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Theatre Festival

# CLASSIC COUNTRY ROADS

JUN 17 - AUG 21

Conceived and Directed by **Mark DuMez**  
Musical Direction and Arrangements by **Heather Burns**  
Additional Arrangements by **Brad Shipley**

Costume Designer **Crystal Hanson**  
Set Designer **Nic Timmenga**  
Lighting & Projection Designer **Craig Alfredson**  
Movement Coach **Alison Roberts**  
Stage Manager **Ronaye Haynes**  
Asst Stage Manager **Jasmin Sandhu**

## The Company

*In Alphabetical Order*

Sean Baker	Kaden Forsberg	Brad Shipley
Georgia Bennett	Julian Glover	Kaito Takeda
Heather Burns	Melissa Kahan	Katelyn Morishita
Dorothy Dittrich	Michael MacKinnon	Kraig Wayne

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THERE WILL BE ONE 20 MINUTE INTERMISSION

With gratitude, we acknowledge the Puneluxutth (Penelakut) Tribe and the hul'qumi'num speaking peoples, on whose traditional territory we work and play.

**Presented with the generous assistance of**



The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited. Please turn off cellular phones or pagers in the theatre. Chemainus Theatre Festival engages, under the terms of the Independent Theatre Agreement, professional Artists who are members of the Canadian Actor's Equity Association. The Chemainus Theatre Festival acknowledges the support of Canadian Actor's Equity Association and its members.



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## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTES



Country music brings up strong opinions. As Dolly Parton said, "If you talk bad about country music, it's like saying bad things about my momma. Them's fightin' words." The music also expresses deep longings and joys – from high lonesome sounds floating through hills to harmonies of families singing together. I am extremely

thankful for the hard work of Heather Burns, our Musical Director, on this intricate piece. With diligence and spirit, she and the team have brought a wonderful musical moxie to this tribute, which weaves its way along Route 66 and even heads north of the 49th parallel.

It has been a treat to wander and reminisce down these country trails for this summer celebration of song in Chemainus. During the freelance time of my career, I had the good fortune to spend the better part of a couple of seasons in and around Nashville, TN, and Louisville, KY. From the jambalaya to the hootenannies, places like the Appalachian Trail, The Blue Ridge Mountains and the Cumberland River helped to etch deep impressions which stayed with me for many years. I am thankful to have experienced much hospitality there. And this summer, I'm grateful to spend the summer with this exciting team of artists singing songs which celebrate hope, healing, and harmony. Enjoy the show!

Mark has served as Artistic Director at the Chemainus Theatre Festival since 2009, where directing credits include *The Sound of Music*, *Silent Sky*, *Hilda's Yard*, *Mousetrap*, *Ring of Fire*, *Amadeus*, *A Shayna Maidel*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Jeeves in Bloom* and *Jeeves Take a Bow*. Favourite acting roles include playing Muskrat in *Lumberjacks in Love*, as well as roles in *Queen Milli of Galt*, *Mass Appeal* and *Streetcar Named Desire (CTF)*, *John Gabriel Borkman (Theatre X)* and the *Dauphin in Henry V (Kentucky Shakespeare Festival)*. He has developed new work and adaptations for children and adults (*Pet the Fish*, *Little Women*) and glad to be working on this show at the Chemainus Theatre Festival and with the many exciting and talented artists who come to play on our stage.



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## MANAGING DIRECTOR'S NOTES



Howdy All!

I love summer on Vancouver Island, surrounded by natural beauty and the best climate in Canada. Chemainus serves the perfect rural seaside setting for an immersive live theatre experience. After two theatrically dormant summers, this year holds promise for a level of festivity that harkens back to years past. Chemainus Theatre is grateful to be back onstage producing live theatre. Recent history has shown how fragile the arts are, and after all we have been through, it is wondrous to see this venue filled once again with music, song and, thank heavens, an audience.

We are incredibly grateful for the faithful generosity of over 1,000 household and corporate donors who banded together multiple times throughout the pandemic to keep the pulse of Chemainus Theatre beating at a subsistence level. As my friend Dr. Don Hilton says, “we’re all in this together,” and it was only by coming together that the theatre has had this opportunity to reemerge.

There’s still much heavy lifting ahead as Chemainus Theatre rebuilds and redefines itself amidst a time of great change. The theatre industry was among the hardest hit by the pandemic, and restoring it after two lost years of box office revenue will take time. The Chemainus Theatre exists because of you -the audience – and we will forge a new chapter in this three-decade adventure with your continued support. There is more theatre in store for 2022 – please see the reverse of this program for the season’s playbill. Now sit back, relax, and prepare for some great music and fun in *Classic Country Roads* – our home-brewed creation paying tribute to some of the greatest country music artists of all time.

Randal Huber, Managing Director

# Company Members *in alphabetical order*



## **CRAIG ALFREDSON - LIGHTING & PROJECTION DESIGNER**

Craig is happy to be back designing at Chemainus after a pandemic hiatus. Based in Vancouver BC, Craig has been working for over 20 years with many different theatre and dance companies and his work has been seen across Canada as well as internationally. He also works as an instructor for the Douglas College Stagecraft program.

Previous credits at Chemainus include Once, Mamma Mia, Grease, and Million Dollar Quartet.



## **SEAN BAKER - HOST / FEATURED SINGER**

This is Sean's first production with the Chemainus Theatre Festival. Born and raised on Vancouver Island, Sean Baker has been a performer since childhood. As a professional musician Sean performed with his band Celebrity Traffic as well as his own solo act: Sean J.E. Baker. Recently Sean co-starred in the feature film Fragile Seeds. Some of his previous theatre credits include: Rent(VOS), Wizard of Oz(VOS), and Urinetown(Langham Court).



## **GEORGIA BENNETT - HOST / FEATURED SINGER**

Georgia is a graduate of Sheridan College's Class of 2017, and was last seen at CTF in "Holiday Jubilation". Some of her favourite credits include "The Magician's Nephew", "The Lion the Witch & the Wardrobe" & "Little Women" (CTF), Back to B4: A Bingo Bonanza (Smile Theatre), One Small Step (Toronto Fringe), Rumspringa Break! An Am-ish Musical (CMTP, TPM, NSTF), Dogfight & Senza Luce (Theatre Sheridan). Television: Ginny & Georgia



## **HEATHER BURNS - MUSICAL DIRECTOR / KEYS**

Heather Burns is grateful to be back on the Chemainus Theatre stage, sharing this musical experience with the incredible artists you will see and hear today. She works as a free-lance musician and musical director, holds a MA in Performance Arts and enjoys opportunities to teach, direct & perform both locally and abroad. Heather has released 3 CD's of her own: "Child's Play" (2005) and "Road Back Home" (2008), and "As Long As I'm Singing" (2016) with Dock Side Drive.





### **DOROTHY DITTRICH - ASST. MUSICAL DIRECTOR / ALT. KEYS**

Dorothy Dittrich is a playwright, musician and sound designer. Her most recent play *The Piano Teacher* received a Jessie award for outstanding script and has just been published by Talon books. A long-time member of the Vancouver Theatre community, Dorothy has recently moved to the island and is proud to call Nanaimo home. She is thrilled to be part of this production and wonderful team.



### **KADEN FORSBERG - HOST / FEATURED SINGER**

Actor/singer KADEN FORSBERG is a versatile artist who crosses genres as a creator and performer. He is known for leading roles in stage work as well as writing and touring with vocal trio: VOLARE TENORS. As a classically trained singer, Kaden brings elevated vocals and stylish interpretations to golden-age Broadway, mega-musicals, pop music, and even some opera/operetta...but nothing brings him back to his Prairie roots more than country music!



### **JULIAN GLOVER - ALTERNATE VIOLIN**

Julian Glover is a composer and violinist from Victoria BC. He explores various styles of modern music such as popular electronic, contemporary classical, and funk. Julian has won the DigiBC music competition in 2019, as well as first place in the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival for composition in 2017 and 2018. He is currently in the Performance and Composition programs at the University of Victoria.



### **CRYSTAL HANSON - COSTUME DESIGNER**

Crystal is a graduate of the Fashion Design & Technology Program at Kwantlen University College. Past costume designs at the Chemainus Theatre Festival include *Silent Sky*, *Pride & Prejudice*, *A Lovely Sunday*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Ring of Fire*, *Grace & Glorie*, *Waiting for the Parade*, *All Shook Up* (Gateway Theatre co-production): *Countryside Christmas* and *Ah, Wilderness!* She would like to thank her parents for their support and encouragement.



### **RONAYE HAYNES - STAGE MANAGER**

For CTF: "The Magician's Nephew", "I & You". Selected credits for the Arts Club Theatre Company: "Da Kink in my Hair", "Noises Off", "Bed & Breakfast", "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time", "Mom's the Word", "Red Rock Diner", "Once", "Miss Saigon", "Beauty & the Beast" & "It's a Wonderful life". Other Companies: GCTC, Globe, NAC, the Gateway Theatre, The Vancouver Playhouse Theatre, The Belfry, Vancouver TheatreSports.



### **MELISSA KAHAN - ENSEMBLE / UNDERSTUDY HOST**

Melissa Kahan attended the Canadian College of Performing Arts. There, she played Jane Banks in Disney's Mary Poppins. In 2019, Melissa was awarded best actress for her portrayal of Anne in NTG's festival production of The Diary of Anne Frank. Melissa has voiced several children's audiobooks and worked on Five Nights At Freddy's: Security Breach. She is excited to join the Chemainus Theatre festival for the first time. @melifawn



### **MICHAEL MACKINNON - BAND / PERCUSSION**

Michael grew up drumming for pub-rock cover bands in southwest Scotland, before joining many different musical projects around Vancouver. From 2008 to 2017, he pursued a career as an opera singer, performing on stage across Europe. Now, he has a degree in education from VIU and plans to be a teacher. He is thrilled to have the opportunity to get behind the kit again in Chemainus this summer.



### **KATELYN MORISHITA - HOST / FEATURED SINGER**

Katelyn is so excited to be working with Chemainus Theatre! Select acting credits: Steel Magnolias (Theatre Calgary), Murder In The Studio (Vertigo Theatre), Billy Elliot the Musical (Theatre Calgary), Never Ending Story, Matilda the Musical (StoryBook Theatre), Canada the Musical (Carter Ryan Productions). Select directing credits: 9 to 5 The Musical (Citadel Theatre), The Shift (One Act Play Festival), Junior Claus the Musical (StoryBook Theatre). Much love to her family and friends for their never ending support.



### **ALISON ROBERTS - MOVEMENT COACH**

Alison is a graduate of CCPA, the Banff Centre, Harbour Dance's ITP, and most recently, Uvic, earning a BFA with a Minor in Business with Distinction. Select performance credits: Crazy For You (Citadel, Theatre Calgary), Spamalot, Beauty & the Beast (Arts Club), Mamma Mia (Citadel), West Side Story (Citadel, Vancouver Opera, Rainbow Stage). Recent creative team credits: Mamma Mia, Beauty & the Beast (VOS). Upcoming: Spring Awakening (Phoenix).



### **JASMIN SANDHU - ASST. STAGE MANAGER**

This is Jasmin's first show with Chemainus Theatre & as a newly joined Equity member! Select credits include; Reveal + Tell & What If (ASM, Ballet BC) East Van Panto: Alice in Wonderland (ApSM, Theatre Replacement), No Child (ApSM, ACTC), House at Pooh Corner (ApSM, CTYP), It's a Wonderful Life, Herringbone (ApSM, Patrick Street Productions), The Windsinger, Second Star to the Right & It's a Bit Grimm (Place des Arts).



### **BRAD SHIPLEY - BAND / GUITAR**

Brad loves playing music on many different stringed contraptions including the 4 and 5-string banjo, ukulele, mandolin, lap steel and the humble instrument know as the guitar. Brad has played music for audiences over the past 30 years and is thrilled to be back performing again at Chemainus Theater. Past shows include Mamma Mia, Grease, Rock legends and Footloose.



### **KAITO TAKEDA - BAND / VIOLIN**

Based in Victoria, Kaito Takeda is a multi-instrumentalist who loves to perform in a variety of spaces. From arranging and performing with his band (Auburn Blind) & string quartet (Breakwater Quartet) to performing with the Victoria Symphony, Kai has found diversity in how he shares his love of music. He has recently found enjoyment in work as a copyist and recording musician for film scores and albums.



## NIC TIMMENGA - SET DESIGNER

Nic Timmenga is excited to be joining Chemainus Theatre for his first professional set design credit. Having left in 2019 after being the Technical Director for 5 years, he's glad to once again be part of the production team at CTF.



## KRAIG WAYE - BAND / BASS

Howdy! Kraig is excited to be back on the CTF stage, and thrilled to officially call Vancouver Island his home. Kraig has worked as a musician, music director, and/or actor in over 50 theatrical productions all across Canada. He is also a music producer and songwriter. Currently, he's producing an original album for Vancouver-based artist, Jeff Bryant, entitled "All In Good Time". As always, love to Cæleigh and Steph; my everything.

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"Tracey Power's play GLORY uses jazz music and dancing to tell the story of one of the first pro women's hockey teams"

Matt Olson - Star Phoenix

Chemainus Theatre Festival is proud to present GLORY, a swinging, bruising hockey story inspired by the thrilling story of a real-life Canadian championship women's hockey team of the 1930s.

GLORY is the story of four friends who set out in 1933 to prove to Canada that a woman's place is... on home ice. Can they fight through the Depression, prejudice, looming tensions in Europe and personal upheaval to forge their path to Glory? Told with electrifying swing dance, GLORY captures all the thrills, suspense, and triumphs of a great hockey game.

"I had no idea women were playing hockey at such a high level at that time, and I was so amazed by the story of the Preston Rivulettes that I wanted more Canadians to hear it as well," says Playwright Tracey Power. The era was also exciting because swing music and dance are so vibrant and a perfect inspiration for bringing the hockey games to life on stage." Tracey has choreographed Glory's action-packed hockey games on stage to upbeat swing dance. Tracey has much experience combining her playwriting and choreography talents into critically and popular acclaim, such as with Chelsea Hotel, The Songs of Leonard Cohen and Miss Shakespeare, where she collaborated with Steven Charles.

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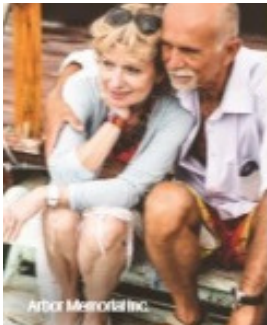




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# STAFF AND BOARD

## Administration

**Managing Director:** Randal Huber

**Personnel Officer:** Anita McCallum

**Sponsorship Assoc.:** Marlie Kelsey

**Accounting:** Susan Lumholst-Smith

**Marketing Director:** Michelle Vogelgesang

## Front of House

**Manager:** Cassidy Marat

**Coordinator:** Stephanie Allesia

## Facilities and IT

**Manager:** Damion Knight

**Assistant:** Don Smyth

**Maintenance:** Erv Goertz

## Box Office

**Manager:** Andrea Starr

**Group Bookings Coord:** Karen Sharanowski

**Head Ticket Agent:** Dale Lehmann

**Ticket Agents:** Petra van Linschoten,  
Ariane Molsberry

## Gallery Gift Shop

**Manager:** Lorna Rivard

**Assistants:** Carol Granger, Kathryn Jacobsen,  
Susan Lumholst-Smith, Ariane Molsberry,  
Fonda Newell, Louise Squire

## Production

**Artistic Director:** Mark DuMez

**Production Manager:** Claire Friedrich

**Production Coordinator:** Sarah Carlé-Owen

**Technical Director:** Nick Barrett

**Asst. TD/Head of Sound:** Lukas Smith

**Head of Wardrobe:** Crystal Hanson

**Wardrobe Lead Hand:** Mary Downes

**Scenic Painter:** Jennifer Hedge

**Production Assistants:** Cailey Biggs,  
Parker Feenstra, Julian Glover, Shael O'Brien

**Crew:** Madison Mahon

## Playbill Dining Room

**Exec Chef/Hospitality Manager:**

Benjamin Terlien

**Exec Sous Chef:** Valerie Butler

**Pianists:** Dwight Siemens, Dave Liefertz

**Staff:** Jeanette Antoine, Treydon Baker,  
Barry Bissonnette, Judith Buckley, Janie  
Dyson, Eli Eckert-Johnson, Rory Hopkins,  
Mikhayla Knott, Kelly McPherson, Pierrette  
Perreault, Rebecca Rhode, Kailie Shelton,  
Catherine Stiles, Tyrone Sylvester, Kaleb  
Thomas, Hannah Zimmer, Maddy Zimmer

## VOLUNTEER BOARD

### Cheminus Theatre Festival Society

**Chair:** Pat Moore

**Vice-Chair:** Tim Erickson

**Treasurer:** Stuart Price

### Cheminus Theatre Foundation

**Chair:** David Pink

**Vice-Chair:** Mike Skene

**Treasurer:** Stuart Price

## Founders

LaVerne Erickson, Ken Smith (1927-2017)

## Directors at Large

Irma Andersen, Eileen Godkin, Jeremy  
Martin, Kerry McIntyre, Larry Myhre

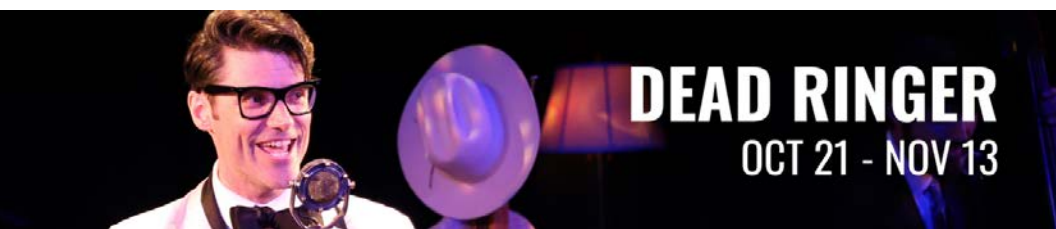
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