

# A TINY CHRISTMAS CAROL

Adapted by Jessica Schacht and Mark DuMez







## CHRISTINE REIMER FEATUREDARTIST







## Adapted by Jessica Schacht and Mark DuMez

### **The Creative Team**

Director	Ming Hudson
Set Designer	James O'Leary
Lighting Designer	Celeste English
Costume Designer	Crystal Hanson
Sound Designer	Chris Ross-Ewart
Stage Manager	Liz King
Asst Stage Manager	Jeana Maclsaac

### **The Cast**

Louise Phillips	Scrooge
Emma Slipp	Ensemble
Jay Clift	Ensemble
Yasmin D'Oshun	Ensemble
Stephen Thakkar	Ensemble
Talietha Sangha	Understudy

#### 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.

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## **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTES - MARK DUMEZ**



Thank you for joining us for the final show of 2022. What a year it has been! After restrictions were lifted, CTF hopped back into creating live, professional theatre in the heart of Vancouver Island. This year, we have been experimenting with new kinds of storytelling – opening with a Film Festival and Michael Clarke's story in The Journey.

We rejoiced to restage The 39 Steps in the spring, bring forth sweet harmonies in Classic Country Roads all summer, explore the grit and exciting choreography in Glory and welcome Zachary Stevenson back live in Dead Ringer. While producing these shows in Chemainus, we also made a web series – The Seasiders – which you can enjoy on YouTube, a cabaret series in the Playbill Dining Room, and have been planning for an exciting 2023 season which we look forward to telling you all about early in the new year!

And here we are in the holidays with a devised, ensemble-based collaboration of A Christmas Carol and the opportunity to see and hear this chestnut with a new lens. Thank you to Ming Hudson and the fantastic team assembled for their creative and playful staging in this imaginative space and to co-adaptor Jessica Schacht for her insight, balance and curiosity.

We thank all of you for joining us in this place again – for recognizing and celebrating the close of 2022 and looking forward to 2023 with the Chemainus Theatre Festival. We thank the great volunteers, artists, staff and community with whom we serve and for their collective enthusiasm for keeping this vibrant space thriving. Peace and joy to you all!

Mark DuMez Artistic Director

## **MANAGING DIRECTOR'S NOTES - RANDAL HUBER**



Welcome to the final production of our 2022 season! After two lost seasons, it's a triumph to get this year under our belt. It's been a season of re-emergence, shaking off the cobwebs and rediscovering the art of live theatre. We're extremely grateful that you've returned to the theatre. We expect to close 2022 with 30,000 tickets sold. While this is

well below pre-pandemic seasons, we're encouraged by the box office response and proud of the artistry of the past year. The many messages of support have been heartily appreciated.

Next year we look forward to continuing the process of re-connecting with the audience that have carried Chemainus Theatre through three decades, as well as drawing in new audiences. We're putting the final touches on our 2023 season, and we can't wait to share all the news with you in January. This is a little later than normal, but we're getting there – one step at a time. We promise it will be a fulsome year of top-notch plays, including comedy, music, drama, mystery, and intrigue.

Please see the insert in your program to learn about an important matched giving program presently on offer. Chemainus Theatre will need help to mount the upcoming season, and this is a meaningful opportunity to double the impact of your donations. Gifts are eligible for tax deductible receipts and make you eligible for donor benefits, including advance notice of shows and events.

Gift certificates are also available online or through the box office. They make a great Christmas present and 2023's season lineup will include something for everyone, even the most ardent bah humbugs in your circle of acquaintances.

Wishing you the very best for the holidays and a wonderful Christmas.

Randal Huber Managing Director

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTES - MING HUDSON**



"All come in! One after another; some shyly, some boldly, some gracefully, some awkwardly, some pushing, some pulling; in they all came, anyhow and everyhow." ~ Fezziwig ~

It is with warmth and gratitude that we welcome you into the world of A Tiny Christmas Carol! This brand new adaptation of the Dickens classic invites you to experience this timeless story in a way you never have before. Meet Scrooge in the sparse, grey reality she has created, surrounded by the ledgers of her life. Headed towards a dark, lonely future, Scrooge must embark on a journey to let colour and community back into her heart.

The past few years have also been grey and lonely for all of us. It's been difficult not to be able to gather in the ways we were able to before. So this production feels particularly special and significant. For us as artists, we came together to create this show collaboratively. From the design concepts to the action you see on stage, everything was made as a collective. And for you as our audience, we invite you to join our community for a moment. We hope that this show lifts your spirit and brings a little bit more colour to your holiday season.

My sincere thanks goes to our incredible adaptors for laying the foundation on which the rest of us could play, our unbelievable design team for building a beautiful environment in which the rest of us could immerse, and our dedicated production and administrative teams for holding the structure within which the rest of us could feel safe. To the fearless stage management team and performers, thank you for your generosity and openness in the creation of this piece. And to you, our audience, a heartfelt thank you for welcoming us in your community, anyhow and everyhow.

From our family to yours, happy holidays and enjoy the show!

Ming is a Vancouver-based artist who pays rent on the lands stolen from the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. For almost 20 years, she has worked as a freelance performer, devised theatre creator, collaborative director, independent producer, and teaching artist. Recent credits include work with: UVic, CCPA, Bard on the Beach, Dell'Arte International, Gwaandak Theatre, TheatreOne, The Arts Club, Studio 58, and Green Thumb Theatre. In addition, she has created nine new independent productions, which have been performed in five different countries.

## Company Members in alphabetical order



#### **ENSEMBLE - JAY CLIFT**

Jay is a Jessie Award winning theatre artist. He works in a variety of capacities within the theatre community including as an actor and designer. Recent credits include Silent Sky (Chemainus Theatre Festival), Long Division (Pi Theatre) and Shop Talk (Theatre SKAM). He is thrilled to be back in Chemainus and to be working with an exceptionally talented group of people. Jay is a graduate of Studio 58.



### **ENSEMBLE - YASMIN D'OSHUN**

Yasmin is extremely grateful to be making her CTF debut in this re-imagined classic! Born and raised in Salvador, Brazil, she arrived to Canada in 2014 and is continuing to find her voice within the performing arts community through the beautiful and challenging stories she gets to tell. Recent credits: We Can't Pay! We Won't Pay, Ride The Cyclone (Blue Bridge); Shrek The Musical (CCPA). Special thanks to Ming and the entire cast and crew and her friends for their constant support and generosity.



### **SCROOGE - LOUISE PHILLIPS**

Louise has played in Faith Healer, Stepping Out and Hay Fever (Arts Club); Private Lives (Vancouver Playhouse); Blithe Spirit (Driftwood Players) and A Room with a View (United Players). Play-writing credits: Seasick (Van. Fringe), syiyaya: Our Families, Our Stories, and Voices (Sechelt Arts Festival); The Wild Flower Book (Driftwood Players). Louise and husband David moved to Crofton in 2019 to be near family.



#### **UNDERSTUDY - TALIETHA SANGHA**

Talietha is thrilled to be making her CTF debut! Growing up on the island, this is truly a dream come true for her! Talietha is a classically trained singer currently studying with Anne Grimm at UVIC. She teaches voice at Brentwood College. Past credits include; Burqa Boutique (Vancouver Cultural Centre) Trudeaumania (Vancouver Fringe). Talietha would like to thank Mark, Ming, and the entire cast and crew for their belief in her as well as her family and friends for their support. And thank YOU, the audience for supporting live theatre! Happy Holidays!



#### **ENSEMBLE - EMMA SLIPP**

Emma Slipp- Career highlights: The Wicked Witch/The Wizard of Oz (WCT); Bunny/The Father (Search Party); Noises Off/Farewell My Lovely (Arts Club); Boeing Boeing (Persephone); As You Like It/Macbeth (Bard on the Beach); Outside Mullingar/Silent Sky/Hilda's Yard/Singing in the Rain (Chemainus); Elbow Room Cafe (Zeezee); The Rivals (Blackbird); Moss Park (Green Thumb/GCTC);The Violet Hour (Belfry). Emma is a graduate of Studio 58 and Jessieaward winner.



#### **ENSEMBLE - STEPHEN THAKKAR**

Stephen is a bi-racial Gujarati/Canadian actor and singersongwriter who made his debut with CTF in The 39 Steps. He has previously worked with The Arts Club as well as The Charlottetown Festival and is a MT graduate from Sheridan College. Aside from theatre, Stephen is currently producing his debut alternative music album titled: Growing Pains, slated to release in 2023. In the words of Tiny Tim, "God Bless Us Everyone!"





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## THE CREATIVE TEAM



### **SET DESIGNER - JAMES O'LEARY**

James has been building scenery for Chemainus since 2014. 'A Tiny Christmas Carol" is the 3rd piece that he has also designed, previous shows being "Outside Mullingar" and "Lumberjacks In Love". With over 40 years in the industry, James is always amazed, at how each new company and collaboration, offers unique learning opportunities. Keep it live.



#### LIGHTING DESIGNER - CELESTE ENGLISH

Celeste English is a lighting designer born and raised in Vancouver, BC. Design credits include; Michif Medicines (Vni Dansi), The Virtual Full Light of Day (Electric Theatre Company), OW, Bloom (Mascall Dance), The Sea (Slamming Door Collective), Still Life Continuum (RedShift Music Society). She holds a BFA for the Contemporary Arts and an MA from University of the Arts London. Her research explores our relationships to colour but her proudest work however is being an older sibling to her kid sisters, who are responsible for all her best ideas.



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

Crystal is a graduate of the Fashion Design & Technology Program at Kwantlen University College. Past costume designs at the Chemainus Theatre Festival include Classic Country Roads, Grease, Mrs. Warren's Profession, Silent Sky, Pride & Prejudice, Million Dollar Quartet, Grace & Glorie, Ring of Fire, Waiting for the Parade, All Shook Up (Gateway Theatre co-production), Countryside Christmas, and Ah, Wilderness! She recently had the opportunity to branch out and play with foam and fleece to create the puppets for CTF's web series The Seasiders.



#### SOUND DESIGNER - CHRIS ROSS-EWART

CHRIS ROSS-EWART (he/him) is a sound designer, composer, and performer. Working across Canada, the US and the world, he designs for theatre, musical theatre, dance, film, podcasts and installations. Recent credits include Hamlet 911 at Stratford, The Cave at Luminato and Distant Early Warning at Buddies in Bad Times. chrisross-ewart.com



### **STAGE MANAGER - LIZ KING**

Liz is ecstatic to be back with Chemainus for her 14th production. Her favourite show to work on here was *Once*. Elsewhere Liz has worked across Canada including Persephone Theatre, Globe Theatre, the Arts Club, Gwaandak Theatre, and Stratford. Liz spent the Lost Years as the Operations Manager for the Victoria Symphony. Up next she'll SM *The Unplugging* for the Belfry in Victoria, her current home. Liz has run one marathon and that is enough.



### **ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER - JEANA MACISAAC**

Hi, Thank you for joining us! I am from PEI and passionate about all things creative. My personal and production company's mandate is to help tell meaningful stories, while supporting artists. I am a lifelong learner, who seeks inspiration and knowledge from those that surround me. I strive to create an environment of encouragement, inclusivity and kindness. Thank you to the wonderful folks at Chemainus Theatre Festival. Enjoy the show! With thanks, ~Jeana shehasthetoolsproduction.com



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