kanata theatre

56TH SEASON



# THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN

## Based on the bestselling novel by Paula Hawkins and DreamWorks film. Adapted by Rachel Wagstaff and Duncan Abel

**DIRECTED BY SUSAN MONAGHAN | FEB. 5 - 15, 2025**

*"The Girl on the Train" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com*

RON MASLIN PLAYHOUSE | BOX OFFICE 613-831-4435 | KANATATHEATRE.CA

Imagine getting so fed up with the 'same old same old' that an all-out venture to a time when life was simpler is the only solace you can find. You leave your management position and opt to live an '*I Love Lucy*' lifestyle, managing your house as a stay at home wife, complete with all the 50s clothing, appliances and décor, while your husband works as a real estate agent. What could be better? What could possibly go wrong?

**Scan or click here for tickets**






***Redemption***
*Bold. Fruity. Fun. It's a tasty indulgence that's hard to resist.*

***Presenting KT Lounge featured drinks***

***Stranger than Fiction***
*Complex aromas of molasses, coffee, smoke, nuts and chocolate.*



## Join us at the KT Lounge

**(south end of the lobby)**

***Feature Cocktail - 'Redemption'***

Artisanal Butter Tarts $3.00
- Regular
- Raisin
- Maple
- Maple Rhubarb

Munchies/Smartfood Popcorn $3.00

Coffee/Tea (self-serve) Donation

Soft Drinks $2.00
- Pepsi
- Ginger Ale
- Diet Pepsi
- Club Soda
- 7-Up

Beer $7.00
- Alexander Keiths
- Stranger than Fiction (porter)
- Steam Whistle (pilsner)

Wine $8.00

Spirits $8.00
- Whisky • Scotch • Rum • Gin

Cocktails $8.00
- NUTRL Vodka Soda Lemon

**Refreshments may be taken into the auditorium**

**kanata theatre**

Interac VISA MasterCard

## CAST

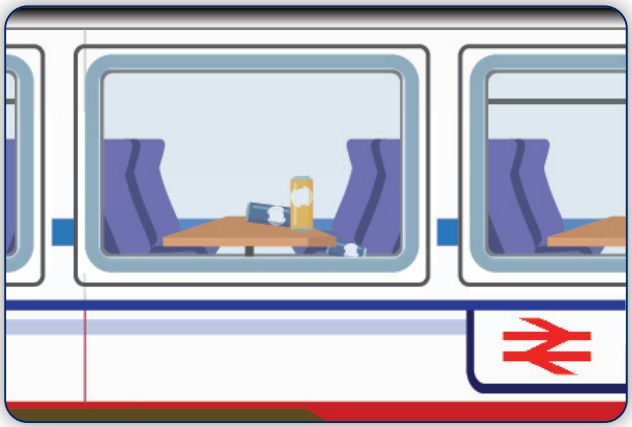
(in order of appearance)

| | |
|---|---|
| **Rachel Watson** | **Shirley Manh** |
| **D.I. Gaskill** | **Chisholm Pothier** |
| **Anna Watson** | **Ashley Gillard** |
| **Tom Watson** | **Cameron Bishop** |
| **Megan Hipwell** | **Elizabeth Foulds Rodgers** |
| **Scott Hipwell** | **Michael Clarke** |
| **Kamal Abdic** | **Nandeesh Kumar** |

**Ensemble** **Declan Batten, Jeslyn Batten, Shawn Batten**
**Cathy Gagliardi, Bill Horsman, Tom Kobolak, Alyssa McIntosh**
**Sonya Monaghan, Molly Penton, Hannah Rumsey, Jenn Wilson**

## SETTING

Present day in a suburban town in England.



## SYNOPSIS

In the dark of night, in an underpass, Rachel saw something horrible and violent occur. Or did she? Witness statements are unreliable or so the saying goes. Memories are far from perfect and even subject to bias.

Adding to this, Rachel is a woman with problems of her own. Victim of a broken marriage, she hides her depression in alcohol. She rides the train every day to… nowhere, really, and fantasizes about the perfect life someone else is living. But it's that someone else - Megan Hipwell - who has gone missing. Was foul play involved? And is the secret of what happened to Megan buried deep inside Rachel's mind? Hiding under a black hole in her memory?

**Warning: Includes some violent scenes and flashing lights.**

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We are all fascinated by the human psyche. Why would someone do what you and I could never fathom doing? Fall victim to an addiction, or seriously harm another? *The Girl on the Train* masterly combines a "mystery" mystery with the mystery of the workings of a mind confused by depression and alcohol. A damaged Rachel "knows that she knows" but is not taken seriously by anyone, including herself; and searches for a way to break through the fog. She/we must know what really happened.

Rachel's journey and redemption is a captivating story and it has been my pleasure, with the assistance of an extraordinary cast and crew, to present it on the Kanata Theatre stage.

## BIOGRAPHIES



**Susan Monaghan (Director)** has directed nine shows for Kanata Theatre, and has acted in multiple others since joining in 1998. Some of her favourite Kanata Theatre directing challenges include *A Man for All Seasons*, *Private Lives* and *Here on the Flight Path*. She most recently directed *12 Angry Jurors* for Ottawa Little Theatre in 2023. Other past theatrical contributions include Assistant Stage Manager, Box Office support, serving on the Board of Directors and assisting in Front of House. She has greatly enjoyed dealing with the challenges of "*Girl*", and appreciates the support and talents of the Cast and Crew.



**Cameron Bishop (Tom Watson)** is in his fourth appearance on the Kanata Theatre stage, following *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *A Man for All Seasons*, and *Dangerous Liaisons*. He is honoured to bring Tom Watson to life in this gripping production and thanks Susan Monaghan for the opportunity to join this amazing cast and crew. Cameron also thanks his wife, Jo, for her unwavering support. Enjoy the show!



**Michael Clarke (Scott Hipwell)** is extremely proud to perform at the Kanata Theatre in *The Girl on the Train*. He has performed in plays at Kanata Theater (*Mauritius*, *My Narrator*) and Ottawa Little Theatre (*A Murder is Announced*, *Holmes and Watson*, *Guess Whos Coming to Dinner*). He is dedicated to the art of acting and finds character exploration and the revelation of the emotion behind the words absolutely fascinating.

**PhonicEar On-Wave** hearing assistance systems can be picked up at the cloak room. These receivers permit control over listening volume levels through a 3.5 mm plug headset or T-Switch hearing aid loops.



**Elizabeth Foulds Rodgers (Megan Hipwell)** earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Windsor's School of Dramatic Arts' Acting Program. Favourite past roles include Lady Macbeth, Lady Macduff (*Macbeth*, Modern Times Theatre), Marlene, Lady Nijo/Win (*Top Girls*, Theatre Next Door), and Daughter (*Tyrant of Pontus*, Theatre Passe Muraille). After a twenty-year hiatus, Elizabeth returned to her first love, acting, this past year when she portrayed Mary in *Mauritius* and Sherlock Holmes in *Baskerville* (Kanata Theatre). She's delighted to be part of the multi-talented team working on this thrilling play.







**Ashley Gillard (Anna Watson)** is very excited to be making her Kanata Theatre Debut! Originally raised in Pennsylvania, Ashley is an award-winning choreographer and actor who has performed on stages across Canada, USA and in New Zealand! She has a rich background in ballet, jazz and modern dance. Recent credits include Esmeralda in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Sister Leo in *Nunsense* and Annie in *Chicago*. When not on stage, Ashley shares her love for the performing arts with her preschool students!



**Nandeesh Kumar (Kamal Abdic)** is thrilled to make his Kanata Theatre debut! He would like to thank his wife, daughter, and friends for their support and his parents for fostering the love of community theatre as a child.





**Shirley Manh (Rachel Watson)** has been on stage, behind microphones, and in front of cameras with TACTICS, The Gladstone, Ottawa Little Theatre, Orpheus Musical Theatre, and more, with fond memories of playing Gwendolen Fairfax in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre). Kanata Theatre productions include: *Almost, Maine*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, and *Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike*. Shirley's love of performance is rivalled only by her love of referring to herself in the third person. Offstage, she is a published writer and a leadership development coach. Mommy loves you, Periwinkle!



**Chisholm Pothier (D.I. Gaskill)** has done a lot of plays in a lot of places, but he's never done a Main Stage with Kanata Theatre before and is pretty chuffed. Chuffed to be under the direction of Susan Monaghan and acting with a stupendous cast, many of whom he has admired from a respectful and appropriate distance since landing in Ottawa almost two years ago. Thanks to all the people not on stage who make the magic happen. Always remember kids, just because you're depressed and deluded, doesn't mean you're not on to something.'



**Ensemble (left to right) Jenn Wilson, Bill Horsman, Cathy Gagliardi, Tom Kobolak, Molly Penton, Sonya Monaghan, Declan Batten, Jeslyn Batten, Shawn Batten**
**Alyssa McIntosh (not shown), Hannah Rumsey (not shown)**

Kanata Theatre is proud to enter *The Girl on the Train* in the EODL Full-Length Play Festival. Adjudication is on February 7th and audience members are encouraged to remain to listen. Scan or click here for more details.

Please be considerate: ensure that mobile devices are turned off. The use of any media capture device during the performance is prohibited by copyright law.

**Purchase your tickets here: www.kanatatheatre.ca.**
The Kanata Theatre is wheelchair accessible. Please call the Box Office at 613-831-4435 to secure wheelchair seating.
For general enquiries email info@kanatatheatre.ca.

# PRODUCTION TEAM

| | |
|---|---|
| Production Manager | Julie Melnyk |
| Stage Manager | Anne-Marie Smith |
| Assistant Stage Manager | Jo Bishop, Clare Flockton |
| | Terry Leonard, Sumeyra Ulas |
| Fight Choreographer | Chris McLeod |
| Set Design | Sally McIntyre |
| Set Construction | Ron Gardner |
| Assisted by | Bob & Ev Abell, Jim Clarke |
| | Dean Flockton, Mateo Guitard |
| | Mark Guzewski, Clyde Le Guerrier |
| | Heidi Roberts, Arseni Skvortsov |
| | Dan Winters |
| Set Painting | Elisa Frost |
| Assisted by | Agnes & Emma Bejan |
| | Barb Kobolak, Nicole MacLaren |
| | Sally McIntyre, Julie Melnyk |
| | Paul Robichaud, Miranda Shelly |
| Lighting | Anthony Rumsey |
| Assisted by | Yolande Akl, Shawn Batten |
| | Anabel Conrad, Tina & Max Mestrovic |
| | John van Schouwen |
| Sound | Joel Agnew |
| Assisted by | Mike Hogan |
| Costumes | Caitlin Hegger |
| Dresser | Jenn Wilson |
| Set Décor | Kelly Griffin |
| Megan's Artwork | Manfred Mueller |
| Properties | Daria Bester, Kelly Griffin |
| Continuity | Nancy Cormier, Jill Doherty |
| | Nancy Hough, Jenn Pirili |
| Hair Styling | Carol Walkley |
| Make Up | Martha Johnstone |
| Assisted by | Bev Brooks, Lise McManus, Liz Nash |
| | Hilary Philebrown, Anissa Stambouli |
| | Linda Webster, Sandy Wynne |
| Green Room | Julie Melnyk |
| Publicity Liaison | Lindsay Endicott, Jane Pick |
| Volunteer Liaison | Kathleen Walsh |

*Clipart images designed by Freepik*

We also thank all other Kanata Theatre volunteers that helped make this production possible who are not listed here, including publicity, marketing, box office, signage, front of house and servery, operations, and more.



Welcome to Kanata Theatre's production of *The Girl on the Train*. This gripping psychological thriller explores themes of memory, trust, and betrayal, brought to life by a talented cast and crew. We are proud to present compelling stories that engage and captivate our audiences, and this production is no exception.

At Kanata Theatre, we strive to foster creativity, community, and a love for the arts. As a volunteer-driven organization, we are immensely grateful for your support, which enables us to continue creating unforgettable theatrical experiences.

Sit back, immerse yourself in the mystery, and enjoy the show.

Warm regards,

***Cameron Bishop, President, Kanata Theatre***

The paintings in the foyer are by courtesy of the **Kanata Civic Art Gallery**

For information or to purchase the art, please contact kanatacivicartgallery@gmail.com


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## Master of Suspence

Alfred Hitchcock featured trains and transport in many of his films, and often appeared in cameo as a passenger. There were practical reasons for this. The train was the most prevalent form of transport at the time, so familiar to his audience. Plus, it helped contain the action and allowed for cinematic backdrops. The train also tied in with the voyeuristic theme Hitchcock often used - watching life happen as it flys by. This voyeuristic theme was most apparent in *Rear Window* (no trains) - where a convalescing man (James Steward) passes his time watching his neighbours and believes he has witnessed a murder...!

Are you a Hitchcock fan? Can you guess these famous movies?

In brackets is a clue - the # of words/letters in the titles, e.g., Rear Window (4 6).
(answers on inside back cover)

#1 Abracadabra, she's gone! (3 4 8)
#2 A long ascent (3 6 4 5)
#3 Slightly left of Polaris (5 2 9)
#4 Feeling dizzy (6)
#5 New people on choo-choo (8 2 1 5)
#6 Avian crowd (3 5)
#7 Held by magic (10)
#8 Call 6 to kill (4 1 3 6)

**Behind the Scenes...**



You're sitting on a train and it's getting dark. You sense movement as the train speeds down the tracks. You hear the distant hum of the wheels. Rachel is there watching...

But there is no train; nevertheless, you have the sense of being there. You can hear it, you can see it, you can almost feel it. In reality, it's an illusion created using sound, light, and projections.

Projections create realistic or fantastical scenes that would be difficult to achieve with traditional scenery and allow for quick transitions.

Lighting uses backlighting to focus attention, downlighting to add depth, and filters to create a sense of time and place.

Sound uses techniques like field recording, layering, and Foley sounds to create immersive soundscapes.

Kanata Theatre is fortunate to have a talented team of technicians who bring their magic to our stage, which you can see showcased in *The Girl on the Train* and our other productions.

If you want to learn more about how it's done, become a member and volunteer! You'll gain firsthand experience and insight into the intricacies of stagecraft, from lighting design to sound engineering. Join a community of passionate individuals who appreciate the art of theatre and contribute to bringing stories to life.




**Scan or click here to support to Kanata Theatre or go to https://kanatatheatre.ca/support-us/**

**A moment in time... The Mousetrap**

No trains in this one; the detective arrives through a blizzard on skis... The Mousetrap first appeared as a radio play called Three Blind Mice in 1947, written by Agatha Christie as a birthday gift for Queen Mary. Its famous run in London started in 1952, starring Richard Attenborough as Detective Sargeant Trotter. It continued unbroken until COVID shuttered the whole West End in 2020. The play then resumed its run in 2021, celebrating 29,500 performances in 2024.

For Kanata Theatre, The Mousetrap opened in 1972, 20 years after its West End debut. It ran for 3 performances with Brooke Kenneford playing the detective. Tickets were $1.50. This is their only Christie play to date.

**BE PART OF THE PROGRAM!**
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**Interested in advertising with Kanata Theatre? Email us at publicity@kanatatheatre.ca for more information!**



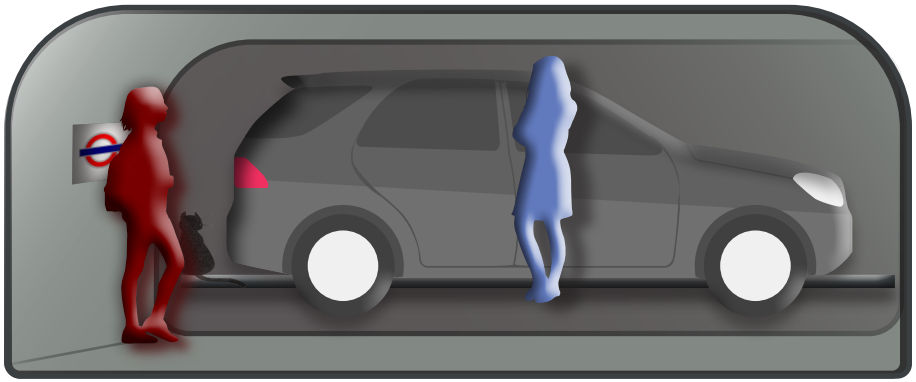



**The Queen of Crime**

Agatha Christie liked to use trains and other transport in her books, such as planes and boats. It provided a captivating backdrop for her stories, but also the nuances of travel tied in well with her intricate plots. Time-tables can make or break alibis, and the transport created a moving 'locked-room' with limited suspects, and seemingly impossible crimes.

*Murder on the Orient Express* provides Hercules Poirot some interesting and difficult crimes to solve, while *4:50 from Paddington* has Mrs Mcgil-liuddy witnessing a murder through the window on a passing train and another mystery for Miss Marple to unravel.

There are 5 other famous Christie novels featuring transport - can you name them? (answers on inside back cover)



kanata theatre

56TH SEASON OF QUALITY COMMUNITY THEATRE

# 2024 - 2025 SEASON

## HOME, I'M DARLING

MAR. 26 – APR. 5, 2025



by Laura Wade

Imagine getting fed up with the 'same old same old' that you want an all-out venture to a time when you believe life was simpler. Leaving a management position, you opt to live in an 'I Love Lucy' 50's lifestyle while your husband continues to work. What could be better? What could possibly go wrong?

A comedy set in John Barrymore's circa 1930's New York City apartment. Following television actor Andrew Rally as he struggles with the challenges of a dream role of Hamlet, for the stage. To add to his angst, at odds with his girlfriend, and thanks to another wannabe medium, he is now playing host to the ghost of John Barrymore himself.

## I HATE HAMLET

MAY 7 – 17, 2025




by Paul Rudnick

Join us at Kanata Theatre for the best in theatre entertainment and the best value in entertainment - subscribe to Kanata Theatre's 2024-2025 season!

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WATER AT ITS BEST

**Quiz Answers**

**Hitchcock Quiz:** #1 The Lady Vanishes, #2 The Thirty Nine Steps, #3 North by Northwest, #4 Vertigo, #5 Strangers on a Train, #6 The Birds, #7 Spellbound & #8 Dial M for Murder.

**Agatha Christie Quiz:** The Mystery of the Blue Train (train), Death in the Clouds (plane), Destination Unknown (plane), Passenger to Frankfurt (plane) & Death on the Nile (boat).

## MEMBERSHIP

Kanata Theatre is celebrating its 56th anniversary this season. Since 1968 a lot has changed. Growth has been exponential and the diversity now present in our community has enriched our membership. One thing that has not changed is the commitment to volunteerism that Kanata Theatre members embody. Kanata Theatre is completely volunteer run; from directors and producers to lighting designers and box office agents. Consider joining our vibrant membership and playing a part in bringing quality live theatre to audiences.

You can offer as much time as suits your lifestyle and you will be rewarded with a creative outlet that is fun and fosters great friendships.

Contact Kathleen Walsh Director, Membership and Training for more information at: membership@kanatatheatre.ca or scan or click the QR code



Find us on Facebook at **Kanata Theatre**
Follow us on Instagram **@KanataTheatre**

We have updated the program! If you love it or hate it, or have suggestions or comments please let us know at programs@kanatatheatre.ca. We would love to get your feedback!

Scan or click for more information about Kanata Theatre's upcoming show season!

## TICKET POLICY

The box office opens 1.5 hr prior to show times. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.kanatatheatre.ca.

Tickets are non refundable. Please contact the ticket office at 613-831-4435, 48 hrs in advance, to exchange tickets for another performance within the current show.

The Kanata Theatre is wheelchair accessible. Please call the box office to secure wheelchair seating.

**Kanata Theatre's telephone number for emergency calls is 613-831-4436.**

The Ron Maslin Playhouse is built on and Kanata Theatre operates on the unceded territory of the Anishinabe Algonquin peoples, the stewards of this land for millennia.