

# Chicago

"This show is a treat"  
- Kid Siskel

A Musical Vaudeville

June 9 - 19, 1993

## Chicago, Chicago ... That Toddling Town!

Jennifer Clarkson

Chicago, affectionately known as the Windy City, saw the first light of day in 1803, was incorporated as a city in 1837, sits proudly at the south west corner of Lake Michigan.

By the time the Great Chicago Fire devastated it in 1871, Chicago had grown into an industrial and commercial giant. Chicagoans showed great daring and resolve rebuilding their city with a daring in terms of architectural feats. After the building was completed Chicago boasted the world's first skyscraper, the 10-story Home Insurance Building (which incidentally still stands today).

As the century turned Chicago was once again a booming town. Engineers had just completed a project which reversed the flow of the Chicago River. In 1903 a fire in the Iroquois Theatre took the lives of 575. In 1915, the tour boat, Eastland, sank in the Chicago River. 812 drowned. During WWI industry expanded to meet the wartime needs. Thousands of Negroes were moved from the Southern States to work in related jobs. Prevented from living in most sections of the city, they were crowded into an old run-down

area on the south side. (Reportedly the area were Big Bad Leroy Brown came from).

In July 1919, a black youth swimming off the 27th Street beach drifted south beyond the limits of the black ghetto. When he tried to swim ashore, whites stoned him. The boy tried to swim back but drowned. This started the biggest race riot in Chicago history, raging for days, leaving 25 blacks and 15 whites dead, over 500 injured and about 1000 homes burned.

The passing of the 18th Amendment in 1920 (prohibiting the sales and manufacture of alcohol), speakeasies became a means for illegal access to booze and bootlegging. Gangs fought for control of bootlegging, gambling and other illegal activities. Gangland murders became common, reaching its peak with the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in 1929.

But the 20's were not just a period of violence. Among some of the artists of the time were poets Carl Sandburg and Edgar Lee Masters, novelists Theodore Dreiser and Upton Sinclair, and clarinetist Benny Goodman played in Hull House as a child and formed his first band in Chicago.

## The Roaring Twenties

The Roaring twenties was an era that some of us remember with some wistfulness ... others with remorse and still others with some trepidation ... The years between 1920 and 1929 were years of change, torment, boom and bust for the United States. The Volstead Act declared that it was unlawful to drink intoxicating liquors ... anywhere.

It was unlawful to manufacture or offer for sale any but medicinal alcohol. It was like telling a child that he shouldn't touch the candy in the dish next to the television set. Tell an American he can't have something and he's going to want it all the more... and what's more, there are going to be people who will make sure that he can have it.

Speakeasies ... (the very word was coined for the era by Mencken ... sprung up in every corner of the country ... "Joe sent me," became a catchword. "The real stuff, just off the boat" was offered in garages, drug stores, candy stores, bakeries, nurseries, and some say, in police stations. Anyone who had a bath tub could go into business of providing bonded Bourbon for the masses. Fortunes were made overnight ... and lost by morning.

Naturally, none of all this was legal ... and so the underworld moved in ... and took over. The great crime syndicates that continue to flourish even today, found the

thirsty man a willing customer. The man who could "deliver the goods" was a "friend" of the mighty and the millions. Such phrases as 23 skidoo ... Oh you kid, and so's your old man, were on the lips of college kids all over the country... this was the era of the flapper, Henry Ford's tin lizzie, short skirts, raccoon coats, Whiz-bang, College Humor, Lindbergh, paper fortunes, and a nation feeling a post war prosperity that refused to stop.

Elevator operators were major stockholders ... a tip didn't mean a gratuity ... it meant hot information on a stock that was to be split on the morrow ... To quote Gershwin ... "The livin' was easy" ... and the music of the era was a mirror of the tempo of life in a throbbing, thrilling, pulse quickening day to day existence ... People danced the Charleston, the Bunny Hug, The Cakewalk ... a man named Valentino was sending feminine hearts soaring to the skies as he emoted on the great silent screen ... A nation sang "Lucky Lindy ... high in the sky" as a lone dare devil piloted a small frail aircraft all the way from New York to Paris ... non stop ... The nation went wild ... To this day, no one has ever received an ovation to compare with Lindbergh's triumphant ticker tape parade in New York. The twenties were indeed exciting. Punctuated with bullets ... hooch ... laughs ... tears ... and music that will live forever.



Christine Bandelow (aka. Steve Austin, Reporter) Michele Bondi (Linda Dancer, Reporter) Don Casper (DJ) Pat Conanly (Mary McCormack)



Gerry Dublin (Moses of Cremona, Violin) Yvonne Friedrich (DJ) David G. (DJ) Anita Hodas (Mama "Mama" Morton)



Craig Humphries (Bob Dylan) Colleen Jeans (Linda Dancer, Reporter) Brad Lustrinski (DJ) Chris Murray (DJ)



Pamela Pochler (Linda Dancer, Reporter) David Saxby (DJ) Judith Skopis (DJ) Laurel Thompson (Linda Dancer)



Matthew Wagner (DJ) Michael Whittaker (DJ) Paul LaVigne (DJ)



Brian Hodas (DJ) Steve Dyer (DJ) Bill Lybert (DJ) Cameron Hodge (DJ)

# ABOUT FRONT ROW CENTRE PLAYERS SOCIETY

Front Row Centre Players Society was founded in 1988 by a small group of enthusiastic music and theatre lovers who were keen on the idea of forming a dedicated society to provide opportunities for amateur performers while developing musical and technical skills.

This vital theatre company has fast become one of Alberta's most successful musical theatre societies.

The variety of projects include Broadway musicals, cabarets and special performances such as:

- "Jesus Christ Superstar" - (1989)
- "Tunes and Tickles" - (1989)
- "Damn Yankees" - (1990)
- "Tunes and Tickles Too" - (1990)
- "How To Succeed In Business" (1991)
- "Tunes and Tickles Three" - (1991)
- "Weather Report" - (1992)
- "The Fantasticks" (1992)
- "Broadway On The Move" - (1992)
- "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" ('93)
- "CHICAGO - A Musical Vaudeville" ('93)

Join the society and enjoy musical theatre and the companionship that results from working hard and having fun together.

Front Row Centre Players Society can be reached at: Box 1714, Station "M", Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7.

# WHO IS BULL ANCHOR ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTIONS LTD.

Bull Anchor Entertainment Productions Ltd., a registered Alberta Corporation, is no stranger to Front Row Centre Players. The president of Bull Anchor, Steve Dyer, has directed FRC's productions of "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Damn Yankees". In addition Steve wrote and directed "Tunes and Tickles" and "Tunes and Tickles Too". Brian Hades, the producer for Chicago, is a past president of Front Row Centre Players and produced or co-produced "Damn Yankees", "Weather Report" and "The Fantasticks" for FRC. Bill Egbert who is the stage manager for Chicago has also stage managed two "Tunes 'N Tickles" cabaret productions for FRC.

Bull Anchor Entertainment Productions Ltd. was established in 1991 as an independent film, video and live entertainment production company. To date Bull Anchor has produced the Broadway musical "How To Succeed In Business...", written and produced the cabaret show "High Jinks", stage managed two of Margot McDermott's "Musical Theatre School for Kids" shows, stage managed Folks Opera's "Hansel and Gretel", stage managed Debut Opera's "Mikado" AND produced, directed, stage managed and marketed FRC's "Chicago".

# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Steve Dyer

Ya see -- it's like this ... After awhile you look at the stuff you've been doing --and suddenly it hits you (POW in the kisser) -- it's time to do an adult oriented show. So ... ya look around and find yourself in "CHICAGO".

Not just Chicago -- but late 20's Chicago. What do ya find? Cheesecake, beefcake, sex and murder. Now ya got it!

I gotta tell ya -- to be able to talk to cast, crew and production staff alike, without fear of "Oh gosh should we really do it that way?" -- strikes a nice bass chord on the warped little harp my personal, playful little demon carries around with him.

It's been deadly -- enjoy!



PRESENTED BY "FRONT ROW CENTRE PLAYERS"



## Special Thanks To

- John Groves
- France Gartner
- Margot McDermott
- Brian Brown
- Western Keyboard
- Paul Bagley
- Ray Vizina
- Willie Joosen
- Marlie Witskie
- Tim Mackie
- Heather Thompson
- Myrnia Hogan
- Keith Harris
- Ron Phillips
- Alisa Swainsbury
- Judy Lovett
- Trinity United Church
- Hal Sanbell
- Patricia Hull
- SAIT - CTSR Drama
- CBC Radio
- David Ramsey
- Trader Jack Dean
- Foothills Piano
- Julius Kiss
- Lethbridge Hungarian Club
- Channel 5 NEWS
- O.S.D. Productions
- All those people who stepped in to help out but somehow missed the programme printing deadline.
- ALSO
- SPECIAL KISSES TO
- Amy Rogers

## Help!

Please take a moment and provide us with your suggestions or comments on how we might better serve you.

1. What did you like about today's theatre experience?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What did you like least about today's theatre experience?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What suggestions would you like to make specifically to FRONT ROW CENTRE PLAYERS SOCIETY?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Showtime: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Would you like to be placed on the FRC mailing list? If yes, please provide us with you complete address and phone number.

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# CHICAGO

A Musical Vaudeville

## ACT ONE

And All That Jazz  
 Funny Honey  
 Cell Block Tango  
 When You're Good To Mama  
 All I Care About  
 A Little Bit Of Good  
 They Both Reached For The Gun  
 Roxie  
 Can't Do It Alone  
 My Own Best Friend

### INTERMISSION

## ACT TWO

I Know A Girl  
 Me And My Baby  
 Mister Cellophane  
 Velma Takes The Stand  
 Razzle Dazzle  
 Nowadays  
 Class  
 Nowadays  
 Honey Rag

## THE CAST

### Christine Bandelow (Liz/Kitty/Dancer/Reporter)

Christine was born at a very early age, and started dancing soon after. You may have seen her performing with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks in "On Edge", "Fast Forward", or "Summer Songs" or in the Dubbin Show. You can currently see Christine as "Lipstick Liz", can-canning in the Rockies for Productions A.B.

### Michele Budd (Annie/Dancer/Reporter)

Michele has been actively involved in community theatre since 1986 and is one of the original members of FRC. She has appeared in such shows as "Damn Yankees", "Pack Of Lies" and "The Fantasticks." At last -- a speaking part!

### Don Casson (Amos)

Don has been involved with FRC since its inception and has appeared in most of their shows. The most recent being "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown", as Charlie himself. Don is currently the Vice President of Front Row Centre.

### Pat Cavanagh (Mary Sunshine)

All her life, Pat wanted to "be on the stage" but was too shy and lacked the confidence to audition. Middle age has freed her to look silly, however, and in the past year she's appeared as the witch in "Hansel and Gretel" for Folks Opera, Pitts-Sing in "The Mikado" and Count Orlovsky in "Die Fledermaus" for Debut Opera and now Mary Sunshine for Front Row Centre Players. She's happy to be a character actress.

### Gerry Dubbin (Master of Ceremonies/Judge)

Gerry started performing musical theatre with the Young Canadians Dinner Theatre Company. He then began producing and directing such projects as "Illusions - A Magic Spectacular" Canadian Tour and "The Dubbin Show" which toured extensively through Southeast Asia. Gerry is happy to be back "on stage" again and very happy to be back in Calgary after living in Toronto.

### Yvonne Friedrich (Hunyak/Dancer/Reporter)

This is Yvonne's second FRC production. The first was "How To Succeed In Business...". She has brought over a decade of theatre experience with her from L.A. Most recent Calgary credits include: "The Trojan Women" (NCS) and "The Other Side of The Pole" (The Garry Theatre).

### David G. (Dancer/Reporter)

An "Old" Young Canadian. Majored in choreography and directing and made appearances off Broadway and was a principle dancer with "Live At The Lakehouse" in New York. David returned to Calgary in 1989.

### Anita Hades (Matron "Mama" Morton)

Anita is a founding member of FRC. She has performed in many FRC productions including "Superstar", "Damn Yankees" (sister), "How To Succeed In Business..." (Bratt), "Tunes 'N Tickles I, II and III", "Weather Report" and "Broadway On The Move". Her goal is to see community musical theatre thrive in Calgary with FRC leading the way.

### Craig Humphries (Billy Flynn)

Craig has been enjoying acting on stage for a number of years now. Recently he has been seen in "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" as Shroeder and in "Anne of Green Gables" as Gilbert. Craig also enjoys working in improvisational murder mysteries at Shadow Productions. Dedicated to D. Hall and his mother.

### Colleen Jeans (June/Dancer/Reporter)

Colleen is presently enrolled in the BFA program at the University of Calgary. She loves to dance and aspires to teaching drama, as well as dance as an explorative dramatic form. Performance highlights consist of; three years of competitive gymnastics at the Mount Royal Gymnastics Club, two years as a Young Canadian, and one year as an outrider during Grey Cup victory.

### Brad Korzinski (Fogarty/Harrison/Harry)

FRC first endeared themselves to Brad when he was cast in "Tunes 'N Tickles III". Brad is no stranger to musical theatre having appeared in "Cabaret" and "Oklahoma" as well as "Danceworks Revue '89" in Lethbridge.

### Chris Munroe (Tailor/Bailiff/Clerk)

Chicago is Chris's first performance with FRC. He is currently a grade 9 student

and will be attending Western Canada High School in September. He has performed in the All Nations Theatre Society productions "Savotri" and "The River Demanded". With his love of theatre he is determined to see Calgary take its place as a recognized theatre centre.

### Pamela Pedder (Mona/Dancer/Reporter)

Pamela is pleased to return to the stage after completing her law degree. She admits, however, that her legal studies didn't quite prepare her for the drama performed in our courtroom.

### David Saxby (Fred Casely/Aaron)

David is the current president of Front Row Centre. He recently produced and was the guitarist for "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown", was assistant to the director for "The Fantasticks" and appeared in "Weather Report". David is also involved in the arts as a member of the Business and Arts Committee of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, and serves on the board of the Alberta Ballet.

### Jocelyn Skupa (Roxie Hart)

Jocelyn recently graduated from the U of C with her degree in English. She has appeared in various FRC productions including "Damn Yankees", "How To Succeed In Business..." and "Tunes and Tickles Too". Jocelyn would like to thank her parents for instilling in her a love of musical theatre.

### Lauri Thompson (Velma Kelly)

Lauri is excited to be making her first appearance in a FRC production. After touring Canada, Las Vegas, and Southeast Asia with the Young Canadians and the Dubbin Show, she is happy to be back on the vaudeville circuit performing in Chicago. By the way, that's not her real hair!!

### Matthew Wagner (Dancer/Reporter)

Matthew, an Ottawa native, is pleased to be making "Chicago" his first production for Front Row Centre Players. Trained in Vancouver as a film actor some of his stage credits include "Oliver", "HMS Pinafore", "Trial By Jury", "Torch Song Trilogy", and "The Matchmaker".

### Michael Whittaker (Dancer/Reporter)

Michael has danced, sang and acted in many cities all over North America. He is happy to be involved in this production of "Chicago", which marks the debut of his professional exotic dancing career.

## THE BAND

Greg Booth - drums  
 Walter Dowan - clarinet  
 Adam Esposito - drums  
 John Hughes - trumpet  
 Scott Morin - saxophone  
 Greg Pippus - bass  
 Matthew Pocock - trombone  
 Cameron Reidy - keyboards

## PRODUCTION TEAMS

### Principal Team

Steve Dyer  
 Director  
 Bill Egbert  
 Stage Manager  
 Brian Hades  
 Producer  
 John Hallett  
 Assistant Stage Manager  
 Michele Moss  
 Choreographer  
 Cameron Reidy  
 Musical Director

### Design Team

Tesson Beaudin  
 Lighting Design  
 Johanne Deleeuw  
 Set Design  
 Brian Hades  
 Programme Design  
 Paul LaVigne  
 Costume Design

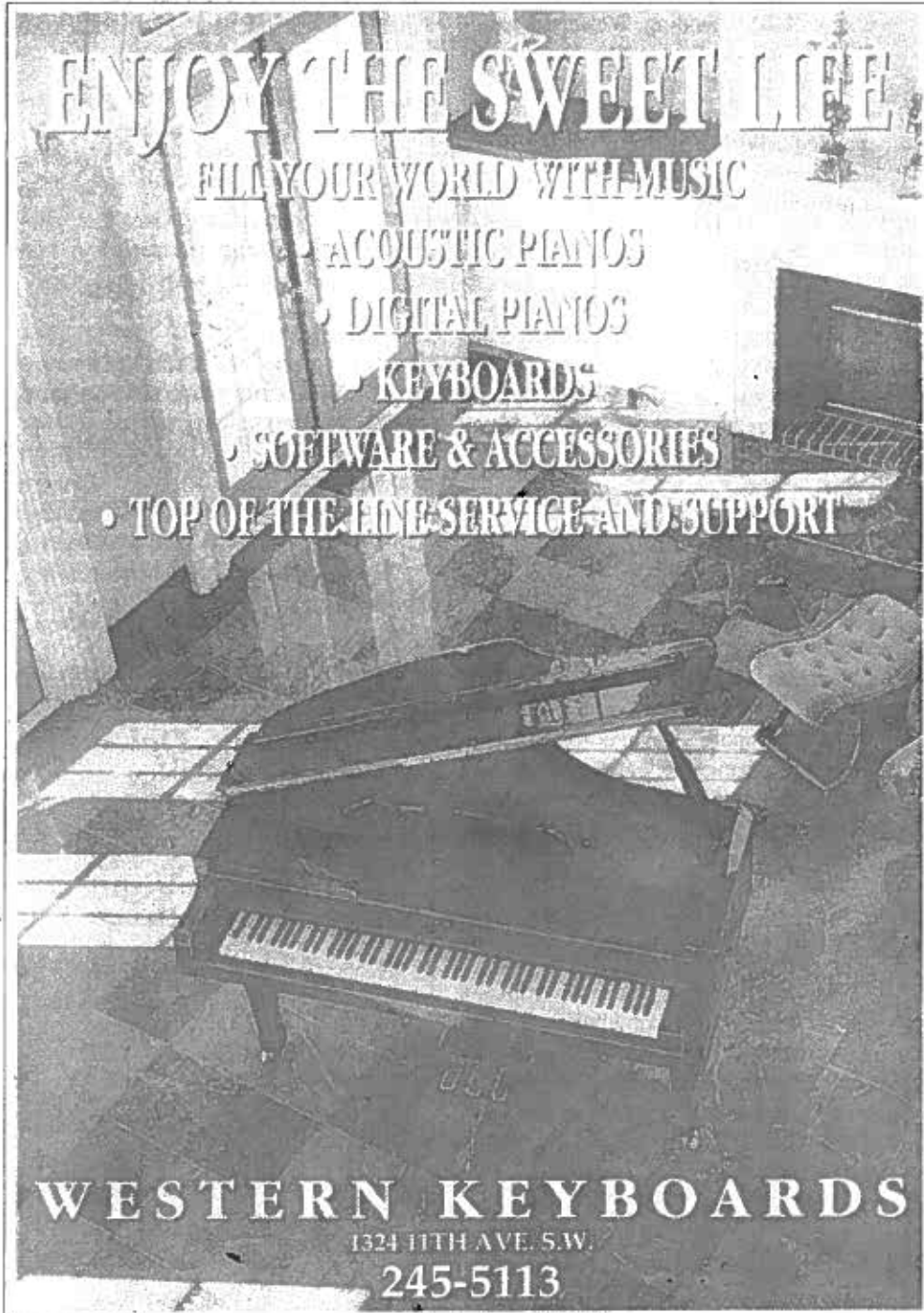
### Support Team

Dance Captain  
 Michele Budd  
 Costume Construction  
 Paul LaVigne  
 Carol Van Ee  
 Set Construction  
 Joanne Deleeuw  
 Brian Hades  
 Ready Set  
 Props  
 Dean Patterson  
 P. Jane Teame  
 Make-up  
 Michele Budd  
 Bill Egbert  
 Backstage Crew  
 Bruce Benner  
 Dione Gibson  
 Steve McMullen  
 Dean Patterson  
 Virginia Rhodes  
 Neil Richardson  
 Margie Roper  
 Front Of House  
 Karen Kernaghan  
 Laureen Leahman  
 Brian Rawlyk  
 Reception  
 Liz Gowsell  
 Eva Gyonyor  
 Photography  
 Dwayne Brown  
 Jill Gowsell  
 Ivan Karabobaliev  
 Marketing  
 Brian Hades  
 Models  
 Michele Budd  
 Trish Exton  
 Colleen Hood  
 Joceyln Skupa  
 Programme Stories  
 Jennifer Clarkson  
 Al Donnell  
 Cynthia Dyer  
 Anita Hades  
 Brian Hades  
 Videography  
 David Budd

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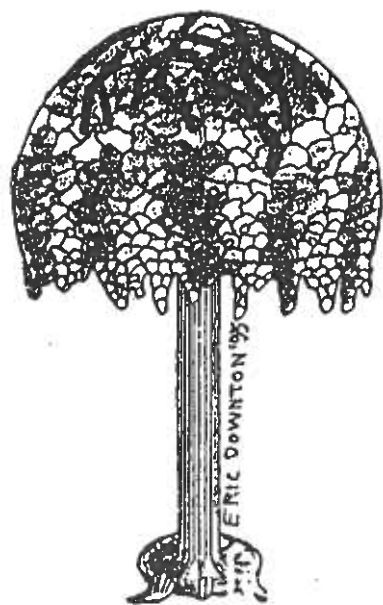
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