

Firehall gratefully acknowledges the support of our Show Sponsor



## Production Team

Producer: *Janice Mayer*

Director: *Maryjane Cruise*

Stage Manager: *Ed Anderson*

Assistant Stage Manager: *Katherine Albers-Cooke*

Set Designer: *Jerome Black*

Lighting and Sound Designer: *Ed Anderson*

Set Construction: *John Allegra and Brian Cruise*

Costumes and Props: *Lisa Allegra*

Script Assistant: *Katherine Albers-Cooke*

Production Photography: *Jeff Baker*

Front of House Manager: *Janice Mayer*

Box Office: *Laurel Candler*

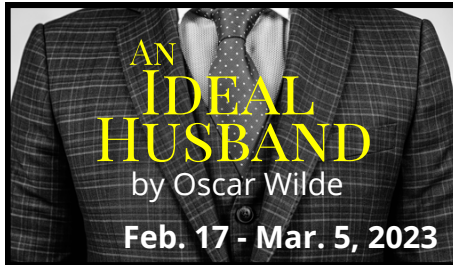
## Thank You

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and all our volunteers

## Coming Soon to Firehall Theatre...



Directed by Paul Wintemute



Directed by Jerome Black

To view the digital program  
including cast photos, scan here.



Firehall Theatre is a not-for-profit, charitable organization. Donate at [CanadaHelps.org](https://CanadaHelps.org)



October 14 - 30, 2022

Directed by MJ Cruise



## A Note from the Director:

As a playwright, I wanted to write about marriage. Sometimes we succeed; sometimes marriages end. It's not always champagne and roses. So, in 2002 I wrote *Separate Beds* as a one-act play with Ernie and Twink celebrating their 30th anniversary on a Caribbean cruise. It premiered at Theatre Aquarius in Hamilton, and during its run, it was suggested that it would be interesting to actually meet the other couple, Blake and Beth, in a second act. *Separate Beds* then became a two-act play, and since 2002, it has traveled all over the world.

I'm thrilled to be directing *Separate Beds* for the Firehall Theatre. My heartfelt thanks to my wonderful, talented actors and production team for their hard work and dedication. They have been a dream team to work with! By the way, I've been married to my husband Brian for 47 years. You might say that we still sizzle.

Enjoy the show!

### Maryjane Cruise (Director and Playwright)

Maryjane Cruise is an award-winning playwright and choral composer. She was born and raised in Welland and graduated from Brock University. MJ is a retired teacher with the DSBN and spent many happy years teaching drama. *Separate Beds* has been produced across North America as well as in Germany and Austria. Other plays include *Albert Street*, *Dried Flowers*, *In My Life*, *A Stranger in Our House*, and, most recently, *Split*. She is a member of the Playwrights' Guild of Canada and of Playwrights Niagara.

Visit [www.maryjanecruise.com](http://www.maryjanecruise.com) to learn more.

### Welcome to Firehall Theatre!

*Firehall Theatre is run entirely by volunteers. From box office to sound booth, from stage manager to actor, every aspect of theatre operations is run by people like you -- members of the community -- who love theatre and get involved. Whether you are a first-time audience member or a long-standing part of the Firehall family, we are grateful for your support. With ticket sales being our main source of income, we continue striving to keep costs to you, our patrons, low, and you can be assured that all revenue goes straight into the productions we mount and to maintaining the historic building in which we operate.*

*Beginning as the Niagara Falls Music Theatre Society, we have been bringing theatre to life in Niagara for over 60 years. Originally using this 1917 firehall for storage, the Society began performing in the building in 1975. The City of Niagara Falls still owns the structure, leasing it to the Society.*

*Attend shows! Spread the word! Volunteer! Find out more about our upcoming shows and how you can get involved by visiting [firehalltheatre.com](http://firehalltheatre.com).*

## Cast:

### Natalie Iggulden as Twink

Natalie is a local actor, voiceover artist, and aspiring writer who performs regularly throughout Southern Ontario. She previously appeared with Firehall Theatre in *Jitters*. Elsewhere, favourite performances include *The Dining Room*, *A Question of Justice*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *The Vagina Monologues*, and as Lucy Hopperstaad in Norm Foster's *On a First Name Basis*. She is very excited to perform as Twink on the Firehall stage. She thanks the cast and crew for such a great experience and her family for their never-ending love and support.

### Scott Cooper as Ernie

Scott and his wife are recent transplants to the Niagara Region. He has performed with a variety of theatrical companies across Ontario, as far south as Florida, and has several film credits as well. Highlights have been performances in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *December Man*, *Love Letters*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Westside Story*. Recently, he wrote and directed a one act play for Page 1 Productions and began work on a book. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with the cast and crew of *Separate Beds*.

### Darka Makarec as Beth

Darka is thrilled to be making her Firehall debut in this wonderful play. She has been anticipating this show since first being cast two years ago! No stranger to theatre, Darka has performed on many Niagara stages, mostly with Garrison Little Theatre in Fort Erie. Favourite roles include Gladys in *Red Plaid Shirt*, Masha in *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, Gretchen in *Boeing Boeing*, and Bobbi Michele in *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*. Darka would like to thank her family for their continued support in her theatrical endeavours. She also offers a huge shout out to the many talented people here at Firehall!

### Richard Nester as Blake

Richard is happy to be returning to the Firehall stage following his appearance as Dr. Bradman in *Blithe Spirit*. Other favourite performances in the region have included Sam in *Mamma Mia*, Old Joe in *Damn Yankees*, Norman in *Bare Bear Bones*, and several roles ranging from a 5-year old to a grandfather in *The Dining Room*. Audiences may also recognize him from his years hosting on The Shopping Channel before his retirement six years ago. Richard is grateful to Firehall Theatre for once again allowing him to indulge in his lifelong dream of performing live on stage. "Enjoy the show; I certainly am!"

### Lisa Allegra as Rosie

Lisa is making her stage debut as Rosie the room steward in *Separate Beds*. She is a long-time resident of Niagara Falls with her husband, and both are enjoying their retirement.