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For newsletter address changes or deletions, send them to the General Manager at gm@langhamtheatre.ca

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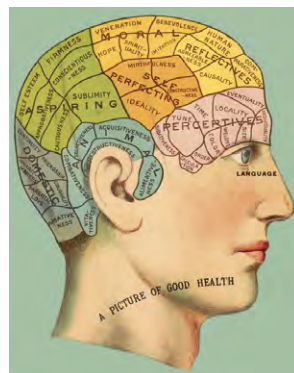
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iron rod through his face and out the top of his head, carrying with it a substantial quantity of his brain. And yet he survived; he got back to his feet almost immediately, and continued on to live a relatively normal life. Even stranger: Phineas Gage was outwardly the same person, except for some ugly scars and a wrecked eyeball, but his character had markedly changed; he wasn't the same person on the inside. Some part of Phineas Gage remained, and some part was gone, and figuring out how this could be challenged our understanding of what it means to be who we are, and paved the way for the budding science of neurology.



Janet Munsil's remarkable play uses the true story of a medical curiosity to weave a complex series of questions about identity and loss, set in both the past and the present day. We're very lucky to have a playwright of Janet's caliber living and working right here in our hometown; she has been an inspiration to me ever since I was her student at the University of Victoria so long ago, and so in a sense working on this play is a meditation for me in time and

identity on a personal level – who am I now, who was I then, and what will remain of me when I look back on this moment from the future?

Those are the unresolved anxieties, common to us all, that make this play potent. Interestingly, Trevor Hinton, who plays Gage in our production, played the same role a decade ago at the Phoenix. For him, too, acting in this production, to be speaking the same lines but understanding them so differently, is a kind of palimpsest of selfhood. That's something an actor invariably confronts on a fundamental level: past and present happening simultaneously. It's part of the ritual that makes theatre strange and wonderful – what makes it different from film, in a way, and what makes it such an essential human activity. In a way, that iron rod did to Phineas Gage in a gruesome instant what happens to us all over time; we change irrevocably, but slowly enough that we don't realize it, just as night after night a play is both the same and altogether new.

FEBRUARY 27–MARCH 16, 2019

THAT ELUSIVE SPARK

WRITTEN BY JANET MUNSIL

DIRECTED BY MERCEDES BÁTIZ-BENÉT

A MEDICAL CURIOSITY

SUBMITTED BY MERCEDES BÁTIZ-BENÉT

Phineas Gage was a railway construction worker made famous in the mid-1800s by a horrific accident: a rogue explosion fired a meter-long





ART SHOW IN THE LOUNGE

SUBMITTED BY JEANI REYNOLDS

The work of Dee Storey and Jeani Reynolds will be on display in the Theatre Lounge during the run of *That Elusive Spark*. The pieces will be available for viewing and purchase pre-show, during intermission or post-show during the show run and during Box Office hours.

Opening Reception

Sunday, March 3, 1–3 p.m.



Dee Storey

Some of you might recognize Dee from her many years at Langham working with costumes and props.

Originally learning to weld sculptures, Dee turned to welding jewellery instead. She primarily works in sterling silver and copper, adding in beautiful semi-precious stones.

As a fibre artist, Dee uses small sections from large images of semi-precious rocks



and minerals for her unique needle felting. This show is a combination of her love of trees and stones and pretty sparkly things.

www.twistytreetree.com

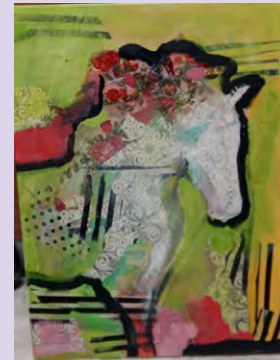
Jeani Reynolds

For years Jeani tried to rein in her rushed and loose style of painting with little success, feeling that she was too unconventional. She's excited to say she now allows herself the freedom to just have fun in front of a canvas. She plans her image and then lets the colours and paint fly in a mad whirl of energy, often using both hands to paint at the same time. Once the painting dries, she uses negative space, torn paper and glue to quiet the image to a place that feels right for her. This show has

come from her interest in the visual seduction of horses, roses and women.

She is grateful for all the years of selfless mentoring, advice, knowledge and support through staff, members and volunteers this wonderful community theatre has shared with her. Thank you Langham!

Jeani was given the honour of becoming a Life Member of Langham Court Theatre in 2018.



APRIL 17–MAY 4, 2019

QUARTET

A COMEDY BY RONALD HARWOOD

DIRECTED BY JON SCHEER

HITTING THE RIGHT CHORD

SUBMITTED BY NICK STULL

We are happy to announce the four excellent actors recently cast for *Quartet*.



Wilfred Alf Small

Cissy Fran Patterson

Jean Elizabeth Whitmarsh

Reggie Tony Garnett

Langham Court Theatre patrons will, of course, recognize Alf, Fran and Elizabeth, but will be introduced to a new experienced actor for the first time in our theatre, Tony Garnett. Our Reggie (Tony) hit the stage as Touchstone

in *As you Like It* in 1967 and has had many interesting experiences on stage since then.

Director Jon Scheer and I were very encouraged by the overwhelming requests for an audition slot! So many talented and well-seasoned actors came out and gave their all for these four challenging, and rewarding, roles to play. It was hard to disappoint so many very capable men and women.



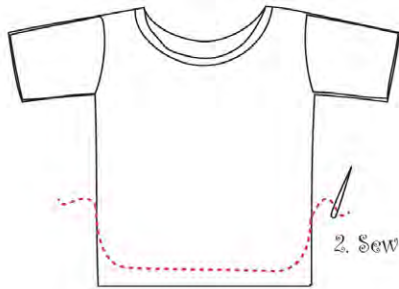
COSTUME LOFT REPORT

SUBMITTED BY COLLEEN BLUNT

With tidying becoming the latest trend, The Costume Loft is ready to accept your donations for the Giant Annual Costume Sale 2019! We are looking for donations

T-shirt into tote bag

1. Turn inside out



of clothing, costumes, and clothing accessories. We cannot accept household goods at this time, or anything in rough shape. Thank you to everyone who has donated already this season.

Here's a tip: instead of throwing away textile waste (old t-shirts with holes, used up rags, stretched out sweaters) take in your bundle to H&M at Uptown Shopping Center. The front counter associates will accept your textile waste and even give you a coupon for your trouble! We are all looking for ways to divert our waste, and textiles waste is a huge contributor to landfills all over the world. Let's do our small part by recycling, donating, or finding a new use for old pieces.

A super simple project to transform old t-shirts is to turn them into reusable shopping bags! Simply cut off the sleeves and sew (or serge) all the way across the bottom. This is a resourceful way to use t-shirts or sweaters that have nostalgic memories but aren't great to wear anymore.

Do you have any fun tricks or tips to reduce your fabric impact? Let us know at costumeloft@langhamtheatre.ca

PITCH YOUR PLAYS AND IDEAS FOR DIRECTING

SUBMITTED BY JON SCHEER, PLANNING PRODUCTION CHAIR, AND SYLVIA HOSIE, ASSISTANT PRODUCTION CHAIR

As a follow-up to our presentation at the November AGM, we are interested in hearing from directors as part of our play selection process for the 2020/21 season.

If you are interested in directing during that season, please pitch us a show that you would love to direct for LCT.

Include in your pitch a brief analysis of the show including cast size and female/male composition, complexity of set and costumes, how it meshes with what our audiences expect, and what time of year you would be available to direct.

Please send your pitch to jonscheer@shaw.ca by **March 10, 2019**. We will make an appointment for you to present your show and suggestions to the Play Selection Committee.



It's not WHO you love But DO you love!

Sister Act Productions is a collaboration of Lynda Raino and Angela Henry. Lynda is a dancer, choreographer, singer and actor. Angela is a director, actor and one of Langham's ombudspersons. They saw an opportunity to put together some of their favourite performances and performers in a night of "Celebrating the Diversity of Love". 31 artists are joining together **Thursday, February 14** for a one-night concert of song, dance, poetry, spoken word, theatre, visual arts and of course chocolate.

It is fundraiser for Langham to support our shows. Tickets can be purchased on Langham's website. Scroll down to *It's Not Who You Love But Do You Love*. www.langhamtheatre.ca/boxoffice/buytickets/



AUDITIONS



NOISES OFF

A comedy by Michael Frayn
Directed by Don Keith

In this rip-roaring classic, the audience is treated to a hilarious behind-the-scenes peek at an acting troupe rehearsing and performing the farce *Nothing On*. Despite nerves, dropped lines and technical difficulties, they make it through rehearsal and open the show. As time goes by, things deteriorate until pandemonium ensues and axe-wielding co-stars, drunken cast members and misplaced sardines take center stage during a disaster of a performance that threatens to jinx the old saying, "The show must go on."

First produced at Langham in 2000, this classic farce closes the 2019 season. Looking for comedic actors who are good at physical comedy and farce! Is this you?

Performance Dates: June 5–22, 2019

Audition Dates:

Friday, February 15, 7–10 p.m.,
Saturday, February 16, 12–5 p.m. or
Monday, February 18, 7–10 p.m.

Please bring a headshot and resume.

ALL auditioners are asked to prepare a 2 to 3-minute comedy monologue.

Audition Location: Rehearsal Room at Langham Court Theatre, 805 Langham Court. Please use the stage door entrance off the parking lot.

Perusal scripts are available at the Box Office.

To Book an Audition (choose a day): To book your audition day, or for additional information, please contact the producer, Vinnie Chadwick at 250-721-3454.

Accents will be required.

For important information on character roles and the rehearsal/production schedule, please visit Langham's website at www.langhamtheatre.ca/participate/auditions/



Register now!

SPRING BREAK CAMP

MARCH 25–29, 9:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

We are excited to announce a new spring break camp for 10 to 15-year-olds that will give students the opportunity to work with puppets and an original script targeted at families of all ages. Instructors will go over the basics of puppetry, how to make puppets come to life, and how to apply the characters to the original script *The Mouse and the Sea*, by Brian Quakenbush.

The camp will take place at Langham Court Theatre, giving students an in depth look at what it is like to work in a functioning theatre. Two performances of *The Mouse and the Sea* will showcase what the students learned during this one week camp.

Performances will be held March 29 (6 p.m.), and March 30 (2 p.m.)

REGISTRATION: \$350 [You can register here.](#)

For more information, visit langhamtheatre.ca/





Theatre Inconnu presents THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT

by Stephen Adly Guirgis
Directed by Clayton Jevne

February 12–March 2

The Last Days of Judas Iscariot is a hilarious, poignant, thought-provoking work by Pulitzer-prize winning playwright Stephen Adly Guirgis.

Boasting a large, zany cast of characters, the play asks one of the most plaguing questions in the Christian ideology: What happened to Judas Iscariot?

The facts (we think!) we know are these. Judas was the disciple of Jesus who betrayed his friend and teacher to the authorities. He is seen as the man responsible for Jesus' death. Afterwards, Judas fell into despair and hung himself from an olive tree. Since then, he has been suffering for his deeds deep in Hell, and will continue to do so for all eternity. Is that really fair? Was Judas the duplicitous master of his own fate, a much-suffering pawn used for Jesus' ends, or just a man who made a mistake?

Set in a courtroom in Purgatory, *The Last Days* puts Judas' case to a hilarious, riotous, piercing trial, the results of

which are sure to make the inhabitants of Heaven, Hell, and Purgatory – and the audience – reconsider what each thought they knew about forgiveness, faith, and the human inside one of the history's most infamous figures.

Cast (alphabetically): Catriona Black, Melissa Blank, Evan Coates, Cam Culham, Julie Gray, David MacPherson

February 12 (preview), 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, Mar 1 & 2 at 8 p.m.

February 16, 23, March 2 at 2 p.m.

Reservations and Ticket Sales

Through Ticket Rocket at www.ticketrocket.co or call 250-590-6291 (\$2.50 surcharge). You can also reserve directly through Theatre Inconnu online at www.theatreinconnu.com or by calling (250) 360-0234.

Ticket prices: \$14 (regular), \$10 (seniors 60+, students, unwaged)

February 12 preview is \$7 February 20 is Pay-What-You-Wish

The show is about two hours long, including one intermission.

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

Theatre Inconnu is wheelchair accessible but arrangements should be made beforehand.

For more information about the show and Theatre Inconnu, please visit us at www.theatreinconnu.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 8

Langham's 90th Birthday Celebration Cocktail Party at Government House

February 9

Janet Munsil will hold the first gathering of The Playwrights' Unit at LCT

February 11

LCT Board Meeting

February 12–March 2

Theatre Inconnu's production of *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (www.theatreinconnu.com)

February 14

Sister Act Productions of *It's Not Who You Love But Do You Love* – a fundraiser for Langham Court Theatre

February 15, 16 & 18

Auditions for Langham's production of *Noises Off*

February 16

Readers' Theatre presents their production of *An Ideal Husband*

February 23

St. Luke's Players' 70th anniversary party. Email for tickets (stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca)

February 27–March 16

Langham's production of *That Elusive Spark*

March 3

Art Show Reception in the Theatre Lounge, 1–3 p.m., featuring the work of Dee Storey and Jeani Reynolds



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS TURNS 70

FEBRUARY 23, 6–9 P.M. AT ST. LUKE'S PARISH HALL

Please come and help us celebrate St Luke's Players' 70th anniversary. Memorabilia from past seasons will be on display, several members will entertain. Appetizers, beer and wine will be served.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be reserved by emailing us at stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca. Bring cash or cheque to the hall on February 23, and we will have your tickets waiting for you at Front of House. **Only 100 tickets are available so reserve early.**

We hope to hear from you soon and to see you on February 23.

Interested in reading the approved minutes of Langham Court Theatre's board meetings? Check out the posted minutes at www.langhamtheatre.ca/members/board-minutes/

Interested in graphic design and laying out a monthly newsletter? Please contact Kathy at newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca for more information.

Readers' Theatre presents
AN IDEAL HUSBAND

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AT 8 P.M.
AT LANGHAM COURT THEATRE

An Ideal Husband was first produced by the Victoria Theatre Guild in 1961. Oscar Wilde's witty 1895 comedy examines the themes of society, corruption, politics, and morality. As always, admission is by donation, and refreshments will be served.

"Sooner or later, we shall all have to pay for what we do. No one should be entirely judged by their past."

Directed by Wendy Merk, the cast of Langham newcomers and seasoned veterans includes:



Narrator: David Conway
Vicomte de Nanjac: Ainsley DeSouza
Mr. Montford: Carl Powell

The Earl of Caversham, K.G.: Kevin Stinson

Viscount Goring: John Bidner

Sir Robert Chiltern: Ron Skelton

Mason, Butler to Sir Robert Chiltern: David Conway

Phipps, Lord Goring's Servant: Carl Powell

Lady Chiltern: Suzanne Bell

Lady Markby: Pippa Catling

The Countess of Basildon: Gloria Snider

Mrs. Marchmont: Janine Longy
Miss Mabel Chiltern: Kayla Hart
Mrs. Cheveley: Kathy Macovichuk



EDUCATION REPORT

SUBMITTED BY KEITH DIGBY

INTERNATIONAL PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

Our Risk Theatre International Playwriting Competition has its full slate of anonymous jurors: one Canadian, one American and one British.

Competition manager, Michael Armstrong, and I chose the Canadian juror. Bernard Havard, head honcho at Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia (50,000+ season ticket holders) found our American juror. Ellie Horne of the UK's Royal Court Theatre and Ola Animashawun of the National Theatre found our British juror.

Response from playwrights has been strong so far. There are close to sixty entries from all around the world with the competition running to March 29.

For more info on this project go to: <https://risktheatre.com/>

THE PLAYWRITERS UNIT

On February 9, Janet Munsil, whose play, *That Elusive Spark* is next up on mainstage, will hold the first gathering of The Playwrights Unit. Following her successful weekend workshops, Janet will facilitate a group of playwrights and people who wish develop playwriting skills and have a project in mind. Response from those who took the initial workshop and who will be the majority of this group has been very strong.

Anyone interested in joining this group should contact Keith Digby at digby_keith@hotmail.com



WANT TO DIRECT IN OUR 2019-20 SEASON?

St Luke's Player is pleased to announce its 2019-20 season.

Let us know your previous experience, and which play(s) you would like to direct.

If you have not directed a play on your own before but would like to, or would prefer to participate as an Assistant Director, then let us know your experience in theatre.

Play On!

by Rick Abbott
October 2019

Treasure Island

by Ben Crocker. Adapted Dave Hitchcock
December 2019/January 2020

I Never Sang for my Father

by Robert Anderson
March 2020

The Unexpected Guest

by Agatha Christie
May 2020

We are also looking for anyone who would like to produce or stage manage one of plays for next season.

For more information on each of the plays, please visit stlukesplayers.org/links/SLP-Directors_Call_2019-20_Season.pdf

You can email your interest and resume stlukesdirectors@gmail.com

Deadline for submissions is February 28.