

# NEWSLETTER

Langham Court Theatre resides on the territories of the ləkwəŋən speaking peoples, also known as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nation. We live and create on this land with humility and gratitude.

**March 2024** 

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Caroline Herbert Vice-President: Andrew Gabriel

Secretary: Marilyn Kuss

Treasurer: Vacant

Members-at-Large to 2024: Katlia Lafferty, Alan Penty Members-at-Large to 2025: Amanda Heffelfinger, Don Keith Past President: Wayne Yercha

# Co-Production Chairs 2023-25

Jacqollyne Keath Toshik Bukowiecki

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

#### **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

#### **Prop Rentals and Donations**

props@langhamtheatre.ca

# Five Women Wearing the Same Dress



Back row: Katie Payne (Mindy), Alex McKeen (Trisha), Andrea Smith Peek (Georgeanne), Tess Wiens (Meredith), Front row: Kayla Hart(Frances). Missing from the photo is Branden Hutchison (Tripp)



Tickets are available online at www.langhamtheatre.ca

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress by Alan Ball, directed by David Blue, is now cast. Thank you to everyone who came out to audition. You all are talented!

The production team is hard at work behind the scenes bringing this May 1-19, 2024 show together. The first read through is on March 3 and everyone is excited to get started on this show.



Like us on <u>Facebook</u>



Follow us on  $\underline{\text{Instagram}}$ 

# Langham Court Theatre Society is a

community theatre powered by volunteers and all actors and crew are unpaid. The Society has ZERO TOLERANCE for bullying, racism, harassment, and other behaviours that cause harm to members of our community. Everyone will be required to adhere to our <u>Code of Conduct</u>



Photo by Terry Stitt

# Message from the President

Congratulations to Director Wendy Merk and the *Murder Weekend* cast and crew! What a fabulous preview and opening night! It was great to see full houses. Victoria theatre goers obviously love a good murder mystery, and you did not disappoint! Your hard work and commitment to your craft paid off with a production that is a big hit with Langham audiences. The beautiful set designed by Toshik Bukowiecki and created by the amazing set building crew, showcased an English country manor perfectly. This week Mike Devlin of the Times Colonist named *Murder Weekend* one his critic's picks for 'Things to see in Victoria.' Well done everyone!

Thank you to the ushers, the unsung heroes of every Langham production, that come out rain or shine and cheerfully and effortlessly, keep the audience safe and corralled. A special thank you to Marilyn Kuss, Jean Topham and Geli Bartlett whose lead usher hats are just one of the many hats they wear at Langham

A shout out to Alice at Brentwood Bay Village Emporium for catering the opening night party and for once again coming up with an inspired theme. Who knew a cheesecake could be murdered?

If you haven't already, get your tickets, they're selling out fast.

Cheers, Caroline





# Innovations in Ticketing

Online ticketing services offer a secure and convenient solution for purchasing event tickets, so we are pleased to be partnering with Thunder Tix for their ease-of-use and security in ticket purchases. They use credit card encryption to protect personal and financial information, and they even use email validation to ensure you don't mistype your email address, so tickets are delivered securely. Online ticketing eliminates the need for physical travel to purchase tickets, making it an accessible option for our community members. Thunder Tix provides an easy selection of seats and even mobile wallet delivery if desired. We believe you will enjoy a hasslefree and secure way to attend our upcoming events.

### Behind the Scenes

The Costume loft has been busy with Masquerade parties and renting lots of masks, capes and feathered pieces to the public for private parties and concerts. Murder mystery parties also continue to be a big trend here!

We have been costuming the classic English style murder mystery and 1920's themed costumes but also a fun medieval themed one. A gold themed party has us pulling out all of the gold coloured pieces in the loft. Misty Buxton is the lead costume designer on the upcoming production of *Murder Weekend,* along with the help of our new volunteer Sophie Sweeney. Be sure to see the show and the amazing job they did with the costumes.

The Costume loft is open for donations of costumes and vintage jewelry (preferably

pre-2000) and to rent costumes Wednesday and Thursdays 1-5 p.m., Fridays 12-5 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. We are located in the back of the theatre and up the stairs.



# **Upcoming Co-productions**

Attitude Theatre, Langham Court Theatre and Risk Theatre are delighted to present the production and Canadian premiere of *The Value* by Nicholas Dunn, winner of the 2020 Risk Theatre playwriting competition.



Written by Nicholas Dunn

Directed by Tony Cain and Francis G. Matheu

Performance Dates: March 21-24 and March 28-31

Nicholas Dunn presents a world structured on a capitalist ideology that nurtures status, greed and excess, where more is never enough, as opposed to the greater good. Three desperate characters seek refuge in a seedy motel room after stealing a painting from a museum. Tension and nervous energy build as they make ludicrous attempts to evaluate the art piece. The contentious bickering over its value quickly descends into chaos and a violent conflict.



Photo left to right: Alisa Lindley (actor), Allison Caldicott-Levitt (actor), Orion Marcano (actor), Francis G. Matheu (director), Andrew Gabriel (actor), Kevin Stinson (actor and sound designer), and Gloria Snider (stage manager)

Tickets on sale now on the Langham website



Tomatoes Tried to Kill Me But Banjos Saved My Life isn't just a show, it's a cause. A heartfelt passion project that began as a nudge after Keith Alessi's life took a major turn, it has been his mission to raise money for causes close to his heart. Through donations, including 100% of all artist fees, the show has raised over \$850,000 as of January 2024 for various cancer, community, music, and theatre charities. All proceeds from ticket sales go to Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre and Langham Court Theatre.

In this wonderful production, Keith shares his exceptional true story of leaving the world of corporate board rooms

behind to follow his long-delayed passion—playing the banjo! When faced with a deadly cancer battle, his musical pursuit took him on a journey that became the key to saving his life. Told through authentic storytelling, heartfelt humor and music, this show is an uplifting story of challenge, triumph, and the power of positivity. The show has been highly awarded and has toured internationally, including sold out runs across Canada, Off-Broadway in New York City, and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland.

This intimate experience is one sure to leave you feeling empowered, inspired, and ready to dust off your own long forgotten dreams.

April 5, 7:30 p.m. • April 6, 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

All tickets \$35.00

Tickets on sale now on the Langham website

# Announcing Langham's Proposed Season - Rights Pending

September 25 to October 13, 2024

## Cottagers and Indians

Written by Drew Hayden Taylor Directed by Diana Budiachenko and Catherine Lafferty

When Indigenous farmer Arthur Copper begins planting wild rice to reclaim lakeshores, the seeds bloom into a funny, yet fiery, exchange between the farmer and a white cottager, Maureen Poole. The confrontation traces issues of ownership and community.

November 13 to December 1, 2024

# Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley

Written by Lauren Gunderson and Margot Nelson Directed by Janine Longy

This will appeal to the Jane Austen lovers. This play is a sequel to *Pride and Prejudice* that continues the story of the Bennet sisters, only this time with the bookish, middle-sister Mary as its unlikely heroine. When the family gathers for Christmas at Pemberley, an unexpected guest sparks Mary's hope of independence, an intellectual match, and possibly even love.

January 29 to February 16, 2025

### Now and Then

Written by Sean Grennan Directed by Francis Matheu

Sometimes what happens after last call just might change your life. One night in 1981, just as Jamie is closing the bar where he works, a desperate last-minute customer offers him and his girlfriend Abby two thousand dollars to sit and have a drink with him. Who wouldn't take it?

As the trio swaps stories and Jamie considers the decisions he faces about his musical career and his future with his girlfriend Abby, the young couple begins to realize that this older man is unusually invested in their choices... and the reason he gives them is completely unbelievable. But when a very displeased second stranger arrives, the unbelievable begins to look like it just might be true.

Now and Then is a heartfelt romantic comedy about the costs of the choices we make, and the people who make them with us.

March 26 to April 13, 2025

## An Inspector Calls

Written by J.B. Priestly Directed by Tony Cain

A young girl has committed suicide, and an eminently respectable British industrialist and his family are subjected to a routine inquiry in connection with the death during a dinner to celebrate the engagement of the couple's daughter. An inspector interrogates the family, and, during the course of his questioning, all members of the group are implicated in the girl's undoing.

June 25th - July 20th, 2025

## The Cottage

Written by Sandy Rustin Directed by Toshik Bukowiecki

Nöel Coward meets Monty Python in this farce where the true meaning of fate, identity, and marriage are called into question as a surprising, hilarious web of secrets unravels in this ridiculous – potentially murderous – uncharacteristically feminist, 1923 British tale of sex, betrayal, and oh yes, love... when Sylvia Van Kipness decides to expose her love affair to her husband... and her lover's wife.



Written by Laura Ollstein and directed by Janine Longy.

The first American woman to test for space flight, Jerrie Cobb, steps into an isolation tank for a record-breaking nine hours. Her memories unfold before her, from learning to fly a plane as a child in Oklahoma to testifying in Congressional hearings. This is a compelling drama about the challenges of sisterhood and fighting for the greater good, based on a true story.

All performances are held at St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Road. Produced by special arrangement with <u>Playscripts, Inc.</u>

Evenings 7:30 p.m. • March 13-16 & 20-23 Matinees 2:00 p.m. • March 16, 17, 23, 24

Tickets \$18.00 available online via eventbrite or at the door.

# Present Laughter Open Auditions

Written by Nöel Coward Directed by Don Keith Produced by Holly McGimpsey

#### Synopsis:

This light-hearted farce is based on Nöel Coward himself. At the center of his own universe sits matinee idol Garry Essendine, the star of the London Theatrical scene. He is at the height of his fame and loved by many – perhaps a little too much. Nominated for 2017 Tony Award for Best Revival, this play is sharp and witheringly funny

More information about the play and characters can be found <u>online</u>.

#### **Performance Dates:**

June 26 - July 14, 2024.

Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and Sunday afternoons.

#### **Audition Dates:**

- Friday, April 5, 7–9 p.m.
- Saturday, April 6, 1–4 p.m.
- Callbacks Sunday, April 7, 1–4 p.m.

#### **Audition Location:**

Langham Court Theatre located at 805 Langham Court. Please enter by the stage door located at the parking lot level. Auditions and callbacks will be in the Rehearsal Room.



Copies of the script can be found online at this link.

# Please bring a prepared monologue and a resume.

#### **Character Breakdown:**

6 women, 5 men. All actors will be required to workshop British accents. Dialect CDs will be made available.

Langham Court Theatre is a community theatre powered by volunteers and all actors and crew are unpaid. If you are selected for the cast, you must become a member of the Langham Court Theatre Society.

The Society has ZERO TOLERANCE for bullying, racism, harassment, and other behaviours that cause harm to members of our community. If selected, you will be required to adhere to our Code of Conduct.

Langham Court Theatre Society is an inclusive environment, and we encourage everyone to come out and audition.

### Mark Your Calendars

#### February 21-March 10

Langham's production of *Murder*Weekend

#### March 15

Langham Happy Hour will be held in the Lounge 4:30–6:30 p.m.

#### March 20

Langham Morning Coffee will be held in the Lounge 9:30 – 11 a.m.

#### March 21-31

Attitude Theatre, Langham Court Theatre, and Risk Theatre present *The Value* 

#### March 23 & March 30

Free Two-Day Producers' Workshop to gain background and experience in producing theatrical productions.

Deadline to apply: Sunday, March 17

#### April 5 & 6

Open auditions for Langham production of *Present Laughter*.

#### April 5 & 6

Blue Bridge and Langham Court Theatre present *Tomatoes Tried to Kill Me But Banjos Saved My Life* 

# Community Engagement

# Langham Court Theatre Announces a Producers' Workshop

Several people have expressed an interest in getting some background and experience in producing theatrical productions. As we would like to develop a pool of volunteers interested in this aspect of theatre production, Holly McGimpsey and Toshik Bukowiecki are offering a

### Two-Day Producers' Workshop

Dates: Saturday, March 23 and Saturday, March 30

The workshops will be from 10:00 a.m. to Noon on both days and *participants will need to attend both sessions*.

If you are organized and an organizer, if you know how build a team, if you know how to follow a budget and if you know how to problem solve, being a Producer might be great fit for you!

To register, email: <u>prodchair@langhamtheatre.ca</u> **Please register by March 17.** 



### **BAR MANAGER WANTED**

Langham is looking for a volunteer Bar Manager who will handle coordinating volunteer bartenders and maintain/purchase supplies. Please contact Jean Topham (jtopham@telus.net) if you're interested in helping.



ALMOST THERE!! ONLY \$1,000 TO GO!

# Donate to Refurbish the Lounge



We are excited to let you know that we are almost at the goal of \$6000 to upgrade the lounge furniture and name the lounge in honour of former longtime member, dedicated volunteer and hostess extraordinaire Vinnie Chadwick!

Just \$1,000 more and we will be purchasing new stylish chairs, couches and tables that will give a nice boost to the space.

If you would like the Langham Lounge to be a more comfortable, welcoming, and attractive area of our theatre, please send donations by bank Interac eTransfer to gm@ langhamtheatre.ca. You can also donate through the Langham Court Theatre Canada Helps page. You can also drop or mail cheques for the Langham Court Theatre Society at the Box Office or call the Box Office and donate using your credit card. Charitable receipts will be provided for donations over \$20. Thank you for your support! Let's make it happen!

#### **Langham Fundraising Committee**



(Images are suggestions of furnishings)