

WHITBY COURTHOUSE THEATRE | 2018/19

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NEXT TO NORMAL

Music by
TOM KITT

Book & Lyrics by
BRIAN YORKEY

November 8-24, 2018

whitbytheatre.ca



Whitby Centennial Building, 416 Centre St. S. | 905.668.8111

Next to Normal is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

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WHITBY COURTHOUSE THEATRE PRESENTS

NEXT TO NORMAL

Music by

Tom Kitt

Book & Lyrics by

Brian Yorkey

Producer
Heather Doucette

Director
Shael Rismann

Music Director
Nick Denis

Stage Manager
Paul Sowerbutts

Assistant Director
Melissa Gibson

Back Stage Manager
Peggy Sowerbutts

Costume Design Lighting Design Set Design Sound Design
Rhonda Martin **Greg Poulin** **Erastus Burley** **Margo Rodgers**

Original Broadway Production Produced by David Stone, James L. Nederlander,
Barbara Whitman, Patrick Catullo and Second Stage Theatre.

New York Premiere Produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York. February 2008
Carole Rothman, Artistic Director Ellen Richard, Executive Director

'Next To Normal' was subsequently produced by Arena Stage in November 2008.

Developed at Village Theatre, Issaquah, WA (Robb Hunt, Executive Producer, Steve Tomkins, Artistic Director).

An earlier version was presented in the 2005 New York Musical Theatre Festival.

Support for the development of "Next To Normal" was provided by the Jonathan Larson Foundation.

The taking of photographs, video or audio recordings of this production is strictly prohibited

Stage fog, haze & flashing lights are used during the show.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

On the surface, the story of *Next To Normal* seems very strange for a musical. After all, it centers around a mother who struggles with worsening bipolar disorder and how the illness affects her family. Seriously, how do you build a piece of musical theatre around THAT? I was skeptical, but I figured that there had to be a reason it garnered four Tonys® and a Pulitzer Prize. So, I sat in my office, opened the script, and turned on the soundtrack. For the next two hours I was immobilized. It was a play that kicked me to my knees and sang directly to my soul. It spoke to me viscerally and emotionally and I knew exactly why.

In 1996, my brother Carey finally ended the agony of his mental illness by taking his own life. My family and I had ringside seats to this play before it ever was produced. It quickly became evident to me that this story had to be told, and that I had to be the one to tell it.

Next To Normal is a work of agonizing grace and redemption. It is altogether heart-wrenching and uplifting, hopeless and courageous, desperate and soaring. It is a glorious dichotomy. Though the subject matter could easily drag us into the abyss, it never dwells there for long. Because despite everything, human beings are hardwired for hope.

This cast has been nothing less than remarkable in their commitment to bringing this story to life with empathy, courage, and authenticity. Watching the results as they pushed themselves and each other has been one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. And this incredible production team – who tirelessly propped up a first-time director and breathed life into a challenging show – I will never be able to thank you enough.

Even though the past 20 years has seen great strides in eliminating the stigma, there is still a heartbreaking lack of understanding about what mental illness really is. It feels like there is so much left to do – but it's not a lot when you really think about it. Education. Empathy. Love. That's about it. If there is one thing you take away from *Next To Normal*, let it be that.

This is for Mom, Dad, Carey Jared and Nicole, who – like the Goodmans – are proof that a family is still a family even when pieces are missing.

Shael Risman

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CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Diana Goodman.....	CATHERINE MARZOLA
Dan Goodman.....	BRIAN HARGAN
Natalie Goodman.....	SOPHIA DAUNT
Gabe Goodman.....	DEVIN DOS SANTOS
Doctor Madden/ Fine.....	JAY DA COSTA
Henry.....	NATHAN SIMPSON

BAND

Conductor.....	NICK DENIS
Keyboard & Rehearsal Keyboard.....	SARA CAIN
Cello.....	CHERYL OCKRANT
Violin.....	DEBORAH HENDERSON
Guitar.....	SAM MOFFATT
Bass.....	EZRA SHERMAN
Drums/Percussion	DUANE BRONSON



Band (from left) - front row: Deborah Henderson, Sara Cain;
middle row: Sam Moffatt, Ezra Sherman, Cheryl Ockrant, Duane Bronson;
back row: Nick Denis

SONGS & SONGS

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

"Prelude"	ORCHESTRA
"Just Another Day"	DIANA, NATALIE, GABE, DAN
"Everything Else"	NATALIE
"Who's Crazy"/"My Psychopharmacologist and I"	DAN, DOCTOR FINE, DIANA
"Perfect for You"	HENRY, NATALIE
"I Miss the Mountains"	DIANA
"It's Gonna Be Good"	DAN, NATALIE, HENRY, DIANA
"He's Not Here"	DAN
"You Don't Know"	DIANA
"I Am the One"	DAN, GABE, DIANA
"Superboy and the Invisible Girl"	NATALIE, DIANA, GABE
"I'm Alive"	GABE
"Make Up Your Mind"/"Catch Me I'm Falling"	DOCTOR MADDEN, DIANA, DAN, NATALIE, GABE, HENRY
"I Dreamed a Dance"	DIANA, GABE
"There's a World"	GABE
"I've Been"	DAN
"Didn't I See This Movie?"	DIANA
"A Light in the Dark"	DAN, DIANA

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

"Wish I Were Here"	DIANA, NATALIE
"Song of Forgetting"	DAN, DIANA, NATALIE
"Hey #1"	HENRY, NATALIE
"Seconds and Years"	DOCTOR MADDEN, DAN, DIANA
"Better Than Before"	DOCTOR MADDEN, DAN, NATALIE, DIANA
"Aftershocks"	GABE
"Hey #2"	HENRY, NATALIE
"You Don't Know" (Reprise)	DIANA, DOCTOR MADDEN
"How Could I Ever Forget?"	DIANA, DAN
"It's Gonna Be Good" (Reprise)	DAN, DIANA
"Why Stay?"/"A Promise"	DIANA, NATALIE, DAN, HENRY
"I'm Alive" (Reprise)	GABE
"The Break"	DIANA
"Make Up Your Mind"/"Catch Me I'm Falling" (Reprise)	DOCTOR MADDEN, DIANA, GABE
"Maybe (Next to Normal)"	DIANA, NATALIE
"Hey #3"/"Perfect for You" (Reprise)	HENRY, NATALIE
"So Anyway"	DIANA
"I Am the One" (Reprise)	DAN, GABE
"Light"	DIANA, DAN, NATALIE, GABE, HENRY, DOCTOR MADDEN

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer	HEATHER DOUCETTE
Director	SHAEL RISMAN
Music Director	NICK DENIS
Assistant Director	MEL GIBSON
Stage Manager	PAUL SOWERBUTTS
Scenic and Effects Designer.....	ERASTUS BURLEY
Costume Design	RHONDA MARTIN
Lighting Design.....	GREG POULIN
Properties.....	SUSAN WABB
Sound Effects Designer/Projection Designer/ Lighting Apprentice.....	MARGO RODGERS
Live Sound Designer/Operator	GLENN RABJOHN
Consulting Psychiatrist	DR. JARED RISMAN MD, FRCPC
Hair/Makeup	SOPHIE RISMAN
Backstage Manager	PEGGY SOWERBUTTS
Assistant Stage Managers	SUSAN WABB, RHONDA MARTIN
Rehearsal Pianist	SARA CAIN
Lighting Operator	EMILY DOUCETTE, MIKE DOUCETTE
Follow Spot Operator	LINCOLN TRUDEAU
Sound Effects Operator.....	HEATHER DOUCETTE
Set Construction Crew	STEVE CLARKE, JOSH FORD, STEVE LIPSETT PAUL MARTIN, GORD PAUL, CHRIS SAVAGE MIKE TRITES, ZACHARY UNGER
Scenic Painting/Décor.....	DEB SMITH (LEAD), ALENA DE LONG HEATHER DOUCETTE, ANNA SIMMONS, PEGGY SOWERBUTTS
Costume Crew	DONNA GUNTER, CATHERINE MARZOLA, DIANE OTTE
Publicity	SHARON BERMAN
Poster & Program Design/Lobby Display	EDWARD NILES

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thank you to the following for their support:

Theatre Aurora; Oshawa Little Theatre; Ian Handscomb; WCT's front of house volunteers; Town of Whitby and Centennial Building facility staff.





WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



JAY DA COSTA
(*Doctor Madden/Fine*) is excited and humbled to make his WCT debut as part of this incredible production. The cast is a dream, the crew is amazing, and the importance of this show can't be

overstated. He is extremely grateful for Shael and Mel's direction, and Nick's musical direction, for helping him bring these roles to life. Jay hopes you enjoy this show, but more importantly, he hopes you leave with a more open mind than when you arrived.



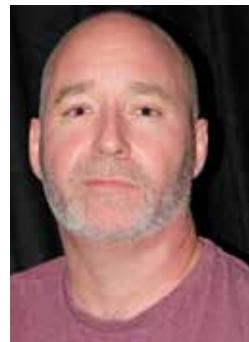
SOPHIA DAUNT
(*Natalie Goodman*) is excited to make her WCT debut as Natalie in *Next to Normal!* She would like to thank her friends, family and teachers for all their support in getting where she is now.

She would also like to thank the amazing cast and crew on this production for their incredible work; it's been a joy bringing this story to life with all of you! Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!



DEVIN DOS SANTOS
(*Gabe Goodman*) is overjoyed to be returning to Durham regional theatre after 5 years abroad; studying, working, but always keeping his passion for musical theatre alive. Devin began his

theatrical career in OLT's production of *Oliver!* (2007) and has been drawn to the stage ever since. Some of Devin's favorite roles include Mr. Applegate (*Damn Yankees*, DwyerArts, 2012), The Emcee (*Cabaret*, CCP, 2013), Angel (*RENT*, RCMPI, 2014), and Bobby Strong (*Urinetown*, CCP, 2014).



BRIAN HARGAN
(*Dan Goodman*) would like to thank the incredibly talented cast and crew (Jay and Nathan were both nominated for THEA awards for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical at the

ACTCO Gala last year!) for allowing him to be a part of this incredible experience. Brian previously performed with Whitby Courthouse Theatre as Carl Hanratty in *Catch Me If You Can* and hopes to perform with them again in the future, if they'll have him.



CATHERINE MARZOLA (*Diana Goodman*) This is Catherine's first show with WCT. Favourite past credits include *JCS*, *Godspell & Songs from the Shower*. Nothing would be possible without the

love, support & ass kicking of so many that she holds dear to her heart. Well, that and a big bag of balls! Thank you to the entire cast, crew and band who made this show seamless. You're each a piece that is perfectly placed and make this puzzle complete. To Nick, Shael & Mel, I could never adequately express what you've given me.



NATHAN SIMPSON
(*Henry*) is thrilled to play the role of Henry in *Next To Normal*. His Recent credits include *Anne of Green Gables* (Gilbert), *Les Mis* (Javert), and *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek). He wants to thank

the cast and crew for their support. He hopes you enjoy the show.

WHO'S WHO IN PRODUCTION



NICK DENIS (Music Director) is beyond excited to be back on the WCT stage, doing one of his favourite shows. Select credits include: WCT's *Catch Me If You Can* (bandleader), OLT's *The Little Mermaid* (director) and Theatre 3x60/Cadenza's *Godspell* (Judas). He would like to thank this

amazing team for all their hard work, and for really challenging the limits of community theatre. He would also like to thank his friends and family for their constant support, and you for supporting local theatre. Enjoy the show!



HEATHER DOUCETTE (Producer) is pleased to be producing *Next to Normal* surrounded by such a gifted cast and artistic team. Thank you to Shael Risman for bringing her along on this journey. She is excited for this season to be delving into directing as Mike Trites assistant director in *Two on the Aisle, Three in a Van*. Heather will be also producing alongside Rhonda Martin in the Canadian Premiere of *Murder in the First*. Love always to Mike and Emily for the support.



MEL GIBSON (Assistant Director) is thrilled to be Assistant Director for *Next to Normal* and thanks Shael for his belief in her contributions to his vision. She has spent much of her time on the stage and is falling in love with the production side of things as well. Mel is awestruck by the immense talent of this cast and crew and knows that WCT audiences will be transformed by this performance. Enjoy this moving story and be advised: tissues are not optional.



RHONDA MARTIN (Costume Designer/Assistant Stage Manager) feels absolutely privileged and proud to have the opportunity to be involved with this production, this cast and this crew. She has designed costumes for *Steel Magnolias* (OLT), *Young Frankenstein*, and helped

with costumes in various youth group productions. Thank you to Donna for offering her costume expertise and to Catherine for using her "bloodhound" skills to help! And thank you to my family for supporting my choice to spend so much time at the theatre!



GREG POULIN (Lighting Designer) has lighting designed for several WCT productions dating back to 2013 - most recently the Youth Group's production of *Into The Woods JR*. Special thanks to Pauline - my former partner in design. Enjoy the show!



GLENN RABJOHN (Live Sound Designer/Operator) is absolutely thrilled to be the sound designer/operator for this incredible show. Glenn has been seen in many community theatre shows such as *The Odd Couple* and *Buying the Moose* (*Class Act*) and *You Can't Take it With You* and *Blithe Spirit* (WCT). When not on stage, he is teaching theatre and production at O'Neill CVI's Performing Arts program. He would like to thank Heather for this great opportunity, his wife and children for letting him do what he loves and the cast and crew for an incredible experience! Enjoy the show!

**SHAEL RISMAN (*Director*)**

An actor and musician for way longer than you need to know, Shael is thrilled to make his directorial debut with *Next To Normal* here at WCT. He was most recently seen in ACT's *12 Angry Men*, OLT's *NOISES OFF!* and WCT's productions of

Things My Mother Taught

Me, Moon Over Buffalo, and *August, Osage County*. Shael is also delighted to be knee deep in his first season as WCT's Artistic Director.

**SOPHIE RISMAN (*Hair and Make up*)**

This is Sophie's third experience working backstage at WCT and she wants to thank the cast, crew and production team. Sophie is in grade 12 at Henry Street High School, and has been involved in numerous school productions - performing,

directing and writing. She was also a member of WCT Youth Group for 2 years. Sophie is looking forward to university next year, mostly because she will be moving away from her family.

**MARGO RODGERS (*Sound Fx Designer/Projection Designer/Lighting Apprentice*)**

has designed sound for many WCT productions, most recently last year's *Avenue Q*. She is delighted to be part of *Next to Normal*'s outstanding team. Special thanks to Shael for his contagious

enthusiasm, keen vision, and incredible team support. Margo would also like to thank Greg for letting her tag along.

**PAUL SOWERBUTTS (*Stage Manager*)**

Paul is thrilled to be a part of this important piece of theatre. Since being welcomed into the Durham theatre community he is proud to have worked with some of the most gracious and understanding people to be found. Coming out from behind the curtain he

most recently appeared as Juror #7 in the ACT production of *12 Angry Men*. A huge thanks to his wife and biggest supporter Peggy.

**PEGGY SOWERBUTTS**

(*Backstage Manager*) From the very first read through of *Next To Normal*, the cast and crew have been awing Peggy with their spectacular talent. She is looking forward to seeing it all come together and have the audience share in the vision that has been the N2N journey for almost a

year for some. She also looks forward to not painting 100's of items in shades of grey and to her "allergies" getting better.

**SUSAN WABB (*Properties/Assistant Stage Manager*)**

is so grateful to have had the opportunity to work on this play with such an amazing cast and crew. She hopes that everyone experiences this play in its full and powerful voice (especially with the incredible voices of this cast!) Sue thanks her

family who allow her props to take over the house.

ERASTUS BURLEY(*Scenic and Effects Designer*) Participating in the creation of this theatrical production has been a very rewarding, yet emotional experience. The talented cast and crew members have crafted a truly original production of this popular, hit musical. I am excited to once again be performing onstage and can be seen this January in the Creative FORCE (creativeforce.ca) production of "RED" by John Logan at the Firehall Theatre in Cobourg. Your patronage allows the arts to remain vibrant and accessible though out our communities. Thank you and enjoy the show!

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An advertisement for Raph Nogal Photography. It features a black and white photograph of a person sitting in a dark, arched space, possibly a doorway or tunnel. The text "PHOTOGRAPHY NOGAL" is prominently displayed in gold letters. Below it, "RAPH NOGAL PHOTOGRAPHY" and the contact information "647-295-6495 RAPHNOGAL.COM".

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BECOME A MEMBER

Join us as a member of WCT and be a star on stage, backstage or on a creative team. Volunteers are always needed to help out, and besides, it's a lot of fun!

For more information email:
members@whitbytheatre.ca



SUPPORT FUTURE SHOWS

50/50 tickets and refreshments are sold during intermission. All proceeds go directly to help future WCT productions.



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COMING SOON TO WHITBY COURTHOUSE THEATRE

Whitby Courthouse Theatre presents...

**Two on the Aisle,
Three in a Van**

by
Mary Lynn Dobson

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays
February 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, 2019
8 pm (Feb. 16: 2 & 8 pm) \$27

Tickets/Info: whitbytheatre.ca

WCT
Whitby Centennial Building, 416 Centre St. S. | 905.668.8111

Two on the Aisle, Three in a Van is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French.

Whitby Courthouse Theatre presents...

Murder in the First

by Dan Gordon
Based on the Warner Bros. movie "Murder in the First", written by Dan Gordon

CANADIAN PREMIERE!

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays
April 11-13, 18-20, 25-27, 2019
8 pm (April 20: 2 & 8 pm) \$27

Tickets/Info: whitbytheatre.ca

WCT
Whitby Centennial Building, 416 Centre St. S. | 905.668.8111

Murder in the First is presented by special arrangement with Playscripts Inc.

Whitby Courthouse Theatre presents...

Meredith Willson's

the Music Man

Book, Music & Lyrics by **Meredith Willson**
Story by **Meredith Willson & Franklin Lacey**

RIVER CITY June 6-8, 13-15 | 7:30 pm
June 9 & 16, 2019 | 2 pm
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whitbytheatre.ca

WCT
Whitby Centennial Building, 416 Centre St. S. | 905.668.8111

The Music Man is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

Two on the Aisle, Three in a Van

by Mary Lynn Dobson

February 7-23, 2019

Welcome you to another season at the Neighbourhood Actors Summerfun Repertory Theatre, a friendly playhouse where, due to a lack of wing space, the company spends their downtime in the parking lot around an aging hippie/now turned techie's van.

A stressed-out artistic director, a wanna-be diva, a board member's nephew vying to direct the musicals with a Tarantino spin and the "I'm no chorus boy" chorus boy - are just some of the egos that fall into the lap of a nice-guy director who ends up with far more than he bargained for. Somehow, some way, the show must go on... just not always as planned.

Murder in the First

by Dan Gordon - Based on the Warner Bros. movie.

April 11-27, 2019

In 1941, Alcatraz prisoner Willie Moore stands trial for the violent murder of a fellow inmate. In what at first appears to be an open-and-shut case, a bold young lawyer intervenes with the claim that Moore cannot be held responsible for his actions due to the brutality visited upon him during three years of solitary confinement.

Inspired by an actual event, *Murder in the First* is a gripping courtroom drama that exposes an undercurrent of injustice and hypocrisy throughout the federal justice system.

This emotional story is making its Canadian premiere at Whitby Courthouse Theatre!

The Music Man

Book, Music & Lyrics by **Meredith Willson**
Story by **Meredith Willson & Franklin Lacey**

June 6-16, 2019

There's trouble in River City! The Music Man is family entertainment at its best.

The six-time, Tony Award-winning musical comedy follows a fast-talking traveling salesman, Harold Hill, as he cons the people of River City, Iowa, into buying instruments and uniforms for a marching band that he vows to organize - this, despite the fact that he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. His plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when he falls for Marian, the librarian, who tries to transform him into a respectable citizen.

whitbytheatre.ca

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