

theatre:  
CALGARY

SEASON 23/24

**THEATRE  
FOR ALL**

# Season Overview

## Student Matinee Performances

SEPT 27 & OCT 3, 4 | The Mousetrap  
OCT 25 & NOV 1 | Made in Italy  
NOV 28, 29, & DEC 6, 7, 13 | A Christmas Carol  
JAN 31 & FEB 7 | Meteor Shower  
MAR 6, 13, & 20 | As You Like It  
APR 10 & 17 | Selma Burke  
MAY 29 & JUN 5 | Beaches the Musical



2023-2024  
Season Overviews prepared by

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## Contact

for booking and other inquiries

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For more information about Student  
Matinees, visit our [website](#).

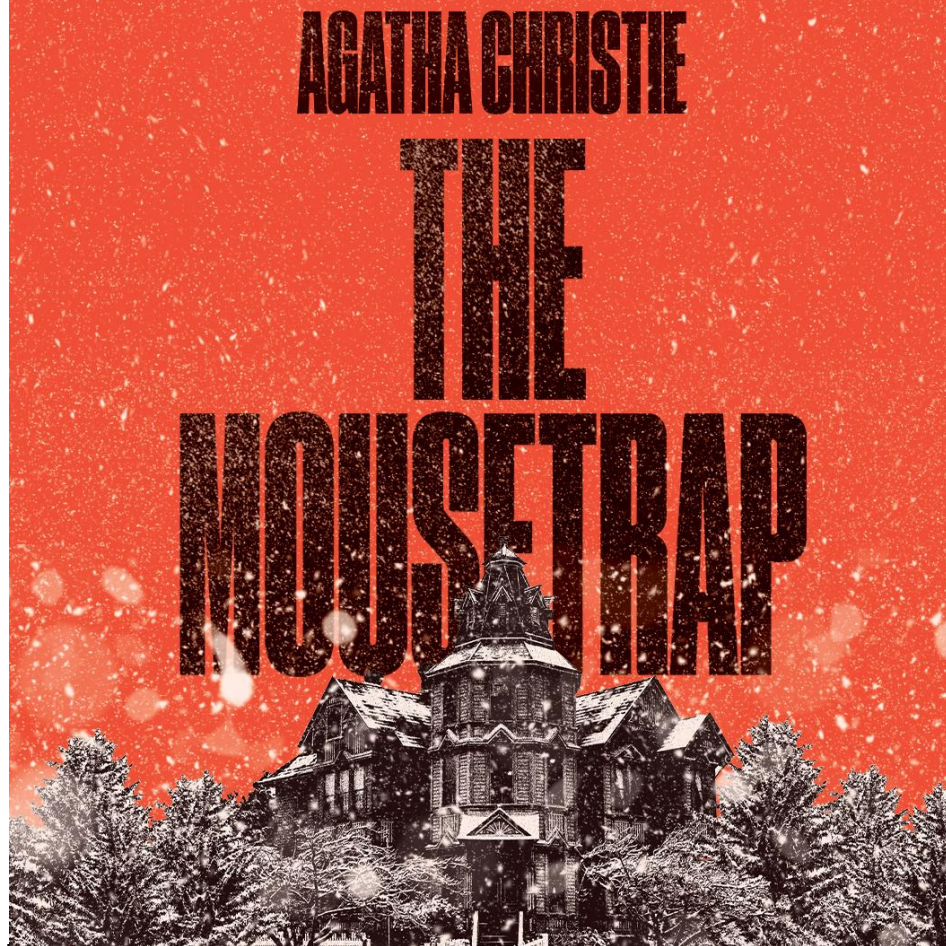
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# Student Matinees

SEPTEMBER 27  
OCTOBER 3 & 4

On a dark and snowy night, seven strangers find themselves trapped in a remote guesthouse. The next morning, the snowed-in guests are joined by a police sergeant who brings news of a grisly murder in London. To the guests' horror, he reveals that the killer may be in their midst. The game is afoot as the sergeant delves into the histories of the guests to uncover sordid pasts. Can you put the pieces together and solve the murder before the final curtain?



**GRADES 7 - 12**

**AUDIENCE ADVISORY:**  
talk of murder

**Themes | Motifs**

deceit | gender & conformity | identity |  
xenophobia | genre: murder mystery

# Student Matinees

OCTOBER 25  
NOVEMBER 1

Every meal tells a story, and this one is about family. In this tour-de-force solo show, Francesco, a young Italian immigrant and his father, Salvatore, recall their experiences in 1970s Jasper, Alberta. A semi-autobiographical tale, *Made in Italy* is a comedic chronicle of the generational differences in an immigrant family. Holding dear the traditions of Italy, Salvatore hopes to pass them on to his son, while Francesco finds new role models in Italian cultural icons Rocky Balboa & John Travolta!



**GRADES 7 - 12**

**AUDIENCE ADVISORY:**  
some strong language

## Themes | Motifs

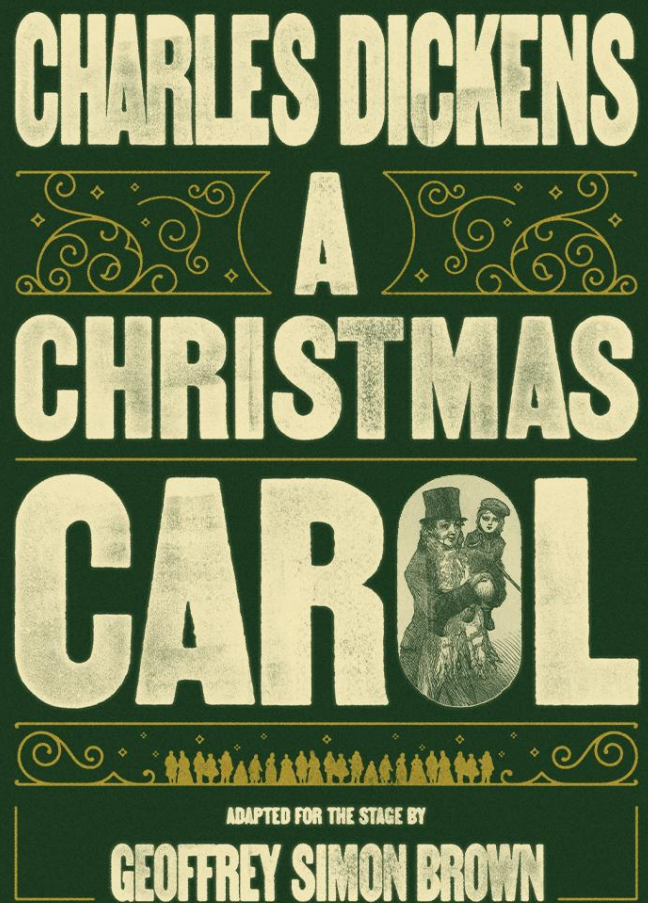
acceptance | assimilation | belonging |  
coming of age | family | identity

# Student Matinees

NOVEMBER 28 & 29  
DECEMBER 6, 7, & 13

A timeless tale of redemption, told as only Theatre Calgary can tell it: full of life, spectacle, and backed by a huge cast. On Christmas Eve, Ebenezer Scrooge, a miser with a heart of stone, is visited by three ghosts who confront him with the consequences of his actions. As they show him his past, present, and future, he begins to recognize that there is more to life than money. But will he be saved from his horrible fate? Are these shadows of the things that will be or may be?

# CHARLES DICKENS A CHRISTMAS CAROL



ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY  
GEOFFREY SIMON BROWN

GRADES 1 - 12

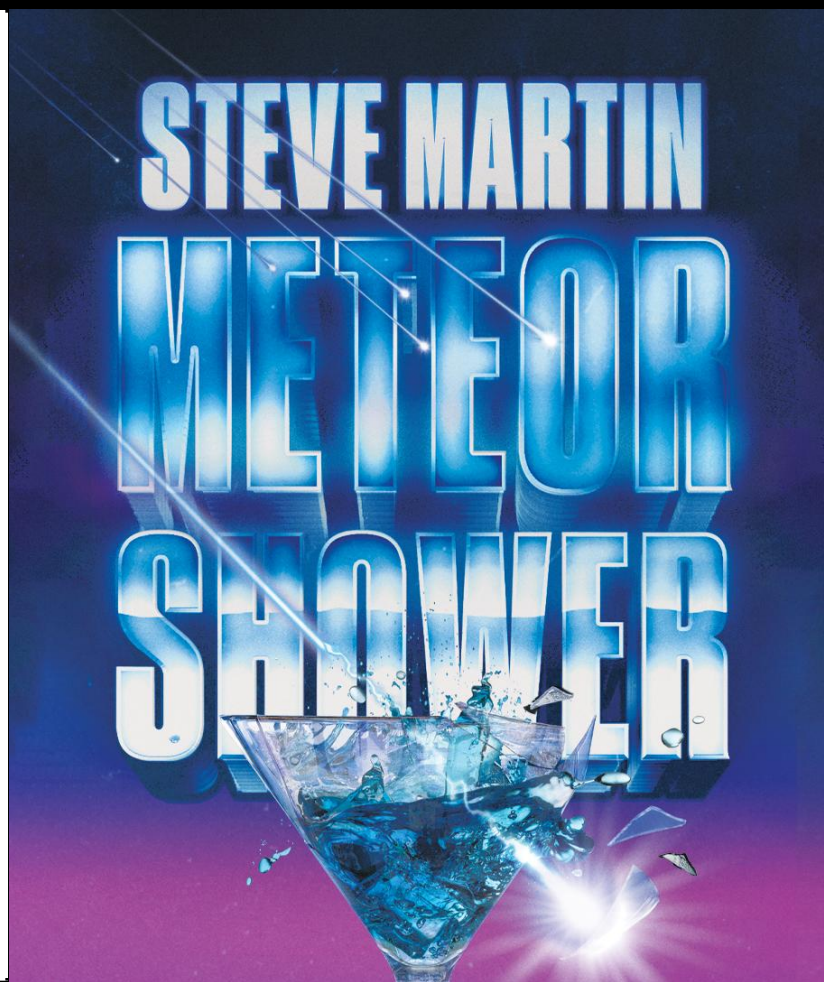
## Themes | Motifs

classism | compassion | family |  
forgiveness | generosity | greed |  
meritocracy | redemption | social justice

# Student Matinees

JANUARY 31  
FEBRUARY 7

On a warm summer evening in 1993, Norm and his wife, Corky, are setting the table for a dinner party to accompany a once-in-a-lifetime meteor shower. They're hoping for an evening of polite conversation with Norm's tennis partner, Gerald, and his wife, Laura. But from the moment the evening begins, things become increasingly surreal and chaotic, challenging the couples' relationships and perceptions of reality. Steve Martin's signature wit is on full display in this comedy, where the jokes are served as quick as the drinks.



**GRADES 10 - 12**

## **AUDIENCE ADVISORY:**

alcohol, drug use, strong  
language, adult themes

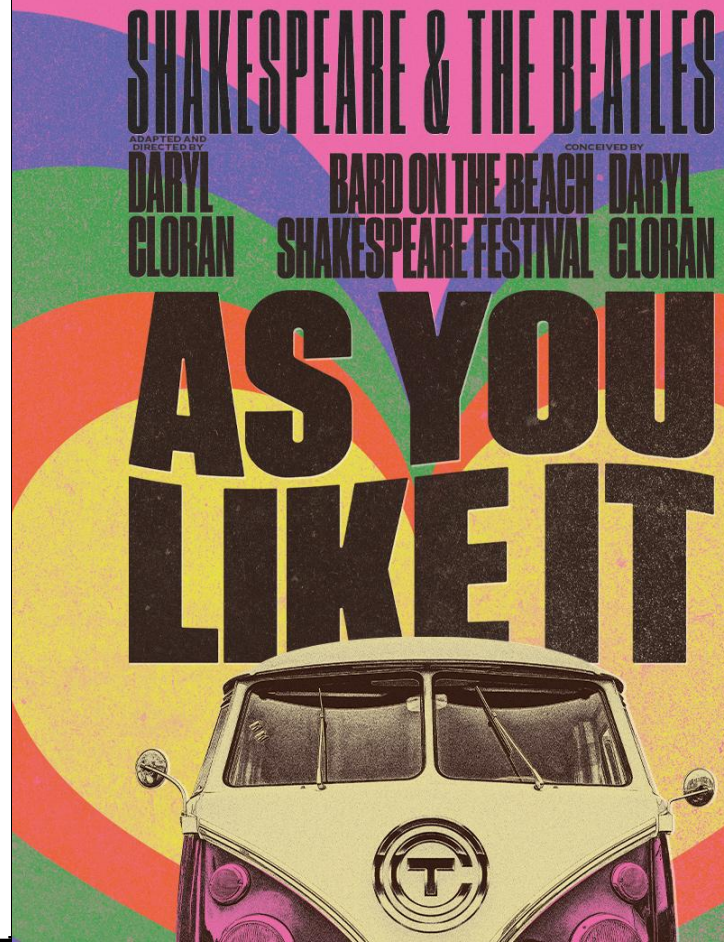
## Themes | Motifs

betrayal | marriage | sexuality |  
genre: absurdism

# Student Matinees

MARCH 6, 13, & 20

It's the 1960s, and things are getting groovy in the Forest of Arden. Shakespeare's classic comedy of love and mistaken identity is given new life in this high-spirited adaptation featuring the music of The Beatles. When Rosalind is banished from court, she disguises herself as a man and escapes to the forest. There, she meets the similarly-banished Orlando, who happens to be in love with her, but cannot see through her disguise. From there, things get increasingly tangled as the play explores love and gender roles, infused with the music of the "Fab Four."



GRADES 6 - 12

## Themes | Motifs

acceptance | city life vs. country life |  
disguise | family | gender roles | identity  
| universality of life

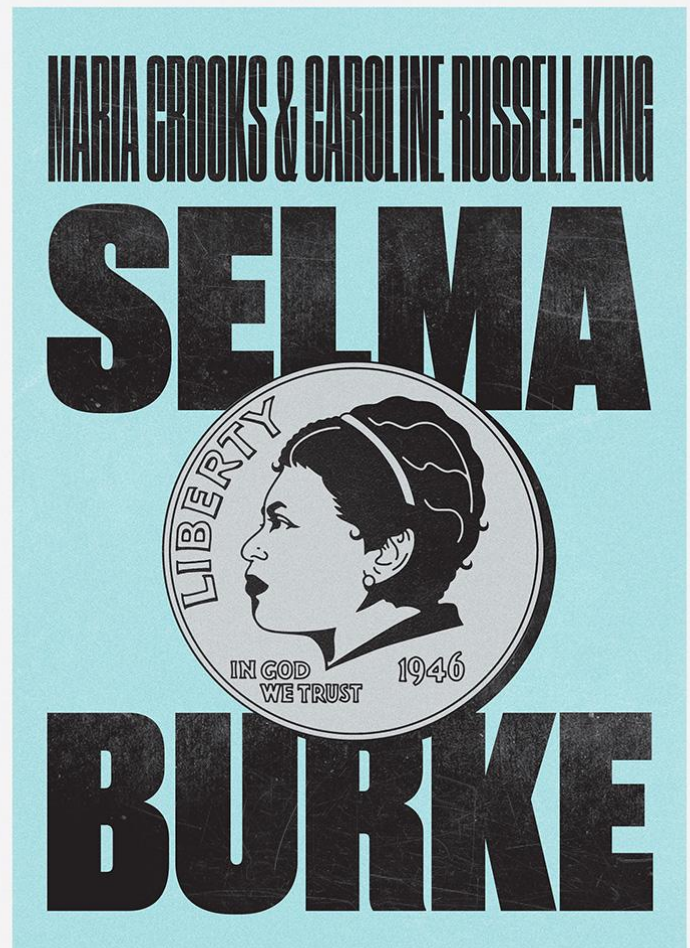
This production is made possible by the generous support of The Al Osten & Buddy Victor Legacy Fund.

# Student Matinees

APRIL 10 & 17

Few know of Selma Burke, the Black American sculptor who played a major role in the Harlem Renaissance movement of the 1920s and 30s. Among her works is a bas-relief plaque of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which is now widely accepted to be the basis for the design on the American dime, and something for which she never received credit within her lifetime. A stirring play about the importance of art, courage, romance, and justice, Burke's rarely-told story is brought to life in this world premiere by Calgary playwrights Maria Crooks and Caroline Russell-King.

Presented in partnership with Alberta Theatre Projects



**GRADES 7 - 12**

**AUDIENCE ADVISORY:**  
sexual themes

Themes | Motifs

American history & government |  
art history & appreciation | civil  
rights | Harlem Renaissance | racial  
politics | sacrifice | sexuality

# Student Matinees

MAY 29

JUNE 5

A new musical based on the best-selling novel and blockbuster film, *Beaches the Musical* follows two extraordinary friends through 30 years of camaraderie, laughter, sorrow and love. Vivacious, outlandish Cee Cee and beautiful, privileged Bertie meet as children and become fast friends. From pen-pals to roommates to romantic rivals, Cee Cee and Bertie's oil-and -water friendship perseveres through even the most tragic trials. With a touching vulnerability, *Beaches* exemplifies the triumph of the human spirit and the bonds of sisterhood.

Book by Iris Rainer and Thom Thomas  
Music by Mike Stoller  
Lyrics by Iris Rainer

Based on the novel by Iris Rainer  
Developed in collaboration with  
David Ausit

THE TIMELESS STORY  
OF FRIENDSHIP

# BEACHES

THE MUSICAL

**GRADES 7 - 12**

## **AUDIENCE ADVISORY:**

references to sex  
& drug use

## Themes | Motifs

coping with death | female  
empowerment | female friendship |  
gender expectations | following your  
dreams | mother-daughter  
relationships | genre: musical theatre

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