

Theatre at UBC 2013-2014 Season

Epic Theatre • **THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE**, September 19 - October 5, 2013

By Bertolt Brecht | Directed by Stephen Heatley | Telus Studio Theatre

"Terrible is the temptation to do good!" warns Bertolt Brecht's amiable narrator. In the heat of civil war a servant girl sacrifices everything to protect an abandoned child. Their subsequent misadventures across her war-torn country become the heart of Brecht's playful parable, which calls into question our basic assumptions of right in a world that has gone wrong.

"Brecht's 1945 adaptation of the Chinese play The Chalk Circle, written in 1300, speaks more directly to today's culture than do most modern political plays." – Backstage

Romantic Comedy • **PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**, November 14 - 30, 2013

By Jon Jory (adapted from the novel by Jane Austen) | Directed by Lois Anderson | Frederic Wood Theatre

All the wit and romance of Jane Austen's novel comes to life in this fast-paced and engaging adaptation. In a society where manners and birth mean everything, can Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy look beyond pride and prejudice to find true love? The subtleties and absurdities of Georgian England are astonishingly relevant today and Austen's characters captivate from their first line.

"An exceptionally clear, funny and moving version of Austen's classic novel." - Broadway World

World Classic • **THE SEAGULL**, January 23 - February 8, 2014

By Anton Chekhov, Translated by Peter Gill | Directed by Kathleen Duborg | Telus Studio Theatre

The Seagull is a darkly comic tale of unrequited love - a story about how we create stories - and one of the greatest plays of the modern era. In it Chekhov explores emotion, creativity and romantic conflict with the clarity of a doctor and the heart of a poet. Peter Gill's luminous version brings the characters into sharp focus as they struggle with love, failure, success, generational friction and the challenge of creating something of value through art.

"In Gill's translation the play has been flooded with light, like a room with the curtains drawn back." - Sunday Times UK

Documentary Theatre • **SEEDS**, January 22 - 25, 2014

By Annabel Soutar, Directed by Chris Abraham, **Presented with PuSh International Performing Arts Festival**, Starring Theatre at UBC alumnus Eric Peterson | Frederic Wood Theatre

UBC alumnus Eric Peterson (*Corner Gas*, *Billy Bishop Goes to War*) stars in this provocative docudrama about small town Saskatchewan farmer Percy Schmeiser versus biotech giant Monsanto Inc. Based on real events, *Seeds* leads us through a high-voltage labyrinth of political manoeuvring, patent wars, and cash-fuelled science. Passionate and thought-provoking, this deft piece of theatrical storytelling is an intellectual and emotional tour de force. Think you know what's on your plate? Think again.

"Seeds is great journalism and even better theatre... brilliantly original." - Montreal Gazette

Absurdist Drama • **UBU ROI**, March 20 - April 5, 2014

By Alfred Jarry, Translated by Barbara Wright | Directed by Ryan Gladstone | Frederic Wood Theatre

In 1896 with the first word of *Ubu Roi*, "Merdre!" ("Shitter!"), Jarry's satire about greed and the abuse of power was outlawed for its scandalous language, violence and disrespect for authority. With resonances of *Macbeth* and unflinching humour, *Ubu Roi*, was an inspiration to later absurdist playwrights and it remains a challenge to the comfortable and conventional. The play's uninhibited tastelessness is practically sublime.

"Ubu Roi is timeless, placeless, it shamelessly displays what civilization tries hard to hide." - Translator Barbara Wright

EXTRA EVENTS: April 14-17 • **THE 520's** Theatre at UBC MFA Directors test their mettle with two one-acts: **Free Admission**. | May 2014 • **SYMPOSIUM & PERFORMANCE** *The Komagata Maru Incident* | Nov 7-10 • **UBC OPERA** *The Tales of Hoffman* | Feb 6-9 • **UBC OPERA** *Il Cappello di paglia di Firenze* (The

Florentine Straw Hat) | Jun 26-29 • **UBC OPERA** The Cunning Little Vixen | Date TBA • **COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE** Two Tales by Carlo Gozzi: *The Love of Three Oranges* and *The King Stag*. Directed by MFA Alumnus Chris McGregor and featuring our BFA Acting students in this hilarious and sinister theatre duo: **Free Admission.**

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