



ETS resident artist takes centre stage

Local playwright shares transit's underground culture

April 20, 2016

For several weeks Megan Dart observed the transit world through a new lens. Rather than popping in her earbuds in or staring out the window, the longtime transit rider and local playwright watched how people interacted.

"I saw people create 'moments of community' in all sorts of situations, whether they saw each other once in passing or every day on the same route," said Dart.

Dart used her observations in creating a short new play that is part of Workshop West Playwrights' Theatre playreading series "This is YEG: New Plays for a Changing City", April 22-24 at La Cité Francophone.

In one instance, Dart got to know another regular rider on her bus. Dart learned the woman had lost her job and was pawning her jewelry to make rent. One day, another rider tried to board the bus and was short on fare. The rider was trying to get to a shelter in time for lunch. Dart watched as the unemployed woman gave the other rider her last transit ticket.

"Paying it forward was something I saw every day from all walks of life," said Dart. "It was quite remarkable."

The series features seven other new works, including plays by two other playwrights who were embedded at the City of Edmonton: Jason Chinn (Edmonton City Hall) and Conni Massing (Edmonton Valley Zoo).

Tickets for "This is YEG: New Plays for a Changing City" are available at Tix on the Square, online, or by calling 780-477-5955.

For more information:

workshopwest.org

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