

The McGill University Department of English Drama & Theatre Program

presents

# POMONA

by Alistair McDowall

## PERFORMANCE DATES

November 23 to 25, 2022

November 30 to December 2, 2022

All Performances 7:30 PM

Tickets \$15

Tickets are available at <http://moysehall.tuxedobillet.com>

**There will be no intermission.**

*Please note: This theatre production contains mature language, graphic content, and adult themes, along with theatrical smoke and strobe lighting effects.*

Moyse Hall Theatre, McGill University, Arts Building  
853 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal  
Box Office (514) 398-6070  
[publicity.english@mcgill.ca](mailto:publicity.english@mcgill.ca)

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheatreMcGill>  
Instagram @moysehallmcgill  
<https://www.mcgill.ca/english/moyse-hall>

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

“The most merciful thing in the world, I think, is the inability of the human mind to correlate all its contents. We live on a placid island of ignorance in the midst of black seas of infinity.”

--H.P. Lovecraft, “The Call of Cthulhu”

This macabre idea inspires Alistair McDowall's contemporary play Pomona. If we really understood the consequences of our actions and the effect we have on the world around us, would we be able to survive this knowledge? Like Lovecraft before him, McDowall suggests the truth might be too much for our minds to bear.

Pomona begins as a search for a missing person. This mystery takes us into a labyrinth full of enigmatic characters, all in various states of desperation, all struggling to survive some unknown and terrifying threat that lurks amongst them.

But nothing is what it seems here, and Pomona teases and taunts us with hints, clues and puzzles about character identity and the connection between events. The story unfolds backwards and in fragments, like a maze, demanding that we follow the characters down Pomona's dark rabbit hole with our eyes fully open, most of all when we might wish to keep them firmly closed.

Just keep telling yourself it's only a game ...

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Sean Carney** - Director  
**Corinne Deeley** - Production Manager  
**Keith Roche** - Technical Director & Lighting Designer  
**Frédérique Ménard & Catherine Bradley** - Costume Design  
**Magalie Goyette** - Stage Manager  
**Sarah Pattloch & Mai Katsuna** - Assistant Stage Managers  
**Aurore Mombelli** - Graffiti Artist  
**Sean Carney & Brendan Roche** - Poster Designers  
**Brendan Roche** - Video Recording & Editing  
**Marie Trotter** - Social Media Director  
**Luisa Pasturel & Sarah Pattloch** - Moyse Hall Assistants

## CAST

**Momo Burns-Min** as Ollie  
**Amber Craig** as Keaton  
**Paloma del Castillo Mullally** as Fay  
**Spencer Geddes** as Zeppo  
**Aidan Robb** as Charlie  
**Berfin Simşek** as Gale  
**Sam Snyders** as Moe

## **STAGE, SCENERY, AND LIGHTING TEAM**

*Luisa Pasturel & Lana Ptacek* - Lighting Crew  
*Elizabeth Chau & Hannah Petit Babakoff* - Props  
*Aurora Mombelli, Nhi Nguyen & Nathan White* – Set Crew  
*May Gulligan & Sophie Stein* – Sound Design Operators  
*Tasmia Abbas & Marta Przygodzka* - Video Design/Operators

## **COSTUME TEAM**

Thanks to the volunteers from the *Stage, Scenery and Lighting* class for assisting with costumes.

*Volunteers: Sarah Pattloch, Magalie Goyette,  
Nhi Nguyen & Nathan White*

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

**Tasmia Abbas** (Video Crew). Tasmia is a U2 student in the Faculty of Management majoring in Finance. She has an interest in screenwriting and is excited to learn about the various components of theatre while being part of the Pomona crew

**Catherine Bradley** (Wardrobe Manager). Catherine had her start at the Stratford Festival, followed by gallivanting from one Canadian theatre to the next including the Shaw Festival, Banff Centre, The National Ballet, Theatre New Brunswick, Opera de Montreal, Centaur Theatre, and more. Next semester she will be *teaching Costuming for the Theatre II*. Catherine has been working in costumes for almost 40 years and has never stopped loving it.

**Ilana Petit Babakoff** (Props) is a U1 Cultural Studies Major Minor in World Cinemas and Classics. She has worked tech on many past shows in lighting, sound, props, and set. She is excited to be a part of *Pomona*, the first McGill production she will work on!

**Momo Burns-Min** (as Ollie). Momo is a U2 English: Drama & Theatre major with minors in East Asian Studies and World Cinemas. She has been performing her whole life and is excited to tackle the challenging role of Ollie! Recent credits include *Hysterical!* (Thrown Stone Theatre Company); *Emma: A Pop Musical* (Broadway Workshop); and last year's English Department Production, *Fashion Follies*.

**Sean Carney** (Director) is an Associate Professor of Drama & Theatre in the Department of English. Recent plays directed at McGill include *Cymbeline* by William Shakespeare, *Blood Relations* by Sharon Pollock, *The Rover* by Aphra Behn, and *The Threepenny Opera* by Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill.

**Paloma del Castillo Mullally** (as Fay). Paloma is a U1 student majoring in English: Cultural Studies with a double minor in Communications and GSFS. Paloma has a long performance history, starting ballet at four years old, eventually switching to acting.

**Élizabeth Chau** (Props). Élizabeth is a U4 student majoring in Sociology with a minor in Communication Studies. She has worked as a sound board operator for *Fashion Follies* (2021) and looks forward to a new experience backstage!

**Amber Craig** (as Keaton). Amber is a U2 student majoring in English Literature with a minor in Russian Cultural Studies. Amber has always loved acting and is very excited about her first McGill production. She hopes everyone enjoys the show!

**Corinne Deeley** (Production Manager) has been Moyses Hall's Theatre Production Manager for over twenty years. After graduating from the National Theatre School of Canada, Corinne worked as an Equity Stage Manager, Production Manager, and designer for several Canadian theatre companies touring Canada and the USA. She continues to work in the industry on television, dance, and live entertainment productions.

**May Galligan** (Sound Operator). May is a U1 student majoring in English: Cultural Studies with a minor in World Cinemas. She's worked backstage on theater productions in the past, but this is her first-time being part of a show at McGill. She is excited for the new experience!

**Spencer Geddes** (as Zeppo). Spencer is a U2 student majoring in Mathematics and Physics. Although he has previous experience in acting, this is his first time performing in a McGill production. He is extremely excited to work with everyone in the cast/crew and put on a great show!

**Magalie Goyette** (Stage Manager). Magalie is a U4 student majoring in Psychology with a minor in English: Drama & Theatre. She has a background in screenwriting, film, photography, and production. She is incredibly excited to get a chance to work as a part of the stage management team for this production!

**Mai Kutsuna** (Assistant Stage Manager). Mai is a U4 student double majoring in English: Drama & Theatre and Chemistry. She has experience as a performer and a director. This will be her first-time stage managing a production and she is excited to take on this challenge.

**Aurore Mombelli** (Set Crew). Aurore is a U0 student in the Arts General program and hopes to be in the Architecture program next year. She has been part of a lot of productions in high school, as both an actress and technician. More recently, she has gotten her diploma as an Honors Theater student from the American National Thespian Society. She is delighted to be part of the *Pomona* set crew!

**Nhi Nguyen** (Set Crew). Nhi is a U2 student with major in English: Drama & Theatre and minor in Art History. This is her first-time working backstage, and she is more than thrilled to be part of the team.

**Luisa Pasturel** (Lighting Operator). Luisa is a U2 student majoring in Sociology with a minor in East Asian Studies. They have worked on tech for various McGill shows through Players' Theatre and are excited to try their hand at lighting!

**Sarah Pattloch** (Assistant Stage Manager). Sarah is a U2 student double majoring in Art History and English: Drama & Theatre with a minor in History. Sarah has a performance history in dance, mostly tap and hip hop, starting at age eight. This is her first time working as a stage manager and she is excited for the opportunity!

**Lana Ptaček** (Lighting Operator). Lana is a U3 student that is double majoring in English: Drama & Theatre and in German Studies. You can find her taking photos of the sets before and after the play in the various theatres in Montreal. She is extremely excited to finally be part of the crew and to see what really goes behind the scenes in a production!

**Marta Przygodzka** (Video Crew). Marta is an exchange student from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, where she majors in Theatre Studies and History of Art. In the past, she has mostly worked on devised pieces - she is absolutely thrilled to finally be part of the backstage crew.

**Keith Roche** (Technical Director) has been at Moyses Hall as Technical Director for over twenty-five years and teaches the *Stage Scenery and Lighting* class. Keith has used his experiences working in many different aspects of theatre production to create his own production company, where he works with Centaur Theatre, Ballet Ouest, Cavalia, Just for Laughs, along with numerous film and television productions. Keith is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada

**Aidan Robb** (as Charlie). Aidan is a U1 Biology major also focusing on minors in English: Drama & Theatre and German. He has been performing in theatre since grade three, with credits including Mr. Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice* and Frederick in *Pirates of Penzance*. He is thrilled to be working on *Pomona*, and hopes everyone will enjoy the work the cast and crew has put in.

**Berfin Simsek** (Gale). Berfin is a U2 student double majoring in English: Drama & Theatre and Economics. She has a long performance history, starting with modern dance at age ten. Recent acting credits include Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* (Saint Joseph, Istanbul).

**Sam Snyders** (Moe). Sam is a U0 student planning to major in English with a minor in History. This is Sam's first production with McGill, which he is beyond excited to be a part of it. He most recently wrote and directed a biographical one-act play about the Black Donnelly family, entitled, *Forged by Fear*. He hopes you enjoy the play!

**Sophie Stein** (Sound Board Operator). Sophie is an English: Drama & Theatre and Sociology major with a huge passion for the performing arts. Sophie's biggest passion in theatre is playwriting, and she is thrilled to be a part of the *Pomona* production team and watch the show come to life!

**Marie Trotter** (Moyses Hall Research Assistant). Marie is a PhD3 student researching metatheatres in performances of Shakespeare's plays. Previous credits include acting, stage management, and direction at the University of Toronto's Drama Centre, Queen's University, the Arts and Letters Club, and the Festival of Live Digital Art. Marie is glad to be supporting the *Pomona* team with social media marketing and publicity.

**Nathan White** (Set Crew). Nathan is in their final semester of a Physics major with Math minor. Being their first time putting on a play behind the scenes, they are enjoying the new experience.

## Special Thanks

Erin Hurley

Trevor Ponech

Leanore Lieblein & John Harrod



Madeleine Sherwood – Long Live Theatre Fund

Jackie Buxton

Faculty of Arts - for their continued support on all levels

*The cast and crew of **Pomona 2020**, whose production was cancelled days before opening in March 2020 due to pandemic lockdown.*

