

PRESS RELEASE  
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**28** YEARS  
OF THEATRE  
bigger. bolder. better.

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## bigger. bolder. better.

### Saint John Theatre Company Announces Its 28<sup>th</sup> Season of Work.

SAINT JOHN – the Saint John Theatre Company (SJTC) is preparing to launch its 28<sup>th</sup> season of work. The company has evolved into a theatrical umbrella organization involved in all aspects of theatre development. By the end of the 2016-2017 Season the company will have produced or presented 183 performances of 41 creative works in 10 different theatres on two continents! These projects have engaged over 100 professional artists and showcased the work of over 100 community based theatre-makers! Time for a break... no way!

A special season launch was held at BMO Studio Theatre on Wednesday, April 26. SJTC Artistic Director Stephen Tobias and SJTC Board President Dean Turner announced the exciting line-up for the 2017-2018 Season. The SJTC's 28<sup>th</sup> Season will include the edgy and out-of-the-ordinary Fundy Fringe Festival, an ambitious Main Stage Series at Imperial Theatre, a thought-provoking in house Studio Series with an international flare, a diverse line-up of professional theatre works and a talented compilation of musical talent from across the country!

The SJTC 2017-2018 Main Stage Series is sure to impress, opening with one of the most loved Christmas shows of all time, **It's A Wonderful Life** (November 22-26), followed by the witty and timeless tale behind the creation of the greatest love story ever told, **Shakespeare In Love** (March 21-24). The season will round out with the larger than life jukebox musical, **Mamma Mia!** (May 23-26), a feel-good show jam packed with the storytelling magic of ABBA's timeless tunes. Subscriptions for the SJTC Main Stage Series are now available at the Imperial Theatre box office as part of a three show package. Single tickets will go on sale September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The SJTC 2017-2018 Studio Series continues to exemplify the power an intimate atmosphere can bring to the stage. The in house series will open with one of the most famous plays of modern theatre, the Tennessee William's drama **The Glass Menagerie** (October 17-21). The spring will bring some international guests to the BMO Studio, Theatre Konstanz, from Konstanz Germany, will present the ancient Greek tragedy **Medea** (April 19-21). The SJTC Studio Series will conclude with the annual playwriting development program, **Script Happens** (June 13-16), celebrating Maritime playwrights in an evening of original one-act plays. Tickets for the Studio Series go on sale June 1, 2017.

Bringing professional works from abroad to the community is the aim of the Canadian Stages Series. The 2017-2018 Canadian Stages Series offers audiences a line-up that is exciting and diverse. The season will

launch with a special cross-country multi-media comedy show created by comedy icons Mary Walsh and Ron James.

**Comedy Show 150 Canada** is touring the Nation in honour of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The show will be performed at BMO Studio Theatre on September 23. **The Santaland Diaries**

(November 30 – December 2), a real life tale of one man's stint as an elf at Macy's, will be presented by the ever-popular band of local funny guys, the Improvisation Corporation. Next in the line-up is **Lungs** (February 23-24), a powerful love story that follows the trials of a young couple wanting to have a child in a time of global anxiety. Clyde A. Wray will then present **Letters & Notes**, a multi-media showcase celebrating music, dance and poetry on April 13 and 14. The series will conclude with a new adaptation of the epic-sci-fi odyssey, **The Blazing World** (June 1-2), presented by Halifax based Villains Theatre. Tickets for the Canadian Stages Series go on sale June 1, 2017.

The wildly popular Live @ the BMO Music Series is ramping up for its third season with a stellar line-up of musical talent from the Maritimes and beyond. The Series will open with country music legend **Lisa Brokop** (August 15). The renowned vocalist will return to the hey-day of country music in a special tribute to Patsy Cline. Maritime jazz legends, the **Joel LeBlanc Trio** (October 14), will present an evening of timeless, fun and quirky music for everyone. Award winning pianist **Sarah Hagan** will fill the BMO Studio with live piano music (November 3). Hometown favourite **Brent Mason** (February 2) will return with his unique blend of folk, rock, country and beyond. Canadian icon **Alfie Zappacosta** (February 17) will also be back in the space, treating audiences to an evening of jazz, contemporary and acoustic sounds. On March 3 the Live @ the BMO Music season will close with a bang with Maritime legend **Matt Minglewood**. His unique blend of country blues, folk and rock always has audiences wanting more.

Last but certainly not least, the **Fundy Fringe Festival** returns this summer for its fifth season of edgy, out of the box theatre from across the country and beyond (August 21-26, 2017).

Main Stage Series subscriptions go on sale April 28<sup>th</sup> at Imperial Theatre box office 1-800-323-7469. Single tickets to SJTC Main Stage performances go on sale September 5, 2017 at Imperial Theatre box office. Tickets for our Studio Series, Canadian Stages Series, and Live @ The BMO Music Series will go on sale on June 1<sup>st</sup> and can be purchased by visiting [www.ticketpro.ca](http://www.ticketpro.ca) or calling 1-888-311-9090.

The SJTC would like to thank Season Patron BMO Financial Group, Main Stage Series Sponsor Canaport LNG, the Province of New Brunswick and Education & Community Outreach partner TD for their ongoing support of local theatre.

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