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(2wp) 2 women productions presents

# DRAGON'S GOLD: A SWORD RE-FORGED, A RING ACCURSED

Jan Andrews, Jennifer Cayley, Katherine Grier

Wakefield: April 21; Peterborough: April 26; Perth: April 27 For full venue and ticket information please see below

2 women productions is bringing its highly successful (audiences have doubled!) second season to a conclusion with a journey backwards to the time of the Vikings and the ancient world of Norse saga. Jan Andrews and Jennifer Cayley, the "2 women", are joined by Katherine Grier for a performance *Dragon's Gold* -- the story of an accursed treasure and a golden ring that brings doom to all who possess it. This is a tale that may be centuries old but is still very much alive in the contemporary world. It inspired Tolkien; it's characters are still to be found in video games and other contemporary fantasies; it was the basis of the great classical composer, Wagner's, extraordinary series of operas *The Ring Cycle*.

For the time of it, audiences will live in an ancient world of wild and burning passions; feel the mettle of a god-given, twice-forged sword; ride with Sigurd, the Volsung as he faces the dragon Fafnir; wait with Brunhilde within her flame-ringed tower; know the pain of betrayal and the agony of lost love; feel the fiery devastation wrought by anger and deeply human evil. Truly this will be an evening on the grandest of scales

"These stories are still alive today because the intense drama and extremity of emotion they portray have the power to touch us on so many levels, even though we would like to believe that this fierce and fate-filled world is not where we live now," says Jennifer Cayley, one of the tellers and a principal with 2 women productions.

If what audiences response to 2 woman productions presentations in the past is anything to go by, you are in for a treat. Here's an example:

"...... people here who are thirsty for this kind of intelligent, high-quality, moving and, I would say, "real" work. People watch and, more importantly, listen spellbound. And, on two occasions, at the end of the story there has been a kind of collective gasp of amazement."

Audience member, Jim Bamber

Jan Andrews, Jennifer Cayley and Katherine Grier are tellers with decades of performance experience in a diversity of genres. They all have a particular love for offering audiences the wonders of the ancient epics and traditional folk tales. They have relished the challenge of bringing their combined skills and knowledge to Dragon's Gold.

Andrews and Cayley are the founders and directors of 2wp and are delighted both to be telling in the season and to have this opportunity to work with Katherine, a long-time colleague. All three tellers are active players in the local and the national storytelling scenes.

2 women productions is dedicated to bringing the very best of adult storytelling to your community. While this is the last performance for this year's season, plans for next year are already underway. Watch the website (www.2wp.ca) for further details; check out dreams, schemes, thoughts, opinions and news of further happenings at www.2wp.ca/jans-blog.

Contact: Jennifer Cayley 2.women.productions@gmail.com

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women productions stories. for adults.

# Dragon's Gold: A Sword Re-forged, A Ring Accursed ➤ PRESS KIT

# Dragon's Gold: A Sword Re-forged, A Ring Accursed Jan Andrews, Jennifer Cayley, Katherine Grier

## venue and ticket information

Wakefield, April 21 Wakefield La Pêche Community Centre, 38 Chemin Valley

all shows start at 7:30pm

Tickets \$18.00

Box Office: Jamboree (819) 459-2537

740 Chemin Riverside

advance online: www.ticketsplease.ca

Peterborough, April 26 Market Hall Theatre, 140 Charlotte Street

www.markethall.org all shows start at 7:30pm

Tickets \$18.00/advance; \$20.00 at the door

Box Office: www.markethall.org

or call (705) 749-1146

**Perth, April 27** Full Circle Theatre, 26 Craig St.

http://www.barndoorproductions.ca

all shows start at 7:30pm

Tickets \$18.00/advance; \$20.00 at the door Box Office: Tickets Please, 39 Foster Street (613) 485-6434, www.ticketsplease.ca



all venues are fully wheelchair accessible





### **Jan Andrews**

Widely-recognized as a storyteller who touches her audiences with the depth and power of her work, Jan has traveled extensively, telling stories at festivals and in concerts across Canada, in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States. A committed member of the Canadian storytelling community, she was the first president of Storytellers of Canada-Conteurs du Canada and founded the organization's StorySave project. She also served as Artistic Director of two long-running Ottawa storytelling series (one at the Fourth Stage of the National Arts Centre). Previous collaborations with Jennifer include founding an arts education organization and producing and performing in complete tellings of The Iliad, The Odyssey and The Mahabharata. Jan tells everything from folktales to literary stories, from epic to personal tales. She is also the author of classic books for young people. Always a groundbreaker, she was the first Storyteller/Writer in Residence at the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture at the University of Manitoba.

A wealth of other information about her is to be found at: www.janandrews.ca

Visit Jan's Storytelling Club to listen to Jan telling from her repertoire of traditional tales.

# **Jennifer Cayley**

Jennifer has been telling stories professionally for nearly two decades. Career highlights include: performing at the Talk Story Festival in Hawaii; appearing at the Fringe at the Annual Conference of the National Storytelling Network in St. Louis; touring The Book of Spells to Wales and Ontario; making regular appearances at the Ottawa StoryTellers National Arts Centre series; collaborating with Jan in producing epic pieces. Jennifer believes passionately that stories are important to all of us as we struggle to understand the shape and meaning of our lives. Her aim is always to make the profoundly simple contact between teller, story and listener richly alive. She is dedicated to bringing traditional stories to young people and has worked in schools settings through Prologue to the Performing Arts (www.prologue.org) and the Ontario Arts Council's Artists in Education Program. She is currently available for school visits through MASC (www.masconline.ca). Building on her years as an award winning arts administrator at MASC, she is also developing a career that seeks to use the power of traditional stories to facilitate organizational change.

#### **Katherine Grier**

Katherine is delighted to join the women of 2WP in this telling of Dragon's Gold, with its unflinching exploration of the human condition. Since the early 1980s, she has been telling traditional stories that are still relevant today as well as stories shaped from her own and others' experience. She has performed at many events and venues, including the Toronto, St. John's and Ottawa Storytelling Festivals and the National Arts Centre Fourth Stage. She tells regularly for young people in the schools. Her work has been supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, Newfoundland & Labrador Arts Council and Ontario Arts Council.

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# 2 women productions

Based in Lanark, Ontario, founded in 2009, 2 women productions is dedicated to advancing and nurturing the art of storytelling for adult audiences, particularly in performance settings. Initially, the core of the company's work will be to tour three fine shows on an annual basis in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec; current communities reached are: Peterborough, Perth, and Wakefield.

2 women productions also welcome invitations for house concerts, performances and workshops in venues across the land. The commitment is to storytelling at its very best. Material may be contemporary, personal, literary or traditional; it may be thought provoking, funny, deeply moving, raw. Whatever the genre or mood, exquisite crafting stands supreme. Impacts will leave audiences eager for more.

## Vision

2wp believes that storytelling for adults has come of age and stands positioned to assume a fully-contributing place in Canadian cultural life. While continuing to work on the mounting of seasons in an increasing number of locations, the organization will also looks towards promoting the shows it has already presented on a wider basis across the land. 2wp founders, Jan Andrews and Jennifer Cayley, are committed to creating opportunities for broader development. In this context, they ensure that 2wp collaborates with national and local organizations for the initiation and implementation of forward-thinking change; they provide professional development opportunities through master classes, individual coaching and intensives; they share information required to strengthen administrative expertise. Jan and Jennifer consider that 2wp is an organization whose time is right and anticipate that it will have much to contribute over many years. They are working towards the fulfillment of a persistent dream: that cultural presenters across the land will come to afford major recognition to storytelling as an art form; that such presenters will include storytelling shows in their own regular seasons and independently mount performances in locations large and small.

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## the 2 women

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Jan Andrews

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**Jennifer Cayley** 

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**Katherine Grier** 

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