## Faith and Arts Ottawa Theatre Program

The god Monologues, 2013
godVERBATIM in the 2014 Ottawa
Fringe Festival
O god in the 2015 Ottawa Fringe
Festival
Trans-Script, 2016

This theatre program has evolved since Faith and Arts Ottawa first produced videos in April 2012 based on research by Carleton University's Tom Sherwood. Reading those statements by young adults about religion and spirituality, someone said, "It's like 'The god Monologues!" That became the title of a process and a play in 2013. The company continued to use Sherwood's research as a basis for engaging issues of spirituality, sexuality, relationship, environmental concern and social justice, creating 2014 and 2015 Ottawa Fringe Festival productions. The company decided to leave the Fringe in 2016 in order to take a new play about identity and relationships into the community and follow each performance with an audience-actors talkback. Eleanor Crowder, Anna Lewis and most recently Rosemary Nolan, have provided direction for this evolving theatre process.

Faith and Arts Ottawa is a ministry of the United Church of Canada, established in 2012 with David Sherwin as Director and James Murray as Chair of the Board. Its mission is to help people explore questions of spirituality and faith through the creative arts, and to grow a community of artists and others who are committed to using their art and imagination to expand and deepen their spiritual lives. David Sherwin is now Ottawa Presbytery Minister, and Tom Sherwood chairs the Board. In 2016, Faith and Arts employs no staff and rents no space. All budget goes to support programs and artists. www.faithandartsottawa.org

# How to donate to Faith and Arts Ottawa

Cash donations may be made at performances. Cheques should be payable to "Ottawa Presbytery, United Church of Canada" and identify "Faith and Arts Ottawa" in the memo line. The mailing address is 6 Epworth Avenue, Ottawa ON K2G 2L5.

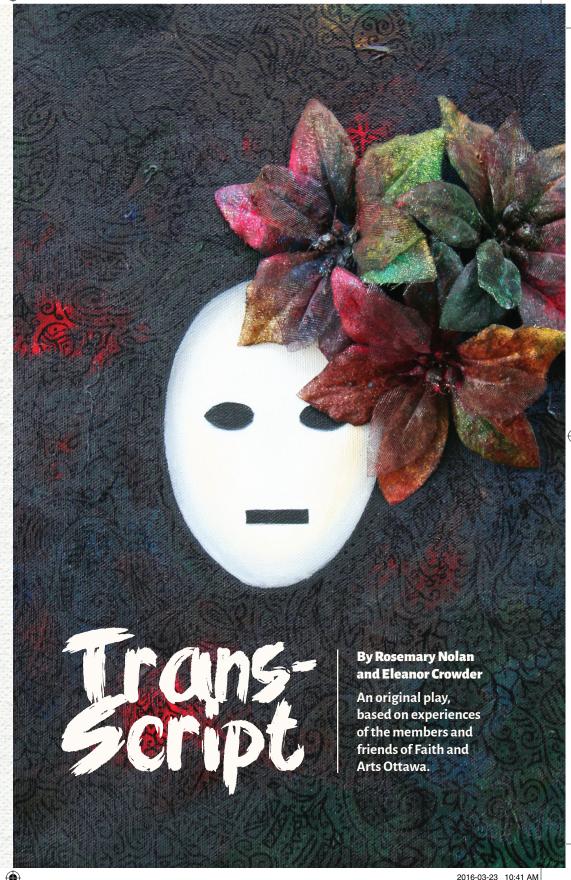
Receipts will be issued for income tax purposes.

www.faithandartsottawa.org/trans-script-2016 @faithandarts | facebook.com/faithandarts

Funded by the Vision Fund of the United Church of Canada

Faith and Arts Ottawa





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Becoming our own best selves is never easy. How do we find and define our identities? What does it mean to be a woman? Or a man? What can we change? What happens to our most important relationships when we do change?

Based on real stories, Trans-Script follows a small group of characters over the course of a few months as they adapt to changes and find new truths about themselves

The stories and characters of *Trans-Script* pose an essential question: "Is love enough?"

Anyone who has traveled far from where they started, knowing highs and lows along the way, can find themselves in that question, in our characters, and in our stories... in *Trans-Script*.

## Trans-Script

Faith and Arts Ottawa held a series of script development workshops in the Fall of 2015, attended by a diverse group from our community. Rosemary Nolan and Eleanor Crowder developed a draft script from material generated in the research workshops, and the script was refined in early 2016 through further workshops with actors. A cast of 6 performers with a team of off-stage artists and supporters was put in place, and rehearsals began for performances in a variety of settings.

### Cast

#### (in order of appearance)

Fiona Audrey Girard
Alice Christina Anderson
Ruth Ashley Russell
Ray Terry Thompson
Julian Oliver Korany

Belinda Kathleen Grady-Thompson

Christina and Ashley also appeared in *The god Monologues* 2013, *godVERBATIM* 2014, and *O god* 2015. Audrey, Terry and Kathleen also appeared in *godVERBATIM* and *O god*. This is Oliver's first appearance in a Faith and Arts Ottawa production.

DIRECTORRosemary NolanCO-DIRECTOREleanor Crowder

DesignJessica RousseauMediaKiersten Jensen

**Chaplains** David Sherwin and Tom Sherwood

**Theatre Research Workshops:** Lawrence Aranovitch, Audrey Girard, Laura Lake, Ashley Russell, Lola Ryan, David Sherwin, Tom Sherwood.

**Script Development Workshops:** Mike Heffernan, Audrey Girard, Oliver Korany, Laura Lake, Cathy Nobleman, Jessica Rousseau, Ashley Russell, David Sherwin, Tom Sherwood, William Ballik.

## Special Thanks

A heartfelt thanks to Southminster United Church for hosting our script development workshops and rehearsals. Thank you to Laura Lake who provided artwork for previous years of the program. Thanks to Jessica Rousseau who has provided design materials through the life of this theatre program as well as the art for this year's cover.