

**Theatre Woodstock**



# My Old Lady

**Director**  
Sally Johnston  
**Producers**  
Janny Hughes  
Sally Johnston  
**Stage Manager**  
Samantha Muller

by Israel Horovitz

**October 17-20, 24-27, 2024**  
Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm  
7:30 pm



Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals  
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# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

## My Old Lady

Life presents us with gifts every single day. All we have to do is open our hearts and our minds to accept them.

Many years ago a friend told me about *My Old Lady*. I ordered the script, I read it and I even watched the movie! I accepted this as a gift and I have been waiting all these years to share it with you. I offer this work knowing that it is not an easy story to tell or to hear. There is language that will likely offend some but the language is real. It speaks a truth. I will say that again. It speaks a truth that we should try to get comfortable with because if we want to really hear a person's story and really know a person's soul, we have to open our hearts and our minds to their truth.

My talented story tellers, Tanya, John and Eve, will offer you moments that are gentle, loving and witty and then, there will be moments that may be difficult to witness. But isn't that life? We take the good, the bad and the ugly and we wrap it up like a gift. We share it with our family and friends and we hope, and sometimes even pray, that they will accept it all with an open heart and mind.

I promise you that in the end, the characters in this play rise to the surface better, stronger and healthier than when we first meet them. They have a gift to share and it's yours for the taking.

When I think about great story tellers and people who always had an open mind and heart, I think about, and am compelled to dedicate this production to, Bonnie Hartley and Doug Richards. Two dear friends who are no longer with me. They supported this community theatre and they were a personal support to me as I navigated my way through this hobby that I love. For them, and because of them, I will continue to share theatre with my community. Bonnie and Doug were truly two beautiful gifts. I miss them dearly and I will always celebrate them in my story telling.

With love,  
SALLY JOHNSTON



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## SETTING

Early Spring in Paris, France.  
The story unfolds over the course of one week.

## CAST

Mathilde Girard ..... TANYA THOMPSON  
Mathias Gold ..... JOHN SETTLE  
Chloe Girard ..... EVE COHEN

## LANGUAGE AND DISCLAIMERS

*My Old Lady* deals with sensitive subjects, has some loud noises,  
and contains colourful language that will likely offend some.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Theatre Burlington and Mark Collis for the loan of Wilboar!  
Smith, Leroy Funeral Home for the contribution to set decor.  
Gwen Houwers and Wray Boughner for contributing to the set decor (desk and fireplace).  
Audrianna DeSouza for the ornate picture frames.  
Kathie Richards for the loan of the 2 red runners.  
ITOPA and Rebecca McNall for the loan of the large red carpet.  
LCP and David Long for the loan of the large windows.  
Brian Hughes for helping source pieces, painting and odd jobs.  
Members of Oxford Winds (Noah Foss, Riley Hales, and Abby Houston)  
for providing music for Opening Night.  
Kate Innes for providing her artwork for the lobby.  
Maglin Site Furniture for providing stand-up tables especially designed for our theatre.  
Jade Wassink for helping cover lights.  
Cadence Waters (WCI Co-op student) for marketing assistance.  
Alison and Dave Vink for the Opening Night Reception.

## OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

Please join us downstairs in the Lounge for our Opening Night Reception on Fri., Oct. 19.  
Everyone is welcome!

## PUBLIC ADJUDICATION

A 10-minute public adjudication will take place in the TW Auditorium after the  
Oct. 24 performance, presented to the audience and production team.  
This year's WODL Travelling Adjudicator is Trevor Smith Diggins.



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## CREW

Director .....	SALLY JOHNSTON
Producer .....	JANNY HUGHES
Stage Manager .....	SAMANTHA MULLER
Assistant Stage Managers .....	TRACEY PRICE, LAURA EARLE
Set Design .....	SALLY JOHNSTON
Set Move-in .....	NEIL MULLER, NICK KINSER
Set Builders .....	JASON CARLISLE, ROB COLES
Set Painting .....	KIM DILELLO
Set Decor .....	MARIA ST. LAURENT, SALLY JOHNSTON, SAMANTHA MULLER, JANNY HUGHES
Lighting Design .....	ROB COLES
Lighting Hang .....	ROB COLES, AUDRIANNA DESOUZA
Lighting Operator .....	DON HASTIE
Sound Designer .....	SALLY JOHNSTON
Sound Programmers .....	ROB MCLAUGHLIN, ISAAC TEIGE ATFIELD
Sound Operator .....	ISAAC TEIGE ATFIELD
Props & Costumes .....	MARIA ST LAURENT, CAST AND CREW
Makeup & Hair .....	JULIA KOZUCH, AUDREY KELLESTINE, FANSHAWE HAIRSTYLIST PROGRAM STUDENTS
Photography .....	JOANNA KENNEDY
Program .....	ROB MCLAUGHLIN, SUSAN ROBINSON, ANDREA DEBOER
Poster .....	ROB MCLAUGHLIN



Left to Right: Tracey Price, Rob Coles, Maria St. Laurent, Isaac Teige Atfield,  
Janny Hughes, Jade Wassink, Laura Earle (Absent: Don Hastie)

## CAST



**JOHN SETTLE (Mathias Gold)** John has been performing in amateur theatre for over 25 years but this is his first performance with Theatre Woodstock! Most recently, John played Archie Beaton in *Brigadoon* with Ayr Community Theatre, 2024, Thomas in *Making God Laugh* with Theatre Wellesley, 2024, and Mr. Shellhammer in *Miracle on 34th Street* with Elora Community Theatre, 2023. John is “totally enchanté” to be playing the role of Mathias Gold! He feels “totally bienvenue” to be part of the team!

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**TANYA THOMPSON (Mathilde Girard)** Tanya was recently on the Theatre Woodstock stage in *The Birds and the Bees* last season. She has previously enjoyed the direction and stage management of Sally and Sam in *On a First Name Basis* in 2019 and is honoured to be on stage with the extremely talented John and Eve. The theatre is Tanya’s favourite place – whether onstage, backstage, in the director’s chair, or the audience. Thank you to Nelson for his never-ending support and encouragement. Her very favourite role continues to be that of Lolly (Grandmother) to seven awesome grandkids.

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**EVE COHEN (Chloe Girard)** This is Eve’s second time performing at Theatre Woodstock. Audiences may remember her from *The Dining Room*. A relative newcomer to the area, Eve performed in ITOPA’s *Three Weddings and an Elvis*, Alvego Root Theatre’s *Lawrence Station* and *The Gentle Rain Food Co-op*, Western University’s *Much Ado About Nothing*, the London Fringe Festival’s *Goddess in the Gallery*, The King Black Box in Toronto’s *Hey Lauren* and at the TAP Center in Creativity *Human Voices Wake Us*. She hails from the US, where she performed in theatre and film in Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York. Currently, she resides in London with her husband and dog. She is disappointed she didn’t manage to talk the production staff into letting the cast of *My Old Lady* take a field trip to Paris for “research” purposes but is happy to have visited the city within the pages of this charming play. Thanks to the whole production team and the lovely cast for all their hard work and dedication. They have all made “life better.”

## CREW



**SALLY JOHNSTON (Director)** Sally is extremely happy to be directing again for Theatre Woodstock. Other plays she has directed include *On A First Name Basis*, *Sitting Pretty*, *Old Love*, and *Ten Times Two*. She also directed FOAP's *Accused of Comedy* for ITOPA. Sally loves creating set and sound designs and her next theatre venture is co-producing *A Rock Sails By*. Sally would like to thank her husband Peter for his unconditional support, her daughter Samantha for sharing her love of theatre, and her dear friend Janny for taking the plunge to produce this show! Janny's a natural. She also wants to thank her daughter Emily for making her a gramma because that is the best volunteer job of all!

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**JANNY HUGHES (Producer)** Janny is taking on a new role with *My Old Lady* as producer. She is grateful for the support from Sally in learning what is needed and has enjoyed watching the "magic" unfold. It is an honour to work with such experienced and talented people. She has volunteered with Theatre Woodstock for many years. Most recently she assistant stage managed for *A Good Old-Fashioned Big Family Christmas*, was the sound operator for *Calendar Girls* and stage managed *Accused of Comedy* for the first Festival of One Act Plays at ITOPA.

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**SAMANTHA MULLER (Stage Manager)** Samantha is thrilled to be working behind the scenes once again! She last assistant stage managed *Guys in a Garage*, stage managed *On a First Name Basis*, and produced *On Golden Pond* here at Theatre Woodstock. This show has been a labour of love for her mom, Sally, holding it in her "back pocket" for years. Samantha loves the time they share at the theatre and hopes that you enjoy this story of love, loss, and long life.





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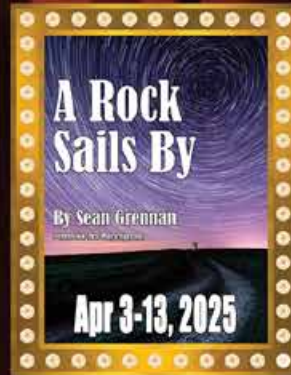






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