# ANGURTE 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.

### **Board of Directors**

President: Caroline Herbert Vice-President: Andrew Gabriel Secretary: Marilyn Kuss Treasurer: Dick Newson Members-at-Large to 2024: Jacqollyne Keath, 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 23rd day of the month preceding the month of publication.** Send submissions to Katrina Abaca at newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca

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Membership membership@langhamtheatre.ca

Prop Rentals and Donations props@langhamtheatre.ca



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# The Art of Balancing Spookiness and Humour

Diana Budiachenko did not know much about *Ravenscroft* or playwright Don Nigro before she was offered the directing job, her first opportunity of that kind in Canada. "I found it very funny," she said with a laugh. "It's advertised as a gothic thriller, but to me it's more of a comedy. I wanted to make it spooky, but along the way it was looking more and more funny." Diana goes on to say, "It's very intelligently written. The characters are very eccentric, so I tried to make sure they came across that way. As a director, if you pay attention to the dialogue, and stage what is written, it's very hilarious. It's not below the belt." *Ravenscroft* continues on Langham's stage until October 13.



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>

# A Message from the President



Thank you to everyone who joined us on the evening of Saturday September 21 to celebrate the elegant, compassionate, dedicated and ever stylish Vinnie Chadwick. We officially named the newly renovated lounge in her honour.

Thank you to Mike Chadwick and daughters Narissa and Anna and family for joining us and for sharing their memories and thoughts of Vinnie.

Thank you to Toshik Bukowiecki, Sally Crickman, Jean Topham and Wayne Yercha for sharing how Vinnie impacted their lives. Thank you to John and Sally Crickman for donating the plaque in memory of Vinnie. Thank you to Gloria Di loia and Ian Bidgood who not only kick-started the renovation campaign with a \$2000 donation, but they were also the project managers, designers, furniture builders, and all-round dogs' bodies who worked tirelessly to get this project completed.

Thank you to the brilliant Langham construction team spearheaded by the indomitable Mike Kuss who worked day and night to get the project complete. We could not have done it without you.

Thank you to Wendy Merk for introducing us to Tim Kyle and Ivo Zanatta from Matrix Marble and Stone. They generously donated, and had their team install, the gorgeous local marble bar and back sink. Thank you to JC Scott of JC Scott ECO Designs who donated his time and skill to designing the beautiful bar that is the centerpiece of the renovation.

It was a wonderful evening celebrating Vinnie who was an amazing Langham member and a beautiful human who will be missed but lives on in the hearts of those that knew her.

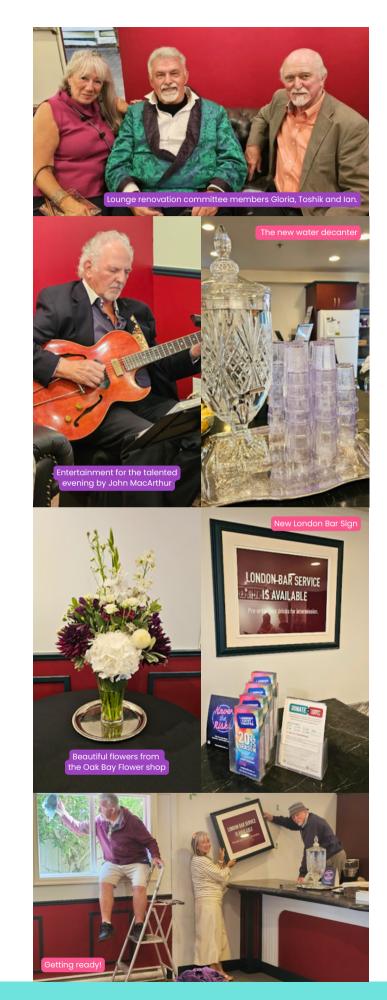
Congratulations to director Diana Budiachenko and the cast and crew of Ravenscroft on the upcoming opening of the first show of the season! I am looking forward to seeing you all on Opening night.

I would like to remind you that the 2024 AGM is on Sunday November 3rd at 2pm at Langham. As voting members I invite you to join us to vote for the President, Vice President, 2 directors, and Production Chair(s). Please ensure your membership is current.

I would also like to thank you for your support in my first year as your Langham President, I appreciate it.

Cheers,

Caroline





## Victoria Festival of Authors Returns to Langham

October 16 - 20, 2024

The Victoria Festival of Authors (VFA) is Vancouver Island's largest, and liveliest, celebration of books and book lovers. For eight years, VFA has hosted authors from across Canada for readings, panel discussions and workshops, and we're back for our ninth festival from October 16 to 20. Since 2021, our festival has been a hybrid, offering in-person programming of BC-based writers, most also available by livestream for those viewing from home, as well as virtual programming of authors from across Canada. Our in-person events take place at the beautiful Langham Court Theatre and on the trails of WMÍYETEN Nature Sanctuary.

Accessibility is essential to us. We offer sliding scale pricing, with free tickets available for all virtual and indoor programming. With many events guest curated, we ensure our Indigenous and IBPOC curators have creative autonomy. The result is a vibrant, diverse festival of emerging and established writers of poetry and prose. With over 50 authors taking part in 19 events, there is something for everyone! Find us at victoriafestivalofauthors.ca

# Notice of Langham Annual General Meeting (AGM)

#### Sunday, November 3 at 2p.m. at Langham Court Theatre

The following positions for the Board of Directors will be up for election at the 2024 AGM: President, Vice President, two Members-at-Large and Production Chair(s) All positions are for a two-year term.

As per the current Bylaws, nominations for the position of Planning Production Chair(s) must be received no later than Sunday, October 27, 2024 and include: (a) name of candidate; (b) name of nominator and seconder for the candidate; (c) description of candidate's qualifications; and (d) description of candidate's vision for their Seasons if elected.

If you would like stand for election at the 2024 AGM, please email Nomination Chair, Amanda Heffelfinger at: <u>membership@langhamtheatre.ca</u>

Please note that nominations may also be made at the AGM by members in good standing present at the meeting, subject to Langham Bylaw 4.6, as noted below.

#### 4.6 Voting at general meetings

(1) A member in good standing for more than 90 days who is present at a general meeting may vote on any resolution or in any election at that general meeting. Only members in good standing for more than 90 days may move or second resolutions and nominate or second nominations. No proxy votes are permitted.

We are looking for volunteers to work at the sign in desk and to be scrutineers, vote counters and greeters at the AGM. If you are interested in helping, please contact Amanda Hefflefinger at <u>membership@langhamtheatre.ca</u>

## The Casting of The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley

Photos and submission by Holly McGimpsey, Producer

The September 6 and 7 audition turnout for *The Wickhams*: *Christmas at Pemberley* was wonderful and overwhelming!

Director, Janine Longy, sound designer, Gord More, and myself, listened to over 30 excellent auditionees, all with lovely English accents.

The callback team also included SM, Kathy Macovichuk and assistant producer, Jasmine Beyhum.

We're happy to announce 5 newcomers to Langham and 2 cast members who have each been in one previous LCT production.

One of our amazing cast moved to Victoria just 2 days before auditions!

Congratulations to Janet Hietter as Mrs. Reynolds, Noah Gallant as Brian, Emme Sait as Cassie, Branden Hutchison as Mr. Darcy, Helena Kantowicz as Elizabeth Darcy, Andrew Shum as George Wickham and Brittany Pilgrim as Lydia Wickham.

The first readthrough on September 14 was extremely entertaining and so much fun.

*The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* is well on its way to being a highly successful and very Merry Holiday Hit at Langham Court Theatre!

You definitely won't want to miss this delicious and delightfully scandalous holiday offering, November 13 to December 1, 2024.



#### The Cast:

- Seated L to R: Helena Kantowicz, Brittany Pilgrim, Emme Sait, and Janet Hietter
- Standing L to R: Noah Gallant, Andrew Shum, and Branden Hutchison





# Open Auditions for Now and Then

by Sean Grennan Directed by Francis Matheu

Sometimes what happens after last call just might change your life. One night in 1981, as Jamie is closing the bar where he works, a desperate last-minute customer offers him and his girlfriend, Abby, \$2,000 to sit and have a drink with him. Who wouldn't take it? The young couple begins to realize that this older man is unusually invested in their choices... and then a very displeased second stranger arrives. This heartfelt romantic comedy is about the costs of the choices we make and the people who make them with us.

Performance Dates: January 29 - February 16, 2025

**Audition Location:** Langham Court Theatre located at 805 Langham Court. Please enter by the stage door located on the south side of the building at the parking lot level. Auditions will be in the Rehearsal Room.

**Audition Dates and Times** (auditioners are required to arrive at the start time and be prepared to stay until the end)

- Friday, November 1 7 to 10 p.m.
- Saturday, November 2 1 to 4 p.m.
- Callbacks will be held Monday, November 4 7 to 10 p.m. (by invitation only)

Rehearsals start Saturday, November 23 and will run Mondays and Wednesdays – 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturdays – 1 to 4 p.m.

The open auditions will be held with cold readings from the script.

#### **CHARACTER REQUIREMENTS**

All roles are open to all regardless of race and ethnicity.

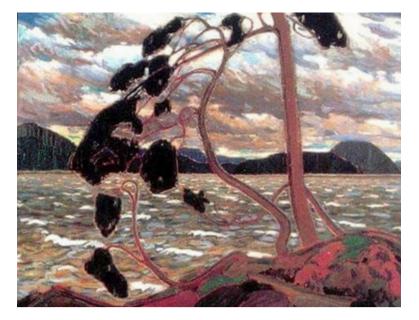
- JAMIE (late 20s-early 30s) Bartender and aspiring pianist. Attractive in a regular-guy way. Sincere, hardworking, very much in love with ABBY
- **ABBY** (late 20s-early 30s) IHOP waitress and one-time English major. Funny, smart and very much in love with JAMIE.
- MAN (mid-60s) A bit beaten down but goodnatured. Easy to talk to, well-spoken, sincere, and very intent on his mission tonight. Husband of 35 years to WOMAN. He is desperate.
- WOMAN (mid-60s or a bit younger) Strong, direct, loving, a little coarse. She is MAN's wife of 35 years. No one knows her like he does and no one knows him like she. She and MAN bicker but there is a bedrock of love there. They'd do anything for each other and no one can hurt either of them like the other one can.

If you have any questions about the auditions, please contact Producer Gord More at <u>gordbmore@gmail.com</u>

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.



# Tom, Birth of a Legend

By Terry Oliver Director: Tony Cain

**Performance:** Tuesday, October 8 at 6 p.m. at Langham Court Theatre's main stage

Admission: FREE. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Tom Thomson (1877 - 1917) left a legacy of some of the finest iconic works of art symbolic of Canada's uniqueness. When he died under mysterious circumstances at barely forty years old, his work had only just begun and was destined to achieve international fame. Thomson's colleagues, friends, and fellow artists, A. Y. Jackson and Lawren Harris, spoke affectionately about Thomson and portrayed him as affable, generous, and humorous. He was known as a keen outdoorsman, an expert canoeist, and a born naturalistic painter. Terry Oliver's research on Thomson's personal life throws some light on the artist's final days, and gives us a real-life unsolved mystery. Was it a murder or a mishap? Only you can decide!

#### CAST:

- Tom Orion Marcano
- Winnie Rebecca Elliot
- Edie Fitzgerald Didi Tipping
- 'Fitz' Fitzgerald Dominic Fox
- Lawren Harris Luke Bell
- Fred Varley Mike Gosselin
- A. Y. Jackson Ian Ofukany
- Walter Bockmann Mike Goss
- Agnes Wallace Kara Flanage
- Recruiting Officer Peter McN
- Marie Kara Flanagan
- Antoinette Didi Tipping
- Mabel Emme Sait
- Olive Janie Morris
- Narrator Danda Humphreys
- Standby/Understudy Emme Sait





Performances November 23 ihrough December 1 Congregation Emanu-El Synagogue, 1461 Blaushard Street, Victoria, BC

### A Jewish Sing-a-long Christmas?

#### Surprise! All by Jewish Songwriter!

Playwright: Kevin Alexander Director: Zelda Dean Music Director: Dave Paulson Featuring: Kathy Alexander, Cam Culham, Rosemary Jeffery, Evan Roberts, Alf Small

#### Where:

Congregation Emanu-El Synagogue, 1461 Blanshard Street

#### When:

Saturday, November 23, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, November 30, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, December 1 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$30

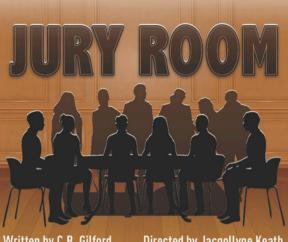
**Beserve Now** 

#### BUY EARLY - Only 150 seats per show

Christmas is a universal holiday about family and unifying people. It's a celebration! A Mitzvah! It is all about pure joy and the celebration of the human spirit. And surprisingly many of the beloved songs were written by Jewish composers. The play is a look at the 20th century North American immigrant experience and the extraordinary outburst of musical energy from the children of those immigrants. This new generation of songwriters wanted to feel like they belonged and showed the world how to make Christmas a holiday for everyone with lyrics about love, peace, family and togetherness - universal concepts. By creating integration through their music, they became irreplaceable players in culture's mainstream while writing themselves into history.

For further information contact info@bemaproductions.com





Written by C.B. Gilford

Directed by Jacgollyne Keath

Jury Room is a dramedy by C.B. Gilford about what goes on as a jury deliberates its verdict. Director Jacqollyne Keath has brought together some new to St. Luke's Players Community Theatre and some well-known members who comprise this mixed group of jurors. The show opens as the judge instructs the jurors. A murder trial has just completed in a US District State Court. The jurors are entrusted to come to a unanimous verdict. Eleven jurors vote the accused guilty while one stands firm in their belief and intuition-that the accused is innocent.

As the play unfolds the jurors act out the evidence and each juror, in time, plays a role. The Foreman starts as the murdered man, the Actress (Lisa Jackson) plays the accused. The prosecutor's side is played by the Angry Man (Mitch Barnes) and the defense side is played by the Young Man (Noel Feliciano). Over three days the jurors deliberate. Did Julie Fletcher really stab her uncle? If not, who else might have, given the evidence at hand? We know he was stabbed and there is a witness that saw the accused with the dead victim.

The verdict, the solution and final climax of the play arrives with a shattering conclusion.

Evenings 7:30 p.m. - October 9-12 & 16-19 Matinees 2:00 p.m. - October 12, 13, 19, 20

Tickets - \$18

**Reserve Now** 

ATTITUDE THEATRE PRESENTS

Joanna Murray-Smith's 「**7FR** directed by Jason Vikse

"The past sits on our shoulder taunting us. Challenging us. To murder it."

She was best-selling and she was brilliant. With The Talented Mr. Ripley, Patricia Highsmith once created one of the greatest literary characters of the 20th century: terrifying, enigmatic, complex, human. A bit like her really.

These days, she's living as a recluse in the Swiss Alps. She's done with writing, having firmly slammed the door on the Dead White Males of the American literary establishment. She fills her days with cats and show tunes, chain-smoking as she nurses her ever-growing collection of antique weapons.

But, now, there is a young man standing in her study. He's been sent by her publisher to convince her to pen one last Tom Ripley novel. And he's not going to take no for an answer. What starts as a simple game of cat and mouse becomes a breathtaking battle of wits as Highsmith and her visitor interrogate identity and the art of creation. Crackling with intelligence and bristling with tension, this enthralling metathriller is a white-knuckle ride to the finish.

"This tense, sharp-witted two-hander, set in the twilight years of novelist Patricia Highsmith, slips a pointed interrogation of the nature of fiction writing into the kind of psychological thriller Highsmith was famous for."

Directed by Jason Vikse Cast: Gloria Snider and Ty DeLisle Produced by Tony Cain and Kevin Stinson

7:30 p.m. - October 24, 26, 27, 31, November 1, 2, and 3 2:00 p.m. - October 27 and November 3

Tickets - \$25 Preview October 24 - \$15

**Reserve Now** 

# Life Member Committee Update

The Life Member Committee is pleased to report to the Membership of a new policy concerning non-programme points. At this time, no one is tracking the non-programme points. However, the Committee decided that people need to be responsible for their own hours. They can notify the Box Office of their hours and what they were doing along with the name of a supervisor, if there was one. All volunteer work is greatly appreciated!

# Lounge Update

#### Submitted by Michal Kuss

Lise Chartrand, a volunteer gardener turned painter, had put the finishing touches to the new Lounge paint scheme. Gloria Di loia and lan Bidgood had unpacked the new furniture they had sourced. Charley Encell had built a new bar coffee station and fridge unit. Perry Burton and Jason King had installed both a new sound system and a new TV as the finishing touch. The revamped Lounge dedication had occurred on Saturday, September 21.

# It's Halloween Time!

Submitted by Misty Buxton, Costume Loft Manager

The Costume Loft is here to help you put together a costume for your upcoming Halloween get together. We specialize in unique vintage pieces over commercial costumes, which will give you a very distinctive look. Want to get an ensemble straight out of Bridgeton or Downtown Abby? We've got you covered. How about something less demure, like a clown or a cowboy. Why not both; go as a Rodeo Clown. Yup we can help you with that as well. As a reminder, we do not hold or reserve costumes and our rental period is two weeks. Additionally, we will be open Monday - Friday from 1-5 pm during the week of Halloween (October 28th - November 1st). We look forward to helping you find that special outfit.

# Wanted: Poster Personage

Have you ever admired the posters that adorn the halls and walls at Langham? This could be your fieldom.

The hours are few and flexible. You would put up approximately 30 posters for each of the five shows, and at the conclusion of the show run, you would return the posters to their storage facility. Easy-peasy!

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Marilyn Kuss, Archivist at <u>marilynjk@gmail.com</u>.

# **Hidden Gold**

#### Submitted by Marilyn Kuss

At Langham Court Theatre we have discovered hidden gold!! Right in our midst we have people familiar with Langham, who know our community, know the building, know the general flow of how things work.

We need you.

The Board is formally asking/inviting all life members and former board members to consider taking a night (or two) during the run of a show to act as the Lead Usher. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Marilyn Kuss, Usher Coordinator at <u>marilynjk@gmail.com</u>.

It takes a community to run a theatre.



## Mark Your Calendars

September 25 - October 13 Langham Court Theatre presents *Ravenscroft* 

#### October 8

Langham Court's Readers' Theatre presents Tom, Birth of a Legend

October 9 - 13 & 16 - 20 St. Luke's Players presents Jury Room

#### October 16 - 20

Langham hosts and sponsors the Victoria Festival of Authors

October 24, 26, 27, 31, November 1, 2, and 3 Attitude Theatre presents *Switzerland* 

November 13 – December 1 Langham Court Theatre presents The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley

**November 23, 24, 30 and December 1** BEMA Productions presents A Jewish Singa-long Christmas?