



## MEDIA RELEASE

### THEATRE CALGARY CELEBRATES A BRAND NEW PRODUCTION BY CALGARY PLAYWRIGHT

## **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

**NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 28, 2019**

For Immediate Release  
NOVEMBER 20, 2019

**Calgary, AB...** Theatre Calgary is proud to present a new adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* by Calgary's **Geoffrey Simon Brown**, and directed by Artistic Director **Stafford Arima**, as we celebrate 33 years of spirited tradition with the longest-running holiday theatre production in Canada.

Our 2019 production is also highlighted by a completely new design that includes sets and video by **Scott Reid**, costumes by **Deitra Kalyn**, and lighting by **Micahel Walton**. The design features many new surprises for audience members, while keeping the story firmly set in the traditional world of Dickens' 1843, London.

*"Even though Dickens was writing so specifically about the time he was living in it feels like he tapped into something that we all seem to forget and need to be reminded of again and again,"* says playwright Brown. *"We need to pay attention to those around us, as we all belong to the same world. That feels as relevant today, if not more, than it was in 1843."*

Designer Reid says that the show will be very true to the world of the book. *"Geoffrey has been very loyal to Dickens and the book. While we have filled the show with lots of theatre magic, this is still a very true representation of the time. We aren't intending to romanticize London or Dickens."*

Brown's adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, marks the eighth different stage adaptation of the show at Theatre Calgary since its inception. Theatre Calgary originally presented *A Christmas Carol* in 1983 (followed by a show in 1984, and then every year since 1989) in our old home, the QR Centre, on 9th Ave.

The show will once again star **Stephen Hair** as Scrooge, as he returns for his 26th appearance as the famous miser. Hair has been a part of 31 of the 33 productions we have staged since 1983.

Along with Hair, *A Christmas Carol* features an-all local ensemble including eight young actors. The cast includes **Mark Bellamy**, **Anna Cummer**, **Brett Dahl**, **Cash Davis**, **Christopher Duthie** (Mr. Fezziwig) are joined by **Eva Hornung**, **Emma Houghton**, **Brian Jensen** (Jacob Marley), **Vanessa Jetté Naya**, **Karen Johnson-Diamond**, **Marina Kadri**, **Allison Lynch**, **Devin MacKinnon**, **Geneviève Paré**, **Graham Percy** (Bob Cratchit), **Julianne Smith**, **Evan Andersen Sterns**, **Jamie Tognazzini** (Christmas Past), **Marshall Vielle Natay'ao'tako** (Christmas Present), **Oliver Woodruff** (Tiny Tim), and **Hannah Wu**.

The rest of the creative team for *A Christmas Carol* includes **Haysam Kadri** (Assistant Director), **Allison Lynch** (Composer & Music Director), **Jeremy Spencer** (Additional Orchestrations), **Jesse Robb** (Choreographer), **Paige Parkhill** (Assistant Choreographer), **Jenna Turk** (Dramaturg), **Jane MacFarlane** (Voice & Dialect Coach), **Emma Brager** (Stage Manager), and **Kerry Johnson** and **Carissa Sams** (Assistant Stage Managers).

*Performances at Theatre Calgary run Tuesday thru Sunday with evening curtain at 7:30pm (Tuesday-Sunday), weekend matinees at 2:00pm. Tickets for all performances can be purchased through Theatre Calgary at 403-294-7447, or online at theatrecalgary.com. All performances take place on the Max Bell Theatre stage in Arts Commons.*

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For more information or interview requests please contact:  
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**TELEVISION MEDIA CALL - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28 - 1:00pm**  
Max Bell Theatre, Arts Commons      **PRINT** - photos available upon request