

# ***EDEN***

## **Cast and Crew Bios**

### **Kevin Anderson - Ophidian**

Definitely not the King James version but heartily glad to be in Hope's latest version of the garden of Eden to reprise the never-actually-present Ophidian is Kevin Anderson. In the last year Kevin was the judge in Sarasvati's *No Offense*, Tucker in TBTR's *Generous* and Wart&Henry in SIR's *Henry IV Parts I and II*. When not auditioning or rehearsing he hangs out with Jude, his first passion.

### **Sharon Bajer - Director**

Sharon is thrilled to be directing *EDEN* at Sarasvati this season with such a great cast of Winnipeg actors! She just returned from two seasons at the Stratford Festival in the Michael Langham Workshop for Classical Direction where she assistant directed *Richard III* with Miles Potter and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* with Dean Gabourie. She also directed two pieces of her own with the Stratford Company; scenes from *The Alchemist* and her adaptation of *Dr. Faustus*. Last season Sharon premiered several of her own plays; *Burnin' Love* at PTE, *Hersteria* at The Winnipeg Fringe Festival and four short libretti at Tapestry New Opera Briefs series in Toronto. She is currently directing PTE@PTE's production of Morris Panych's *The Ends of the Earth*. As an actress, Sharon is performing in three productions this season; *Generous* for Theatre by the River, *The Secret Mask* for PTE and *August Osage County* at The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre. Sharonbajer.com

### **Dean Cowieson – Lighting Designer**

Dean has been resident lighting designer of Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers since 2006, as well as the resident lighting designer for Le Cercle Moliere since 2005. Dean has also designed dance lighting for TRIP Dance, Natasha Torres-Garner, and Rachel Browne. He has also designed the lighting for theatre companies in Winnipeg and in other provinces. Dean has also designed sets for various companies in Winnipeg. Dean graduated from the National Theatre School's Lighting Specialization program in 2004, and from the University of Victoria in 1995 for Set Design.

### **Chris Coyne – Sound Designer**

Chris Coyne has been involved in the theatre and film industry in Winnipeg for many years. Currently working for the Department of Theatre and Film at the U of W, Chris is also a graduate of the Ontario Institute of Audio Recording Technology. Chris has had the pleasure of working with many local and international theatre groups including The Black Violin, Rick Hansen Society, The Winnipeg International Fringe Theatre Festival, Fem Fest, *Strike! The Musical*, Theatre Projects Manitoba, and many others. In addition he has worked for Manitoba Theatre for Young People as the house technician from 2007-2010 and works for Prairie Theatre Exchange as an occasional sound technician.

### **Andrea del Campo - Evelyn**

Andrea is delighted to continue with *EDEN*, having played Ev in the 2009 workshop reading. A Winnipegger living in Toronto, Andrea works as an actor, singer and improviser. She has travelled to festivals all over Canada with critically acclaimed Winnipeg improv troupe, Outside Joke, and has performed with various groups in Toronto, including Ghost Jail Theatre and Bad Dog Theater. Andrea's has appeared onstage at PTE, MTYP and in *Strike!*, television credits include *Men With Brooms* and *Wingin' It*, and film credits include *My Awkward Sexual Adventure* and *Open Window*, official selection of TIFF 2010.

**Jessica Freundl – Stage Manager**

Jessica is thrilled to be part of *EDEN*. She graduated with Stage Management and Production degrees. Stage Managing credits include: *August Osage County*, *Grumpy Old Men: The Musical*, *The 39 Steps*, *White Christmas*, *Looking Back- West* (MTC), *Hairspray* (Rainbow Stage), *Henry IV Parts 1 & 2* (SIR), *Kings Park* (MTTC), *The Father*, *Lenin's Embalmers* (as Running Crew) (WJT), *Kayak* (Femfest), *Patience*, *Pirates of Penzance* (G & S), *Juliet and Romeo*, *Doctor Faustus: a fantasy*, *Pericles*, *The Distance from here* (U of W), *Saint Joan*, *The Bush Ladies* (TBTR).

**Ali Fulmyk – Props Coordinator**

Ali Fulmyk is excited to be working with Sarasvati for the second time! She currently in her fourth year at the University of Winnipeg Department of Theatre and Film, where she hopes to graduate with an honours degree in Theatrical Production and Stage Management. Credits include Stage Manager and Prop Coordinator for *[title of show]* with Pocket Frock Productions (2010 Fringe), Stage Manager for *Zanna, Don't!* for Stage 16 (2011 Fringe, Best of Fest), Props Coordinator for FemFest 2011

**Kevin P. Gabel - Adam**

Some of Kevin's stage credits include the University of Winnipeg's production of Howard Barker's *The Possibilities* and last year's five-star Fringe Festival hit *Brain Cravers: The Curse of Extollo*. On film, he has appeared in Shelagh Carter's debut feature *Passionflower*, as well as a number of short films including *Deprivation*, *The Hell of It*, and *Rush Hour Paul*. He is also the award-winning writer-director of such short films as *The Projectionist*, *Lindsey*, and *The Drive Home*. Kevin is currently studying in the University of Winnipeg honours acting program.

**Kim Griffin – Set Designer**

Kim Griffin, an interior designer has been designing sets and costumes for the theatre for over ten years. Her work with Le Cercle Moliere, as well as the University of Winnipeg, le Universite de Saint Boniface and Théâtre Vice Versa Theatre keeps her challenged and inspired. This is her second season with Sarasvati Productions.

**Ti Hallas - Stacy**

Ti co-founded Chinook Theatre which toured throughout western Canada and produced Canada's first Fringe Theatre Festival in Edmonton. During her 10 years with Chinook, Ti was actor, director, playwright, stage-manager, tour-coordinator and General Manager. Ti has worked in television as actor, narrator, host and broadcast journalist, for the NFB, the CBC, and the Alberta Access Network, for CBC radio, and in numerous industrial films. She has documentary and docudrama writing credits. She holds professional teaching certificates for three provinces and has taught Acting, Dance and Voice at various institutions including Grant MacEwan and Laurentian Universities. Since returning to Winnipeg Ti has performed in AlbeeFest, TremblayFest, and FemFest, toured with Green Kids and performed in several independent film productions, commercials and fundraisers. She is a longstanding member of CAEA and ACTRA, has served as Councilor for ACTRA MB for 8 years and sits on the Community Outreach Committee for PAL Winnipeg.

**Marsha Knight - Essa**

Marsha's been in the industry for over 15 years, both on and off stage. Her latest stage work was Norm Foster's *Kiss the Moon*, *Kiss the Sun* for Theater Northwest. She has been a part of the *EDEN* workshops since its early drafts.

### **Hope McIntyre - Playwright**

Originally from Saskatoon, Hope received her BFA in performance. She then completed her MFA in directing and an apprenticeship in England. Hope is in her 13<sup>th</sup> year as Artistic Director of Sarasvati Productions. She is a published playwright and has received awards and productions across Canada, the U.S. and Australia. In 2006 Hope was awarded the YWCA Women of Distinction Award for Arts and Culture. She has taught theatre at Mount Allison, PTE, Brandon University and the University of Manitoba. She currently teaches at the University of Winnipeg and is a former President of the Playwrights Guild of Canada.

### **Kelsey Noren – Costume Designer**

Kelsey Noren is a student of the University of Winnipeg Theatre and Film Department. She has worked closely with the University's Theatre filling the role of Designer in three of their recent productions *As You Like It*, *While We're Young* and *Possibilities*. She was also the Set Designer for *Scar Tissue*, which went on to win the Harry S. Rintoul Award for Best New Manitoban Fringe Play (2010).

### **Tracy Penner - Delilah**

Tracy is thrilled to take part in Sarasvati's world premiere of *EDEN!* Other Winnipeg companies Tracy's worked with include Zone 41 (*Village Wooing* at ShawFest 2012), Theatre Projects Manitoba, MTC, SIR, WJT, and Dancing Hen Productions. She's worked in Edmonton with Catalyst Theatre, Shadow Theatre, Concrete Theatre and many others. Tracy is a graduate of the University of Alberta.

### **Jordan Popowich – Video Designer**

Jordan Popowich has been working in the media and film industry for only a few short years but has developed a strong appreciation and passion for producing new works of art. He is a graduate of the Digital Multimedia Technology program at Red River college and has worked on many local productions as a videographer and editor. These productions include such theatre hits as *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Hersteria* as well as last winter's *Spring Awakening*. His other credits include music videos, independent films and various commercials for the web.

### **Steven Ratzlaff – The General**

Steven's previous theatre appearances include, for Dry Cold Productions: *Sweeney Todd*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *Urinetown*; for Winnipeg Jewish Theatre: *Lenin's Embalmers* (with HGJT), *Essay*, *Russian Play*, *Broken Glass*, *Einstein's Gift*, *Funny Girl*, *Anne Frank and Me*; for Manitoba Theatre Centre: *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Our Town*, *Philadelphia Story* (with TC); for Prairie Theatre Exchange: *Girl in a Goldfish Bowl* (with Belfry), *Molly's Veil*. Steven performed in his own play, *Last Man in Puntarenas* for Theatre Projects Manitoba, which is also producing his *Dionysus in Stony Mountain* this season.

### **Tom Soares - George**

Tom left Winnipeg in 2009 to study at York University where he received his MFA in Acting and specialized in teaching voice, text and dialects. He returned in the summer of 2011 and currently teaches voice to first and second year students at the University of Winnipeg. Tom is currently working with private clients on speech, communication and public speaking skills. This is Tom's first show in Winnipeg since his return and his first production with Sarasvati Productions. Some other credits include *Strike!*, (Danny Schur); *Rich- The Musical* (MTYP); *Urinetown* (Dry Cold Productions); *Troilus and Cressida*, *Measure for Measure* (Tom-Tom Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Richard III* (MTC). Tom is glad to be acting in his home town once again.

**Steven Vande Vyvere – Production Coordinator**

Steven has been a working professional in the technical realm of Theatre for the past four years. In that time, he has worked with Manitoba Theatre for Young People's Young Company (*The Mooncusser's Daughter*), hYsTeRiUm Productions (*The Fabulous Four*), Shoestring Theatre Company (*Departures & Arrivals*, *Whose Life is it Anyway?*, *The Burned House*), Winnipeg Jewish Theatre (*Way to Heaven*), Sarasvati Productions (FemFest 2009 - 2011, *Fen*), Skyline Theatre (*Commedia!*), The Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival and Venus.calm (*Criminals in Love*) in many capacities including Production Coordinator, Sound Designer, Props Coordinator, Stage Manager, Technician and Stage Hand.