

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

World Premiere
YOU AND I
Theatre for “Walking Babies”
(and their adults!)
Created by Maja Ardal
Directed by Allen MacInnis

FEBRUARY 11–23, 2020

Toronto, Jan. 30, 2020 - [Young People's Theatre](#) (YPT) is thrilled to present the world premiere of [You and I](#), a playfully-interactive show for babies ages 12 to 30 months. Canadian theatre veteran Maja Ardal, who developed YPT's Dora Award-winning production for infants entitled *One Thing Leads to Another*, returns with this brand new multi-sensory production. This limited engagement runs in the Studio from February 11 to 23, including special Family Day performances.

“I realized how much the older babies who came along with little siblings were enjoying *One Thing Leads to Another* so I researched the neuroscience of learning for the older ages 12-30 months,” said Ardal. “This play is dedicated to the curiosity and sense of self that these young ‘explorers’ tackle daily.”

You and I engages little explorers (and their adults!) in discovery through colour, sound, touch and movement.

Each production in YPT's 2019.20 season explores one of the [Seven Ancestral Teachings](#) of the Anishinaabe (Wisdom, Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility and Truth). *You and I* focuses on Humility, as children discover – and adults are reminded – that we are all unique amongst others.

You and I features **Maja Ardal** and **Malindi Ayienga**.

Director: **Allen MacInnis**; Designer: **Lokki Ma**; Dramaturg: **Stephen Colella**; Stage Manager: **Emily Mewett**.

Performances:

Feb. 11 & 12 at 11AM | Feb. 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22 & 23 at 11AM & 2:30PM.

Family Day: Feb. 17 at 11AM & 2:30PM

Recommended for ages **12-30** months.

Tickets: Adult (19+): \$20; Baby/Youth (1-18): \$5 (no service charge on child ticket)

Online: youngpeoplestheatre.org

Box Office: 416.862.2222 x2

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MEDIA OPENING:**Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 11AM**RSVP to Clare Hill: chill@youngpeoplestheatre.org**Media Contact:**

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416.363.5131 x215 | chill@youngpeoplestheatre.org**Photos:** login **yptmedia** | password **yptphotos****MAJA ARDAL**, Creator

Maja has been working in Canadian theatre for 50 years. She wrote and performed *One Thing Leads to Another* (YPT, two Dora Awards); and the hit shows *You Fancy Yourself* (Dora Award) and *The Cure for Everything* (Dora Nomination). Maja has toured her shows to the UK, the US and across Canada. Additional writing credits include: *HER2* (Nightwood Theatre); *The Hero of Hunter Street*, *Wishful Seeing* (4thLine Theatre); and *Prisoner of Tehran* (in association with Theatre Passe Muraille). Maja was the Artistic Director of Young People's Theatre from 1990-98, and spent seven seasons with CBC Disney's *Road to Avonlea* as Mrs. Potts. She travels with Talk is Free Theatre to Australia's Adelaide Festival this Spring with *For Resting and Breeding*. Maja makes her home in Muskoka where she runs the writer's group "Voices of Muskoka Women".

ALLEN MACINNIS, Director

Allen has been directing for over 30 years at theatres from coast to coast across Canada, including: Belfry Theatre, Victoria; Globe Theatre, Regina; Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary; Shaw Festival, Ontario; Centaur Theatre, Montreal; and Neptune Theatre, Halifax. Recent productions include: *The Secret Garden*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Annie* (TYA), *Blue Planet*, *Cinderella – a RATical retelling* (2013 Dora Award for Outstanding Direction), *A Year With Frog and Toad*, *Touch the Sky*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Seussical* (2007 Dora Award for Outstanding Direction), *Bunnicula*, *Hana's Suitcase*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *The Princess & the Handmaiden*, all for YPT. Other favourite productions include *In Good King Charles's Golden Days* (Shaw Festival); *The Stone Angel* (Centaur Theatre, Montreal); *A Doll's House*, *Walking on Water*, *fareWell*, *Crackpot* and *Joni Mitchell: River* (Prairie Theatre Exchange). Allen spent eight years as Artistic Director of Winnipeg's Prairie Theatre Exchange before becoming Artistic Director of Young People's Theatre in 2002.