

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Announcing The Citadel Theatre's 2024/25 Season:

### Unlock the Extraordinary

January 29, 2024

**Edmonton, Alberta** – The Citadel Theatre invites audiences to *Unlock The Extraordinary*, in our new 2024/25 Season by opening the doors to new worlds and adventures! This season Citadel will continue to showcase innovative and international productions, as well as celebrating and amplifying new work by Canadian and Edmonton artists. It is a season of stories that uplift and inspire with theatrical experiences for the whole family. We're also pleased to announce that the Highwire Series, which brings to audiences theatrically-adventurous works, is returning with two exciting new shows.

"Last season, we were thrilled that there were three shows the Citadel had a hand in developing, all playing on Broadway at the same time: *SIX*, *Hadestown* and *Peter Pan Goes Wrong*. The Citadel has become recognized internationally for the incredible work we produce and Citadel audiences get a chance to see these internationally celebrated productions right here in your hometown," exclaims Artistic Director, Daryl Cloran. "Our 24/25 Season is a fantastic mix of premieres and classics. These are extraordinary productions, artists and stories. We invite Edmonton audiences to join us this season to *Unlock The Extraordinary!*"

Curated by Daryl and the Citadel's dedicated Artistic team, this is an incredible season of hilarious comedies, innovative (and funny!) re-imaginings of Shakespeare, dramatic classics, extraordinary family musicals, our 25th Annual holiday presentation of *A Christmas Carol*, and Broadway-bound productions you can only see at the Citadel. Unlock the 2024/25 Season with a celebration of awe-inspiring adventures that will captivate and enchant audiences.

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### Summer Presentation

***The Play That Goes Wrong*** (July 6 - August 4, 2024) Citadel audiences loved our production of *Peter Pan Goes Wrong* so much that we decided to open our season with a special summer presentation of another hilarious "Goes Wrong" production from creators **Henry Lewis, Henry Shields & Jonathan Sayer**. The Cornley Drama Society is putting on a 1920s murder mystery, but as the title suggests, everything that can go wrong... does! The accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call, with hilarious consequences! Directed by **Dennis Garnhum** (former Artistic Director of Theatre Calgary and London, Ontario's Grand Theatre), it's total mayhem and guaranteed laughter in this Olivier Award-winning comedy. Produced in Association with Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre (Winnipeg) and Theatre Calgary. (*Shoctor Theatre*)

## 2024/25 Mainstage Series

***A Streetcar Named Desire*** (September 21 - October 13, 2024) **Tennessee Williams'** celebrated drama is one of the most critically acclaimed plays of the twentieth century. After losing her Mississippi home to creditors, Blanche duBois relocates to the New Orleans home of her younger sister and brother-in-law, Stella and Stanley Kowalski. Undermined by romantic illusions, Blanche is unable to cope with life's harsh realities. While Blanche's world collapses, Stanley stalks closer to discovering the truth of her past and exposing her secrets. This incredible classic will be directed by the Citadel's Artistic Director, **Daryl Cloran**. Produced in Association with Theatre Calgary. (*Shoctor Theatre*)

***The Ballad of Johnny and June*** (November 2 - 24, 2024) The Citadel is thrilled to collaborate with the La Jolla Playhouse (California) to present an incredible new musical exploring the life and careers of country music legends Johnny Cash and June Carter, told through the eyes of their son John Carter Cash. From their first meeting in 1956 at the Grand Ole Opry to fame, life on the road, controversy and family. This iconic love story is complete with hits like: *I Walk The Line*, *Ring of Fire*, and many more. Directed by Tony Award-Winning Director **Des McAnuff** (Director of Broadway's *Tommy* and *Jersey Boys* and former Artistic Director of the Stratford Festival). Book by **Robert Cary** and **Des McAnuff** with Music and Lyrics by **Johnny Cash**, **June Carter** and others. (*Shoctor Theatre*)

***Disney's Frozen The Broadway Musical*** (February 1 - March 2, 2025) The beloved Disney musical comes to life in a new Citadel production! When Queen Elsa's hidden powers plunge the land of Arendelle into an eternal winter, her sister Anna sets out to find her and save the kingdom before it's too late. But as the storm rages on, both sisters must learn that only an act of true love can thaw a frozen heart. *Frozen* will defy all expectations on an unforgettable journey packed with thrilling surprises, hilarious characters and soaring music, including *For the First Time in Forever*, *Do You Want to Build a Snowman?* and the worldwide smash-hit, *Let it Go*. The award-winning musical brings to life a world of sumptuous beauty, humour and iconic music in a jaw-dropping production to melt hearts of all ages. Directed by **Rachel Peake** who's Citadel directing credits include *The Sound of Music*, *The Garneau Block* and *9 To 5*. Music and Lyrics by **Kristen Anderson-Lopez** and **Robert Lopez**. Book by **Jennifer Lee**. (*Shoctor Theatre*)

***A Midsummer Night's Dream: The '70s Musical*** (February 22 - March 23, 2025) **Daryl Cloran's** Beatles-infused musical adaptation of *As You Like It* played at the Citadel in 2020 and has since toured North America to incredible acclaim (including Chicago, Milwaukee and Washington). Cloran now turns his Shakespeare musical skills to the Bard's most famous comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Reimagined in the 1970s and packed full of infectious music from the period by artists like: David Bowie, Elton John, Marvin Gaye, The Bee Gees, Aretha Franklin and Olivia Newton-John, this will be a hilarious, glam-rock reinterpretation of a classic that will have audiences singing all the way home. Directed by **Daryl Cloran**. Adapted by **Daryl Cloran** and **Kayvon Khoshkam**. Presented as part of **"Re-Imagining Shakespeare"** alongside our production of ***Goblin:Macbeth***. (*Maclab Theatre*)

***Heist*** (March 22 - April 13, 2025) A fast-paced, heart-racing play about a diamond heist gone wrong. Can this band of criminals pull off the perfect robbery? Full of diamonds, guns, lasers, betrayal and an incredible cast of characters. Written by Albertan playwright **Arun Lakra** (member of the Citadel's 2022/23 Playwrights Lab), this exciting new play was inspired by great crime caper films like *Ocean's Eleven*. (*Shoctor Theatre*)

***The Twilight Zone*** (May 3 - 25, 2025) You are about to enter another dimension, a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land of imagination. The Citadel is proud to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of legendary playwright **Rod Serling** with the highly anticipated North

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American premiere of *The Twilight Zone*. This new and enhanced stage production is based on the landmark CBS Television Series and acclaimed stories by **Serling, Charles Beaumont** and **Richard Matheson**. It builds upon a sell-out run at the Almeida Theatre and huge success in London's West End at the Ambassadors Theatre. Adapted by **Keith Reddin** (*Life During Wartime, All the Rage*) and **Anne Washburn** (*Shipwreck, Mr. Burns*) and directed by the multi award-winning director **Richard Jones** (Broadway's *Titanic* (Tony Award for Best Musical) and winner of 8 Lawrence Olivier Awards in London) – the play is an ingenious new live presentation of these iconic parables, and as relevant today as when audiences first encountered them – thought-provoking, mysterious, at times comedic - and always entertaining. (*Shoctor Theatre*)

## Holiday Production

**A Christmas Carol** (November 23 - December 24, 2024) The Citadel celebrates our 25th Anniversary of *A Christmas Carol* with the return of **David van Belle's** beautiful 1950's adaptation of the beloved novella by **Charles Dickens**. Ebenezer Scrooge has been given just one night to redeem himself but will the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future help him overcome a lifetime of indifference before all hope is lost? Transport yourself to the 1950s with nostalgic songs like *I'll be Home For Christmas* and *White Christmas* and experience the magic of the season. Starring **John Ulliyatt** as Ebenezer Scrooge. Directed by **Lianna Makuch**. Originally Directed by **Daryl Cloran**. (*Maclab Theatre*)

## Highwire Series

**Bear Grease** (October 17 - 27 2024) Get ready for a jaw-dropping, toe-tapping spectacle! *Bear Grease* takes the 1978 musical, *Grease*, on an Indigenous joyride, with fashion that slays, humour that tickles your funny bone, and music that makes you groove! It's a rez makeover for the beloved characters, keeping the authenticity alive while adding a burst of cultural flair. Buckle up for an electrifying experience that celebrates Indigenous cultures and dances its way into your heart—*Bear Grease* is a one-of-a-kind adventure you don't want to miss. **A LightningCloud Production**, directed by **Crystle Lightning**. (*Maclab Theatre*)

**Goblin:Macbeth** (January 11 - February 2, 2025) **A Spontaneous Theatre Creation by Rebecca Northan**, with **Bruce Horak** and directed by **Rebecca Northan**. When three Goblins come across a copy of the Complete Works of William Shakespeare, they decide to take over the stage, choosing the bloodiest play they can find, *Macbeth*. Blending comedy, fantasy and tragedy, in an unpredictably interactive and exciting theatrical experience, the goblins present a uniquely fresh take on a Shakespearean classic. Presented as part of **"Re-Imagining Shakespeare"** alongside our production of **A '70s Midsummer Night's Musical**. (*Rice Theatre*)

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## Tickets and Pricing

2024/25 Season Packages go on sale January 29, 2024

Casual tickets for *The Play That Goes Wrong* go on sale on March 14, 2024 with the rest of the season on sale by July 4, 2024

Season Packages start at \$210 + Fees & GST (Price Code C)

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Casual tickets start at \$35 + Fees & GST (Price Code C)

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**For more information or to arrange interviews, contact:**

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**SPONSORS**

Season Sponsor: Capital Power

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