



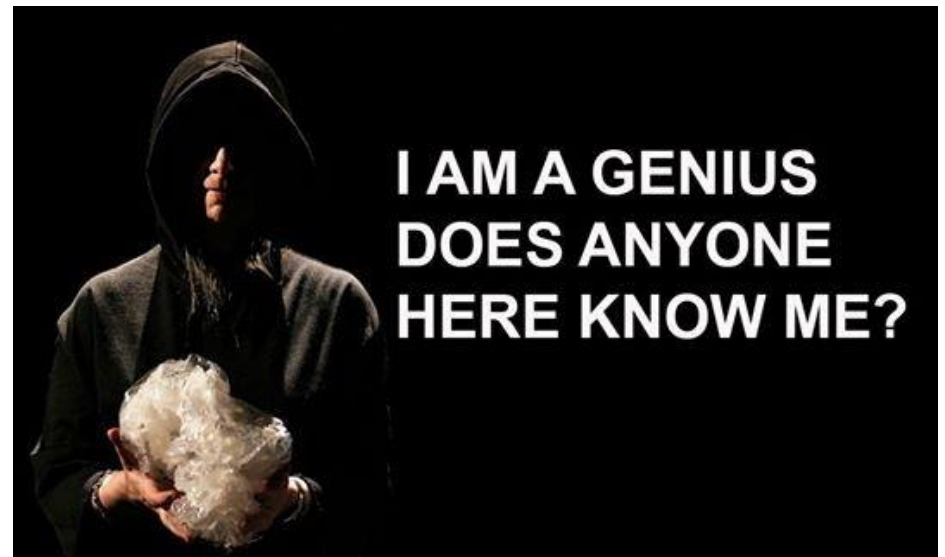
Resource Centre for the Arts
Visual Guide / Social Story



For:

**I Am A Genius, Does
Anyone Here Know Me?**

Showing at the
LSPU Hall Main Stage
January 23 – 25, 2020, 8 pm





I Am A Genius, Does Anyone Here Know Me?

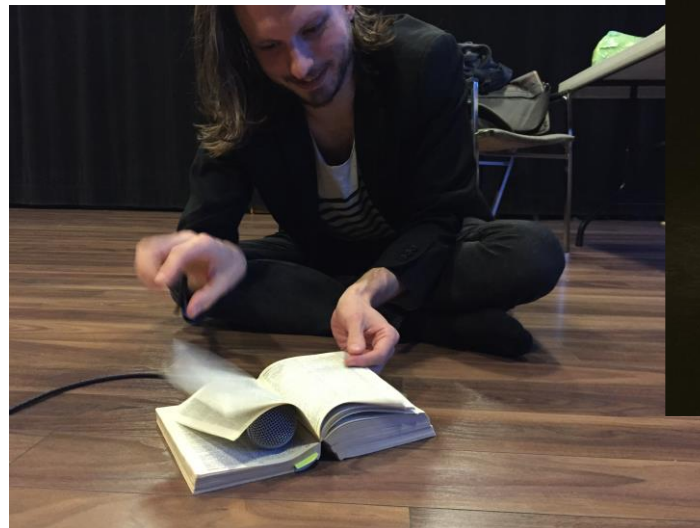
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Main stage

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"I AM A GENIUS DOES ANYONE HERE KNOW ME?" is a structured improvisation with sound. It explores humans' relationships to things like paper, plastic, foil and an out-dated dictionary, often using a microphone as a probe."





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“Story-telling, observations, philosophical references, animated projections, sound composition and movement collide in this exploration of the relationality between Lois and things like her microphone, foil she saved from a Christmas poinsettia, a plastic bag and an old dictionary inherited from her father. Lois describes what’s important about boredom, how she thinks she knows things, and later how her father died of dementia, how he lost his ability to remember.”





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Lois Brown

Performer

Lois Brown established her arts practice in her hometown of St. John's, Newfoundland in the early 80's. She has received numerous recognitions including The Victor Martyn Lynch-Staunton Award from The Canada Council for the Arts for outstanding achievement in theatre. In 2018, Lois was inducted into the Dance Collections Danse Encore! Dance Hall of Fame in Toronto. Her current interests include (dis) arts aesthetics and social art practice.





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James O'Callaghan

Performer

James O'Callaghan is a composer and sound artist based in Montréal. His music has been described as “very personal... with its own colour anchored in the unpredictable.” (Goethe-Institut)

His work spans chamber, orchestral, live electronic and acousmatic idioms, audio installations, and site-specific performances. It often employs field recordings, amplified found objects, computer-assisted transcription of environmental sounds, and unique performance conditions.

His music has been the recipient of over thirty prizes and nominations, including the Salvatore Martirano Award (2016), ISCM Young Composer Award (2017), and the Jan V. Matejcek Award (2018), and nominations for a *JUNO* Award (2014) the *Gaudeamus* Award (2016).

Active as an arts organiser, he co-founded and co-directed the *Montréal Contemporary Music Lab*. Originally from Vancouver, he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Simon Fraser University in 2011, and a Master of Music degree from McGill University in 2014.





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The **set** is made up of physical elements that establish the world of the play. These elements may include furniture, walls, stairs, doors, etc.

GENIUS features a clear plastic bag of paper and another of foil, a small sound mixer on the floor and a small table. There are two microphones with cables on the stage floor and one on the table. Near the front of the stage area is a small piece of plastic, foil and some small lights that will be turned on later. At one point some small pieces of paper the size of fortune-cookie fortunes fall on the audience and at another the audience is invited to find a piece of paper under their chair and tell us what it says (it's a short phrase from a dictionary) which will be projected on the wall. At the end the performers unfold a very big piece of foil. It's very shiny and covers the entire stage area.





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The performance has several **lighting** changes where the lights on stage go out, but there will be enough light to allow you to leave if you need.

The Second Space is available as a space to visit anytime during the show.

There will be projections throughout the performance.

There are opportunities to stand-up at two points during the show – at about 20 minutes in and at 30 minutes in, and it's very easy to leave that those points.





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Sound is an important element of this performance. The performers are exploring paper, plastic and the sounds they create. James is an electro-acoustic composer and makes compositions based on the sounds produced by the exploration of set pieces. These compositions, as well as recorded text and sounds will play throughout the piece.

The first 15 to 20 minutes of the performance feature the loudest sounds. The source of these sounds is visible. Feel free to bring ear plugs or your noise cancelling headphones if you have a sound sensitivity. If you don't usually use earplugs or headphones, you won't need them for this performance.





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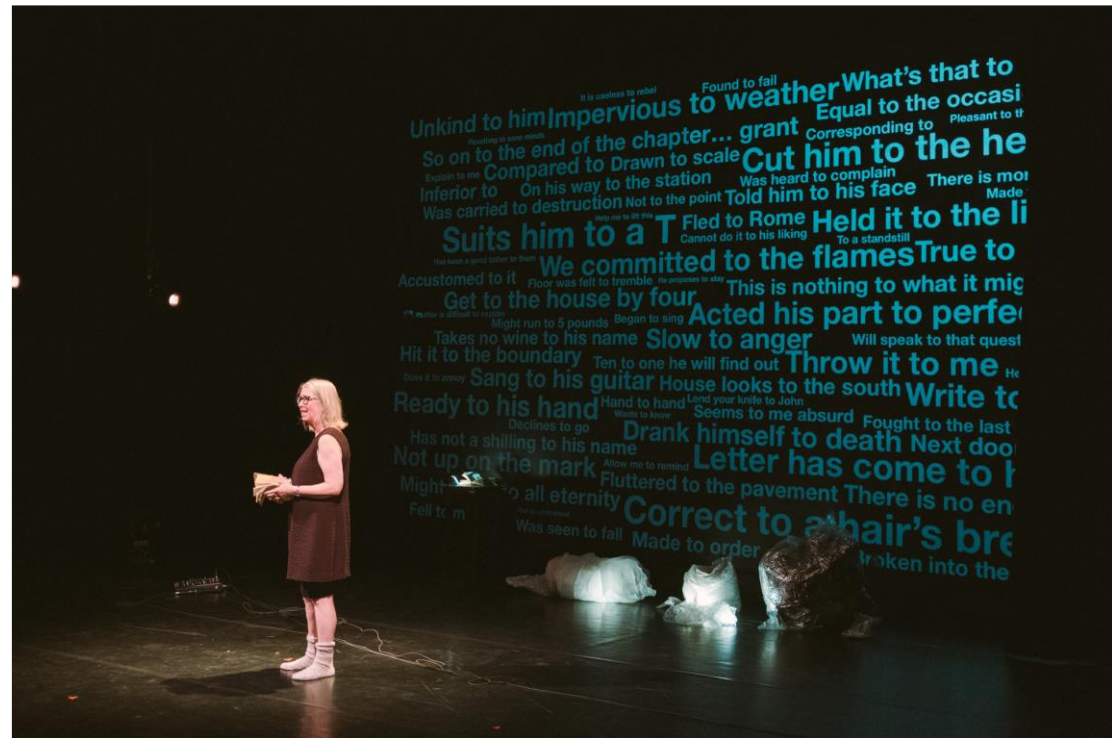
Audience Interaction

GENIUS features several opportunities for audience interaction. At different points during the narrative, Lois may address the audience directly in a conversation like manner. This participation is voluntary. If Lois asks you a question and you are silent, she will move on.

There is an exercise during the show where everyone has the opportunity to read aloud an excerpt from the Oxford Dictionary.

When an audience member reads aloud an excerpt, their words will be projected behind Lois.

All participation is voluntary. If you would rather listen that participate, that is okay too!





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NOTE:

There is a segment of the show when the performers place plastic bags on their head and experiment with the plastic.

The performers have rehearsed this extensively and it is a safe sequence of the show.





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Emily Austin

Stage Management

Emily Austin is a Theatre Artist who works primarily as a set designer, and scenic painter, but also dabbles in other areas of theatre production including scenic carpentry, technical direction and production management. Emily holds a BFA in Technical Theatre Production from Grenfell Campus. Recently she's used her management skills to run the St. John's Shorts and St. John's International Circus Festival. Her recent design work includes *Men of Misfortune*, *Squawk*, and *Seal Slippers* (Resource Centre for the Arts Theatre), *Between Breaths* (Orchestral Artistic Fraud), *Remnants* (White Rooster Theatre), *Offensive to Some* (Persistence Theatre), *Julius Caesar* and *The Servant of Two Masters* (Perchance Theatre).



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Pat Dempsey

Projection Design

Pat is a designer based out of St. John's, NL. Recent design credits include Video Design for No Change In The Weather (Terra Bruce Productions), Alice and Other Wonderlands (Kittiwake Dance Co.), Remnants (White Rooster), and Be More Chill (Best Kind Productions), Light Design for The Strange Case of Madame D (RCAT Theatre/Wreckhouse Productions), and Drinking Again (NAX) and Sound Design for Men of Misfortune (RCAT), Be More Chill, Fun Home, Next to Normal, Urinetown: The Musical, and Avenue Q (Best Kind Productions). When not designing, Pat also applies his technical skills as the Associate Technical Director at the LSPU Hall Theatre and teaching technical theatre at the Memorial University of Newfoundland.



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Emma Tibaldo

Dramaturgy, Additional Direction

Emma has been directing new Canadian plays since graduating from the National Theatre School directing program-plays such as *Winter's Daughter* by Jesse Stong, *SCUM: A Manifesto* by S.E. Grummett and Caitlin Zacharias, *Okinum* by Emilie Monnet (co-director), *Miss Katelyn's Grade Threes Prepare for the Inevitable* by Elena Belyea, *The Baklava Recipe* by Pascale Rafie, *Refuge* by Mary Vingoe, *Falling Trees* by Megan Coles, *Model Wanted* by Step Taylor. In 2005 she co-founded Talisman Theatre for whom she has directed award winning production *That Woman* by Daniel Danis, *Down Dangerous Passes Road* by Michel Marc Bouchard, and *The Medea Effect* by Suzie Bastien. In 2008 she became Artistic and Executive director of the national new creation centre *Playwrights' Workshop Montreal (PWM)*, where she has dramaturgically collaborated on numerous award winning plays. She is currently working on *Skin*, a new performance piece with the interdisciplinary company *The Bakery*. She has been a guest artist at NTS and Concordia University. Emma is also a graduate of Concordia University's Theatre Department. She feeds her inner rock star by playing in the family band *The Tibaldos*.



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Phil Winters

Lighting Design and Operation

A theatre practitioner for 30 years, Phil has designed lighting for RCA Theatre Co., Newfoundland Artist X, TADA events, Theatre St. John's, Louise Moyes Docudance, Sound Symposium, Neighbourhood Dance Works, and many others. He is also a nature photographer and musician living in St. John's

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Thea Patterson Dramaturgy



Thea Patterson is a montreal based choreographer, performer, and dramaturg. Her practice revolves around a sophisticated performance practice working with an acute set of questions around the nature of objecthood, perception, vitality, and time. Her early choreographic works include *Rhyming Couplets* (08), and *A Soft Place to Fall* (06) which was made into a BravoFact film. From 2007 to 2015 was dramaturg, and co-artistic director with Peter Trosztmer, on seven acclaimed works, including *Eesti: Myths and Machines* (2011). An interest in collaborative models then lead to the co-founding of the collective The Choreographers (2007-2011). In 2014 she began to work on her Masters project *between the is and the could be* (2016) which explored emergent choreographic forms, and other methods for altering aspects of spectatorship. Thea has several current collaborations, as a dramaturg, and collaborator, choreographer and performer in Montreal, Portugal, Edmonton, and Newfoundland. As well, she is pursuing her PhD in Performance Studies at the University of Alberta and is co-editor-in-chief of Intonations, an online Graduate run journal.



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Andrea Cooper **Additional Dramaturgical Contribution**

Andrea Cooper is an interdisciplinary artist with a Masters in Visual Studies from the University of Toronto. An award-winning artist, her work has been shown across Canada and internationally. Cooper has been employed in the marketing communications sector for close to 20 years and is the owner of TACK Marketing.



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Thank you for taking the time to read
our Visual Guide / Social Story for *I Am
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There is a Visual Guide/Social Story for
the LSPU Hall available on our website
at

<http://lspuhall.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/LSPU-Hall-Visual-Guide-Social-Story-2019.pdf>

Print copies are also available at the LSPU
Hall Box Office

We hope you enjoy the performance!

Please contact our communications
manager if you have any further questions
via email at

communications@lspuhall.ca

or by calling

(709) 753-4531 ext 200



2019-2020 Season

Panto

CLOSED

by Rory Lambert

I Am A Genius Does Anyone Here Know Me?

by Lois Brown

Crippled

by Paul Power

Birthday Balloon

by Steve Cochrane

The Dialysis Project

by Leah Lewis

Her Closely

by Marie Jones