Timothy Findley’s The Wars adapted by Dennis Garnhum, a touchingly beautiful tale of connection through the eyes of a soldier.

Adapted for the stage in 2007 by Dennis Garnhum (MFA Directing, 1993), Timothy Findley’s The Wars, his 1977 novel that won the Governor General’s Award for English Language Fiction, retains its poignantly poetic storytelling.

When Robert Ross, a tender-hearted idealist who shares a strong bond with his wheelchair-bound sister, trades his comfortable Canadian life for the harsh world of trench warfare in World War I, we watch his slow unravelling. This story takes us deep inside the mind of a soldier and catapults us into the mud, smoke, and chlorine gas of the front line in France during World War I. Ultimately life-affirming, in the hands of director and alumna, Lois Anderson (Bard on the Beach), this piece, staged by the graduate class of 2020, at an age similar to that of the characters, directly links to our world in 2019 showing that human connection is all.

Timothy Findley’s The Wars adapted by Dennis Garnhum was originally co-produced by Theatre Calgary and the Playhouse Theatre Company of Vancouver in the fall of 2007.

Robert Ross David Volpov; Mr. Ross Hayden Davies; Mrs. Ross Laura Reynolds; Private Purchas Nicco Graham; Captain Taffler/Soldier 2 Guard Drew Ogle; Sergeant MacDonald Ishan Sandhu; Private Levitt/Soldier 6 Aidan LeBlanc; Captain Leather/Coyote Caleb Pleasure; Private Harris/Lorenzo Tesler-Mabe; Private Regis/Soldier 1/3 Liam McCulley; Private Cote/Soldier 4 Connor Riopel; Sergeant Rodwell/Soldier 5 Karthik Kadam; Station Master/Major Mickle/Horse 1/Rose Monica Bowman; Eve/Lady Barbara d’Orsey/Horse Ava Maria Safai; Maria/Flemish Woman/Marian/Horse Pamela Martinez; Rowena/Ella/Jackie/Horse Hana Cripton-Inglis

Director Lois Anderson; Scenic Design Cecilia Vadala; Costume Design Erica Sterry; Lighting Design Matthew Piton; Sound Design Zachary Levis; Stage Manager Emily Chen