

**JUNE 15 to 30, 2018**

*book by*  
**STEPHAN ELLIOT & ALLAN SCOTT**

# PRISCILLA

## QUEEN OF THE DESERT

*the musical*

BASED ON THE  
LATENT IMAGE/SPECIFIC FILMS  
MOTION PICTURE



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PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT the Musical - Book by Stephan Elliott and Allan Scott  
Based on the Latent Image/Specific Films Motion Picture - Distributed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. - Produced in association with NULLARBOR PRODUCTIONS  
And in association with MGM ON STAGE

Musical Arrangements and Orchestrations by Stephen Spud Murphy - Developed for the Stage and Originally Directed by Simon Phillips  
The original motion picture was written and directed by Stephan Elliott, produced by Al Clark and Michael Hamlyn, executive producer Rachel Penfold-Russell  
and was financed with the assistance of the Film Finance Corporation Australia Limited and the New South Wales Film and Television Office.

PRISCILLA QUEEN OF THE DESERT the MUSICAL is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide,  
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## Our Mission

Front Row Centre Players Society is a charitable arts organization, dedicated to providing a fun and safe environment for anyone to participate in and learn all aspects of musical theatre and to deliver enjoyable, high quality entertainment to our community.

## Our Vision

To be a driving force in the community by enhancing the cultural environment through the active promotion of musical theatre.

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Community • Fun • Diversity • Creativity • Passion  
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FRC's offices and production facilities are at the

### Beddington Theatre Arts Centre

375 Bermuda Dr NW | Calgary, AB | T3K 2J5

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## President's Message

Welcome to the final show of FRC's 2017-18 season! What an exciting journey about acceptance and hopefully an experience both for you here today enjoying the show as well as all the volunteers who have come together to put this show on.

On top of relying on that volunteer effort, FRC is a registered charitable organization and we would be honoured if you would consider making a tax-deductible donation to help us with our mission of enriching the community with the wonder and thrill that is the world of musical theatre.

Thanks to all for your support and on with the show!

**Darren Stewart, President**

FRONT ROW CENTRE PLAYERS PRESENT

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*the musical*

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## SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

☺ Beddington Theatre Arts Centre

☺ Erik Mikkelsen (Global News)

☺ StoryBook Theatre

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THIS PRODUCTION BUT WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN OMITTED.





## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

In 1994, *Gay Times* editor Peter Burton contributed to "Drag: A History of Female Impersonation in the Performing Arts." In it, he criticized the depiction of drag in film: "Most films which use drag as a plot component, use it as a comic device: a man in a frock is still seen as inherently comic. [...] Nor do I think that an increased incidence of drag in movies implies that traditional views of masculinity are changing because almost invariably films about [...] cross-dressing are about individuals forced by circumstances to cross-dress and triumphing against their circumstances because they are really men. And if men's traditional roles are actually being reinforced by films in which they dress as a woman (*Tootsie*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*), this implies that there's no change as far as tolerance of acceptance or difference is concerned."

Also in 1994, an independent film called *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* came out of Australia. It featured three drag queens (two men and one transgender woman) who take a literal and metaphorical journey, using drag not as a way to reinforce traditional masculinity by contrast, but rather as a celebration of humanity in its many different forms.

In 2006, Stephan Elliott and Allan Scott adapted this story as a stage musical, marrying this story of humanity with the artistic spectacle of 70s to 2000s-era drag performance, integrating some of the hugest musical hits of those decades. The result is a show that has a ton of heart, challenges traditional notions of gender and sexuality, and accomplishes this without ever losing sight of its goal to entertain.

Given all this, it has been an absolute honour to get a chance to bring this show to FRC's stage. My goal in directing the show has been to try, as best I could, to listen to others' experiences and figure out how to bring those to this show. Rather than pretending this is my story to tell, I wanted to integrate as many voices, backgrounds, and experiences as possible. And I have been lucky enough to be surrounded by a team on and offstage who have risen to the occasion, bringing life to this show in the characters, the costumes, the makeup – all the elements. It's been amazing to see people approach this show as a labour of love, and I couldn't be happier or more excited for you to see it!

**Mike Sornberger, Director**

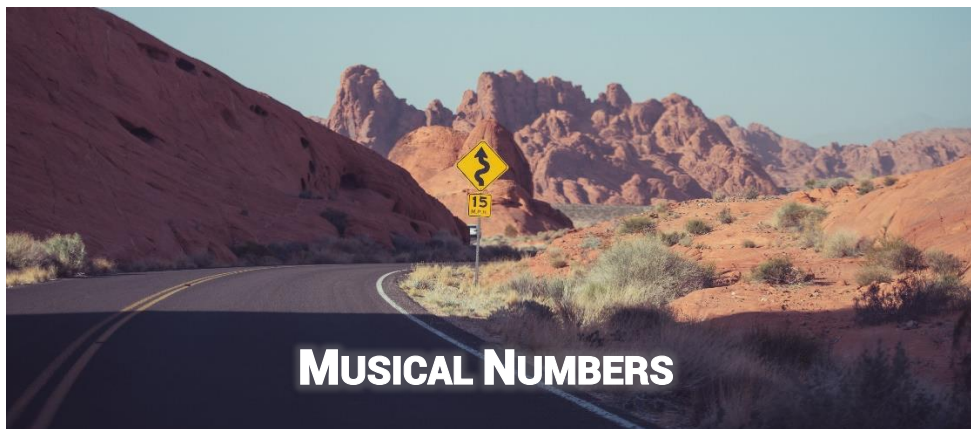
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"True belonging is the spiritual practice of believing in and belonging to yourself so deeply that you can share your most authentic self with the world and find sacredness in both being a part of something and standing alone in the wilderness. True belonging does not require you to change who you are; it requires you to be who you are."

Dr. Brené Brown, Author and Research Professor

"Drag is Opportunity. An opportunity to be creative, learn, make statements, entertain, and fight insecurities in myself and in others. It's a fantasy in real life, an illusion of being famous (if you do it right), and an art form that doesn't really have any rules or limits. I can come with my ideas and values and make it work, not following anyone's path, but always respecting the experience of others."

Svetlana Stoli, New York drag queen



## Act One

1. Overture
2. It's Raining Men
3. What's Love Got to Do With It
4. I Say a Little Prayer
5. Don't Leave Me This Way
6. Venus
7. Go West
8. The Journey
9. Bus Stop
10. I Say A Little Prayer
11. Road to Broken Hill
12. I Love the Nightlife
13. True Colors
14. Sempre Libra
15. Color My World
16. I Will Survive

## Act Two

17. Thank God I'm a Country Boy
18. Woop Woop Playoff
19. A Fine Romance
20. Thank God I'm a Country Boy – Reprise
21. Shake Your Groove Thing
22. Pop Muzik
23. A Fine Romance – Reprise
24. Girls Just Want to Have Fun
25. Hot Stuff
26. Go West – Reprise
27. MacArthur Park
28. Boogie Wonderland
29. Boogie Wonderland – Reprise
30. Casino Floorshow Montage
31. Benji's Bedroom
32. Always on My Mind/Kylie Medley
33. On the Rock
34. We Belong
35. Finale
36. Bows




Bernadette Bassenger.....	Brian Holiday
Anthony "Tick" Belrose.....	Bryan Smith
Adam "Felicia" Whitely .....	Jeffrey Follis
Bob .....	Clark Adams
Marion / Ensemble .....	Liz Lipton
Cynthia / Ensemble .....	Minh Badau
The Divas .....	Samantha Carson, Jessica Jones, Mandee Marcil, Lyndsey Paterson, Vicki Trask
Miss Understanding / Ensemble .....	Jesse Beilman
Benji / Ensemble .....	Felix Yoder
Shirley / Ensemble.....	Heather Skulski
Frank / Farrah / Ensemble .....	Riley Galarneau
Jimmy / Ensemble.....	Gad Ittay Gijon
Ensemble.....	Devon Bauer, Larra Caldie, Danielle Desmarais, Ranelle Huwald, Alexandra May, Christian Morneau, Ginette Simonot
THIS SPACE AVAILABLE .....	Your Name Here

## ORCHESTRA

Orchestra Conductor.....	Jenn Lanciault
Piano (Keyboard 1) .....	Jenn Lanciault
Reeds.....	Robert Seymour
Trumpet .....	Richard Fossey
Trombone.....	Lurene Bates, Tim Oldham
Percussion (Drums).....	Kathy Ma
Aux. Percussion.....	David Ramsey
Guitar.....	Johann Wentzel
Electric Bass .....	Deanna Manson
Keyboard 2 .....	Lynn Kolling





## DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM

Director .....	Mike Sornberger
Assistant Director .....	Harpreet Dhanjal
Musical Director .....	Andrea Timmons
Choreographer .....	Christine Mooney, Stephen Welch
Producer .....	Jamie Eastgaard-Ross, Jenn Lanciault
Stage Manager .....	Samantha Bellamy-Smith
Lighting Design .....	Josef Vermeulen, "Kylie" Brydges
Projection Design .....	Darren Stewart
Set Design .....	Jenn Lanciault, Harlan Sterner, Jamie Eastgaard-Ross, Samantha Bellamy-Smith
Master Carpenter .....	Harlan Sterner
Costume Design .....	Magz Ross
Prop Design .....	Meghan Skeet
Sound Design .....	Steven Eastgaard-Ross
Hair Design (Wigs) .....	Lindsay Kurtze
Makeup Design .....	Kristina Burt
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Kim Pearson
Running Crew .....	Thomas Trask
Running Crew (Dresser) .....	Lianne Smith
Lighting Board Operator .....	"Kylie" Brydges
Follow Spot Operator .....	Jo Ackerman, Henry Falls, Sydney Schmaltz, Samantha Loke
Sound Operator .....	Aretha Smith, Steven Eastgaard-Ross
Costume Assistant .....	Shannon Beshara, Steven Eastgaard-Ross
Costume Support .....	Christie Johnson, Donna Barnfield, Elayne Fischer, Helen Willerton, Kathleen Martin, Kim Johnson, Laura May, Lorna Stuber, Lou Edwards, Mikee Ames, Rhonda Mottle, Rhonda Perry, Samantha Austin
Lighting Crew (Lighting Assistant) .....	Jody Low, Kris Mish, JP Thibodeau
Set Construction - Bus .....	Maggie Slater
Set Construction .....	Mike Greig, Danielle Renton, Thompson Harper, Thomas Trask
Set Decoration .....	Meghan Skeet
Dance Captain .....	Danielle Desmarais, Vicki Trask
Dialect Coach .....	Angela Woodard
Drag Consultant .....	Farrah Nuff AKA Stephen Welch
Voiceover Recordings .....	Bryan Smith
Sound Assistant .....	Rahim Manji
Photography (Headshots) .....	Anna Caldwell
Photography (Promotional) .....	Andre Goulet
Poster Design .....	Kristine Astop
Program Design .....	Darren Stewart
Orchestra Conductor .....	Jenn Lanciault

Extra special thanks (with cream on top) to  
the cast and crew for the long hours of move-in.



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cast and crew  
Of  
Priscilla Queen of the Desert**



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# MEET THE CAST



## CLARK ADAMS (BOB)

Clark is thrilled to be fixing the bus on this cross country adventure. He's recently been seen in productions such as, *The Weir* (Liffey Players), *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *9 to 5*, and *The Producers* (Front Row Centre). He wishes you a "far-out" time down under and remember; a comfort zone is a beautiful place, but nothing ever grows there.



## MINH BADAU (CYNTHIA/ENSEMBLE)

Minh is excited to be part of this talented, diverse and inclusive cast! Minh made her theatre debut in 2016 with *Jekyll & Hyde* (FRC). In 2017 she portrayed Mulan in the Calgary debut of *Disenchanted!* and in its remount in 2018 (CMT). Outside of theatre, Minh studies classical voice and performs pop and disco medleys at shows for the local Vietnamese community. Minh would like to thank her husband for putting up with not seeing her for the past four months, her family for their unending support, and *Priscilla*'s director, Mike, for his vision and belief that she could do Cynthia justice.



## DEVON BAUER (ENSEMBLE)

This is Devon's fourth production with Front Row Centre. Her other credits include *City of Angels*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *Jekyll and Hyde* (FRC), *The Little Mermaid* and *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat* (SBT), and *Suessical*, *Urinetown*, and *Les Misérables* (CMHS). She is a pediatric nurse day and night and enjoys spending her spare time on the stage singing and dancing. She hopes you enjoy the show, please feel free to sing and dance along!



## JESSE BEILMAN (MISS UNDERSTANDING/ENSEMBLE)

An FRC virgin, Jesse is thrilled to be a part of his first musical production since *My Fair Lady* in high school. Hailing from Victoria School for the arts in Edmonton, Jesse moved to Calgary after graduation and began performing as drag queen Felicia Bonée. As Felicia, Jesse has appeared in the Ignite and One Yellow Rabbit theatre festivals in *Body So Fluorescent*. Catch Jesse slaying lipsyncs at Twisted Element or reading stories to children through *Reading with Royalty* with Calgary Pride. Calgary's sassiest on the scene, you won't be saying Bye Felicia after watching this Queen take the stage!



## LARRA CALDIE (ENSEMBLE)

*Priscilla* has been such a wild ride that Larra is stoked to be a part of. What else can you ask for than a show filled with sparkle, high heels, extravagant dresses, pop music and dramatic personalities...it's basically just Larra's everyday life. Larra would also like to thank all the wonderful people in her life for their continued support as well as the talented cast and production team members of *Priscilla* for putting together such a fabulous show. Congratulatlons you beautiful Queens!



## SAMANTHA CARSON (DIVA)

Samantha is thrilled to be joining FRC for another production. Select Credits Include: *Jekyll & Hyde* (FRC), *The Who's Tommy* (FRC), *Brush Up Your Broadway* (Simply Theatre), *Miscast* (StoryBook Theatre), *Legally Blonde* (CAST Program). The cast and crew worked so hard to bring this magical show to life and she hopes you enjoy every minute as much as she does!!



## DANIELLE DESMARAIS (ENSEMBLE)

Danielle loves the nightlife AND likes to boogie so this was clearly the perfect show for her. She feels so fortunate to be a part of what is undoubtedly the least straight cast she has ever worked with and couldn't be more excited to show it off in all its gay glory. Sit back, relax, and be sure to shake your groove thing. Special shout out to her favorite gay, lil' miss Tanis Laatsch.

# MEET THE CAST



## JEFFREY FOLLIS (ADAM "FELICIA" WHITELEY)

Jeff is honoured to be joining FRC as Felicia/Adam in *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. Jeff would like to thank the cast and crew of *Priscilla* for making it possible for him to be wild and flamboyant on stage and off. He can't wait to sink his teeth into this role after a hiatus from theatre since attending Sheridan in 2016 where he starred as Theo in Matthew Lee Robinson's *Atlantis* and as the Arbiter in *Chess*. He hopes *Priscilla* will kindle the love of theatre in the audience like it has in himself.



## RILEY GALARNEAU (FRANK/FARRAH/ENSEMBLE)

Riley is incredibly thrilled to be sharing this prismatic explosion of a production with you. It is his first time doing any sort of drag and he is loving every minute of it. Recent Credits include: *To Dream Again*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Little Mermaid* (StoryBook Theatre), *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Reefer Madness* (Front Row Centre Players). He hopes you enjoy the show as the cast colors the world in front of your eyes.



## GAD ITTAY GIJON (JIMMY/ENSEMBLE)

Originally from Mexico City his regional credits include: *A Chorus Line* (Bobby/Al), *Wonderland* (Swing), *Beauty and the Beast* (Gaston), and *Into the Woods* (Narrator/Swing). In Canada with Morpheus Theatre: *Ruddigore*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Sullivan & Gilbert*, *Iolanthe*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *HMS Pinafore* (Choreographer and Chorus). With St. Peters Players: *Mary Poppins* (Choreographer and Ensemble). Gad studied ballet at UNAM, holds a B.A. in Communication Sciences, and a Diploma in Acting with major in Dubbing. Founder and artistic director of the Theatrical Company Gato Encerrado in Mexico.



## BRIAN HOLIDAY (BERNADETTE BASSENGER)

Brian is thrilled to be a part of this production and surrounded by such amazing talent. This is his third time in drag for a show! Selected credits for FRC: Rooster in *Annie*, Nathan Detroit in *Guys & Dolls*, Joe/Josephine in *Sugar*, Harold Hill in *The Music Man*, Herbie in *Gypsy*, Guido in *Nine* (CAT award nom.), Roger De Bris in *The Producers* (CAT award nom.). He has also performed with Morpheus Theatre, Bonavista Players, StoryBook Theatre, and the Calgary Opera Chorus, including Commander Harbison in *South Pacific* last summer. Brian sends love to Mark and Biscayne.



## RANELLE HUWALD (ENSEMBLE)

This is Ranelle's first show with FRC and she is so honoured to have been blessed with a great first experience. Her other credits have been multiple performances with the Youth Singers of Calgary, Brooke Wyndham in *Legally Blonde* with Airdrie's Cast program and soon to be Bakers Wife in StoryBook's *Into the Woods*. If Ranelle isn't preforming you can find her camping with her family or cuddling with her pets. She would like to thank everyone for coming to this show and hopes you enjoy!



## JESSICA JONES (DIVA)

This is Jessica's eighth show with Front Row Centre and she is so excited that it is this one! She is so extremely proud of this production and the cast and crew. You may have previously seen Jessica in such FRC productions such as *The Pajama Game*, *Anything Goes*, and *Urinetown*, and StoryBook Theatre productions such as *Hairspray* and *Camp Rock*. She knows you will have a great time singing along with *Priscilla*!



## LIZ LIPTON (MARION/ENSEMBLE)

Liz is beyond gagged to be back on stage alongside such a talented group of humans who are ready to SLAY. This will be Liz's 5th show with FRC (*The Who's Tommy*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Young Frankenstein*, and *Legally Blonde*) and she is SO EXCITED to be in another outrageous musical filled with inappropriate jokes, glitter & unending pop hits. A big thanks goes out to all of her friends & family who are always the first to buy tickets and to her perfect Wife for being so loving, supportive and for always indulging her love of reality television without question. Now sit back and enjoy the drag show hennies!

# MEET THE CAST



## MANDEE MARCIL (DIVA)

Mandee is no stranger to elaborate descriptors. She has been called "vivacious," "unapologetically forceful," and "really good looking," to name a few. Her ability to captivate is second only to her passion for performance (and self-elevating bios). Mandee is thrilled to join this talented cast in *Priscilla* as a Diva (onstage only, obv's). Credits include: Della (*The Laws of Thermodynamics*, Scorpio Theatre), Yitzhak (*Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Laughing Monkey Productions), Martha (*Heathers The Musical*, CMT), Lin (*The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, CMT), Rusty (*Footloose*, FRC).



## ALEXANDRA MAY (ENSEMBLE)

Alex was a kid from Calgary, who girly, indeed, she was VERY but gender's performative, and heteronormative living otherwise is actually scary!

Thank you to the massive team (cast, crew, design, orchestra) who made this possible, and to everyone who came out to support; love is love is love and love is what keeps us together!



## CHRISTIAN MORNEAU (ENSEMBLE)

This is Christian's first performance with FRC. He has performed on stage in Montreal and Toronto in musicals including *Fame*, *Cabaret*, and *Sweet Charity*, as both a singer and dancer. Christian also released two French singles that hit the radio waves in Montreal in 2008. In Calgary he has performed at The Grandstand Show of the Stampede in 2017, and he is a member of REV52, Calgary's vocal energy choir. Christian would like to thank FRC for this amazing experience and all the cast for the hard work put into this show.



## LYNDSLEY PATERSON (DIVA)

You may have caught a glimpse, or more, of Lyndsey in *The Pajama Game*, *Reefer Madness*, *Opera In The Village*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Legally Blonde*, *Grease*, & *Little Shop of Horrors* (FRC), *Let's Talk about Something*, *Homefront*, (Edge Dance Theatre), *Brush Up Your Broadway*, *Saucy Jack* and *The Space Vixens* (Simply Theatre), *Top Secret Musical Spring 2017* & *High School Musical* (StoryBook Theatre), *Rent* & *The Wedding Singer* (Cappuccino). Lyndsey would like to thank Mike, and her friends and family, for all of the love and support!



## GINETTE SIMONOT (ENSEMBLE)

This is Ginette's 10<sup>th</sup> show with FRC, and they haven't been able to get rid of her yet! She's been "playing pretend" and dressing up in costumes for as long as she can remember and loves to tell stories about the human experience. Recent on-stage theatrical credits include *The Pajama Game* (FRC), *Iolanthe* (Morpheus Theatre), *It's Only a Play* (Simply Theatre) and a variety of characters with Smoking Gun Entertainment and EDJE Dance Theatre. Life outside of theatre (what?!) includes sunflower gardening, orange-tabby kitty-snuggles, and basking in sun in far-flung destinations.



## HEATHER SKULSKI (SHIRLEY/ENSEMBLE)

Heather received her theatre training at Studio 58 in Vancouver. Since then she has been involved in a number of productions in B.C. as both an actor and director. She was last seen onstage in December as the Talking Clock in *Beauty & the Beast* (Morpheus Theatre). Heather is beyond thrilled to play Shirley in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and hopes you have a bloody good time!



## BRYAN SMITH (ANTHONY "TICK" BELROSE)

G'Day! Bryan is thrilled to be working on such a fun show with such a talented cast! Bryan has been performing and producing theatre in Calgary for the past 14 years. Select Credits; For FRC: *Dogfight*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Uninetown*, *Oklahoma*. Elsewhere: *Heathers The Musical*, *RENT*, *Blood Brothers* (CMT), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (TPF), *Miss Saigon* (UofC Operetta), *Austentatious* (FMTG). Much love to his wife and new baby boy!



# MEET THE CAST



## VICKI TRASK (DIVA)

Vicki is so excited to be a part of her seventh production with Front Row Centre Players – especially with such an amazing cast and crew. Previous credits include: *City of Angels* - Angel City Four, *The Who's Tommy* - The Specialist/Dance Ensemble, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* - Violet Balfour (FRC), *Seussical the Musical* - Bird Girl, *Disney's The Little Mermaid* - Ursula (Storybook Theatre), *It Came From Mars* - Dolores Breckenridge (Supporting Actress Nomination) (Scorpio Theatre), *South Pacific* - Cora MacRae (Calgary Opera). Get ready to shake your groove thing and enjoy the show.



## FELIX YODER (BENJI/ENSEMBLE)

*Les Misérables* (Gavroche, 2014): StoryBook Theatre, *RENT* (Ensemble, 2015): StoryBook Theatre, *The Who's Tommy* (Young Tommy, 2016): Front Row Centre, *Oliver!* (Oliver Twist/Artful Dodger, 2016): Painted Fish Theatre Company, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Jesus, 2016): CMHS, *Bridge to Terabithia* (Ensemble, 2017): StoryBook Theatre, *Iolanthe* (Ensemble, 2017): Morpheus Theatre, *West Side Story* (Baby John, 2017): StoryBook Theatre, *Zoostreet* (2017): Occasional Notes, *The Little Mermaid* (Flounder, 2018): CMHS, *Into The Woods* (Jack, 2018): StoryBook Theatre.

# FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

## Front of House Managers

Kat Carson  
Joey Sayer  
Darren Stewart

## Bartenders

Donna Bibeau  
Kat Carson  
John Gray  
Alan Hamaliuk  
Rebecca Hardard  
Laura Labovich

Jocelyn Laing  
Phillip Liesemer  
Holly Mulloy  
Tony Norman  
Jane Phillips  
Tara Popplewell  
Joey Sayer

## Ushers

Donna Barnfield  
Isaac Barragan  
Kathy Bauer  
George Bibeau

Kim Elson  
Cheryl Jones  
Lorry Kelly  
Jackie Lee  
Rachel Mamer  
Joy Mamer  
Sandra McFarlane  
Julie Nguyen  
Lorraine O'Neill  
Donna Pearson  
Kyle Pearson  
Rob Robostan  
Rosanna Truong

Sherry West

## Ticket Takers

Isaac Barragan  
George Bibeau  
Lori Galiardi  
Heather Hutton  
Cheryl Jones  
Jackie Lee  
Rob Robostan  
Jessica Roney  
Sherry West



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# MEET THE ORCHESTRA



## JENN LANCAULT (ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR/KEYBOARD 1, CO-PRODUCER)

Jenn is stoked to both produce and play piano for this fabulous team! Thanks for the wonderful band for making this SO MUCH FUN! Production credits: *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *My Fair Lady* (FRC), *bare: a Pop Opera* (CMT). On piano (select credits): *Reefer Madness*, *Gypsy*, *Rocky Horror Show* (FRC), *bare: a Pop Opera*, *Rent* (CMT). Jenn would like to thank her wonderful family - her husband David and daughter Sutton - for being so supportive of her crazy artistic endeavours! <3 ENJOY THE SHOW!



## ROBERT SEYMOUR (REEDS)

What a blast this show is! Under the awesome guidance of Jenn, none of the band members will go astray on this wild and crazy bus ride! This is Robert's 7<sup>th</sup> Season and 19<sup>th</sup> show with FRC – he is the reed man – you will hear him on Clarinet, Saxes, and Flute Hats off to FRC for this journey of pure joy to cast, band and audiences alike.



## RICHARD FOSSEY (TRUMPET)

Richard began playing trumpet in Grade 6 and has been playing ever since. He studied music (Trumpet Performance) at the University of Alberta and played professionally until he took his mom's advice and got a real job. Since then, he has been playing semi-professionally and is excited to be playing with the Pit for *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (his third musical with Front Row Centre). Richard also plays trumpet alongside his wife Trudy in the Calgary Civic Orchestra.



## LURENE BATES (TROMBONE)

G'day, mate! Lurene plays trombone (Fox Big Band, KOOR), sings (Sonabelles, Southern Stardust Big Band) and directs (Sonabelles), and thinks that drag queens crossing the Australian Outback is hot, hot, hot! She is stoked that Jenn gave her a fair crack o' the sauce bottle to play with a band that's chockers with talent. The hard yakka of the band, cast, crew, and production team make this show the ridgy-didge. Fair dinkum! Hoooroo!



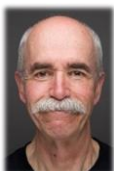
## TIM OLDHAM (TROMBONE)

Tim has played trombone in 15 FRC shows going back to 2007. He's excited to share the trombone part once again with his wonderful wife Lurene the queen.



## KATHY MA (DRUMS)

Hold onto your disco balls! *Priscilla* is in the house! Kathy is loving this 70's ish music show. Quite the different music from doing *Pajama Game* and then *City of Angels* earlier this season. She also played for Cappuccino Theatre's musical *Disenchanted!*. She is seriously amazed at the talented cast and crew. And how do they do all that makeup?



## DAVID RAMSEY (AUX. PERCUSSION)

David is pleased to be able to contribute to his 23<sup>rd</sup> musical with this company in one of his more favourite roles: playing in the toy bin of the percussion section. He has also played with StoryBook Theatre, Bonavista Players, CBC, Band of the King's Own Calgary Regiment, Civic Symphony, and Calgary Wind Symphony.

# MEET THE ORCHESTRA



## JOHANN WENTZEL (GUITAR)

Johann returns to the orchestra! After having played *Dogfight* and *Little Shop of Horrors* with FRC in the past, as well as having made a few appearances onstage (*Edwin Drood*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*), he just couldn't pass up the opportunity to play guitar once again. Johann is a mobile/web developer, and incoming graduate student at the University of Waterloo.



## DEANNA MANSON (ELECTRIC BASS)

A veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces, Deanna moved to Calgary in 2017 and soon after joined the Front Row Centre Players family for *City of Angels* and *Dogfight*. She previously performed in the pit for *The King & I*, *South Pacific*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Hello Dolly!*, and *West Side Story* (Glen Productions in Cornwall, Ontario) and for *Disenchanted!* (Cappuccino). She has also done some on-stage stuff, performing in *Les Misérables* (chorus), *Mary Poppins* (Katie Nanna and chorus), *Spamalot* (Concorde and chorus), and *The Sound of Music* (Frau Schmidt and chorus), with Ptarmigan Ptheatrics in Yellowknife.



## LYNN KOLLING (KEYBOARD 2)

This is Lynn's 5<sup>th</sup> show with FRC. Lynn thoroughly enjoys all things musical and looks forward to playing all the weird and wonderful sounds for *Priscilla*. With apologies to the koala, kangaroo and the Teletubby.



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# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



**STEPHAN ELLIOTT (BOOK)**

Bio: [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org) Photo: [theatricalrights.com](http://theatricalrights.com)

Elliott began his career as an assistant director working in the boom of the Australian film industry of the 1980s. His best-known film internationally is *THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT*. For a time during 1982/83, Stephan and Troy Tempest presented *The Blues Brothers*, every Friday night for over a year, at the heritage listed Cremorne Orpheum theatre. Dressed as Jake and Elwood, Stephan and Troy appeared on TV several times, along with their Bluesmobile. He has been in a relationship with his partner, Wil Bevolley, since the late 1980s.



**ALLAN SCOTT (BOOK)**

Bio & Photo: [theatricalrights.com](http://theatricalrights.com)

Scott is an award-winning Scottish screenwriter and producer. He was born in Elgin, Moray, and educated at Gordonstoun School and McGill University, Montreal, where he obtained a BA in English Literature. He was appointed a Governor of The British Film Institute in 1992 and served that Board for some six years. He is also a former Chairman of The Writers' Guild of Great Britain, thus perhaps the only person ever to chair a trades union and a Stock Exchange company at the same time.



**MIKE SORNBERGER (DIRECTOR)**

Mike is thrilled to have returned to the Director's chair after his 2015 debut *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. This is Mike's 10<sup>th</sup> full show since moving to Calgary in 2013, and it has been a blast. Mike would like to thank this hardworking and talented cast, the unbelievable talent backstage putting together all the spectacle, and would specifically like to highlight Stage Manager Sam, without whom this show wouldn't have happened. Above all, Mike is grateful to his wife Meg who has patiently and enthusiastically supported all his wacky theatre adventures. Thank you for coming, and enjoy the show!



**HARPREET DHANJANL (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)**

Harpreet is so excited to be part of this show! What a fun adventure this has been! She has learned so much and done so many new things as part of the process. A huge thanks to Mike for being a great director/mentor, and to the cast and crew - what an amazing and truly wonderful group of people to work with! Harpreet hopes you enjoy the show and she will see you again next season!



**ANDREA TIMMONS (MUSICAL DIRECTOR)**

Former MD credits for Andrea with FRC include *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Urinetown*. When not helping amazingly talented humans navigate scores - Andrea loves being on stage. Most recent credits include *Disenchanted!* (Cappuccino), *Songs for a New World* (Cappuccino), *Zoostreet* (Occasional Notes), and *Anything Goes* (FRC). Thank you to the cast and crew for their patience, big hearts and positive attitudes - YOU CAN do anything you magic sausages. Enjoy the show!!



**CHRISTINE MOONEY (CHOREOGRAPHER)**

Christine is so grateful to be part of this dragtastic show that has completely changed her life and allowed her to rediscover who she is as a human and an artist. She wishes the cast good luck, be straighter, and don't #\$\$% it up. Miss... Vaaaaaanjie



**STEPHEN WELCH (CHOREOGRAPHER)**

Joining FRC for his first show, Stephen is ecstatic to bring this magical adventure to life. Born and raised in Calgary, Theatre and dance have been his favourites since he was a kid. Dancing his way around the world on cruise lines like Holland America, Royal Caribbean, and Princess, he has put performing aside to work more behind the scenes in creative. Completing his year at U of C for Drama Education, his goal is to build and implement his talents and experiences with the future youth within high schools.



# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## JAMIE EASTGAARD-ROSS (CO-PRODUCER)

Jamie is thrilled to be... wait, what? ... Producing??? After years of resisting, this his first kick at producing for FRC. Usually you'll find him directing, performing, or working elsewhere on the creative team, but co-producing this behemoth with his BFF has been a wonderful new experience. Many thanks to Mum, Dad, and Steve for all their support, Jenn for sharing his brain, and finally to the cast and crew of *Priscilla*; their countless hours and endless enthusiasm have been inspirational, and words cannot express the gratitude felt.



## SAMANTHA BELLAMY-SMITH (STAGE MANAGER)

Sam is thrilled to have the pleasure of working with such a talented cast and crew! It takes a special show for her to step into Stage Management, especially with 6 month old Bastien in tow. *Priscilla* has brought so much colour to her family's life as they embarked on this adventure together. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does!



## JOSEF VERMEULEN (LIGHTING DESIGN)

Bruce the Aussie builder was going through a house he had just built. The woman who owned it told him what colour to paint each room. In the first room she said "I want this room to be painted a light blue." The builder went to the front door and yelled, "GREEN SIDE UP!" She told him that the next room was to be bright red. The builder went to the front door and yelled "GREEN SIDE UP!" The woman said "I keep telling you colours, but you go out the front and yell 'green side up' - what is that for?" The builder said, "Don't worry about that, I've just got a couple of Kiwis laying the sod out front."



## "KYLIE" BRYDGES (LIGHTING DESIGN/OPERATOR)

Credits include big hits such as: La La La Little Shop of Horrors, The Loca Pajamamotion, Hazeterical the Musical, I Can't Get That Bumping Around Song Out of My Head. Charlene would like to thank everyone at Beddington Theatre Arts Centre for all the fun and encouragement. VERY special thank yous: FRC for accepting her into their family and always supporting her, Joe Vermeulen for letting her help him on this production, Kris Mish for his time and assistance, Jody Low for her patience and mentorship, and JP Thibodeau for being so amazing and wonderful in supporting and guiding her with this task



## DARREN STEWART (PROJECTION DESIGN)

Darren's been involved in projection design on a number of shows, particularly *Jekyll & Hyde* as well as FRC's galas each year. He was last on stage for *The Pajama Game*.



## HARLAN STERNER (MASTER CARPENTER)

Harlan has been constructing sets since 2010. For FRC he has built sets for *Forbidden Broadway*, *Putting it Together*, *Brigadoon*, *Spamalot*, *Young Frankenstein*, *9 to 5*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Pajama Game*, and *Dogfight*. He has also assisted in the set construction for a number of other performances.



## MAGZ ROSS (COSTUME DESIGN)

After many years of costuming every kind of show imaginable, Magz is delighted to be working on one where the phrase "Too much glitter!" will never be heard. Unfortunately her long suffering husband does not agree, as their home looks like a unicorn exploded in it. But as they say, "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun".

# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## MEGHAN SKEET (PROPS DESIGN/SET DECORATION)

This is Meghan's tenth show with FRC in various backstage roles. She graduated from the Technical Theatre Program at Mount Royal in 2004. She was the head of props for four shows with the University of Calgary Operetta Company. She once won 900 Dollerydoo's in a game of Knife Spoony. She has seen the episode of The Simpsons when they go to Australia at least 100 times.



## STEVEN EASTGAARD-ROSS (SOUND DESIGN/SOUND OPERATOR/COSTUME ASSISTANT)

When Steven first returned to Calgary as a young adult he really wanted an opportunity to perform, and the first place he found was the world of drag. After discovering community theatre, drag faded into the background, but here we are, so many years later, with Stevie costuming and sound designing a drag show for community theatre. This has been an amazing experience, and one that will be hard to replicate again in the future. Big thanks to Magz and Shannon and our costuming team. And super big thanks to Jamie for the constant love and support.



## LINDSAY KURTZE (HAIR DESIGN (WIGS))

A Calgary based performer, she has performed/directed, musically directed and been a designer in over 30 productions in Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver. Lindsay holds a BA and BFA from the University of Calgary, a diploma in Musical Theatre from Grant MacEwan University and has Hair and Make-up training from Blanche Macdonald in Vancouver. Lindsay is excited to be back with Front Row Centre!



## KRISTINA BURT (MAKEUP DESIGN)

Kristina is thrilled to be a part of such an incredible and inclusive show. After putting an actor in drag during Simply Theatre's production of *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens*, she was excited by the challenge this show presented. And what a challenge it was! Special thanks to Mom and Parker who put up with her "masking".



## KIM PEARSON (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

This is Kim's second production with FRC on the Design and Production team. Her first show was with *Catch Me If you Can* in 2016. Kim is excited to be a part of *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*. She recently performed with Youth Singers of Calgary at their Second Chants Razzle Dazzle Show Choir Performance. She hopes you enjoy the show!!



## THOMAS TRASK (RUNNING CREW)

This is Thomas' fifth show with Front Row Centre Players, and he is excited to be part of it. His work could previously be seen on *City of Angels*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *South Pacific*, and *Tommy*. He would like to extend a big thank you to his family for their continued support and hopes you enjoy the show.



## LIANNE SMITH (DRESSER)

Lianne helps out with costumes with many companies in Calgary, including *The Who's Tommy* with FRC.

# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## JO ACKERMAN (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

This is Jo's 4<sup>th</sup> show with FRC, others being *Chess*, *City of Angels*, and *Dogfight*. She has recently been Lights Op for StoryBook Theatre's *Mary Poppins*. Elsewhere, UK performance credits include *Grease*, *Working*, *Godspell*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Peter Pan*. Of Interest, Jo spends her life with her hubby Paul and two amazing sons. Enjoy!



## HENRY FALLS (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

This is Henry's second show with FRC, he was also involved with *Dogfight* as running crew.



## SYDNEY SCHMALZ (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

Sydney is a grade 11 student at FFCA High School. This is her second show with FRC, after *City of Angels* (2018). She has worked as backstage crew for her high school shows including *Peter Pan* (2016), *Drowning Girls* (2017), and *Juvie* (2017), as backstage manager for *Shrek the Musical* (2017), and stage manager for *This Is A Play* (2018). Stage management experience pushed her to explore opportunities outside of school.



## SAMANTHA LOKE (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

Sam is currently in FFCA completing her last year. This is her first show with FRC. She has worked as an audio technician for her high school shows including *Wizard of Oz* (2015), *Peter Pan* (2016), and *Shrek* (2017), and the one act play *Hide and Seek* (2016). She has also stage managed for two self-written plays, *To catch the moon* and *Daisies on a Thursday*. Being in the tech theatre program has peaked her interest to explore more opportunities outside of school.



## ARETHA SMITH (SOUND OPERATOR)

Aretha has done sound operator for FRC's *Dogfight*, *City of Angels*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Urinetown*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Footloose*. She has spot op'ed for FRC's 9 to 5. Elsewhere: She has done sound op for StoryBook Theatre's *Mary Poppins*, *Huck Finn*, *The Outsiders*, *Wizard of Oz*, *West Side Story*, and many others since 2012.

When Aretha is not at the theatre she relaxes at home and does volunteer work with her daughter.



## RAHIM MANJI (SOUND ASSISTANT)

An avid fan of theatre, Rahim has watched many FRC productions in the past, but this is his fourth season working with FRC. He is excited to be a part of the production team for *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*. In his spare time, Rahim can be found hanging out with his 3.5 year old son, his 4.5 year old cat, his 30 year old car, or his forever 21 wife.



## SHANNON BESHARA (COSTUME ASSISTANT)

Shannon would like to thank Magz, Stevee, her husband, Terry, and her daughter, Kahlan, for letting her spend so much time on this fun little "hobby". This show has been a wonderful experience, filled with new friends and baby snuggles. Also, she wants to make sure you know the picture on her shirt is of a Rooster. It just turned out to be a very suitable thing to wear to rehearsals for this crazy show.

# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## JODY LOW (LIGHTING ASSISTANT)

Jody has been active as a theatre technician for over 40 years and has almost 150 shows to her credit, primarily doing stage or production management and lighting design. She holds a BA in Drama from the University of Lethbridge and a Theatre Crafts & Design certificate from the Banff Centre. She is currently working for StoryBook Theatre as Production Supervisor.



## MAGGIE SLATER (SET CONSTRUCTION – BUS)

Maggie is a metal artist from Edmonton, AB. She started welding in 2010 and it didn't take long before she was drawn to creating metal artwork. Maggie's work on this set was a perfect blend of fabrication experience and creativity. She is so excited to be a part of this production!



## ANGELA WOODARD (DIALECT COACH)

Select credits-Choreographer- *Shrek\**, *High School Musical\**- StoryBook Theatre. *The Producers\**, *Gypsy\**, *Chicago\**, Front Row Centre. *SUDDS The Musical* - Cornerstone Theatre Canmore. Actor- Velma Kelly\*/*Chicago*, Hedy LaRue *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying* FRC. Velma Von Tussel *Hairspray* SBT. Director-*Gypsy* FRC. Angela has successfully been coaching young talent for CPAF (formerly Kiwanis) Musical Theatre festival in stage direction, acting, choreography (ballet, tap, jazz) for over 15 years. \* Denotes CAT Award recipient. [www.starstreetstudios.com](http://www.starstreetstudios.com)



## FARRAH NUFF (DRAG CONSULTANT)

Reigning from Calgary, Farrah has been a member of the drag community for 13 years. She comes to FRC in many an avenue to aid the Creative and talent in the art of drag. Her passion and care for the art of drag have her renowned across Canada. Working alongside several pride committees, Farrah has opened many pride events for their inaugural years, as well as performing alongside over 43+ Queens from Rupauls Drag Race. She loves anyone with the balls to put on makeup, wigs, and heels and storm the stage. "You're born naked, and the rest is drag"-Rupaul



## BASTIEN BELLAMY-SMITH (GENERAL CONSULTANT)

Despite what you may think, this is not Bastien's first show.

# 29 YEARS OF FRC

## 1988-1989

Jesus Christ Superstar

## 1989-1990

Tunes and Ticksles  
Damn Yankees

## 1990-1991

Tunes and Ticksles Too  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying

## 1991-1992

Tunes and Ticksles Three  
Weather Report  
The Fantasticks

## 1992-1993

Broadway on the Move  
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown  
Chicago

## 1993-1994

Tunes and Ticksles IV  
Oliver!

## 1994-1995

Tunes and Ticksles V: A Look Back  
Annie Get Your Gun

## 1995-1996

The Butler Did it Singing  
Annie

## 1996-1997

Godspell  
Guys and Dolls

## 1997-1998

The Sound of Music  
Fiddler on the Roof

## 1998-1999

Sugar  
Music Man

## 1999-2000

Bye Bye Birdie  
Bells are Ringing

## 2000-2001

The Rocky Horror Show  
The Rocky Horror Show  
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

## 2001-2002

Cabaret  
Gypsy  
South Pacific

## 2002-2003

Eating Raoul  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying  
My Fair Lady

## 2003-2004

Company  
Jesus Christ Superstar  
Kiss Me Kate

## 2004-2005

A New Brain  
Man of La Mancha  
Pippin

## 2005-2006

Leader of the Pack  
Evita  
Hair

## 2006-2007

Oklahoma  
Chicago  
Little Shop of Horrors

## 2007-2008

Nine  
Camelot  
Wizard of Oz

## 2008-2009

Godspell  
Fiddler on the Roof  
Grease

## 2009-2010

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street  
Hello Dolly!  
Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits  
Nunsense the Mega Musical

## 2010-2011

Chess  
The Producers  
Putting it Together  
Brigadoon

## 2011-2012

The Rocky Horror Show  
Assassins  
Front Row Centre at the Movies  
Gypsy

## 2012-2013

Singin' in the Rain  
Monty Python's Spamalot  
YESTERDAY • TODAY • TOMORROW  
Legally Blonde

## 2013-2014

My Fair Lady  
Footloose  
Coming Attractions  
Young Frankenstein  
The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

## 2014-2015

9 to 5: The Musical  
Urinetown  
Jesus Christ Superstar  
Flights of Fancy  
Anything Goes

## 2015-2016

The Mystery of Edwin Drood  
The Who's Tommy  
It's Good to be Bad  
Catch Me If You Can  
South Pacific  
Opera in the Village Iconic Broadway

## 2016-2017

Jekyll & Hyde  
Reefer Madness  
Through the Decades  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying  
Little Shop of Horrors

## 2017-2018

The Pajama Game  
City of Angels  
Pearls of Wisdom  
Dogfight





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