

## Studio 180 Theatre in Association with Tarragon Theatre Announces Casting for the Canadian Premiere of *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds*

Toronto, ON - January 30, 2024 – Mark McGrinder, Artistic Director of Studio 180 Theatre today announced the cast and creative team for the Canadian premiere of James Fritz’s darkly comic drama *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds*. The lead roles of Di and David will be played by stage and screen stars Megan Follows and Sergio Di Zio, alongside rising talents Tavaree Daniel-Simms as Nick and Jady N Nasato as Cara. The play runs from April 20 to May 12, 2024 in the Tarragon Extraspace (30 Bridgman Ave, Toronto). Opening night is April 25 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available now at [TarragonTheatre.com](https://TarragonTheatre.com).

*Di and David have devoted their lives to giving their son, Jack, every opportunity they never had. But a startling incident outside the school grounds threatens to ruin everything they’re striving to achieve. As events accelerate, Di and David begin to question whether they can trust Jack, his closest friends, or even themselves.*

“*Four Minutes Twelve Seconds* is a deeply provocative moral thriller which demands an exceptional cast,” said show director **McGrinder**. “I feel so fortunate that we have Megan, Sergio, Tavaree and Jady on board for this journey. This is a play which, like the best of our previous work at Studio 180, takes pressing issues like consent, privilege and technology and explores them from a truly human perspective. *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds* is many things. It is a catalogue of the dissolution of a marriage, a cautionary tale about the lack of privacy in the world of social media, a chilling exposé of toxic masculinity, an indictment of white male privilege, and it is also a stark reminder of how class and gender can be used to dehumanise and discredit the most vulnerable.”

Beyond The Stage activities and Studio 180 IN CLASS education programs have been planned to help audiences and visiting students navigate the play’s discourse around issues of consent and the ways in which society protects perpetrators of sexual violence.

The creative team of *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds* includes assistant director **Chantelle Han** (RBC Emerging Director), set and costume designer **Jackie Chau**, lighting designer **Logan Raju Cracknell**, sound designer **Lyon Smith**, stage manager **Sandi Becker**, and production manager **Charissa Wilcox**.

Studio 180’s 2023/24 season continues on February 28 at 7 p.m. at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre with a Studio 180 IN DEVELOPMENT reading of *Death to the Prometheans!* by **Camille Intson** (RBC Emerging Playwright) directed by 郝邦宇 **Steven Hao** (RBC Emerging Director alumnus). Visit [studio180theatre.com](https://studio180theatre.com) to register or to learn more.

Content warning: *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds* contains strong language and references to physical and sexual violence.

Run time: approximately 90 minutes, no intermission.

# studio180theatre

Studio 180 Theatre's 2023/24 season is made possible through the support of the following funders: BMO Financial Group (Season Sponsor), Zukerman Family Foundation (Founding Patron), RBC Foundation (RBC Emerging Artist Program), with operating support from the Toronto Arts Council and Ontario Arts Council, capacity building support from the Government of Canada, and IN CLASS education support from the Aubrey and Marla Dan Foundation, Patrick and Barbara Keenan Foundation, BridgeWater Family Wealth Services, Gwen and Richard Harvey, and Diane King.

## ABOUT STUDIO 180 THEATRE

**Studio 180 Theatre** is a Toronto-based company with a mission to engage, provoke and entertain through dynamic theatre and innovative Beyond The Stage experiences that delve into social and political issues. Since 2002, Studio 180 Theatre has evolved from an informal artistic collective into one of Toronto's most respected independent professional theatre companies, expanding to include a strong new play development program and an extensive IN CLASS workshop program which engages with 2,000 students annually. *Indecent*, *The Chinese Lady*, *The Laramie Project*, *Stuff Happens*, *Our Class*, *Clybourne Park*, *The Normal Heart*, *The Nether*, and *Oslo*, are among the many plays Studio 180 has produced in the past 20 years.

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**James Fritz** is a multi-award-winning writer from South London, whose plays for stage and radio include *Four Minutes Twelve Seconds*, *Parliament Square*, *Ross & Rachel*, *Start Swimming*, *The Fall*, *Comment Is Free*, *Death of A Cosmonaut*, *Lava*, *Dear Harry Kane*, *Skyscraper Lullaby* and *The Flea*. He has won the Critics Circle Theatre Award for Most Promising Playwright, a Bruntwood Prize for Playwriting and the Imison and Tinniswood BBC Audio Drama Awards, the first time a writer has won both in the same year. He has also been nominated for an Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre, a BBC Radio Award for Best Single Drama, and was named runner-up in the 2013 Verity Bargate Award. He is a graduate of both the Channel Four Screenwriting Program and the BBC TV Drama Writers Program and has a number of original television series in development.

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