

YOUR GUIDE TO LIVE THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

WINTER/SPRING
2009 V.1 ON-LINE



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Dance • Comedy • Drama
For Kids & Family • Opera • Festivals • Musicals



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Winter/Spring 2009
V.1 On -Line Edition



from the editor



Joey Cee, Publisher & Editor

IT IS NOT THE FINAL CURTAIN FOR LIVE THEATRE IN TORONTO

No matter what the state of the economy dictates, history has shown that at times like these, many try to escape the news of gloom and doom by transferring their energy and thoughts into something more positive and entertaining. Live theatre is a great getaway and a sure alternative to taking in a movie. The difference is that you have actors who are taking you on a journey in real time - live and in person. The audience reaction somehow draws you into a communal experience that is shared and felt. When we watch live theatre on stage, we can feel ourselves, we can see ourselves - many of us go through a life changing experience. The power of stage is enormous - because it is real and not fake as in the movies. Although the big productions are surviving through all this turmoil, community theatre is having a much tougher time to stage their productions. In most cases this is live theatre at its best and it needs to be supported. This is where you will usually find some real gems that may later make their way to Broadway.

In this first edition of our on-line magazine CURTAINS UP, we have compiled and condensed a listing of live theatre productions including dinner theatre, dance, comedy, drama, theatre for kids and family, opera, theatre festivals and of course musicals. You will find that many of these productions are very affordable. Some are (PWYC) Pay What You Can, while other blockbusters such as We Will Rock you or Dirty Dancing can be had for about \$30.

There is definitely no shortage of productions as you can see in this issue. Throughout the year, this edition will be updated and be available as a free download. Regular listing updates and additions can be found at any time by going to our website and clicking on the Curtains Up button in the instant links section.

I highly recommend that you pass on this PDF format publication to your friends and associates and also let them know that they can visit our website at www.HOToronto.com and download this and our other publications for FREE.

Theatre is like a mirror where we can see ourselves, but we need to muster up the courage to face it and to enjoy it whole heartedly. A theatre goer experiences the way life is enacted live in front of them. It's about listening to and experiencing the stories of ourselves.



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ALUMNAE THEATRE
70 Berkeley Street
416-364-4170

BLUMA APPEL THEATRE
@ St. Lawrence Centre for The Arts
27 Front St. East
416-366-7723

BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES THEATRE
12 Alexander St.
416-975-8555

BURNHAMTHORPE AUDITORIUM
500 The East Mall
416-248-0410

CANADIAN STAGE
at Berkeley Street Theatre
26 Berkeley St.
416-368-3110

CANON THEATRE
244 Victoria Street
416-362-3218

ELGIN THEATRE
189 Yonge Street
416-314-2901

ENWAVE THEATRE
Harbourfront
231 Queens Quay W.
416-973-4600

FACTORY THEATRE/
FACTORY STUDIO CAFE
125 Bathurst Street
416-504-9971

FAIRVIEW LIBRARY THEATRE
35 Fairview Mall Drive
416-396-5473

GLENN GOULD STUDIO
250 Front St. W.
416-205-5555

HART HOUSE THEATRE
7 Hart House Circle
416-978-8668

JOSEPH G. GREEN STUDIO
@ York University
4700 Keele Street
416-736-5172

LEAH POSLUN THEATRE
4588 Bathurst Street
416-636-1880

LIVING ARTS CENTRE
(Mississauga)
4141 Living Arts Dr.
905-306-6000

LORRAINE KIMSA THEATRE
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
165 Front Street
416-363-5131

MARKHAM THEATRE
171 Town Centre
905-305-7469

MASSEY HALL
178 Victoria St.
416-872-4255

PANASONIC THEATRE
651 Yonge Street
416-872-1212

PAPERMILL THEATRE@
Todmorden Mills
67 Pottery Rd.
416-425-0917

POOR ALEX THEATRE
296 Brunswick Ave.
416-923-1644

PREMIERE DANCE THEATRE
Harbourfront
207 Queens Quay W
416-973-3000

PRINCESS OF WALES
300 King St. W.
416-872-1212

ROBERT GILL THEATRE
214 College Street
416-978-7986

ROY THOMSON HALL
60 Simcoe Street
416-593-4822

ROYAL ALEXANDRA THEATRE
260 King St. W.
416-872-3333

RYERSON THEATRE
43 Gerrard St. E.
416-979-5009

SAINT STEPHEN'S IN THE FIELD
365 College Street
416-921-6350

SCARBOROUGH VILLAGE THEATRE 3600
Kingston Road
416-396-4049

SOLAR STAGE
4950 Yonge Street
416-368-8031

ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE
FOR THE ARTS
27 Front St. E.
416-366-7723

STUDIO THEATRE
Harbourfront
416-973-3000

TARRAGON MAINSPACE & EXTRA SPACE
THEATRE
30 Bridgeman Ave.
416-531-1827

THEATRE CENTRE
1032 Queen St. W.
416-538-0988

THEATRE ERINDALE
3359 Mississauga Road
905-569-4369

THEATRE PASSE MURAILLE
16 Ryerson Ave.
416-504-7529

TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
5040 Yonge Street
416-733-9388

YOUNG CENTRE FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS
@ Historic Distillery District
55 Mill Street, Building 49
416-866-8666

TORONTO TRUCK THEATRE
94 Belmont Street
416-922-0084

VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE
@ Studio Theatre
2190 Bloor St. W.
416-767-9427

WALMER CENTRE THEATRE
188 1/2 Lowther Ave.
416-922-1238

WINCHESTER STREET THEATRE
80 Winchester St.
416-360-6429

WINTER GARDEN THEATRE
189 Yonge Street
416-314-2901

DINNER THEATRES

FAMOUS PEOPLE PLAYERS
110 Sudbury
416-532-1137

MYSTERIOUSLY YOURS
2026 Yonge Street
416-486-7469

SECOND CITY
51 Mercer Street
416-343-0011

STAGE WEST
5400 Dixie Road
905-238-0042

LIVE THEATRE SUPERGUIDE

COMEDY

BARACK TO THE FUTURE

Second City
(Continuing)

DANCING WITH THE STARS CAN BE MURDER

Mysteriously Yours Dinner Theatre
(Continuing)

EXTREME HOLMES MAKEOVER: MURDER EDITION

Mysteriously Yours Dinner Theatre
(Continuing)



FLEA IN HER EAR

Burhamthorpe Auditorium
January 29 - February 7

FLEA IN HER EAR

Fairview Library Theatre
February 5 - 8

HAY FEVER

Village Playhouse
Studio Theatre
May 1 - 23

Without informing the others, each delightfully mad member of the Bliss family invites a guest to stay the weekend. What ensues is madly delightful. A witty comedy by the master of the genre who also gave us Private Lives and Blithe Spirit.

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS

Markham Theatre
February 11 - 14

THE PRODUCERS

Stage West Dinner Theatre
April 23 - July 5

Mel Brooks' classic cult comedy film "The Producers" is turned into a Broadway musical about a down-on-hi-luck Broadway producer Max Bialystock and mild-mannered accountant Leo Bloom who come up with a scheme to produce the most notorious flop in history, thereby bilking their backers (all "little old ladies") out of millions of dollars. Only one

thing goes awry, the show is a smash hit! At the core of this insanely funny adventure is an emotional journey of two very different men who become friends.

RAVENSCROFT

Village Playhouse
Studio Theatre

January 16 - February 7

In this hilarious spoof of British drawing-room murder mysteries, a brilliant detective is stymied when he endeavours to uncover the truth about the mysterious death of the lone man in a house full of secretive women.

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

Theatre Erindale at Erindale Studio
Theatre

February 26-28, March 3-7

The ever-popular comedy in a gender-switched production. The bard's rambunctious and still controversial farce, with women playing the male roles and men playing the women. Against a complex background of commedia-style trickery and multiple disguises, Shakespeare's roughest and readiest hero and heroine gradually learn to know and love each other for real.

THE TAMING OF THE TAMER

Theatre Erindale at Erindale Studio
Theatre

March 19-21, 24-28

The uproarious sequel to Shakespeare's classic comedy. Also known as The Tamer Tamed and The Woman's Prize, this cheeky, hilarious, and proto-feminist answer to the Shrew so impressed Shakespeare that he made its author first his partner and then his successor as chief writer of the King's Men. The widowed Petruchio marries again, but this time his new wife and her allies teach him an outrageous lesson before letting him have his way. Payback time!

VIAGRA FALLS

Stage West Dinner Theatre
Opens September 17

WAITING IN THE WINGS

Papermill Theatre
Todmorden Mills
May 21 - June 6

WE'RE FUNNY THAT WAY

Buddies In Bad Times
May 6 - 9

Buddies welcomes back the brash and sassy Maggie Cassella, for the 13th incarnation of North America's premier queer comedy festival. Annually, We're Funny That Way showcases the most unique comedic talent from Canada and the U.S.

DANCE

DIRTY DANCING

Royal Alexandra Theatre
(Continuing)

RIVERDANCE: FAREWELL ENGAGEMENT

The Canon Theatre
May 19 - June 21

Riverdance, the thunderous celebration of Irish music, song and dance that has tapped its way onto the world stage thrilling millions of people around the globe, will play its farewell Canadian performances at the Canon Theatre. Discover why nothing in the world compares to the original international phenomenon! Whether it's your first time or your fifth, you won't want to miss these farewell performances of Riverdance!



SHAKUNTALA

Premiere Dance Theatre
February 4 - 15

A masterpiece of world theatre, "Shakuntala", which means one who is brought up by birds (Shakun), is an epic love story, known and revered by South Asians the world over. It is about King Dushyanta and a devout young woman, Shakuntala, who meet in innocence, fall in love, then are cruelly separated before they are eventually reconciled and reunited in eternity. Their child is destined to become the enlightened ruler of the world. Poetic

and deeply human, this story takes us on a magnificent, emotion-filled journey that is profound and far-reaching. This marks the first professional production of "Shakuntala" in Canada. Adapted and directed by Charles Roy, choreography by Hari Krishnan, and original music by Reza Jacobs.

DRAMA / PLAY

A NEW BRAIN

Berkeley Street Theatre
February 12 - 14

ALMIGHTY VOICE AND HIS WIFE

Theatre Passe Muraille
Main Stage
March 28 - April 5

ANOTHER HOME INVASION

Tarragon Theatre
March 18 - April 19

APETITE

Theatre Passe Muraille
Mainstage
April 1 - 20

ARCADIA

Fairview Library Theatre
April 16 - 25

BEAUTIFUL VIEW

Tarragon Theatre
April 29 - May 24

BLACKBIRD

Berkeley Street Theatre
March 9 - April 4

Blackbird by British playwright David Harrower won the 2007 Olivier Award for Best New Play. This explosive drama was the hit of the Edinburgh International Festival and a smash on London's West End and off-Broadway. Ray is confronted with his past when Una arrives unannounced at his office. Guilt and raw emotions run high as they recollect the passionate love affair they had 15 years earlier. Tensions rise, raising the questions: When is love abuse? And, can we ever break free from the shackles of the past? Produced by Studio 180 in association with The Canadian Stage Company and directed by Joel Greenberg, Blackbird makes its Canadian debut.

BUNDLE

Joseph G. Green Studio
January 25 - 31

CLOSER

Alumnae Theatre
Main Stage
April 17 - May 2

Set in contemporary London, Closer tells the story of four people in the "body business". Dan the obituary writer, Alice the stripper, Anna the photographer and Larry the dermatologist who, over a period of years, meet and fall in love.

CRUCIBLE

Burnhamthorpe Auditorium
April 2 - 11

DEDICATED TO THE REVOLUTION

Buddies In Bad Times Theatre
March 31 - April 12

Small Wooden Shoe demonstrates the difficulty of demonstrating effects of progress on our lives. With whiteboards, sporting equipment, question periods and songs, Dedicated to the Revolutions is a performance about the 7 scientific revolutions a grade school teacher once claimed changed the world. Intimate, fun, vulnerable and smart, Small Wooden Shoe engages with the world in an honest, informal way while maintaining the need to step up and entertain.

DOUBT: A PARABLE

Leah Posluns Theatre
February 25 - March 8

DOUBT: A PARABLE

Bluma Appel
May 4 - 30

Heralded as the most powerful theatrical event of the decade, Doubt, a Parable is the recipient of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize and Tony, Drama Desk, New York Drama Critics' Circle, Outer Critics Circle and Obie Awards. Created by American playwright John Patrick Shanley, the Academy Award-winning author of Moonstruck and Joe and the Volcano, Doubt, a Parable is the Broadway and West End sensation that took New York critics by storm. It was voted best new play of the year by The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and Time Magazine. Set against the backdrop of a Bronx

Catholic school in 1964, the production is a gripping, suspense-filled tug-of-war between a popular priest and a strong-minded nun who suspects her colleague of improper conduct with a student. The controversial play dramatizes issues ripped from today's headlines and tackles themes of religion, morality and authority.

EAST OF BERLIN

Tarragon Theatre
Extra Space
January 6 - February 8

ETERNAL HYDRA

Buddies In Bad Times Theatre
May 18 - 31

FEAR OF FLIGHT

May 13 - 24

Factory Theatre

A music and movement spectacle that tracks fourteen nervous passengers on a bumpy transcontinental flight. Combining monologues, choral text and movement, and an ensemble of singing travelers, "Fear of Flight" marks a return for Artistic Fraud to the large scale music performances that defined the beginnings of the company.

FISHBOWL: A CONCISE, EXPANSIVE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

Buddies In Bad Times Theatre
March 25 - April 12

Buddies introduces you to Mark Shyzer, a brilliant new talent; think Daniel MacIvor, with an extra dash of standup. A gawky schoolgirl tries to stay at the top of her science class, an apathetic hipster finds himself in the middle of his parents divorce, and a middle aged cougar gets to the bottom of her latest martini. Three people, from wildly different worlds, find their lives colliding in the most unexpected ways.

HARDELL

Berkeley Street Theatre
April 13 - May 9

From the home-grown team that created the runaway hit Bigger than Jesus - Daniel Brooks, director of last season's critically acclaimed Half Life, and Rick Miller (MacHomer) - Hardehell is a multimedia extravaganza that sly-



ly exposes the lies inherent in advertising. Directed by Daniel Brooks and featuring a tour de force performance by the electric Rick Miller, The Canadian Stage Company presents the Necessary Angel and Wyrd production that CBC Radio described as "Hilarious...experimental and innovative."

HOUSE OF MANY TONGUES

Tarragon Theatre
May 6 - June 3

HUMBLE BOY

Village Playhouse
March 13 - April 4

When troubled young scientist Felix Humble returns to the Humble hive for the funeral of his beekeeper father, he finds he must come to terms with the forces affecting his personal life before he can resume his quest to understand the forces driving the universe. An intelligent, funny, and touching play from an accomplished young playwright.

I, CLAUDIA

Young Centre for the Performing Arts
April 24 - May 24

I HAVE AIDS

Buddies In Bad Times Theatre
April 22 - May 3

Prodon and Vidor are gay lovers; they live in a trendy Toronto loft. One day Prodon tells Vidor that he has AIDS. Complete denial or embracing acceptance - which is the correct way to live with AIDS in a time where medical cocktails can keep mortality at bay? I Have AIDS! is an unflinching examination of modern AIDS politics, which refuses to be a melodrama. Instead it is a black comedy, which will inspire audiences to think about what it means for a gay man to have AIDS today.

KISS THE MOON, KISS THE SUN

Scarborough Village Theatre
March 5 - 21

LOVE LIST

Markham Theatre for Performing Arts
April 22 - 25

MADNESS ON THE SQUARE

Factory Studio Theatre
April 16 - May 3

MEDEA

Canon Theatre
January 9 - February 28

When love becomes hate... Euripides' drama of love, obsession and revenge tells the tale of the princess Medea. She has given everything for a man who now casts her aside for a new, younger wife, better placed to further his ambitions. Heartbroken and enraged, she exacts terrible retribution. A rare opportunity to experience one of the greatest plays in theatre history,

MISS JULIE: FREEDOM SUMMER

Bluma Appel
February 9 - March 7

A smoldering new adaptation of August Strindberg's masterpiece, Miss Julie: Freedom Summer is set in Mississippi on the night of July 4th, 1964, when racial and sexual tensions ignite in a riveting struggle for power, freedom and social change during the explosive Civil Rights Era. The adaptation premiered in Los Angeles in May 2007. The Hollywood Reporter called it "a gripping piece of theatre" and Backstage wrote "a taut adaptation...[that] stands on its own as a new, compelling drama." Written and directed by Stephen Sachs, the drama stars Dora Award-winning actress Caroline Cave as Miss Julie.

MISSING

Factory Mainspace
March 8 - April 5

In a small Ontario town, women are disappearing and Detective Carol Seaforth has to crack the case in order to move up in the ranks. Was Evelyn abducted, was she running to escape her unfeeling husband, or did she simply vanish? And if so, why?

PATIENT HOUR

Tarragon Theatre
Extra Space
February 17 - March 29

PLAYGROUND: ADVENTURES IN THEATRE

Joseph G. Green Studio Theatre
February 10 - 13

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Alumnae Theatre
Main Stage
January 16 - 31

This adaptation of Pride and Prejudice was first produced at Lifeline Theatre in Chicago during 1986. The script won a Joseph Jefferson Citation for New Work. A second staging at Lifeline Theatre in 1991 led to a performance as part of the Chicago Theatre's on the Air radio program. In 1999, the play was rewritten for the Festival Stage at the Stratford Festival of Ontario, where it had a successful run.

ROMEO AND JULIET

Scarborough Village Theatre
April 2 - 18

THE SEAGULL

Fairview Library Theatre
March 12 - 15, 19 - 22, 25 - 28

The Seagull, a work that the author himself claimed contained "five tons of love", is a play about a very human tendency to reject love that is freely given and seek it where it is withheld. Many of its characters are caught in a destructive, triangular relationship that evokes both pathos and humor. What the characters cannot successfully parry is the destructive force of time, the passage of which robs some, like famous actress Madame Arkadina, of beauty, and others, like her sensitive would-be-writer son Konstantine, of hope.

SCORCHED

Tarragon Theatre
May 6 - June 3

SHIRLEY VALENTINE

Bluma Appel
March 23 - April 18

Reuniting with director Roy Surette, Nicola Cavendish reprises her Dora Award-winning performance as Shirley Valentine in this humorous and moving Canadian Stage Company revival. It is the story of a bored housewife who gets a new lease on life after a trip to Greece. According to Vit Wagner of the Toronto Star, Cavendish "has the house in her hands from the opening moment...a bravura performance" and CBC Radio reported, "Nicola Cavendish is simply magnificent, a sure-fire smash hit." Written by Olivier Award-winning British playwright Willy Russell, Shirley Valentine took London's West



End and Broadway by storm, winning numerous awards including the 1988 Olivier Award and 1989 Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards. The 1989 film adaptation was nominated for an Oscar and a Golden Globe.

SKULL IN CONNEMARA

Alumnae Theatre
Main Stage
February 14 - March 8

SUNSHINE BOYS

Toronto Centre for the Arts
April 23 - May 3

THE MADNESS OF THE SQUARE

Factory Theatre
April 16 - May 3
"The Madness of the Square" sheds light on a moment in history that unfolded on television screens around the world on June 4th 1989 in Tiananmen Square, Beijing.

THE NET

Berkeley Street Theatre
February 4 - 6

THEM AND US

Theatre Passe Muraille
Backspace
January 6 - 31

THERE GOES THE BRIDE

Burnhamthorpe Auditorium
June 4 - 13

TIJUANA CURE

Theatre Passe Muraille
Back Space
February 1 - 20

TOM JONES

Scarborough Village Theatre
June 25 - July 11

TORONTO THE GOOD

Factory Theatre
January 31 - March 1
Chalmers Award Winning
Andrew Moodie investigates
tics of race right in our o



TWELVE ANGRY MEN

Scarborough Village Theatre
January 8 - 24

UBUNTU (THE CAPE TOWN PROJECT)

Tarragon Theatre - Neptune Theatre
January 21 - March 1

URINETOWN

Scarborough Village Theatre
February 5 - 21

WAIT UNTIL DARK

Fairview Library
May 7 - 23

WARRIOR BARD

Alumnae Theatre
Main Stage
October 18 - November 8

WEESAGEECHAK BEGINS TO DANCE XXI

Theatre Passe Muraille
Main Stage
February 4 - 7

YOU ARE HERE

Buddies In Bad Times
May 15 - 30

YOU FANCY YOURSELF

Theatre Passe Muraille
January 27 - February 14

ZONA PELLUCIDA & THE NEEDLE EXCHANGE

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre
January 9 - 24
Zona Pellucida is the delightfully demented brainchild of Montreal's 2boys. tv, who wowed audiences of Art-house Cabaret with their outrageous drag and video performances. Zona combines the disparate elements of Shakespeare, Tennessee Williams, Bette Davis, Barbara Stanwyck and a wild take on blue screen puppet theatre to create a show that incorporates their unique blend of music hall, high drag and stunning video design.

FOR KIDS & FAMILY

ADVENTURES OF JILLIAN JIGGS

Solar Stage
To February 8

ARE WE THERE YET?

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre
March 23 - April 3
What if we were to employ the same

care and attention when teaching our kids about sex, as we do when teaching them to drive a car? Fully integrated into Alberta's Grade 9 Health curriculum, this award-winning show uses candour and humour to help teenagers explore healthy choices about sex and relationships.

BIGGER AND BETTER, SAID ALLISTAIR ANT

Solar Stage
February 7, 8, 14, 15
Return with us to the first story of the Alistair Ant trilogy. Alistair wants to be big! After all, ants are too small, aren't they? Will Alistair discover that being small isn't so bad after all? Great fun for your young ones!

BREMEN TOWN MUSICIANS

Village Playhouse
Studio Theatre
May 30 - June 7
Solar Stage
May 9 - 24



EARTH = HOME

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre
March 31 - April 9
A group of young people trapped by a cataclysmic storm are forced to confront their very survival in this lush, multi-media, multi-lingual, dance and movement piece. This story looks at global warming, diminishing resources, environmental sustainability, and social justice through the eyes of our youth.

EMPEROR'S NEW THREADS

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre
March 15 - 27
A vain and shallow ruler searches for the ultimate outfit! A new twist on an old favourite, this lively puppet and mask production is based on the Hans Christian Andersen classic, "The Emperor's New Clothes". Only one little boy has the courage to risk revealing the truth!

THE FORBIDDEN PHOENIX

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre
February 2 - March 11
This enthralling fable is a fusion of martial arts, acrobatics, stunning costumes, and contemporary musical theatre. It cleverly weaves the comic antics of traditional Monkey King sto-

ries with the powerful tale of a father's sacrifice to provide for his family. Sun Wukong is the Monkey King who is torn from his son and exiled to the West after displeasing the formidable Empress Dowager. Forced to work for the mighty Horne in Terminal City, he sets off to make his fortune and to realize his dream of being reunited with his son.

A opulent new musical, The Forbidden Phoenix is loosely based on the experience of Chinese immigrants brought to Canada to work on the railroad in the 1800s, and explores themes of freedom, diversity, family, community and environmentalism

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Solar Stage
June 6 - 28

MUNSCH MISCHIEF

Solar Stage
February 21 - March 22

NAME OF THE TREE

Solar Stage
February 14 - 15

"Once in the land of the short grass, no rain had fallen and no grass grew." Based on the book by Celia Lottridge Parker, this story stars the gazelle, the giraffe, the monkey, the tortoise and the zebra, who were all so hungry.

Little red theatre takes us on a musical journey through Africa searching for the word, the name of the tree that will bring down the delicious fruit and put an end to the drought.

POBBY AND DINGAN

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre
February 2 - March 8

A young girl named Kellyanne has two invisible friends whom everyone in town loves – except her older brother Ashmol. He hates them because they're not real and no one will admit it! When the imaginary friends Pobby and Dingan go missing and Kellyanne becomes ill, Ashmol must find them in order to save his sister.

PRINCESS & THE PEA

Solar Stage
April 4 - 26
Village Playhouse
May 2 - 3



ROBIN HOOD

Solar Stage
March 28 - 29

MUSICALS

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES: THE MUSICAL

Elgin Theatre
May 7 - 31



BRITISH INVASION

Stage West Dinner Theatre
To February 8

This blockbuster hit is back by popular demand! In 1962, we were all twisting and shouting to the sound of Run Around Sue, listening to the Beach Boys and dreaming of California. Two years later, four mop haired boys from Liverpool landed in America and changed the music landscape forever. Although the Beatles may have led the invasion, the army was comprised of hundreds of foot soldiers; The Stones, Chad and Jeremy, Genry and the Pacemakers, Herman's Hermits, Cliff Richards, Petula Clarke, Lulu, Dusty Springfield and later Rod Stewart, Tom Jones, Elton John, Annie Lennox and many more. Let us take you on a magical mystery tour as we relive the British Invasion.

COLOR PURPLE

Canon Theatre
February 1 - March 30

A soul-stirring musical based on the classic Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Alice Walker and the Oscar-nominated film by Steven Spielberg, The Color Purple is the unforgettable and inspiring story of a woman who triumphs over tremendous odds to find joy in life, and her true inner beauty. Nominated for eleven Tony Awards, The Color Purple is a landmark theatrical event. With a joyous Grammy-nominated score featuring jazz, gospel and blues, The Color Purple is capturing the hearts of young and old, and uniting audiences in a celebration of love.

HAPPY DAYS: A NEW MUSICAL

Elgin Theatre
February 3 - 15

Based on the hit television series, this new musical – with book by Garry



Marshall and music by Paul Williams – re-introduces us to the Cunningham family and the days of 1959 Milwaukee.

JERRY SPRINGER THE OPERA

Hart House Theatre
January 16 - February 7

Richard Ouzounian directs the Canadian Premiere of Jerry Springer the Opera. Just like on TV, it's rude, offensive, crass and crude, but a whole lot of fun. The musical played in London and was so popular that there were more than 600 performances. It also sold out at Carnegie Hall. Ouzounian combines the classy timeless art form of opera with the trashiest most degrading form of pop culture. This is the first time the show has come to Canada and Toronto is the first stop.

JERSEY BOYS

Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts
To February 1

Jersey Boys is about Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons: How four blue-collar boys became one of the biggest American pop music sensations. They wrote their own songs, invented their own sounds and sold 175 million records worldwide - all before the age of 30.

MARRIED ALIVE

Stage West Dinner Theatre
February 12 - April 29

Marriage! Family! Kids! Run! Hide! Married Alive! Is a wacky new musical revue that looks at two marriages: newlyweds and a not-so-newlywed couple. From new babies to empty nests, from job stress to domestic bliss. Married Alive! Is a funny yet affectionate look at married life. Follow these couples as their experience life from Niagara to Viagra!

MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG

Scarborough Village Theatre
April 30 - May 16

PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESSERT

Canon Theatre
November 2009

ROB ROY: THE MUSICAL

Elgin Theatre
March 24 - April 19

SOUND OF MUSIC

*Princess of Wales Theatre
(Continuing)*



SPRING AWAKENING

*Canon Theatre
April 1 - May 30*

Broadway's most talked about new musical! Spring Awakening is the groundbreaking fusion of morality, sexuality and rock & roll that has awakened the theatre like no other musical in years. Winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Spring Awakening celebrates the unforgettable journey from youth to adulthood with a power, a poignancy and a passion you will never forget.

WE WILL ROCK YOU

*The Panasonic Theatre
(Continuing)*

In a future world - where globalisation is complete - we are all safe, happy, homogenized consumers. One giant corporation tells us what to buy, what to wear, what to believe, how to live, what to think... but, deep beneath the gleaming cities, there are rebels who remember the time they call The Rhapsody... and make their own forbidden music.

OPERA

FIDELIO

*Four Seasons Centre
January 24, 27 & 30
February 4, 7, 12, 15, 18, 21 & 24*

RUSALKA

*Four Seasons Centre
January 31
February 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20 & 23*
The Canadian Opera Company presents Antonín Dvorák's Rusalka. The adult fairy tale, inspired by Hans Christian Anderson's The Little Mermaid, follows the story of a water nymph named Rusalka, who falls in love with a mortal prince. To be with him, she sacrifices her immortality and her voice. Julie Makerov returns to sing the title role and Canadian tenor Michael Schade, makes his first appearance with the COC in five years, as Rusalka's beloved Prince.

SIMON BOCCANEGRA

*Four Seasons Centre
April 11 - May 3*

FESTIVALS

GROUNDSWELL FESTIVAL

*(Nightwood Theatre)
Berkeley Street Theatre
January 26*

21st ANNUAL NEW IDEAS FESTIVAL

*Alumnae Theatre
March 11 - 28*
Since 1989, the New Ideas Festival has showcased never-before-produced short scripts, in an engaging mix of stories and styles. This annual juried festival also affords the audience an opportunity to give feedback to writers, directors and actors.

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents

THE 30TH RHUBARB FESTIVAL CANADA'S PREMIER NEW WORKS FESTIVAL

February 4 - 22

Buddies' announces a stellar line-up for the 2009 Rhubarb Festival of new works. For 30 years The Rhubarb Festival has offered Toronto artists a critic-free environment to experiment with contemporary theatrical explorations. Rhubarb encourages established artists to take new risks and emerging artists to explore the medium of performance creation in an inspired, encouraging space.

Buddies In Bad Times Theatre presents an exciting line-up of new, original, contemporary theatre, performance and dance for our 30th Rhubarb Festival. This year's festival kicks-off with a special feature presentation of acclaimed New York performer Taylor Mac in The Be(a)st of Taylor Mac as part of his cross-Canada tour. The 2009 line-up features a host of brave new offerings from by Toronto's hottest indie artists such as Lex Vaughn, Jenn Goodwin, Erin Sheilds, Meav Beaty, Andrea Donaldson, Amos Latteire, Chad Dembski, Alex Wolfson, Susie Burpee, Michael Rubinfeld, Catherine Hernandez, Alistair Newton and Halifax's Secret Theatre. Buddies



is also proud to bring you a special presentation of Public Recordings' internationally acclaimed /Dance/Songs/. Canada's oldest and largest new works festival is famous for playing fabulous host to the most outrageous acts you'll catch all year round. This year's line-up features one-of-a-kind performances you won't see on any other stage! We've got comedy, theatre, contemporary dance, drag, performance art and rock 'n' roll all under one roof. Once you're in the door you're in for a wild ride. Evening Passes are available for a lean \$17, and that gets you in to the shows of your choice that night. \$25 gets you a Week Pass so you can come and go, take your time and catch every show at your own pace. A limited number of Festival Passes are available for a mere \$60. Our Festival Pass gives you unlimited access to any performance on any night and comes with a copy of Rhubarb-o-Rama, edited by Franco Boni and featuring rare short plays by artists of Rhubarbs past such as Jacob Wren, Darren O'Donnell, Moynan King, Daniel MacIvor and more.

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Hamlet

A Midsummer Night's Dream

MAIN STAGE

Into The Woods

music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim,
book by James Lapine

STUDIO SERIES

Songs For A New World

music and lyrics by
Jason Robert Brown

I Hate Hamlet

by Paul Rudnick

Half Life

by John Mighton

The Foursome

by Norm Foster



Summer 2009

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