

By Charles Dickens

Adapted by Dennis Garnhum

<u>Wenzel</u>

At Theatre Calgary we strive to create a welcoming, inclusive and safe environment for diverse communities.

To formally open our productions, Theatre Calgary will pay tribute and recognize the Indigenous people of the Treaty 7 region as the past, present and future stewards of this land where our performance takes place.

In response to the release of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, the act of giving territorial or land acknowledgement has now become best practice across Canada. In our efforts to embrace the language and spirit of reconciliation, we recognize that our practice will evolve as Theatre Calgary strengthens our relationships within local Indigenous communities and with artists. Theatre Calgary is committed to maintaining regular engagement with Indigenous and community leaders for consultation on best practices.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Welcome to Theatre Calgary.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge that this performance is taking place on Treaty 7, signed at Blackfoot Crossing in 1877. We are on the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7 including the three Blackfoot Nations: consisting of the Siksika, Piikani, Kainai Nations; the Stoney Nakoda Nations: consisting of the Bearspaw, Wesley and Chiniki Nations; and the Tsuu T'ina Nation. The city of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

We are grateful to have the opportunity to present in this territory.

am so grateful that we have the opportunity to congregate in a theatre to celebrate the joy of the holiday season with A Christmas Carol.

A Christmas Carol is probably one of the most powerful stories in existence, and this production and its message is such a beautiful way to celebrate the true meaning of the holiday season – to open your heart to others and be filled with gratitude for the people in our lives. In its profound simplicity, Dickens' story brings a smile to one's soul and reminds us that we all have the potential to better ourselves.



Calgary has had a profound relationship with A Christmas Carol, and with Stephen Hair's indelible performance as Ebenezer Scrooge. For 25 years, Stephen has brought humour, humanity, and "Humbugs!" to our stage. Every person at Theatre Calgary sends out the warmest of congratulations to Stephen for the artistry he has brought to this incredibly complex man named Scrooge.

I have found through repeated viewings of Carol that Scrooge's journey forces me to stop and think about the world in which we live. This familiar tale about the metamorphosis of the soul, and the true spirit of the season remains relevant today. The holidays are a time to connect and re-connect with family, friends, and loved ones. It is also a time of giving and compassion. To all our subscribers, thank you for your continued support and appreciation of Theatre Calgary. To any new friends in the audience, thank you for joining us and opening your hearts to the magic of theatre. I hope and trust that everyone has a magnificent holiday season and that your lives continue to be enriched by health, wealth of spirit, and prosperity.

Stafford Arima

Artistic Director

Theatre Calgary gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the City of Calgary through Calgary Arts Development, the Government of Alberta through The Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Government of Canada through the Canada Council, Canadian Heritage, and all corporate and private contributors.













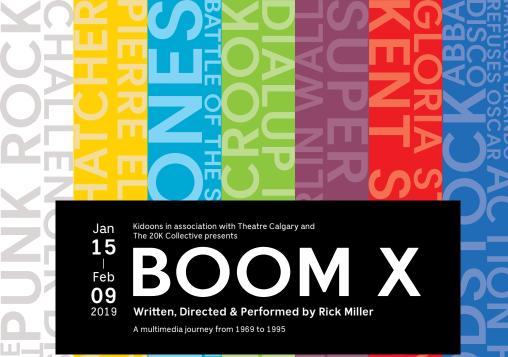




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Theatre Calgary is a resident company of Arts Commons, operating out of Arts Commons Max Bell Theatre.

Arts Commons



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Executive Producer: Jeff Lord, Multimedia: Irina Litvinenko, Projection: Nicolas Dostie, Lighting: Bruno Matte, Composer and Sound: Creighton Doane Set, Costumes, and Props: Virginie Leclerc, Production Manager: Olivier Bourque Stage Manager and Director of Outreach: Craig Francis

theatre: Stafford Arima, Artistic Director



















Director's Notes

hortly after returning from America in 1842, Charles Dickens made two visits that would directly inspire his next writing project. The first was to Field Lane Ragged School, which was set up to educate the children of the poor but was notorious for terrible conditions and crime. The other was to Manchester to witness the deplorable conditions of the manufacturing workers there.

These visits struck a chord with Dickens. When he was just eleven, his father had been imprisoned for debt and Charles was sent to labour for eight months in a workhouse. In the years since, Dickens had become an advocate for the poor, and had written about his disdain for how the wealthy in English society turned a blind eye to those living in poverty. After these two visits he resolved to "strike a sledge hammer blow" for the poor.

A Christmas Carol was that blow, and it continues to provide an annual reminder of the critical importance of empathy, goodness, and charity, especially at this time of year. Much has changed about the world since Dickens wrote the story, but the need for us to be kind to one another and to support others through difficult times is as resonant as ever today.

This is the thirty-second year of *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Calgary, and I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have been part of that legacy for the past eight years. The show continues to be a meaningful part of the holiday tradition for many families, and every year I'm heartened to see that empathy, goodness, and charity are alive and well in Calgary as audiences continue to support the Calgary Food Bank by making donations through Toonies for Turkeys.

One hundred and seventy-five years after its publication, the reverberation of Dickens' sledge hammer is still being felt. *A Christmas Carol* has brought me incredible joy over the years and I hope you share that experience today. May you, as Dickens wrote, honour Christmas in your heart, and try to keep it all the year.

Simon Mallett

Director

HELP UNSDITE change

TOONIES FOR TURKEYS

This year, your generosity is needed more than ever. Please donate your change to help make a difference.

From the Theatre Calgary family, thank you for honouring the spirit of Christmas. All the best to you and yours!

Wenzel Shane



Our thanks to The Cal Wenzel Family Foundation for supporting our production of A Christmas Carol and to Shane Homes for the Toonies for Turkeys initiative.



Max Bell Theatre at Arts Commons November 29 to December 23, 2018

theatre:

presents

A CHRISTNIAS CAROL

by Charles Dickens Adapted by Dennis Garnhum

Director Simon Mallett

Original Direction Dennis Garnhum

Set & Costume Design Patrick Clark

Lighting Design Kevin Lamotte

Composer Jeremy Spencer

Music & Vocal Director Allison Lynch

Sound Design Chris Jacko

Production Dramaturg Shari Wattling

Fight Director Karl H. Sine

Choreographer Anita Miotti

Skating Choreographers Andrea St. Cyr,

Monique Wasmann

Voice & Dialect Coach Jane MacFarlane

Dance & Fight Captain Jamie Konchak

They say good things come in threes.

Jan Feb

15 – 09

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BOOM X

Written, directed, and performed by Rick Miller

Apr May 09 - 12

The Theatre Calgary production of

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Book and Lyrics by Lee Hall

Music by Elton John Feb Mar

26 - 23

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By Phyllis Nagy

Adapted from the novel by Nathaniel Hawthorne

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The Cast

Boy Ebenezer Ebenezer, Spirit of Christmas Future Dick Wilkins, Solicitor, Businessman

Tiny Tim Mrs. Dilber

Young Ebenezer

Topper Fred

Ebenezer Scrooge

Abigail

Martha Cratchit

Jacob Marley, Businessman

Mrs. Cratchit Spirit of Christma<u>s Past</u>

Voice of Charles Dickens

Mr. Fezziwig, Businessman

Belle, Solicitor Spirit of Christmas Present

Belinda Cratchit

Fai

Mrs. Fezziwig, Laundress

Peter Cratchit Bob Cratchit

Hope

Tyler Bidyk Devon Brayne

Alex Cherovsky

Olivia Collier Anna Cummer

Elijah Dela Rosa

Daniel Fong

Braden Griffiths

Stanban Hair

Stephen Hair

Josie Jones

Marina Kadri Robert Klein

Iamie Konchak

Allison Lvnch

Christopher Newton

Declan O'Reilly

Heather Pattengale

Graham Percy

Lauren Racz

Julianne Smith

Elizabeth Stepkowski-Tarhan

Evan Andersen Sterns

Mike Tan Siena Yee

Ebenezer Scrooge understudy Haysam Kadri

____Setting

1843 London, England

Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager Young Company Chaperone

Patti Neice Ruby Dawn Eustaquio Ashley Rees Carissa Sams

Catharine Crumb

Bronwyn Bowlby

Head of Lighting
Head of Sound
RE Technician

RF Technician Chris Jacko
Head Stage Carpenter Scott Morris

Head Dresser
Head of Wigs

Rachel Michelle Sheridan

Dresser Stage Hands Brenda Boutet Mollie Eliza Robertson

Mike Booth, Tess Cowie, Andrew Kerr

Flying Effects Provided by ZFX Inc.

Cameras and audio/visual recording devices are not permitted in the theatre.

Video and audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

We ask that you please refrain from using your cell phone, in any capacity, during the performance.

A Christmas Carol has one 20-minute intermission.



QUALITY S OUR TYPECAST

THE BEST PEOPLE BUILDING THE BEST PROJECTS. WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT THEATRE CALGARY.











Tyler Bidyk

Devon Brayne

Alex Cherovsky

Tyler Bidyk — Boy Ebenezer

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2017). Tyler has been in several shows at Storybook Theatre including Mary Poppins (Michael Banks), Miscast, Seussical the Musical, Beauty and the Beast (Chip), The Little Mermaid (Flounder), and A Christmas Story (Randy Parker). He has also performed in Dreams of Broadway with Imagine Performing Arts, Peter Pan with The Performance Studio as well as Journey and You're a Good Man Charlie Brown with Theatre Works. He can also be seen as one of the Strobridge kids in the TV series Hell on Wheels and in a few commercials. Tyler loves performing and working on shows as well as enjoys his free time traveling, spending time with friends and family and obsessing over Disney.

Devon Brayne — Ebenezer, Spirit of Christmas Future

Theatre Calgary debut. Devon is thrilled to join the Theatre Calgary family in this year's Christmas production. Born and raised in Lethbridge, Devon attended the UofL and holds a BFA in Dramatic Arts - Performance. Select Theatre credits include: *Million Dollar Quartet, Twist and Shout, Born to Rock, Razzle Dazzle, Country Gold* (New West Theatre); *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, Goosebumps the Musical* (Storybook); *The Anger in Ernest and Ernestine* (Espresso Theatre); *Spamalot* (Hatrix Theatre); *The Rocky Horror Show, The Government Inspector, [title of show], Spring Awakening* (UofL). Devon also performed with Disney Cruise Lines for the better part of two years. He would like to thank his wife and family for their continued love and support.

Alex Cherovsky — Dick Wilkins, Solicitor, Businessman

For Theatre Calgary: Shakespeare by the Bow – *The Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Comedy of Errors*. Alex is an Alberta based actor and a graduate of the University of Alberta's BFA acting program and Mount Royal's Theatre Diploma Performance program. Alex is originally from Calgary, and you can find him performing in both Edmonton and Calgary. Selected credits include: *Unedited Footage of a Ghost and Doll and Oats* (Play the Fool Festival); *Othello, Twelfth Night, The Winter's Tale* (The Shakespeare Company); *The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Merchant of Venice* (Freewill Shakespeare Festival); *The Hobbit* (Storybook). Alex would like to thank his friends, family and partner for their constant love and support. Have many happy holidays and a very merry Christmas.



Their Someday is the freedom to pursue their passion.

The hard work, perseverance and vision of emerging artists demonstrate the power of having – and the joy of realizing – a Someday®. Together with organizations like **Theatre Calgary**, we support a diverse range of Canadian talent in communities across the country.

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39788B (10/2018)

Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award 2018

Theatre Calgary is proud to continue our commitment to the development of new artists in the Calgary community. The Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award is presented annually to a Calgary actor at the dawn of their professional career, providing \$2500 towards their ongoing training and advancement.

It is our pleasure this year to announce two recipients: **Natasha Strickey** and **Marshall Vielle**.

Natasha Strickey is a graduate of the University of Calgary. She played the title role in our Shakespeare by the Bow production of *Hamlet* in 2016 and has been seen at theatre companies across the city, including The Shakespeare Company, Quest Theatre, and Birnton Theatricals. Natasha is currently in *Zorro: Family Code* at ATP.

Marshall, a graduate of the University of Lethbridge, was in our 2017 production of *Blow Wind High Water* and in Shakespeare by the Bow's *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Marshall is from the Kainai Nation in Southern Alberta and since graduation has been involved in various projects both locally and internationally aimed at using artistic practices to help build a foundation of understanding and encourage social change.

For more information about the Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award visit theatrecalgary.com



Natasha Strickey



Marshall Vielle

The Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award is supported by



RBC Emerging Artists Project









Olivia Collier

Anna Cummer

Elijah Dela Rosa

Daniel Fong

Olivia Collier — Tiny Tim

Theatre Calgary debut. Olivia is eight years old, but by the time the show comes to a close, she'll be nine! She is in grade four and enrolled in the Mandarin bilingual program at Marion Carson Elementary since moving back to Canada from South East Asia two years ago. Outside of school, Olivia enjoys singing with the Calgary Girls Choir, dancing with the Possak Hampshire Academy of Irish Dance, and artistic swimming with the Killarney Synchronized Swimming Club. She is also studying violin and piano at the Suzuki Talent Education Society. In her free time she loves to read, golf, make slime, and play with her little sister. When she grows up, Olivia would like to be an actor, director, scientist, and police officer.

Anna Cummer — Mrs. Dilber

For Theatre Calgary: Twelfth Night, The Shoplifters, Pride & Prejudice. Elsewhere: Anna is a Calgary-based actor who most recently appeared in Verb Theatre's The Wolves. Other notable theatrical credits include The 39 Steps, Wait Until Dark, The Mousetrap, The Game's Afoot, Vintage Hitchcock, and Gaslight (Vertigo); Slipper: A Distinctly Calgarian Cinderella Story (ATP); Macbeth (The Shakespeare Company); Book Club and Book Club 2 (Lunchbox); Sextet and Lungs (Verb Theatre); Tomorrow's Child (Ghost River); and In The Wake (Downstage/ Calgary Children's Festival). Anna has been nominated for numerous theatrical awards and has been lucky enough to take a few home. Thank you to Craig, Olive, and Aubrey for all their love and support.

Elijah Dela Rosa — Young Ebenezer

Theatre Calgary debut. As a member of Dirty Laundry: The Young Company, Elijah is in *Generic Hospital*, an improvised soap opera, which plays on Sundays until the end of April. He was in several drama presentations, including *Alienated*, at St. Helena Junior High and appeared in an episode of *100 Days to Heaven* (a Filipino TV show). Elijah is in Grade 10 at Notre Dame High School and enjoys drawing, painting, baking, and spending time with his friends and family. He is overjoyed to join the cast of *A Christmas Carol*!

Daniel Fong — Topper

For Theatre Calgary: A Midsummer Night's Dream (Shakespeare in the Park). Elsewhere: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (The Shakespeare Company/ATP), The Circle (ATP), Fortune Falls (Catalyst Theatre/ATP); Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat, The Skin of Our Teeth (Rosebud); US (Globe Theatre); Journey of a Lifetime (Quest Theatre/Heritage Park); Twelfth Night, DiVerseCity (The Shakespeare Company); A Christmas Carol (Belfry Theatre); The 12 Days of Christmas (Birnton Theatricals/Stage West for Kids); Spring Awakening (ACT); Twelfth Night (Suspension of Disbelief); Film/TV: Fargo, Wynonna Earp, Mutant World, The Dorm, Forsaken, Klondike. Endless thanks to my parents and Nadia for all their love and support. Enjoy the show! @thedfong









Braden Griffiths

Stephen Hair

Josie Jones

Marina Kadri

Braden Griffiths — Fred

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2012-17). Throughout the last decade, Braden has performed in over 60 professional productions on Canadian (predominantly Calgary) stages. Most recently: Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem (Vertigo); Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead (ATP/TSC/H&M); The Last Voyage of Donald Crowhurst (ATP/Ghost River); Julius Caesar, All's Well That Ends Well (The Shakespeare Company/Hit & Myth); Baskerville (Stage West); Little Red (Ghost River/Major Matt Mason). Braden has been nominated for multiple Betty Mitchell Awards for both acting and playwriting. His play, Cipher (co-written with Ellen Close) won the 2018 Alberta Playwriting Competition. In 2015 he took home the Betty for Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Drama.

Stephen Hair — Ebenezer Scrooge

It has been a great privilege to be your Scrooge for the past 25 years. And a great surprise. No actor expects to be playing the same role for so long. And so my thanks to all of you who, over many years, have made our *Christmas Carol* tradition a part of your family's annual celebration. And to those newcomers to our show...Welcome! If I have learned anything in playing this wonderful role it is simply this...we all make mistakes in life but we never lose the chance to be able to change and advance from darkness to light. Many of you have shared with me your own stories of being moved by Scrooge's journey. As an actor, to know that you may have touched someone and made an impact in their life is a humbling thing. And not something I take lightly. But that is why actors and audiences come together in a darkened room...to share, to laugh, to cry and to learn from each other. Thanks to all of you for allowing me to be a part of this remarkable journey.

Josie Jones — Abigail

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2017), Shakespeare by the Bow – As You Like It, Victors, Villains, and Vixens. Elsewhere: These Peaceable Kingdoms, Exit the King, The Laramie Project, King Lear (National Theatre School). A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada, and the University of Calgary's BFA program, Josie is thrilled to return to A Christmas Carol and spend the holiday season with this amazing cast! Josie would like to thank her family for their love and support. @JosiefJones

Marina Kadri — Martha Cratchit

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2013). Elsewhere: Mary Poppins, Alice in Wonderland (Storybook Theatre's Spotlight Program); Macbeth, Vimy (Artstrek). Marina is a gifted vocalist, pianist and sketch artist. She looks forward to graduating from Grade 9 and hopes to attend Central Memorial High School's Performing Arts Program next year. She







Robert Klein

Iamie Konchak

Allison Lynch

loves skiing, camping and is an avid bookworm. Marina thanks the directors for allowing her this invaluable experience. She dedicates her performance to the memory of her Aunt Mary who was always her biggest fan.

Robert Klein — Jacob Marley, Businessman

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2011-17), King Lear (Bard on the Beach co-pro), To Kill a Mockingbird. Elsewhere: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (Shakespeare Company/ATP); Julius Caesar, Titus Andronicus, Hamlet (The Shakespeare Company); King Kirby (Sage Theatre); Shakespeare's Rebel (Bard on the Beach); And Then There Were None, 12 Angry Men, Blood Relations, Black Coffee, A Party to Murder, I'll Be Back Before Midnight, Strangers on a Train, The Mousetrap, The Unexpected Guest (Vertigo); Hearts and Souls, Outside, Penetration, Ivanka, The Wild Guys (Lunchbox); Drinking Habits, Sound of Music, Grease, Damn Yankees (Stage West).

Jamie Konchak — Mrs. Cratchit, Dance & Fight Captain

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2014-17), The Great Gatsby, An Ideal Husband, Sherlock Holmes. Elsewhere: The Virgin Trial, Constellations, 1979, The Red Priest, The Apology, The Penelopiad (ATP); Miss Caledonia (Lunchbox); Crime Does Not Pay (Downstage, Forte w/Hit & Myth); Nothing Less!, Liberation Days, The Tempest, Joan: by Fire, As You Like It (Two Planks and a Passion); Calamity Town, Farewell, My Lovely, The Huron Bride (Vertigo); The Floating Mouse (The Green Fools); Songs From Nightingale Alley (OYR, Feast of Friends). Upcoming productions include 1979 at the Berkeley Street Theatre in Toronto, GIANT with Ghost River Theatre, and The Invisible: Agents of Ungentlemanly Warfare with Catalyst and Vertigo Theatre. Jamie shares a home in Calgary with her husband and fellow cast member Graham and their Pomeranian Pepper.

Allison Lynch — Spirit of Christmas Past, Music & Vocal Director

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2011-17), The Secret Garden, Dear Johnny Deere, One Man, Two Guvnors. Elsewhere: Romeo & Juliet, Julius Caesar, All's Well that Ends Well (The Shakespeare Company); Waiting for the Parade, The Red Priest, Ash Rizin', The Penelopiad (ATP); Double Indemnity, In the Heat of the Night, Sweeney Todd (Vertigo); Closer (GZT/Hit & Myth); Modern Vaudevillians (DJD); A Worthy Opponent (Lunchbox); ONCE (Chemainus Theatre Festival), The Piper (Downstage); Thy Neighbor's Wife, Essay (Urban Curvz); Twisted, Maria Rasputin Presents, But...This IS my Day Job! (Forte); Vigilante, The Soul Collector (Catalyst). Allison has received three Betty Mitchell Awards for acting and was the proud recipient of the 2011 Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award. She is also a Betty and Jessie nominated sound designer and composer. Allison's debut album, Skin & Flame, is available on iTunes and at allisonlynchmusic.com









Declan O'Reilly

Heather Pattengale

Graham Percy

Lauren Racz

Declan O'Reilly — Mr. Fezziwig, Businessman

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (1991-93, 1996, 2015-17), The Audience, King Lear, One Man, Two Guvnors. Recent Credits: Much Ado About Nothing (The Shakespeare Company); The Lonely Diner (Vertigo); Jeeves Takes a Bow (Chemainus Theatre); The Skin of Our Teeth, Tent Meeting (Rosebud); Shakespeare's Rebel (Bard on the Beach); Circle Mirror Transformation (Sage/Shadow Theatre). Declan also appeared at Theatre New Brunswick, The Charlottetown Festival, Young Peoples Theatre (Toronto), Summer at the Roxy, Persephone Theatre, Phoenix Theatre and Lunchbox Theatre. @thedeck69

Heather Pattengale — Belle, Solicitor

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2015-17). Elsewhere: Mark Twain's The Diaries of Adam and Eve, The Christians, The Skin of our Teeth, Outside Mullingar (Critter Award: Best Performance by an Actress in a Play), The Last Train to Nibroc, The Lion, The Witch, And The Wardrobe, Doubt, It's a Wonderful Life, Our Town, My Name is Asher Lev, Queen Milli of Galt, The Diary of Adam and Eve, We Won't Pay, Mary's Wedding (Rosebud Theatre); Talley's Folly (Chemainus Theatre); Kaspar Hauser (Fireside Theatre); We Are The Body (Burnt Thicket); Badger (Fire Exit/Theatre BSMT); Hamlet (The Shakespeare Company). Many thanks to Paul and Amelia, the loves of her life. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas to you and your family.

Graham Percy — Spirit of Christmas Present

For Theatre Calgary: Twelfth Night, A Christmas Carol (2011-17), The Audience, The Crucible, Much Ado About Nothing, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, The Overcoat. Recent projects include: Premieres of Ryan Griffith's The Boat, Fortune of Wolves (Theatre New Brunswick); Premieres of Aaron Bushkowsky's adaptations of Farewell, My Lovely, The Big Sleep, and Lucia Frangione's The Thin Man (Vertigo). Graham is a New Brunswick native who makes his home in Calgary with his wonderful wife and cast mate Jamie Konchak.

Lauren Racz — Belinda Cratchit

Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: *Annie Jr., Mary Poppins Jr., Wizard of Oz Jr., The Lion King Jr., Beauty and The Beast Jr., Alice in Wonderland Jr.* (Spotlight at StoryBook Theatre). Lauren dances at Airdrie Dance Academy and plays the flute in her school band. She loves to perform, and also enjoys traveling, spending time with her family, and snuggling with her cat, Cookie. Lauren is beyond thrilled to be part of the Christmas magic at Theatre Calgary.







Julianne Smith

Elizabeth Stepkowski-Tarhan

Evan Andersen Sterns

Julianne Smith — Fan

For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2017). Elsewhere: *Miscast, Mary Poppins* (Storybook). Julianne is a grade 8 student at Nickle School. She studies voice at Serpas Vocal Arts. Earlier this year, Julianne represented Calgary at the Alberta Music Festival and was awarded the provincial championship in classical voice. She dances at the Dance Factory where she trains in all disciplines. Julianne is looking forward to performing in Theatre Calgary's spring production of *Billy Elliot the Musical*. She is thrilled to once again be a part of her favourite Christmas tradition.

Elizabeth Stepkowski-Tarhan — Mrs. Fezziwig, Laundress

For Theatre Calgary: The Secret Garden, A Christmas Carol (2003, 2013-17), Crazy for You (Citadel co-pro), Pride and Prejudice (NAC co-pro), Mom's the Word – For Crying Out Loud, Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Citadel co-pro), A Streetcar Named Desire, Song and Dance, Anne of Green Gables (1994), Evita (1993), Hamlet. Elsewhere: Actor – All's Well That Ends Well, Romeo & Juliet, The Winter's Tale (Shakespeare Company/Hit & Myth); Waiting for the Parade, The Hobbit (ATP); Suite Surrender, Chicago, Glorious! (Stage West); Sweeney Todd, Gaslight (Vertigo); Avenue Q, August: Osage County, Oliver!, The Sound of Music, Cabaret (Citadel); Gypsy (Mayfield); Six seasons with One Yellow Rabbit. Director – Madagascar (Storybook); Fiddler on the Roof (Stage West). Elizabeth is the recipient of two Betty Mitchell Awards and an Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award.

Evan Andersen Sterns — Peter Cratchit

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2016, 2017). Elsewhere: Miscast (2017), Seussical the Musical (2017), A Christmas Story (2016) at StoryBook Theatre. Film/TV: Z (2019 release) - Digital Interface, Mallory Memphis (2016) - Herland. Commercial: Gates of Hillcrest (2016) - Mattamy Homes. Evan is honoured to be in A Christmas Carol and involved during Stephen Hair's 25th year as Scrooge! Evan is a grade nine student at a Spanish bilingual school and plays percussion in the stage band ensemble. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends, traveling, skiing, and taking part in anything arts related. He would like to thank everyone who has come to support him. Merry Christmas!







Mike Tan

Siena Yee

Dennis Garnhum

Mike Tan — Bob Cratchit

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2017). Mike is delighted to be back to Theatre Calgary this year with the Carol family. Elsewhere: Cowboy vs. Samurai (Chromatic Theatre); Travels with My Aunt, Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily, Wait Until Dark (Vertigo); Constellations (ATP); The Intuition Project (Ghost River Theatre); Little Red River, On the Side of the Road, Lucy Lost Her Heart (Theatre Junction). Mike works as a photographer at Diane + Mike Photography, shooting the best festivals, such as Calgary Folk Music Festival, and M:ST Performance Art Festival, as well as documenting many arts events in Calgary. He enjoys silly dances and crafting with his son, Aiden; making deep eye contact with his cats, Frankie and Prismo; and living life with Di. www.dianeandmike.ca @dianeandmike_

Siena Yee — Hope

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2015-17). Elsewhere: 2026 Calgary Olympic Bid (commercial), Break on Through (movie), Rock Bottom (Independent short film), The Paper Bag Princess (Calgary Young People's Theatre), Pumphouse Theatre Drama Camp. School Productions: Beauty and The Beast, Oliver Twist, Narnia, Aladdin, Broadway Santa. Siena is in grade nine, and she dances for YouTube artists and Dance Explosions. She also loves to swim, model, play the piano, zither, flute, dance (modern, ballet, jazz and acrobatic), and sing (folk and pop). Siena would like to thank her family and friends for all their support.

Dennis Garnhum — Adaptation, Original Direction

For Theatre Calgary: Artistic Director 2005-16. Selected Director Credits – A Christmas Carol (2006-17), The Little Prince, King Lear, Much Ado About Nothing, Lost: A Memoir (Adaptation and Direction), Beyond Eden, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Timothy Findley's The Wars (Adaptation and Direction). Elsewhere: Prom Queen, Chariots of Fire (Grand Theatre); The Barber Of Seville (Florida Grand Opera, Opera Lyra, Vancouver Opera); Carmen, La Traviata (Pacific Opera); West Side Story (Bangkok University); Rat In The Skull (Berkshire Theatre Festival); Stratford Festival (four seasons); Shaw Festival (six seasons). Dennis is currently the Artistic Director of the Grand Theatre in London, Ontario. He is also a recipient of a Calgary Award for Community Achievement in Arts, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal.







Simon Mallett

Patrick Clark

Kevin Lamotte

Simon Mallett — Director

For Theatre Calgary: Director – *Blow Wind High Water*; Associate Director – *A Christmas Carol* (2011-17). Elsewhere: Director – *In the Wake, Good Fences, My Family and Other Endangered Species, Crime Does Not Pay* (Downstage); *The Mousetrap, Travels With My Aunt, Wait Until Dark* (Vertigo); *This Is A Play, Under the Bright Sun* (Lunchbox). Simon is a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta's Emerging Artist Award, was named to Calgary's Top 40 Under 40 and is a three-time Betty Mitchell Award nominee for Outstanding Direction, winning the award in 2014. He is the Executive Director of the Rozsa Foundation, which supports Calgary's vibrant arts community. Much love and thanks to Kendra for her unending love and support. @SimonYYC

Patrick Clark — Set & Costume Design

For Theatre Calgary: Set & Costume Design – A Christmas Carol (2011–17), The Audience, Anne of Green Gables – The Musical, Cats, Pride and Prejudice. Costume Design – A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing (1993). New Brunswick based set and costume designer Patrick Clark has worked in theatres and taught in schools across Canada for the past twenty five years. His designs have been seen onstage at the Stratford Festival, Shaw Festival, Guthrie Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Theatre New Brunswick, Neptune Theatre, Soulpepper Theatre Company and Theatre Aquarius. Patrick has won eight Nova Scotia Merritt Awards for Costume Design. He is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada and The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

Kevin Lamotte — Lighting Design

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2000-17), The Crucible, The Philadelphia Story (2015, 2003), Enron, To Kill a Mockingbird, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Beyond Eden, A Raisin in the Sun, Timothy Findley's The Wars, Of Mice and Men (2006), Saint Joan, Macbeth, The Diary of Anne Frank, True West (2002), Candida. Kevin has created lighting designs for most of Canada's theatre, dance and opera companies. His awards for outstanding lighting design include Ontario's Pauline McGibbon Award, the Dora Mavor Moore Award (Toronto), Prix des Masques (Montreal), Betty Mitchell Award (Calgary), Jessie Richardson Award (Vancouver). Kevin is the Lighting Design Director for the Shaw Festival and a member of The Associated Designers of Canada.







Jeremy Spencer

Chris Jacko

Shari Wattling

Jeremy Spencer — Composer

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2011-17), The Philadelphia Story (2015), A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing; Shakespeare by the Bow – The Comedy of Errors. Elsewhere: Twelfth Night (Bard on the Beach); Hamlet (The Shakespeare Company); The Woman in Black, Mousetrap, Corpsel, Accomplice, Mystery at Greenfingers, The Unexpected Guest (Vertigo); Dracula (Red Deer College); Dracula (Mount Royal University); The Philadelphia Story (Shaw); The Elves and the Shoemaker, Lost Land, Circus in the Wind, Please Don't Sneeze (Storybook). Jeremy also composes music for film, theatrical trailers, production libraries (Warner/Chappell, BMG) and television. When he's not in the studio, Jeremy enjoys spending time on his sailboat and is a self-proclaimed wine aficionado.

Chris Jacko — Sound Design

For Theatre Calgary: Head of Sound (2007– present). Sound Design – A Christmas Carol (2011-17), The Audience, 'da Kink in my Hair (NAC co-pro), The Light in the Piazza, One Man, Two Guvnors, Anne of Green Gables – The Musical, Next to Normal (Citadel co-pro), Cats, The Drowsy Chaperone, Beyond Eden. Sound Engineer – Mary Poppins, Disney's Beauty & the Beast (Citadel co-pros), Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Elsewhere: Sound Design – You're A Good Man Charlie Brown, The Wizard of Oz, Seussical The Musical (ATP); British Invasion, A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline, Canadian Explosion (Stage West). Chris is the recipient of the 2012 Greg Bond Memorial Award. He has been involved in theatrical sound design and production for over 20 years, having earned his BFA in Technical Theatre from Ryerson University.

Shari Wattling — Production Dramaturg

For Theatre Calgary (selected): Actor – *A Christmas Carol* (2004-05); Assistant Director – *Enron*; Dramaturg – *King Lear* (co-pro with Bard on the Beach), *Liberation Days* (co-pro with WCT), *Pride and Prejudice* (co- pro with the NAC), *Much Ado About Nothing, Lost – A Memoir, Beyond Eden* (coproduction with Vancouver Playhouse), and adaptation credits for the Shakespeare by the Bow productions of *Hamlet* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Shari is a Calgary-based actor, director and dramaturg, and has previously worked at Theatre Calgary as Literary Manager, Associate Artistic Director, and Interim Artistic Director. She has worked as Resident Dramaturg at Alberta Playwrights' Network, and as a freelance director/dramaturg for companies including Lunchbox Theatre, Bard on the Beach, Quest Theatre, Vertigo Theatre, Swallow-A-Bicycle and Storybook Theatre.







Karl H. Sine

Anita Miotti

Jane MacFarlane

Karl H. Sine — Fight Director

For Theatre Calgary: Actor – A Christmas Carol (2011, 2013-17), The Crucible, Pride and Prejudice, Enron, Much Ado About Nothing. Fight Director (selected) – As You Like It, Hamlet, The Comedy of Errors, Romeo and Juliet (Shakespeare by the Bow); King Lear (Bard on the Beach co- pro), Liberation Days (WCT co-pro). Selected Actor – Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily, The Hound of the Baskervilles (Vertigo); Macbeth, Equivocation, Othello (The Shakespeare Company). Selected Fight Director – Macbeth, Romeo & Juliet, Equivocation, Othello (The Shakespeare Company); I'll be Back Before Midnight, The Game's Afoot (Vertigo). Karl has received four Betty Mitchell Awards – three for Fight Direction and Best Actor for The Crucible. Karl is a Certified Fight Director with the Academy of Fight Directors Canada. Thanks to Lindsey and their wonderful kids Olivia, Charlie and Zachary.

Anita Miotti — Choreographer

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2001-05, 2011-17), The Great Gatsby, Pride and Prejudice, Enron, Much Ado About Nothing, Our Town. Elsewhere: Performer/Choreographer – Hunger Striking (Urban Curvz); Why Freud Fainted, The Blue Light, Gifts of the Magi (ATP); Closure, Bobby Supreme, Dough (GZT); In Klezskavania, Radioheaded, These Girls, Frank Zappa's We're Only in It For The Money (OYR); Mae's Maze (Dancers Studio West); Unidentified Human Remains (Firebelly); Shakespeare's Will (Citadel); Trading Hearts (Northern Light); Dolphin Talk (Quest); One (Ghost River). Anita is a choreographer and dancer/ actor born and raised in Calgary. She is the founder and artistic director of the Theatre of the Living Statue, and currently teaches yoga and drama at St. Francis High School. Anita is also the Artistic Director of Dance Montage at the University of Calgary.

Jane MacFarlane — Voice & Dialect Coach

For Theatre Calgary: More than 45 productions since 2000 including *Mary and Max – A New Musical, Honour Beat, The Secret Garden, Twelfth Night, Blow Wind High Water, The Audience, Skylight, Bad Jews, The Crucible, Liberation Days* (WCT co-pro), *One Man, Two Guvnors, The Mountaintop, Pride and Prejudice, Enron, To Kill a Mockingbird, Much Ado About Nothing, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest,* 7 seasons of Shakespeare by the Bow and 15 years of *A Christmas Carol.* Elsewhere: Jane has also worked for ATP, is the Voice & Dialect Consultant for Vertigo Theatre and the Voice & Text Coach for The Shakespeare Company. She has taught at such institutions as York University, Harvard University, Southern Methodist University, MRU, UofC, and UofA.











Patti Neice

Ruby Dawn Eustaquio

Ashley Rees

Patti Neice — Stage Manager

For Theatre Calgary: Stage Manager – Mary and Max – A New Musical, The Secret Garden, Twelfth Night, A Christmas Carol (2015-17), Blow Wind High Water, The Audience, 'da Kink in my Hair (NAC co-pro), Bad Jews, The Shoplifters, Dear Johnny Deere. Assistant Stage Manager - One Man, Two Guvnors, The Mountaintop, A Christmas Carol (2012-14), Anne of Green Gables – The Musical, To Kill a Mockingbird. Elsewhere: Stage Manager – 1979 (ATP); Calamity Town (Vertigo); The Surrogate, Shopaholic Wedding Bells, Whimsy State (Lunchbox); The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favorites (Mermaid Theatre tours of Canada/USA/Ireland/South Korea & Singapore); How it Works (Mulgrave Road). Assistant Stage Manager – The Last Voyage of Donald Crowhurst, Dust, The Valley, Intimate Apparel, Drama: Pilot Episode, Thinking of Yu (ATP); Marion Bridge (The Company Theatre); Calgary Stampede Grandstand Show (2012-18).

Ruby Dawn Eustaquio — Assistant Stage Manager

For Theatre Calgary: Stage Manager – Honour Beat, The Humans; Assistant Stage Manager – A Christmas Carol (2007, 2015-17), Much Ado About Nothing, Enron, Anne of Green Gables – The Musical. Elsewhere: Sherlock Holmes, Nine Dragons, Wait Until Dark, The Big Sleep, Shear Madness, Sweeny Todd (Vertigo); Becky's New Car, The Highest Step In The World (ATP); Girl Crush, In On It, Scarlet Women (Lunchbox); The Money Shot, Evil Dead the Musical (GZT/Hit & Myth); Extremophiles, Crime Does Not Pay (Downstage); A Beautiful View (Sage). She is also a member of the cast and crew of Dirty Laundry, Calgary's only improvised soap opera. Ruby Dawn thanks Aaron for being super dad, and her sweetest little Mili.

Ashley Rees — Assistant Stage Manager

For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2015-17), The Light in the Piazza, The Shoplifters. Select Highlights: Legally Blonde, Baskerville - A Sherlock Holmes Mystery, Murder for Two, Rock of Ages, Young Frankenstein, Spamalot, Avenue Q, Chicago, The 39 Steps (Stage West); After Jerusalem, If I Weren't With You, Dad's Piano (Lunchbox). Ashley is so happy to be back for another year with A Christmas Carol and Theatre Calgary. It is an absolute joy to be working with such an incredible group of people on this timeless classic. Special thanks to my friends and family who have supported and loved me through the years.

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

Dan Gilson - Beacon Martinizing; Scott Hunt; Marlborough Shoe Repair; Dr. Brad Mechor; Dr. Ana-Maria Oelschig; Professional Skate Service.

The Wonder of Adaptation

By Jenna Turk, Artistic Associate

oon after the publication of Dickens' classic Christmas novel, *A Christmas Carol* was adapted for the stage. As it became a holiday staple, the public loved seeing Tiny Tim, Scrooge, and their favourite spirits come to life before their eyes. Since then, there have been innumerable adaptations of the book across mediums: several silent films throughout the early 1900s; Lionel Barrymore's radio version in 1934; multiple ballets; a Mickey Mouse version; a Muppet version; 1988's *Scrooged* with Bill Murray (my personal favourite); and countless more.

Presenting a production of *A Christmas Carol* during the holidays has become convention for many theatres across Canada and around the world. Theatre Calgary's tradition began in 1983, initiated by then Artistic Director Rick McNair who wanted to give the city the gift of a family show for the holidays. As he wrote in his Director's Notes from the inaugural performance: "The production you will see tonight is the culmination of five years of wishing. Many of us at Theatre Calgary wanted to bring back the idea of a big Christmas family show. Theatre-going should not only be the preserve of individuals and couples. For some shows it is more fun to be able to come as a family. If this project is supported by enough of you, we hope to make the family show an annual event outside of our regular season."

And so it would seem "enough of you" liked it quite a great deal! Other than a brief reprieve from 1985-1988, *A Christmas Carol* has run at Theatre Calgary for 32 holiday seasons. In that time, there has been a tradition within the



tradition of A Christmas Carol of presenting a new adaptation every few years. There have been various styles and interpretations – some darker, others snowier; some featuring narrators, others choruses; some with puppets, and others live musicians. The iterations are endless! Thus, the verge of a brand-new production is an exciting time for Theatre Calgary, as a fresh team meets, an original design concept is formed, and an innovative writer gets to present their own particular spin on the classic tale.

This year, we bid a fond farewell to Dennis Garnhum's version and prepare to celebrate the new with local writer Geoffrey Simon Brown's adaptation in 2019! After an open call to Calgary playwrights for proposals, Brown's was the overall winner as determined by a mix of Theatre Calgary staff, patrons, and board members. Staying true to Dickens' London, keeping it family friendly, but giving Scrooge and all the characters a contemporary voice made his proposal stand out.



In 2017 there were (approximately)

86 PRODUCTIONS

of A Christmas Carol in Canada and the United States*

THAT'S

22 in Canada

64 in the United States

86 Tiny Tims

258 Ghosts

and a whole bunch of BAH HUMBUG

UNITED STATES

THEATRE TUSCALOOSA TUSCALOOSA, AL ALABAMA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL MONTGOMERY, AL PERSERVERANCE THEATRE ANCHORAGE, AK ARGENTA COMMUNITY THEATER LITTLE ROCK, AR HERBERGER THEATER CENTER PHOENIX, AZ HALF CENTRE THEATRE GRIBERT, AZ SOUTH COAST REPERTORY COSTA MESA, CA GLENDALE CENTRE THEATRE GLENDALE, CA. SACRAMENTO THEATRE COMPANY BACRAMENTO, CA AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER SAN FRANCISCO, CA. DENVER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS DENVES. CO. HARTFORD STACE HARTFORD, CT FORD'S THEATRE WASHINGTON, D.C. VENICE THEATRE VENICE, EL CARROLLWOOD PLAYERS TAMPA, FL. AURORA THEATRE LAWRENCEVILLE, GA GOODMAN THEATRE CHICAGO, IL

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PORTLAND'S CENTERS FOR THE ARTS PORTLAND, OR

* based on internet search queries, as of December 5, 2017

Graphic by Sarah Lamoureux

Geoffrey Simon Brown is a Betty Mitchell Award-winning playwright born and raised in Calgary. A graduate of The National Theatre School of Canada, in 2016 he was awarded the RBC Tarragon Emerging Playwright Prize, one of Canada's most prestigious prizes for writers. He appeared most recently at Theatre Calgary in *Skylight* and was awarded the Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award in 2010. Artistic Director Stafford Arima is excited for the future, "Geoffrey's adaptation is filled



Geoffrey Simon Brown Photo by Tye Carson

with all the traditional ingredients that make *A Christmas Carol* an instant classic. I cannot wait for Calgary to experience a new but very familiar 'Carol' next year."

So, enjoy today's performance, but be sure to be good this year – because Theatre Calgary's got a great big gift waiting for you next Christmas!

Theatre Calgary's *A Christmas Carol* through the years:

Theatre Calgary's inaugural production adapted by Barbara Field Directed by Rick McNair, Artistic Director

 $1984 \quad \begin{array}{ll} {\rm Adapted\ \&\ Directed\ by\ Robert\ Mooney} \\ {\rm (Theatre\ Calgary's\ last\ season\ in\ the\ QR\ Centre)} \end{array}$

 $1985 \hbox{--}88 \quad \hbox{A bit of a break} \\ \text{No productions of A Christmas Carol}$

1989 A Christmas Carol returns to Theatre Calgary Adapted by Martin Kinch, Directed by Martin Fishman



Frank Totino, Brian Gromoff, Barrie Baldaro, Edward Atienza, in the original 1983 production.

From Martin Fishman's 1989 Director's Notes:

"Dickens' story is timeless, especially at this time of the year, when we tend to focus on the spirit of giving and sharing; we become more aware of those less fortunate than us; when we look outward rather than inward. And as we move steadfastly into the 1990's with our great belief in progress and change, *A Christmas Carol* seems to have been written just for us to remind us of the joy of giving and sharing, and to let us pause in our mad holiday rush to reflect on the true meaning of charity and humanity."

 $1990 \begin{array}{c} {\rm Adapted~\&~Directed~by} \\ {\rm Martin~Kinch,~Artistic~Director} \end{array}$

1991-95 Martin Kinch adaptation, Directed by Brian Rintoul, Executive Producer then Artistic Director

From the 1991 programme:

"The emphasis in this interpretation is on the magical, joyful and mythical tale of the visits of the spirits which lead to Scrooge's transformation.

In Dickens' time, ghost stories were part of the Christmas tradition. He intended this ghost story to be a tale about conversion. Scrooge



starts out as the enemy and ends up much like the Fairy Godfather in a Pantomime, another English Christmas tradition that also uses magic and the supernatural."

James Kirchner, Stephen Hair in the 1995 production. Photo by Trudie Lee. 1996-97 The Martin Kinch adaptation Directed by James Brewer, Artistic Director
1998 Adapted & Directed by James Brewer, Artistic Director

From Ian Prinsloo's 1998 Director's Notes:

"Our annual production has become a part of Christmas in Calgary."

1999–2000 Adapted by Greg Nelson & Ian Prinsloo Directed by Ian Prinsloo, Artistic Director

2001–03 The Greg Nelson & Ian Prinsloo adaptation Directed by Nikki (Lundmark) Loach

In 2003, local artist Ty Semaka's projections were integrated into the show. He said, "I loved the set. It was deceptively simple, yet functioned on many levels. The black steel truss work has a nice dark, old English look to it. I wanted to compliment that." His projections of his watercolour paintings made the play darker, creepier. "It is a ghost story after all." Semaka described his style as "Victorian meets Neo-Gothic with a bit of Surrealism."

2004-05 The Greg Nelson & Ian Prinsloo adaptation Directed by Eric Rose, Artistic Associate
2006-10 Adapted by Jerry Patch Directed by Dennis Garnhum, Artistic Director

From Dennis Garnhum's 2006 Director's Notes:

"A few central ideas have guided our way this year. We wish to inspire the adults watching to make every effort to live life to the fullest. We hope that in your busy lives you find the moments to embrace your past, acknowledge your present, and dream for your future. For the children who have come to see us, we hope to dazzle you with the magic of live theatre."

2011-18 Adapted & Directed by Dennis Garnhum, Artist

Adapted & Directed by Dennis Garnhum, Artistic Director 2011-2017 Associate Directed by Simon Mallett

From Dennis Garnhum's 2011 Director's Notes:

"In the original novel, Charles Dickens described Ebenezer Scrooge as 'the embodiment of winter.' These three words inspired this brand new production of *A Christmas Carol*. As I was writing this adaptation, images of a winter wonderland filled my mind. I pictured a world of ice and snow and imagined how we might set certain scenes in new and unusual surroundings... Playing off the novel's title, I chose to include carols that would either surprise, or provide familiarity for our audience."

In 2016 some adjustments and enhancements were made to the staging and the scenery. The Director's Notes divulged: "We've added a proscenium arch to match the recent renovation of the theatre, and to present a warm frame around our story. You'll also notice that Scrooge's bedroom has some new elements – our ghosts like to keep you surprised at where they may turn up. One of the joys of presenting this production annually is that it affords us the opportunity to further develop a production that has actually been years in the making."

2019

A new adaptation by Geoffrey Simon Brown Directed by Stafford Arima, Artistic Director



Stephen Hair and the cast of the 2014 production. Photo by Trudie Lee.



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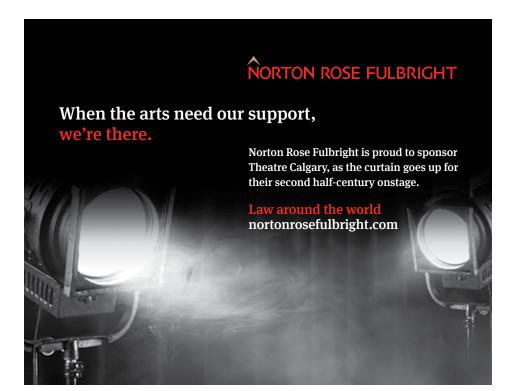
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- Washington Post

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MICHELLE LATTA, Head of Wardrobe

LILLIAN MESSER, Head of Props

SCOTT MORRIS, Head Stage Carpenter STEVE PILON
& ANDREW RAFUSE,
Co-Head Scenic Carpenters

RACHEL MICHELLE SHERIDAN, Head Dresser

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WILL BOURQUE, Carpenter
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- Spotlight

"Theatre Calgary is a home where one can sit in a darkened room, at a specific time of the day, and be transported and transformed. Theatre fills the room with adventurous and astonishing stories told by skilled storytellers who bring these stories to life with joy, passion, and heart."

- Stafford Arima, Artistic Director, Theatre Calgary

Once a year, for one special night, Theatre Calgary replicates this adventurous, transformative energy outside of the Max Bell Theatre and shares the joy, passion, and heart of the theatre through an epic fundraising gala event.

But it's not just another party.

The theatrical experience is felt from the moment you walk through the doors and are greeted by performers from Theatre Calgary's talented pool of Emerging Artists. With delicious food, themed cocktails, and entertainment curated specifically for this one night only performance, it's an immersive event experience that raises funds and awareness for Theatre Calgary – a party with a purpose.

"Our annual fundraising gala celebrates Theatre Calgary's artistic work and allows patrons to step closer into our world and closer to the art," remarks Sarah Hughes, Associate Director of Development at Theatre Calgary. "The gala is designed to reflect the heart of what we do and allows us to continue creating world-class theatre right here in our city."

"Our fantastic subscribers and ticket buyers cover about 60% of our costs, the rest comes from grants and fundraising. Without the generous support of our donors and partners our productions would no doubt be smaller and there might even be one less show each season."

Aiming to bring minds, hearts and hands together, the gala allows those who may not regularly attend theatre to appreciate the quality of performance we have in our community while also attracting local and national businesses who believe in the power of the arts as part of a strong and vibrant city.

"I appreciate Calgary for its spirit, and theatre is a way to attract others to similarly experience the soul and character of this great city," says Craig Senyk, Vice Chairman, Institutional Portfolio Manager at Mawer Investment Management Ltd. and Vice Chair of Theatre Calgary's Board of Directors. "The generosity that arises from the gala allows Theatre Calgary to continually elevate the spirit of our theatre, and by extension our city, so that we become known as one of the great theatre cities globally."

As Theatre Calgary looks towards the next 50 years, a new fundraising event will set the stage for success. On March 30, 2019 Theatre Calgary invites guests to experience ENCORE: an evening of bold performances, masterful cuisine and exceptional company – all while raising important funds. Blending Broadway and local talent and hosted at the newly renovated Big Four Roadhouse at the Calgary Stampede, it will be an evening that is sure to have guests shouting for more.

"The annual gala has always been a magical night for me. It's truly heartwarming to receive the generous support of attendees knowing it comes from everyone's appreciation of the value Theatre Calgary brings to our wonderful city, and I look forward to our community continuing the legacy of giving at ENCORE in 2019," says Margo Randles, Board Chair, Theatre Calgary

Tickets for ENCORE are available by visiting www.theatrecalgary.com/ENCORE or by calling 403-294-7440 ext. 1054. For more information on the event or for sponsorship opportunities please contact Lauren Gilley Igilley@theatrecalgary.com

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THE CAST OF DISNEY AND CAMEDON MACKINTOSH'S MADY DODDING (2014), DHOTO BY DAVID COODER

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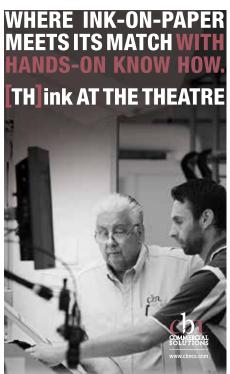
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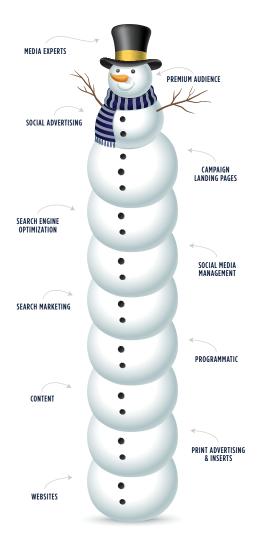
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