

RUDE GIRL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS A FORT HEART PRODUCTION

BRILLIANT TRACES

By Cindy Lou Johnson

directed by Mariel Kathryn Hunter

Marie Queenan

Sean Depner

**HAVANA
THEATRE**
EST. 1996

1212 Commercial Drive
havanavancouver.com/theatre

DEC 26	7:30 PM	JAN 2	7:30 PM
DEC 27	9:30 PM	JAN 3	7:30 PM
DEC 28	9:30 PM	JAN 4	7:30 PM

GET TICKETS NOW AT
showpass.com/brilliant-traces/

BRILLIANT TRACES

By Cindy Lou Johnson

Brilliant Traces is the story of Rosannah Deluce, a young would-be bride who is mysteriously on the run, and Henry Harry, a man who has moved to the middle of nowhere in an effort to "become a gray man". The two find themselves brought together by incredible circumstances in the midst of an Alaskan winter storm and quickly realize they are trapped together for its duration. This powerful piece of theatre is a roller coaster sure to keep you on your toes, it's loaded with humour and heart.

Brilliant Traces was first presented by the Circle Repertory Company at the Cherry Lane Theatre, in New York City in 1989, directed by Terry Kinney and starring Joan Cusack and Kevin Anderson.

REVIEWS OF BRILLIANT TRACES

"BRILLIANT TRACES is kooky, weird and definitely off-kilter, but if taken in the right spirit, illuminating about how we live today." — BackStage.

"...deals with common issues of love and family, and does so with characters, story and dialogue so fantastic that they could exist only within the enchanted realm of the stage." —NY Times.

"BRILLIANT TRACES is one of those plays in which a man and woman battle it out in a small enclosed space, alternately repulsing and seducing each other." —The New Yorker.

Mariel Kathryn Hunter

Producer & Director

Founder & Artistic Director
Fort Heart Productions

Mariel Kathryn Hunter hails from the East Coast originally but now hangs her hat in Vancouver, BC. Having left the Maritimes in 2012 to pursue training as an actor, Hunter ended up in the spot many actors do - pouring coffee and taking odd jobs to pay the bills while looking in the mirror burnt out from rejections and wondering briefly if she was insane to have pursued a career in the arts on the other side of the country. Once she concluded that she was, in fact, out of her mind to pursue such a career with so little control over it's path she decided it was time to switch things up.

"Honestly, the toughest thing about this career is that so much of it is out of your control entirely. It became very clear to me suddenly that I could spend my whole life trying to 'make it' in someone else's version of what this career choice meant. It could very well be that I could build a career but might never work on projects that meant much to me. As a little girl I'd dreamt of more than that. I still do. And so I decided it was time to take action." And thus, Hunter founded Fort Heart Productions.

"Brilliant Traces is a long standing love of mine. Rosannah's story has always touched my heart and as we've explored this piece I've taken much away about what strength looks like, about what it means to grieve, about opening up to new adventures and new people. Henry Harry's mysterious presence in a place that is the utter absence of all others. I think we've all shared in that human need for solitude, a need which is all too often left wanting in this modern age of constant connection at the touch of a button."

Hunter is currently planning out the third season for Fort Heart and adapting her one woman show into a series.

Sean Depner

Starring as Henry Harry

Sean Depner, hailing from Fort Langley, BC, originally wanted to be a cartoonist. But after seeing a performance of *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, starring Vancouver actor Ryan Beil, at 16, everything changed. Acting was, in Sean's words, "rad rad rad" and it was all Sean wanted to do after that.

Starting out on student films and independent shorts Sean quickly learned he "didn't have a leg to stand on when it came to acting" so he decided to get some training. Starting out at Vancouver Acting School then moving to New York for a year to attend American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Sean finished his education in London, England at London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Sean came back to Vancouver classically trained and ready to work. Since finishing his studies he has landed recurring roles on *Riverdale* (CW), *Deadly Class* (Syfy), and *The Order* (Netflix).

While Sean loves the world of film and TV he is excited to be able to return to theatre with *Brilliant Traces*. "It is a real joy to dig into the work with Marie and Mariel, the text is so rich and challenging that it's just a delight to be here." "There were some lines in this play that just jumped out at me when I read it and made me think "That's real. That's life."

"Henry Harry in particular is fascinating. He is just a constellation of contradictions, nurturing but aloof, stoic but fragile, Henry Harry is a man who is spending all his energy just to keep things together. That struggle, to hold on to the way things were in the face of the way things are now, is really gripping and tragic to me, and I can't wait to share it with people. Also, he bakes his own bread and that's fun."

When Sean is not acting he writes, is an axe thrower and an avid *Dungeons and Dragons* player.

Marie Queenan

Starring as Rosannah DeLuce

Founder, Rude Girl Entertainment

Marie started her acting journey in Calgary. Taking an acting course in second year university because, "always wanted to try it, and had no clue what I wanted to do". Fast forward 6 years and she has graduated from Vancouver Acting School with two diploma courses; Acting FTV and Theatre Conservatory. After graduating she went traveling in South America for 3 months. Marie believes that traveling is, "the best way to gain life experience, because you are living at an accelerated pace. The people, places, and events you experience are not only different but emotionally heightened and experience is what makes me a better actor."

The year following her travels she dove into producing and writing alongside acting. She produced and performed in her first professional theatre play, Pizza Man, as well as wrote and produced her first short film. "Everything is connected; writing, directing, acting, even producing. I'm excited to continue creating and performing!"

"Brilliant Traces was randomly brought into my life, thanks to a VPL book sale. The play is versatile, in terms of comedy and tragedy and I have found these characters constantly transforming the more time I've spent with the play."

"Acting is a fickle career, which fits perfectly with my constant confusion in life. I am honoured to work with such a passionate director and artist such as Mariel. Her directing technique and precision is simply amazing. Sean has been a dream to work with also, it's fun to be with someone on stage you can really play with."

Bringing the energy and adventure from all parts of her life to all of her art, Marie is grateful to have the opportunity to be on stage again, sending love to her friends and family who support her constantly as she grows and explores her artistry.

Rude Girl Entertainment

Rude Girl Entertainment was founded by Marie Queenan in 2019. After producing *Pizza Man* by Darlene Craviotto in 2018, in collaboration with Red Giant Productions, she decided she wanted to continue producing projects in the future and to do so under her own banner.

Rude Girl produced their first short film earlier this year, *Jane Doe*, laying the foundational vision to develop women focused and driven stories. Rude Girl wants to collaborate with women in the film and theatre industry of Vancouver, producing and creating work that shows just how badass and amazing women are. The goal is to create a voice of strength and build a community around possibilities.

Rude Girl is proud to be producing alongside Fort Heart Productions, and hopes to collaborate with more local artists in the next year!



 [rudegirlentertainment](https://www.facebook.com/rudegirlentertainment)

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Fort Heart Productions



...for the art...

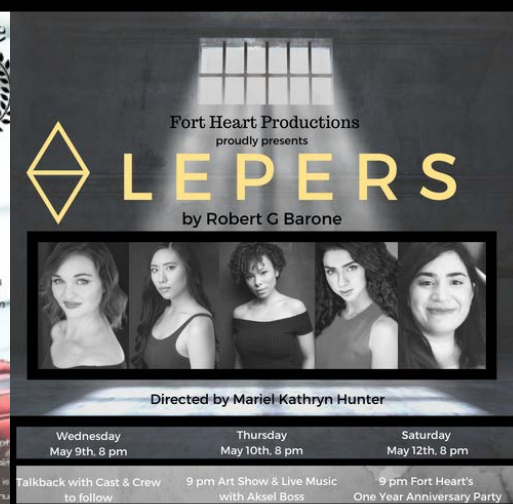
To produce film & theatre projects which encourage wider dialogues as well as challenge our audiences to explore & discover alongside us - all while fostering an authentic creative community and nurturing collaboration.

Fort Heart Productions was founded in April 2017 and has since produced award winning content to rave reviews. Among the many shows on their resume is founder Mariel Kathryn Hunter's one woman show I Want to Come Home, which she performed at both Fundy Fringe Festival in 2017 and Halifax Fringe Festival in 2018 where it garnered awards for Best of Festival, Best Solo Show, Best New Script and Fan Favourite.

Fort Heart focuses on bare bones storytelling- using simple, often black box, sets. It is our wish to invite our audiences into an intentionally intimate and raw performance everytime they come to see one of our shows.

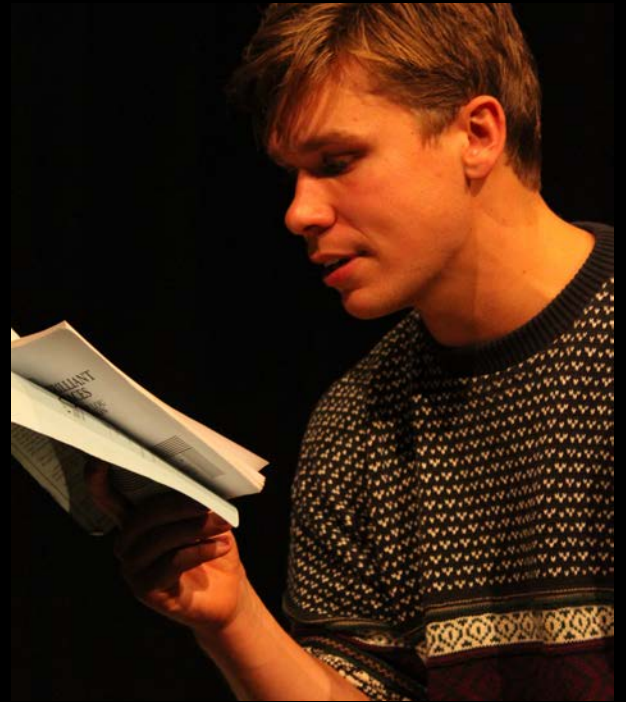
Other productions include Two Rooms by Lee Blessings, Time Stands Still by Donald Margulies, Lepers by Robert G Barone, Welcome to the Moon & Other Plays by John Patrick Shanley and Metropolitan Opera by Joe Pintauro.

Fort Heart has also produced three episodes of The Chair Series by local playwright John McGie and have recently staged our first scene study showcase.



BRILLIANT TRACES

IN Rehearsal



MEDIA INQUIRIES

Fort Heart Productions, Mariel Kathryn Hunter

604-723-6165

fortheartprods@gmail.com

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Special Thanks To

The producers of Brilliant Traces would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their support in creating and for their contributions to not only this production but to a more vibrant indie theatre scene in Vancouver.

Terre Hunter & Donna Silliker
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