

The Second City

MAINSTAGE



MISSION TOTALLY
POSSIBLE

A Note from the Director...

In March 2020, I was three weeks into directing my first original Mainstage show at The Second City Toronto's previous home on Mercer Street. Then Tom Hanks got Covid. Then the world stopped. In May 2020, that cast got dressed up from the waist up, and met on Zoom to toast an opening night that wasn't happening.

In September 2020, the cast changed a bit, and we hopped on Zoom to safely create a shortened show that we performed live for 50 distanced, masked guests in a theatre that held 300. It wasn't our former glory, but hearing live laughter brought us to tears. We called it CERB Your Enthusiasm, and it was supposed to officially open in October. Then the second wave hit.

In the spring of 2021, our home on Mercer Street became condos.

In December 2021, we moved to our interim home at Comedy Bar Danforth that you're sitting in. We opened a revue stacked with iconic Second City scenes from previous shows. Then Omicron hit. Then we came back.

And now we're here, and some things are just as they were - we wrote this show on our feet, improvising ideas for live audiences, just like in the before times. And some have changed - the cast is almost entirely new, as is the crew, as is the world. Mission Totally Possible is our first full-length completely original show since March 2020.

It's been a wild ride. We're so glad you're here.

*So much dark shit's too much to bear, so pull up a chair
Cut your woes in half, life is totally possible if you laugh!*

-Ashley Botting, Director



The Second City[®]

Mainstage

Cast & Crew



PHATT al [he/they]

(Ensemble) is a Dora and Juno nominated actor, MC, digital visual artist, director, song and sketch writer. He's a Second City Mainstage alumnus. He was the band leading rapper of the Juno nominated NuFunk band 'God Made

ME Funky'. He (and/ or his voice) has appeared in various commercials, TV shows, and movies internationally. You may know him as the Juicy Fruit Man, or the voice of Wendy's Canada, Rice Krispies Bars, OLG, and Eggo Waffles. He was a featured performer at the NBC Universal Second City Break Out Comedy Festival in Chicago. Al is also a recipient of the Second City's Bob Curry Fellowship and Bad Dog Theatre's Creator program. Al is also the creator of 'Yes Yes Y'all' and 'Check The Rhyme', the only longform improv hip-hop classes in Canada, as well as a member of 'The Untitled Black Sketch Project' sketch troupe. Big up Heff, Botts, the amazing cast & crew, and wonderful Second City & Comedy Bar staff!! Insta: @phattal3000



Andy Hull [he/him]

(Ensemble) is an actor and writer and multiple Canadian Comedy Award nominee and winner including nods for Best Sketch Troupe (The Sketchersons) and Best Webseries (Space Janitors). Andy has

recently been featured in FX's What We Do in the Shadows and AppleTV's Pinecone and Pony in addition to Man Seeking Woman (FX), Odd Squad (PBS) and a host of other TV and film credits. Being on camera is fun and all, but Andy always has the best time on actual live stages whether they be here at Second City or at Comedy Bar in his co-produced show Weird Al Karaoke which was featured at the Just For Laughs comedy festival in Montreal. Andy lives in Toronto with his very talented (Second City Alum) wife Sarah Hillier, his two sons Harry & Owen and his stinky cat, Leia.



Nkasi Ogbonah [she/her]

(Ensemble) is an alumna of Second City's HouseCo and Family Company. As well as being a member of Toronto Fringe Festival's Woke 'N Broke, which earned Best Ensemble from NOW Magazine. Nkasi is currently a member of the Untitled Black

Sketch Project, Canada's first and only all-Black sketch ensemble, as well as her history-based sketch troupe "1623" (pronounced like the year).

She has performed at notable festivals such as JFL42 and NXNE. Outside of performing, Nkasi is a die-hard fan of gymnastics and space. She would like to be an astronaut and travel to the ISS. Seriously.



Hannah Spear [she/her]

(Ensemble) is overjoyed to be creating with this immensely talented ensemble for the Second City's 86th Revue. Having improvised across Canada for over a decade, she holds multiple nominations from the Canadian Comedy Awards,

and a win for Best Actress from the International Academy of Web Television. Selected TV credits include Star Trek Discovery (CBS), Tall Boyz (CBC), and New Eden (CRAVE). Instagram @hannahjspear.



Andy Assaf [he/him]

(Ensemble) is an improviser, sketch comedian and filmmaker from Montreal. After producing extensively with The Montreal Improv Theatre, Andy relocated to Toronto where he was a member of the 2019 Bad Dog Theatre Featured Players. When

not performing at Second City, Andy sometimes tours with longform improv DUO Frank Mythic, where he and his childhood best friend Dimitri Kyres, improvise a unique Steven King style novel every show. You can also catch him on the upcoming Netflix series Greymail.

Cast & Crew



Jillian Welsh [she/her] (*Ensemble*) is a Canadian Comedy award winning performer, a Dora nominated actor and a current cast member of the hit TV show *Abroad*. Other select TV credits include *TallBoyz*, *Working Moms*, *Odd Squad Mobile*

Unit & Baroness Von Sketch Show. Her real life stories have been featured on *This American Life*, *RISK!* & CBC's *Love Me*. She currently has a show in development as part of *Nightwood Theatre's Write From The Hip* and was a writer for this upcoming season of *TVO Kid's Backyard Beats*. She is very excited to be making her mainstage debut with such talented funny people! Love to Nelu



Ashley Botting [she/her] (*Director*) is an actor, writer, improviser, director, singer, and TV/Radio contributor. She's a proud alumna of *The Second City* where she wrote and performed in four Mainstage revues, and

directed the show "*CERB Your Enthusiasm*". Ashley With a "Y" - her improvised one-woman musical cabaret - was *NOW Magazine's* #1 Toronto Comedy Show, and *The Stars of Mars* - a musical she co-wrote - was awarded "Best New Musical" by The Playwrights Guild of Canada. She's a panelist and writer on CBC Radio's *Because News*, and has written episodes for the Emmy-winning *Odd Squad*, CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, Nickelodeon's *Zoofari*, and Apple TV's *The Snoopy Show*. Selected acting credits are TV: *Culprits*, *Jubilee*, *Odd Squad*, *What We Do In The Shadows*, *Coming In*, *Schitt's Creek*. Animation: *The Ridonculous Race*, *Arthur*, *Beywheelz*, *Z-Squad*. Theatre: *Undiscovered Sonnets* (Stratford) *The Second City Guide to the Symphony* (The Kennedy Center, Roy Thomson Hall), *Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish* (Studio 180) *Beautiful Man* (Factory), *She The People* (The Second City). Canadian Comedy Award winner, Dora Award nominee. McGill BA, Linguistics. Twitter & Instagram: @ashleybotting

Connor Low [he/him] (*Stage Manager*) is a performer, writer and technical director. He is excited to join the team of *Mission Totally Possible* and return to real live laughs! Selected credits include: Technical Director of *Bad Dog Theatre*, performer/live

sound designer in the CCA Nominated Entrances and Exits (*The Howland Company*), Stage Manager/Technical Improviser in the Dora Award winning show the *Wonder Pageant* (*Coal Mine Theatre*) and a performer in *The Ministry of Mundane Mysteries* (*Outside the March*) as seen in the *New York Times*. He has recently released his debut sketch comedy album, *Condo Art* with his sketch troupe *Public Works*. Please note: he is not St. Louis teen guitar phenom Connor Low, instead, he is a different one.



David Macintosh [he/him] (*Music Director*) is so glad to join this amazing cast in the role of music director. He loves all types of music and has facilitated improv workshops & shows with *Second City Training Centre* & throughout the GTA since 2015. David music directed the 2019 Best of Fringe Toronto winner "*Carpe Into My DMs*". As a multi-instrumentalist, he plays electric/acoustic guitar, keys/synth, piano, ukulele, bass, vocals, harmonica and trumpet. He works as a Music Therapist Accredited (MTA, MT-BC) and is a fellow with the Neurologic Music Therapy Academy. Check out his songwriting and production on Instagram @davidtoshmusic



Brandon Hackett [he/him] (*Creative Consultant*) is a Toronto-based television writer and comedian. His TV writing credits include *Run the Burbs*, *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, *Tallboyz* and the upcoming show *Shelved*. Brandon is an

alumnus of Toronto's *Second City Mainstage*, where he co-wrote and performed in four revues, including the Canadian Comedy Award-nominated *Party Today* (*Panic Tomorrow*) and *The Best is Yet to Come Undone*. He is one half of the duo *Hackett & Langdon* (NNNNN, *Now Magazine*), who are currently recording a comedy album.



Cast/Crew

Alex(andra) Crenian [she/they] (Choreographer)

is a multiracial, multidisciplinary artist, originally from Saskatchewan. Alex has collected impressive credits, including everything from tours, commercials, music videos, theatre, circus, to film and television as an actor, dancer, stuntperson, and choreographer/movement director. Select credits include; dancing for iconic artists like Lady Gaga, Nick Jonas and PSY (Gangnam Style), acting in tv shows such as American Gods (STARZ), The Next Step (Family Channel), TallBoyz (CBC) and films such as Hairspray (New Line Cinema), Full Out (Netflix) and in an iconic Second City alum's film, I, Martin Short, Goes Home (CBC). Alex's work in Toronto's fu-GEN Theatre production of Mixie and the Halfbreeds as a supporting role, choreographer's assistant and dance captain is something they are most proud of, exploring the complexities of growing up mixed-race in Canada. Having been in love with comedy her entire life, Alex completed the full Improv program at the Upright Citizens Brigade, where she performed Improv & Storytelling. This led to an incredible opportunity of joining the Emmy Award winning AMC sketch series, Sherman's Showcase, as Assistant Choreographer on their 2020 Special, and again, returning as Assistant Choreographer & Ensemble Cast Member in their highly anticipated season 2, streaming in the fall of 2022. IG @alexcrenian | Tik Tok: @alexisangry



Andrew Lamb [he/him]

(Assistant Director) is a queer artist who has been the Artistic Director of Roseneath Theatre in Toronto for the last ten seasons. He has been nominated for three Dora Awards for Outstanding Direction

and won a Canadian Comedy Award for his direction of the hit web series A Gay Victorian Affair. Andrew is the Associate Producer of Gay AF Comedy which produces queer comedy shows at Comedy Bar, Mandy's Bistro, Campbell House Museum and Buddies in Bad Times Theatre. He also directed My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding (Mirvish/Fringe). A graduate of Concordia University, Andrew trained at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, England and spent five seasons as the Director of Education at Tarragon Theatre.

WARDROBE STYLIST

Casey Tuninga

Cast Understudies: Gavin Pounds, Leona Placide-Wollach, Justin J Carter, Gillian Bartolucci, Sam Hancock, Rob Michaels, Jackie Twomey, Tyra Banda, Scott Yamamura, Shane McLean

SM Understudies: Matt Keevins, Seann Murray

MD Understudy: Shane O'Regan

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
PRODUCTION MANAGER
DIRECTOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
HEAD OF OPERATIONS
MANAGING AD, TRAINING CENTRE
TORONTO AD, TRAINING CENTRE

Carly Heffernan
Susan Waycik
Gary Rideout
James Elksnitis
Julie Dumais Osborne
Etan Muskat

Special Thanks To:

Mark Andrada, Jordan Armstrong, David Sharpe, Dahlia Katz, Katherine Fogler Photography and the Comedy Bar team!



AT 2800 DANFORTH AVENUE