

VIC AND FLO

SAW A BEAR

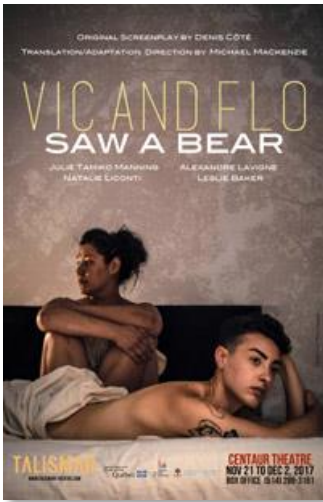
ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY DENIS CÔTÉ

DIRECTED BY MICHAEL MACKENZIE

TRANSLATION/ADAPTATION
BY MICHAEL MACKENZIE



Photo: Leah Pitre Gaspari



The Synopsis

In *Vic and Flo*, Victoria is sixty-one and on parole after serving most of a life-sentence for murder. She's in love with Flo, a younger ex-con who comes to stay with her in her uncle's sugar shack located in the densely forested boondocks of Quebec. But these ex-con lesbian lovers begin to feel under siege from Vic's nosy parole officer and a mysterious woman from the woods who casts an increasingly menacing shadow from Flo's past. As Vic and Flo hurtle toward their fates the buccolic narrative tapestry slowly unravels before being violently torn to shreds.

Talisman will be breaking new ground this fall when it produces the world stage premiere of Denis Côté's film *Vic et Flo ont vu un ours*. A genre bending horror/love story, *Vic and Flo* won numerous international awards including the prestigious Berlin Film Festival Alfred Bauer award for "opening new perspectives on cinematic art."



About the Author of the original screenplay, DENIS CÔTÉ

Denis Côté is one of Canada's most internationally admired and acclaimed filmmakers. In 2005, his first feature film, *Les états nordiques* (Drifting States), won the Golden Leopard - Video at the Locarno International Film Festival as well as the Woosuk Award (Indie Vision) at the Jeonju International Film Festival. The 2008 film *Elle veut le chaos* (*All That She Wants*) won the silver Leopard for best directing at the Locarno International Film Festival and Best Canadian film at the Festival international du cinéma francophone en Acadie. The 2009 documentary *Carcasses* was presented at the Cannes Film Festival at the Directors' Fortnight. In August 2010, his feature film *Curling* won the prize for best directing as well as the prize for best actor (Emmanuel Bilodeau) at the Locarno International Film Festival. His 2012 documentary *Bestiaire*, had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival and was also shown at the Berlin Film Festival. His 2013 film *Vic and Flo Saw a Bear* premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival, where it won the Alfred Bauer Prize.



About the Translator and Director, MICHAEL MACKENZIE

Michael Mackenzie's plays have been produced across Canada in English and French, in Germany (Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Aachen, and other cities) in Hungary (Budapest, Szekesfehervar), Czech Republic (Prague, Brno), France (Festival Avignon), the U.K. (Bristol old Vic and BBC radio), Portugal (Faro) and Israel (Tel Aviv). A 2008 production, won 'Best English Production' in Montreal in the French and the English critics' annual awards. He has worked with Robert Lepage on a number of projects, most recently in the translation and adaptation of *Dragon Bleu* into English, and was the dramaturge for the Cirque du Soleil show *Ka* now playing at the MGM Grand in Los Vegas .

In the 2015 the French production of his most recent play toured in Quebec with a run at the NAC in Ottawa. In 2016 he has (English) theatre productions opening in Toronto and Halifax, N.S. with an ongoing production in repertory in Prague.

THE CAST



Julie Tamiko Manning (Vic)

Julie is an award-winning theatre actor and creator. Selected theatre credits include: Elena in *Butcher* (Centaur), Sister in *Pig Girl* (Imago), Isabella Bird in *Top Girls* (Segal), Emilia in *Othello* (Segal Centre/Scapegoat Carnivale), and Clarence in *Richard III* (Metachroma). Her documentary-style play *The Tashme Project*, is about WWII Japanese Canadian internment camps, and was co-created and performed with Matt Miwa. Next up: *Oedipus Rex* (Scapegoat Carnivale) in *Brave New Looks at the Centaur*.



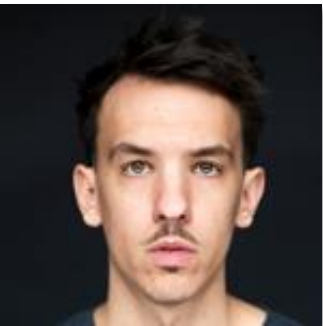
Natalie Liconti (Flo)

Natalie is a performer, director, and playwright from Toronto, Ontario. She graduated from McGill University, where she studied Theatre Studies and Political Science. She performed in Title 66 Productions' *Nuclear Sky: The Experiment* (Printemps Numerique Festival, 2015). This year she produced, co-directed and performed in *Docile Bodies* (La Chapelle Scènes Contemporaines, St-Ambroise Montreal Fringe Festival 2017), and co-created and performed in *The Gentle Art of Punishment* (Zone Homa Festival, 2017). This fall she will be performing in *History of Sexuality* (MainLine Theatre), and will be appearing on CBC's *Canadian Detective*.



Leslie Baker (Jackie)

Artistic director of newly formed company The Bakery, Leslie has worked internationally as a creator, performer, movement coach and teacher since the 1990's. She works in traditional theatrical arenas as well as in-situ and performance installations. Leslie has a rich collaborative history. Notably, Robert Wilson, Richard Foreman, Peter Bottazzi, Tedi Tafel, Micheline Chevrier, Emma Tivaldo, Joseph Shragge, amongst others. She has toured her devised interdisciplinary creations internationally. Her solo-creation, *Fuck You! You Fucking Perv!*, was presented at Le Théâtre La Licorne in October 2016. She is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts Experimental Theatre Wing.



Alexandre Lavigne (Daniel)

Since graduating from Collège Lionel-Groulx in 2013, Alexandre Lavigne has kept busy. Some of his stage credits include *Détruire, nous allons* a unique show directed by Philippe Boutin in 2013 and revived in 2014. In 2015, he was also on tour in France with the show *Fake* directed by Dave St-Pierre. Season 2016-2017 will see him in *Bus Stop* at the Centaur Theatre, for a first collaboration, and then on tour. On screen, Alexandre has been featured in *O'3*, *La théorie du K.O.*, *19-2*, *Karl/Max*, *Hubert et Fanny*, *L'imposteur II* and the web serie *Les guerriers*. He made his big screen debut in the feature film *PRANK* in 2016, which was selected at the Venice Film Festival, TIFF and FNC. Alexandre also wrote and directed his first feature film *Carnaval*, coming out on the screen in 2018.

TALISMAN THEATRE



Lyne Paquette, Founder, Artistic Director

Lyne is a founder (with Emma Tibaldo) of Talisman Theatre. A graduate of the National Theatre School (2005), set design is Lyne's second career. Prior to this, she had worked as a professional engineer (McGill, 1987). Beginning as an Assistant Designer at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival, and as an intern at Michael Curry Designs, Lyne has since designed for many theatre, dance, puppet, and opera productions in Montreal. She has designed sets and costumes for Talisman productions since 2005.

Our History

Since its founding in 2005, Talisman Theatre has championed the same artistic mission: **"To produce professional English-language premieres of contemporary Quebecois plays" in translation for the English stage**".

Talisman Theatre is an acclaimed professional company now in its eleventh season. It was founded by Lyne Paquette Artistic and Executive Director of Talisman Theatre (a renowned Set Designer), and Emma Tibaldo, a Montreal director (now Artistic and Executive Director of Playwrights' Workshop Montreal). Lyne and Emma met as students at the National Theatre School.

On the basis of this relationship, Talisman has established a productive relationship with Playwright's Workshop, a Montreal institution which contributes to the development and dramaturgy of contemporary translations, offers workshops for authors, translators, designers, and actors. All Talisman shows since 2005 have been produced with its core artistic team of professional designers.

This firm foundation has allowed Talisman to develop its craft and vocabulary to make each Talisman production fully-integrated and culturally significant. The entire Talisman artistic team is bilingual and the Talisman process uses the Quebecois model for production development.

That Woman (2006), *That Woman* (2007), *Down Dangerous Passes Road* (2008), *Rock, Paper, Jackknife...* (2009), *The Flood Thereafter* (2010), *Coma Unplugged* (2011), *The Medea Effect* (2012), *The Aeneid* (2013), *Billy (The Days of Howling)* (2014), *The Medea Effect* (2015 remount) *Province* (2015), *Me and You* (2016), *Yukonstyle* (2016), *Vic and Flo Saw a Bear* (2017).

TALISMAN
T H E A T R E



VIC AND FLO

SAW A BEAR

ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY DENIS CÔTÉ
TRANSLATION/ADAPTATION BY MICHAEL MACKENZIE
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL MACKENZIE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: CRISTINA CUGLIANDRO

STARRING: JULIE TAMIKO MANNING
NATALIE LICONTI, LESLIE BAKER
ALEXANDRE LAVIGNE

DESIGN: LYNE PAQUETTE, FRUZZINA LANYI
TIM RODRIGUES, PETER CERONE
MARIANA FANDSEN

NOVEMBER 21ST TO DECEMBER 2ND 2017
WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY AT 7:30 PM
MATINÉE SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND AT 2:30 PM

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