

STRATFORD FESTIVAL

DISCOVER OUR 2017 PLAYBILL

August 04 – December 31

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SHAKESPEARE

TWELFTH NIGHT

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 40 minutes including intermission

Festival Theatre

May 13 – October 21

Opens May 29

By: William Shakespeare

Director: Martha Henry

Starring: Sarah Afful, Shannon Taylor, Rod Beattie, Geraint Wyn Davies

He loves me. She loves me not.

Cast ashore in a strange land by a shipwreck that has separated her from her twin brother, Viola protects herself by adopting male disguise – a ruse that leads to hilarious confusion when she enters the service of the lovesick Duke Orsino, acting as go-between in his hopeless suit to the Countess Olivia.

Meanwhile, comic mayhem erupts in Olivia's household as her unruly uncle, Sir Toby Belch, makes mischief at the expense of her sternly disapproving steward, Malvolio.

Production support is generously provided by Jane Petersen Burfield & family, by Dr. Desta Leavine in memory of Pauline Leavine and by Jack Whiteside.

Support for the 2017 season of the Festival Theatre is generously provided by Daniel Bernstein & Claire Foerster.

SHAKESPEARE

TIMON OF ATHENS

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 32 minutes including intermission

Tom Patterson Theatre

May 8 – September 22

Opens June 2

By: William Shakespeare

Director: Stephen Ouimette

Starring: Joseph Ziegler, Tim Campbell, Mikaela Davies, Ijeoma Emesowum

From philanthropy to misanthropy

Convinced of the essential goodness of humanity, the wealthy nobleman Timon ignores all warnings that his reckless generosity can lead only to ruin and disillusionment. Finding himself bankrupt at last, Timon seeks financial assistance from the flattering “friends” on whom he has bestowed so many extravagant gifts and such lavish hospitality.

When all refuse him, he throws one last party – one that heralds a dramatic change in his attitude to the world.

Production support is generously provided by Cec & Linda Rorabeck.

Support for the 2017 season of the Tom Patterson Theatre is generously provided by Richard Rooney & Laura Dinner.

ROMEO AND JULIET

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 50 minutes including intermission

Festival Theatre

May 3 – October 21

Opens June 1

By: William Shakespeare

Director: Scott Wentworth

Starring: Antoine Yared, Sara Farb, Marion Adler, Evan Buliung

Love is never fair

Two families of Verona, the Montagues and the Capulets, have long been embroiled in a bitter feud – but despite their parents’ enmity, Romeo (a Montague) and Juliet (a Capulet) fall in love at first sight.

The sympathetic Friar Laurence marries them in secret – then, when Romeo is banished for his part in a fatal street brawl, conceives a daring scheme to reunite them. But for these two “star-crossed lovers,” love and death seem fated to entwine in a tragic embrace.

Production support is generously provided by Barbara & John Schubert.

Support for the 2017 season of the Festival Theatre is generously provided by Daniel Bernstein & Claire Foerster.

FAMILY

TREASURE ISLAND

Approximate Runtime: 1 hour 53 minutes including intermission

World première of adaptation commissioned by the Stratford Festival

Avon Theatre

April 22 – October 22

Opens June 3

By: Robert Louis Stevenson

Adapted by: Nicolas Billon

Director: Mitchell Cushman

Starring: Thomas Mitchell Barnet,
Juan Chioran, Sarah Dodd, Miali
Buscemi

Adventure ahoy!

A pirate arrives at the Admiral Benbow Inn looking for a former shipmate – and the treasure map he has stolen. But when that map falls into the hands of young Jim Hawkins, the innkeeper's son, he and the grown-ups who befriend him become the pirates' next prey.

Seeking the treasure in a chartered ship, they find that their crew – foremost among them the one-legged Long John Silver – are no less eager to get their hands on the gold.

Treasure Island is action packed and includes gunshots, sword and knife fights, as well as some images and sounds that may startle some very young buccaneers.

Support for the 2017 season of the Avon Theatre is generously provided by the Birmingham family.

MUSICAL

HMS PINAFORE

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 4 minutes including intermission

Avon Theatre

May 4 – October 21

Opens May 31

Book and lyrics by: W.S. Gilbert

Music by: Arthur Sullivan

Director: Lezlie Wade

Choreographer: Kerry Gage

Starring: Jennifer Rider-Shaw,

Mark Uhre, Lisa Horner, Laurie

Murdoch

Ship-shape sensational

This production is dedicated to the memory of former acting company member Richard McMillan and sound engineer Bill Gosling.

Can love really level ranks, or must lowly seaman Ralph Rackstraw pine in vain for Josephine, his captain's lovely daughter? She has, after all, been promised by her father to Sir Joseph Porter, First Lord of the Admiralty.

And what of Captain Corcoran himself, and the "plump and pleasing" dockside vendor Little Buttercup who privately yearns for him? These differences of station seem insuperable obstacles to happy union – until a startling secret is revealed.

Production support is generously provided by Nona Macdonald Heaslip.

Support for the 2017 season of the Avon Theatre is generously provided by the Birmingham family.

MUSICAL

GUYS AND DOLLS

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 49 minutes including intermission

Festival Theatre

April 15 – October 29

Opens May 30

Music lyrics by: Frank Loesser

Book by: Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows

Director and Choreographer:

Donna Feore

Starring: Sean Arbuckle, Evan Bu-
liung, Alexis Gordon, Blythe Wilson

Romance by chance

Desperate for funds to secure a venue for his illicit gambling enterprise, Nathan Detroit offers high roller Sky Masterson what he thinks is a safe bet. Can Sky take any doll Nathan cares to name on a date to Havana, Cuba?

Surely not if the “doll” Nathan chooses is strait-laced Sergeant Sarah Brown of the Save-a-Soul Mission. But it turns out that hearts are at stake in this game as well as souls – and where love’s concerned there’s no telling how the dice will land.

A musical fable of Broadway, based on a story and characters of Damon Runyon

Production support is generously provided by Mary Ann & Robert Gorlin, by Riki Turofsky & Charles Petersen and by Catherine & David Wilkes.

Support for the 2017 season of the Festival Theatre is generously provided by Daniel Bernstein & Claire Foerster.

COMEDY

COMEDY

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 39 minutes including intermission

Avon Theatre

May 15 – October 21

Opens June 3

By: Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Director: Antoni Cimolino

Starring: Shannon Taylor, Joseph Ziegler, Maev Beaty, Brent Carver

Rumour has it

The hypocritical Joseph Surface and society gossip Lady Sneerwell conspire to slander Joseph's prodigal but honest brother Charles, hoping to discredit him in the eyes of Maria, wealthy ward of Sir Peter Teazle.

The newly married Sir Peter, meanwhile, is dismayed by his flighty young bride's association with the scandalmongers. But more than one pair of eyes are opened when the brothers' uncle, Sir Oliver, dons his own masks of deception in order to discover the truth.

Production support is generously provided by M. Fainer, by Drs.

M.L. Myers & the late W.P. Hayman and by the Tremain family.

Support for the 2017 season of the Avon Theatre is generously provided by the Birmingham family.

TARTUFFE

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 27 minutes including intermission

Festival Theatre

August 1 – October 13

Opens August 17

By: Molière

Translated by: Ranjit Bolt

Director: Chris Abraham

Starring: Tom Rooney, Graham Abbey, Maev Beaty, Rosemary Dunsмор

Fooled. Fooling. Foolish.

By taking the homeless and holy-seeming Tartuffe under his roof, the wealthy bourgeois Orgon thinks he is harbouring a pillar of piety. But in fact Orgon is the one who has been taken in – by a ruthless hypocrite and con artist.

With Orgon determined to marry his daughter to Tartuffe – and blind to the latter's lecherous designs on his wife – it's up to the rest of the household to expose the fraudster. But revealing the truth, it turns out, entails dangers of its own.

Production support is generously provided by Dr. Dennis & Dorothea Hacker, by the Harkins/Manning families in memory of Jim & Susan Harkins, by Bob & Martie Sachs and by Dr. Louis & Mrs. Mary Jane Zako in celebration of their 60th wedding Anniversary.

Support for the 2017 season of the Festival Theatre is generously provided by Daniel Bernstein & Claire Foerster.

COMEDY

THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 40 minutes including intermission

World première of translation commissioned by the Stratford Festival

Tom Patterson Theatre

August 3 – October 1

Opens August 18

By: Jean Giraudoux

Translated by: David Edney

Director: Donna Feore

Starring: Seana McKenna, Wayne Best, Ben Carlson, Yanna McIntosh

She's the ultimate irresistible force

A syndicate of unscrupulous entrepreneurs plan to exploit a hitherto unsuspected resource: oil beneath the streets of Paris. Their only obstacle is the city itself, with its historic buildings, monuments and intractably bohemian inhabitants, all requiring to be swept away in pursuit of wealth.

With the spirit of art and culture pitted against the remorseless demands of commerce, it falls to a woman who has lived too long in the past to lead the fight for humanity's future.

Production support is generously provided by Bob & Martie Sachs and by Alice & Tim Thornton.

Support for the 2017 season of the Tom Patterson Theatre is generously provided by Richard Rooney & Laura Dinner.

DRAMA

DRAMA

THE BREATHING HOLE

WORLD PREMIÈRE

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 38 minutes including intermission

World première commissioned by the Stratford Festival

Studio Theatre

July 30 – September 22

Opens August 18

By: Colleen Murphy

Director: Reneltta Arluk

Starring: Randy Hughson, Yolanda Bonnell, Angelina FosterdelMundo, Johnny Issaluk

Time will tell

Specially commissioned by the Festival to mark Canada 150.

In 1534, an Inuit widow, Huumittuq, has a strange dream. The next day, she discovers an orphaned polar bear cub and – somewhat to the alarm of her community – adopts it. Over the next 500 years, the bear encounters many other humans, among them explorer Sir John Franklin and his doomed crew, 21st-century scientists and entrepreneurs, and the passengers and crew of an Arctic cruise ship, who finally – and fatally – fulfil the mysterious vision that came to Huumittuq half a millennium earlier.

Audience Advisory

The Breathing Hole includes some strong language and may include male nudity.

Production support is generously provided by Esther & Sam Sarick.

Support for the 2017 season of the Studio Theatre is generously provided by Sandra & Jim Pitblado.

BAKKHAI

Approximate Runtime: 1 hour 42 minutes with no intermission

Tom Patterson Theatre

May 27 – September 23

Opens June 16

By: Euripides

A new version by: Anne Carson

Director: Jillian Keiley

Starring: Mac Fyfe, Lucy Peacock,
Graham Abbey, Jasmine Chen

Power. Unbound.

The demi-god Dionysos has arrived in Thebes in human form with vengeance in his heart. Derided as an imposter by the city's ruler, King Pentheus, this charismatic stranger has induced madness in the Theban women, who have run off to join his cult of female followers, the Bakkhai.

News of their frenzied rioting prompts Pentheus to declare war on the Bakkhai – who include his own mother, Agave – only to be lured by Dionysos toward a fate of the starkest horror.

Production support is generously provided by M.E.H. Foundation.

Support for the 2017 season of the Tom Patterson Theatre is generously provided by Richard Rooney & Laura Dinner.

DRAMA

THE VIRGIN TRIAL

WORLD PREMIÈRE

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 4 minutes including intermission

World première commissioned by the Stratford Festival

Studio Theatre

June 7 – September 30

Opens June 27

By: Kate Hennig

Director: Alan Dilworth

Starring: Bahia Watson, Nigel Bennett, Laura Condlin, Yanna McIntosh

Don't get too comfortable

Bess has been summoned by her uncle Ted Seymour, the new Lord Protector, to shed light on her relationship with his brother Thom. Thom faces a charge of high treason for attempting to assassinate the nine-year-old king, Bess's brother Eddie. As Ted's investigation proceeds, Bess becomes dangerously implicated in Thom's plot. Who ultimately will be put on trial, and in what court? And how can a 15-year-old girl grow up quickly enough to defend her own innocence?

Audience Advisory

The Virgin Trial deals with mature themes of sexuality and violence, and includes occasional strong language.

Production support is generously provided by Karon C. Bales & Charles E. Beall, by Sylvia D. Chrominska and by Dr. Robert & Roberta Sokol.

Support for the 2017 season of the Studio Theatre is generously provided by Sandra & Jim Pitblado.

THE CHANGELING

Approximate Runtime: 2 hours 25 minutes including intermission

Tom Patterson Theatre

May 25 – September 23

Opens June 15

By: Thomas Middleton and William Rowley

Director: Jackie Maxwell

Starring: Ben Carlson, Mikaela Davies, Cyrus Lane, Jessica B. Hill

A perfect crime, until you get away with it

In love with Alsemero while unwillingly betrothed to another man, Beatrice-Joanna plots the murder of her unwanted fiancé. To carry out the deed, she enlists her father's servant, De Flores, a man she has always treated with contempt yet who secretly harbours an overwhelming desire for her. She plans to reward him with gold; he, however, has a different form of payment in mind. The consequences prove fatal as Beatrice-Joanna struggles in a trap of her own making.

Audience Advisory

The Changeling deals with mature themes of sexuality and violence.

Production support is generously provided by Max & Helen Jacobs.

Support for the 2017 season of the Tom Patterson Theatre is generously provided by Richard Rooney & Laura Dinner.

DRAMA

THE KOMAGATA MARU INCIDENT

Approximate Runtime: 1 hour 40 minutes with no intermission

Studio Theatre

August 5 – September 24

Opens August 19

By: Sharon Pollock

Director: Keira Loughran

Starring: Omar Alex Khan, Quelimia Sparrow, Kiran Ahluwalia, Tyrone Savage

A political storm with no port

In May 1914, as war looms in Europe, the Japanese steamer Komagata Maru arrives in Vancouver harbour, carrying 376 would-be immigrants of East Indian origin. As subjects of the British empire, all are entitled to enter Canada, but the authorities refuse to let them ashore.

While using every means at his disposal to enforce the racist policies of his political masters, immigration inspector William Hopkinson is torn between his own ambition and the secret he harbours within.

Audience Advisory

Set largely in a brothel, The Komagata Maru Incident deals with mature themes and contains some profane language. Some characters use offensive racial slurs.

Production support is generously provided by Bunny Skelly.

Support for the 2017 season of the Studio Theatre is generously provided by Sandra & Jim Pitblado.

SCHEDULE

Monday

No Performances

Tuesday

2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>HMS Pinafore</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Timon of Athens</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Virgin Trial</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Treasure Island</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Madwoman of Chaillot</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Tartuffe</i>

Wednesday

2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Bakkhai</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Breathing Hole</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The School for Scandal</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Changeling</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>HMS Pinafore</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Komagata Maru Incident</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>

Thursday

2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Breathing Hole</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>HMS Pinafore</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Timon of Athens</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Madwoman of Chaillot</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Tartuffe</i>

Friday

2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Breathing Hole</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The School for Scandal</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Komagata Maru Incident</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Madwoman of Chaillot</i>

Saturday

2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Changeling</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>HMS Pinafore</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Treasure Island</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Komagata Maru Incident</i>

Sunday

2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Bakkhai</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>
2:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>Treasure Island</i>
8:00 PM	. . . . .	<i>The Virgin Trial</i>

