

"a memoir of minds gone out of tune" - THE NEW YORK TIMES

LESSONS IN TEMPERAMENT



Written & Performed by
JAMES SMITH

Directed & Developed by
MITCHELL CUSHMAN

OUTSIDE
THE MARCH

ONTARIO
PRESENTS

Lessons in Temperament

An Outside the March production

Presented by Ontario Presents

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM

Performer & Creator:

JAMES SMITH

Director:

MITCHELL CUSHMAN

Production Designer:

NICK BLAIS

Stage Manager:

FARNOOSH TALEBPOUR

Production Manager:

TORI MORRISON

Producer:

LAURA MCCALLUM

105 minutes - no intermission

Lessons in Temperament contains themes which might be triggering for some, concerning mental health crises, suicide, violence, homelessness.

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STAGE**

OUTSIDE THE MARCH

Outside the March creates unforgettable immersive encounters—redefining the experience of theatre for a new generation of audiences. Since 2009 we've welcomed our audiences to over 20 critically-celebrated, award-winning productions that seek to embody our values of Curiosity, Care, Thrills, Connection and Immersion.

We are a registered charity supported by The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, The Toronto Arts Council, The Government of Canada, and our generous circle of private and public supporters including foundations, corporate sponsors and individual donors. Learn more at outsidethemarch.ca

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JOSH HELLYER & AUDREY S. HELLYER FOUNDATION. ANDREW & HILLARY CUMMING. STANLEY SHALOM
ZIELONY FOUNDATION. AND THE EMERALD FOUNDATION.**

James Smith | Performer & Creator



James Smith is an award winning multi-disciplinary theatre artist. He is an actor, composer, lyricist, musical director, writer, and sound designer. Selected stage credits include *Spamalot* and *Something Rotten* (Stratford Festival); *Rose, A Moveable Feast*, *The 27 Club*, *The Secret Chord*, *La Bete*, *Chasse Galerie*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*, (Soulpepper); *Lessons in Temperament* (Outside the March, and Off-Broadway at the Signature Centre); *The Golem's Mighty Swing*, *Mr. Burns* (Outside the March); four seasons with the Shaw Festival as a musical director, composer, and sound designer, and he has worked with many other companies, including The Charlottetown Festival, Talk is Free Theatre, Canadian Stage, Manitoba Theatre Centre, and Theatre Sheridan. He is the composer/lyricist of *Chasse Galerie*, for which he won a Dora Award and a Toronto Theatre Critic's Choice Award, and the writer/performer of *Lessons in Temperament*, for which he won the Summerworks Production Award. He holds a Bachelor of Music from Queen's University, and is a graduate of both the Shaw Festival's musical director internship and the Soulpepper Academy.

Mitchell Cushman | Director



Mitchell Cushman is a director, creator, & founding Artistic Director of Outside the March. Past OtM Productions include: *Trojan Girls & The Outhouse of Atreus*, *The Ex-Boyfriend Yard Sale*, *Lessons in Temperament*, *The Flick*, *The Tape Escape*, *Dr. Silver*, *Jerusalem*, *TomorrowLove*, *Mr. Burns*, *Vitals*, *Passion Play*, *Terminus* and *Mr. Marmalade*. His work has been seen on stages as large as The Stratford Festival & The Royal Alexandra Theatre, in spaces as intimate as kindergarten classrooms and living rooms, and in locales as far-flung as London, New York, Argentina, Edinburgh, Munich, Finland and Japan. In 2015 he co-created the award-winning *Brantwood* – Canada's largest exploration of immersive musical theatre. Mitchell has been the recipient of the Siminovitch protégé Award, two Dora Awards for Outstanding Direction, and his productions have received 4 Dora Awards for Outstanding Production, and 14 Toronto Theatre Critics Awards. He holds an MFA degree in Directing from the University of Alberta.

Nick Blais | Production Designer



Nick Blais designs across Canada in all manner of discipline and venue: from theatres, parks, abandoned buildings, schools, storefronts, living rooms and concert halls. As Head of Design for Toronto's leading immersive theatre company, Outside the March, Nick specializes in creating and facilitating thematic, impactful designs, and transforming unconventional spaces into immersive, dramatic environments.

Nick has received Dora Mavor Moore Awards in Toronto for both set and lighting design, nominated for the Virginia Myrtle Cooper award in costume design, and various other awards and nominations across the country. His design work was featured in 2011 at the Prague Quadrennial for Theatre Design, and was showcased in Professional Lighting Magazine for his innovation in off-the-grid lighting design and site-specific scenography. Co-Founder of Blue Sky Initiative, a group of artists committed to creating public art that speaks to the human connection, community and allyship. nblaisdesign.com

Farnoosh Talebpour | Stage Manager



Farnoosh would like to thank all the people around her who have helped keep her feet grounded, joined her in laughter, and kept her heart safe

Theatre credits include:

SM: No Save Points (OtM/Modern Times/Starvox), Iphigenia and the Furies (Saga Collectif/Theatre Passe Muraille), Swim Team (Nowadays/Summerworks). ASM: Bittergirl (Thousand Island Playhouse), English (Soulpepper/Segal Centre), Dido & Aeneas (Opera Atelier), Red Velvet (Crow's Theatre), Queen Goneril, King Lear (Soulpepper), Dixon Road (Musical Stage Company/ Obsidian Theatre company), Through the Bamboo (Uwi Collective/Toronto Fringe); Apprentice SM: Orphans for the Czar (Crow's Theatre); Serving Elizabeth (Stratford Festival); Angeliq (BTW/Factory Theatre).