

T H E A T R E • M U S I C • D A N C E • A R T

Playboard

February 2012 • FREE

Donald Sales and Cherice Barton



2012 Chutzpah! Festival FEBRUARY 11 – MARCH 4

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The Full Circle: First Nations Performance PRESENTS

11th Annual Talking Stick Festival



The aboriginal arts community is truly in full voice.

THIS YEAR'S *TALKING Stick Festival* is unique; along with performances of a wide range of disciplines from dance, comedy, music and slam poetry, critically acclaimed plays are an integral part of the festival. It is a year celebrating the Aboriginal communities truly having found their voice displaying maturity and depth in outstanding works. The traditional, the contemporary and the blend of the two, along with an exhibit, a Community Powwow and workshops, all provide a rich experience not to be missed.

“It has always been my dream to showcase world-class pieces of aboriginal Canadian theatre in the festival, and this year the dream is realized,” says Margo Kane, artistic managing director. “We are presenting many artists of various disciplines whose creative spirits have been nurtured to reach a level of maturity exhibited in their rich works at this year’s festival.”

The festival kicks off with the traditional *Gala Opening Exhibit and Celebration* on Monday, February 20, at 8:00 p.m. at the Roundhouse Community Centre. This year the festival includes three dynamic theatre pieces. The first is

Metis Mutt – you don’t want to miss this one man screamingly funny show by Sheldon Elter. Next is a powerful drama by one of Canada’s award-winning First Nations playwrights, Drew Hayden Taylor’s masterful presentation of *In a World Created by A Drunken God*, raising questions that transcend issues of culture, morality and history. The critically acclaimed *Chocolate Woman Dreams the Milky Way*, written and performed by Monique Mojico, is absolutely electrifying.

All 14 days of the festival are filled with traditional and contemporary Aboriginal art from dance works and hoop-dancing to an evening of slam poetry called *From Talking Stick to Microphone* along with a number of professional development workshops and artist talks. This year’s festival is rich and diverse – truly exhibiting a maturity and depth of the Aboriginal community as they share their stories and art dynamically in full voice.

The Full Circle: First Nations Performance’s 11th Annual Talking Stick Festival will be taking place from February 20 to March 4, in venues throughout the city of Vancouver. Visit www.fullcircle.ca for complete schedule.

Publisher and Editor

Alan Slater

Assistant Editor

Alison Cunningham

Layout and Design

Excel Design

Circulation and Subscriptions

Jeanine Slater

Contributors

Bonnie Allan, Amanda Bates

Stephan van Eeden,

Elizabeth Elwood, Kaitlyn Hunter,

Stephanie Kerr, Andrée Karas

Photos

David Cooper, Scott Irvine,

Don Lee, Jacques Moatti,

Bartak Muracki

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Tel: 778.294.5881 / Fax: 778.294.5882

Email: theatre@shawbiz.ca

Website: www.playboardmag.com

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Top photo: Cherice Barton and Donald Sales

Photo: Don Lee, courtesy of Azure Barton & Artists and the Banff Centre

Bottom photo: The Warsaw Village Band, featured in *A Blessing on the Moon*

Photo: Bartak Muracki

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Vancouver Bach Choir PRESENTS

Les Noces, Catulli Carmina and Midsummer Flower

*Be seduced by the
Vancouver Bach Choir!*



LESLIE DALA



CELEBRATE THE MONTH of love, February, by joining the Vancouver Bach Choir in a concert designed to arouse passion, awaken desire, and stimulate the senses. On February 25, at 8:00 p.m. in the Orpheum Theatre, Maestro Leslie Dala conducts a concert of three provocative contemporary works.

Soloists for this concert are: Marcel Bergmann, pianist; Elizabeth Bergmann, pianist; Kinza Tyrrell, pianist; Gregory Oh, pianist; UBC Percussion Ensemble, music director Vern Griffiths; Melanie

Krueger, soprano; Barbara Towell, mezzo soprano; John Arsenault, tenor; Willy Miles-Grenzberg, baritone.

The concert opens with Marcel Bergmann's *Midsummer Flower* (2008), a joyful invocation of spring. The choir is honoured to announce that Marcel and Elizabeth Bergmann, the internationally known "Bergmann Duo" will join the choir onstage for this piece.

Stravinsky's passionate *Les Noces* (1923) evokes intimacy with its sensual

portrayal of a rustic wedding. Chorus, soloists, an ensemble of four pianos, and an array of percussion instruments combine in the production of what is perhaps Stravinsky's most original creation.

The Canadian premiere of *Les Noces* took place in 1952 at UBC; in a unique connection, the UBC Percussion Ensemble joins the Vancouver Bach Choir and the other esteemed soloists onstage.

Carl Orff's *Catulli Carmina* (1943), the sequel to his celebrated *Carmina Burana*, is a setting of the writings of Catullus (1st Century BC Roman poet). The lusty, earthy rhythms of the music coupled with the downright sexy text tell the story of feverish desire followed by the ultimate betrayal!

Les Noces, Catulli Carmina and *Midsummer Flower* plays at the Orpheum Theatre, Saturday, February 25 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets: [online: www.thevancouverbachchoir.com](http://www.thevancouverbachchoir.com) or telephone: 604.876.3434 or in person: Orpheum Box Office 601 Smithe (at Seymour).

Chutzpah! Festival

2012

February 11 to March 4

IN ITS 12TH year of showcasing world-renowned artists in a vibrant celebration of the performing arts, *Chutzpah! Festival 2012* presents a line-up of riveting theatre, breath-taking dance and electrifying music (between February 11 and March 4).

This popular, multi-faceted, artistically exciting festival features four must-see theatrical productions in 2012. *Chutzpah!* opens with a world premiere: *A Blessing on the Moon* featuring Poland's Warsaw Village Band. This is a much-anticipated music and theatrical adaptation of Joseph Skibell's acclaimed novel. *King Matt the First* is war hero and author Dr. Janusz Korczak's moving all-ages fable of a boy king who learns what's important in life. Hollywood insider, dancer and actor Larry Blum fabulously dishes and tells-all in his one-man *tour de force* *Blink and You Might Miss Me* at (and presented with) the River Rock Show Theatre. And *Chutzpah! Plus* (March 6 to 11) joins forces with Touchstone Theatre and the Firehall Arts Centre to offer award-winning playwright Michael Redhill's *Goodness*, a multi-layered exploration of genocide laced with choral music from around the world.



photo: Scott Irvine

THE SWAY MACHINERY BAND

As always, dance at *Chutzpah!* simply astonishes. In their Canadian premiere, Noord Nederlandse Dans shows why they're considered among Holland's finest contemporary companies. L.A.'s hot up-and-comers Body Traffic perform celebrated Israeli choreographer Barak Marshall's evocative piece *MONGER* on a night that also features the brilliant Noam

Gagnon. The festival brings together an incomparable duo when Donald Sales and Cherice Barton perform two world premieres, including a piece choreographed by the eminent Aszure Barton.

Music at *Chutzpah!* hits all the right notes. The politically-charged funk, hip hop and Hebraic beats of Israel's hottest music group, Hadag Nahash, make their Vancouver premiere at the Commodore Ballroom with Vancouver's Santa Lucia



HADAG NAHASH

opening. Sway Machinery from Brooklyn brings their cutting-edge cantor-world beat-blues fusion to the Electric Owl. A rare global-music convergence occurs when Israel's Yair Dalal performs with Toronto's Lenka Lichtenberg in *Lullabies from Exile*, and the extraordinary Warren Kimmel bares his life story in cabaret with *Don't Call Us, We'll Call You – a Musical Journey of Life in the Theatre*.

From celebrated theatre and dance to glorious music – there's something to astonish everyone at *Chutzpah! 2012*. For more details visit chutzpahfestival.com. Tickets: chutzpahfestival.com or 604.257.5145 ticketstonight.ca or 604.684.2787. In person: JCCGV (950 West 41st Avenue).

For *Hadag Nahash* and *Blink and You Might Miss Me*. Tickets: www.ticketmaster.ca or 1.855.985.5000. Chutzi Packs: See four shows for just \$72 (some exclusions apply).

United Players of Vancouver

2012 – 2013 Season



ANDRÉE KARAS
Artistic Director of
United Players of Vancouver

■ *A Room With a View*

Canadian première

by **Roger Parsley**
from E.M. Forster
September 7 to 30

In this bright, funny and absorbing adaptation of E.M. Forster's novel we see characters, brought together by chance, fumble their way through love, dislike, belief and social niceties, and watch an array of fascinating and intriguing characters come to terms (or not!) with a changing world.

■ *Present Laughter*

by Noël Coward
November 9 to December 2

No playwright captures the sophisticated wit of the era between the two

world wars like Noël Coward. *Present Laughter*, an audacious comedy, is true to fashion. Garry Essendine, a popular and pampered actor, is busily making preparations for an extended tour. His apartment is invaded by a beautiful but stage-struck youngster. When his wife, his partners and his numerous admirers arrive, Garry is hard pressed to escape an embarrassing and easily misinterpreted situation. With typical Coward repartee and dazzling wit, he sidesteps complications and mounting confusion.

■ *Hecuba*

World première
by **Nicholas Kilmer** from Euripides
January 25 to February 17, 2013

After the Trojan War, Hecuba, former Queen of Troy, is about to be led back to Greece and a life of slavery. She appears to have lost everything, but we humans always seem to have more we can lose. Reaching out to grab us over a span of more than two thousand years, the play includes vivid arguments about how the dictates of religion and politics conflict with our sense of justice and human dignity. An astonishing, elemental play.

■ *The Prince's Play*

by **Tony Harrison** from Victor Hugo
March 29 to April 21, 2013

Victor Hugo's tragic story of the deformed jester who tries to protect his daughter from the sexual advances of the

prince is brilliantly adapted by Harrison, Britain's leading verse playwright and is presented at UP in its North American première. The original was banned in France on its opening night for its radical critique of the rights of the king and was the play that inspired Verdi's opera *Rigoletto*.

■ *We Are Three Sisters*

Canadian première
by **Blake Morrison**
June 7 to 30, 2013

Finding solace in their own thoughts and the austere beauty of the surrounding moors, the Bronte sisters cast their eye over the world with searing intensity – hopeful and honest, scathing and funny, beautiful and beguiling. And as is made abundantly clear, these are women ahead of their time and deep down they know it. Despite, by their own admission, knowing nothing of life, they are wiser and wittier than more-educated and more-cosmopolitan souls.

All performances take place at the Jericho Arts Centre, 1675 Discovery, Thursdays to Sundays at 8:00 p.m. For ticket information and reservations go to www.unitedplayers.com, or phone 604.224.8007, ext 2.

Twitter: @unitedplayers.com Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/United-Players/260494470634088>.

(Playbill is subject to availability)

Arts Club Theatre Company's



The cast of *Calendar Girls*

photo: David Cooper

Calendar Girls and Intimate Apparel

THE WHO'S-WHO of Vancouver actresses are currently onstage at the Arts Club's Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage and Granville Island Stage in two stellar productions.

At the Stanley is *Calendar Girls*, by **Tim Firth**. The real-life story that inspired a hit Hollywood film is now a warm and funny stage show that celebrates friendship, community, and taking risks for a good cause.

When middle-aged Annie (**Wendy Noel**) loses her husband to leukemia, her best friend (**Anna Galvin**) suggests a—ahem—cheeky new way to raise money for research. But their fellow Women's Institute members balk at baring—well, almost baring—it all! Gradually, though, these prim tea-and-crumptets ladies “of a certain age” come around and learn to delight in their newfound pluckiness and status as international sensations.

Meanwhile, the Granville Island Stage is hosting the first professional production in Vancouver of *Intimate*

Apparel, by the Pulitzer Prize–winning playwright **Lynn Nottage**.

This richly textured love story is set in New York City, around the turn of the last century. 35-year-old Esther (**Marci T. House**) is an independent African-American woman who makes a good living sewing exquisite undergarments and corsets for brides-to-be. But she yearns to wear one of her own creations. When a mysterious stranger from the Caribbean strikes up a pen-pal relationship, the romance that blooms promises to fulfill all her dreams.

Don't let the short month pass you by without visiting the Arts Club!

Calendar Girls plays at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage until February 26. *Intimate Apparel* plays at the Granville Island Stage from February 9 to March 10. Tickets, from just \$29 and \$25, are available from the Arts Club at 604.687.1644 or artsclub.com.

Vagabond Players PRESENTS

The Kitchen Witches



CINDY PETERSON GOOD and DEBORAH TOM

DUELLING DIVAS, Deborah Tom (as Isobel Lomax) and Cindy Peterson Good (as Dolly Biddle), vie for center stage in this sizzling hot comedy at the Bernie Legge Theatre. The two hostesses of a cable-access cooking show have hated each

other for over 30 years, ever since Larry Biddle dated one and married the other. When circumstances result in the ladies appearing in the same cooking show, the insults are flung harder than the food! Dolly's long suffering TV producer son, Stephen Biddle (Ryan Johnson), tries to keep the ladies on track but alas, it's a losing battle. Rob, the camera guy (Howard Dai), is a young teen who keeps Stephen focused while the ladies top both Martha Stewart and Jerry Springer as a smash hit!

Directed by Jacqollyne Keath, with costumes by Patricia McClean and set design by Craig Premack, this show promises to cook up a smorgasbord of hysterical laughter.

The Kitchen Witches plays March 15 to April 14, at the Bernie Legge Theatre in Queens Park, New Westminster. For tickets, contact 604.521.0412 or reservations@vagabondplayers.ca.

beyond expectations

Kerrisdale
2094 West 43rd Avenue
Vancouver, BC Canada V6M 2C9
Phone: 604.263.1144

Yaletown
1399 Homer Street
Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 5M9
Phone: 604.689.8226

North & West Vancouver
Phone: 604.990.1387



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Burnaby Lyric Opera and The Shadbolt Centre for The Arts PRESENTS

La Bohème

A Burnaby Lyric Opera production in concert

LA BOHÈME is a beloved classic and one of the brightest stars in Giacomo Puccini's repertoire. A musical masterpiece, a timeless tale of love, loss, deception and heart-break, with glorious music as only Puccini could write. It stands the test of time and is one of the most popular operas ever performed it comes to life again thanks to Burnaby Lyric Opera's production team and the best of B.C.'s operatic talent. *La Bohème* tells the story of a poor seamstress, Mimi and her lover, Rodolfo. They live in a dank Parisian garret with a group of bohemian friends, including Marcello, a painter and his lover, Musetta. There is constant flirtatious behavior and jealousy amid an underlying atmosphere of foreboding, culminating in the death of a central character.

Dedicated to bringing British Columbia's top young professional opera singers to the stage in leading roles, Burnaby Lyric Opera (BLO) gives you the rare opportunity to say you saw them here first. The ensemble features tenor **Martin Sadd** making his debut with BLO as Rodolfo. He has performed with Vancouver Opera in its 'Opera in Schools Programme,' Pacific Opera's Young Resident Artist Programme and the Banff Centres Opera. Soprano **Chloé Hurst**, returns to BLO as Mimi. Hurst last performed with BLO as Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* and includes the roles of Gretel in *Hansel und Gretel* and Adina in *L'elisir d'amore* in her repertoire. She recently returned from Beijing, China where she made it to the finals of the popular TV program *Xing Duang Da Dao*. Also returning to BLO is baritone, **Jason Cook** in the role of Marcello. Cook performed the role of Masetto in BLO's *Don Giovanni* last season. Other roles include Belcore in *L'elisir d'amore* and Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro*. Making her debut in a main-stage role for BLO is soprano **Gina McLellan Morel** (Musetta). McLellan Morel has performed extensively throughout Canada, Europe and China. Some of her most notable roles include Emma Jung in the world premiere of Lloyd Burritt's opera *Dreamhealer*, Rosalinde in J. Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, and Pamina in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. Rounding out the ensemble cast is bass-baritone **Scott Brooks** making his debut in the role of Colline and returning to BLO is **Aaron Durand** in the role of Schaunard. Durand was last seen as Guglielmo in BLO's production of *Così fan tutte*.

La Bohème will be directed by **Matthew Bissett**, resident stage director of BLO's *Cinderella*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Italian Girl in Algiers*, *Die Fledermaus*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Così fan tutte* and *Don Giovanni*.

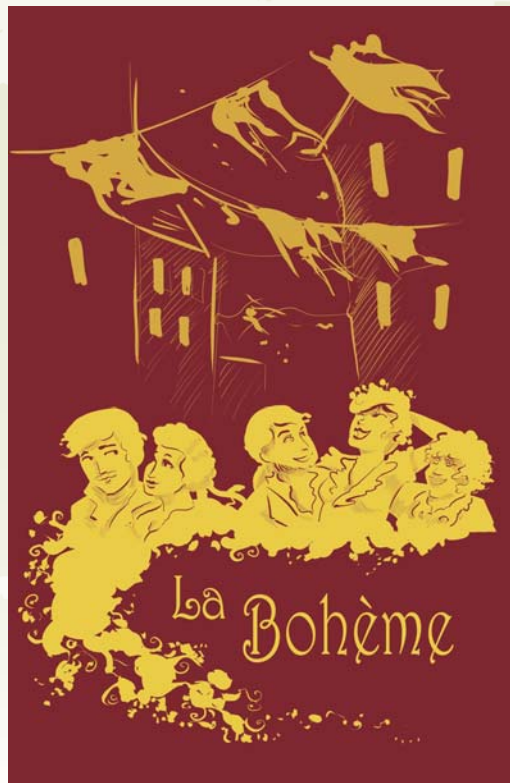


Image by Kaitlyn Hunter

Music direction is by resident music director, **David Boothroyd** the acclaimed and talented conductor of BLO's *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, *Die Fledermaus*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Così fan tutte* and *Don Giovanni*.

La Bohème comes alive in Shadbolt Centre's James Cowan Theatre located in Deer Lake Park at 6450 Deer Lake Avenue, Burnaby: February 23 and February 25, (8:00 p.m.) For tickets call the Box-Office at 604.205.3000 or visit www.shadboltcentre.com for more information.



ARTS CLUB
THEATRE
COMPANY

The Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage

Calendar Girls Until Feb. 26
The Importance of Being Earnest March 15 to April 15

Granville Island Stage

Intimate Apparel
February 9 to March 10

Revue Stage

Do You Want What I Have Got? A Craigslist Cantata
Until February 18
Gordon March 1 – 14

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SESSION 1

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SESSION 2

July 30 to August 23, 2012

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ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

VANCOUVER – DOWNTOWN

The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts

Unique Lives & Experiences – Rt. Hon.
Michaëlle Jean February 7, 7:30 p.m.
Dierks Bentley February 15, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver ComedyFest – David Hasselhoff
February 16, 7:00 p.m.
Vancouver ComedyFest – Betty White
February 18, 7:00 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
Vancouver ComedyFest – Margaret Cho Feb. 19
Vancouver ComedyFest – Bob Odenkirk &
David Cross February 25, 7:00 p.m.
Vancouver International Dance Festival –
Alonzo King LINES Ballet March 2 & 3

Christ Church Cathedral

Early Music of Vancouver – Paolo Pandolfo –
solo viola da gamba February 11
Early Music of Vancouver – Kassia: the first
female composer of the Occident March 2

Commodore Ballroom

Chutzpah! Festival – Hadag Nahash February 25

PAL Theatre

Hey Look! It's a Co-op – The Marvelous
Wonderettes February 8 – 26

Scotiabank Dance Centre

Global Dance Connections: Science Friction –
Something(s) Relative February 16 – 18
Discover Dance! – Strathcona Chinese Dance
Company February 23, 12:00 p.m.

VANCOUVER – WEST SIDE

Pacific Theatre

Doubt, A Parable March 2 – 31

Pacific Theatre – Second Stage

Sideshow – Improv Comedy Show
February 10 & 11

Performance Works

Sophisticated Laughter Society – Vinyl
Vaudeville February 10 – 18
Winterruption with The Coastal Jazz and Blues
Society February 24 – 26
Urban Ink – Confessions of the Other Woman
February 29 to March 11

Ryerson United Church

Vancouver Chamber Choir – Musical Circles
February 11
Elektra Women's Choir – Pure Elektra
March 4, 3:00 p.m.

Studio 1398 (Festival House)

Intimate Theatre Productions – I Love You
Because February 8 – 25
Truth Be Told Theatre – The Life Game
February 26

Studio 16

Théâtre la Seizième – Traces Until February 11

The Improv Centre on Granville Island

Vancouver TheatreSports League
St. Valentine's Day Massacre Until Feb 11
Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 7:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
St. Valentine's Day Massacre Finals
February 12 – 14, 7:30 p.m. & 9:15 p.m.

Encore! A Musical Improv Series
Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Improv Test Kitchen Wednesday, 9:00 p.m.
Ultimate Improv Championship
Thursday, 9:15 p.m.
Scared Scriptless Friday & Saturday, 11:15 p.m.

Vancouver Academy of Music (Koerner Recital Hall)

Music in the Morning – London Haydn Quartet
in Concert February 8 – 10, 10:30 a.m.

Waterfront Theatre

Canadian Improv Games Feb. 6 – 12, 7:30 p.m.
Carousel Theatre – Aesop's Fables Feb. 16 – 26
Carousel Theatre – A Year with Frog and Toad
March 3 to April 8

VANCOUVER – EAST SIDE

Cambrian Hall

Opera Pro Cantanti – Macbeth
February 12, 7:00 p.m.
Opera Pro Cantanti – I Capuleti e i Montecchi
February 19, 7:00 p.m.
Opera Pro Cantanti – Nabucco
February 26, 7:00 p.m.

Firehall Arts Centre

Chelsea Hotel – The Words & Music of Leonard
Cohen Until March 3

Havana Theatre

Gadfly Productions – The Blue Room
February 15 – 19

Vancouver East Cultural Centre –

Historic Theatre

The Cultch – New Animal February 7 – 11
The Cultch – The Silicone Diaries Feb. 14 – 25
Old Trout Puppet Workshop – Ignorance
February 28 to March 10

Vancouver East Cultural Centre –

Vancity Culture Lab

Full Circle: First Nations – 11th Annual Talking
Stick Festival February 27 to March 3

VANCOUVER – SOUTH

Metro Theatre

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare
(abridged) Until February 11
Fighting Chance Productions – The Mystery of
Edwin Drood February 15 to March 3

Norman & Annette Rothstein Theatre

The Lisa Nemetz International Showcase of
Jewish Performing Arts – 2012 Chutzpah!
Festival February 11 to March 4

Studio 58

Julius Caesar Until February 26
Risky Nights No. 2 February 6 – 12

VANCOUVER – POINT GREY

Cellar Restaurant & Jazz Club

Early Music Vancouver – Christopher Bagan
(Harpisichord) February 28

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Theatre at UBC – UBC Opera Ensemble & UBC
Symphony Orchestra – Rusalka Feb. 9 – 12

University Singers & UBC Choral Union – My Heart Sings

February 16, 12:00 p.m. & 17, 8:00 p.m.

Vancouver Recital Society – Roger Vignoles (Piano) & Florian Boesch (Baritone)

February 19

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra – Bach & Beyond Series: Benedetto Lupo (Piano)

February 24 & 25

AfroCubism

March 3

Vancouver Recital Society – Steven Osborne (Piano)

March 4

Frederic Wood Theatre

Bunkaza Theatre Company – One Thousand

Cranes February 10 & 11

Jericho Arts Centre

United Players of Vancouver – Duet for One

Until February 12

Telus Studio Theatre

Problem Child and The End of Civilization

February 9 – 18

UBC Old Auditorium

UBC Concert Winds February 9, 12:00 p.m.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble February 16

Opera Tea on the Stage March 4, 2:00 p.m.

UBC School of Music – Roy Barnett Recital Hall

Wednesday Noon–Hour Concerts

February 8, 15 & 29

Jazz Ensemble (1) February 17, 12:00 p.m.

UBC Composers' Concerts

February 27, 12:00 p.m.

John O'Connor (Piano) February 29

BURNABY

Michael J. Fox Theatre

La Riva Dance Studio – Live for Love

February 11, 7:30 p.m.

Confucius Institute – Grand Spring Festival

Gala 2012 February 13, 7:00 p.m.

VanCity Project Choreography Showcase

February 18, 7:00 p.m.

C.A.P.A. Dance & Drama Schools Inc. –

Competition Premiere February 19, 2:00 p.m.

Dubliori – a Russian Drama February 22

Josh Bhangre Da 2012 with PropheC

February 25, 6:30 p.m.

Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra – Senior

Concerto Winners' Concert

February 26, 7:30 p.m.

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts –

James Cowan Theatre

Burnaby Lyric Opera – La Bohème Feb. 23 & 25

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts – Studio Theatre

Confessions of the Other Woman Feb. 22 – 25

CHILLIWACK

Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Rhapsody for Two Concert Feb. 12, 2:30 p.m.

National Ballet of Cuba – Magic of Dance

February 14

Antoine Fevel February 16

Jay and the Americans February 23, 7:30 p.m.

Ndidi O February 24, 7:30 p.m.

Secrets with Shawn Farquhar February 25

COQUITLAM

Evergreen Cultural Centre

Ballet Jorgen Canada – Classical &

Contemporary Ballet February 12, 7:30 p.m.

Vancouver Civic Theatres

Queen Elizabeth Theatre

- Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Broadway Across Canada)

February 8 – 12

- National Ballet of Cuba's Don Quixote February 16 – 18

- National Aboriginal Achievement Awards

February 24, 8:30 p.m.

- Deep Purple

February 26, 7:30 p.m.

Orpheum Theatre

- Masterworks Silver: Joyce Yang [Piano] (Vancouver Symphony Orchestra) February 11 & 13

- Carol Burnett – Laughter & Reflection (Vancouver

ComedyFest) February 17, 8:30 p.m.

- Masterworks Gold: John Lili [Piano] (Vancouver Symphony Orchestra) February 18 & 20

- Vancouver Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra

February 19, 7:30 p.m.

- Jann Arden

February 21

- Les Noces and Catulli Carmina (Vancouver Bach Choir)

February 25

- The Fray

February 26, 7:30 p.m.

- Tea & Trumpets: Come Fly with Me! – Jeanette Bernal-Singh [Violin] (Vancouver Symphony Orchestra)

March 1, 2:00 p.m.

- VSO Pops: Wicked Divas: Stephanie J. Block & Julia Murney (Vancouver Symphony Orchestra) March 2 & 3

- Kids' Konzerts: Wall to Wall Percussion (Vancouver

Symphony Orchestra) March 4, 2:00 p.m.

Orpheum Annex

- VSO Symphony at the Annex – Jubilees

February 25

Vancouver Playhouse

- The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (Friends of Chamber Music) February 7

- Public Salon February 8, 7:30 p.m.

- Wayne McGregor/Random Dance – Entity (DanceHouse)

February 10 & 11

- Hunchback (Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company & The Cultch) February 18 to March 10

- Szymanowski Quartet (Friends of Chamber Music) Feb. 21

- Tiny Tots: Sailing the Musical Seas (Vancouver Symphony

Orchestra) March 2, 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Ted Outerbridge: The Time Capsule Tour

February 24

Penderecki String Quartet

February 26

Red Robinson Show Theatre

Chicago

February 16

The Righteous Brothers' Bill Medley

February 24

Keith Sweat & Al B. Sure

February 25

LANGLEY

Langley Playhouse

Langley Players Drama Club – Victoria's House

Until February 18

MAPLE RIDGE

The ACT Maple Ridge Arts Centre & Theatre – Main Stage

Circus Incognitus with Jamie Adkins – An

Unforgettable One-Man Circus Comedy

February 11, 2:00 p.m.

Arts Club Theatre Company on Tour – Circle

Mirror Transformation February 18

Julia MacKey – Jake's Gift Feb. 26, 7:00 p.m.

The Human Statues & The Good Lovelies March 3

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NEW WESTMINSTER

Massey Theatre

Ypres Chapter International Magic – Trevor & Lorena Watters February 11
New Westminster Symphony Orchestra
March 4, 2:00 p.m.

NORTH SHORE

Centennial Theatre

Centennial Theatre – Barney Bentall, Tom Taylor and Shari Ulrich February 24, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Gate Sinfonia – Mary Backun (Clarinet) February 25, 7:30 p.m.
Oregon Shadow Theatre – Thumbelina February 26, 2:00 p.m.

Deep Cove Shaw Theatre

First Impressions Theatre Society – The House of Blue Leaves February 23 to March 10

Kay Meek Centre

Arts Club Theatre Company on Tour – Don Quixote February 6 & 7
Vancouver Recital Society – Mikhail Senovalov (Piano) & Rodion Pogossoff (Baritone) Feb. 26
Arts Club Theatre Company on Tour – Circle Mirror Transformation March 5

North Shore Credit Union Centre

for the Performing Arts

Exit 22 – The Crucible February 15 – 18
Cap Global Roots Series: Marc Atkinson Quartet February 25
Sound It Out February 28
Cap Jazz Series: Jason Marsalis with “A” Band and NiteCap March 2

Cap Global Roots Series: Guitar Republic
March 4

Presentation House Theatre

Noddy and Big Ears Equity Co-op – Stones in His Pockets February 8 – 19
Yellow Card Equity Co-op – Secrets of a Soccer Mom March 1 – 10

Theatre at Hendry Hall

North Vancouver Community Players – The Trouble with Richard February 10 – 25

PORT COQUITLAM

Terry Fox Theatre

Port Moody School of Dance – In the Spotlight February 5, 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.
City of Port Coquitlam & Port Coquitlam Theatre Society – Whiskey Jane February 12, 1:30 p.m.
City of Port Coquitlam & Port Coquitlam Theatre Society – Dalannah Gail Bowen and the Jacksonaires February 26, 1:30 p.m.
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra – Tiny Tots – Sailing the Musical Seas March 3, 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

RICHMOND

Gateway Theatre – Main Stage

Tempting Providence Until February 18

River Rock Show Theatre

Bob Newhart February 10
Chutzpah! Festival – Blink & You Might Miss Me February 22 – 26

SURREY

Bell Performing Arts Centre

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra February 6
Surrey School District – Envision Jazz Festival February 9 – 11, 7:00 p.m.

Surrey Arts Centre – Main Stage

Chris Gibbs – Antoine Feval February 17
Arts Club Theatre Company on Tour – Circle Mirror Transformation February 21 to March 3

Surrey Arts Centre – Studio Theatre

Ivan E. Coyote with Rae Spoon – You Are Here February 10

Surrey Little Theatre

Looking Until February 18

WHITE ROCK

Coast Capital Playhouse

Drinking Alone February 8 – 25

VANCOUVER ISLAND

Belfry Theatre

On the Edge Until February 26

Chemainus Theatre

All Shook Up February 24 to April 7

McPherson Playhouse (Victoria)

Canadian Pacific Ballet – Harlequin’s Piano February 10 & 11, 7:30 p.m.

Whose Live Anyways February 17, 7:00 p.m.

Jann Arden with Guests February 19 & 20

Down with Webster February 23, 7:30 p.m.

Jay and The Americans February 25

Royal Theatre (Victoria)

Pacific Opera Victoria – Carmen Feb. 16 – 24

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UBC Opera PRESENTS

Rusalka (A Little Mermaid Story)

Rusalka – Dvořák’s operatic gem onstage at the Chan Centre

RUSALKA IS BASED on the original Slavic fairy tale. In Slavic mythology, a “Rusalka” is a water sprite or mermaid that dwells in a lake or river. The story was later adapted by Hans Christian Andersen and then by Walt Disney Studios into the film classic *The Little Mermaid*.

In Dvořák’s version, Rusalka has fallen in love with a mortal, a Prince who comes to the forest to swim in the lake. Since Rusalka is invisible to the Prince, she desires to take on human form in order to leave the cool waters and live in the sunlight with him. Rusalka’s father, the wise ruler of the lake’s underwater realm, warns Rusalka against such a transformation. Despite her father’s warnings, she seeks out the witch, Jezibaba, to fulfill her wish.

Rusalka’s desperate longing to experience true love plunges her into an emotional storm heightened beautifully by majestic melodies, including

the famously stunning aria, *Song to the Moon*. In the end, she must choose to make the ultimate sacrifice for love. Romantic, ethereal, and hauntingly sad, Dvořák’s dramatic music soars with melody, romance and longing. *Rusalka* is not only Dvořák’s finest and most enduringly popular opera but also one of the most deeply moving operas of all.

Rusalka runs at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC from February 9 to 12. Tickets available through Ticketmaster at 1.855.985.2787 or online at www.ticketmaster.ca



REBECCA PAULDING as *Rusalka*

Exit 22 PRESENTS

The CRUCIBLE

Fear mongering, paranoia and deceit

EXIT 22, THE production company of Capilano University's Theatre program, is pleased to present *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller. Directed by **Stuart Aikins**, this play stands in history as one of the greatest classics of modern drama.

Written in the early 1950s, *The Crucible* tells the tale of the Salem Witch Trials that took place in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1692, a mere 50 years or so after the first British settlers landed in America. Paranoia, hysteria and deceit ran rampant through the Puritan towns of New England.

In Miller's edgy masterpiece, sanctimony has poisonous consequences when a vengeful teenager accuses a rival of witchcraft. Those accusations multiply to consume the entire village. *The Crucible* brilliantly explores the threshold between individual guilt and mass hysteria, personal spite and collective evil. It is relentlessly suspenseful, vastly moving and compels the audience to search their hearts and consciences in ways that is unique to great theatre.

"Using fear to manipulate a populace rampantly exists today just as it did in Salem in 1692," says Aikins. "Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* may have political undertones but all life is a reflection of how people in power (or whom are given power) use and abuse the people. At its heart, this play is about a man who made a foolish mistake but is paying for it dearly with his life. He rose above the masses to achieve a nobility he never had in life. Never underestimate the power of love to deliver and also to destroy."



The four shows selected for this season, are chosen specifically to highlight the talents of the students enrolled in Cap's Acting for Stage and Screen, Musical Theatre and Technical programs. *The Crucible* will be followed by the penultimate show of the season, featuring the Musical Theatre grads, *Hello Dolly* (March).

The Crucible opens Wednesday, February 15 at 8:00 p.m., and runs nightly through until February 18. There will be one 2:00 p.m. matinee on February 18. All performances take place at the North Shore Credit Union Centre for the Performing Arts located in the Birch Building at Capilano University, 2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver. Tickets are \$22/\$14/\$8, and are available for purchase online at tickets.capilanou.ca or by calling 604.990.7810.

Brent Belsher Productions PRESENTS

The National Ballet of Cuba's Don Quixote

The Next Impresario?

THE HEADQUARTERS OF Brent Belsher Productions are busy these days. “The phone seems to ring the moment I put it down – whether it’s dealing with people in Cuba or organizing the Vancouver end of things, arranging a production from far away has been an interesting experience!” says **Brent Belsher**, who is in the midst of producing four performances at Vancouver’s Queen Elizabeth Theatre by the world renowned National Ballet of Cuba.

ect at the start. Belsher had entered into a business partnership with legendary Vancouver impresario the late David Y.H. Lui in 2010.

“David had wanted to work with the Cubans for a long time and he was so thrilled at the prospect of hosting (choreographer) dancer and legend **Alicia Alonso** in his hometown,” says Belsher. But it was not to be. Lui passed away in September, in the middle of the plan-

friend for a long time and suddenly I was embarking on this journey on my own.” Belsher decided the show would go on and the performances from February 16 to 18 will now be dedicated to Lui’s memory.

The shows promise to be something very special – the National Ballet of Cuba, led by Prima Ballerina Assoluta Alonso, will be performing *Don Quixote*, rarely executed because of the bravura and skills required. This will be the first time *Don Quixote* has been performed in Canada and there is a great buzz about it in the dance community. As Belsher says, “We’ve had great support from dance schools, from other ballet groups and I’ve been very grateful for the generosity I’ve received with my first production.”

So as one impresario has taken his final bow, does this mean Belsher is the next generation of standard-bearer for the arts on the west coast? “I’m already working on other projects for 2013 and 2014, so you could say I’m in this for the long haul,” says Belsher, as the phone starts to ring again.

The National Ballet of Cuba’s *Don Quixote* plays at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre from February 16 to 18. Tickets: Ticketmaster 1.855.9852787 or ticketmaster.ca. For more information cubaballet.ca.

by Amanda Bates



ALICIA ALONSO and BRENT BELSHER at their first meeting in 2010

The challenge of bridging the distance to Cuba hasn’t been the only obstacle Belsher has encountered on his journey to bring the production to BC. You see, it wasn’t just him working on this proj-

ning stage for the February productions.

“It was a complete shock – we’d never even discussed something like that happening to either of us. He had been a



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