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**NATIVE EARTH PERFORMING ARTS and
FIREHALL ARTS CENTRE**

present

GOD AND THE INDIAN

Written by Drew Hayden Taylor

On Stage at Aki Studio May 2 – 17, 2015

What is possible when the abused meets her abuser? **Native Earth Performing Arts** and the **Firehall Arts Centre** present the Toronto premiere of **GOD AND THE INDIAN** by **Drew Hayden Taylor**, directed by **Renae Morriseau**. This national joint production stars two beloved artists from across the country, **Thomas Hauff** and **Lisa C. Ravensbergen**.

While panhandling outside a coffee shop, Johnny, a Cree woman, is shocked to recognize a face from her childhood spent in a residential school. Desperate to hear him acknowledge the terrible abuse inflicted on her and other children at the school, Johnny follows Anglican bishop George King to his office and confronts him.

Drew Hayden Taylor (playwright) is an award-winning playwright, novelist, scriptwriter and journalist from Curve Lake First Nation. His plays include *Someday*, *Toronto at Dreamer's Rock*, *Only Drunks and Children Tell the Truth*, *In a World Created by a Drunken God*, *Spirit Horse*, and *The Berlin Blues*. Taylor's writing has been recognized by the Chalmers Canadian Play Awards, Dora Mavor Moore Awards, James Buller Aboriginal Theatre Awards, and the Governor General's Awards. From 1994-97, he proudly served as the Artistic Director of Native Earth. Taylor wrote his first draft of *God and The Indian* during his time as Playwright-in-Residence with Native Earth, which had its premiere in 2013 at the Firehall Arts Centre.

Renae Morriseau (director) is Saulteaux/Cree from Peguis First Nations, Manitoba and an award-winning documentary/filmmaker, producer, writer and actress most recognizable for her role as Ellen in the CBC television series *North of 60*. Morriseau has received awards for her documentaries from the American Indian Film Festival, CanPro, and Aboriginal Media Arts Film Festival.

GOD AND THE INDIAN stars **Lisa C. Ravensbergen** as Johnny and **Thomas Hauff** as Anglican Assistant Bishop George King. Vancouver-based Ravensbergen is Ojibwe/Swampy Cree and a Jessie Award-nominated actress. Select credits include *Where The Blood Mixes* (Theatre North West); *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe* (Firehall Arts Centre); *My Mother's Story* (Presentation House Theatre); *The Unnatural and Accidental Women* (Native Earth Performing Arts).

Toronto-based Thomas Hauff has performed at most of the major theatres across the country, and made appearances in film, television and commercials. Select stage performances include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Stratford Festival of Canada), *Moon for the Misbegotten* (Theatre New Brunswick), *Anne* (Blyth Festival, Theatre Calgary), *Sticks and Stones* (Blyth Festival), *The Drawer Boy* (Theatre Passe Muraille, Waterloo Stage Company), *Stretching Hide* (Manitoba Theatre Projects), and *Ariadne Auf Naxos* (Canadian Opera Company).

“I guess it helps when you are the same race as God.”– Johnny, *God and The Indian*

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present

GOD AND THE INDIAN

Written by Drew Hayden Taylor

Directed by Renae Morriseau

Starring: Thomas Hauff and Lisa C. Ravensbergen

Set and Lighting Designer: Lauchlin Johnson

Costume Designer: Alex Danard

Aki Studio, Daniels Spectrum | 585 Dundas Street East

Run Dates: May 2 – 17, 2015

Opening Night: Wednesday, May 6, 2015 @ 8pm

Tuesday - Saturday @ 8pm • Sundays @ 2pm

Ticket prices range from \$15-\$25

Tickets can be purchased online at www.nativeearth.ca or by calling 416.531.1402
Student/Elder/Arts Worker discounts and Pay-What-You-Can Tuesday tickets available

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[#GODANDTHEINDIAN](https://www.instagram.com/GODANDTHEINDIAN) [#AKISTUDIO](https://www.instagram.com/AKISTUDIO)

Native Earth Performing Arts is Canada's oldest professional Indigenous theatre company. Currently in our 32nd year, we are dedicated to creating, developing and producing professional artistic expressions of the Indigenous experience in Canada. Through stage productions (theatre, dance and multi-disciplinary art), new script development, apprenticeships and internships, Native Earth seeks to fulfill a community of artistic visions. It is a vision that is inclusive and reflective of the artistic directions of members of the Indigenous community who actively participate in the arts.

The Firehall Arts Centre produces and presents a season of theatre, dance and interdisciplinary works drawn from the Canadian and international canon. Currently in our 33rd season the Firehall has been a leader in inclusive casting and in celebrating Canada's cultural pluralism through its work. Through productions, presentations, tours, training programs, script development workshops, our annual arts fair and residencies, the Firehall strives to introduce our audiences to a broad and entertaining spectrum of work. The Firehall is based in Vancouver, B.C. and makes its home in a heritage 1906 fire station.

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