



For Immediate Release  
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MEDIA RELEASE  
THEATRE CALGARY OPENS  
SEASON WITH BIG LAUGHS  
IN *NOISES OFF*

SEPTEMBER 10 – OCTOBER 5, 2019

(CALGARY, AB) - Theatre Calgary is set to open its 2019-20 season with big laughs, a set full of doors, and a cast of Calgary favourites in *Noises Off*, by **Michael Frayn**.

If there was ever a play that could take the world of theatre, and turn it on its head, it is *Noises Off*. Taking place during a dress rehearsal, backstage, and a late-run performance, the show is a play-within-a-play, that lets us laugh along with a group of actors who are desperately trying to remember their lines, and their alliances.

What is considered one of the best contemporary farces written, *Noises Off* originally began in 1977 as a Michael Frayn one-act play called *Exits*. Over the next five years, Frayn would flush out the show to become about a play-within-a-play that spans three acts, which made its debut in 1982. Since then, he has rewritten the play several times, with the most recent version published in 2000.

*"Michael Frayn has created one of the best – and most complicated - examples of the genre,"* says director Mark Bellamy. *"Noises Off is actually a farce inside a farce – or rather a farce about a farce. The intrepid artists trying desperately to get through the fictitious door-slamming farce Nothing On are beset with every problem a theatrical production can encounter."*

Designing the set and lighting for *Noises Off* is Betty Mitchell Award winner Anton de Groot. With a complex script that dictates precisely where and when characters are running in and out of the multitude of doors, de Groot had to reverse his design process. *"I usually conceptualize a design form the abstract to the concrete. For Noises Off, it was the opposite. Certain elements, such as the doors, have to be a certain way."*

*Noises Off* features some of Calgary's funniest actors and familiar faces to our audiences, including **Tyrell Crews** (Garry Lejeune), **Anna Cummer** (Poppy Norton-Taylor), **Christian Goutsis** (Lloyd Dallas), **Braden Griffiths** (Timothy Allgood), **Karen Johnson-Diamond** (Belinda Blair), **Duval Lang** (Selsdon Mowbray), **Camille Pavlenko** (Brooke Ashton), **Graham Percy** (Frederick Fellowes), and **Elizabeth Stepkowski Tarhan** (Dotty Otley).

Along with director Bellamy, and designer de Groot, the creative team includes **Deitra Kalyn** (Cosutme Design), **Scott Reid** (Set & Projection Design), **Cory Sincennes** (Costume Design), **Alan Brodie** (Lighting Design), **Joshua D. Reid** (Sound Design), **Mark Limacher** (Associate Music Director), **Brock Jellison** (Associate Choreographer), **Jane MacFarlane** (Voice and Dialect Coach), and **Karl H. Sine** (Fight Director). The Stage Manager is **Patti Neice**, Assistant Stage Manager is **Ashley Rees** and the Apprentice Stage Manager is **Chandler Ontkean**.

*Noises Off* previews September 10-12. Opening night is September 13. Performances run Tuesday thru Sunday with evening curtain at 7:30pm (Tues-Thurs & Sunday) and 8:00pm (Fri & Sat), weekend matinees at 2:00pm. Tickets for all performances start as low as \$35.00 and can be purchased through Theatre Calgary at 403-294-7447 or online at [theatrecalgary.com](http://theatrecalgary.com). All performances take place in Arts Commons Max Bell Theatre.

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For more information or interview requests please contact:  
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TELEVISION/VIDEO MEDIA CALL - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1:00pm  
Max Bell Theatre, Arts Commons      PRINT - photos available upon request