MADFOX
THEATRE

DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER WEDDELL

AND THEN THERE WAS YOU

BY ERIN SHIELDS

MICHELLE DEIGHTON

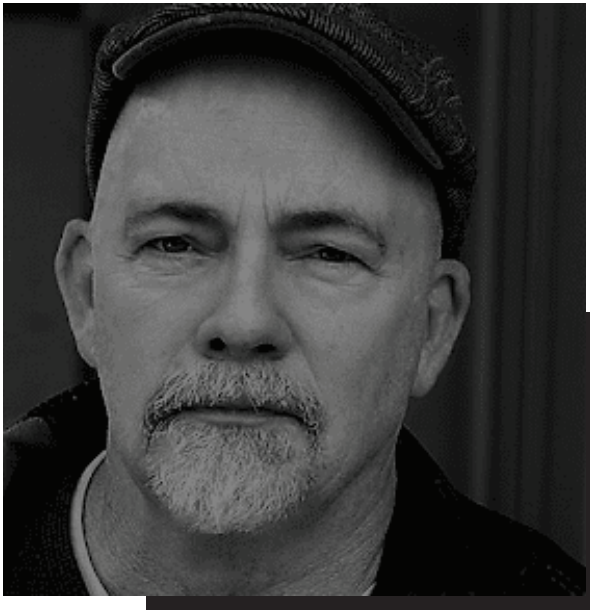
CRISSY ZACH

SEA WALL

BY SIMON STEPHENS

PETE MACLEOD

TICKET OWL



DIRECTORS NOTES

When asked about the birth of her play, Canadian writer and actor Erin Shields wrote: "And Then There Was You came from my very personal experience of motherhood—how beautiful and painful it is to realize that each day with your child is a step further away from your child... the point of parenthood, ultimately being to teach your child to live in the world without you.

In this intimate play, a mother addresses her child, as he/she/they experience small victories and losses- first love, first loss, first float in the pool. With each milestone, the child steps further away, from home...from the mother. With each new step, we witness the mother's moving struggle to let go of the cord that connects her to the child. It is a beautiful and painful struggle to witness.

About SEA WALL, Simon Stephens writes: "I wanted to write a monologue. I wanted to write about a sudden event. I wanted to write about fathering a daughter (and) about my increasing atheism."

In Sea Wall, on a holiday in France, a young father basks in the brilliant sun of love's exultation. He adores his wife. He relishes his gruff father-in-law's company. Daughter Lucy is the world's cleverest Power Ranger. In a sudden, awful turn, that light and joy is eclipsed. Now, there is a black hole running through him. An abyss.

Somehow, Alex summons the courage to show us his abyss.

Sea Wall is a delicate meditation on loss. It is an incomplete confession. Most importantly, it is an intimate sharing of joy and grief that asks us, the witnesses, to lift this young father up, and he searches to find the sun again.

Both authors have asked for simple stagecraft- a bare stage, natural light, and few sound effects. You, the audience, will be addressed directly.

Think of the space as a sharing circle.

MADFOX
THEATRE

SEA WALL
AND THEN THERE WAS YOU

WRITTEN BY
SIMON STEPHENS

WRITTEN BY
ERIN SHIELDS

DIRECTOR
CHRISTOPHER WEDDELL

STARRING

PETE MACLEOD

MICHELLE DEIGHTON

STAGE MANAGER
SOPHIE JEDERMAN

PRODUCER
CASEY EASTON

SEPTEMBER 28-30, 2023

CRISSY ZACH

PETE MACLEOD

With MadFox Theatre: On stage, Pete has had roles in 2019's *Little One* and more recently, as 'Timmy' in *Hand to God* this past April. Lately Pete has found himself drawn to the Director's chair, having directed both *Tiny Beautiful Things* and *Hand to God* this season.

Elsewhere: A few roles you may recognize Pete from: *1984, Equus,* and *Beauty and the Beast (KAS)* and *The Pillowman* (Fred Skeleton).

In 2020 was acknowledged for his contributions to the arts through the City of Kelowna's Civic Awards.

MICHELLE DEIGHTON

With MadFox Theatre: Michelle starred in this season's opener and the Canadian premiere of Tiny Beautiful Things in the role of Sugar. Michelle has also served as producer for Hand to God in April 2023, and for MadFox's inaugural production of Little One back in 2019.

Elsewhere: You may recognize Michelle from when she played the iconic M'Lynn Eatenton in Steel Magnolias (Kelowna Actors Studio) as well as in Fred Skeleton Theatre's production of Drowning Girls.

CASEY EASTON

With MadFox Theatre: On stage, Casey had memorable roles in both *Tiny Beautiful Things* and *Hand to God* this season. For *Sea Wall / And Then There Was You* he serves as Producer.

Elsewhere: Roles you may recognize Casey from include *Equus, 1984,* plus *Oliver!* and many more musicals at Kelowna Actors Studio. Casey also starred as McMurphy in Fred Skeleton's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.*

SOPHIE JEDERMAN

With MadFox Theatre: Sophie has provided her Stage Management services for both *Tiny Beautiful Things* and *Hand to God.*

Elsewhere: Sophie has stage managed numerous productions at the Kelowna Actors Studio, as well as in Barkerville, BC.

CHRISTOPHER WEDDELL

With MadFox Theatre: Christopher directed MadFox's inaugural production of *Little One* in 2019 and has instructed numerous workshops under the company's banner for years.

Elsewhere: As a founding member and past Artistic Associate of Bard on the Beach, he has played dozens of Shakespearean roles. Favourites include Holofernes in *Love Labours Lost* and Prospero in *The Tempest*.

Weddell has taught Acting and Playwriting at the Canadian College of Performing Arts since 2000, he is a past recipient of the Edmund Sword Award from the Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival, and more recently has received an honourary doctorate from Thompson River University for his contributions to Canadian theatre.

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THANK YOU

SPECIAL THANKS

TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAKE THIS PRODUCTION HAPPEN

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KACHE PAZDZIERSKI
DAWSON PAZDZIERSKI
SHYANNE MACLEOD
NICKY HOPKINS
CATHY NEWTON
JASON CASEY

Your support of live theatre in our community enriches each of our productions and drives us to keep creating. Thank you for being here!

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