

# AlvegoRoot Theatre

2021 **FILMED** Season at Fanshawe Pioneer Village



FANSHAWE  
*pioneer village*



London **Arts** Council



London  
CANADA



# A Note from Adam



Every year on our closing I look at the barn we perform in at the Village and say in my mind, see you next year. In 2019 I should have said, "see you in a few years". These two plays you can watch right now from your home, have had a longer journey than most getting to the point where we can see them and meet them. This is the case for many works of theatre this year. We are finally getting to see their promise after a double long winter. It was a joy to get to rehearse in the room with actors this past June and July. Our artform is a tactile one. It was a thrill to see the design of the plays develop. Then oh the joy and thrills of getting to be part of the filming of these plays. During the filming, we were in the barn once more, it felt like our summer theatre season almost. I say almost, because (letting you in on a secret here), neither of the plays you are about to see were ever performed from start to finish in one go. In the interest of creating a good quality film with multiple angles we filmed each scene multiple times, got several takes and through the artistry of film editing these plays became a whole. As I write this I have just finished watching the final cut of *Pirates of Long Point*, I am verklempt by the experience, because after more than two years of these plays slowly emerging from the mist, I have gotten to see the play fully realized, yes there it is, hello dear friend. Now we get to share these plays, these two local stories, with you our audience. As you watch them, the journey of these plays from development to production will now finally be complete. Throughout the pandemic we have been reminded of theatre's infinite verities, we have created audio plays, films and we will be creating live performance again soon. All these forms of theatre will be part of our work going forward. It has been inspiring to get to work with Donnie Ivey and Kevin Gallant whose film artistry and expertise made this exciting new way of sharing our work possible. I am forever thankful for the support we have received from our audience and community as we forged ahead this past year and a half, your support has powered our work. Thank you for that and thank you for joining us now for our filmed season. - Adam C-H, Artistic Director

*AlvegoRoot creates work on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples as well as nations both recorded and unrecorded who have been caretakers of this land for time immemorial. These lands are connected with the pre-confederation London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.*

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AlvegoRoot's 2021 Season is supported by the London Arts Council through the City of London's Community Arts Investment Program.



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Cover Photo: Dan Ebbs and Kydra Ryan in The Bicycle Play. Photo by Richard Gilmore.



# THE BICYCLE PLAY

By Dan Ebbs, Kydra Ryan  
and Adam Corrigan Holowitz



**Directed by Adam Corrigan Holowitz**  
**Performed by Dan Ebbs and Kydra Ryan**



# THE BICYCLE PLAY

By Dan Ebbs, Kydra Ryan  
and Adam Corrigan Holowitz

## Cast

Dan Ebbs - George Wenige

Kydra Ryan - Jane Bigelow

### *Additional Characters*

Professor Bolt - Dan Ebbs

Minnie Payne - Kydra Ryan

William Payne - Dan Ebbs

Jessie Robins - Kydra Ryan

Alderman Ash - Kydra Ryan/Dan Ebbs

Greg Curnoe - Dan Ebbs

Penelope - Dan Ebbs

Pool Shark - Kydra Ryan

Builder - Kydra Ryan

High Wheel - Dan Ebbs

Safety Bike - Kydra Ryan

Booker - Dan Ebbs -

Doctor - Dan Ebbs

Racers - Dan Ebbs

Elizabeth Wenige - Kydra Ryan

Mabel - Dan Ebbs

Drunk Man - Dan Ebbs

Mr. Robins - Dan Ebbs

Ann Bigelow - Kydra Ryan

Bobby - Dan Ebbs

Slow Rider - Kydra Ryan

CCM - Dan Ebbs

Previous Page: Kydra Ryan as the Safety Bike  
and Dan Ebbs as the High Wheel. Opposite: Dan  
Ebbs as George Wenige in The Bicycle Play.

Photos by Richard Gilmore.

## Artistic Credits

Adam Corrigan Holowitz - Director

Dan Ebbs - Playwright

Kydra Ryan - Playwright

Adam Corrigan Holowitz - Playwright

Adam Corrigan Holowitz - Designer

Stephen Holowitz - Composer

Sue Parke - Design Consultant

Donnie Ivey - Videographer

Kevin Gallant - Head of Sound

Donnie Ivey - Film Editor

Alex Tavera - Sound Assistant

Michael Grainger - Sound Assistant

*Special thanks to the Ontario Institute of Audio  
Recording Technology.*



Dan Ebbs as George Wenige in The Bicycle Play.  
Photo by Richard Gilmore.



# Notes on The Bicycle Play

London's history is full of people who shaped this city and loved the bicycle. Besides this common love, they are about as different as different can be. They are complicated, courageous, passionate people. A collective creation is a beautifully messy way to create a play, the members of the collective each bring their own unique perspectives and passions. Then there is a fusion of all these perspectives into a unique whole. This was the perfect form to tell the story of London's many unique cycling city builders. - **Adam C-H**

Something I took away from this project is that women were demonized for wanting to have equal rights and they continue to be framed that way in history. Upon interviewing Jane Bigelow, I learned that she constantly challenged the status quo and the news was more focused on what she wore, framing her as a scandalous mayor for choosing to not wearing a hat to greet the queen while ignoring the rest of the things she stood for. I hope *The Bicycle Play* helps reframe her, with the values she carried as a woman of her time. I only wonder what articles would have said if she were mayor in 2021. - **Kydra Ryan**

When I was a kid, I lived on my bike. I'm 62 and still riding. This project was a joy to work on. Such talented and giving people to work with - Adam and Kydra. Kydra and I cut the 45 scenes, Adam cut a few of his own, and put the album together. Magic, with about 95% sweat, memorizing, and cutting and adding lines. Workshopping is a true test of friendship. I'm not crazy about living in London, but some of the colourful characters from its past tend to pull me out of my 'beige.' I will never take the freedom of a bicycle for granted again. Please enjoy. - **Dan Ebbs**



Kydra Ryan and Dan Ebbs as Greg Curnoe in *The Bicycle Play*.  
Photo by Richard Gilmore.

Thank you to the following people for their research support of *The Bicycle Play*:  
**Ann Bigelow, David Bigelow, Jane Bigelow, Shelly Carr, Teresa Corrigan, Ryan Craven, Sheila Curnoe, Daniel Hall, Linda Lucas, Dave Mitchell, Molly Miksa, Paul Seale.**



# PIRATES OF LONG POINT

By Adam Corrigan Holowitz



Directed by Adam Corrigan Holowitz

Performed by Kydra Ryan, Casey Cornell, Dan Ebbs

Elizabeth Durand, Bronwyn Wilson



# PIRATES OF LONG POINT

By Adam Corrigan Holowitz

## Cast

Kydra Ryan - Josephine

Casey Cornell - Arthur

Dan Ebbs - Moorhead / Lesshead

Elizabeth Durand - Aunt Judy

Bronwyn Wilson- Randall / Mr. Tightrunk

Katy Clark - Singer

Paul Grambo - Singer

## Artistic Credits

Adam Corrigan Holowitz - Director

Stephen Holowitz- Composer/ Musical Director

Kydra Ryan- Dramaturg

Adam Corrigan Holowitz- Designer

Sue Parke - Designer

Kydra Ryan - Associate Designer

Donnie Ivey....Videographer

Kevin Gallant....Head of Sound

Donnie Ivey - Film Editor

Alex Tavera.....Sound Assistant

Michael Grainger....Sound Assistant

*Special thanks to the Ontario Institute of Audio Recording Technology*

Previous Page: Casey Cornell as Arthur and Kydra Ryan as Josephine.  
Opposite: Bronwyn Wilson as Randall. Photos by Richard Gilmore.



Bronwyn Wilson as Randall in Pirates of Long Point.  
Photo by Richard Gilmore.



# Notes on Pirates of Long Point

**On Melodrama:** In the 19th century, melodrama was one of the most popular forms in western theatre. Melodramas were frequently performed in Southwestern Ontario. The word melodrama, comes from melody-drama. Music plays an important role in melodrama, the music informs, dictates and manipulates the emotions of the audience. The intent of melodrama is for the audience to have a uniform emotional experience, everyone feels the same thing at the same moments. As such melodramas have become suspect things. Most plays we see performed in our present times, place emphasis on stimulating critical thinking amongst the audience. The emotional experience of a 21st Century audience is anything but uniform. As a result, the conventions of melodrama seem odd to our current senses; but that does not mean we cannot have some fun and play some games with those conventions.

**The Facts on Long Point Piracy:** There are many instances in the mid-1800s of local men luring ships with a false beacon onto the sandbars at Long Point, then robbing those ships. The results of this activity was often grizzly. This form of land piracy is called Black-birding.

**The Fiction:** Pretty much everything else. History is our departure point, and on our silly raucous journey we will pass by some allusions to literature and Shakespeare, physical comedy, music hall, vaudeville and of course melodrama! Enjoy - *Adam C-H*



Bronwyn Wilson as Randall and Casey Cornell as Arthur in *Pirates of Long Point*. Photo by Richard Gilmore.



# The Ensemble



## **Casey Cornell, 3rd Season**

**2021 Season: Arthur in Pirates of Long Point and Ben in Of Gods and Machines. 3rd Season for AlvegoRoot.** Previously with AlvegoRoot: Ben in Of Gods and Machines (audio play), Michael/Syd in Fools and Lovers. Casey Cornell most recently appeared in The Chimes, Danger from the Dead (Fanshawe Pioneer Village), Pterodactyls (The Peanut Gallery) . Casey has appeared in multiple online videos for the website: Dibly.com. He is a graduate of Fanshawe's Theatre Arts Performance program where he appeared in Of Mice and Men and Timon of Athens.



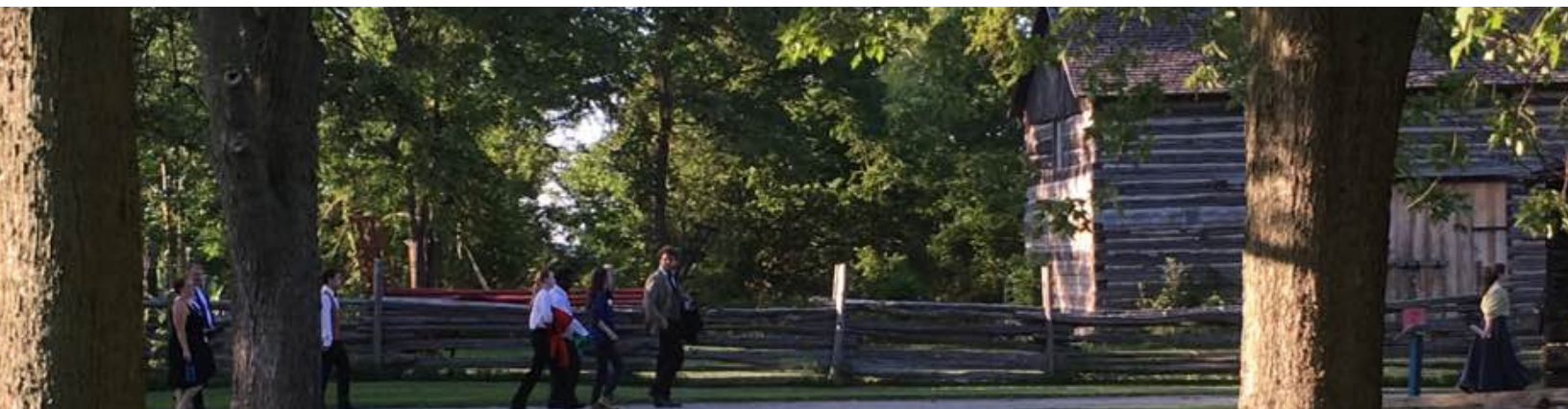
## **Adam Corrigan Holowitz, Founding Artistic Director, 13th Season**

**2021 Season: Director/Co-Creator of The Bicycle Play, Director/Playwright of Pirates of Long Point, Performer/Director of Tales for a Reaney Day, Dramaturg for Of Gods and Machines.** Adam works as a dramaturg, director and playwrights. Works Adam has directed for AlvegoRoot include: Fools and Lovers, The Wind in the Willows (playwright), The Boy with an R in His Hand (playwright), Welcome to Bon Echo, Sixty-Seven (playwright), Dominion Day, The Cheese Poet (playwright), The Big Lad, The Angel of Long Point (playwright), Running Rude, Press Cuttings, Colleening (creator), Endgame, Beard, Macbeth, Uncle Vanya and Waiting for Godot. For Village Opera Adam has directed: John Beckwith and James Reaney's The Great Lakes Suite, Menotti's The Telephone and Shaw's Village Wooing. For Theatre Aezir he directed Gary Kirkham's Falling: A Wake. He was the dramaturg for David Yee's play rochdale (York University/Summerworks). Adam holds a BA Honours from York University where he studied Dramaturgy. He is the recipient of The Iris Turcott Memorial Award for dramaturgy from York University.



## **Elizabeth Durand, 5th Season**

**2021 Season: Aunt Judy in Pirates of Long Point. 5th Season for AlvegoRoot.** Previously with AlvegoRoot: Charlotte in Harvest, Badger in The Wind in the Willows, Flora in Welcome to Bon Echo, Uncle John and others in The Boy with an R in his Hand, and eight roles in the ensemble piece Sixty-Seven. Elizabeth is a founder of Theatre Aezir where she recently performed in The Laramie Project and played Carol in Theatre Aezir's Canadian Premiere of A Permanent Image. Favourite roles include Mimi in La Boheme, Freia in Das Rheingold, (Cinnabar Opera Theatre), Monica in Present Laughter and The Queen in Cinderella. Elizabeth is a Vocal Performance graduate of Western and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.





# The Ensemble



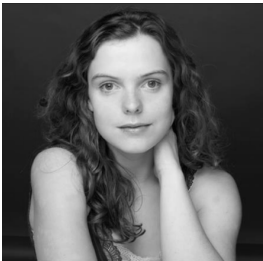
## **Dan Ebbs, 3rd Season**

**2021 Season: Performer/Creator of The Bicycle Play, Admiral Moorhead in Pirates of Long Point, Jack in Of Gods and Machines.** Previously for AlvegoRoot: Jack in Of Gods and Machines (audio play), Mole in The Wind in the Willows and Troyer/Browne in Fools and Lovers. Dan Ebbs got his theatre training at Humber College in Toronto the 1980s and was rejected by all of the professional theatres there. Thus he learned his first important lesson in theatre: humility. He considers himself an amateur actor because he does not have an Equity or an ACTRA card, but he acknowledges that the Latin root of the word amateur is 'love'. He is just happy to be on the stage and working with dedicated, creative people and, as long as he can do that, life is good.



## **Kydra Ryan, 5th Season**

**2021 Season: Performer/Creator of The Bicycle Play and Josephine in Pirates of Long Point, Director/Playwright of Of Gods and Machines, Performer/Director of Tales for a Reaney Day.** Past AlvegoRoot credits include: Playwright/Director of Of Gods and Machines (audio play), Writer/Performer in The Manor Park Evening Post, Ratty in The Wind in the Willows, Rosa/Dorothia in Fools and Lovers, Annie Pixely in Shall Not Be Taken, The Boy with an R in His Hand, Welcome to Bon Echo, Elsie: Dreams and Sketches, and Dominion Day. Kydra was Assistant Director for Six Characters in Search of an Author and Timon of Athens both at Fanshawe College.



## **Bronwyn Wilson, 3rd Season**

**2021 Season: Randall in Pirates of Long Point.**

Previously with AlvegoRoot: Otter in Wind in the Willows and Miss Measure in The Cheese Poet. Bronwyn has been involved in various local productions including Danger from the Dead, Suguana in Frights of Spring, Titania in Cat Scratch's A Midsummer Nights Dream and Lucy Smith in Midnight Village's Hangman's Harvest to name a few. She hopes you enjoy this heart-warming and comical story.



Elizabeth Durand as Aunt Judy and Kydra Ryan as Josephine in Pirates of Long Point. Photo by Richard Gilmore.



# The Ensemble



**Squid Vs. Whale Productions** is owned and operated by London residents, Donnie Ivey and his partner, Tara Fawsitt. Donnie is a graduate from the Advanced Filmmaking Program at Fanshawe College, and has screened several films at local film festivals, including his film Great Lakes Surfers being an official selection at the Forest City Film Festival in 2019. Tara graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from Fanshawe and has been an integral part of keeping their film projects running smoothly from a producer standpoint. Together they continue to pursue creative ventures as visual media creators throughout Southwestern Ontario and beyond. For more info contact [squidvswhaleinc@gmail.com](mailto:squidvswhaleinc@gmail.com)





# Our Deepest Thanks to Our Donors

- Carolyn and Allister Cameron
- Pamela Cameron
- Teresa Corrigan and Stephen Holowitz
- Ed Corrigan
- Paul Connolly
- Maya Clark
- Claudia Day
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- Special thanks to Dorothy Downs.
- Special thanks to Mark Vogelsang.



Elizabeth Durand as Aunt Judy in *Pirates of Long Point*.  
Photo by Richard Gilmore.

## ***Telling Local Stories, Creating Local Theatre***

AlvegoRoot Theatre is based in London Ontario. AlvegoRoot produces plays about London and the surrounding area. AlvegoRoot develops new plays based on local stories and people. With one eye to the world and another on Southwestern Ontario AlvegoRoot has created a specific style of theatre that carries on the Souwesto theatre and arts tradition. AlvegoRoot collaborates with Fanshawe Pioneer Village to present a repertory summer theatre season in the village's heritage barn. 2021 marks AlvegoRoot Theatre's 13th Season.



Alvego**Root** Theatre

2021 **LIVE** Fall Season at Somerville 630



# TALES FOR A REANEY DAY

The Bully and The Box Social

By James Reaney

Performed by

Adam Corrigan Holowitz and Kydra Ryan

September 10 to 12

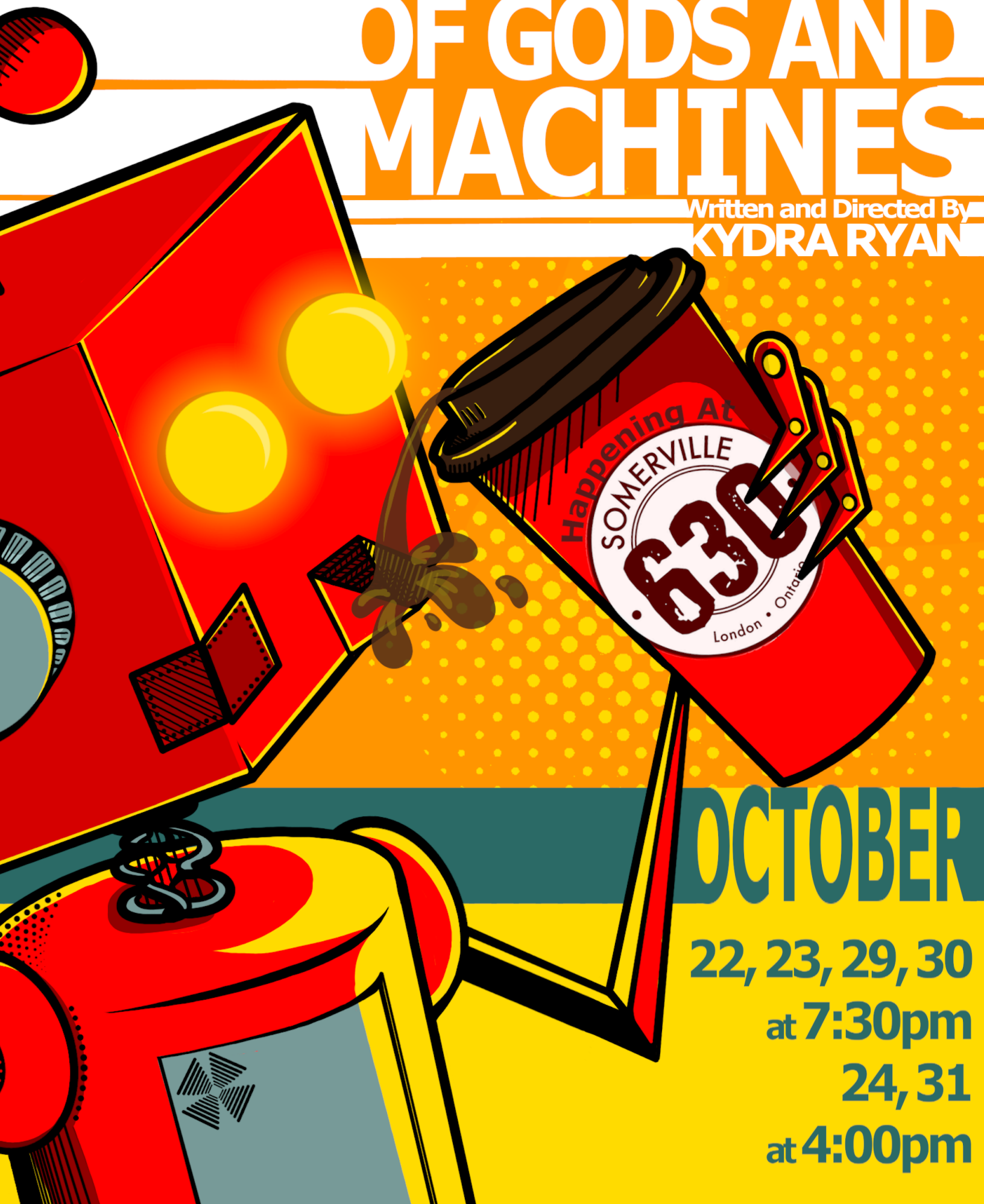




AlvegoRoot Theatre 2021 **LIVE** Fall Season at Somerville 630

# OF GODS AND MACHINES

Written and Directed By  
**KYDRA RYAN**



## OCTOBER

22, 23, 29, 30  
at 7:30pm  
24, 31  
at 4:00pm





**2021 SEASON: THE BICYCLE PLAY** PIRATES OF LONG POINT  
TALES FOR A REANEY DAY OF GODS AND MACHINES