JANUARY 11th - 26th, 2019



Front Row Centre Players Society's Community Theatre Production of



lyrics by Tim Rice music by Andrew Lloyd Webber



Beddington Theatre Arts Centre TICKETS FRONTROWCENTRE.CA

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EVITA

is presented by arrangement with The Musical Company, LP 214 Sullivan Street, Ste. 4, New York, NY 10012-1354 www.themusicalcompany.com

Phone: (212) 598-2204. Email: info@themusicalcompany.com















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INVENTORY

Steven Eastgaard-Ross, Jamie Eastgaard-Ross

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Kat Carson, Darren Stewart, Joey Sayer, Jenn Lanciault

EVENTS

Carl Bishop, Vikki-Marie Millitaire

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.

Our Values

Community • Fun • Diversity • Creativity • Passion Safety • Opportunity • Teamwork

FRC's offices and production facilities are at the $\,$

Beddington Theatre Arts Centre

375 Bermuda Dr NW | Calgary, AB | T3K 2J5 403-246-8505 | info@frontrowcentre.ca Charitable Registration #892438565RR0001 Welcome to our second show of our 2018-2019 30th Anniversary season, another favourite show from our past, *Evita*. One of the most popular Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice musicals, it seemed appropriate to include it as part of our celebration of 30 years of FRC in Calgary.

In addition to relying on the support of our many volunteers, FRC is a registered charitable organization and we would be honoured if you would consider contributing to our \$30 for the 30th campaign, and make a \$30 gift which will go a long way 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

Calgary's Premier Community Musical Theatre Company



FRONT ROW CENTRE PLAYERS COMMUNITY THEATRE PRODUCTION OF EVITA

Lyrics by Tim Rice Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber Originally directed by Harold Prince

THE VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OR STREAMING OF THIS PRODUCTION, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING VIA THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

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- Myrnie Sands-Malvin, Jill Howell-Fellows
- (0) Kim Johnson, Moe May, Laura May, Rhonda Mottle, Andrea Crecco, Sandy

Forbes, and Helen Willerton

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THIS PRODUCTION BUT WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN OMITTED. PAGE 4 OF 24



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When I started proposing *Evita* to FRC three years ago it wasn't (at the time) a "passion project" for me. I had of course developed a love for "Oh What A Circus" and "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" at the tender age of 14 when my small hometown company performed them as part of a cabaret night. Then, as I'm sure is the case for many of you, my full introduction to the show was the Madonna movie, which I certainly remember enjoying, but other than that it stayed in the back of my mind as a fond memory of an evening of movies and belting out show tunes over a couple of bottles of wine with an old and dear friend. Then three years ago, as so many of my crazy ideas begin, a thought popped into my head of "oh, wouldn't it be fun to stage *Evita* this way". That is how our path tonight truly begins, with the visual elements to support the story being told, specifically:

- The neutrality of the set: versatile, yet also a blank slate on which our characters can make their mark.
- The costuming: again keeping the ensemble and supporting players clearly defined through neutral tones, so that the story these people bring to you can shine through; Eva, on a journey from innocent 15 year old, not very much more than a child, through her glory days, burning with the splendour of the brightest fire, the rainbow of Argentina, to her dark final days, betrayed by her own weak body; and then Che, our story teller, caught between Eva and the ensemble.
- And the lighting: focussed, drawing us to the important parts of the story, adding the texture and colour of the many layers this story has to tell.

In the years that followed the concept, my design brief percolated and was fine tune, so when the time came to put together proposals for this, our 30th season, I practically begged to be allowed to bring this show to our stage, as I knew in my heart that we couldn't do such a landmark season without an iconic Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, and apparently our artistic directors agreed. Over the year since then I have discovered that there's so much more to Evita than I ever imagined. The intricacies and genius of Webber's score and Tim Rice's lyrics go far deeper than possibly any of their other collaborations. I'm convinced that is due in no small part to the intricacies and genius of Eva Perón's own story, one which is laced with myth and hearsay. It seems odd in this day and age for such a recent historical figure to be shrouded in so much mystery. Her life and deeds are well documented, yet there is such a dichotomy surrounding her legendary life. So many productions of Evita try to force their own view on you; she is either portrayed as a ruthless power hungry vixen, or as a misunderstood saint. The dichotomy of course is reinforced by Webber and Rice as even they couldn't agree on that, Webber hated her, whilst Rice glamorized her. Ultimately I doubt the true story can ever be told, we know what was said and done, but so much of it boils down to the intention, to what was in Eva's mind and heart. And so that my friends is my challenge to you tonight. In this day and age of click bait, "fake news", and instant communication, I challenge you to form your own opinion on the Eva Perón we present tonight. Research her, discuss her, decide for yourselves if she's a hero or a villain, and don't let us dictate the answer to you.

Jamie Eastgaard-Ross, Director



Act One Act Two

- 1. A Cinema in Buenos Aires
- 2. Requiem
- 3. Oh What a Circus
- 4. On This Night of a Thousand Stars
- 5. Buenos Aires
- 6. Goodnight and Thank You
- 7. The Art of the Possible
- 8. Charity Concert
- 9. I'd Be Surprisingly Good For You
- 10. Another Suitcase In Another Hall
- 11. Peron's Latest Flame
- 12. A New Argentina

- 13. Entr'acte
- 14. On The Balcony of the Casa Rosada
- 15. High Flying Adored
- 16. Rainbow High
- 17. Rainbow Tour
- 18. The Chorus Girl Hasn't Learned
- 19. And the Money Kept Rolling In
- 20. Santa Evita
- 21. Waltz for Eva and Che
- 22. You Must Love Me
- 23. She is a Diamond
- 24. Dice Are Rolling
- 25. Eva's Final Broadcast
- 26. Montage
- 27. Lament



	Selena Fisher
Che	Gavin Liam Logan
Peron	James Noonan
Magaldi	Jory Rusnak
Child	Lucian-River Mirage Chauhan
Mistress / Dance Ensemble	Annabelle MacRae
Dance Ensemble	Alina Cox, Daniel Ripley, Gad Ittay Gijon,
	Nicole Gapero, Vicki Trask
Ensemble	Alex Travis, Alex West-Winters, Alexandra
	May, Andrea Crecco, Anne Roggensack,
	Caitlin Karpetz, Cassandra Martin,
	Catharine Davis, Christine Baker, Kerrick
	Chavarria, Jessica Farrell, Kiana Rose,
	Matthew McPhail, Mitchell Greig,
	Sebastian Wild

Understudies

Thank you to the following for taking on the extra efforts to be prepared in the case that someone is unable to perform in a show. Understudies will only appear after an announcement or program insert.

Eva Peron	Caitlin Karpetz
Che	
Peron	Brian Holiday
Stage Manager	Jess Martin, Trish Befus
Orchestra Conductor	

ORCHESTRA

Orchestra Conductor	Nick Turnbull
Orchestra Manager	
Woodwind I (Flute, Alto Flute, Piccolo)	Lisa MacLeod, Terri Shouldice
Woodwind II (Bb Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax	
Trumpet I	Richard Fossey
Trumpet II (Trumpet, Flugel)	Trudy Fossey
French Horn	Chris Buchner
Trombone	
Percussion (Drums)	
Percussion	,
Guitar (Electric, Acoustic, Spanish, 12 string)	
Keyboard I	Bart Hicks
Keyboard II	
Keyboard III (doubling Accordion)	
Violin I	_
Violin II	
Violin III	Kyla Dupuis
Viola	
Cello	
Bassoon (Cello)	
String Bass/Bass Guitar	Adam Pettigrew

FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Front of House Managers

Shannon Beshara Kat Carson Jessica Martin Joey Sayer Darren Stewart Janos Zeller

Ushers

Lisa Antichow Kathy Bauer George Bibeau Joan Blumer Brenda Cosens Monica Goulet Paul Grahame (Pete) Lucien Jemus
Jackie Lee
Myrna Malanik
Joy Mamer
Rachel Mamer
Kira Mantanic
Lauren Melathopolous
Lorraine O'Neill
Rowena Romero
Monti Tanner
Rosanna Truong
Sherry West

Ticket Takers Lisa Antichow Joan Blumer Brenda Cosens

Aura Felipe
Monica Goulet
Heather Hutton
Cheryl Jones
Jackie Lee
Sandy Lucas
Rachel Mamer
Joy Mamer
Kira Mantanic
Lauren Melathopolous
Rob Robostan
Jessica Roney
Rosanna Truong
Sherry West
Laurene Wyenberg

Bartenders Donna Bibeau Danielle Desmarais Gita Grahame John Gray Alan Hamaliuk Lindsay Kurtze Laura Labovich Jocelyn Laing Jennifer Lealand Phillip Liesemer Kelly Misko Julie Nguyen Daisy Pond Joey Sayer Tracy Smith Aretha Smith



Eastgaard-Ross

Hair and/or Makeup Assistant (Wig Support)...... Jesse Beilman, Terri Stevens

Costume Assistant......Lorna Stuber, Shannon Beshara,

Extra special thanks to the cast and crew for the long hours of move-in.



CHRISTINE BAKER (ENSEMBLE)

Christine is absolutely thrilled to be a part of the ensemble in Front Row Centre's *Evita*. Christine did her BFA in Drama at the University of Calgary, followed up with three years at the Canadian College of Performing Arts. Recent shows include: playing Henrietta in *Persuasion* with Workshop Theatre, playing Darian in *Star Warz* with Jubilations Dinner Theatre, and Inga in *Young Frankenstein the Musical*, at CCPA. Christine is delighted to share this remarkable show with you and is so grateful to have had the experience of working with this amazing cast and crew! Please enjoy the show!



KERRICK CHAVARRIA (ENSEMBLE)

Kerrick makes his debut with Front Row Centre Players as of this year, with the support from his musical theatre director, Mr. Gavin Logan. In the duration of his high school career, he has been a part of numerous shows, including *The Addams Family, Murder at Cafe Noir*, and multiple musical theatre revue shows under the brilliant direction of Mr. Gavin Logan and Mrs. Marianne Vaessen. With that, he is an instrumentalist involved with his school's music program. In his final upcoming high school production, he will be tackling the role of Judas Iscariot in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar*.



ALINA COX (DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Alina is thrilled to do her first show onstage with FRC after being introduced to the community 10 years ago when she was backstage crew for *Little Shop of Horrors* (FRC). Before this, she was an active barbershopper, competing in Vegas with Vocal-Motion Chorus! and Washington D.C. with Pitch Please Quartet. Her earlier credits include *Fiddler on the Roof, Urinetown* (CMHS); *Sound of Music, Oliver*! (SBT). She would like to thank all her friends and family for their incredible support!



ANDREA CRECCO (ENSEMBLE)

Andrea is ecstatic to join the ensemble of Evita as her first show with Front Row Centre. Following in her brother's footsteps, Andrea has developed a love for the stage. Her expertise in the world of dance has made her an amazing addition to this cast. She hopes you enjoy the viewing experience as much as she has enjoyed the journey this production has been.



CATHARINE DAVIS (ENSEMBLE)

Catharine is excited to participate in her third musical, and her second show with FRC! She is an avid fan of community and professional theatre, dance and music performance of all kinds. Catharine is grateful to her family and many friends for their encouragement (you know who you are – you're the best!!) But her biggest thanks goes to YOU the members of the audience for your support, for your enthusiasm, for your laughter and gasps of surprise, for your applause!



JESSICA FARRELL (ENSEMBLE)

Jessica is excited to be participating in her third show with FRC! It is a dream to work with such an amazingly talented group of people. She would like to thank her friends, family, and loving boyfriend for supporting her on her theatre journey, for not calling the police to report her missing, and giving her pets lots of cuddles as she cha-chas on stage.



SELENA FISHER (EVA PERON)

Selena is thrilled and honoured to be playing the role of Eva Perón in her first show with FRC. With a BFA in Musical Theatre at Webster Conservatory in St Louis, she was lead singer at Busch Gardens, FL and working as a full time singer/performer in Florida. She then sailed aboard Holland America Line for 3 years as lead singer. Upon meeting her Canadian husband on ship, the native-born American moved to Alberta and worked as an Event Floor Manager for Hotel Arts until having 2 sons. She is beyond grateful to her loving husband and family for supporting her in this challenging and once in a lifetime role.



NICOLE GAPERO (DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Nicole is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Evita*. When not on stage, she is studying at the University of Calgary for a combined degree of Arts and Education majoring in English with a minor in Women's Studies.

Select Credits - FRC: Debut. Elsewhere: Dance Montage 2018 (University of Calgary SCPA), Into the Woods, West Side Story (StoryBook Theatre), Don't Stop Believing (YYC Princess & StoryBook Theatre).



GAD ITTAY GIJON (DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Originally from Mexico City his regional credits include: A Chorus Line, Wonderland, Beauty and the Beast, and Into the Woods. In Canada with FRC: Priscilla Queen of the Desert (Jimmy) and Spamalot. With Morpheus Theatre: Ruddigore, The Sleeping Beauty, Iolanthe, HMS Pinafore (Choreographer and Chorus), and One Bad Apple. 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.



MITCHELL GREIG (ENSEMBLE)

Mitchell Greig is a recent graduate of Notre Dame High School and is a singer who is new to community theatre. He is a member of the UofC's chorus as well as a local band. He would like to thank his family for their overwhelming support towards his music.



CAITLIN KARPETZ (ENSEMBLE, VOCAL CAPTAIN)

Caitlin is proud to be the vocal captain, member of the chorus, and understudy for Eva Peron in FRC's Evita. During the day Caitlin works for the University of Calgary as a student advisor. Caitlin has appeared as Crystal in Little Shop of Horrors and as Nelly Forbush in South Pacific. As a child, Evita (the film) was Caitlin's first introduction to musical theatre. She is forever grateful for its contribution to her love of the genre.



GAVIN LOGAN (CHE)

Gavin has loved musical theatre since he first discovered its particular glories in his grade 10 production of *Bye Bye Birdie. Evita* has been his favourite musical since he was a socially unaware 15-year-old singing snippets of it in the hallways of his high school in Saskatoon, and Che is his dream role! Gavin teaches English and Musical Theatre at Notre Dame High School, and is the proud father of daughters Arianna (5) and Kenlea (2). He would like to dedicate this show to them, and most especially his wife, Meghan Keating, for their support during this exciting but long rehearsal period. High Flying, Adored!



ANNABELLE MACRAE (MISTRESS/DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Annabelle MacRae is currently in her second year at the University of Calgary studying a double major in Political Science and Development Studies. She studied at the School of Alberta Ballet for sixteen years and has performed in the past three years of SSIP with StoryBook Theatre. This is her first show with Front Row Centre Players and she hopes you enjoy it!



CASSANDRA MARTIN (ENSEMBLE)

Singing, dancing, and acting are Cassandra's passions in life! Cassandra chose to pursue her Bachelor of Music Performance in voice and her Bachelor of Education to become a music teacher; passing the joys of music to children has been the highlight of her life! Cassandra currently teaches K-5 music, however, her passion lies in Junior High and High School band and choir. Outside of being a music educator, Cassandra has adored playing Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and Joanne in *Rent*. Outside of her musical pursuits, she has her 2nd degree Black Belt in Shotokan Karate.



ALEXANDRA MAY (ENSEMBLE)

Evita marks Alex's fourteenth show with FRC, so it's safe to say that with all of its ups and downs, she is pretty fond of this musical theatre thing (and more specifically the community that comes with it). Thank you to everyone, on stage and off, who works together to provide these opportunities for people to do what they love. Thank you too to her friends and family (and specifically Rich and Becky) who put up with extended absences and exhaustion. Alex also wants to thank all of her fellow castmates and the design team for getting her through this dancey show. <3



LUCIAN-RIVER MIRAGE CHAUHAN (CHILD)

This budding 9 year old thespian is very humbled at the opportunity to start off the year doing something he loves - belting out a beautiful melody! He is happy to be reuniting with some of his friends & delighted at the chance to work with so many new faces - let the 2019 adventures begin!



MATTHEW McPhail (Ensemble)

Matt is very excited to be participating in his fourth show with FRC! As a theatre lover and part-time (maybe full-time) pun enthusiast, his a-peron-ce in this show was in-evita-ble. Hope you enjoy the production!



JAMES NOONAN (PERON)

James is thrilled to be involved in his 11th FRC adventure. He has been privileged to have had the opportunity to be an Actor, Assistant Director, Director, and Lighting Board Operator in his 13 years playing with this remarkable company. James would like to thank the vastly talented team of people involved in this production including cast and crew but especially his delightful Eva, Selena Fisher, for her kindness and skill. He'd also like to send a special thank you to Jamie, Brian, Dan, and Ashley for their guidance, support, and confidence; it is greatly appreciated. Have a wonderful time at the theatre!



DANIEL RIPLEY (DANCE ENSEMBLE)

After taking a year off from theatre, Daniel has come back to the stage for one of his favourite shows! To make this experience even better, he is privileged enough to perform alongside his beautiful fiancée Cassandra. May you be dazzled while on the 'Rainbow Tour'! Previous shows with FRC include: The Pajama Game, Jekyll & Hyde, The Who's Tommy, Anything Goes, and more.



ANNE ROGGENSACK (ENSEMBLE)

Anne is ecstatic to return for her 2nd show with FRC and to work with this incredible cast and creative team. Theatre and opera credits: Chess (FRC), Fiddler on the Roof, Dracula Babyl, Dido and Aeneas, The Last Wife, and Calgary Opera's So You Think You Can Sing Opera? Anne is an experienced choral musician, most recently with Calgary's award-winning Spiritus Chamber Choir. By day, Anne is as an ObGyn specializing in Maternal-Fetal Medicine. She'd like to thank her very understanding husband Doug and her 6-year old twins Maren and Jana for their love and support.



KIANA ROSE (ENSEMBLE)

Kiana is very excited to a part of this production of *Evita*. She has been involved in theatre all her life and loves to perform. When she's not on stage she is taking care of children as a Nanny. This is her first FRC show. Her other credits include *Into The Woods* (StoryBook Theatre), and high school productions such as *Barefoot in Nightgown by Candlelight* and *21 Chump Street*. You can always spot her with a smile on her face.



JORY RUSNAK (MAGALDI)

This is Jory's exploratory debut into the world of musical theatre and the FRC community after 20 years of performance experience in Calgary and around the globe. He is grateful to have the opportunity to work with local talents and professionals in FRC's theatrical production of the life and times of Danny DeVito. *DeVito* has been a tremendous undertaking and a special experience for Jory this winter. You can see him in future stage shows in 2019 including: *Singin' with Lorraine, My Pair of Ladles*, and *Cats*.



VICK TRASK (DANCE ENSEMBLE, DANCE CAPTAIN)

Vicki is thrilled to be a part of her eighth production with Front Row Centre Players. Select previous credits include: Priscilla Queen of the Desert - Diva, City of Angels - Angel City Four, The Who's Tommy - The Specialist/Dance Ensemble, Anything Goes - Dance Ensemble (FRC), Disney's The Little Mermaid - Ursula (StoryBook Theatre), It Came From Mars - Dolores Breckenridge (Scorpio Theatre), South Pacific - Cora MacRae (Calgary Opera). She sends love to her friends and family for their patience in her absence and thanks to the cast and crew for their patience in her presence.



ALEX TRAVIS (ENSEMBLE)

Alex Travis is a singer, songwriter, and performer from Calgary, AB. He has been in many performing ensembles, including the Calgary Youth Chorus and Entract Vocal Ensemble. This is Alex's first show with FRC and he is very excited to be a part of *Evita*.



ALEX WEST-WINTERS (ENSEMBLE)

Alex is delighted to be a part of Front Row Centre's production of *Evita*. He has an immense passion for theatre and continues to become involved in any way he can! Previous shows include: *Among Friends And Clutter* (Bishop Carroll High School), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Bishop Carroll High School), *Into The Woods* (StoryBook Theatre). Alex is excited to continue growing and expressing himself through theatre, and would like to thank the Front Row Centre team for this incredible opportunity! Please: enjoy this production of *Evita*!



SEBASTIAN WILD (ENSEMBLE)

Sebastian is excited to be a part of his first production outside of high school. As the second youngest member of the production. His experience includes two years of singing in his school choir as well as playing Anthony Cairo in *Murder at Cafe Noir* at Notre Dame High School. Sebastian looks forward to his next role as one of the high priests in Notre Dame's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

MORPHEUS THEATRE

PRODUCTION OF





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Directed by IAM COULTER

FEBRUARY 1 - 9, 2019

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NICK TURNBULL (ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR)

Nick is a renowned conductor and published composer of works for various events and mediums including live shows, film/television, concert bands, choirs, international festivals, etc. His music can be heard worldwide. As a conductor and clinician, Nick is actively sought throughout Canada and has conducted workshops and festivals throughout the Americas. Nick has a passion for musical theatre and has worked on many productions as a performer or music leadership team including: Annie, The Music Man, Miss Saigon, Titanic: The Musical, Under a Starry Sky, and The Gondoliers.



JOANNE SAMPSON (ORCHESTRA MANAGER)

Joanne has participated in over a dozen FRC shows, including being the orchestra conductor for FRC's previous run of *Evita*. She has enjoyed working in a supporting role in this production, which uses a new score and instrumentation created by Lloyd Webber himself. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has enjoyed participating in it.



TERRI SHOULDICE (WOODWIND I (FLUTE, ALTO FLUTE, PICCOLO))

A 4th generation Calgarian, Terri holds a BMus from the University of Calgary, and has played in numerous music organizations for many years. Currently playing with the Calgary Wind Symphony, Rocky Mountain Symphony Orchestra & Trinity Winds Trio, Terri is glad she found time to squeeze in *Evita!* Although her first time with FRC she is no stranger to Musical Theatre having performed with UofC Operetta and Morpheus Theatre in *Miss Saigon, Titanic, Guys and Dolls, West Side Story, Music Man, HMS Pinafore.* Honoured to play with such fine pit musicians, Terri knows you'll love the show!



LISA MACLEOD (WOODWIND I (FLUTE, ALTO FLUTE, PICCOLO))

Excited to be a part of the FRC pit orchestra again, Lisa has been busy practicing how to juggle three flutes in such a small orchestra pit again. Past shows include the FRC 2006 run of Evita as well as Man of La Mancha, Iolanthe, Into the Woods, West Side Story, and Yeomen of the Guard. Thanks to her family - Ryan, Ian, and Evelyn - the cast, crew, and her fellow musicians for this wonderful experience!



ROBERT SEYMOUR (WOODWIND II (BB CLARINET, BASS CLARINET, TENOR SAX))

Rob was in London, England taking a Masters Program with one of the world's most renowned Clarinet performers in 1978, when *Evita* made its debut in the famous 'West End'. Having seen one of the earliest productions, it both is nostalgic and a tremendous pleasure for him to be performing this wonderful work after so many years. He is also very pleased to be a member of the 18 member and largest Orchestra ensemble to be used by FRC since the move to the Beddington Theatre.



RICHARD FOSSEY (TRUMPET I)

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 Evita (his fifth musical with Front Row Centre). Richard also plays trumpet alongside his wife Trudy in several other groups in Calgary.



TRUDY FOSSEY (TRUMPET II (TRUMPET, FLUGEL))

Trudy works as a teacher with the Calgary Board of Education and Clinician in Calgary. She is also active as a bugler with the Peace Keepers and Century Downs Horse Races. Trudy also performs regularly with many bands and orchestras in Calgary. This is the sixth musical that Trudy has been a member of the Pit. Trudy has performed in many countries in Europe and many cities in Canada and the U.S.A. with various musical ensembles. Her hobbies include karate, and teaching young children karate and self-defence.



CHRIS BUCHNER (FRENCH HORN)

Chris moved here over a year ago from Vancouver and studied French Horn performance at McGill University under Jean Gaudreau from the Montreal Symphony. He also studied with Elizabeth Simpson from the National Arts Centre Orchestra. Chris is currently an educator with the Centre for Sexuality. He also performs with the Calgary Wind Symphony, Civic Symphony, Alberta Winds, and Rocky Mountain Orchestra. Throughout his musical career he has performed many musicals including performing shows with Theatre Under The Stars for six seasons in Vancouver.



GARY MCPHEE (TROMBONE)

This is Gary's first show with FRC and he has been really enjoying the time spent working with the rest of the orchestra and the amazing cast. Maybe you can teach an old dog new tricks! This is quite the change from his usual Bass trombone parts!



TIM OLDHAM (TROMBONE)

This is Tim's 16th production playing trombone with FRC! He can't believe it either! Thanks, as always, to his family for putting up with him.



DAVID RAMSEY (PERCUSSION)

David is pleased to be playing in the toy bin of the percussion section of this talented orchestra supporting an equally talented cast for this fresh new version of the musical he enjoyed performing so many years ago.



KATHY MA (PERCUSSION (DRUMS))

This is Kathy's twenty-ish (25?) something show with FRC. She loves everything musical theatre and is looking forward to this show's challenging music with the 7/8 time. She last played for *Spamalot*, which was lots of fun playing and *Priscilla*, which was a lot of hard playing! Kathy is still trying to learn the fiddle in her old age and has recently discovered pickleball, which is seriously addictive. Thanks to Nick for all his hard work and the amazing cast and crew.



GREGOR SCHOENBERG (GUITAR (ELECTRIC, ACOUSTIC, SPANISH, 12 STRING))

Evita is a treat to perform as a guitarist. There are numerous spots where our lead actors are singing, and the guitar accompaniment is so wonderfully written that it's as if it's a harmony, or counterpoint vocal part. Just great stuff to play. Past productions with FRC include Reefer Madness, Jekyll & Hyde, and Chicago. Other performing credits include Romeo and Juliette, Titanic -The Musical, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Stepping Out. Chookas, amigos!



BART HICKS (KEYBOARD I)

Raised in Winnipeg, Bart has been playing piano since the age of 8, and fell in life-long love with the classical piano repertoire at age 11. Trained as a professional physicist, he has had a long career as a professor and instructor in that subject at The University of Calgary. In his spare time he expanded his musical horizons by playing chamber music works informally with his wife Diana Piggott and other like-minded local musicians. Piloting a keyboard synthesizer in FRC's 2019 production of Evita is a new experience, with new challenges, but what a blast!



NEIL WEST (KEYBOARD II)

Neil is excited to be back again with Front Row Centre. He previously conducted the orchestra for *Spamalot* this season. Neil is the music director at St Alphonsus Fine Arts School where he instructs elementary and junior high music.



JP SALCEDO (KEYBOARD III (DOUBLING ACCORDION))

JP is happy to be performing with FRC again after playing in Sweeney Todd 10 years ago. JP began his university studies at the University of Calgary as a percussion student of Dr. Rod Squance, and completed his music degree at Toronto's York University. He has played in several musicals in Calgary over the years including West Side Story, Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog, Seussical, and The Music Man. JP is excited to be a part of Evita and hopes everyone enjoys the show!



ALEX CHUNG (VIOLIN I)

Alex began playing violin when he was 4 years old. He has played with the Calgary Fiddlers and been a part of the pit orchestra for West Side Story, The Little Mermaid, and Spamalot.



LISE ZARB (VIOLIN II)

Growing up in Toronto, Lise studied violin at the Royal Conservatory of Music, and played with various orchestras and ensembles until she moved away to university. After living in Europe for several years, she moved to Calgary and picked up her violin again, joining the Calgary Civic Symphony in 2011, where she continues to play.



DIANA PIGGOTT (VIOLIN II)

Diana has been playing violin, singing, and tutoring maths and physics around Calgary since the early 1980s. She is active in the local chamber music scene and plays with the Rocky Mountain Symphony. This is her second appearance with FRC, the first being *The Pajama Game*, which was a blast!



KYLA DUPUIS (VIOLIN III)

As a long-time fan of musical theatre, Kyla is excited to be playing in her first production. She studied classical violin from 2000-2009. During a violin hiatus she fell in love with the local music scene. Befriending uniquely talented musicians encouraged her to play again. Kyla currently plays with the Golden Dinosaurs and can be found listening to local talent around YYC.



WINNIE YUE (VIOLA)

Geeky IT consultant by day, and even geekier violist by night! Winnie plays regularly with several symphony orchestras in town, but playing in the pit orchestra for broadway musicals is one of her favourite things. With her twins moving away for university this year, Winnie is contemplating retirement from her day job and playing a lot more music, especially with FRC.



TARYN LEAHY (VIOLA)

Taryn Leahy is in her final year of high school and plans to study biology at the University of Calgary next year. She enjoys ensemble playing and has participated in many orchestras and chamber groups. Taryn takes private lessons in viola and singing, and also enjoys reading and knitting.



EVA AMBROSE (CELLO)

Previously in *The Pajama Game*, Eva has been playing cello for only 4 years and is happy to return to FRC for her second production. She is a student of Music/Pre-Medicine at U of C, plays 7 instruments and teaches guitar, cello and mandolin here in Calgary.



ROBYN PHILLIPS (BASSOON (CELLO))

Robyn received her BMus from the University of Calgary, and now teaches bassoon both privately and at schools and camps in and around Calgary. She also performs with various ensembles, including the Rocky Mountain Symphony Orchestra, and Alberta Winds. She's been a part of many FRC productions in the past, and is excited to be helping out with yet another show, with such an amazing cast and crew!



ADAM PETTIGREW (STRING BASS/BASS GUITAR)

Adam is currently in his second year at the University of Calgary pursuing a BMus. He enjoys playing around Calgary in various groups and is very excited to be a part of Evita. This is his first show with FRC and hopes everybody enjoys Evita!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Heroes and Villains - a Disney revue -- Imagine Performing Arts Friday January 11th, 2019 - Sunday January 20th, 2019

Shakespeare in Love -- Morpheus Theatre Friday February 1st, 2019 - Saturday February 9th, 2019

Plaza Suite -- Simply Theatre Friday February 8th, 2019 - Saturday February 16th, 2019

john & jen -- Imagine Performing Arts Friday March 8th, 2019 - Sunday March 17th, 2019



TIM RICE (LYRICS)

BIO: THEMUSICALCOMPANY.COM; HEADSHOT: BUSINESSLIFE.BA.COM

Tim Rice has worked in music, theater, and film since 1965, when he met Andrew Lloyd Webber, a fellow struggling songwriter. Rather than pursue Tim's ambitions to write rock or pop songs, they turned their attention to Andrew's obsession – musical theater. He formed his own cricket team in 1973 and was president of the MCC in 2002. He has won many awards, mainly for the wrong things, or for simply turning up but in 2018 became one of only 15 people to reach EGOT status, when the NBC production of *Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert* won an Emmy for Outstanding Variety Special.



ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER (MUSIC)

BIO: THEMUSICALCOMPANY.COM; HEADSHOT: BROADWAYMUSICALHOME.COM

Andrew Lloyd Webber is the composer of some of the world's best known musicals including *Cats, Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar, The Phantom of the Opera* and *Sunset Boulevard.* He is currently working on a stage version of the movie SCHOOL OF ROCK which will begin previews at Broadway's Winter Garden Theatre in November this year. He was knighted by Her Majesty The Queen in 1992 and created an honorary member of the House of Lords in 1997. To mark his 70th birthday, his bestselling autobiography *Unmasked* was published by HarperCollins in March 2018.



JAMIE EASTGAARD-ROSS (DIRECTOR, SET DESIGN)

Jamie is thrilled to be directing again for FRC. Previous credits include *Brigadoon, My Fair Lady, Anything Goes*, and *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*. Elsewhere: *It's A Wonderful Life* (Morpheus), *Hairspray* (StoryBook), and *Tick, Tick, Boom!* (Scorpio), among many others. When not directing, Jamie still spends most of his time involved in theatre, be it performing, designing sets, or planning galas and festival booths. Much thanks to his amazing cast and team who got him through the most intense show he's ever directed, and of course to his ever supportive family and husband!



DAN DERKSEN (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)

Welcome to the Theatre Bio Drinking Game: every time you come across the word "excited" take a drink. No wait! That would be an enabler for death. Instead of drinks, donate dollars to the 50/50 Draw! Give those actors a good reason to say the Money Kept Rolling In!

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BRIAN HOLIDAY (MUSICAL DIRECTOR)

MD credits for FRC – Bells Are Ringing, South Pacific, Company, Kiss Me, Katel, Chicago (CAT Award recipient), Gypsy, and Anything Goes. Other: The Mikado, HMS Pinafore, Annie Get Your Gun. Thanks to Jamie and the rest of the production team for such a coordinated effort, especially Nick for leading the amazing orchestra in performing this wonderful Lloyd-Webber music. And what can he say about this incredibly talented cast – Bravo!!



ASHLEY SOLES (CHOREOGRAPHER)

Select Credits: Hedy la Rue/Dance Captain, How to Succeed... (FRC; CAT Award Nominee: Best Supporting Actress in a Musical); C.B.'s Sister, Dog Sees God (YYCP Productions) Maggie Saunders, Lend Me A Tenor (CCPA/Company C); Chippy/Suzette/Dance Captain, Dogfight (FRC); City of Angels (FRC; Choreographer). Training: The Canadian College of Performing Arts; the School of Alberta Ballet; Canada's National Ballet School; George Brown College; Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. Upcoming: Cha Cha, Grease (FRC). Thank you to the wonderful cast and crew for bringing this show to life!



JENN LANCIAULT (PRODUCER)

Jenn is happy (if feeling a little crazy) to be producing this show, especially with a baby on the way! Evita was one of the first shows in which Jenn was involved in NB back in 1999, so it's exciting to see it come to life newly! Production credits: Priscilla Queen of the Desert, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, and My Fair Lady (FRC), bare: a Pop Opera (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!



JASON JOHNSON (STAGE MANAGER)

Jason is ecstatic to be rejoining the Calgary theatre community upon his return to the city. *Evita* is his first show with FRC, but he is no stranger to the stage or production booth. With over 17 productions in his recent experience, Jason is a true community theatre family member. He has enjoyed every step of the process of joining the FRC team and looks forward to becoming a fixture in future productions.



JODY LOW (LIGHTING DESIGN)

Jody has been active as a theatre technician for over 40 years and has more than 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 has worked as a technician at the University of Lethbridge and the Yates Centre and was Technical Director for Centre Stage, Lethbridge. Jody has been twice nominated for a CAT Award for Outstanding Lighting Design, winning in 2018. She currently works for StoryBook Theatre.



HARLAN STERNER (MASTER CARPENTER)

Harlan has enjoyed building the set for *Evita*. He says it is always a pleasure to work with the cast and crew on an FRC production. Harlan would like to thank his wife Tricia, for her support. He would also like to thank his dog Pascal for spending many hours in the garage faithfully supervising the construction.



MAGZ ROSS (COSTUME DESIGN)

Magz is delighted to once again be working on a show with FRC. After the massive extravaganza that was *Priscilla*, she didn't think she would ever tackle another show. However, the Director of Evita had different ideas, and as he is her son, she finds it very difficult to say no to him! However, age and good sense are prevailing, and this will be her last show as a Costume Designer. She would like to thank in particular Shannon Lee Beshara and Lorna Stuber, for being her assistants on this show, and to her entire sewing team for making her look fantastic!



HEATHER LOW (PROP DESIGN, LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR)

Heather is excited to be working on one of her favorite productions and hopes the love she feels for the show comes through in each prop that gets used on the stage. Shout out to her wonderful fiancé who dealt with every break down with such finesse. And her roommate, the perfect basement troll.



STEVEN EASTGAARD-ROSS (SOUND DESIGN, COSTUME ASSISTANT)

Steven is proud to return to Sound Design another Front Row Centre Production. What a show he has in *Evita*. This beautifully crafted opera with its lush harmonies and talented performers has been a joy to design. Thank you to Brian and Nick for all the hard work and letting him collaborate and to Jamie for his support and vision.

TERRI STEVENS (HAIR DESIGN (WIG DESIGN))

Terri Stevens has been performing across Canada for over 25 years as a female impersonator, his comedic styling and wit leave you laughing in the aisles. Terri's contribution of wig styling is definitely an invaluable asset to the design of the show.



INDERJIT DHANJAL (MAKEUP DESIGN)

This is Inderjit's third show with FRC doing make up design. She's very excited for this immensely talented cast to bring her designs to life for you!



ELAYNE FISCHER (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

Elayne has been involved in community theatre for over 10 years. Countless productions, and many production companies have utilized her sewing skills over the years. With this production of *Evita* along with *Goodnight Moon* and *Crimes of the Heart*, Elayne has pushed her limits and stepped out from behind the sewing machine and added a new set of skills at her disposal. As a dedicated Assistant Stage Manager, she has had the opportunity to engage with the production process in a whole new way. She has loved the experience of working on *Evita* and hopes you all enjoy the show just as much.



ADAM RODGERS (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

While new to the Calgary community theatre family, Adam Rodgers brings plenty of experience from Medicine Hat Musical Theatre. Recent notable productions include *Bare: A Pop Opera, Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Boeing Boeing* among various others. The rewarding experience of successfully bringing a show together and the relationships developed during the production of a show keep Adam coming back to the theatre community.



TRISH BEFUS (PRODUCTION ASSISTANT, LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR)

Trish has stage managed many shows for FRC. Trish likes *Evita* enough to stage manage it again only with less people. Thanks to Jamie and Jason for letting her tag along. She feels incredibly lucky to be amongst this talented group of people. Much love to Lucian River who's joining us! Next up, she is assistant directing *Grease* at the Plaza.



RHONDA MOTTLE (RUNNING CREW)

FRC: The Pajama Game, Footloose (Betty Blast), My Fair Lady, Spamalot, Legally Blonde, ELSEWHERE: Little Women (Aunt March), Titanic (Edith Coors Evans), STORYBOOK: Willy Wonka (Grandma Georgina), James and the Giant Peach, Busytown, Peter Pan, Shrek, MORPHEUS: HMS Pinafore, COWTOWN OPERA: Ella Goes to Comic Expo

OF INTEREST: When not ensconced in theatre Rhonda is sharing her life with husband, Bruce, three children & two childrenin-law: David, Alayna, Megan, Brad, & Brian, and a new grandson, and friends. Thank you to Bruce for supporting Rhonda!



TRACY SMITH (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

This is Tracy's 16th production with FRC, her first was *Little Shop of Horrors* in 2006. For FRC, she was most recently seen in *City of Angels*.



KEN SILCOX (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

Ken has been operating a spotlight or working backstage for FRC for the past several years. He says he gets the best seat in the house and enjoys every show. Not too many years ago he was on stage more often than he was behind the scenes. Now he's not sure he can sing on key and his legs are too stiff to dance. He can remember lines, though. Unfortunately there is sometimes this two minute time lapse before he can deliver them! No, Ken is happier behind the scenes now.



ROSS WILSON (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

FOR FRC: debut ELSEWHERE: Select Credits Include: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Into The Woods, Jesus Christ Superstar, Crazy For You, High School Musical, The Little Mermaid (CMHS Theater Arts), Goosebumps (StoryBook). Ross has worked extensively with the PVA Theater Arts program at Central Memorial High School and is excited to bring his experience to the team. He is thrilled to be working on his first show with FRC and looks forward to working with them and StoryBook a lot more in the future!



SHANNON BESHARA (COSTUME ASSISTANT)

Shannon is usually digging around in the inventory trailer but will always be there for Magz whenever she calls! Other costuming adventures include *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert* (FRC) and *The Space* (Liffey Players). Occasionally, she is allowed to act, most recently in *Tiny Tim's Christmas Carol* (Workshop Theatre). She thanks her family for their love and support.



LORNA STUBER (COSTUME ASSISTANT)

Lorna would like to send out a huge bouquet of "thank-yous" to Magz for the invitation to be part of the costume team for this iconic show! Thanks to Magz, Shannon, and Steve for the great collaboration, and to Helen for the cutting room chats and giggles. Congratulations to the entire cast and crew for putting together such a great show to kick off 2019!! Happy New Year!!



OH WHAT A CIRCUS! THE HISTORY OF THE MUSICAL EVITA

Written by Gavin Liam Logan

Tim Rice first discovered the story of Eva Peron in 1973 when he was driving home and heard a radio program about the glamourous and controversial first lady of Argentina. The story appealed to Rice immediately: a protagonist who rose the ranks of their society from low-class worker in a backwater town to becoming an important and polarizing figure in society before dying tragically at the age of thirty-three (very similar to *Jesus Christ Superstar*). What drew Rice to the story initially appalled Lloyd Webber—he found Eva Peron despicable, but he trusted Rice's instincts. Rice told him: "I know you think she's a bitch but make her wonderful." Lloyd Webber did—the score is widely regarded as one of his finest by both music and theatre critics.

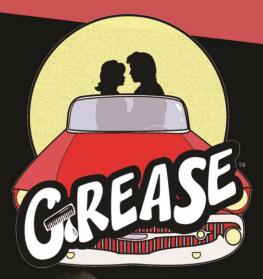
The pair wisely avoided a straight-forward retelling of Evita's life through the technique of using an omnipresent narrator (a Rice trademark—Judas in *Superstar*, the Narrator in *Joseph*, the Arbiter in *Chess*, and Princess Amneris in *Aida*). In Rice's original version, the narrator was Che, an 'Everyman' who dreams of fame and fortune as a chemist who has developed a new form of insecticide. When denied funding by Eva Peron's charitable foundation, he becomes bitter and angry, fueling his sarcastic, cynical take on the Perons. As they had for *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Rice and Lloyd Webber recorded the entire score as an album first—releasing it in 1976. The double-album was a huge success in England and Europe.

Evita was staged in London in 1978 by legendary director Harold Prince. Prince re-envisioned Che as the persona of the revolutionary Che Guevara (who grew up under the Peron regime, and left Argentina disillusioned as a result). Rice agreed, though this required substantial rewriting the score. Depending on the situation, Che is Eva's conscience, a sarcastic commentator, or a detached observer. The only time Che and Eva fully and truly interact in the "Waltz for Eva and Che", an ideological showdown wherein Eva temporarily banishes Che's niggling voice. Prince also requested a new song, "The Art Of The Possible", charting the rise of Colonel Juan Peron through a series of military coups-staged originally as a game of musical chairs. The London production was a huge success, but many American critics found it too soft in its portrayal of the Perons. For the 1979 Broadway production, the more pro-Evita elements were removed, Eva was more driven and angrier, Che more militant and scornful, and Peron an opportunist who saw in Eva his path to power. While the show opened to mixed reviews on Broadway, it was nevertheless a huge success at the Tony awards, winning Best Score and Best Musical, among others. After almost a decade and a half of starts, stops, writes, and rewrites, the film version of Evita debuted in 1996 starring Madonna, Antonio Banderas, and Jonathan Pryce. The most notable element of the film was the addition of a new Lloyd Webber and Rice song, "You Must Love Me" with a deliberately obscure lyric by Rice. Is the title a sudden awareness or a command? Is Eva realizing or manipulating? The song won the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

Evita returned to London's West End in 2006 starring Elena Roger, a native Argentinian. Rice and Lloyd Webber returned to the score once again; they revised several elements of the show, especially in the second act, and seamlessly wove "You Must Love Me" into the score. Lloyd Webber devised a new, more Latin set of orchestrations. This revised version is now considered the definitive version, and opened on Broadway in 2012, again starring Elena Roger and Ricky Martin as Che. The revised version is the version you will see tonight.

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