

We Can Do Better Together

Trans & Gender Non-Conforming Artists in Peterborough/Nogojiwanong Intersectionality and Accessibility

Panel Discussion

When: Saturday March 25, 2017

Time: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Location: The Theatre On King, 159 King St, Peterborough, ON

Admission: FREE

Moderator: Charlie Petch

Panelists: Angela Semple, Evan Gentle, Scarlett Palmer, Niambi Leigh

Description:

Join us for a panel discussion with local artists, moderated by theatre artist, writer and performer Charlie Petch. This panel will address some of the following questions: What is the experience of trans and gender non-conforming artists in Peterborough/Nogojiwanong? What spaces and organizations feel welcoming? What are the particular challenges faced by trans and gender non-conforming artists? How do we work together to make spaces and organizations more inclusive? How can Peterborough lead by example? Are we accessing all the audiences we can? How can we do better together?

We hope this panel will create dialogue around how we can increase diversity and nurture new audiences.

Open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The Panel

Moderator - Charlie Petch

Charlie Cathy Petch is a playwright, actor, spoken word artist, national haiku deathmaster, host and musical saw player. Petch's new, full-length, spoken word vaudeville play "Mel Malarkey" has toured all over Canada and has been awarded two Ontario Arts Council grants. They will be launching their new album "Mel Malarkey Odes & Acts" exclusively during this run at TTOK. They are a nationally touring spoken word artist and member of the League of Canadian Poets. Petch is widely published, has had 9 plays produced and won both the Playpen competition for new scripts with Mysterious Entity Theatre and a "New Playwright" award from The Union Theatre. Petch is the creative director of "Hot Damn It's A Queer Slam". Petch is happiest onstage. Find out more [atwww.charliepetch.com](http://www.charliepetch.com)

Panellist - Scarlett Palmer

Scarlett Palmer, trans woman, graduated from Humber College for 3D Modelling and Visual Effects production as well as from P.C.V.S.'s integrated arts program. She was born in Peterborough where she's lived most of her life. She has also lived in Norwood, Lakefield, Campbellford, and Toronto. Scarlett has been a part of various outreach programs that support lgbt youth, create safe space for them, and help create safer communities. She is also a digital artist, painter, and film composer. She creates models for visual effects, video games, and 3D printed art.

Panellist - Angela Semple

Angela is a proud member of the Ktunaxa nation and a PhD Candidate in Indigenous Studies at Trent University. Their research centres on narratives of Indigenous adoption. They identify as two-spirit, a writer, an auntie, and a cat person.

Panellist - Niambi Leigh

Born in Jamaica, Niambi is a Peterborough based poet whose work explores the intersectionality

between race, relationships and mental illnesses. Their work is lyrical, deeply felt and rooted in storytelling. Niambi is a poet and organizer who reminds you that even the act of breathing is an expression of strength. They are the current two-time individual Peterborough slam champion, and went on to represent Peterborough at the Verses Festival of Words in Vancouver in 2016. They are a three-time member of the Peterborough Poetry Slam Team, and traveled with the team to perform at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word in Victoria in 2014, in Saskatoon in 2015 and in Winnipeg in 2016, where they distinguished themselves as a poet on the rise.

Panellist - Evangeline Gentle

Evangeline Gentle's music proves there is beauty and power in vulnerability, honesty, and speaking from the heart. Evangeline's expressive lyrics and haunting vocals bring boldness and bravery to folk-rock music, and serve to break the boundaries of love. Evangeline Gentle is a true secret-teller and queer bleeding heart.

Spending their childhood on the northeast coast of Scotland, Evangeline Gentle beautifully marries traditional folk sounds with modern folk-rock melodies. Evangeline calls Peterborough, Ontario their home, and was named the Emerging Artist at the Peterborough Folk Festival in 2015, a title first given to Serena Ryder in 2001. At the age of twenty, Evangeline has impressively released three EP's, and shared stages with respected Canadian folk music favourites such as Basia Bulat, Terra Lightfoot, The Young Novelists, and Rae Spoon. Gentle's most recent release, *What's Golden Is Good*, is a three song EP recorded in Hamilton, Ontario at Boxcar Studio by Sean Pearson.

Gentle is currently working on their debut full-length record which will be engineered and produced by Jim Bryson and released on COAX Records.

For Further Information Contact:

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