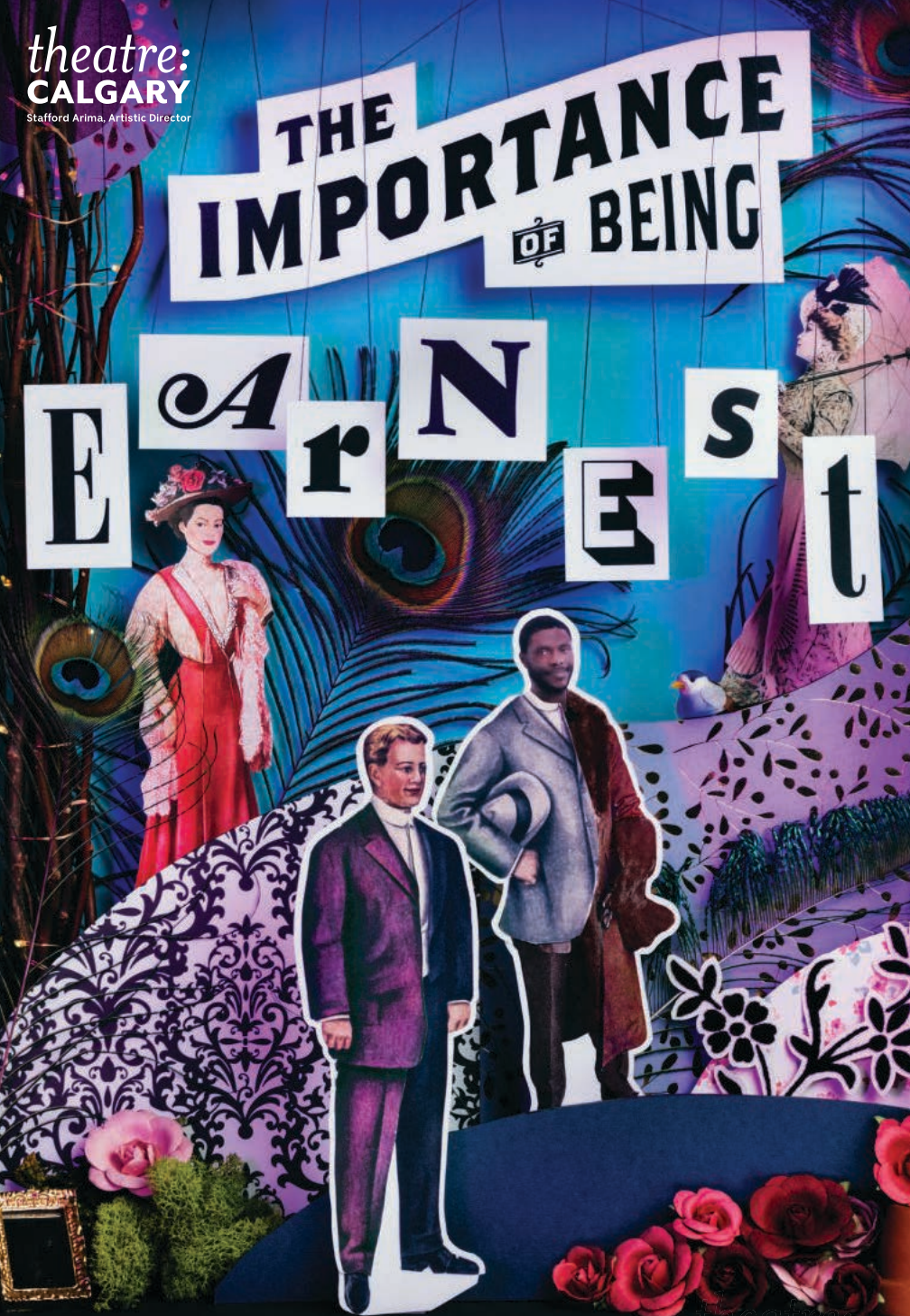


*theatre:*  
**CALGARY**

Stafford Arima, Artistic Director

# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING

# EARNEST



**THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST**  
BY OSCAR WILDE

**OCT 25 - NOV 19**

2022



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# WELCOME



This October, Oscar Wilde would have celebrated his 168th birthday. Celebrated poet, W.B. Yeats once said of Oscar Wilde *"The dinner table was Wilde's event and made him the greatest talker of his time, and his plays and dialogues have what merit they possess from being now an imitation, now a record, of his talk."* For those who are not familiar with Oscar Wilde, he is considered one of the greatest playwrights of the late nineteenth century. However, it was Oscar's passion for self-publicity and witticisms that kept (and keeps) him in the consciousness of the public. Upon investigation, not only are Wilde's

witticisms hilarious, but deeply truthful and resonate over a century-and-a-half since his triumphant era of popularity. Here are a handful that caught my attention:

*"Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much."*

*"Everything in moderation, including moderation."*

*"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."*

*"To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance."*

*"Only dull people are brilliant at breakfast."*

Perhaps it was his birth name, Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde that gave him a passion for the flamboyant? Hard to know where his razor-sharp focused wit came from, but it's comforting to know that his words are alive and living well on our stage with the hilarious play *The Importance of Being Earnest*. This is Theatre Calgary's fourth production of the play. We first produced it in 1970, again in 1978, and once again in 1995. I hope you enjoy this scrumptious production of Oscar Wilde's most popular play, and the second-most produced show in our history (the first being *A Christmas Carol*)!

- STAFFORD ARIMA  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of reconciliation, Theatre Calgary acknowledges that we live, work and create on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. They were the original occupants of this land and continue to be here to this day. Theatre Calgary is grateful to have the opportunity to present in this territory.



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# DIRECTOR'S NOTES



When *The Importance of Being Earnest* premiered in London in 1895, Oscar Wilde was quoted in the *St. James's Gazette*, explaining that the play was “exquisitely trivial, a delicate bubble of fancy” and that philosophy of the play is “that we should treat all the trivial things of life seriously, and all the serious things of life with a sincere and studied triviality.” This was the way Wilde lived—a constant contrast of sincerity and triviality. Shortly after the premiere of his play, his life took a tragic turn. He was on trial for “gross indecency” within weeks and sentenced to two years imprisonment with hard labour only months later. He

had been leading a double life, just like Jack and Algernon, but luckily he was able to give his characters a happier ending.

So what is it about *The Importance of Being Earnest* that still makes us laugh out loud well over a century later? Well, as Lady Bracknell says, “we live, I regret to say, in an age of surfaces.” This feels as true now as it was in Oscar Wilde’s time. In fact, despite the fact that his satire targets the upper classes of Victorian England, the jokes still ring true. It’s just as delightful now (if not more so) to laugh out loud at the pure absurdity of these characters’ artifice and superficiality. In fact, as I was diving back into the world of this play (that has been one of my personal favourites for years), I kept thinking of shows like *Bridgerton*—set long ago and far away but written with the sensibilities of here and now. To me, Oscar Wilde was so ahead of his time in writing this script that I imagine we could come across these characters on screen today, although certainly not with his unique wit. As Gwendolen tells us, “in matters of grave importance, style, not sincerity, is the vital thing,” and very few authors live up to Wilde’s style.

I am so grateful to this incredible team of artists and the entire Theatre Calgary staff for coming together to help bring these characters back to life once again. It’s a true joy to gather, to play and to laugh. I hope that whether this is your first time encountering *Earnest* or if you’ve seen it many times before, you join us in the joy of this sincere—and serious—triviality.

- **BRONWYN STEINBERG**  
DIRECTOR

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Max Bell Theatre at Arts Commons  
October 25 - November 19, 2022

*theatre:*  
**CALGARY**  
Stafford Arima, Artistic Director

*presents*

# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

BY **OSCAR WILDE**

Director	<b>BRONWYN STEINBERG</b>
Set Design	<b>ANTON DE GROOT*</b>
Costume Design	<b>RALAMY KNEESHAW</b>
Lighting & Projection Design	<b>BETH KATES*</b>
Sound Design & Composition	<b>ALIXANDRA COWMAN</b>
Voice & Dialect Coach	<b>JANE MACFARLANE</b>
Stage Manager	<b>LAUREL ONEIL</b>
Assistant Stage Manager	<b>CLAIRE BOLTON</b>
Apprentice Stage Manager	<b>NAOMI ESAU</b>

## TC MENTORS PROGRAM

Assistant Director	<b>ANDRÉS MORENO</b>
Lighting & Projection Design	<b>BRENDAN BRICELAND</b>

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

\*Indicated designers on this production are represented by the  
Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

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Theatre Calgary is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres, and operates within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Theatre Agreement. Theatre Calgary employs technicians under a collective agreement with the I.A.T.S.E. Theatre Calgary is a resident company of Arts Commons, operating out of Arts Commons Max Bell Theatre.



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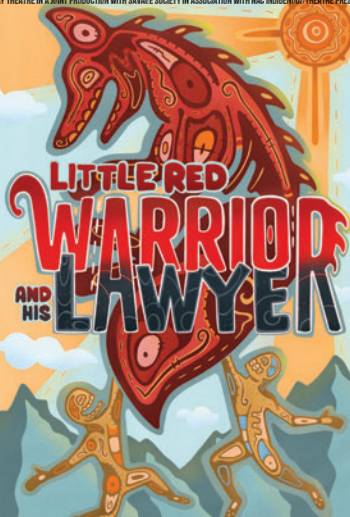


BY KATE HAMILL • ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL BY LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

DEC 7 - DEC 31

LAUGH ALONG WITH THIS BITING AND HILARIOUS SATIRE

THE BELPHY THEATRE IN A JUNE PRODUCTION WITH SHAMLE SOCIETY IN ASSOCIATION WITH NAC INDIGENOUS THEATRE PRESENT



BY KEVIN LORING

JAN 31 - FEB 19

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EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

WORLD PREMIERE



BY MARK SAKAMOTO • STAGE ADAPTATION BY HIRO KANAGAWA

MAR 7 - APR 1

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LET THE ISLAND RHYTHM SWEEP YOU AWAY



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LIBRETTO

MUSIC & LYRICS BY JIMMY BUFFETT • BOOK BY GREG GARCIA & MIKE O'MALLEY

APR 18 - MAY 13



# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

## CAST

Cecily Cardew	<b>KATHLEEN FAITH BALLANGAN</b>
Algernon Moncrieff	<b>CHRISTOPHER DUTHIE</b>
Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax	<b>EMILY HOWARD</b>
Merriman	<b>DUVAL LANG</b>
Lady Bracknell	<b>VALERIE PLANCHE</b>
John Worthing, J.P.	<b>MICHAEL ROLFE</b>
Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D.	<b>KEVIN ROTHERY</b>
Lane, Footman	<b>DAVID SKLAR</b>
Miss Prism	<b>SHARI WATTLING</b>

## SETTING

London, 1895.

### ACT I

Algernon Moncrieff's flat in Half Moon Street, W.

### ACT II

The garden at the Manor House, Woolton.

### ACT III

Morning-room of the Manor House, Woolton.

*The Importance of Being Earnest* has one 20-minute intermission.

Head of Sound	<b>BRONWYN BOWLBY</b>
Head of Lighting	<b>CATHARINE CRUMB</b>
Head Stage Carpenter	<b>JOSH SEMOS</b>
Head Dresser	<b>RACHEL MICHELLE SHERIDAN</b>
Video Programmer	<b>DANIEL PLUMBTREE</b>
Video Operator	<b>MICHAEL GESY</b>
Stage Hands	<b>MIKE BOOTH, MELISSA LABINE, HEATHER YOUNG</b>
Wig Runner	<b>MELISSA SAVINKOFF</b>
Dresser	<b>CHELSEA BREWER</b>

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# CAST



## **KATHLEEN FAITH BALLANGAN**

### **Cecily Cardew**

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Kathleen is an emerging Filipino-Canadian artist, born and raised here in Mohkintsis. This past June she graduated with a BFA in Drama from the University of Calgary, and performed over the summer with Theatre Calgary's touring Shakespeare on the Go production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Other recent performance credits: *Little Elves* (ATP Playwrights Projects); *Kisapmata* (Lunchbox Theatre Stage One); *Horse Girls*, *The Tao of the World*, *We The Same* (UCalgary SCPA); *The Mire*, *Lola*, *Nanay*, *Anak* (Jupiter Theatre).

As an artist of colour, she is eager to bring representation of her heritage onto the stage, and is grateful to be working again with Theatre Calgary as she continues her first steps into the world as a professional actor. She extends hugs and kisses to her mom, her partner, her friends, her professors, and her peers for helping her get this far. "I love you, and thank you! Mwah!"



## **CHRISTOPHER DUTHIE**

### **Algernon Moncrieff**

(he/him) Christopher Duthie is a Calgary-based actor and playwright. He has been acting professionally for more than a decade in productions with Theatre Calgary, Vertigo Theatre, One Yellow Rabbit, Ghost River Theatre, Lunchbox Theatre, Quest Theatre, Alberta Theatre Projects and others. He is represented by Details Talent for voice over and film/tv, recently appearing in *Under the Banner of Heaven*, *Ties That Bind* and *The Children of Ar*. His plays and collaborative creations include *A Dinner Party* (Bad Knaps Theatre Collective – Gwen Pharis Ringwood Award

for Drama Shortlist); *n00b* (Y-Stage Vertigo Theatre); *SensoryBox/SensoryBox TYA* with Eric Rose (Ghost River Theatre/Young People's Theatre). He is currently developing his first rock opera, *Identikit*. He holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Guelph and a BFA in Drama from the University of Calgary. He lives in Calgary with his wife, Alexandra, and their cat, Isabelle.



## **EMILY HOWARD**

### **Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax**

(she/her) Emily is thrilled to be making her debut on the Max Bell stage in *The Importance of Being Earnest*! She received her BFA in Acting from the University of Alberta and studied Neo Bouffon at the Manitoulin Conservatory for Creation and Performance, better known as "The Clown Farm." Credits include: *Miss Teen* (Shadow Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Theatre Calgary/Shakespeare by the Bow), *The 30 Below Show* (Chinook Blast), *My Life with the Walter Boys* (Netflix), and *Joe Pickett* (Paramount+). In

addition to acting for the stage and screen, Emily works as a production assistant, coordinator, and set decorator in the film and television industry including *Property Brothers: Forever Home*! She would like to thank her friends and family for their unending support, and Nicole and Mom, for carrying her always. For her own Earnest, Sam. @emilyjaynehoward

# CAST



## DUVAL LANG

### Merriman

(he/him) Duval has had a long-standing relationship with Theatre Calgary since the mid 1970s. He was part of the Stagecoach Players, the touring arm of Theatre Calgary for several seasons and took that experience to co-found Quest Theatre which he ran for 25 years. He has been happily freelancing as an actor or director, and serving on Theatre Boards for the past 15 years. Memorable Theatre Calgary productions include *Noises Off*, *The Crucible*, *To Kill A Mocking Bird*, *Liberation Days* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Earlier this year he was featured in *Cantata* for Sage

Theatre and in 2019 he played Pozzo in *Waiting for Godot* for Black Radish Theatre, a company he co-founded with three prominent Calgary actor friends. Stay tuned for what we will do next!



## VALERIE PLANCHE

### Lady Bracknell

(she/her) Based in Calgary Alberta, Valerie is an award-winning actor, director, and arts educator, with over 35 years' experience on Stage and in Film and Television, in classical, contemporary, and new play development. She has taught at various post-secondary institutions, studios, and coaches privately for theatre and film. She garnered a graduate teaching award from the University of Alberta in 2014, the Michelle Dias Award from Theatre Alberta 2018; the Gina Wilkinson Prize in 2015 from the Shaw Festival. Valerie will next be seen at Vertigo Theatre in *Gaslight* in 2023.



## MICHAEL ROLFE

### John Worthing, J.P.

(he/him) Theatre Calgary debut. Michael is a performer, writer, and improviser based out of Southern Alberta, and is beyond thrilled to join Theatre Calgary's 2022-23 season in this iconic British classic as Jack or, as some people know him, Earnest. An avid world traveller, he made a timely visit to London before joining the cast of *Importance*. With more travel on the horizon, he will be working with Gwaandak Theatre and the Yukon Human Right's Commission in January 2023 to tour a new production to schools across the territory. It may have been a while since we've all sat in

a dark room together and laughed, but he can't wait to indulge in that feeling with all the audiences of Calgary. Selected Credits: *The Tempest* (The Shakespeare Company), *Between Us* (Handsome Alice Theatre), *The Resurrectionists* (Larrikin Theatre), *Wynonna Earp* (Seven24 Films/Syfy).

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Theatre Calgary gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the City of Calgary through Calgary Arts Development, the Government of Alberta through the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Government of Canada through the Canada Council, Canadian Heritage, and all corporate and private contributors.





# CAST



## KEVIN ROTHERY

### Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D.

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *One Man, Two Guvnors*, *Death of a Salesman*, *All My Sons*, *Cabaret*, as well as many seasons as Christmas Present in *A Christmas Carol*. Audiences may recognize Kevin from his work on Calgary's many professional stages, including ATP, Vertigo, Lunchbox Theatre, Sage Theatre, Stage West, Elipsis Tree Collective, Quest Theatre, and Stage West. His work has also taken him to British Columbia, Ontario, most of Atlantic Canada, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He was a member of the "Streetact" team doing Popular theatre work for the Calgary Birth Control Association, engaging Calgary youth living on the street, in group homes, and in detention. Kevin is also a past member of "Dirty Laundry" - Calgary's only live, completely improvised Soap Opera. He is a past Theatre Alberta Board member, and member of CALGARY's ACTRA council. This past year, he had the pleasure of working on the *Billy the Kid* TV series filmed in the Calgary area.



## DAVID SKLAR

### Lane, Footman

(he/him) David is an actor/playwright who divides his time between Montreal and Calgary. He is a graduate of theatre from the Bristol Old Vic and playwriting from Concordia University. *Crazy Love*, his first play, has been published in an anthology entitled *Out on a Limb*. He was artist-in-residence at the Jerusalem Theatre Company, Shakespeare-in-the-Rough, and assistant directed the *Canadian Badland's Passion Play* in Drumheller. He has acted with Theatre Calgary, Alberta Theatre Projects, Lunchbox, Theatre BSMT, Annerin Productions and Theatre NorthWest in B.C. He has toured across North America with the Dora Award nominated and META Award winning, *Jabber*, by Marcus Youssef and will be touring with *A Dinosaur Tale* across Western Canada in the new year. His latest play, *Vial*, was recently shortlisted for the Sharon Pollock Prize.



## SHARI WATTLING

### Miss Prism

(she/her) Shari is absolutely delighted to return to Theatre Calgary where she spent ten years as part of the artistic staff from 2007-2017 as Artistic Associate, then Associate Artistic Director, and finally as Interim Artistic Director. In 2019-20 she was the Artistic Producer of Lunchbox Theatre. As an actor, she has appeared in productions at Vertigo Theatre, Alberta Theatre Projects, Theatre Calgary, Quest Theatre, Forte Musical Theatre, Lunchbox Theatre, Shadow Productions and the improvised soap-opera *Dirty Laundry*. She has also worked as a dramaturg for numerous workshops and productions at Theatre Calgary, Alberta Theatre Projects, Quest Theatre, Lunchbox Theatre, Alberta Playwrights Network, Vertigo Theatre, Swallow-A-Bicycle, and Bard on the Beach. Recent directing credits include *Last Christmas*, *Book Club* and *Book Club II: The Next Chapter* at Lunchbox Theatre, and *Huck Finn* for Storybook Theatre. She would like to thank her amazing husband Trevor for always being such a huge support in all her endeavours.

# CREATIVE TEAM



## BRONWYN STEINBERG

### Director

(she/her) Making her Theatre Calgary directing debut with one of her favourite plays of all time inspires Bronwyn with “feelings of unmixed delight.” Bronwyn is a theatre director and community builder; she’s passionate about making theatre an inclusive gathering space where stories are shared that celebrate the diversity of human experience. She’s the Artistic Director of Lunchbox Theatre here in Calgary/Mohkinstsis, where last season she directed *All I Want for Christmas* by Rebecca Northan, and she has workshopped multiple plays as part of Lunchbox’s

Stage One Festival of New Canadian Work. She is the founding Artistic Director of Ottawa’s indie series TACTICS, and her credits as an award-winning freelance director include *The Drowning Girls* and *Bang Bang* (Great Canadian Theatre Company), *The Revolutionists* and *Miss Shakespeare* (Three Sisters Theatre) and *Twelfth Night* (A Company of Fools).



## ANTON DE GROOT

### Set Design

(he/him) Anton is a set, light, and sound designer based in Calgary, and the Production Manager for Lunchbox Theatre. Selected credits include: *Noises Off*, *The Shoplifters* (Theatre Calgary); *Bronte: The world Without*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Treasure Island* (Stratford Festival); *Murder in the Studio*, *Clue*, *Whispers in the Dark*, *Dracula: The Bloody Truth*, *Nine Dragons*, *Travels with My Aunt* (Vertigo Theatre); *Giant* (Ghost River); *Waiting for the Parade*, *The Circle* (ATP); *All’s Well That Ends Well*, *Macbeth*, *Goblin Macbeth*, *King Lear* (The Shakespeare Company); *Smoke*, *Crime Does Not*

*Pay*, *In the Wake*, *Good Fences*, *Sequence* (Downstage); *Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder*, *Jersey Boys* (Stage West). Anton received the Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding Light Design for *Macbeth*, *All’s Well That Ends Well*, and *Nine Dragons*; and Outstanding Set Design for *Travels with My Aunt* and *Crime Does Not Pay*. Up next: *Struck* with Ghost River Theatre.



## RALAMY KNEESHAW

### Costume Design

(she/her) Theatre Calgary design debut. Ralamy is deeply grateful for the opportunity to work with these creative souls, especially the extraordinary TC costume team. What you see on stage stems from the incredible skill and dedication of this team. It is a gift to learn from the best! One of the first professional plays Ralamy saw was TC’s 1978 production of *Earnest*, where she fell in love with theatre. She has a BFA in Drama and a Master’s degree in Anthropology. Recent design credits: *Fresh Hell* (Fire Exit Theatre); *Screwball Comedy* (Stage West); *The*

*Importance of Being Earnest*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (CYPT); *Hair*, *Sweet Charity* (Brown Cow Collective); *Annie*, *The Neverending Story* (Storybook Theatre); *Waiting for Godot* (Black Radish Theatre). She thanks her beloved family: Hugh (costume illustrator extraordinaire), Avalon, Aidan, Maya & Juno for their support. A special thanks to Mr. Wilde for his beautiful wit.

# CREATIVE TEAM



## BETH KATES

### Lighting & Projection Design

(she/her) Beth is a theatre-maker and an award-winning lighting, set, projection, and mixed-reality designer whose work has been seen on stages around the world for over 30 years. For Theatre Calgary she has designed *Steel Magnolias*, *Ragtime: A Concert Performance*, and this past summer's Shakespeare on the Go - *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. A leader in new forms of performance, she recently led a VR Performance residency at Canadian Stage, the Blyth Festival's Young Company in VR, and co-created and directed *Bury The Wren*, a Virtual Reality / Live performance which was recently presented at World Stage Design 2022. Upcoming works will include a stop at the Prague Quadrennial in 2023. Her favourite production is her son, Aaron. [www.playgroundstudios.ca](http://www.playgroundstudios.ca)



## ALIXANDRA COWMAN

### Sound Design & Composition

(she/her) Theatre Calgary design debut. Alixandra was previously a TC Mentee for Sound Design for *The Scarlet Letter*. Elsewhere: *All I Want For Christmas*, *The Pink Unicorn* (Lunchbox Theatre); *Grace & Glorie*, *Lilia!* (Rosebud Theatre); *Kodachrome* (Fire Exit Theatre); *Bright Lights* (Theatre BSMT). Alixandra also works as an actor and composer for musical theatre. You may have seen her onstage last season in *Alberta Kitchen Party* at Alberta Theatre Projects, where she also had the privilege of composing, arranging, and playing some of the music heard on stage. *Home For The Holidays*, a musical co-written by Alixandra Cowman and Cayley Wreggitt, will receive its world premiere at Lunchbox Theatre this Christmas. She is also in the midst of writing a new musical with Kodie Rollan entitled *Little Elves*, which was a part of Alberta Theatre Projects' 2021-22 Playwright's Unit. Many thanks to Conrad and her family for the boundless love and support!



## JANE MACFARLANE

### Voice & Dialect Coach

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: Resident Voice Coach - More than 60 productions since 2000 including *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Admissions*, *The Louder We Get*, *Noises Off*, *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *Mary and Max - A New Musical*, *Honour Beat*, 11 seasons of Shakespeare by the Bow and 15 years of *A Christmas Carol*. Recently, Jane adapted and directed the 2022 Shakespeare on the Go production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. She has also worked for ATP, is the Voice & Dialect Consultant for Vertigo Theatre and the Voice & Text Coach for The Shakespeare Company. Jane also coaches Voice and Presence through her business Voice Activated. She has taught Voice for the Actor and Acting at such institutions as York University, Harvard University, Southern Methodist University, MRU, UofA, and is on faculty in the Drama Division in the School of Creative & Performing Arts at the UofC. Jane lives in Mohkinstsis, with her husband and daughter, and our sweet lab, Trixie.

# CREATIVE TEAM



## LAUREL ONEIL

### Stage Manager

(she/her) Theatre Calgary: *BOOM, BOOM X, BOOM YZ*. Elsewhere: *BOOM* (Thousand Islands Playhouse & Off-Broadway); *BOOM X* (Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre); *Murder in the Studio* (Vertigo); *Flora and Fawna Have Beaver Fever* (Lunchbox); *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Sound of Music* (Western Canada Theatre); *Buying the Farm, Annie, Fiddler on the Loose* (Drayton Entertainment); 60+ productions at Stage West Calgary, including: *Jersey Boys, Legally Blonde, Rock of Ages, Avenue Q, The Producers, Game Show, 39 Steps, Chicago, Spamalot, Young Frankenstein,*

*Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*. Laurel would like to dedicate her work to the loving memory of her mom, who helped her find her love of theatre at a young age. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their unending love and support.



## CLAIRE BOLTON

### Assistant Stage Manager

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Claire is thrilled to be joining the Theatre Calgary team! She is a graduate of the University of Calgary's Drama department (BFA '09), and has made her career as a stage manager, performer, producer, and educator. Upon graduating she was granted an internship with Quest Theatre, and has remained a part of the company as a member of their Artist in Residency Program and Camp Coordinator. Along with being a member of these programs Claire is a teacher for Puddle of Mud Productions, a member of Calgary Opera's

Let's Create An Opera Program, and Co-Artistic Director of Full Circle Theatre. Past Stage Management credits include: *O'kosi; Time Stands Still; Kaahsinnoniks* (ASM) (Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society); *Girl Discovered; UNGANISHA* (Woezo Africa Dance Theatre); *Sherlock Holmes and the Vanishing Thimble; Sherlock Holmes and the Raven's Curse* (ASM) (Vertigo Theatre); *Hamlet: A Ghost Story* (Vertigo Theatre/The Shakespeare Company/Hit & Myth Productions).



## NAOMI ESAU

### Apprentice Stage Manager

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Naomi is thrilled to be working with Theatre Calgary this season! Her favourite Stage Management credits include: *Heaven* (Lunchbox Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing* (CYPT); *Men Express Their Feelings* (Downstage); *A Christmas Story, Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol, The Christians* (Rosebud Theatre); *[titleofshow]* (Birnton Theatricals); and *Junie B. Jones; The Musical* (Storybook Theatre). She is also an actor, musician, seamstress, part-time princess, and baker of many cupcakes.



# CREATIVE TEAM



## ANDRÉS MORENO

### Assistant Director - TC Mentors Program

(they/them) Theatre Calgary debut. Andrés Moreno is a proud Colombian artist, creator, and a settler to Turtle Island. Storytelling for them is a tool to build community connection while continuing the tradition of sharing wisdom. Mostly Andrés has been working to increase representation and reflectivity in their work. Their interests include multi-media, puppetry, film, playwriting, directing, creation work, design, and piña colodas. Previous directing credits include *Like Orpheus* (Theatre Outré); *Ray and Cora Plan a Heist* (Azimuth Theatre);

*A Puppet's Midsummer Nights Dream* (Freewill Festival); *Party Animal* (Thousand faces Festival); *A Didi Christmas Carol* (Theatre Outré); and *Bard in the Big Top* (Primestock Theatre). Andrés is forever grateful for the privilege to work and live within Treaty 6 and Treaty 7 territory, and holds it a priority to give back to those communities whose land they are residing in. If you want to learn more about whose lands you are on, please visit [native-land.ca](http://native-land.ca).



## BRENDAN BRICELAND

### Assistant Lighting & Projection Design - TC Mentors Program

(he/him) Theatre Calgary debut. Brendan is beyond thrilled to be joining Theatre Calgary in his first production. He has been involved in the theatre / digital media creation world in various capacities over the years. From performing on cruise ships and the Toronto area, receiving his diploma in Visual Effects to most recently acting as the Head of Projection at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, he is very excited to be assisting Beth and bringing his talents to the theatre. Thank you Mark for always being my guiding light. [brendanbriceland.com](http://brendanbriceland.com) IG: @bsquaredcreative

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- Cameras and audio/visual recording devices are not permitted in the theatre.
- Video and audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
- We ask that you please refrain from using your cell phone, smart watch, or any other digital device, in any capacity, during the performance.
- Good theatre etiquette benefits everyone. Please do not talk or unwrap candies during the performance, remain in your seat until the curtain call is finished and the house lights have been turned on.
- Babies are not permitted in the theatre.
- We also offer relaxed performances. For more information, visit our website.
- Assisted listening devices for the hard of hearing are available at the coat check.
- For first aid assistance, see the house manager, or nearest usher.

## SAFETY AND COMFORT

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# OSCAR WILDE



Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde (1854 - 1900) was born in Dublin to Sir William Wilde and his wife Jane. While studying at Oxford, he was fascinated by the aesthetic movement and eventually became a proponent for L'art pour l'art ('Art for Art's Sake'), and wrote the award-winning poem *Ravenna*. After he graduated in 1879, he moved to Chelsea in London to establish a literary career. Upon graduating in 1879, he moved to London to review art, write poetry and lecture in the UK, the United States, and Canada. In 1884, Mr. Wilde married Constance Lloyd and, in the course of their turbulent marriage, had two sons.

His first and only novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, was published in 1891 and has been adapted for the stage. Mr. Wilde's first successful theatrical endeavor, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, opened in 1892. He went on to create the wonderfully popular comedies *A Woman of No Importance* (1893), *An Ideal Husband* (1895), and the classic *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895).

Not long afterward, Mr. Wilde was publicly accused of homosexuality and arrested for gross indecency. During his time in prison he wrote *De Profundis*, a dramatic monologue and autobiography, which was

addressed to his lover Bosie. Three years after his release in 1897, he died of cerebral meningitis in a rundown Paris hotel. Known for his philosophical wit and irreverent charm, Mr. Wilde is famously quoted as saying 'Life is too important to be taken seriously.'

**ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.**  
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 PRODUCED THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, 1895.

Every Evening at 8,  
**The Importance of being Earnest,**  
 A TRIVIAL COMEDY FOR SERIOUS PEOPLE,  
 BY OSCAR WILDE.

John Worthing, J.P. [ of the Manor House, Wootton, Hertfordshire ]	Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER
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Cecily Cardew (John Worthing's Ward)	Miss IERNE VANBRUGH
Miss Prism (Her Governess)	Miss VIOLET LYSTER
	Mrs GEORGE CANNINGE

Time - The Present.  
 Act I. - Algernon Moncrieff's Rooms in Finsbury (H. P. Hall)  
 Act II. - The Garden at the Manor House, Wootton (H. P. Hall)  
 Act III. - Morning-Room at the Manor House, Wootton (Water Hays)

Presented, in compliance with the Act, by LEONARD S. MITCHELL, entitled  
**IN THE SEASON.**  
 Mr. HERBERT WARING  
 Mr. ARTHUR ROYTON  
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Boxes - 5 Boxes in the Henry Colledge's Boxes. Time - The Present.

**Programme of Music.**

MARCH	"Canon"	Georgi
MAZURKA	"La Trigue"	Louis Ganne
VALSE	"Etoile Noire"	A. M. Finkler
CAPRICCIOSI	"Accompagnati"	E. Godeard
VALSE	"Requies"	A. Thomas
OVERTURE	"Clave"	L. Grogg
DANCE	"Summer Time"	E. H. Hays
1ST MAZURKA		
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**NO FEES.** The Theatre is lighted by Electricity. **NO FEES.**

The Advertiser who desires facilities in respect of notices and notices to be inserted should apply to the Manager of the Theatre who will be glad to supply the necessary forms and to accept of a reasonable amount for their insertion and circulation.

The Engravings and Equestrian in the costumes and methods applied and arranged by  
 L. F. Mearns, King Street, St. James's.  
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 Photographs of the Artists appearing at this Theatre, can be obtained of ALFRED ELLIS,  
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The Importance of Being Earnest playbill (1895).

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Oscar Wilde, 1889. Photo: W. and D. Downey



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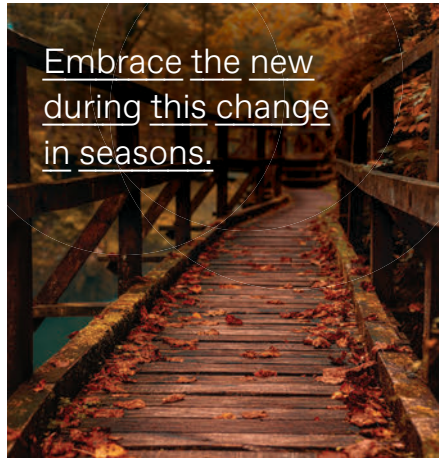
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Gerry Nichol  
Fred Scott  
Lynne J. Thornton  
Derek Warren  
Nomi Whalen

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