



For Immediate Release  
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DENNIS GARNHUM, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

## THEATRE CALGARY ANNOUNCES 2011-12 SEASON

Calgary... Theatre Calgary Artistic Director DENNIS GARNHUM unveiled Theatre Calgary's 2011-12 season of plays today in the Max Bell Theatre. Some of the main highlights in the season lineup include a first-time collaboration with the AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER OF SAN FRANCISCO with the Canadian premiere production of *THE TOSCA CAFE*. Following *Tosca*, the production of *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* will see actor R.H. THOMSON return to Theatre Calgary in the role of Atticus Finch. One of the biggest stories in the season will be a brand-new 25th anniversary production of *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*. The new production will be adapted by Garnhum, and mark the 18th year for actor STEPHEN HAIR to star as Ebenezer Scrooge, and feature all new sets, costumes and surprises. After Christmas, the Canadian premiere of *ENRON*, directed by ANTONI CIMOLINO will no doubt cause as much debate as it did during its London West End and Broadway runs. The season concludes with NICOLA CAVENDISH reprising her famous turn as *SHIRLEY VALENTINE*, and a celebration of one of the largest and most successful musicals of all time, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *CATS*.

More information on all the productions for next season, can be found at [theatrecalgary.com](http://theatrecalgary.com)

### THE TOSCA CAFE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

September 13 – October 2, 2011

Created and staged by Carey Perloff and Val Caniparoli

The American Conservatory Theater of San Francisco production

Featuring Peter Anderson (*The Overcoat*, *7 Stories*)

*"Genuine Magic."* – San Francisco Chronicle

Welcome to San Francisco's renowned Tosca Cafe, where imagination flows like wine and memories waltz through the swinging doors. In this stunning blend of dance and theatre, almost a century of history, from Prohibition to the WiFi generation, is beautifully choreographed to a musical score ranging from Puccini to Hendrix. The company of actors and dancers includes stars of the Canadian smash-hit *The Overcoat*, in a production that has been hailed by critics as "smart, sexy and wild" and simply "phenomenal."

*We partner for the first time with an American company on this fresh new piece of dance theatre. I was at the world premiere in San Francisco last year and I jumped to my feet and cheered—like the rest of the sold out crowd. Be transported to one of my favourite cities for an evening of pure joy.* – Dennis Garnhum

### Harper Lee's TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

October 11 – November 6, 2011

Adapted by Christopher Sergel

Directed by Dennis Garnhum, Starring R.H. Thomson

*"One thing doesn't abide by majority rule – a person's conscience."*

Prejudice. Injustice. Humanity. For young Scout Finch, these ideas haven't entered her childhood in Maycomb, Alabama. But when her lawyer father, Atticus, agrees to defend a black man accused of raping a white woman, her world changes forever. Harper Lee's timeless classic delivers a powerful and deeply moving tribute to courage and compassion. One of the greatest stories of the twentieth century.

*Our innovative design for this production includes onstage seating for 50 lucky audience members—a chance to experience this story from a whole new perspective. Atticus Finch is one of the most decent and inspiring human beings you'll ever meet. Come stand in his glow.* – Dennis

### A CHRISTMAS CAROL

December 1 – 24, 2011

A ghost story by Charles Dickens

Adapted by Dennis Garnhum, Starring Stephen Hair as Ebenezer Scrooge

The longest-running holiday theatre tradition in Canada celebrates twenty-five years with an all new production that's bigger than ever! Join Ebenezer Scrooge and the Spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future in this world premiere adaptation with gorgeous new costumes and sets. Filled with magic, songs and delightful surprises, share this beloved treasure with your entire family.

*This anniversary marks the beginning of a whole new era for Calgary's annual family event. Stephen Hair, the ultimate Scrooge, returns and this time we will find ourselves in a winter wonderland. This production is dedicated to the families of Calgary who have made this a landmark event in Canada.* – Dennis

Theatre Calgary and the One Yellow Rabbit Performance Theatre present the Theatrefront production

## UBUNTU (THE CAPE TOWN PROJECT)

January 11 – 15, 2012

Created by Theatrefront

A Theatrefront/Western Canada Theatre Production

Part of the 26th Annual High Performance Rodeo, Calgary's International Festival of the Arts

*"Deeply compassionate and brazenly beautiful...the production goes down as one of 2009's best new offerings." - TorontoStage.com*

In this critically acclaimed collective creation, ghosts haunt a man and a woman continents apart as they are drawn together to discover the secrets of their past. This international collaboration of Canadian and South African artists traces the ties that bind us all, with spirited storytelling, music and dance.

## ENRON

CANADIAN PREMIERE

January 31 – February 19, 2012

By Lucy Prebble

Directed by Antoni Cimolino

*"How can something be worth a million dollars in the morning and nothing by the afternoon?"*

One of the most infamous scandals in financial history unfolds in a wild ride that's almost too outrageous to believe—and yet it's true. Combining modern multimedia, vaudevillian comedy and classical tragedy, the rise and fall of this industry giant exposes a dangerous game of perception versus profits. It's the Canadian premiere that proves a penny earned sometimes isn't worth a cent.

*This recent smash-hit in London will resonate throughout Calgary. Never has a play been more relevant to our city. You don't need to be an expert in the world of business to understand that this play makes greed and corruption clear, captivating and—dare I say—fun. Calgary will be talking about this play for years. – Dennis*

*ENRON contains coarse language.*

## SHIRLEY VALENTINE

February 28 – March 25, 2012

By Willy Russell

Directed by Roy Surette, Starring Nicola Cavendish

*"I'd fallen in love with the idea of livin'."*

Deep within Mrs. Joe Bradshaw, the former Shirley Valentine is longing to escape. Now an ordinary, middle-aged, Liverpool housewife, she shares her deepest thoughts with a kitchen wall. But when her best friend wins a trip for two to Greece, life becomes anything but ordinary and Shirley has the greatest love affair of all—with herself. This hilarious and uplifting comedy proves that it's never too late to live the life of your dreams.

*Nicola Cavendish IS Shirley Valentine. I saw her play the role over 20 years ago and was mesmerized. Now she revives it with a new understanding of this wonderful housewife. You'll laugh even louder and connect with her even more deeply. Nicola is one of the great actors of our country. It's truly an honour to welcome her back. – Dennis*

## CATS

April 10 – May 6, 2012

Music By ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

Based on "Old Possum's Book Of Practical Cats" By T.S. ELIOT

First performance at The New London Theatre, London May 11, 1981

Presented by Cameron Mackintosh and The Really Useful Theatre Co. Limited

Originally presented in America by The Shubert Organization,

Cameron Mackintosh, The Really Useful Company and David Geffen

Original Broadway production Directed by Trevor Nunn

Associate Directed and Choreography by Gillian Lynne

Designed by John Napier

Director TBA

*"You'll understand what happiness is."*

Let the "Memory" live again. With record-breaking runs on Broadway and London's West End, this worldwide sensation is one of the most beloved musicals of all time. Join Grizabella, Old Deuteronomy, Mister Mistoffelees and the rest of the Jellicle Cats as they gather under a full moon to discover who will be chosen to ascend to the Heaviside Layer. It's a song and dance spectacular that will have you purring.

*This will be the first made-in-Alberta production of this ground breaking musical. We'll transform our theatre into a gigantic back alley of feline proportions! You'll marvel at the spectacle of singing and dancing cats surrounding you in one of the greatest musicals ever. – Dennis*

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