



JAN, 2019
FOR MORE INFO, PHOTOS, INTERVIEWS
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The Cultch presents

CHILDREN OF GOD

Urban Ink (Vancouver); Co-produced with the Segal Centre (Montreal) and Presented with the Talking Stick Festival

WHEN: Feb 20 – Mar 10, 2019

Feb 20-21, 8PM: Previews

Feb 22, 8PM: Opening

Feb 23, 26 – 28, Mar 01 – 02, 05 – 09, 8PM

Feb 23 – 24, Mar 02 – 03, 09 – 10, 2PM

There will be an additional 30 minute discussion following each performance.

Live Audio Description by VocalEye: Mar 3, 2PM

ASL Interpreted Performance: Mar 9, 2PM

WHERE: York Theatre, 639 Commercial Drive

TICKETS: Tickets from \$24. Single tickets on sale now through The Cultch's Box Office: 604-251-1363 or tickets.thecultch.com.

***Children of God* returns to the York Theatre after a national tour and its highly successful 2017 world premiere at The Cultch!**

(Vancouver, BC) – The Cultch is thrilled to bring Corey Payette's award-winning musical *Children of God* back to the traditional territory of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətaʔt (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. After its momentous cross-country tour it returns to the York Theatre, February 20-March 10, 2019.

In this powerful musical, the children of an Oji-Cree family are sent to a residential school in Northern Ontario. It is a story of redemption: for a mother who was never let past the school's gate, and her kids, who never knew she came. *Children of God* offers a thrilling blend of ancient traditions and contemporary realities, celebrating resilience and the power of the Indigenous cultural spirit.

In 2017, after its breakthrough premiere at The Cultch, *Children of God* won three Ovation Awards including Outstanding New Musical, Outstanding Direction, and Outstanding Set Design, and was nominated for a Jessie Richardson Award for Outstanding Contribution to a National Conversation. Since then it has had a run at the National Art Centre, and traveled the country, garnering rave reviews. It continues its Canadian tour in 2019, with stops throughout BC, as well as Montreal.

"*Children of God* is must-see theatre for Canadians" – The Globe and Mail

"This is a brave work, and a starting point for important conversations...See it" –The Georgia Straight

"*Children of God* will stand as a catharsis for some, an introduction for others, yet a point of connection for us all" – Vancouver Presents

"This show is a salve. This is the kind of healing that we need and must decidedly work to carry forth." – Sad Mag

* Because of the subject matter of Children of God, counselling services will be available during the performance for those in need of support.

Book, Music, Lyrics and Director: **Corey Payette**

Performers: **Michelle Bardach**: Joanna/Secretary, **Sarah Carle**: Sister Bernadette, **Dillan Chiblow**: Tom/Tommy, **David Keeley**: Father Christopher, **Jacob MacInnes**: Vincent, **Cheyenne Scott**: Julia, **Michelle St. John**: Rita, **Aaron M. Wells**: Wilson, **Kaitlyn Yott**: Elizabeth/Fighting Captain

Piano/ Music Director: David Terriault, **Cello**: Doug Gorkoff, **Viola**: Elliot Vaughan, **Guitar**: Martin Reisle

Production Designer: **Marshall McMahan**, Original Musical Director: **Allen Cole**, Production Musical, Director: **David Terriault**, Orchestrator: **Elliot Vaughan**, Associate Director: **Julie McIsaac**, Lighting Designer: **Jeff Harrison**, Associate Lighting Designer: **Bryan Kenney**, Original Sound Designer: **Kris Boyd**, Sound Designer: **Kyra Soko**, Production Fight Director: **Mike Kovac**, Stage Manager: **Chantal Hayman**, Assistant Stage Manager: **Jethelo E. Cabilete**

ABOUT URBAN INK:

Based in Vancouver, Urban Ink Productions creates, produces and disseminates original theatre by Indigenous and Culturally Diverse artists. Across Canada, Urban Ink is putting the power in the hands of Indigenous and Culturally Diverse artists to tell their own stories from their own unique voices. Founded in 2001, Urban Ink has always been a company where Canadian stories are told. Today, under the passionate artistic direction of Corey Payette, our company goes even further, promoting Intercultural understanding, igniting conversations from coast to coast, and celebrating the rich history of its land by bringing communities together in a National conversation that affirms diversity as a shared Canadian value.

ABOUT THE CULTCH:

Since 1973, The Cultch (formally the Vancouver East Cultural Centre) has been one of Vancouver's most diverse and innovative arts and cultural hubs. The organization operates three theatrical venues, a gallery, and various ancillary spaces in the heart of East Vancouver. The Cultch offers dynamic contemporary programming in theatre, dance, music, and the visual arts, bringing world-class cultural presentations to thousands of citizens each year through its own programming and through providing rental opportunities for community users. Our purpose is to provide a venue for performance that serves a diverse and engaged public and provides space for artistic experimentation and development, building an audience for local companies and presenting cutting-edge national and international work.

We acknowledge the ancestral, traditional and unceded Indigenous territories of the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.