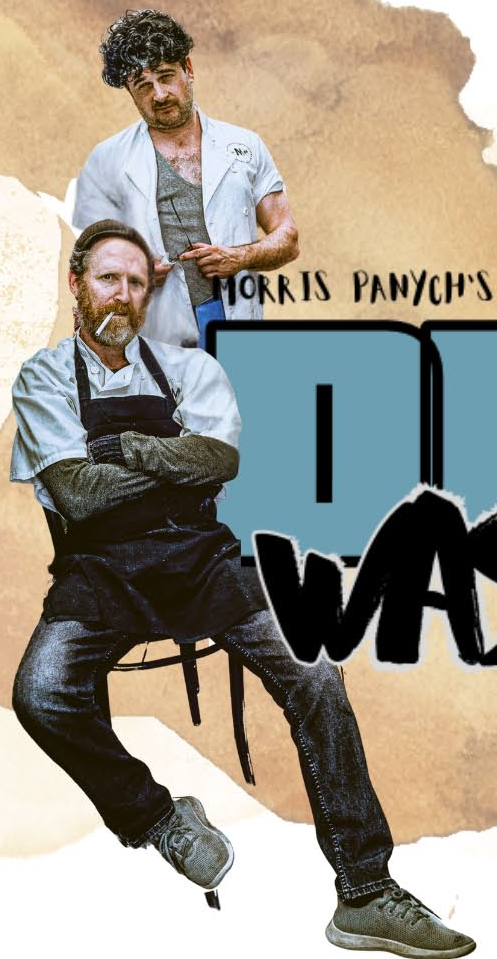


RED ONE THEATRE PRESENTS

**NOV 18 -
DEC 06
8:00 PM**



MORRIS PANYCH'S

THE DISH WASHERS



**MILDRED'S
85 HANNA AVE
TORONTO, ON**

MORRIS PANYCH'S THE
**DISH
WASHERS**

Directed by David Reale

Producers - Benjamin Blais & Rory Gallagher

Stage Manager - Jenna Borsato

Assistant Stage Manager - Victoria DiMatteo

Set Designer - Athen Go

Lighting Designer - Mitchell Gall

Lighting Technician - Lauren Drambis

Lighting Technician - Christan Mariyanayaga

Sound Designer - Andy Tridhardt

Costumes - Christine Toye

Unit Photographer - Laura Leigh

Social Media Manager - Jesenia Silva

Cast

Benjamin Blais - **Dressler**

Durae McFarlane - **Emmett**

David Tompa - **Moss**

*Runtime is 2 hours including a 15 minute intermission
Herbal cigarettes and language that may be offensive to some
will be used in this performance.*

*THE DISHWASHERS premiered at the Arts Club Theatre Company in
Vancouver in March 2005.*

*THE DISHWASHERS is staged by arrangement with
Pam Winter, GGA, www.ggagency.ca.*

The production has been made possible through the
generous support of:

Andrew Hodgson

Patrick Hodgson

Daniel Blais

Andrew Stones

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Edward Currie

Anonymous

The Red One Theatre Collective would like to thank:

Joe Dinicol

Jason Pooley

Steven McCarthy

Micheal Levine

Anthony Hylton

Michael Jari Davidson

The Staff at MTK

Sean Miller

Megean Denomme

Paul Hemrend

John White & Oliva Aubrecht

Loreto Mazzola

Candice Mausner

Hillar Muller

Arleigh Curran

Brenhan McKibben

Alannah Dzijacky

Meredith McGeachie at MAP

Diana Bentley at The Vault

Creation Lab

Director's Notes

When I decided to be an actor, like as a career, it was not the recommended choice. My family were supportive enough, but I was well aware that I was likely signing up for a life of financial insecurity and only the slimmest margin of success. I was also aware that I was relegating myself to the fringes of the social order by, as one high school teacher put it, running off to join the circus. There were other jobs and college degrees that promised to repay on their investment within time; law, accounting, business, economics, computer programming, to name a few. But I was happy to leave security behind in the pursuit of my “dream”.

Fast forward to 2025 and it appears that job security is mostly a thing of the past. For everyone. Many accounting, law and programming jobs seem to be on the verge of mass extinction. The Canadian government just promised to axe 40,000 government positions with the help of “the expanded use of artificial intelligence”. I have no idea if that’s bad or good for the economy, but it’s 40,000 humans who, it seems, are no longer needed.

One historian put it this way: “[In the near future..] Many people might share the fate not of nineteenth-century wagon drivers, who switched to driving taxis, but of nineteenth-century horses, who were increasingly pushed out of the job market altogether” - Yuval Noah Harari

The billionaire tax bracket (if it can be called that) has expanded tenfold since the turn of this century and the richest eight men hold more financial wealth than the poorer half of the global population. That’s eight human beings with more money than four billion human beings combined.

While this all may seem dire, and perhaps it is, humanity has a history of finding new ways of flourishing when its back is against the wall. And even though, as a young actor, I was more than happy to run off with the circus, I’m now heartened to have found myself in the same circus tent as many of my fellow humans who were once thought to have “normal jobs”.

We are together in this life. Outside of class. Outside of politics. Outside of any notion that may divide us. We have the responsibility of making meaning out of this, our lives. And we can make it separately or we can make it together. We are the dishwashers... THE DISHWASHERS!





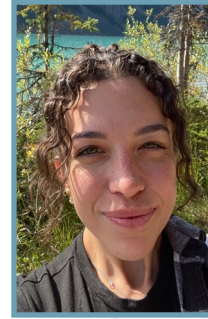
Benjamin Blais
Dressler

Benjamin Blais is an award-winning director, producer and performer whose bold, character-driven work has helped shape Toronto's independent arts scene. Founder of the acclaimed The Storefront Theatre and the Dora Award-winning Red One Theatre Collective, he has energized a generation of boundary-pushing theatre in the city. His other creative initiatives include Sing For Your Supper, The Open Vault Film Festival, ActionCAN Films and Dead Echo Radio. On screen, Benjamin's credits include Star Trek: Strange New Worlds, Boston Blue, Murdoch Mysteries, CBC's The Ninth, and Saint-Pierre, as well as Warner Bros.' Titans, eOne's Private Eyes, and Bell FibeTV's BrawlStars. His performances have been praised by NOW Magazine and The Globe and Mail for their nuance and gritty authenticity. Benjamin is also an active voice performer, lending his voice to animated series, games and audio fiction. Hear his original story-casts at DeadEchoRadio.com. Follow him on Instagram @blaisbenjamin for updates and behind-the-scenes content.



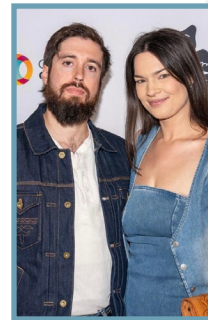
Jenna Borsato (she/her)
Stage Manager

Jenna Borsato is a 2018 graduate of TMU's Performance Production Program. Jenna has been a Stage Manager since 2015 and is so grateful to be doing what brings her the most joy every day! She is thrilled to be on this project with such fearless, kind and loving humans who all care deeply about the art they create and the people they create it with. A shout out to her family and friends for their support, always. And a very special shout out to her love, Cass, for her unwavering encouragement, love and support. Headshot by her bestie - the one and only Veronica Georgieva (www.veronicageorgieva.com).



Victoria DiMatteo (she/her)
Assistant Stage Manager

Victoria finds herself dipping her toes into theatre life for the first time and wondering why she didn't do it sooner. With a background in project management and wrangling just about everything else, she's here to keep the chaos (mostly) organized and the energy high.



Mitchell Gall & Lauren Drambis (he/him & she/her)
Lighting Designer & Lighting Technician

Mitchell, a cinematographer and frequent creative collaborator with Lauren, brings his technical precision and expressive and cinematic light to The Dishwashers. His experience across dramatic, art-house, and experimental film projects positions him as a versatile lighting technician with a strong creative eye. Together, Lauren and Mitchell craft lighting that elevates storytelling, enhances realism, and brings a cinematic sensitivity to live performance, enriching The Dishwashers with subtlety and visual impact.



Athen Go (she/her)
Set Designer

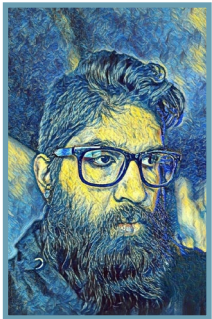
Athen is a recent graduate from the University of Toronto's Architecture program. Credits include *Lord of the Flies* (Set Designer), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Set Designer), and *The Rear Window* (Assistant Scenic Designer).



Rory Gallagher (he/him)

Producer

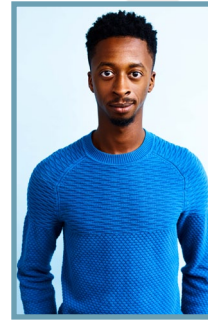
Rory Gallagher is thrilled to be part of the wildly talented team behind *The Dishwashers*. A proud graduate of the Etobicoke School of the Arts—and of countless dish pits across Toronto—Rory brings equal parts creativity, chaos, and clean plates to every production.



Christan Mariyanayaga (he/him)

Lighting Technician

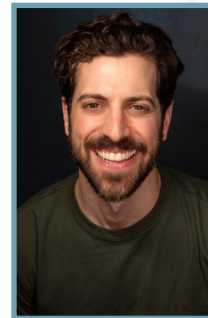
Christan Mariyanayagam is a Canadian production designer and lighting specialist whose work bridges art, technology, and live performance. With extensive experience in concert touring, immersive installations, and theatrical design, Christan brings a uniquely creative and technically sophisticated approach to every project. As part of ABSTRKT, he has helped develop and install dynamic lighting systems that merge visual storytelling with architectural precision. His background in audio engineering, 3D animation, and interactive media allows him to craft environments where light and sound move as one expressive language. Christan has collaborated with major artists and productions across Canada and internationally, consistently pushing the boundaries of visual design. Whether programming a theatrical cue or sculpting atmospheres for a live show, his work reflects a deep understanding of mood, rhythm, and emotional connection through light.



Durae McFarlane (he/him)

Emmett

Durae McFarlane is a queer Jamaican-Canadian actor and writer. He is a Dora nominated actor and was named a breakthrough artist by *Now Magazine* in 2019. He is also a recent graduate of the Soulpepper Academy. Theatre credits include: *Outside* (Roseneath Theatre), *The Walk-Up* (Soulpepper Theatre), *Jane* (Greenhouse Festival/Tarragon Theatre), *The Foot Doctor* (Choripán Theatre), *Sincerely, Sincerity* ((Stage Reading) Obsidian Theatre), *Lone Island Lovers* (Common Boots Theatre) and *The Flick* (Outside the March & Crow's Theatre). TV/Film: *The Miniature Wife*, *Murderbot*, and *Pretty Hard Cases*.



David Reale

Director

Red One: *The Fatal Gazogene* and *Pvt. Wars*. Other: *My Name is Asher Lev* (Segal Centre/RMTC), Annie Baker's *John* (RMTC), *Fifteen Dogs* (Segal Centre), *The Great Gatsby* (LOT), *Ghost Stories* (Mirvish), *Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet* (CTP). Film/TV: *Suits*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *The Boys*, *Georgetown*, *Murderbot*, *My Dead Mom*, *Less Than Kosher*, *Nika and Madison*, *Close To You*. David teaches acting at George Brown College, John Riven's Meisner-based studio and at McGeachie Actor's Practice (MAP). "If the pants don't fit you, then maybe you have to fit the pants" - Dressler



Jesenia Silva (she/her)
Social Media Manager

Jesenia Silva is a Social Media Manager and Marketing Specialist based in Toronto. She is the founder of Social 97, a creative agency that helps small businesses and organizations grow their digital presence through strategy, storytelling, and content that connects. With experience across industries including hospitality, arts, and professional services, Jesenia brings a sharp eye for branding and a genuine passion for helping others share their stories online.



David Tompa
Moss

David has been involved in the Toronto acting scene for over 20 years. Theatre: Scarface Devilman in *Cockfight* (Brouhaha), Christopher/Cooper in *Dora* nominated *Laws of Motion* (Small Elephant), Peter in *Petrichor* (Kitchenband), Shane in *Dyad* (Praxis), Skinny in *Mojo* (Red One). David spent 2 years with The Second City National Touring Company. He has directed theatre for Red One: *Bachelorette*, *Eigengrau*, *Proof*, *Diving Normal*, *Sexual Perversity in Chicago* and *Tape*. Film/TV: *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*, *Finders Keepers*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *American Woman*, *Buffaloed*, *Coconut Hero*, *Guidance*, *Sex After Kids*. From (AMC), *Beacon 23* (Paramount), *Painkiller* (Netflix), *The Good Doctor* (ABC), *The Expanse*, *Incorporated* (Syfy), *American Gothic* (CBS), *The Girlfriend Experience* (Starz), *Odd Squad* (PBS). He has been teaching Meisner Technique with John Riven for 15 years and at George Brown for 10. So many thanks to Deirdre, Cillian, & Finn for letting me get back on stage.



Christine Tove (she/her)
Costumes

Christine Tove is an Emmy® Award-winning Costume Designer (3 wins, 6 nominations) whose work has appeared on screens and stages around the world. With a rich background in theatrical costuming — including work with productions at the Stratford Festival, Drayton Entertainment, and Stage West, among others — she loves bringing characters to life through color, texture, and imagination. Christine is thrilled to reunite with several familiar faces from this cast and creative team for this production. Give her a Google — your kids probably love her costumes. Find her on Instagram: @christinetove



Andy Trithardt
Sound Designer

Andy is an actor, sound designer and musician based in Toronto, whose last Red One show was composing the music for *The Skriker* at the fantastic Storefront Theatre. He has designed shows for companies such as Coal Mine, the Howland Company, YES Theatre, Harold Green Jewish Theatre, Talk is Free, Convergence, Theatre Sheridan, Hart House and many others. Most recently he was seen onstage in the Dora award-winning *Appropriate* at the Coal Mine. His albums *I Am a Unique Flower* and *Grand Mal* are available to stream on all platforms.

Mildred's Temple Kitchen is thrilled to open its doors to Red One Theatre Collective's production of Morris Panych's *The Dishwashers*. As a restaurant that celebrates craft, community, and creativity, we're inspired by this story's deep connection to kitchen culture — its humour, grit, and humanity. Bringing theatre into our dining room feels like a natural extension of what we do every day: creating sensory experiences that feed both body and soul. Partnering with Red One Theatre allows us to merge culinary artistry with live performance, celebrating the workers behind the scenes who keep Toronto's creative heart beating.

MILDRED'S
TEMPLE KITCHEN



The *Dishwashers* reinforces Red One's ethos: to create visceral, accessible, artist-driven work that reflects the city's labour, laughter, and resilience. A portion of the production's proceeds will be donated to support the **Allan Gardens Food Bank**, directly connecting the script's themes of food, work, and community to those who need it most.