



opening night gala

On Tuesday, July 23rd, at 6:30 pm in The Hatch Studio Theatre
at the Jackman Dramatic Art Centre, University of Windsor,
Windsor Feminist Theatre and Kelly Daniels present

Watching Glory Die

Written and Directed by Judith Thompson

**Featuring Kelli Fox, Kathryn Haggis
and Nathanya Barnett as "Glory"**

The evening lasts until midnight and includes...

Pre-show guest speakers panel from Maryvale, Crossroads, Welcome Centre for Women and Families and Hotel Dieu Grace

The performance

A special post-show reception with Judith Thompson, the cast and team at Mare Nostrum on the University of Windsor campus with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages & the soulful sounds of Kianna Porter

TICKETS: \$100 (charitable donation receipt of \$50)

For tickets, please contact Kelly Daniels at watchingglorydie@gmail.com



the watching glory die project

the story

Canadian playwright, Judith Thompson's *Watching Glory Die*, centers on Glory, a troubled teenage inmate who, in her prison cell, is tormented by hallucinations. While she battles the creature in her mind, her adoptive mother Rosellen, struggles to remain connected to her daughter, believing that she can sense Glory's feelings no matter the distance. In the prison halls, Gail, a working-class guard, glides between her conscience and her professional duties, knowing her actions could ultimately lead to a tragic end.

playwright's note

This play is inspired by the tragic death of nineteen-year old Ashley Smith in her isolation cell at Grand Valley Institution for Women in 2007; Ashley had been in the Canadian correctional system since she was fourteen years old, and the system that destroyed her continues to destroy other Canadian women, particularly Indigenous women.

We must stop being bystanders.

why this project

This project will shine a light on mental health and our country's woefully flawed incarceration system that allows girls and women living with serious mental health issues, to fall between the cracks, particularly where Indigenous women are concerned. *Watching Glory Die* has the potential to create meaningful impact on our community.

project planning

Judith Thompson was invited to the University of Windsor by Erica Stevens Abbitt and Humanities Research Group as a guest speaker and to facilitate workshops to promote *Lion in the Streets*, produced by University Players in 2017. A few months later, after an incredible staged reading experience, Kelly Daniels approached Judith who agreed to direct *Watching Glory Die* for Windsor Feminist Theatre in Windsor and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival - the largest festival in the world with over 3500 shows in over 500 venues.

To ensure the project's success, Kelly undertook extensive research of EdFringe including a visit to the festival in Edinburgh last summer. The result of that initiative was an invitation to perform with Assembly Theatre, EdFringe's #1 company and in their prestigious 350 seat Ballroom theatre for the month of August!

emerging artist and student internship opportunities

We are thrilled to be able to offer an internship opportunity that will train 13 emerging artists in producing indie theatre both locally and abroad by providing guidance, experience and the tools to create their own theatre. Students and graduates will collaborate and contribute in various capacities while being mentored and by leading professionals in the industry. We are also proud to be able to hire four emerging artists who will act, design, produce, stage manage, and assistant direct with Judith Thompson, Kelli Fox, Kathryn Haggis, Kelly Daniels and Marie Balsom. The *Watching Glory Die* Project will provide the experience of a lifetime for 17 emerging artists, while also offering a unique credit to their professional profile.