



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

# ACT OF FAITH

Realwheels (Vancouver)

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**WHEN: April 11-20, 2019**

Apr 11, 8PM: Preview

Apr 12, 8PM: Opening

Apr 13, 16 – 20, 8PM

Apr 14, 2PM

ASL Interpreted Performance: Apr 16, 8PM

Live Audio Description by VocalEye: Apr 16, 8PM

Post-show Artist Talkback: Apr 14, 16

**WHERE: Historic Theatre, 1895 Venables St**

**TICKETS:** Tickets from \$24. Single tickets on sale now through The Cultch's Box Office: 604-251-1363 or [tickets.thecultch.com](http://tickets.thecultch.com).

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**A multi-disciplinary world premiere from one of Canada's foremost playwrights;  
*Act of Faith* is a story of belief, conviction, and controversy.**

(Vancouver, BC) – The Cultch is pleased to present the world premiere of *Act of Faith*, a new play by Janet Munsil, commissioned and produced by Realwheels (Vancouver), and running at the Historic Theatre April 11-20, 2019.

*"Just because you don't believe something doesn't mean it isn't true"*

An inexplicable recovery changes the lives of a community. After years living with paraplegia, Faith can suddenly walk, and believes she has been healed by a miracle. But, what about those closest to her? What about her friends and family? What happens when everything we believe to be true about ourselves, or those closest to us, is challenged by new information? A new play inspired in part by the true story of the mysterious recovery by a young Vancouver woman who lived with paraplegia for 13 years, *Act of Faith* asks, if you aren't religious, can you still believe in a miracle? It is the story of a life changing and controversial event that baffled the medical community, aroused conflicting emotions in the disability community, and was celebrated by some in the religious community.

Known for authentic storytelling, Realwheels is an award-winning theatre company producing performances that deepen audiences' understanding of the disability experience. *Act of Faith* features a mixed ability cast, and explores wheelchair movement in unique, never before seen ways. With a cast of some of Vancouver's most exciting performers, including Emily Grace Brook, who lives with paraplegia, and appears in a pivotal lead role, this new play explores the mystery—and controversy—of faith-based healing, and the consequences of a life-changing transformation.

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Playwright: **Janet Munsil**

Director: **Rena Cohen**

Directing Mentee: **Caspar Ryan**

Choreography: **Carolina Bergonzoni**

Assistant Choreography: **Silene Razo**

Performers: Jess: **Emily Brook**, Faith: **Danielle Klaudt**, Gloria/various: **Tanja Dixon-Warren**, Damon/various: **Mason Temple**, Raff/various: **Raugi Yu**, Maureen/various: **Harmanie Taylor**, Worshipper/various: **Janice Laurence**

Set Designer: **David Roberts**, Costumes Designer: **Christopher David Gauthier**, Lighting Designer: **Michael Hewitt**, Sound Designer: **Matthias Falvai**, Videography/Slide Show Designer: **Caspar Ryan**

Production Producer: **Allyson McGrane**, Co-Producer: **Lindsey Adams**, Production Associate: **Jayson McLean**, Production Stage Manager: **Michael Brooks**, Production Asst Stage Manager: **Yeon Kyeom (Jenny) Kim**

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#### **ABOUT REALWHEELS:**

Realwheels is an award-winning theatre company producing performances that deepen audiences' understanding of the disability experience.

They recognize disability as part of the range of the human condition; it is complex, diverse, and a significant part of Canadian culture, history and identity – one they're working to reflect and integrate in all their artistic practices. They are actively engaged in equity-based initiatives to eliminate disability-based barriers that prevent access to the performing arts, both physical and attitudinal. [www.realwheels.ca](http://www.realwheels.ca)

#### **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.

[www.thecultch.com](http://www.thecultch.com)