

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca

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Alan Penty

PRODUCTION CHAIR 2020/22

Jon Scheer (Sylvia Hosie, Asst. Prod. Chair)

Langham Court News is published 11 times a year. **Deadline for submissions is the 22nd 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 the General Manager at gm@langhamtheatre.ca

Box Office and Administration

250-384-2142

boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Costume Loft Rentals and Donations

250-384-2025

costumeloft@langhamtheatre.ca

General Inquiries

gm@langhamtheatre.ca

Membership

membership@langhamtheatre.ca

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props@langhamtheatre.ca

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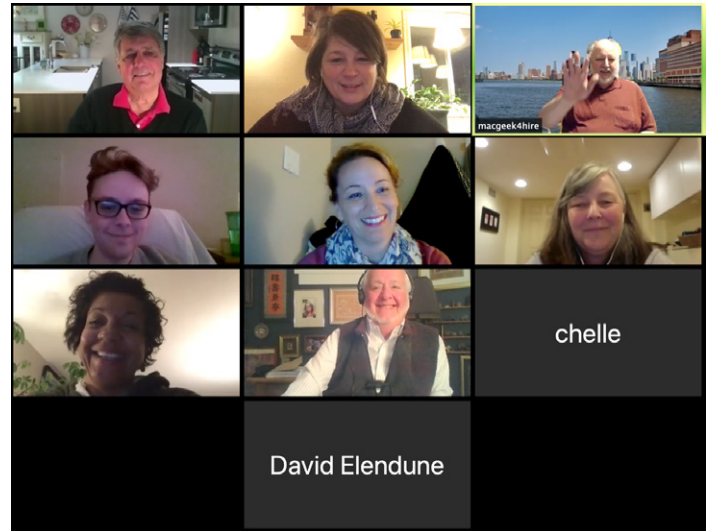
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LANGHAM SUSPENDS ITS 2019/20 SEASON

Over the past few weeks, as a Board we have made many difficult decisions. To suspend *Silent Sky* and *Mambo Italiano* (putting a pause on all of the hard work that has been done so far), to close the physical building, and to postpone upcoming events and rentals for the foreseeable future. All of these decisions have a weight that has been felt by all involved, and were not taken lightly. We are devastated and heartbroken, knowing how much hard work goes into every aspect of running and enjoying our theatre.

The situation changes daily. The health and safety of our community is our highest priority. The Board is meeting regularly to assess our needs, look ahead, and plan as best as we can with the information we have at the time. We will update you, our members



Board Meeting, Monday, March 30 in Zoom
(Not on camera: Michelle Mitchell and David Elendune)

and community, as soon as we have information to share.

Please join us in thanking our amazing staff. We would not be able to navigate this complicated time without the dedication and hard work of those who make the theatre run behind the scenes. They are also working hard to think outside the box to make sure we still have art and theatre in this time of physical distancing. We are so grateful for you.



Dear Friends of Langham,

In light of the latest local, national and international news and both government and health advice about COVID-19, the Langham Court Theatre building is now closed to the public until further notice.



We are all incredibly sad to close our doors but we know the safety of our audiences, volunteers and staff must be the priority at this time.



Depending on how long closures continue, we will be in contact with ticket holders for *Silent Sky* and *Mambo Italiano* as well as anyone with events scheduled at the theatre. We will do our best to keep our website and social media channels up to date.



We are so grateful for your support during this unprecedented and uncertain time. Take care of yourselves and one another until we meet again.



Team Langham Court Theatre

We send all of you our best wishes and love. You are all a significant part of what makes Langham Court Theatre such an important and magnificent theatre company.

And please, please, please stay safe.

Season ticket holders will be contacted in the coming weeks about options due to the 2019/20 Season suspension.

PRODUCTION CHAIR CLARITY

SUBMITTED BY KEVIN STINSON

As those of you who read the previous (March) newsletter will know, the Board has been reviewing the play selection process at Langham Court. Based on our review, the Board will be proposing eliminating the administrative responsibilities of the Production Chair, allowing the position to focus on artistic vision.

The Production Chair will select (versus manage) the season and choose directors, with the help of the Play Selection Committee. The Production Chair will be reintegrated back into the Board and be known as the Play Selection Committee Chair (PSCC). There will be a previous PSCC and an incoming PSCC added to the Board.

In the previous newsletter I accidentally inverted the proposed first and second-year responsibilities of the incoming PSCC. The next incoming PSCC would immediately, upon their election or acclamation, become a voting member of the Board, chair all meetings of the Play Selection Committee for the next year, and as previous PSCC would become vice-chair of the Play Selection Committee in the second year of their term. The full term of office of the incoming PSCC would be two years in total, as with all other Board positions.

We had intended to hold a **Town Hall meeting on Sunday, April 5 from 4 to 6 p.m.** to provide an opportunity for feedback and input from the membership regarding these proposals, and a **Special General Meeting to be held on Sunday, June 28** to vote on the required amendments to the Bylaws. Due to the current COVID-19 emergency, this will not be possible.

I would therefore ask members to submit their feedback by email to kevin@macgeek4hire.com, and as chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, I will bring it forward to the Board. We will do our best to arrange a Town Hall and a Special General Meeting in time to have the new process in place before the November AGM.



SUSPENDED

SILENT SKY

BY LAUREN GUNDERSON / DIRECTION BY ZELDA DEAN

SUBMITTED BY HOLLY MCGIMPSEY

The *Silent Sky* cast and crew would like to give patrons a look at our show. Here are some photos from one of our rehearsals.



Dr. Jim Hesser, astronomy advisor, showing Kathryn Humphries (Henrietta Leavitt) a copy of the actual paper, written by her character, that would change astronomy forever. Jim kindly brought the book from the archives of Victoria's Dominion Astrophysical Observatory where the cast and crew of *Silent Sky* was to have a field trip. We still hope to go once everything is open again.



SM, Jon Scheer, wearing his best suffragette attire!



Cast members rehearsing *I to r Liz Whitmarsh*, Lindsay Anderson, Kathryn Humphries with Deirdre Tipping watching in the background.



Director, Zelda Dean, warming up the cast. Skirts up, ladies!

THE PASSING OF GINNY CARTER



It is with a heavy heart we share the passing of life member Ginny Carter on April 1, 2020 at the age of 95.

As shared by Ginny's daughter Angela, "Ginny's heart and soul were at Langham Court Theatre and she considered it her second home. She caught the acting bug from Betty Mitchell in Calgary as a teenager and never lost it! Amateur theatre gave her the stimulation and release she needed to keep slogging away at a demanding bank job and supporting a family and stay happy and fulfilled!

Langham was the place where she felt she fitted in, and she was very proud of being a member."

We will miss seeing Ginny warmly greeting friends at every Langham event and send our love to all Ginny's friends, her family and especially to Angela. We will celebrate Ginny's life and enormous contribution to Langham when we can be together again at the theatre. Until then...



Prisoner of Second Avenue – Ginny's first play at Langham



Waiting in the Wings – Ginny's last play at Langham



WATCH IT ONLINE

[National Theatre Home](#)

Enjoy London's world-class theatre in the comfort of your home.

[Bedtime Stories](#)

From his Twitter account, Josh Gad (voice of Olaf from *Frozen*) reads bedtime stories to you and your kids.

[12 Ways to Stream the Stage](#)

This website has several links to several online theatre performances including shows on Broadway.

[The Canadian Play Thing](#)

Celebrating the work of Canadian playwrights, with live play readings online. Info can also be found on their [Facebook page](#), as well as their website.

TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF

IDEAS AND STRATEGIES TO DEAL WITH ALL THE FEELS AS WE GO THROUGH THIS PANDEMIC

DAWN SCHELL, MA, CCC, University of Victoria Counsellor / LCTS Board, Secretary

It's natural to feel stressed, sad, confused, scared or angry in a time of uncertainty and unpredictability. If you've noticed an increase in anxiety, be kind to yourself – you are not alone.

- 1 Practice noticing and allowing anxiety: "What you resist persists" (Carl Jung). Resisting anxiety rarely works. Instead, try letting anxious thoughts, sensations, feelings ebb and flow, notice the ebb and flow, and then focus back in the present moment.
- 2 Stay connected.
- 3 Limit exposure to coronavirus news and decrease conversations about coronavirus.
- 4 Practice good self-care.
- 5 Connect with purpose and meaning.
- 6 Practice relaxation.
- 7 Connect with self-compassion.
- 8 Focus on what you can influence. When we only focus on what is beyond our control, anxiety can feel worse. Instead, shift your attention to the steps you can take to help respond to the virus, Take a deep breath and keep things in perspective.
- 9 Draw on your skills. You have coped with stressful situations in the past. Try to remind yourself of the helpful and supportive ways you coped with other stressors at other times in your life.



To read these tips in more depth: <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/assets/docs/covid-19-anxiety.pdf>

THEATRE INCONNU POSTPONES SHOW

Theatre Inconnu announces the postponement of its spring production of *Dog Sees God – Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead* by Bert Royal.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, as it relates to self-isolation and social distancing, it is not possible for us to continue preparations at this time. We hope that a late spring or early summer run may still be a possibility but, like everyone else, we can only wait and see.

We appreciate the amazing support the community continues to give Theatre Inconnu and the rest of the Greater Victoria arts community.

We hope to see you again soon! Be well and safe!

Please check in with our website (www.theatreinconnu.com) periodically for any updates

Best wishes,

Clayton and all at Theatre Inconnu