

SCORPIO  THEATRE  
PRESENTS

# Frost / Nixon

OCTOBER 17 – 25 7:30PM

AT THE PUMPHOUSE THEATRE

MATINEE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 2:00PM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21 AT 7:00PM FOLLOWED BY TALK-BACK

FOR TICKET PRICES AND BOOKING INFORMATION  
VISIT [WWW.SCORPIO.CA](http://WWW.SCORPIO.CA)

## **Cast**

David Frost .....	Janos Zeller
Richard Nixon .....	Stuart Bentley
Jim Reston .....	Matt Pickering
Jack Brennan .....	Darcy Wilson
John Birt .....	Hamish Crawford
Bob Zelnick .....	Tim MacRae
Caroline Cushing .....	Laruen O'Hare
Manolo Sanchez/Ensemble .....	Scott Fea
Swiftly Lazar/Ensemble .....	Nathan Iles
Mike Wallace/Ensemble .....	Devin Warne
Ensemble .....	Tawni Barton
Ensemble .....	Keri Bauer
Ensemble .....	Mike Anthony

## **Crew**

Producer.....	Daisy Pond
Director.....	Dan Gibbins
Stage Manager.....	Daisy Pond
Set Designer.....	Aaron Conrad
Lighting Design.....	Daniel Koyata
Sound Design.....	Patrick Murray
Costumes .....	Tawni Barton & Chelsea Millard
Properties & Set Dec .....	Samantha Robb
Hair.....	Cat Bentley
Box Office Manager .....	Joey Sayer
Lobby Display .....	Charlotte Nixon

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

If you enjoyed our production, consider nominating us for a CAT Award  
at: <http://www.calgary-acts.com/nomination.php>.



Where are the show programs?



## Scorpio's Gone Green!

It is common practice in theatre to include a show program for each performance that includes information about the cast, production team, the company and our sponsors. The programs are usually two pages (folded in half and presented as a 4 page bi-fold) meaning that the average production, with middling ticket sales, will require 800 printed pages.

That's over 2400 printed pages per season and that's just not GREEN!

Information on this production and the company in general will be proudly presented in our lobby displays, which we hope will be more entertaining, visually appealing and add more to your theatre experience than some stuffy old program anyway.

If you have a thought or opinion on this new policy, or anything else you've seen at Scorpio, we encourage you to fill out one of our audience survey forms (available in the lobby and at the box office) or, by all means, email me personally at [aconrad@scorpio.ca](mailto:aconrad@scorpio.ca) I'd love to hear your feedback!

Thank you for your patronage, and enjoy the show!

Aaron Conrad  
Artistic Director  
Scorpio Theatre Society

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTES – Dan Gibbins**

The 2009 Oscars were a year for unconventional heroes. A gay politician, an Indian slumdog, a failed wrestler... and my favourite, a British talk show host and his seemingly doomed crusade to get a televised confession out of Richard Nixon.

I loved the interplay between Nixon, the ex-President fighting his way to redemption, and Frost, trying to charm his way around the fact that he's bitten off more than he may be able to chew. Brennan, Nixon's chief aide who sees Frost as an easily crushed opponent... Frost's team, for whom defeating Nixon is a personal crusade... I fell for that story hard.

And then a couple of years back I came across the script in a catalog. "I'll order a copy," I thought. "Just for funsies." But deep down I knew that the thought of directing my own production of Frost/Nixon was taking root, and I was going to be pitching it sooner or later.

Turned out to be sooner. And now here we are. Two men on a quest for redemption, one with everything to gain and the other with everything to lose. And another knockout cast and super hard-working crew making sure it all flows like magic.

Not many scripts could make we want to direct two shows in a row. This is one of them. So I hope you like it. Me, I'm gonna take a nap. Oh, who am I kidding, I'm probably somewhere in the audience watching it with you.

No, don't try to spot me, that's making it weird... just be cool, alright? Be cool.

## **A Message from the Artistic Director of Scorpio Theatre**

### **Thoughts on “Frost/Nixon” and the 2014/15 Season**

A short time ago I was having a chat with a colleague about Scorpio’s upcoming season and she mentioned that “Frost/Nixon” struck her as a departure for Scorpio, away from the usual themes of our programming.

That comment stuck with me and I’ve thought about it a lot since then. In my mind, Scorpio’s programming choices have always been a little bit political. From the themes of blue and white collar crime in “Pastoral Paranoia”, to the government funding of arts organizations and the value of art in our society expressed in “Ars Poetica” and conversations about the portrayals of violence in our society and the way they affect the zeitgeist in “Reservoir Dogs.”

Indeed, if you look at Scorpio’s 2014/15 season you’ll see some very political themes throughout. “Cry Havoc 3” for all its high flying, raw entertainment value, has always sought to be an exploration not just of the state of the art of stage combat but also as a comment and a question on the way we approach violence in our media, our entertainment and our day to day lives. Why is it funny when Bugs Bunny shoots Elmer Fudd but “violent” when a soldier shoots his enemy? Why is an American allowed to carry a pistol but not allowed to carry a sword? Why are graphic depictions of violence allowed in movies and television, but graphic depictions of people making love are not?

In “Blood of the Red Queen” we’ll be taking another look into a fascinating period in our political history. Visiting a time when the world lived in constant fear of nuclear fire and the only thing that kept us from annihilating one another was the terrible knowledge that no one would be spared. Mutually Assured Destruction, in hindsight, seems like the most ridiculous global policy imaginable and yet we see it every day in the way we do business and the way we engage one another on an individual level. With the fears of destruction and the horrors of war personified by the fairy tale characters we grew up with, we’ll all get a chance to admire how much the world has changed since those times of seeming madness. Or has it?

With corruption, scandal, war and civil unrest being the headlines we encounter every time we turn on a television, log onto the internet or pick up a news paper, it is very easy for us to look around us and be dismayed at the state of the world. Telecommunications have made it impossible for us not to see the events unfolding around us and modern governments have reacted, predictably, by trying to find new ways to control and restrict our access to much of that information with one hand, while distracting and placating with the other. Richard Nixon was by no means the

first politician to commit a crime, cover up a scandal or abuse his power in some way but he also, sadly, wasn't the last.

Looking back over Nixon's presidency, much of which is covered in this play (if you haven't watch the actual Frost/Nixon interviews, I highly recommend them) it strikes me how many of the challenges that faced his administration, and the subsequent conversations that surrounded them are virtually identical to the conversations happening today. Partisan hostility and feuding between the White House and Congress, involvement in a long, bloody war in Vietnam that most American's didn't want to be involved in, an illegal invasion of Cambodia at a time when they were meant to be scaling back their war efforts, sweeping protests against civil rights abuses, an overhaul to the American health care system, (Richard Nixon was the President who instituted HMOs) and finally a scandal revolving around a government whistle blower who revealed secret documents, collected from a clandestine information gathering system and disseminated to the public which sparked discussions of a government's right to spy on its citizens.

This whole thing sounds very familiar.

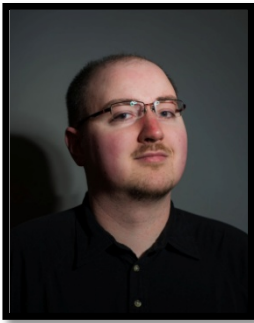
While "Frost/Nixon" may be more overtly political than some of Scorpio's past choices, I believe it to be no less relevant, no less worthy of consideration and no less entertaining than any show we have ever attempted. I encourage you, tonight, to super impose modern political discourse into the story you're about to encounter and take stock of just how much, and how little, the world has changed. It is my hope that by holding a mirror to ourselves with this show we may learn something about modern politics and our role in it. The first step to solving any problem is admitting that it exists and, ladies and gentlemen, we have problem: Richard Nixon, one of the most notorious politicians of our era, is still here with us.

It's possible he never left.



## CAST

### **Mike Anthony (Ensemble)**



Mike Anthony is here and excited to be on stage with Scorpio Theatre for the first time. He would like to thank all of his friends and family for their continued support. Look for his new radio show online on GTFO Radio, and check out his website at [www.mikeanthonyvoices.ca](http://www.mikeanthonyvoices.ca). Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

### **Keri Bauer (Ensemble)**

Keri Bauer is not new to performance; she has been in Band and is currently singing Tenor in *Cum Vino Cantus*. However, this is her first foray into a theater production. She is excited to be working with such a talented group of people, from cast to crew. Expect to see her more in the future. Keri would like to thank Scorpio for giving her this opportunity to broaden her horizons.



### **Tawni Barton (Ensemble/Costume Design)**



This is Tawni's second show with Scorpio Theatre, the first being *Who Knows* where she played the feisty, Sarah James. She is very excited to be a part of this project as an ensemble member, along with the added challenge of being the costume designer. This is the first time she has been given the opportunity to outfit a show completely and with some guidance and hard work she pulled it off.

### **Stuart Bentley (Richard Nixon)**

Stuart is thrilled to be playing Nixon and remembers watching the Watergate hearings, Nixon's resignation and these interviews. A veteran of 40+ years on stage, this is Stuart's first time working with Scorpio. Previous credits include *Someone Who'll Watch Over We* (Liffey Players) and *Miracle on 34th Street* (Workshop Theatre). He is currently rehearsing *Urinetown* (Front Row Centre) and just finished a feature length horror movie, *Bloodmania* slated for release in spring 2015.



### **Hamish Crawford (John Birt)**



*Frost/Nixon* is Hamish Crawford's theatre debut. As a writer, he's published articles for *Cult Britannia* ([www.cultbritannia.co.uk](http://www.cultbritannia.co.uk)), *A Madhouse*, *Only With More Elegant Jackets* (First Edition), Hertfordshire University's 2013 *Doctor Who* conference, a story for forthcoming *Who* anthology *The Temporal Logbook* (Pencil-Tip), and Sherlock Holmes pastiche, *The Best and Wisest Man* (MX). He will celebrate the end of this run like the real John Birt, by stripping and running into the Bow River (consider yourself warned).

### **Scott Fea (Manolo Sanchez/Ensemble)**

Scott Fea's previous role with Scorpio has been "designated driver." Scott last played Alan-A-Dale in the Dewdney and Gas & Light co-production of *Robin Hood* this summer after hopping around Calgary community theatre companies in 2013-2014 like some sort of lost puppy.



### **Nathan Iles (Swiftly Lazar/Ensemble)**



Nathan is excited to be participating in his fourth production with Scorpio Theatre. Past credits include *Reservoir Dogs*, *Grandad Was a Soldier*, *Salvage* (Scorpio Theatre), *i-Robot* (Swallow a Bicycle Theatre), *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Hamlet*, and *Man of the North* (Mount Royal Theatre). Nathan also sings and plays guitar in local band The Detractions, and is currently working to produce his first written script, *Like Hell*. Thanks to my friends, family, cast, and crew!

### **Tim MacRae (Bob Zelnick)**

Tim has been involved in various roles with Scorpio since Nixon was president. Most recently he directed *Grandad was a Soldier* (May 2013) and is now thrilled to tread the boards with this incredibly talented cast and crew.





### **Lauren O'Hare (Caroline Cushing)**



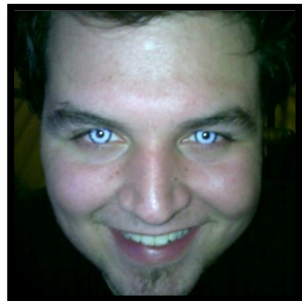
Lauren caught the acting bug at the age of 19 when she joined the theatre club at her alma mater, King's University College in London, Ontario. In her four years with King's Players, she was in four productions, including two musicals: *Once Upon a Mattress* (2011), where she played a lead role as Queen Aggravaine, and *The Boy Friend* (2012). *Frost/Nixon* is Lauren's first play in Calgary and her first with Scorpio Theatre. She hopes to pursue a professional acting career.

### **Matt Pickering (Jim Reston)**

This is Matt's third show with Scorpio Theatre as a member of the cast. His previous credits include: *Cry Havoc 2* (2011) and *Reservoir Dogs* (2014). Matt has filled a few other roles at Scorpio, including set design and assistant directing (*Who Knows*, 2014), and as the graphics and media assistant. Matt is excited to be a part of Scorpio's 15<sup>th</sup> season, and hopes you enjoy this powerful show!



### **Devin Warne (Mike Wallace/Ensemble)**



This is Devin's first show with Scorpio theatre. Before this he did several outside theatre shows including *Treasure Island* and *Midsummer Nights Dream*. And when he's not doing theatre he is madly writing his new break away pop hit.

### **Darcy Wilson (Jack Brennan)**

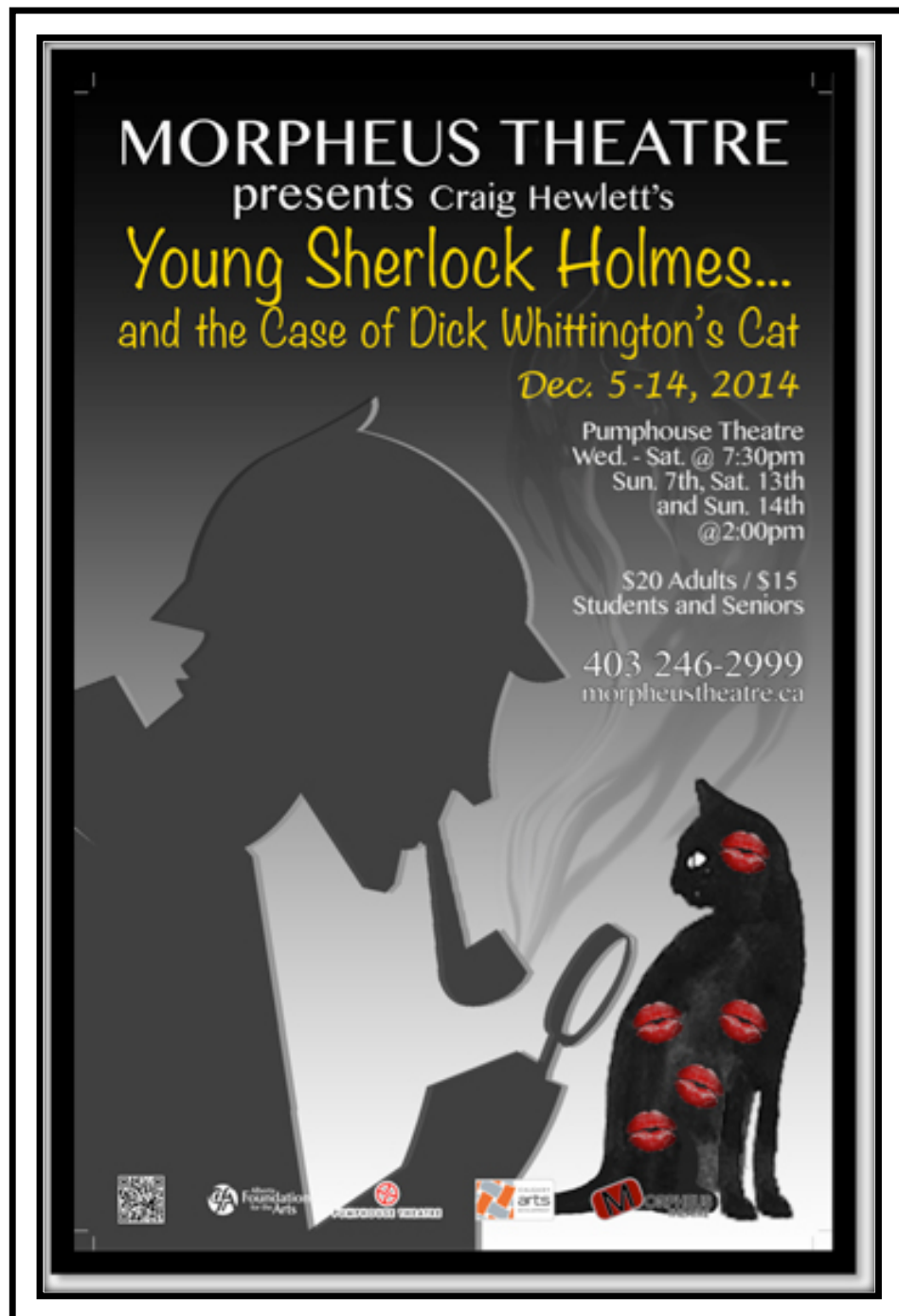
Darcy is thrilled to be involved with this production. Political dramas have such a unique sense of urgency for actors that Darcy consistently finds himself lost in the intrigue of the story and hopes that you do as well.



## Janos Zeller (David Frost)



Janos has participated in almost 50 productions in the last 13 years and is excited to be working with Scorpio Theatre for the first time. In his spare time, he also serves as Front Row Centre's current Vice-President. Selected credits include: *Young Frankenstein*, *Spamalot*, *The Producers*, *Assassins* (FRC); *Macbeth*, *Richard III*, *Twelfth Night* (TSC); *The Wizard Of One* (SBT). Much love goes to his family for their support.



# WORKSHOP THEATRE

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### **JACK THE RIPPER MONSTER OF WHITECHAPEL**

BY JOE DICKINSON

OCTOBER 17 – 25, 2014

### **ANOTHER EVENING AT FAWLTY TOWERS**

BY JOHN CLEESE AND CONNIE BOOTH

NOVEMBER 21 – 29, 2014

### **STEVEN: THE STEVEN TRUSCOTT STORY**

BY LOUIS B. HOBSON

FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 7, 2015

### **GOODNIGHT DESDEMONA**

**(GOOD MORNING JULIET)**

BY ANNE-MARIE MACDONALD

MAY 8 – 16, 2015

*Workshop Theatre will reduce tickets purchased at the door by \$5 upon presentation  
of a 2014-2015 ticket stub from any Calgary-ACTS member companies*

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## CREW

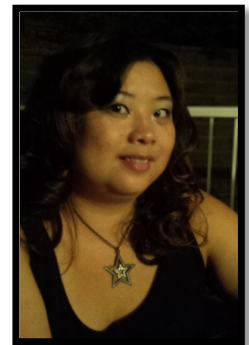
### **Aaron Conrad (Set Design)**



Despite trying to keep his occasional dalliances with set design a secret, he has somehow been roped into designing all three Scorpio shows this season. Hopefully each of the directors will have as clear a vision as Dan had for this show to keep his job relatively simple.

### **Daisy Pond (Stage Manager/Producer)**

Daisy is proud to be a part of another great Scorpio show. From working as a lighting op, an ASM, a Stage Manager to the company's Executive Producer, she's been involved in many aspects of many wonderful shows with this merry band of misfits. Thank you to a great cast and crew for all your hard work!



### **Dan Gibbins (Director)**

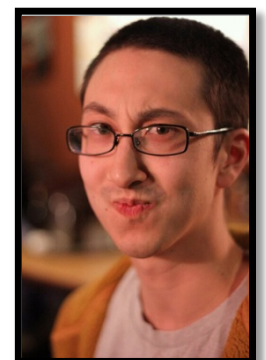


Dan Gibbins started directing *Frost/Nixon* right after finishing directing last season's hit production of *Who Knows*, because he makes great choices. He's also acting in *Cry Havoc 3*, writing *Blood of the Red Queen*, producing *Writers' Circle: the Series* (coming soon to the intertubes), and blogging at [talesfrompartsunknown.com](http://talesfrompartsunknown.com), because free time is for boring people.

### **Daniel Koyata (Lighting Design/Op)**

DANIEL'S BACK! To help turn lights on and off again. *Frost/Nixon* somehow wound up being more complicated than previous shows which included helicopters and gunfights but it was a lot of fun.

P.S. Aroo.





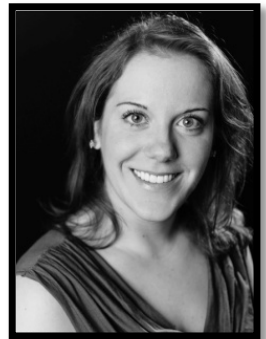
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### **Chelsea Millard (Costume Designer)**

Chelsea is so excited to be involved with this show! It has been an absolute blast! You may remember her from *Footloose* (Ethel McCormack) with FRC, *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Janet Van De Graaf) with Cappuccino, *Spamalot* (Tim the Enchanter) or *Brigadoon* (Meg) with FRC, or from running around behind the scenes with Scorpio. She invites you to sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!



### **Patrick Murray (Sound Design)**



Patrick has recently been tasked with raising the next generation of nerds as he and his wife Krystal recently welcome a beautiful baby girl, appropriately named Rose. He enjoys hiding subtle pop culture reference in his designs, but *Frost/Nixon* presented a unique challenge as it is already such a pop culture phenomenon. But he found a way. Much love to the cast and crew, and all of Scorpio for one heck of a season.

### **Samantha Robb (Props Master)**

Baretta is stoked to be working with Scorpio Theatre for her third time on *Frost/Nixon*. Past credits include Scorpio Theatre's *Reservoir Dogs* as severed finger builder and ASM, and *Who Knows* as Stage Manager. Film credits on *Hell on Wheels*, *Klondike*, *Forsaken*, *Interstellar* and *Ally was Screaming*, and too many Mount Royal productions to list. Big ole' thanks to the whole Scorpio gang for making this so fun!



For their continued support,  
Scorpio Theatre would like to thank:



Scorpio Theatre would also like to thank:

Jim Durward, all our volunteers, friends, family, and  
fans for their continued support.