

# Wayne Burns

ACTRA | CAEA

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**Wayne Burns** (he/him) is a T'karonto/Toronto-based actor and creator raised on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq in Wagobatik/Truro, Nova Scotia. He is a graduate of The National Theatre School of Canada, the recipient of two Theatre Nova Scotia Awards, is an ACTRA Maritimes Award Nominee and was selected as a "Breakthrough Theatre Artist" by NOW Magazine. Wayne may be most recognized for his work as Lykos, The Prince of Athens, on the limited SyFy series 'Olympus' and the role of Tyler Ward in Michal Ross Albert's 'Miss'. He is the co-founder of Toronto's longest-running intersectional conversation series, Dark Nights, and has produced work for Soulpepper Theatre, The City of Toronto, Harbourfront Centre, Fall for Dance North and Esie Mensah Creations. Wayne's original work continues to be presented internationally and has received support from The National Film Board of Canada, CBC, OUTtv, the Inside Out Film Festival, the Toronto Arts Council and the Ontario Arts Council.

## Selected Film & Television Credits

AVOCADO TOAST: THE SERIES	Guest Star	OUTtv; Dir: Sam Coyle
SLO PITCH	Recurring	IFC; Dir: J Stevens
LIAR	Lead	Dresser Drawer; Dir: Wayne Burns
THE GIFT GIVER	Lead	Dresser Drawer; Dir: Denis Theriault
MURDOCH MYSTERIES	Guest Star	CBC; Dir: Don McBeartry
REMEDY	Guest Star	Global; Dir: Anne Wheeler
OLYMPUS	Series Regular	SyFy; Dir: Nick Willing
BONE DEEP	Lead	Off The Leash; Dir: Jeremy Webb
ALL THE WRONG REASONS	Principal	Shore Road Pictures; Dir: Gia Milani
MR. D	Recurring	CBC; Dir: Steve Wright
BLACKBIRD	Supporting	Emotion Pictures; Dir: Jason Buxton

## Theatre Credits

YAGA	Det. Rapp/Henry Kalles	Highland Arts Theatre, Sydney, NS
ESSAY	Jeffery	Matchstick Theatre, Halifax, NS
GOOD GRIEF	Parker	Ships Company Theatre, Parrsboro, NS
SUMMER OF SEMITISM	Saint	Paprika Festival, Toronto, ON
DOCK MOTHER GOD SOCIETY	Jay	Bloodpact Theatre, Toronto, ON
FEARLESS	Daniel/Tiger Vanier	fu-GEN Theatre, Toronto, ON
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE	Kit Marlowe	Neptune Theatre, Halifax, NS
CRAVE	A	Pure Carbon Theatre, Toronto, ON
MISS	Tyler Ward	Unit 102 Theatre Co. Toronto, ON
ROMEO + JULIET	Benvolio	Shakespeare in the Ruff, Toronto, ON
LIONESS (Tour)	Maria	Dresser Drawer Productions
BOYS FROM THE BURBS	Angelo	Empty Room Collective, Toronto, ON
WITH BATED BREATH	Willy	Plutonium Playhouse, Halifax, NS
TOUGH CASE (Tour)	Dane Timbrell	Left Foot First Productions, Halifax, NS
MERLIN	Arthur	Halifax Theatre for Young People, NS

## Workshops & Development

NEVER GONNA GIVE YOU UP	Creator/Performer	In The Soil Festival, Sainte-Catherines, ON
MR. WONDERFUL AND I	Director/Dramaturg	Halifax Fringe Festival, Halifax, NS
TROJAN GIRLS	Thalhybius/Hermes	Outside the March, Toronto, ON
THE LAST SHOW ON EARTH	Dramaturg	Nightwood Theatre, Toronto, ON
GOOD GRIEF	Parker	Ships Company Theatre, Parrsboro, NS

THE HARD WORK OF ELEPHANTS	Alex	Bloodpact Theatre, Toronto, ON
HEY, MAY, HEY	Tom	Forward March Festival, Toronto, ON
FASTLOVE	Creator/Performer	Buddies in Bad Times, Toronto, ON
SILA	Thomas	Factory Theatre, Toronto, ON

### Selected Filmography

RUN	Writer, Director, Designer	Mixed Media Installation
A QUEERS GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL LIVING	Exec. Producer	Feature Documentary
TESSEL	Producer	Dance Short
A REVOLUTION OF LOVE	Producer	Dance Short
#CANCELLED	Co-Writer, Co-Director, Producer	Narrative Short
<i>BODY SO FLUORESCENT</i>	Producer	Narrative Short
LIAR	Writer, Director, Producer	Narrative Short
SLY: HOW TO SELF-SUSPEND	Director, Producer	Documentary Short
CURTAINS	Writer, Director, Editor, Designer	Mixed Media Installation
THE GIFT GIVER	Producer	Narrative Short

### Selected Exhibitions

- **Malton Gallery** - "Awakenings" - Toronto, ON, 2022 (*A Revolution of Love*)
- Festival Arts Saint-Sauveur - Online - Saint-Sauveur, QC, 2021 (*TESSEL*)
- **American Black Film Festival** - Online - South Beach, FL, 2021 (*A Revolution of Love*)
- Toronto Women Film Festival - Online - Toronto, ON, 2021 (*TESSEL*)
- Screen Dance Film Festival - Online - Stockholm, SE (*A Revolution of Love*)
- Festival Internacional de Teatro Mercosur - Online - Cordoba, ARG, 2021 (*TESSEL*)
- Melbourne Queer Film Festival - Online - St Kilda, VIC, 2021 (*BODY SO FLUORESCENT*)
- **City of Toronto: Awakenings** - Online - Toronto, ON, 2020 (*A Revolution of Love*)
- Imagine + Native Film Festival - Online - Montreal, QC, 2020 (*LIAR*)
- Inside Out Film Festival - "BOLD" - Online - Toronto, ON, 2020 (*BODY SO FLUORESCENT*)
- Inside Out Film Festival - "Local Heroes" - Online - Toronto, ON, 2020 (*LIAR*)
- FilmPride LGBTQ Film Festival - Online - Toronto, ON, 2020 (*LIAR*)
- Just FKN Make Film Festival - Online - Toronto, ON, 2020 (*#Cancelled*)
- Dark Day Monday: 23 - "It's Not Too Late" - The Burdock Music Hall, Toronto, ON, 2020 (*Curtains*)
- Fluid Fest - "Body in Space" - **cSpace King Edward**, Calgary, AB, 2018 (*Curtains*)
- **Imagine + Native Film Festival** - Montreal, QC, 2017 (*The Gift Giver*)
- OUTEast Film Festival - Halifax, NS, 2017 (*The Gift Giver*)
- Out South Queer Film Festival - Durham, SC, 2017 (*The Gift Giver*)
- NewFest - New York, NY, 2017 (*The Gift Giver*)
- **Inside Out Film Festival** - TIFF Bell Lightbox - Toronto, ON, 2017 (*The Gift Giver*)

### Residencies

- Directors Lab North, Tarragon Theatre, Toronto, ON, 2022
- Eastern Front Theatre - Digital Macros: Connections, Dartmouth, NS, 2022 (*Run*)
- Swallow-a-Bicycle Theatre - DiscomfortLAB, Calgary, AB, 2019 (*fastLOVE*)
- **The Gladstone Hotel**, Toronto, ON, 2016-2017 (*Dark Nights: A Conversation Series*)
- **The Theatre Centre**, Toronto, ON, 2015-2016 (*Dark Nights: A Conversation Series*)

### Community Engagement

- Mentor - QueerFutures 2099 - **Soulpepper Theatre**, 2021
- Guest Speaker - "Wayne Burns" - Avocado Toast: The Podcast, 2020
- Facilitator - Toronto's International Short Film Festival, 2019
- Facilitator - "Storytelling Across Disciplines" - **The National Arts Centre** - PACTcon, 2018
- Guest Speaker - "Wayne Burns" - Natural Element Podcast, 2018
- Facilitator - *Dark Nights: A Conversation Series*, 2015-2018

- Panellist - "PRIDE Toronto" - **Urban Outfitters/FujiFilm**, 2017
- Panellist - "Now What: An Emerging Artists Guide..." - Theatre Ontario, 2016
- Facilitator - "Cultivating Tomorrow's Artists" - Theatre Ontario, 2015
- Member - Youth Advisory Committee - Theatre Ontario, 2015

### Grants & Commissions

- Ontario Arts Council - Tarragon Theatre Recommender Grant, 2022 (*fastLOVE*)
- **CBC** - Broadcasting License "Canadian Reflections", 2019 (*LIAR*)
- Toronto Arts Council - Media Arts Grant, 2019 (*SLY: How to Self-Suspend*)
- **NFB** - Filmmaker Assistance Program Grant, 2019 (*SLY: How to Self-Suspend*)
- Ontario Arts Council - Artists in Communities Grant, 2017 (*Dark Nights: A Conversation Series*)

### Awards

- **Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award** - "Community Leadership" - Winner, 2021 (*A Revolution of Love*)
- ACTRA Maritimes Awards - "Best Performance - Category 4" - Winner, 2021 (*LIAR*)
- Inside Out Film Festival - "Emerging Canadian Artist" - Winner, 2020 (*BODY SO FLUORESCENT*)
- Just FKN Make Film Festival - "Best Director" - Winner, 2020 (*#Cancelled*)
- ACTRA x Inside Out - "Queer Your Stories" - Winner, 2020 (*BODY SO FLUORESCENT*)
- **NOW Magazine** - Breakthrough Theatre Artist, 2018 (*Miss*)
- My Entertainment Awards - "Best Actor" - Nominee, 2018 (*Miss*)
- Canada Shorts Film Festival - Finalist, 2018 (*Prey*)
- **Inside Out Film Festival** - Film Finance Forum - Finalist, 2017 (*The Gift Giver*)
- Toronto Youth Shorts Film Festival - "Audience Choice" - Winner, 2016 (*Project: CNY*)
- Feedspot.com - "Top 20 Acting Blogs on the Internet" - Winner, 2016 (*An Actor's Life*)
- **ACTRA** Maritimes Awards - "Best Actor in a Short Film" - Nominee, 2013 (*Bone Deep*)
- Atlantic Film Festival - "Best Dramatic Short" - Winner, 2012 (*Gravity's Pull*)
- Nova Scotia Talent Trust - "Theatre Nova Scotia Award" - Winner, 2012
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- **Neptune Theatre** - "Edmund C. Bovey Bursary" - Recipient, 2010

### Training

- Playwriting Intensive - Rosamund Small - Online, 2022
- **Audition Psych 101** - Michael Kostroff - Online, 2022
- Scene Study - David LaFontaine - 102 Actors Lab, Toronto, ON, 2019 - Present
- Improv for Actors I & II - Paloma Nunez - **The Second City**, Toronto, ON, 2018
- On-Camera Class - Sarah Kay & Jenny Lewis, ACTRA Conference, Toronto, ON, 2017
- Red Nose Clown - John Beale - John Beale Studios, Toronto, ON, 2016
- Meisner Technique - Stephanie Jones - Stephanie Jones Studio, Toronto, ON, 2015-2017
- **SummerWorks Leadership Intensive Program** (S.L.I.P) - Joseph Recinos, Mumbi Tindyebwa, Michael Wheeler - Generator, Toronto, ON, 2015
- Mechanicals Program - Nina Lee Aquino, Nigel Shawn Williams - **Factory Theatre**, Toronto, ON, 2015
- Acting Program - Various - **The National Theatre School of Canada**, Montreal, QC, 2011-2014
- Pre-Professional Training Program - Lee Jay Campbell, Mauralee Austin, Sherry Lee Hunter, Alexis Milligan, Garry Williams - Neptune Theatre, Halifax, NS, 2010

### Arts Management

Owner, Creative Producer

- Dresser Drawer Productions, 2015 - Present

Studio Coordinator

- **fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre Company**, 2015 - Present

Creative Director (Co-Founder alongside Luke Reece)

- *Dark Nights: A Conversation Series*, 2015 - 2018