

Show Guide for the  
Relaxed Performances of  
**White Girls in Moccasins**



***All performances of White Girls in Moccasins will be  
Relaxed Performances***

*The setup of the space and welcoming protocols are designed to  
welcome audience members who will benefit from a more relaxed  
performance environment, where they are welcome to come and go if  
need be.*

March 9-20  
Buddies in Bad Times Theatre  
12 Alexander St., Toronto, ON

For further assistance, please contact  
Box Office & Front of House Manager,  
**Julia Lewis** [julia@buddiesinbadtimes.com](mailto:julia@buddiesinbadtimes.com)

## **About the Show**

The show is about 100 minutes long, with no intermission.

## **COVID-19 Safety**

All patrons are requested to present valid proof of being double vaccinated upon entry to any space at Buddies. We also ask that you fill out our screening form prior to entering the space - QR codes are posted outside of the box office entrance for you to scan on your phone. We will also have paper copies should you need one.

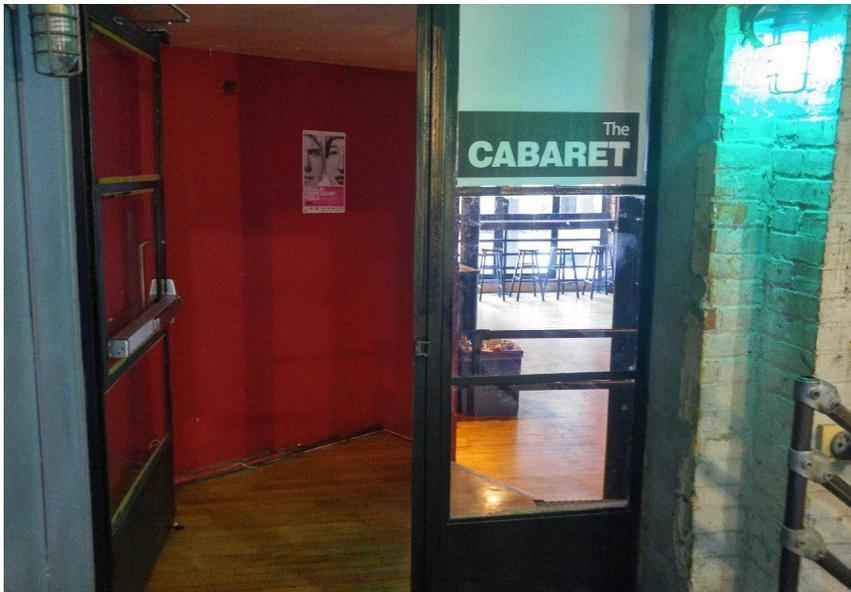
Patrons, staff, and visitors must wear masks inside our facilities at all times. Patrons can only remove masks when seated at a table in the Cabaret pre-show, and must remain seated while drinking. Drinks will be consumed only in the Cabaret. If you need to stand and leave the table, you must put your mask back on. If you do not feel comfortable being around unmasked people at this time, you may wait in the Antechamber.

For more information regarding Buddies' COVID-19 safety policy, visit <https://buddiesinbadtimes.com/covid-safety/>

## Your Path

When you enter through the box office doors, a front of house staff member will check for your proof of vaccination and completed screening form. The show takes place in the Chamber space.

On your left, our bar will be open in the Cabaret should you wish to sit with a drink before the show begins. If you are not comfortable in a space where people are seated and unmasked, you can proceed into the Antechamber space.



*This is the entrance (above) and inside (below) of the Cabaret space.*



In the lobby, you will also be able to read the bios and view the headshots of the creative team of the show, displayed on two screens in slideshow form.

You will enter the Chamber (the main theatre space) through the Antechamber. An usher will help you find your way.

There will be two projections, one on the east and one on the west wall of the space, depicting a photo/illustration of performer/playwright Yolanda Bonnell. There will also be audio of Yolanda reading a poem in Anishinaabemowin.



*This is the Antechamber space.*

This room will act as a waiting area, but also will remain a relaxed space once the show begins. Patrons can come and go as they please, make noise, and walk around.

## **Preshow**

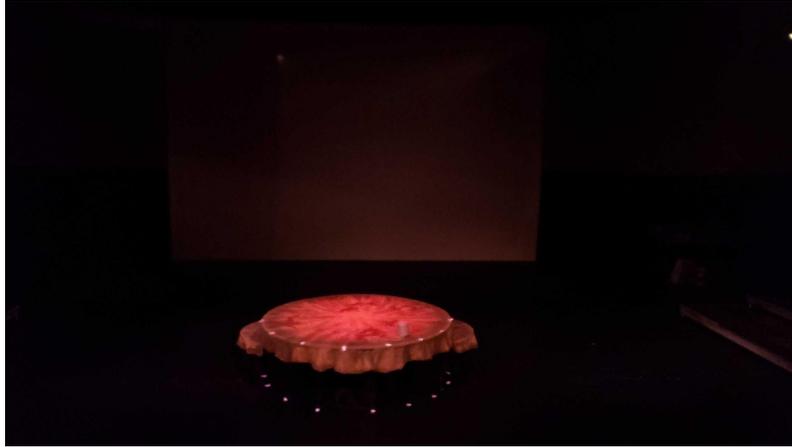
There is no assigned seating in the Chamber, so you may sit in any unoccupied seat, unless it has a reserved sign on it. All seats will be a minimum of 6 feet away from the performers onstage for audience safety, as performers will be unmasked for the duration of the show.



*This is the audience seating in the Chamber.*

The cast of three will greet you as you arrive in the Chamber space. There will be several protocol speeches at the top of the show: a land acknowledgement, performer introductions, a relaxed performance explanation, and an invitation to donate to a local organization called [Toronto Indigenous Harm Reduction](#). The lights will never go all the way down in the theatre, sound will be at a medium volume throughout the production, and you may get up and leave (and re-enter) the theatre at any time.

The audience is seated on the east, west, and south sides of the stage. In the middle of the stage is a circular platform, with a large screen behind it, and fabric is draped on the east, west, and south sides of the catwalk, above the risers. Projections will be displayed on all screens/fabric surfaces throughout the show.



*This is the set (above).*



*This is one of the surrounding fabric screens.*

# What to Expect

## ***The Story***

*White Girls in Moccasins* is a play written by Yolanda Bonnell. The play follows an Anishinaabe girl, Miskozi, as she grapples with living her own truth in a society steeped in white supremacy. She is accompanied by her inner white girl, Waabishkizi, and Ziibi, a manifestation of an ancestral river, on her journey.

## ***Violence***

There is reference in the script to colonial violence against Indigenous people, and derogatory language against Indigenous people.

## ***Fog Effects***

A fog machine is used at various points throughout this show.

## ***Music and sound***

Throughout the play there will be music – this includes “pop-culture” song references, game show music, as well as traditional drumming and live singing. During the game show scenes, the audience will be encouraged to applaud by the performers. Sound will be at a medium volume throughout the show, however at times the performers raise their voices.

## ***Lighting***

The lights will never go all the way down on the audience, nor too bright on stage. There are a couple spotlights throughout the show. About midway through the show, Yolanda is depicted having a heat stroke. In this section, lighting is brighter than in the rest of the show.

## ***Captions***

We will have captioning at every performance.

## Meet the Performers and Characters



### Yolanda Bonnell

Yolanda plays **Miskozi**, which translates from Ojibwe to ‘*she who is red*’. Miskozi is our central character.



### Elizabeth Staples

Elizabeth plays Miskozi’s inner white girl, **Waabishkizi**, which translates from Ojibwe to ‘*she who is white*’. Elizabeth portrays other white characters in Miskozi’s past, such as her girlfriend, a security guard, and the Wheel of Privilege (a parody of *Wheel of Fortune*) hostess, Vanna White.



### Ravyn Wngz

Ravyn plays **Ziibi**, which translates from Ojibwe to ‘*river*’. Ziibi is a manifestation of an ancestral river, who guides Miskozi on her search for herself and her culture. Ravyn also portrays the Wheel of Privilege (a parody of *Wheel of Fortune*) host, Pat Sajak.

# After the show

After the show, upon exiting the Chamber, Buddies and manidoons staff will facilitate smudging with sage. Smudging with sage (wafting the smoke from the burning sage over yourself) is a cleansing ceremony practised by many Indigenous people. You may decide to participate, or not. A donation jar will be in the Antechamber space so you have the opportunity to support [Toronto Indigenous Harm Reduction](#).

*If you attend the show on March 11, 13, or 16, you are invited to stay in the Chamber for a post-show talk back with the creative team. This will be approximately 20 minutes long.*

## Credits

These people created the show:

Creative Team

by **Yolanda Bonnell**

directed by **Cole Alvis + Samantha Brown**

starring **Yolanda Bonnell, Elizabeth Staples + Ravyn Wngz**

set + projection design **Trevor Schwellnus**

animation and associate video design **Rihkee Strapp**

costume design **Rachel Forbes**

associate costume design, set and props coordinator **Aslı Ozuak**

lighting design **Echo Zhou**

associate lighting design **Sruthi Suresan**

composer + sound design **Maddie Bautista**

choreography **Yolanda Bonnell**

associate producer **Natércia Napoleão**

stage manager **Dylan Tate-Howarth**

rehearsal stage manager **Ada Aguilar**

moccasins **Sheila Demerah**

belt **Mary Magiskan**

drum **Aqua Nibii Waawaaskone**

drum painter **Nathenia Bonnell**

gramma's hands **Mary Bonnell**

knowledge keeper **Pauline Shirt**

Deaf interpreters **Amy Ireland + Courage Bacchus**

Anishinaabemowin language keeper **Lena Recollet, Sally**

**Atchitawens-Recollet + Roger Roulette**

Production Crew

Technical Director **Steph Raposo**

Production Managers **Rebecca Vandavelde + Steph Raposo**

House Tech, Head of Lighting **Samira Banihashemi**

Head of Video **Sebastian Marziali**

Head of Sound **Frank Incer**

Scenic Painter **Ksenia Ivanova**

Crew **Amber Pattison, Rachel Shaen, Theo Belc, Matty Armour,**

**Aidan Shepherd, Luke Dobson**

The show is produced by manidoons collective and Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.

For more information about getting to Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, you can find the venue guide for our theatre here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wH10ahUJNSrXto2wAzzBNWdU03xZkZ3w/view?usp=sharing>