NEWSLETTER

December 2015

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boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca

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2015-16 Active Production Chairs: Lorene Cammiade and Wendy Merk

2016-18 Production Chairs: Roger Carr and Keith Digby

Langham Court News is published 11 times a year. **Deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month preceding the month of publication.** Send submissions to Kathy Macovichuk at newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca

For newsletter address changes or deletions, send them to theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

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boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Costume Loft Rentals and Donations 250-384-2025

costumeloft@langhamtheatre.ca

General Inquires

theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

Membership

membership@langhamtheatre.ca

Prop Rentals and Donations

props@langhamtheatre.ca

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Ursula Szkolak, Elizabeth Brimacombe and Christie Norman-Taal going over their lines.

whereas others may be thicker and fill out the edge of the shoe more, making them heavier as a result. A tap's "tone" is influenced by its weight as well as its surface shape, which may be concave or convex. The tonal quality of a tap can also be influenced by the material it is made from.

Taps are mounted to the sole of the shoe with screws, and sometimes adhesive as well. The screws are driven into a soundboard — a thin fiberboard integrated into the sole that can be firmly "gripped" by the screws — to reliably attach the tap to the shoe. When no adhesive is used, the screws can be loosened or tightened to produce different sounds, whereas tonal quality is fixed when adhesive is used.



Directed by Heather-Elayne Day

Tapping in the Shoes

Taken from Wikipedia

Tap dance has roots in dancing such as Irish dancing, English Lancashire Clog dancing, and Juba Dance. It is believed to have begun in the mid-1800s during the rise of minstrel shows. Famous as Master Juba, William Henry Lane became one of the few black performers to

> join an otherwise white minstrel troupe, and is widely considered to be one of the most famous forebears of tap dance.

In the earliest years of tap dancing, tap shoes often had wood soles, but most tap shoes since have had leather soles. Today, most manufacturers of tap shoes also produce taps.

Depending on manufacturer and model, tap characteristics can vary considerably. For example, some taps have relatively

low weight and small footprint



Jennifer Almeida plays the part of Rose.

2016 and On

Submitted by Roger Carr and Keith Digby, Production Co-Chairs 2016-18

Almost there. The committee has put together what we think is a stunning season that hits all the highlights we'd hoped for. We're currently confirming royalties and will then let the board in on the plans. The new fly loft and the sheep pen may prove stumbling blocks but we remain optimistic.



November 18-December 5, 2015 **Doubt: A Parable**Directed by Don Keith

Doubt Wraps It Up in One More Week

Submitted by Don Keith

Everybody is so thrilled with the overwhelming response to *Doubt: A Parable*.

Listening to the discussions after the play, one gains an appreciation that our audiences respect and value plays that speak to their emotions as well as their intellect. The comments and discussion (Reflections) are not only a compliment to the team, but an affirmation of the impact and importance of theatre. The audience welcomed the opportunity to share their experiences – and they were profound.

The play selection committee deserves a huge thank you for choosing this play, and for believing that Langham has the talent and resources to produce it.



The main thing is to produce "bloodygood" theatre. I know that is what we have achieved. It was always agreed on.

We stretched the resources of the theatre, introduced many new people to positions of responsibility, made demands on the capabilities of the stage, sound and lighting. Everyone came through with flying colors, managed by our amazing Stage Manager Kathy Macovichuk. Don't steal her... she is mine forever.

One crew member left the theatre at 6 a.m. after spending all night hanging lights and painting the set. Wow!
The entire crew shared that kind of commitment. Energy and love for the craft is infectious.

And the cast. Those dear folks who tolerated my eternal investigation of

the necessities of acting, my nagging on tiny details, the need to create effective emotional experiences and to look inside the background of the play and characters – they all deserve a huge thanks. They pushed beyond their limits. Sometimes it was exhausting and frustrating. I appreciate their bravery – and tolerance.

We all loved beyond explanation the incredible script, and most importantly, the opportunity to create and to give our best. Such a small script with huge reverberations!

Thanks to my incredible Producer, Vinnie Chadwick, who has such a tremendous love of theatre, a talent for leadership, a belief in the impossible, and an incredible dedication to the project.

Thank Langham. There will be a next time!

The work of three artists will be on display in the theatre lounge during the run of **Doubt: A Parable**. The pieces are available for viewing and purchase pre-show, intermission or post-show during the show run and during Box Office hours.

Haley Marshall – Haley is a graphic artist living in Victoria. Her artistic sense of humor leans towards "tongue in cheek" and sometimes ventures into the realm of risqué.

Veronica Stewart – Born and educated in Scotland, Veronica is an artist living and working in Victoria who has moved from pottery to jewellery before returning to her first love of painting.

Grant Weiss – Grant is a self-taught watercolourist currently living in Victoria but originally from the Prairies. His love of cartooning inspired him to create an illustrated children's book as well as a watercolour video for beginners.



Theatre Inconnu presents

Spit Delaney's Island

December 3-19

By Charles Tidler from the short story by Jack Hodgins and directed by Karen Lee Pickett.

Special half-price preview on December 1.

Spit Delaney is a steam locomotive operator at a pulp mill. After decades of rising at 4 a.m. to fire up his beloved steam engine, Spit finds himself without this job when the pulp mill replaces "Old Number One" with a modern diesel engine. Spit declares that he is "not sure of where or how I belong." Spit's relationship with his family and the world around him is thrown in turmoil as he doggedly tries to hang onto an identity that is no longer relevant. This is the stuff of comedy, and yet it is also the stuff of the human condition.

Featuring (alphabetically): Catriona Black, Perry Burton, Clayton Jevne and Susie Mullen

December 1 (preview), 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19 at 8 p.m.

December 5, 12, 19 at 2 p.m.

After the 8 p.m. show on Saturday, December 5, Charles Tidler (playwright) will speak after the performance, along with the director and cast members.

Reservations and Ticket Sales

Through Ticket Rocket at <u>www.</u> <u>ticketrocket.co</u> or call 250-590-6291.

Or you can reserve directly through Theatre Inconnu by email at tinconnu@islandnet.com or call (250) 360-0234.

Complimentary tickets, special needs seating, and subscribers: need to reserve directly through Theatre Inconnu.

Ticket prices: \$14 (regular), \$10 (seniors, students, unwaged)

December 1: preview is \$7

December 9: Pay-What-You-Wish Admission

Theatre Inconnu is located at 1923 Fernwood Road (across the street from the Belfry Theatre).

Theatre Inconnu is wheelchair accessible.

www.theatreinconnu.com

December 1-20

The Belfry Theatre presents A Christmas Carol (www.belfry.bc.ca/a-christmas-carol).

December 1-19

Theatre Inconnu presents *Spit*Delaney's Island (www.theatreinconnu.
com/2015/01/spit-delaneys-island/).

December 11-13, 18-20 & 26-28

Peninsula Players presents their annual Christmas panto, *Jack and the Beanstalk* (thepeninsulaplayers.ca/).

December 12

Langham's Christmas Party. Remember to send in your RSVP to Vinnie Chadwick at <u>vinniechad@</u> <u>hotmail.com</u>

December 18-January 2

St. Luke's Players presents their annual Christmas panto, Mother Goose (www.stlukesplayers.org/mothergoose.html).

Mark Your Calendars

Readers' Theatre Update

Submitted by Wendy Merk

Readers' Theatre had a highly successful production of *Spooky Shakespeare* on Saturday, October 31. Audience attendance was over 60. Readings from scary Shakespearean plays such as *Macbeth, Titus Andronicus*, and *Hamlet*, to name a few, were performed by 20 actors.

Next up: a performance in honour of Valentine's Day, scheduled to take place in the lounge on Saturday, February 13 at 8 p.m.

Auditions



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS





Announcing these upcoming auditions:



Written by James Yaffe Directed by Penelope Harwood

Sun., Jan. 10 • 1:30pm Mon., Jan. 11 • 7:00pm

Callbacks: Tuesday, Jan. 12 • 7:00pm

No appointments are necessary, just show up promptly at the start time.

Play runs March 9 – 20, 2016

Rehearsals are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:00pm until 10:00pm • Commencing January 18th

For scripts or questions please contact psharwood@telus.net

Scripts are also available at
Oak Bay Flower Shop • 250-595-2421

Bull in a China Shop

Written by C.B. Gilford • Directed by Michael King

Fri., Jan. 22 • 7:00pm Sat., Jan. 23 • 1-5pm

Callbacks: Monday, Jan. 25 • 7:00pm

No appointments are necessary, just show up promptly at the start time.

Play runs May 18 – 28, 2016

Rehearsals are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:00pm until 10:00pm

For scripts or questions please contact St. Luke's Players

All auditions are held at St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Rd • Like us on Facebook Website: www.stlukesplayers.org • Phone: 250-884-5484 • Email: stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca

Guild News

Langham Court Theatre has three available positions for Guild Leaders. Our Guilds support and encourage the ongoing development of theatre through workshops and the sharing of ideas, improving the technical aspects of community theatare.

Costume Guild

To promote the research, artistry and technical expertise in the field of costume design and creation.

Tech Guild

For the introduction and training of volunteers interested in the technical aspects of a show, and the sharing of ideas and experience.

Stage Management Guild

Offering guidance and workshops to help SMs and ASMs in their very important roles in a production.

Please contact Luke Krayenhoff

(boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca) if you're interested in taking on one of these exciting and challenging oppportunities.

Guild Contacts

Costume Guild: TBA <u>costumeguild@</u> langhamtheatre.ca

Producers' Guild: Michael Gosselin producersguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Stage Management Guild: TBA smguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Tech Guild: TBA

lightsoundguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Directors' Guild:

Keith Digby and Cynthia Pronick directorsguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Actors' Guild: Perry Burton actorsquild@langhamtheatre.ca

Set Design Guild: Don Keith setdesignguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Event Planning Guild:

Vinnie Chadwick

eventplanningquild@langhamtheatre.ca

Box Office Guild: Dick Newson boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Front of House Volunteer Enquires:

volunteers@langhamtheatre.ca



Costume Loft News

Submitted by Lisa Leighton

Thank you! For recent donations to the Costume Loft and Costume Workshop, thanks to: Hilda Bell; Andy Nezil; Ned Lemley; Jane Smith; Jenny Chan; Karen Jensen; Debra Taylor; Bev Johnson; Carol-Anne Moore; Sylvie Lindstrom; Berit Kvarnstrom, referred by Susan Ferguson; Sean Duesterwald; Doreen Leslie via Downsizing Divas; Pat Saxon; Stella; Marnie Bold via Anney Ardiel of Act Together Moving Services; Franklyn Roy for Ardith Roy, Beatrice Christie and Audrey Johnson; Vinnie Chadwick from the estate of Sylvia Rhodes; Barbara Pittam; Ginny Carter; Nick Stull; and Terry Jones.

Special thanks to Erika Schweitzer, who has sewed and embellished four gorgeous new 1920s flapper dresses for the Costume Loft collection since late October. The dresses are women's sizes 12, 14, 16 and 18 and are now available for rent. The 1920s has been incredibly popular this year, and one of the new dresses will make its stage debut in CCPA's The Great Gatsby (Dec. 3 to 6).

We are grateful for the help of our newest volunteer, Ursula Kalynchuk, who has been quietly mending our costumes for the last several weeks, and doing a superb job at reducing the backlog. Welcome, Ursula, and thank you!

Thanks also to one of our renters, Greg Simmonds, who connected us with programmer Nasimul Islam in Bangladesh. Between Greg and Nasimul, we now have a Microsoft Access-based invoice template that, once we have it populated, will make invoices much faster and easier for us all in the Loft.

Huge thanks to all of the volunteers who did such a great job through Halloween, and on the parade of returns into November. We are also delighted to have Ned Lemley volunteering in the Loft on a regular basis! Thank you, Ned, for continuing to make such a great contribution.

Please consider volunteering! We are always in need of volunteers.

Our Future's So Bright...

Submitted by Tom McCarthy, General Manager

Central Middle School

On Monday, November 16, we had our first mentoring session with the bright and energetic kids from Central Middle School. They are creating their own play in French and will be directing, acting, designing and teching the show for a planned presentation right here at Langham Court Theatre on Wednesday, February 3. Many thanks to Judy Treloar and Monty Björnson for working with us to make this date happen! The talented and wonderful Diane Keating, Ned Lemley and Lisa Leighton inspired our young charges who will work on things at school for a while. Tony Hubner and Nick Stull will also be key mentors. The kids are back in full force at Langham Court Theatre on Monday, November 30 and Monday, December 14, 1:00-2:30 p.m. We will split into groups:

- writing (November 30 only)
- sets/props
- directing/producing
- · choreography
- lighting/sound (December 14 only)

If you would like to be a mentor in any of these areas, please email me at tom@langhamtheatre.ca.

Langham Launches Sponsorship Opportunities



We have been given the incredible gift of the talent, skill and knowledge of Bethany Wilson who is providing leadership for our new Sponsorship Program.

Bethany has a very strong record of leading marketing and fundraising programs, notably for the Victoria Symphony. The program is intended to increase the resources Langham Court Theatre needs to add

learning and outreach programs and to provide additional resources for our productions. We ask all of you to provide us with contact information and introductions to businesses who would be good candidates as sponsors of Langham Court Theatre. Please let me know by email to tom@langhamtheatre.ca.

Opening Our Doors Just a Bit Wider

One of the initiatives we are undertaking as an organization is to show a welcoming face to the larger community; that Langham Court Theatre is a place where anyone can "stretch their creative muscle". One way to demonstrate this is to seek out opportunities to use our cherished facility as a community outreach resource. Our project with Central Middle School is an example of how this can happen. This will introduce new audiences to Langham Court Theatre and will further entrench our value as a vital community asset.

I would be thrilled to get your ideas about how we can do more of this, so please email your



President's Message

Submitted by Luke Krayenhoff

Hi folks – happy December! I'm very pleased with what has taken place in our lovely theatre in the past six months. First and foremost we've hired an amazing Theatre Manager, Tom McCarthy. In addition to managing the theatre, Tom is making all the right connections in the local arts community and with funding agencies. I foresee great opportunities for us.

As you know, I've been a proponent of the Guild structure and the education aspect that this structure can provide. The guilds help us train new members, enhance the skills of existing members, as well as helping the Board with decisions which affect their areas of expertise.

Our official title is the Victoria Theatre Guild & Dramatic School and I would love to see us fulfill the last part of our mandate. Tom has applied for a grant for funds to administer workshops relating to most of the guilds, which ties in well with Keith and Roger's desire to hold workshops relating to their seasons and our need to recruit volunteers to lessen the burden on our existing crews. Stay tuned on this front!

Tom is also moving ahead on the fundraising front which has long been an area that Langham needs to explore properly. This will involve sponsorships, planned giving and individual donations, tied to a benefit structure.

Finally, I need to advise you that I'll be stepping down as President effective the December board meeting so that someone can be appointed to replace me, who will then be voted on at the AGM. I feel that I've accomplished what I had hoped for during my term: a better play selection process with two-year Production Chairs independent of dayto-day Board responsibilities, a guild structure, and a plan for fundraising. I've been on the Board for five years, been President for two and I'll remain on the Board as Past-President. I look forward to supporting the new ideas the next leadership team will bring!