



CORPORATE FINCH

- a one act horror -

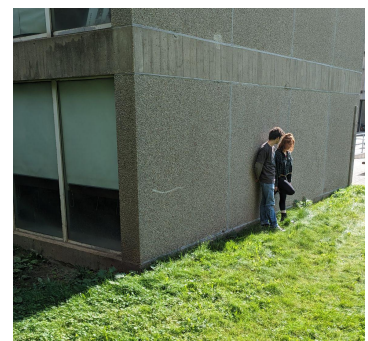
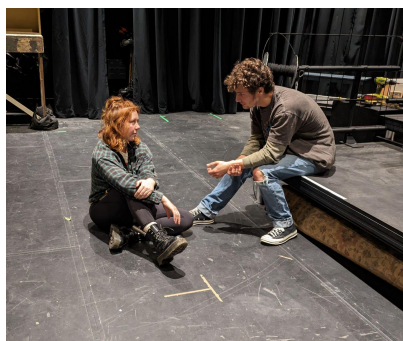
Writer/Director: Taylor Marie Graham
Starring: Lucy Sancı & Matthew Ivanoff

MT Space's IMPACT Festival 2023
Joseph Schneider Haus
Sept 29th & 30th @ 9:30pm

It's midnight in St. Jacobs, Ontario, and two local teenagers are breaking into an old abandoned factory. Will both of them make it out alive? Better come see for yourself! This creepy new one act thriller was one of three winners of Flush Ink Production's 22 hour horror playwrighting contest.

Catch it this fall at MT Space's IMPACT Festival 2023!

Corporate Finch was born summer 2022 in an old factory in St. Jacob's, Ontario. In the hopes of shaking up her writing routine, playwright **Taylor Marie Graham** joined the Flush Ink 22 hour playwrighting contest where playwrights are sent to creepy locations to write a new horror in 22 hours. The goal for Taylor was to write a full one act thriller rooted in South Western Ontario in 22 hours and that's exactly what she did! At first she thought that it was likely that *Corporate Finch* would just be an exploratory writing experiment, one designed to help her achieve her goals for some other writing projects. What ended up happening in an old St Jacob's factory late at night was Taylor wrote a play that engages with important issues of our time including teen sexual assault, consent, imagined Canadas, and rural identities. Flush Ink named *Corporate Finch* one of three winners of the contest and produced a workshop version in the Unhinged Festival in Kitchener, Ontario, December 2022 which Taylor directed. Summer 2023 *Corporate Finch* went on a smash hit tour to Toronto, Stratford, and Sault Ste Marie with sold out shows and many positive reviews! One of the play's original leads Rainbow Kester is off to Montreal as she was admitted to the very prestigious National Theatre School and the multi-talented performer Lucy Sancı is now stepping into this monster of a role for IMPACT Festival in Kitchener this fall!





TAYLOR MARIE GRAHAM → Playwright / Director

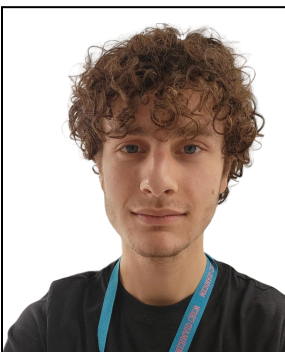
Taylor Marie Graham (she/her) is an award winning playwright, librettist, director, theatre researcher, and educator. She lives and works in Cambridge, Ontario, on Treaty 3, Haldimand Tract. Both her creative and scholarly work often explores rural feminist identities, the decolonization of bodies in space, and relationships to land/environment. Her plays and operas have been described as, “arresting and funny” (Lynn Slotkin), “an uncommonly cool theatrical experience” (MoT), “charmingly twisted” (Toronto Star), “searingly written” (Bill Mandel) and “profound, beautifully crafted . . . one of the most exciting new Canadian plays I’ve seen in a long time” (Christopher Hoile). She holds an MFA in Creative Writing and is completing a doctoral degree in English/Theatre at the University of Guelph. She also loves working with students as a sessional theatre professor at various institutions in South Western Ontario. www.taylormariegraham.com

“I hope this play moves our audiences, scares them a little, and challenges their expectations. I hope they have conversations afterwards about what happens in the play and have questions about who has the potential of being dangerous in society. I hope we create an arresting experience full of a variety of emotions and feelings, a complex array of what it means to be human. I hope this play empowers women and pushes against misogynist stereotypes often found in the horror genre. Horror as a genre has some cleaning up to do, some reckoning with a misogynist past that is required. I hope audiences see the potential in horror to expose the difficult sides of human nature often hidden to empower those mistreated. I hope this play takes the audience on an unexpected, yet deeply satisfying journey.”



LUCY SANCI → Actor “Finch”

Lucy is very excited to be taking on the role of Corporate Finch! She wants to thank her friends and family for always being so supportive and driving across Ontario to see all her shows! Her favourite credits include: #25 (The Wolves), Sarah (C-O-N-T-A-C-T), and Lost Boy (Peter Pan The Musical). She wants to say a huge THANK YOU to you for coming out and supporting new Canadian works! Learn more about Lucy at lucysanci.com or [@lucy_sanci](https://www.instagram.com/lucy_sanci)



MATTHEW IVANOFF → Actor “Jake” & Sound Designer

Matthew Ivanoff just completed his theatre degree at UGuelph. Matthew gravitates toward roles and productions that explore identity shaped by generational and personal memory, reflections on food and environmental sustainability, and the de-stigmatization of mental health. His credits include roles in *Lord of the Flies*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Flick*, *War of the Worlds*, *Memories*, *Sundried Tomatoes* and *Radio Shows*, and *Amaryllis*. He has also appeared in several radio plays and fictional podcasts. He spends much of his free time playing, repairing, and modifying instruments. Matthew is an alumnus of the Soulpepper City Youth Academy.

"I am incredibly thankful to be playing Jake and the sound designer of Corporate Finch because I believe that horror is an underserved genre in theatre spaces. It has the capacity to explore themes surrounding love, memory, morality, and absence in a way that isn't quite possible in other genres. This is clear from mediums ranging from film to video games; and Corporate Finch takes the genre to the live-theatre space in a new and heart-breaking way. I am excited to help bring love and horror with Lucy and Taylor to IMPACT audiences this fall."

PAST PRESS



“A [grade] — A moody, twisty drama from playwright Taylor Marie Graham that plays beautifully with space, light, and sound, Corporate Finch was the highlight of our first day at Fringe. It’s as moving as it is scary” – Kelly Bedard, My Entertainment World

“Corporate Finch gives us an intriguingly oddball psychological thriller. . . keep us guessing as to who’s the monster . . . genuine creepiness.”
– Ilana Lucas, Broadway World

“Taylor Marie Graham has written a dramatic tale that slowly evolves and grips us on the way . . . steadily spooky when the truth is revealed.” – Lynn Slotkin, Slotkin Letter

“Written and directed by Taylor Marie Graham, Corporate Finch is a twisty thriller that will have you on the edge of your seat . . . a show you simply have to see.” – Janine Marley, A View From the Box

“This grisly two-hander by playwright Taylor Marie Graham is well-performed and well-directed . . . the characters are complex and enigmatic” – Joshua Chong, Toronto Star

“Graham’s script and the persuasive performances meander gently through a subtly haunting interaction. . . . Who is in control and how is always in flux. Just as we settle into an understanding of their situation, the nature of it shifts . . . This is a tender, disturbing mediation on youthful connection and the precarious phenomenon of trust.” – Istvan Dugalin, Istvan Reviews

“Thriller. Mystery. Spooky. Mood lighting. Birds (ew). Wonderful acting. Cleverly directed . . . overall, this show was great. It was unlike anything else I’ve seen at the festival, and this one goes on my faves list for sure.” – Lori, Girl Who Likes Theatre

“This is an intense, slow burning piece of theatre . . . brilliance in the simplicity . . . If you’re into eerily suspenseful plays about teenage misdeeds in small town, Ontario, then I think you’ll find that Corporate Finch is just the ticket” – Quinton, CJRU 1280

“CORPORATE FINCH is a dark, weird little play, by turns psychological, theological, and ornithological . . . nods to horror classics . . . CORPORATE FINCH is a fine show, a solid exemplar of an under-explored theatrical sub-genre” – Louis Train, Our Theatre Voice

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