

PLAY THE FOOL FESTIVAL 2020 - SEPT 24, 2020

Opening Intro Video Transcript

CHRISTINE:

Hello everyone! Welcome to the Play the Fool Festival 2020 - Fool Around Online. I'm Christine Lesiak, the Festival Director.

JULIE:

And I'm Julie Kiraly, the Festival Producer. We are speaking to you from Amiskwaciwâskahikan, known colonially as Edmonton, in Canada, situated on Treaty 6 lands, the traditional territory of many Indigenous Peoples, including Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene, and Nakota; it is also Métis territory.

Play the Fool is supported by the Edmonton Arts Council and the City of Edmonton. Hit That Jive Productions, the festival's producing company, is also supported by The Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Our generous sponsors for Fool Around Online 2020 are the Great Balanzo, and a special shout-out to EPCOR for supporting the festival through their Heart and Soul Fund.

CHRISTINE:

For the past 4 years, Play the Fool has been strictly a live-theatre festival. And when COVID hit us all, we didn't know what we were going to do.

JULIE:

But clowns are adaptable!

CHRISTINE:

So we plotted, planned and combed the interwebs to find COVID-friendly clown-comedy we can present to you, right here on playthefool.ca - all free or at very low-cost to you. We've got the very first Play the Fool Festival Short Film Competition - films are 2 minutes maximum - little comedy treats.

JULIE:

On Saturday Sept 26th, join us LIVE for the online premiere of The Wise Fool - a documentary by Geraldine Carr about the life and work of clown-legend Jan Henderson, and our always fascinating Artist Discussion Panel - this year's topic is "Culture, Identity and Clowning"

CHRISTINE:

We've got our Signal Boost Program selections. They are carefully curated to reflect a broad spectrum of clown and physical comedy styles and perspectives. There's film, documentary, audio comedy, you can even order a private circus show. Show your appreciation to the Signal Boost artists by following/subscribing, buying, or donating to them directly on their websites and channels.

JULIE:

And if you would like to donate to our festival, you can do so by clicking the DONATE or SPONSOR buttons on playthefool.ca. Every penny supports artists, and will help us Play the Fool into 2021.

CHRISTINE:

So enjoy what we've put together, even though we can't be together. We miss you, we love you. Keep safe, and we'll gather in-person in 2021.