October 17-November 12, 2017

# Onegin <sup>By Amiel</sup>

Gladstone & Veda Hille

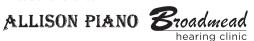


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# ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

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> Book by Donald Harron Music by Norman Campbell Adapted from the novel by L. M. Montgomery

"Anne of Green Gables (Harron)" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.





#### FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Belfry Patron,

Thank you for embracing – thank you for loving – *The Children's Republic.* Having playwright Hannah Moscovitch here with us for four weeks was both thrilling, and strangely family-like. She was so thrilled with everything about the Belfry – the people and the atmosphere, she loved the production, and she was very happy with her new version of the play, a revision that we had commissioned. She called it "a transcendent experience." Days after she returned home to Halifax, Hannah was nominated for the prestigious Siminovitch Prize for Theatre.

Now it is my pleasure to welcome you to a new "take" on an old story; a 21st Century version of a 19th Century tale. Ami Gladstone and Veda Hille are looking through a contemporary lens at a story created by Pushkin, and reinterpreted by Tchaikovsky. Romanticism and ennui meet cynicism and irony.

The original Vancouver production of *Onegin* won an astounding 10 Jessie Awards! It is our great good fortune that everyone connected with that production – including the entire cast, the director and designers – are here recreating that original magic. I guess it's true: lightning really can strike twice! A huge welcome to the many beloved colleagues who are part of this production! And a special "welcome home" to Ami Gladstone!

I hope you enjoy...I know you will!

Nicipas.



#### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A contemporary telling of a Russian classic novel, turned into an opera, then a ballet, then a play and now this modern musical version. It all seems so fitting for a contemporary theatre company housed in a heritage building which was a chapel, then a church, then a homeless shelter and now a theatre.

This building which is our, and your, theatrical home, is a small magic box where far more than meets the eye is accomplished. Our little corner not only houses our beautiful stage, but is home to the dozens of people and processes that it takes to produce a play. Hidden within the confines of the Belfry building is a wardrobe shop, a carpentry shop, properties storage, a rehearsal hall doubling as a studio theatre (or studio theatre doubling as a rehearsal hall), design space, a place for writers (or readers), box office, front of house, administration and artistic offices, a meeting room (which sometimes doubles as a rehearsal hall), dressing rooms, and of course the lobby (which is also a performance space, meeting space and lounge).

When you support the Belfry, you support the dozens of dedicated professionals who make our productions possible, and you support this cultural heritage landmark. Thank you. We hope that you enjoy the building as much as we trust you will enjoy this and the remainder of the productions this season.

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#### THE BELFRY THEATRE PRESENTS A CO-PRODUCTION WITH THE ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY

# Onegin

Book, Music and Lyrics by Amiel Gladstone and Veda Hille Based on the poem by Pushkin and the opera by Tchaikovsky

#### Starring

Meg Roe Tatyana Larin Alessandro Juliani Evgeni Onegin Josh Epstein Vladimir Lensky Lauren Jackson Olga Larin Caitriona Murphy Madame Larin and Others Andrew Wheeler Prince Gremin and Others Andrew McNee Many Others

#### Orchestra

Chris Tsujiuchi Piano and Keyboards Barry Mirochnick Drums and Guitar Jennifer Moersch Cello

Director and Writer Amiel Gladstone Musical Director and Writer Veda Hille Choreographer Tracey Power Assistant Choreographer Amanda Testini Set Designer Drew Facey Costume Designer Jacqueline Firkins Associate Costume Designer Alaia Hamer Lighting Designer John Webber Assistant Lighting Designer Sara Smith Sound Designer Bradley Danyluk Dramaturg Rachel Ditor Stage Manager Allison Spearin Assistant Stage Manager Sandra Drag

Onegin is approximately two hours in length, including a fifteen minute intermission. Onegin was commissioned by the Arts Club Theatre Company and premiered at the Goldcorp Stage in Vancouver, March 2016.

Additional development at Musical Stage Company, Theatre, Toronto, production May 2017.

ONEGIN IS GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY zoadmead nearing clinic



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This production of Onegin is supported by a generous gift from Nancy & Peter Vivian through the Victoria Foundation.

## FROM THE CREATORS

After A Craigslist Cantata – a play about disconnection – we wanted to immerse ourselves in something about connection, a story that could challenge our sometimes corseted Canadian sensibilities.

Something where the audience could swoon and get swept away. Something full of grand gestures, dance, and light. Something honest but also modern. Because in the age of the cynic, where does the romantic fit? We adapted freely from Pushkin's original and Tchaikovsky's opera, to give audiences the visceral experience of unrequited love. The characters' missed opportunities show us what happens when we don't embrace love when it comes. What it looks and feels like to turn away from its vitality and beauty. Ultimately, the show is our celebration of love. Our love of the theatre, our love for performing, our love for making things together, our love of the audience and your connection to what we create. We love that you're here. Thank you for hosting us here in Victoria and drinking shots and getting carried away with us.

Amiel and Veda

## BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS

Amiel Gladstone Director and Writer

Veda Hille and Amie/ Glacston

Amiel has developed an all consuming addictive hardcore habit of making shows with Veda Hille. There have been a few of them now, most notably *A Craigslist Cantata* with Bill Richardson. As a West Coast writer and director he has worked all over the place with companies such as Against the Grain, Alberta Theatre Projects, Arts Club Theatre Company, Caravan Farm, Factory, Firehall, Musical Stage Co, the National Arts Centre, Pacific Opera Victoria, Rumble, Solo Collective, Tarragon, Theatre Conspiracy, Theatre Replacement, Touchstone Theatre, Western Canada Theatre, Vancouver Opera, and of course Theatre SKAM. His work has also been produced in the U.S., France, and Romania, and it's a real joy to be back in this old church, with this box office, with these good folks, and you.



photo credit David Cooper



#### Veda Hille

Musical Director and Writer

Veda has been writing music, making records, and performing all over the place since 1992. Her latest albums are *Love Waves*, a set of love songs written in Berlin, and *Songs From Onegin*, made with the lovely people you will see tonight. Other upcoming projects include the Neworld Theatre show *King Arthur's Night*, various new recordings, and no doubt another musical written with Amiel Gladstone because she just can't quit him.

#### ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY STAFF

Artistic Managing Director Bill Millerd

Executive Director Peter Cathie White

Chair of the Board of Directors Bruce Flexman

Director of Production Stephan Baeuml

Director of Finance Valerie Prodanuk

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The development of Onegin was supported by Stan & Kathy Hamilton through the Arts Club Theatre Company's Silver Commissions Project. Artist Liaison Literary Manager Technical Director, Gold Corp Stage Technical Director, Shop Technical Director, **Tours & Special Events** Production Secretary **Tour Coordinator** Publicist Production Assistants Head Carpenter Lead Carpenters Head of Properties Second Properties **Props Builder** Head Scenic Artist Head of Costumes Costumes Assistant Cutter Seamsters

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# **Onegin** Love the new lobby! Esprit de corps!

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#### Meg Roe

Tatyana Larin

Meg's work as an actor, director, and sound designer has been seen across the country at Theatre Calgary, Canadian Stage, Factory Theatre, Alberta Theatre Projects, Bard on the Beach, Theatre Junction, Citadel Theatre, Ruby Slippers Theatre, Electric Company Theatre, Blackbird Theatre, Theatre Aquarius, the Arts Club Theatre Company, the Belfry Theatre, Theatre SKAM, Manitoba Theatre Centre, Intrepid Theatre, the Vancouver Playhouse, Western Canada Theatre, the National Arts Centre, Centaur Theatre, the Shaw Festival; and internationally with the American Conservatory Theatre (San Francisco), Center Theater Group (Los Angeles), and Crystal Pite's renowned dance company Kidd Pivot.



#### Alessandro Juliani

Evgeni Onegin

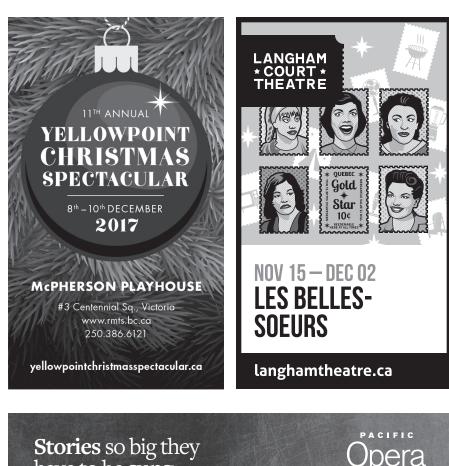
AJ currently makes his living as an actor, singer, composer and sound designer. He has been working at these disciplines off and on for the last 30 years. He is frequently maimed, disemboweled, dismembered, crucified and/or air-locked on your favourite locally-shot television programs and films. He often lends his voice to the animated programs upon which your kids/grand-kids/great-grand-kids currently dote. His only previous appearance at the Belfry was in 2008 in Richard Greenberg's *The Violet Hour*, directed by Roy Surette, a performance which his mother told him was "pretty convincing".



#### Josh Epstein

#### Vladimir Lensky

Josh won last year's Jessie and Ovation Awards for his portrayal of Lensky. As filmmakers, Josh and Kyle Rideout made *Eadweard* (over 50 worldwide film nomination/awards; CSA nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay, and distributed internationally) and *Public Schooled*, starring Judy Greer and Russell Peters which premiered at TIFF and will be distributed internationally. He has played roles such as Berowne, Leo Bloom, Barfée and Freddy Benson and is the recipient of the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Actor at the Stratford Festival (*Matchmaker, Cymbeline, Grapes of Wrath*). He has many film and television credits and is a Studio 58 graduate. @joshepstein1



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#### Lauren Jackson

Olga Larin

What a thrill to be welcomed to the Belfry to sing of love and longing. Lauren is a Studio 58 and Queen's University Drama graduate, and a two-time Jessie Award recipient. Previous credits include: *Million Dollar Quartet* (Arts Club), *The Cat in the Hat* (Carousel), *Celestial Being* (Greenthumb), *Small Parts* (Solo Collective), *Our Town* (osimous), *Extra-Céleste* (Théâtre la Seizième), *My Name is Rachel Corrie* (Tottering Biped), *Spring Awakening, Midsummer Night's Dream, Grease* (Studio 58). Thank you to Ami and Veda for weaving this dream, to her family and dearest Markian.

#### **Caitriona Murphy**



Madame Larin and Others

Caitriona is an actor and musician originally from Toronto. BC credits include: Next to Normal, Mary Poppins, In the Heights, Peter and the Starcatcher, Onegin, Billy Elliot, and The Piano Teacher (Arts Club Theatre), Closer Than Ever (Gateway Theatre), Between the Sheets (Pi Theatre), Les Misérables, Pride and Prejudice (Chemainus Theatre Festival), The Drowsy Chaperone (TUTS), The Spitfire Grill (Pacific Theatre), The Full Monty, Out of a Dream (Patrick Street Productions), A Streetcar Named Desire, The Miracle Worker (Theatre North West), and Marry Me a Little (Speck Theatre). A singer and violinist, Caitriona has played venues across Canada. caitrionamurphy.ca



#### Andrew Wheeler

Prince Gremin and Others

Andrew is delighted to return to the Belfry, where he last performed in *Homechild*. Recent theatrical credits include: *Footloose, Les Miserables* (Chemainus Theatre Festival), *The Day Before Christmas* (Arts Club), *The Rainmaker, A Good Way Out* (Pacific), and this latest season at Bard On The Beach (his 10th), where he played in *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Winter's Tale*. Recent TV credits include *Gracepoint, The Killing*, and *iZombie.* "Lyubov"!!



#### Andrew McNee

Many Others

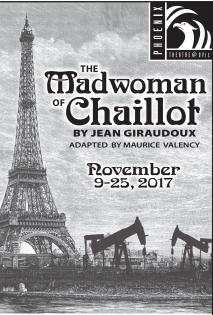
Andrew is a Vancouver born and raised actor in theatre, film, television, and animation. His theatre work has taken him on tour across Canada, to Europe and the UK. Most recently, his film work has been making the rounds of the film festivals with *Public Schooled* and *Grand Unified Theory*. When not playing make believe for a living he spends his time with his wife Karen and wrestling his rascally kids Finn and Thomas. Andrew is a graduate of Studio 58.



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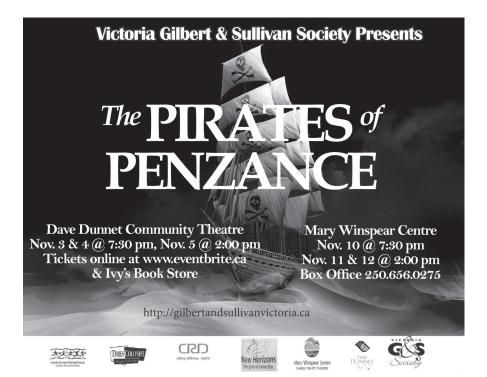
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#### **Chris Tsujiuchi** Piano and Keyboards

A graduate of Sheridan College's Musical Theatre Performance program, Chris' Musical Direction credits include *Onegin* (Musical Stage Company/National Arts Centre), *Any Dream Will Do* (Angelwalk Theatre), *A Misfortune* (Next Stage Festival), *HAIR* (FirstAct Productions), *A Joyful Noise* (co-composer/lyricist, Smile Theatre), *Mickey & Judy* (Toronto Fringe), and *bare: the Canadian Premiere* (WatersEdge Productions). Chris has worked as an accompanist and teacher at Sheridan College, Randolph Academy, and George Brown College. He has toured extensively with Sharron Matthews, and can be seen in his "Chris-terical" cabarets at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.



#### **Barry Mirochnick**

Drums and Guitar

Barry Mirochnick is a drummer from Winnipeg who now lives in Vancouver. He has performed and recorded with Veda Hille, Ida Nilsen, Neko Case, and many others. Barry also played drums and sometimes guitar in the musicals *Do You Want What I Have Got? A Craigslist Cantata, East Van Panto, Onegin,* and *King Arthur's Night*.

## Jennifer Moersch

Cello

Canadian cellist Jennifer Moersch enjoys a versatile career as a chamber musician, collaborative artist in multiple genres, orchestral player and music educator. She has performed on some of Canada's greatest stages including the National Arts Centre, Roy Thomson Hall, Glenn Gould Studio, Massey Hall and the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Jennifer was Principal and Soloist with the Prince George Symphony and has performed and recorded with The Tenors and members of The Guess Who and Platinum Blonde. Past musical theatre credits include performances for Drayton Entertainment, Sheridan Theatre, Angelwalk Theatre and the Toronto Fringe Festival.



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#### Tracey Power

Choreographer

An Island girl from the Comox Valley, Tracey works across Canada and internationally as an actor, playwright, choreographer and director. For the Belfry: Director/Choreographer of *Chelsea Hotel: The Songs of Leonard Cohen.* Recent credits include: Sarah in *UBUNTU: The Cape Town Project*, Lindsay in *Clybourne Park*, Una in *Blackbird* (Citadel Theatre), choreography for *The Winter's Tale* (Bard on the Beach), playwright/choreographer for *Miss Shakespeare* (Firehall Arts Centre), director/choreographer for *Singin' in the Rain* (Chemainus Theatre). Her play *GLORY*, inspired by the women's hockey team the Preston Rivulettes, will premiere with Western Canada Theatre and Alberta Theatre Projects in the spring. www.traceypower.ca



#### Drew Facey

Set Designer

Drew has been designing sets and costumes for opera and theatre over the past ten years. Recent highlights include: *Me and My Girl* (Shaw Festival), *The Marriage of Figaro* (Vancouver Opera), *Bonjour*, *la*, *Bonjour* (Théâtre la Seizième), *Comedy of Errors* (Western Canada), *Onegin* (Arts Club), *Das Ding* (Can Stage), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Bard on the Beach). Drew is the recipient of fourteen Jessie Awards for outstanding design and twenty-eight nominations. He is a graduate of Studio 58. www.drewfacey.com



#### Jacqueline Firkins

Costume Designer

Design work includes: sets and/or costumes for Arts Club Theatre, Court Theatre, Victory Gardens Theater, TimeLine Theatre Company, House Theatre of Chicago, Marin Theatre Company, Hartford Stage, Dallas Theater Center, Portland Center Stage, Goodman Theatre, Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Virginia Stage Company, Westport Playhouse, Shakespeare & Company, Northlight Theatre, and Dorset Theatre Festival. Jacqueline is a recipient of a 2001 Princess Grace Award and is on the faculty at the University of British Columbia.



#### John Webber

Lighting Designer

John has been designing both sets and lighting since the early 1990s and has had the privilege of working with some of Western Canada's most talented and adventurous artists. He has received several Jessie Richardson Awards, an Ovation Award, and in Ottawa a Critics Circle award and a Prix Rideau Award, all for outstanding design. Recent favourite credits include Lighting Design for *Marriage of Figaro* and *Rigoletto* for Vancouver Opera, *Saint Joan, Angels in America, Part 1 and 2* for the Arts Club Theatre. Next up for John is *Missing* for City Opera Vancouver and Pacific Opera Victoria.



## Bradley Danyluk

Sound Designer

Brad has been a Vancouver sound designer and audio engineer for well over a decade. His work includes a wide array of shows for the Arts Club, Gateway Theatre, TUTS, and Patrick Street Productions. He hopes you enjoy the sound and music of the performance as fully as possible!



#### Allison Spearin

Stage Manager

Saint Joan, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Do You Want What I Have Got? A Craigslist Cantata, Armstrong's War, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Buddy Holly Story Tour, Mom's The Word, The Seahorse, Salt-Water Moon, His Greatness (Arts Club), Since You Left Us (Presentation House), Proud (Firehall), Hotel Bethlehem (Ruby Slippers), The Swanne: Queen Victoria (The Seduction of Nemesis), Troilus and Cressida, Antony and Cleopatra, Eternal Hydra (Stratford), The Very Hungry Caterpillar Japan Tour (Mermaid), Sylvia, Kilt, Jesus Christ Superstar (Neptune), Atlantic Canada House (2010 Olympics), Stage Management Instructor, Douglas College.



#### Sandra Drag

Assistant Stage Manager

Having graduated from the University of Victoria's Theatre Production and Management program in 2014, Sandra is excited to be back again at the Belfry, with this amazing cast and crew. Select past credits include: *Home is a Beautiful Word, Venus in Fur* (Belfry Theatre); *The Piano Teacher, Onegin, One Man, Two Guvnors* (Arts Club); *Miracle on South Division Street, The Last Romance* (Miracle Theatre); *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Spirit Fire Theatre); *Animal Crackers, Waiting for Godot* (Blue Bridge Theatre); and *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog* (Broadway West). Much love and thanks to Mum and Dad.





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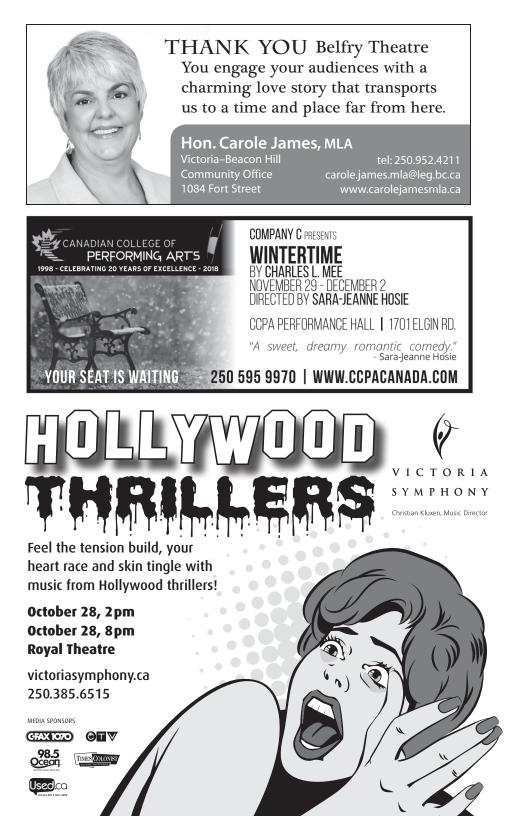
**TOGETHER WITH** with our patrons, friends, sponsors and community, and a \$340,000 grant from the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, we have now raised more than \$800,000 – putting us closer to our \$1 Million goal. We need your help to support the Belfry Capital Campaign for improved patron comfort and accessibility. OUR THANKS to the 25 individuals who donated amounts up to \$100 and the 70 individuals who have contributed to the Name a Seat campaign.



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#### Smartphones, Cameras and Recording Devices

The use of cameras, smartphones or audio/ visual recording equipment is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all personal electronic devices prior to the performance. If you need to be contacted in an emergency, please leave your name and seat number with our House Manager.

#### **Children and Babes in Arms**

The Belfry is proud to produce adult contemporary theatre. Most of our productions are not suitable for young children. Sorry, we do not admit babes in arms. For children age 3 to 10, ask at the Box Office about our free childcare matinees. The Box Office is also happy to discuss the appropriateness of particular productions for your child.

#### Coat Check

Our complimentary coat check is located at the entrance to the Stewart Theatre. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

#### Latecomers & Re-admission

The Director of each production designates moments in the show when the seating of latecomers will cause the least distraction for actors and audience members. Should you leave the theatre, our House Manager will not be able to reseat you until one of these breaks, but you can watch the performance on the monitor in our lobby.

#### Drinks

To cut down on plastic we have moved to glassware in the lobby. If you wish to take your drink into the theatre please transfer it to a disposable cup, available at the bar.

#### Food

Please feel free to take only food you have purchased from the Belfry bar into the theatre. Our goodies are packaged so that they don't make a lot of noise, to minimize disturbing your fellow audience members.

#### Lost and Found

Please check with our House Manager if you have lost an item in the theatre.

#### Script Library

Read the play before or after you see it. We have scripts of the season's plays available at the Box Office, plus a bookcase filled with Canadian plays, all for reading in the Lobby.

#### Lobby Touchscreen

The TV monitor in our new lobby is a touchscreen device. By touching the screen you can delve deeper into each production, learn about the artists who created the show, and much more. Give it a try.

#### PRE-PERFORMANCE

#### BPlay

Live talk shows hosted by CBC Radio's Gregor Craigie and featuring artists from the upcoming show, along with experts from the community, have been designed to provide insight into each Mainstage production. Each event, held at 11am on the Saturday prior to Opening, is free to attend and is also livestreamed on Facebook, and available as a podcast on our website.

#### Podcasts

Listen and download the full interviews from each B4Play, recent stories from The Flame, our storytelling series, and more at soundcloud.com/belfrytheatre.

#### Upstage Magazine

Our magazine provides insight into each Mainstage production, further enriching your experience. Upstage is available in the Lobby and on our website. Drop us a line at hello@belfry.bc.ca for an advance copy.

#### FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE

#### Afterplay

Following every evening Mainstage performance (except Opening Night and Talkback Thursday) we offer facilitated discussions – audience member to audience member. Stick around – these are a great opportunity to discuss the play and the ideas it contains.

#### **Talkback Thursday**

Meet the actors post-performance when they return to the stage to answer questions and provide insight into the play.

#### ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES

#### VocalEye

For patrons with low or no vision, we offer one VocalEye performance during each Mainstage production. Trained Audio Describers provide descriptions of the visual elements of the show, allowing people with low vision to enjoy the theatrical experience without missing any of the details.

#### **Hearing Assist**

For patrons who are hard of hearing, the theatre is equipped with an infra-red hearing assist system. We have six devices available on a first come, first serve basis through the Box Office.

#### Free Childcare Performances

To help young parents experience the Belfry, we offer inexpensive tickets and free childcare on select afternoons. To book your tickets and a spot for your kids (between 3–10 years old), please call our Box Office at 250-385-6815.



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SUNDAY 11:00am - 10:00pm

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#### **Belfry Theatre**

1291 Gladstone Avenue Victoria, British Columbia V8T 1G5

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Charitable donation number 11921 5549 RR0001

The Belfry Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement professional artists who are members of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association.



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## **Bravo!**

#### 2017–18 Season Annual Fund

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As of September 25, 2017

- \*\* New donor
- \* Donor moved up a category
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- L Our thanks to these Belfry Legacy Society Members plus a further 8 anonymous members.

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The Belfry acknowledges the generous recent and past gifts from the estates of:

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Consult your professional advisors about the tax advantages of charitable donations and bequests. We would welcome the opportunity to ensure that your gift is recognized according to your wishes during and/or after your lifetime. For more information on planning your gift to the Belfry Theatre, contact:

Susan Stevenson Development Manager 250-385-6835 ext. 229.

#### The Belfry Theatre is a registered Canadian charity, 11921 5549 RR0001.

The Belfry Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres, Theatre Communications Group USA, Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce and the Professional Arts Alliance of Greater Victoria.

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### **Donations In Memoriam**

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## Bravo!

The Belfry Theatre gratefully acknowledges the financial support of The Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council and the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, the Capital Regional District Arts Development Office and the City of Victoria.







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