moor (Tamora's Lover) — Ray Jacildo
Marcus Andronicus (Titus' brother) — Sandy Crawley
Lavinia1 (Titus' daughter) — Augusta Monet
Lavinia2: (Titus' daughter) — George Alevizos
Demetrius (Tamora's son) — Max Ackerman
Chiron(Tamora's son) — John Humeniuk
Narrator/Saturninus/Young Lucius (Titus' grandson)/Nurse — Veronika Hurnik

Stage Manager: Garrett Mallory Scott

Poster Art by Kirsten Johnson

<https://kirstenjohnson.com>

Many thanks to Eric Woolfe, Adrianna Prosser, Eldritch Theatre and Red Sandcastle Theatre for their support, without which this production would not have been possible.

Many thanks also to the original cast and crew for the initial workshop of 'Who's Afraid of Titus?' entitled 'Titus at a Distance' which we developed in Toronto's Music Garden in the summer of 2020 — before we were halted by COVID-19. We especially want to thank Ryan Cunningham who was key in conceptualizing the original piece, as well as creating the role of the Narrator, and Allison Cummings for her choreography in the first workshop, and Tyler Kruspe — who was the original stage manager — as well as the following actors from the first workshop: Justin Otto,

Eric Rich, Jon Douglas, Emily Lukasik and Nathaniel Bacon. Many thanks also to Michelle Mohammed who helped us develop the character 'Lavinia'

Many thanks also to Videocab for their generous support with rehearsal space.

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

WARNING: Titus Andronicus contains adult content — fictionalized representations of sex and violence.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THOSE WITH MOBILITY ISSUES : If you have mobility issues please speak to the box office when you arrive — as there is one scene that requires you to follow the Narrator downstairs. [Click here](#) If you would rather view this scene online rather than go downstairs.

the basement:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5HyKC8susE&ab_channel=GarrettMalloryScott

the backyard:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWZIEkh7L4&ab_channel=GarrettMalloryScott

CAST & CREW BIOS

Max Ackerman (DEMETRIUS) is an independent actor, director, writer, and producer from Toronto, and the founding Artistic Director of Dandelion Theatre. He gravitates towards work that is surreal, fantastical, and epic. Recent acting credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Rose Theatre), *This Is War* and *Henry IV Part II* (Theatre Erindale). Recent directorial credits include an upcoming production of *The Winter's Tale*, *The Sinai Sessions*, *After Icarus*, and an audio workshop of *The Hands of Hypatia (and Other Stories)* (Dandelion Theatre), *What Will Remain* (The Annex Singers), and *DEATH: A Love Story* (Theatre Erindale).

George Alevizos (LAVINIA 2) is a professional actor living in Toronto.

Being a graduate of the joint Theatre and Drama Studies Program with UofT/Sheridan, he's gone on to work on multiple projects, on top of being an advocate for actors with disabilities with being an active council member on the Toronto and National branch for ACTRA. Theatre: Cell Block Tango Reimagined (EveryBODY on Stage); Backstage Pass Online Series (Drayton Entertainment); Towards Rebirth (Shakespeare in the Ruff); A Few Good Men (Drayton Entertainment); Drive (LemonTree Creations); The Effeminates (Cahoots Theatre- Reading) Film/TV: Varsity (Amazon Prime- Releasing in 2023); Hudson and Rex (CityTV/Beta); Star Trek: Discovery (CBS All Access/Paramount)

Sandy Crawley (MARCUS) Sandy has appeared in over 70 productions and toured to 55 cities in Canada as well as playing in the UK and the Netherlands. Classical theatre roles include Alonso in *The Tempest*, Dionysus in *The Bacchae*, Boyet in *Love's Labours Lost*, Antonio in *Much Ado About Nothing* and Hastings in *She Stoops to Conquer*. Recent roles include Johnny Cash in *Ring of Fire* (Grand Theatre), Bartender in *The Oak Room* (Toronto Fringe) and Mayor Dobbs in *Brightstar* (GTP). As composer and musical director he collaborated to create *White Noise* by Michael Hollingsworth, a modern adaptation of *The Orestia*. A lifelong arts activist, Sandy has served as National President of ACTRA, Labour Relations Director of PACT, and Executive Director of organizations representing freelance journalists (PWAC) and documentary filmmakers (DOC). He is currently Critic for Arts, Culture & Heritage for the Green Party of Canada and a founding member of Artists for Real Climate Action (ARCA).

Sky Gilbert (ADAPTOR/DIRECTOR) Sky Gilbert is a poet, novelist, playwright, filmmaker, theatre director, and drag queen extraordinaire. He was co-founder and artistic director of Toronto's Buddies in Bad Times Theatre -- one of the world's largest gay and lesbian theatres -- from 1979 to 1997. He has had more than 40 plays produced, and written 7 critically acclaimed novels and three award winning poetry collections. He has received three Dora Mavor Moore Awards as well as the Pauline McGibbon Award, and The Silver Ticket Award. There is a street in Toronto named after him: 'Sky Gilbert Lane.' In 2021 Dundurn Press published his 8th novel *I, Gloria Grahame*. His accessible yet well documented analysis of the appeal of Shakespeare — *Shakespeare: Beyond Science: When Poetry Was the World* — was released by Guernica Editions in September 2020. His second book about Shakespeare: *Shakespeare Lied* will be published by Guernica soon. Dr. Gilbert is a professor of theatre at the University of Guelph.

Elley-Ray Hennessy (TAMORA) This Avant Guard, Award-Winning, Bon

vivant has been 'tripping the light fantastic'; for 45 years in Film, Television, Radio and Stage; Acting, Writing, Directing, Producing, Casting, Teaching, Jurying, you name it! She has a Doctorate of Laws for her contributions to the Arts and Humanities! Elley currently plays the Lead character, Warden Morgan Dungworth, in the new hit TV show, PINK IS IN; has 4 current NDA'D Animated Series playing; a 55 year old man with Aspergers; a Russian, Baba Yaga Prostitute; a Magical Pony; a town Judge; as well as Chuck the Duck in Agent Binky and Oyster Cookie in Cookie Run Kingdom. Recent anime Series, Dragon Goes House Hunting, Last Dungeon Boonies, Kageki Shoujo and A Couple of CooCoo's. Upcoming theatrical stage workshop/productions; Safe Home by Michele Jelley, Anyox by Toby Berto, Haon of the Stix by David Tomlinson and Baroness Von Elsa by Peter Lynch. Elley is writing her third book of inspirations, the first two; Butterfly Kisses and Fly With Eagles by Salt River Publishing. She just juried her 15th DayTime Emmy Awards for Best Animated Voice & Best Actor in a Day time Series. Elley teaches at several universities/schools worldwide as well as private classes/workshop's and for her company, Get MiC'd, which just launched international extravaganza; the Ultimate VO Survivor-Take 3 (Getmicd.com) Elley's Greatest joy is keeping the Magic of storytelling alive! This performance is dedicated to the late powerhouse, Asti Livingston! (elleyray.com)

John Humeniuk (CHIRON) John Humeniuk is an actor, playwright and editor based in Toronto, ON. Some notable acting credits include Macbeth, Agamemnon, Dial M for Murder and The Bald Soprano. John is excited to be part of a show that pushes people out of their comfort zone and isn't limited by theatrical conventions. John is looking forward to more opportunities to participate in Toronto's reopening theatre scene.

Veronika Hurnik (NARRATOR/SATURNINUS/YOUNG LUCIUS/NURSE) Veronika Hurnik is delighted and blessed to be working again with Sky Gilbert and this wonderful crew. Hurnik was previously seen in Sky Gilbert's The Little Show, Independence, The Emotionalists and The Secret Life of Haddon Mackenzie. Other plays include The Bird, Snowman, Camera Woman, This Hotel and Paula and Karl. Film and TV credits include The Recruit, The Uncles, Eleventh Hour, Bliss, The Associates and Foreign Objects.

Ray Jacildo (AARON) is an Asian-Canadian actor and theatre creator. Born in the Philippines, Ray is an avid traveller and backpacker. His work focuses on classical and political texts, giving voice to underrepresented intersections, and bridging cultural schisms. He approaches all of his work with his whole body and open heart. Ray is a 2020 graduate of the Acting

Program at the National Theatre School of Canada. His recent credits include: Oberon/Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Prague Shakespeare Company), Ariel in *the Tempest* (Globetrotting Shakespeare), Capulet (NTS; Dir. Danielle Irvine) and Paris/Sampson (Repercussion Theatre; Dir. Amanda Kellock) in *Romeo and Juliet*, Nell Gwynn (NTS; Dir. Krista Jackson) and Koji in *Burning Vision* (NTS; Dir. Mike Payette). During the pandemic, Ray has done workshops for Chew (Tarragon; Dir. Mike Payette), *Falling in Time* (Factory; Dir. Peter Hinton), *Black Fly* (Repercussion Theatre; Dir. Amanda Kellock), *The Effeminate* (Theatre Passe Muraille and Lemontree Productions; Dir. Tawiah MCarthy) and was part of the Shaw Festival Academy Intensive in 2021. TV credits include: *Chucky*, *Saving Hope*. www.rayjacildo.com

Augusta "Gus" Monet (LAVINIA 1) (They/He/She) is a Toronto based actor, writer, and drag king known as Coyote Ugly. Gus is a formally trained actor from the Toronto Metropolitan University School of Performance, and recently completed Nightwood Theatre's Young Innovators Unit where they produced and hosted *Fempocalypse 2022*. Other credits include: *Dungeon Master*, "The Role Play", *Hamilton Fringe* (2022); *Conrad/Margaret*, "Much Ado About Nothing", *Brampton's Own Shakespeare Show* (2022); *Goose*, "Goose's Valentines Day Extravaganza" (2021); Ensemble, "Les Gars", (2020); Director, "The Bacchae" Panoply Classical Collective (2020); Playwright, "Dead Funny", *Super Wonder Gallery* (2020); *Miss Shields*, "A Christmas Story", *Lower Ossington Theatre* (2019-20); Playwright/Raccoon, "Equinox", *Dark Crop Theatre Festival* (2019).

Brian Smegal (TITUS ANDRONICUS) Selected credits: *Brannigan*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Robert*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Publius*, *Julius Caesar*, (Stratford); *Patsy*, *Three Men on a Horse*, *Willum*, *The Nerd*, (Royal Alexandra); *God/House/Minister*, *Jesus*, *Confucius* and *John Lennon*, *Taylor*, *Curse of the Starving Class*, (Factory); *Phoebus*, *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, (Toronto Workshop Productions); *Dupperet*, *Marat Sade*, (Premier Dance Theatre); *Moody*, *Golden Boy*, *Ulysses*, *Troilus and Cressida*, (Harbourfront); *Orestes*, *Electra* (Bathurst Street); *George*, *Kvetch* (Poor Alex); *Berowne*, *Love's Labours Lost*, (St. Paul's Centre); *Pentheus*, *The Bacchae* (Tarragon); *Victor*, *Cats Paw*, (Theatre 620); *Owen*, *Rough Idle*, (Theatre Terra Nova); *Gerry*, *Toronto* (Centaur); *Sunshine Boys*, (Manitoba Theatre Centre); *Mitch*, *Streetcar Named Desire*, *Martin*, *Fool for Love*, (Elysian Theatre NFLD). Film/TV: *Varsity*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *After Alice*, *God's New Plan*, *La Femme Nakita*, *Due*

South, The Littlest Hobo, Strange Brew, Deranged, The Day My Grandad Died.

Garrett Mallory Scott (STAGE MANAGER) is a Mad fight director and stage manager for Who's Afraid of Titus. Foremostly an actor and writer, he spent the cold COVID years directing and producing his own works, with three short films screened across North America and Europe and award-winning plays invited to Calgary and Edmonton Fringes. Originally from Alberta, he moved to Toronto in 2016 to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces and work on more diverse roles. He has been rewarded with fun gigs from Toronto Metropolitan University to BBC Scotland, and continues to use his knowledge from a History degree and eight years of martial arts to ensure we're all cutting each other's hands off properly.