

# Innocence Lost

a play about Steven Truscott

by Beverley Cooper



March 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23 and 24, 2023 at 8:00pm

March 12, 19 and 25, 2023 at 2:00pm

DIRECTOR—Valary Cook  
STAGE MANAGER—Sidnei Auler  
PRODUCER—Linda Brent

The play takes place as a memory play  
— the characters jump around in time and

## The Cast

Monique Bourgeois

Alisha Fonseca

Tim Gernstein

Tara Hawley

Farzana Islam

Lydia Kiselyk

Lara Paquin

Theo Plant

Mark Rittinger

Susan Sanders

Kevin Shaver

Caleb Upshaw

Rhonda Upshaw

June 9 th , 1959 – the murder occurred with charges being laid 36 hours later

Sept 16, 1959 – the trial began and took 15 days to find Steven Truscott guilty, scheduling him to be hung on Dec. 8, 1959. The Supreme Court heard the case and ruled 8-1 against a new trial.

January 22, 1960 - the sentence was commuted to Life.

Spring 1966 - Isabel LeBoudais' book was published. 1969 - Steven was released on parole. November 2001 - lawyers filed for a new trial.

October, 28, 2004 - the case was referred to the Ontario Court of Appeal for review.

June 19, 2006 - a five judge panel heard 3 weeks of testimony with fresh evidence.

August 28, 2007 - Steven Truscott was acquitted. The panel said “the conviction was a miscarriage of justice”.

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***Innocence Lost: A Play About Steven Truscott* premiered at the Blyth Festival in 2008, Commissioned by Artistic Director Eric Coates and directed by Miles Potter.**

**Excerpts from the poem 'Requiem for a Fourteen-year-old' by Pierre Berton are used with the kind permission of the Berton family.**

## From the Director

The name of Steven Truscott resonates in the Canadian memory. His case, as the youngest person ever sentenced to death in Canada, gave impetus to the abolition of the death penalty in our country.

The play “Innocence Lost” is about much more than the political aspects of the case, however.. It’s a play about the many personal elements surrounding these tragic events; how it exposed both human frailties (including the power of group opinions) and the flaws in a system and authorities people believed were always expert and fair. The “Innocence” that was lost in Clinton Ontario in 1959 is that of the whole town.. and, to some extent, the rest of the nation.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Scarborough Players, Scarborough Music Theatre

Soulpepper Theatre Company

Projection photos - Dale Matthies

City of Toronto Parks and Recreation

The Staff of the

Scarborough Village Recreation Centre,

and many, many dedicated friends

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager Back Up.....	June Watkins
Set Designer.....	Valary Cook
Head Carpenter.....	Doug Kibodeaux
Lighting Designers.....	Karen Brown, Paul Harris, Sidnei Auler
Costume Co-Ordinator.....	Andra Bradish
Costume Assistant.....	Nat Hewson
Sound Designer.....	Sidnei Auler
Hair and Make-up.....	Gloria King
Program Design.....	Larry Westlake
Props Team.....	Rick MacDonald, Evan MacDonald, Val Lusted
Set Decor.....	Betty Jackson
Painter.....	Karen Koenig
FOH Manager.....	Bob Sanders
FOH and Prod. Photography.....	Julie Adams
Truck Driver.....	Len Henderson
Theatre Co-Ordinator.....	Sidnei Auler
Box Office Managers.....	Wendy Miller, Mike Scott
Audition Greeter.....	Andra Bradish
Refreshments.....	Rhoda Brachman, June Bedford and The Volunteers

# Cast and Crew Bios



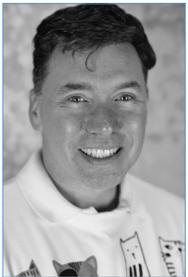
## **MONIQUE BOURGEOIS : Mother**

Monique is excited to be performing with the Scarborough Theatre Guild for the first time! Big thanks to the whole cast and crew for making it an awesome experience. No stranger to the stage and screen, her most notable performances were as Dee in *STAGE* and Doe (KTC), Monica in *SCIENCE OF SÉANCE* (105ive Film Studio), Smiley in *POINT OF VIEWING* (CTHP), and Nancy in *THE TROUBLE WITH CLIFFORD* (BVP). Along with performing Monique is an avid writer and animal enthusiast. Sending so much love and thanks to the family and friends that have supported me during this show and all the others. You are the best! Enjoy the show!



## **ALISHA FONSEKA : Ensemble**

Alisha has returned to the world of theatre after too many years away. In her opinion, there is no space more welcoming, healing, and better at helping people shake off the dust of everyday life. She thanks her fellow cast mates for their commitment, support, and fabulous silly/loud voices!



## **TIM GERNSTEIN : Ensemble and Older Steven**

Debut with Scarborough Theatre Guild. Elsewhere: *MOTHER OF THE MAID* (Theatre Aurora), *THE FANTASTIKS* (Scarborough Music Theatre), *THE KING MAKER* (Hive Productions), *PRELUDE TO A KISS* (Georgetown Little Theatre). Kindergarten teacher by day, proud dad and Golden Girl enthusiast, Tim made his playwriting debut in 2021 at Georgetown Little Theatre with *The Unraveling*. His greatest accomplishment is 24 years and counting as the husband to the love of his life,



## **TARA HAWLEY : Sarah**

Selected Theatre Credits— *LIFE OF GALILEO* (Virginia - RCPA), *PLACEMENT DAY* (First Candidate—We All Shine), *WONDERFUL TOWN* (Ensemble - RCPA) Tara is a graduate of Randolph College for the Performing Arts where she found her passion for acting in both theatre and film. Tara is so grateful to be a part of this show and to have the chance to take on such a challenging role while telling the story of a very pivotal moment in Canadian History.



**FARZANA ISLAM : Ensemble**

Farzana has always loved theatre, having started off helping out behind-the-scenes and then moving into acting. She enjoys being involved in all aspects of theatre : from writing to set design to acting. Some credits include *SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY* (Actor- We All Shine Productions) and *NESTED* (Set Design Assistant, Alumnae Theatre) She would like to give the world's biggest thank you to the cast and crew for the amazing experience!



**LYDIA KISELYK : Isabel Lebourdais and Ensemble**

Lydia is delighted to be making her first appearance with Scarborough Theatre Guild. Past productions include *THE POOR OF NEW YORK*, *KING JOHN* (Act II Studio), *LATE COMPANY* (The Village Players), and *ELIZABETH REX* (East Side Players). Her earlier performance background includes flamenco dance theatre and standardized patient role-play for medical school programs. She is excited to be working with Valary once again and to be part of such a talented and dedicated cast and crew. A big thank you to all at STG for making all the newbies to the Guild feel so welcome!



**LARA PAQUIN : Lynne Harper and Ensemble**

Lara loves the movies and likes to think sometimes that her life is one as well. She recently played Lizzie in *THE RAINMAKER* back at her film school. Lara is proud of this production, marking it as a first step into her career and she is grateful for everyone with whom she gets to work. She is learning so much from everyone. Thank you!



**THEO PLANT : Steven Truscott and Sarah's Son**

Theo has participated in musical theatre programs hosted by Orrett Music Academy for the past three years. This is Theo's community theatre debut. He has enjoyed learning and working with everyone on this production of *INNOCENCE LOST*. Theo has lots of people he would like to thank: his parents, brother, and extended family for all their support; his vocal music and musical theatre coach, Christee Palace, for encouraging him to audition; and his incredible school teachers for providing him with encouragement and creative opportunities.



**MARK RITTINGER : Harold Graham, Dr. John Penistan**

Mark remains incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be on stage and follow this crazy passion wherever it takes him, and is thankful to his wife, three daughters, Henry the Goldendoodle, and his amazing friends for their continued support. Proudly born and raised in Goderich, Ontario, Mark grew up with this story and is honoured to be sharing it alongside this wonderful cast and crew in his first production with STG. “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Favourite previous credits include: *THE FULL MONTY* (Dave Bukatinsky) Whitby Courthouse Theatre (WCT), *MURDER IN THE FIRST*, Canadian premiere (Byron Davidson) WCT, and *OTHER DESERT CITIES* (Lyman Wyeth) WCT.



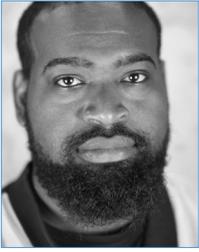
**SUSAN SANDERS : Doris Truscott**

As a seasoned veteran of local community theatre, Susan has been on stage in over 80 productions, and even more as a choreographer, producer, props technician and musician. Since baring it all as Gladys in *OUT OF ORDER*, her favourites with Scarborough Theatre Guild have been Amanda in *THE GLASS MENAGERIE*, Flo Owens in *PICNIC*, Debbie in *A RED PLAID SHIRT* and most recently as Julia in *The Christmas Spirit*. She would like to thank all of our patrons for joining us in the magic that is the art of theatre!



**KEVIN SHAVER : Father, Mr. Harper, Dan, Hayes & Stoner**

After a 3yr hiatus Kevin is proud to finally return to the STG stage in *INNOCENCE LOST*. Over the years Kevin has directed several productions including most recently *THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT*, along with *THE PSYCHIC*, *ALONE TOGETHER*, *KISS THE MOON KISS THE SUN*, *12 ANGRY MEN* and *RUMORS*. Kevin has also produced for STG on *ETHAN CLAYMORE*, *NO TRAVELLER RETURNS* and our Anniversary Production of *DEAR CHARLES*. Previously you may have seen him on stage in various STG productions such as *WAIT UNTIL DARK*, *LORD ARTHUR SAVILLE'S CRIME*, *DIAL M FOR MURDER*, *OUT OF ORDER*, *THE PINK PANTHER AND THE INSPECTOR CALLS*. Kevin has enjoyed working with the very talented cast and crew of *INNOCENCE LOST*!



**CALEB UPSHAW : Judge and Ensemble**

Caleb enjoys theatre, sports and to listening to and making music. He is getting back into live theatre again for the first time since high school and is excited about it. He gives a shout out to his mother for finding out about this production and to the cast and crew for making the transition easy and being great people. Hope you enjoy yourselves.



**RHONDA UPSHAW : Brown Owl, Nurse and Ensemble**

Having dabbled in the theatre as a teenager, *INNOCENCE LOST* marks her stage debut with community theatre. She is grateful to STG for taking a chance and providing this opportunity. Rhonda looks forward to a long and loving relationship with STG and thanks God for His continued guidance, and her son, Caleb, for sharing this experience with her.



**VALARY COOK : DIRECTOR**

Valary taught Dramatic Arts for many years and directed plays, musicals, Sears Festival entries and even coached improv teams. She directed *LATE COMPANY* for the Bloor West Village Players in 2019 and was awarded Outstanding Director at the Theatre Ontario Festival. *INNOCENCE LOST* is her first production with the Scarborough Theatre Guild and it is a terrific experience to work in this supportive, experienced community.



**LINDA BRENT : PRODUCER**

Since 1980 Linda has been involved with community theatre. She has worked on many productions both backstage and in the booth-even onstage( in the dark) changing sets. She has been producing shows the last few years. Most recently she worked on *JAKES WOMEN* (STG) and *YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN* (SMT). *INNOCENCE LOST* has a story which has fascinated her for many years.

What does innocence look like? Linda thanks her family for their support. Enjoy the show.



**SIDNEI AULER : STAGE MANAGER/SOUND DESIGNER**

Sidnei started doing theatre a few years ago and fell in love with this artform, he is comfortable on stage and behind the scenes, usually performing many tasks simultaneously. Various shows include : *DELIVER US FROM EVIL* (Historian-We All Shine Films), *THE CRIPPLE INNISHMAAN* (Sound Dsgn, STG), *MAN OF LaMANCHA* (Pedro-CLO), *INTO THE WOODS* (Sound Dsgn SMT), *BLOOD MONEY* (Stage Manager, Sound & SFX Dsgn-Verve). Sidnei is proud of this production and would like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication. “You guys rocked, and thank you for making my job so easy.”



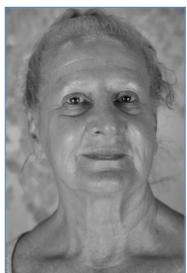
**ANDRA BRADISH : COSTUME DESIGNER**

Once again Andra is pleased to be part of the team putting on an STG show (most recently *THE STILLBORN LOVER—80's JAKE'S WOMEN—90's*). She moved up another decade, costume wise, to 2001 with *THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT*. Easier to ‘remember when’. Andra is delighted to have Nat Hewson as a very able, and knowledgeable Costume Assistant. Doubles the fun!



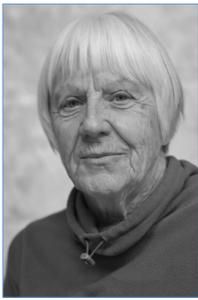
**NAT HEWSON : COSTUME ASSISTANT**

Nat Hewson is a sewist based in Toronto. They graduated from the Fashion Design program at George Brown College, and have previously done freelance work as a craft artist and graphic designer. At the moment, they are working as a tailor for Levi's. When they're not working you can find them at home, working on a new project or giving treats to their cat, Reese.



**BETTY JACKSON : SET DÉCOR**

Betty is so grateful to be involved in live theatre again after an absence of over 25 years. She missed it! *INNOCENCE LOST* is her first production with the Scarborough Theatre Guild and will not be her last! In the past she has acted and sung in *ROSE MARIE*, *SONG OF NORWAY*, *OKLAHOMA!*, *BRIGADOON*, *WAITING FOR GODOT* and *LOVE LETTERS* (touring company) for various theatre companies. She is a member of ACTRA for over 30 years as an actor and continues to work in film and TV as well as being a blues singer. She enjoyed working on *INNOCENCE LOST* as Set Décor with the cast and crew. Her way of getting back into live theatre she hopes to volunteer/perform for other Theatre Scarborough groups in the future. Break a leg!



### **SANDY ROBB : ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER**

Sandy loves the hustle and bustle backstage and wishes she was introduced to community theatre years earlier! Most recently she was ASM for SMT's *YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN*.



### **JUNE WATKINS : LIGHTING OPERATOR / BACK-UP STAGE MANAGER**

June is excited and honored to be lighting operator. June has been involved in community theatre for several years as part of the crew, as front of house staff and on stage.

### **FARID BASHA : SOUND OPERATOR**

Farid has worked on shows for both the Guild and the Players : *MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET*, *THE 39 STEPS*, *CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN* and *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE*. Thanks goes to the Scarborough Theatre Guild/Scarborough Players and the Cast/Crew for making every theatre experience an enjoyable one and bringing me back to help another production.

### **PAUL HARRIS & KAREN BROWN : LIGHTING DESIGNERS**

*INNOCENCE LOST* marks Paul & Karen's 75th production in and around the GTA, for which they were the lighting designers. They have designed many shows for Scarborough Music Theatre, Scarborough Players, and Scarborough Theatre Guild, including, most recently, *THE 39 STEPS*, for the Guild, which garnered an ACT-CO Thea nomination. Having now moved to Stratford, they will be using their skills further west in the future, but they are always happy to help out on the SVT stage when possible. "In the right light, at the right time, everything is extraordinary."

### **RICK MACDONALD, EVAN MACDONALD, VAL LUSTED : PROPS TEAM**

The Props Team for *INNOCENCE LOST* is a family affair! While this is Rick's first foray into this volunteer role, Valerie and Evan are known to some back stage crews through such Scarborough Theatre productions as *MIRACLE ON 34th STREET*, *STORM WARNING* or *THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT*. Thanks to the Production Team for this continued learning experience!



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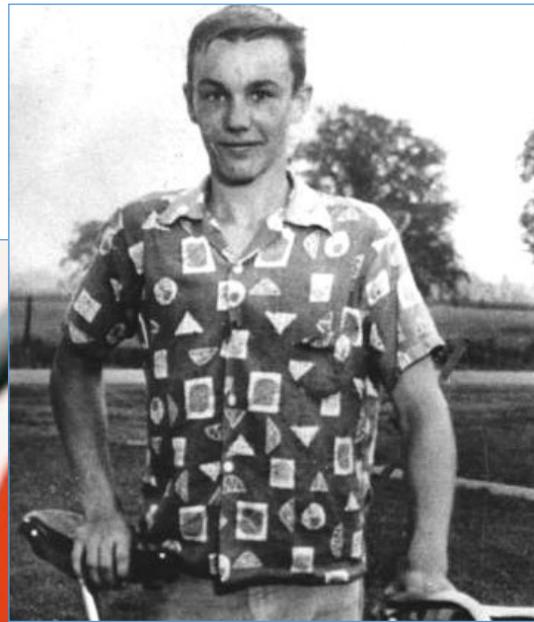
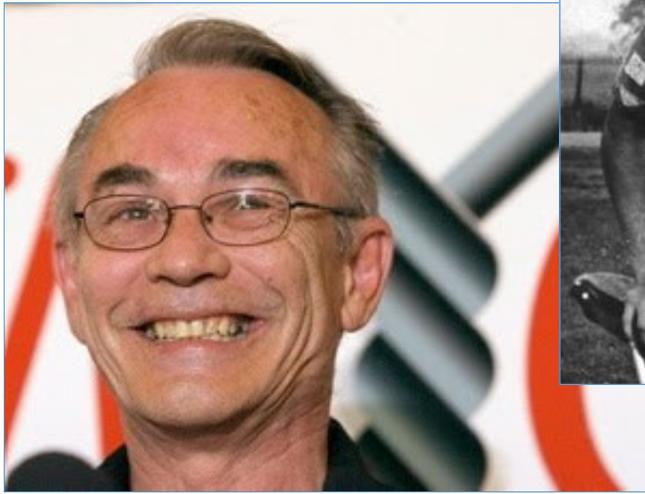


June 2023

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Masks must be worn at all times while in the building.

Please ensure that all cellular phones and other electronic devices are **TURNED OFF** during the performance. The use of cameras or other recording devices is prohibited in this theatre. Only water in unbreakable, re-sealable bottles is allowed in the theatre.

This is also a 'scent free' building.

*Thank you*

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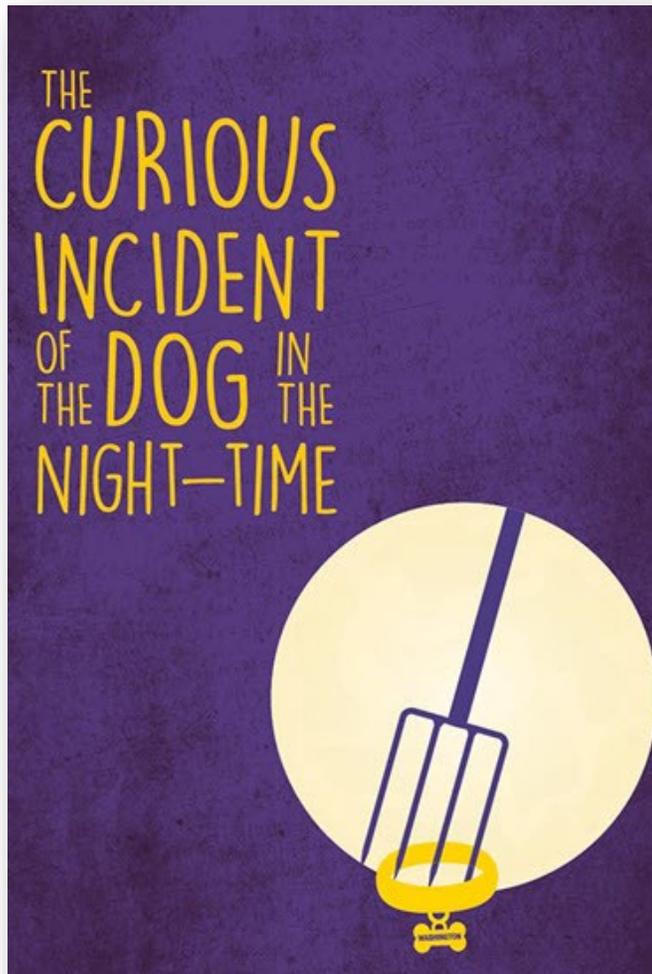
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A complete list is available on our website:

[www.theatrescarborough.com](http://www.theatrescarborough.com)



April 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 2003

at 8 pm

April 9, 16, 22, 2003

at 2 pm



May 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 2023

at 8:00pm

May 7, 14 and 20, 2023

at 2:00pm

