

chromatictheatre.ca
twitter: @wearechromatic
insta: @chromatictheatre
facebook.com/chromatictheatre



MEDIA RELEASE – Monday, October 22, 2018

Robin Williams, Meghan Markle, Camping – are they winners or losers in this ruthless game of female friendship?

Chromatic Theatre's *Winners and Losers* – adapted from the Governor General's Award-nominated play – comes to Calgary, November 13-25, 2018.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Calgary, AB – Two powerhouse Calgary performers debate whether Robin Williams, camping, Megan Markle, private schools, and much more, are winners – or losers.

Produced by Chromatic Theatre, a company dedicated to developing and supporting diverse voices in Calgary's theatre community, this boundary-pushing adaptation of *Winners and Losers* plays at Arts Commons' Engineered Air Theatre, from November 13 – 25, 2018.

The celebrated production, which has toured eight countries, including Calgary's High Performance Rodeo and an acclaimed off-Broadway run at New York City's Soho Rep., has been entirely re-written and re-imagined by an all-female team of Calgary artists.

"When I first saw *Winners and Losers*, I couldn't stop thinking about it – how I felt, how I wanted to respond, how different it would be with women. I love theatre that leaves the audience with questions, and in a way, adapting the piece was my response to the original," says **Jenna Rodgers**, Artistic Director of Chromatic Theatre and director of *Winners and Losers*. "The world is changing, and we know that the voices of women and people of colour are underrepresented. We must continue to hear from a multitude of voices, to cultivate empathy and understanding for experiences outside our own. Art has the power to make change, and I think that in listening to Makambe and Valerie, the audience is actively being asked to question their own beliefs.

This adaptation – by performers **Valerie Planche**, **Makambe K. Simamba** and Director Jenna Rodgers – premiered at Toronto's SummerWorks Performance Festival in August 2018, and was declared "a clear winner" by [Now Magazine](#). Planche and Simamba ease into a discussion that steadily becomes more personal, testing the edges of their friendship and confronting deep-seated beliefs.

Winners and Losers is presented in association with Swallow-a-Bicycle Theatre and Arts Commons Presents, and will be the first project of Arts Commons Presents new 'Uncommons Residency' initiative.

"It's a gift to partner with Chromatic to pilot the Uncommons Residency, which seeks to partner with diverse, independent artists and groups to amplify their voices and support their productions," says Joshua Dalledonne, Producing and Engagement Associate at Arts Commons. "This is a team of incredible artists who Calgarians should know better. They're digging into topics that are top of people's minds – and top of their social feeds, too. Crucially, this project begins with equitable representation and we're thrilled to be involved."

This timely production of *Winners and Losers*, performed for the first time in its hometown, will challenge audiences to confront their own assumptions in an era where false binaries are all too common, in an adaptation that – according to [Mooney on Theatre](#) – retains "both the humour and all the edge of the original."

chromatictheatre.ca
twitter: @wearechromatic
insta: @chromatictheatre
facebook.com/chromatictheatre



THE DETAILS

WHAT: Chromatic Theatre's *Winners and Losers*
by James Long and Marcus Youssef, adapted by Valerie Planche,
Makambe K. Simamba and Jenna Rodgers
Presented in association with Swallow-a-Bicycle Theatre and Arts
Commons Presents

HOW MUCH: Tickets: \$25 general, \$20 students / seniors / artists
Pay-what-you-can previews on November 13 & 14
Available at artscommons.ca or at the door

WHEN & WHERE: November 13-25, 2018
Tuesday-Saturday at 7:30 pm, Saturday & Sunday at 2:00 pm
Engineered Air Theatre, Arts Commons, 205 8 Ave SE, Calgary

For interviews or more information, contact:

Mark Hopkins, Artistic Director, Swallow-a-Bicycle Theatre
403.710.0093 ~ mark@swallowabicycle.com

chromatictheatre.ca
twitter: @wearechromatic
insta: @chromatictheatre
facebook.com/chromatictheatre



ABOUT CHROMATIC THEATRE

Chromatic Theatre was formed out of the desire to create more opportunities for diverse artists in our region. We are developing and supporting diverse voices in Calgary's theatre community.

We have set forth the following mandate to guide our work:

- To develop and support diverse voices that contribute to an artistic landscape reflecting the spectrum of diversity we see across our country
- To create opportunities for diverse artists and marginalized community groups through the arts
- To build bridges that span the societal issues and mechanisms that divide us based on cultural identity
- To engage non-traditional theatre going communities through cultural representation in the arts
- To promote a broader appreciation of diversity
- To employ diverse artists and pay them professionally and equitably whenever possible; to strengthen our community of professional artists.

For more information, visit chromatictheatre.ca.