

Immediate Release

Young People's Theatre Presents World Premiere of  
**THE FIXING GIRL**

By Kevin Dyer

April 15 – May 2, 2024

*"The Fixing Girl happens on an extraordinary day.  
It's a day that Meghan's never had before.  
And she'll never, ever have again."*

– Playwright Kevin Dyer

**TORONTO, ON (Mar. 26, 2024)** – This April, [Young People's Theatre \(YPT\)](#) is proud to present the much-anticipated world premiere of [The Fixing Girl](#) from celebrated UK playwright **Kevin Dyer**. Both tender and playful, *The Fixing Girl* tells the story of a young girl coming to terms with an event that is much bigger than her. Three generations of a family are portrayed by **Zoé Doyle**, **Eponine Lee**, and Canadian stage and screen veteran **Eric Peterson** (*Corner Gas*, *Street Legal*). Together, they tell a story about finding inner resilience in the face of life-altering change. This special limited engagement plays on the Ada Slight Stage **April 15 – May 2, 2024**.

YPT is thrilled to have Eric Peterson return to its stage for the first time since the 1980s, when he appeared in both *Romeo & Juliet* and *Richard III*. A Member of the Order of Canada, and recipient of the Governor General's Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award, Peterson returns to YPT in the role of "Grandad" in this heartfelt story for ages 8 to 13. In *The Fixing Girl*, Meghan is having a horrible day and her Mum is only making it feel worse. So she retreats to the backyard shed where she and her Grandad have always fixed broken things. It's there that she hopes to find the answer to feeling better – but instead finds only more questions. Can something that's broken become whole again?

This is the fourth collaboration between Playwright Kevin Dyer and YPT, with previous works including *The Monster Under the Bed*, *Minotaur* and *Under the Stairs*. "I love writing plays for YPT," says Dyer. "They are one of the few theatre companies in the world that really take children and their world seriously. By that I mean, they try and make work that really acknowledges how young people are in this huge complicated world we have made for them."

Children don't exist in isolation – even if they sometimes feel that way, explains Dyer. "This is a story of a girl and her Mum and her Grandad – and how tightly they are connected. When something happens to one of them, it affects them all; when one of them changes, they all change."

*The Fixing Girl* has been in development at YPT since 2017. "I'm always excited to return to the beautiful, poetic and truthful stories Kevin tells," says **Director Stephen Colella**. "I hope when young people see this show that it helps them to feel greater empathy for others who may be struggling – or find ways to show kindness to themselves if they themselves are struggling too."

Additional credits include: Set & Costume Designer: **Anna Treusch**; Lighting Designer: **Jareth Li**; Sound Designer: **Olivia Wheeler**; Video Designer: **Joshua Hind**; Assistant Sound Designer: **Raha Javanfar**; Stage Manager: **Kat Chin**; Apprentice Stage Manager: **Emmanuelle So**.

YPT's 2023.24 Season is Proudly Supported by **The Slight Family Foundation as Lead Donor**  
and **BMO as Season Presenting Sponsor.**

### **THE FIXING GIRL**

By Kevin Dyer

Directed by Stephen Colella

#### **Performances:**

Previews: Apr. 15 & 16 at 10:15AM

Weekdays: Apr. 23, 25, 30 & May 1 at 10:15AM & 1:00PM | Apr. 24, 26 & May 2 at 10:30AM

Weekends: Apr. 20, 21, 27 & 28 at 2:00PM

Relaxed Performances: April 26 at 10:30AM & April 27 at 2:00PM

**Recommended for Ages 8-13 | Gr. 3-8**

**Run Time:** Approx. 70 minutes

**Tickets:** \$10-\$39 (plus HST & service charges)

**Purchase Online:** [youngpeoplestheatre.org](http://youngpeoplestheatre.org)

#### **ZOÉ DOYLE, Mum**

As a mother of three young children, it's a particular joy for Zoé Doyle to be back at Young People's Theatre, having last performed in *Hana's Suitcase* in 2010. Favourite screen credits include: *The Mayor of Kingstown* (Paramount); *Saying Yes to Christmas* (Lifetime); *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Tallboyz*, *Workin' Moms* and *Cavendish* (CBC); *Ghostwriter* (Apple TV+). Favourite theatre credits include: *Lady Sunrise* (Factory Theatre); *Hang* (Obsidian); *Mixie and the Half-Breeds*, and *Ching Chong Chinaman* (fu-GEN). Zoé was a resident in the inaugural Actors' Conservatory at the Canadian Film Centre.

#### **EPONINE LEE, Meghan**

Originating from Toronto and now based in Ottawa, Eponine Lee harbours a deep love for reading and aspires to make her mark as a singer/songwriter, producer and actor. She has already established a respectable footing in both the theatre and film industries. Her noteworthy engagements include performances in *The Girl, Her Mum and The Raccoon With No Name* (YPT); *R & J* (Stratford Festival in collaboration with Why Not Theatre); *We Will Be: Rising as a Community* (SummerWorks Performance Festival); *A Winter's Tale* (Shakespeare in the Ruff); *The Full Light of Day* (Electric Company Theatre/Luminato Festival); *A Christmas Carol* (Soulpepper Theatre Company); *Tails from the City* (Common Boots Theatre Company); and *carried away on the crest of a wave* (Tarragon Theatre). Eponine has also ventured into film with projects like *Queen of the Morning Calm* (QOTMC Inc.) and *Shorty* (OLG, TIFF and the NBA). Eponine's budding talent has not gone unnoticed. Her efforts earned her the Best Breakout Performance at the 2020 Canadian Film Fest, a mention as one of *NOW Magazine's* Breakthrough Toronto Stage Artists in 2019, and a finalist of the 2022 Toronto Arts Foundation Breakthrough Artist Award.

#### **ERIC PETERSON, Grandad**

During the last fifty odd years Eric Peterson has appeared on most major stages across Canada, as well as Broadway, London's West End, the Edinburgh Festival and the Melbourne International Theatre Festival. His work in Canadian and American television includes numerous guest star appearances as well as series regulars on *SurrealEstate* (SyFy); *Chapelwaite* (MGM/EPIX); *Street Legal* (CBC); *This is Wonderland* (CBC); *Corner Gas* and *Corner Gas Animated* (CTV); as well as recurring roles on *American Gods* (Starz!); and *The Umbrella Academy* (Netflix). Eric's many feature films include *His Master's Voice*, *Cas & Dylan* and the Canadian classic *Billy Bishop Goes to War*. He holds honorary doctorates from the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina, is a recipient of the Governor General's Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award (Theatre) and is a Member of the Order of Canada.

### About Young People's Theatre

Young People's Theatre (YPT) recently launched the next stage in the company's 58-year history, co-led by Artistic Director Herbie Barnes and Executive Director Nancy Webster. This new era also marked the unveiling of YPT's expanded and renovated theatre complex, more than 10 years in the making. As Canada's largest and oldest professional theatre for young audiences, the company produces and presents a full season of theatre and arts education programming, serving approximately 150,000 patrons annually. With the purchase and renovation of YPT 161 Studios across the street from its historic theatre, YPT has expanded its footprint, increased its accessibility, refreshed its lobbies, and upgraded the theatrical equipment capabilities of its 433-seat Ada Slaight Stage and 115-seat Studio. United in vision, the two facilities now anchor the corner of Front and Frederick streets in downtown Toronto creating Canada's largest theatre complex for young people. With its broad-ranging educational programs and exceptional productions, the company has an annual operating budget of approximately \$5 million. [Learn more.](#)

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### Connect with Young People's Theatre



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