



DENNIS GARNHUM, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release

JANUARY 31, 2011

1011-05

MEDIA RELEASE

THEATRE CALGARY PRESENTS THE CANADIAN
MUSICAL WITHIN A COMEDY SENSATION

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

FEBRUARY 8 - MARCH 6, 2011

January 31, 2011 – Calgary, AB... Theatre Calgary gets ready to dance, sing and tickle your satirical funnybone with the comedy in a musical, *THE DROWSY CHAPERONE*, featuring music & lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison, and book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar. *The Drowsy Chaperone* is a co-production with the Manitoba Theatre Centre.

THE STORY

A pampered Broadway star is about to give up her place in the spotlight to marry a very rich man and settle down into a quiet, domestic life. However, her producer makes a lot of money with her on stage, so he sets out to stop the wedding by using the charms of a Latin lothario. Will the star's chaperone fight off her drowsiness long enough to prevent the wedding from being ruined? Along the way, the Man in Chair acts as a guide to the goings-on, with bold observations that are presented with shocking clarity.

HISTORY

The Drowsy Chaperone is truly a Canadian success story. The play got its start in 1997 as a bachelor party skit created for Bob Martin and his soon to be wife Janet Van De Graaff. From there the idea moved into a Toronto Fringe Festival show. Upon becoming a hit in the Toronto theatre community, the show took on a life of its own and wound up on Broadway in 2006, with a ten million dollar budget. It ran for 647 performances and was honoured with five Tonys and seven Drama Desk awards.

THE CAST

The Drowsy Chaperone stars **DEAN PAUL GIBSON** as Man in Chair, **NAOMI COSTAIN** as Janet Van de Graaff, **DEANN DEGRUIJTER** as The Drowsy Chaperone and **ADAM BRAZIER** as Aldolpho. Also featured in the cast are **DIANA COATSWORTH**, **STEPHEN COTA**, **RACHEL CROWTHER**, **TIMOTHY GLEDHILL**, **DOUGLAS E. HUGHES**, **STIRLING KARLSEN**, **DEBBIE MASLOWSKY**, **DOUG MCKEAG**, **ERIC S. ROBERTSON**, **NADINE RODEN**, **TODD TALBOT** and **KSENIA THURGOOD**.

The show also marks the Theatre Calgary debut of noted Calgarian **JOCK OSLER** in the role of the Superintendent.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

STEVEN SCHIPPER, Director | **TRACEY FLYE**, Choreographer & Staging | **ELIZABETH BAIRD**, Musical Director | **MICHAEL GIANFRANCESCO**, Set Design | **CHARLOTTE DEAN**, Costume Design | **KIMBERLEY PURTELL**, Lighting Design | **CHRIS JACKO**, Sound Design | **EVAN R. KLASSEN** Stage Manager | **AILSA BIRNIE** Assistant Stage Manager | **ERIN BAUER**, Apprentice Stage Manager.

Performances at Theatre Calgary run Tuesday thru Sunday with evening curtain at 7:30pm (Tues-Thurs & Sunday) and 8:00pm (Fri & Sat), weekend matinees at 2:00pm. Tickets for all performances start as low as \$25.00 and can be purchased through Theatre Calgary at 403-294-7447, or online at theatrecalgary.com. Rush tickets may be available at the box office, one half hour prior to showtimes for \$30. All performances take place in the Max Bell Theatre in the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts.

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For more information or interview requests please contact:
Christopher Loach, Director of Communications, Theatre Calgary
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TELEVISION MEDIA CALL - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 - 1:00pm

Max Bell Theatre, Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts

PRINT - photos available upon request