

# ZASTROZZI: THE MASTER OF DISCIPLINE

BY GEORGE F. WALKER

Directed by Keith Kollee

February 10 to 18 at 7:30pm - PWYC Matinee February 12 at 2:00pm
February 14 at 7:00pm with Talk-Back to follow
At the Pumphouse Theatre
www.scorpio.ca













<u>Cast (III of def of appearance)</u>	
Bernardo	Jason Schneider
Zastrozzi	Aaron Conrad*
Verezzi	Darcy Wilson

#### **Crew**

Cast (in order of annearance)

Ciew	
Producer/Stage Manager	Daisy Pond
Co-Producer	Dan Gibbins
Director	Keith Kollee
Associate Stage Manager (Fight Rehearsals)	Darren Moore
Assistant Stage Manager & Running Crew	Charlie Lenz
Set Design	Matt Pickering &
	James Ravenhill
Set Painting	Susan Soprovich &
	Diane Edwards
Properties & Set Dec	
•••••	Mikee Ames
Lighting Design	Patrick Fitzsimmons
Sound Design	Patrick Murray &
	Steve Ford
Costume Design	Tawni Barton
Armour & Weapons Design & Construction	Ian Pond
Violence Design	John Knight
Make-up and Effects	Sarah McMillen
Running Crew	
Box Office Manager	
Lobby Display	

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

<sup>\*</sup> The participation of this Artist is arranged by permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the provisions of the Dance Opera Theatre Policy (DOT).

# 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 <u>800</u> printed pages.

That's over <u>2400</u> printed pages per season and that's just not <u>GREEN!</u>

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 <a href="mailto:aconrad@scorpio.ca">aconrad@scorpio.ca</a> 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 – Keith Kollee**

I saw *Zastrozzi* for the first (and only) time over 20 years ago, and I was instantly enraptured by the script. This began a bit of a love affair for me with George Walker. I read many of his scripts, and was lucky enough to be involved in a couple of productions, most notably *Criminal Genius* (a script that I still think is one of the funniest I have ever read). Through all that time, even during my (too) long hiatus from theatre, I kept thinking to myself, "Someday.... Someday, I'm gonna do *Zastrozzi*." I didn't know if that meant directing a production, or getting myself cast in a production, or doing running crew for a production (which I am woefully underqualified for, by the way). I just knew that there would be a production sometime in my future, and I would find a way to attach myself to it.

When I came out of my theatre hiatus (last time I mention it, I promise), it was to join the Scorpio Theatre production of *Cry Havoc 2*. Almost instantly, I found myself a new home, among kindred spirits. It wasn't long after the wrapping of that show that I began to have musings about Scorpio being the perfect company to stage a version of *Zastrozzi*. Of course, at the time, Scorpio was in no position to put on a show like that. I mention this fact not to deride Scorpio, but rather to point out how far the company has come in such a short time.

Of course, I am an impetuous human, so I was unable to keep my thoughts about such a show to myself. One night, a couple of years ago, while the company could only see the glimmer of their future glory on the horizon, over drinks, I mentioned to Aaron Conrad how this was one of my favorite shows of all time, and how I thought Scorpio was the perfect company to put on such a production. Aaron's eyes grew wide, and he told me that he also loved *Zastrozzi*. Over (a few?) more drinks we discussed the show at length, and sadly resigned ourselves to the idea that Scorpio just wasn't ready. We'd get there, but not quite yet.

Finally, a couple of years later, Aaron floored me with the suggestion that Scorpio was ready, and asked if I would be interested in directing. After I had picked up my jaw, and untied the knot in my guts, I said yes. Then it hit me how daunting this whole project was (and is). One of the greatest challenges for me was analyzing and reconciling Walker's script. Sometimes it is a revenge tragedy, other times a comedy. Sometimes he uses period appropriate dialogue, other times it seems more modern. What kind of world contains all of these things? I decided that setting it in any knowable world somehow rang false somewhere along the line. This required me to create my own world. Birth, by its nature, is violent, so I decided that my world needed to be born from violence, and reshaped. And what could be more violent than an Apocalypse?

I truly hope you enjoy my vision of *Zastrozzi: The Master of Discipline*. It is a long-standing dream come true. Whatever your thoughts on it, I feel compelled to mention that I, in no way, was capable of pulling this off by myself. This is one of Scorpio's largest productions to date, and it required everyone to pull together and work harder than they ever had before. Cast, Stage Mangers, Lighting, Sound, Set, Props, Costumes, Make-up. Without you all, this would all just be me yelling in a dark room. And, of course, to you, the audience, another debt of gratitude. Without your continued patronage, this is all for naught. Ultimately, everything we do is for you. So, sit back, and enjoy the show!

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



# Flight Centre is proud to be the exclusive travel partner of Scorpio Theatre

We would love to help you book your next amazing trip at the best possible price, put us to the test. Plus, for every booking made by the Scorpio Theatre community, Flight Centre will contribute 1% of the booking value back to the theatre and no additional cost – simply mention Scorpio Theatre at time of booking to support the theatre\*.

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#### **CAST**

#### Aaron Conrad (Zastrozzi)



Staging this show has been a dream of Aaron's for the last 16 years and he couldn't be more thrilled and honoured to be bringing George F. Walker's classic to stage for you tonight. Aaron would like to thank everyone in the Scorpio family for their endless passion, dedication and professionalism. He would also like to thank his friends and family for their endless support and caring through all of these insane projects.

Finally, he must thank his beautiful wife, Rebecca, without whom the last decade of his life would have been as meaningless as it would have been impossible.

Previous stage credits include: Love Song (Scorpio Theatre), Cry Havoc 3! (Scorpio Theatre), To Kill a Mocking Bird (Theatre Calgary), Reservoir Dogs (Scorpio Theatre), One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest (Theatre Calgary)

#### Emma Gallaher (Julia)

Emma is thrilled to be back with Scorpio for the second time as Julia in Zastrozzi. Other recent roles include Katie in Scorpio Theatre's Conventional Lunacy, and Searching for Party with Arcturus Players which was taken across the country to the Ottawa and Toronto Fringe festivals. She has enjoyed every minute of working on this show with the rest of this incredible cast and can't wait for everyone else to see it!



#### **Duane Jones (Victor)**



This is Duane's fourth time on stage with Scorpio, having previously appeared in Grandad Was A Soldier, Pastoral Paranoia and Blood of the Red Queen. Other favourite roles include John Barrymore's Ghost in I Hate Hamlet, Julius Cochrane in Cocktails At Pam's, and Guildenstern in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, all with Morpheus Theatre. Duane finds it a nice break from reality to be playing the sane person among the crazies.

#### Jennifer Merio (Matilda)

After spending *far* too much time socializing at the Scorpio space, Jenn was thrilled to have a reason to go there for real, with this, her company stage debut. Jennifer has been seen with various theatre companies, including StoryBook, ACT, Cowtown Opera, Morpheus Theatre and Cappuccino. She is grateful to the Scorpio team for giving her so many violent toys to play with, and for their patience in teaching her how to at least "look" like a badass. Love to the family for being tolerant of her crazy theatre alter egos.



#### **Jason Schneider (Bernardo)**



Once again, Jason is so very grateful to be involved with such a talented cast and awesome production team. Past Scorpio credits include: *Pastoral Paranoia*. Selected theatre credits include: *Richard III, Othello, Romeo and Juliet* (twice), *Much Ado About Nothing, Hamlet, MacBeth* (The Shakespeare Company); *Shadowlands* (Fire Exit Theatre); *Treasure Island* and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (abridged) (Foothills Theatre Company); *Cheech, Titus* 

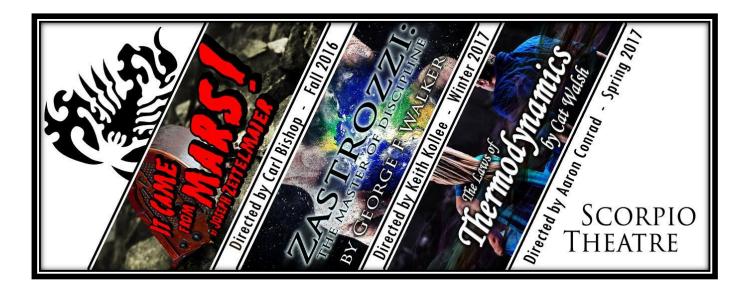
Andronicus and Elizabeth Rex (Mob Hit Productions) and Much Ado About Nothing (Theatre Junction). His film/TV credits include: Hell on Wheels, The Takeaway, Thousand Yard Stare and Blood Mountain. Next up for Jason will be The Three Musketeers and the remount of MacBeth for TSC. He would like to thank all his wonderful friends and family for their continued support.

#### Darcy Wilson (Verezzi)

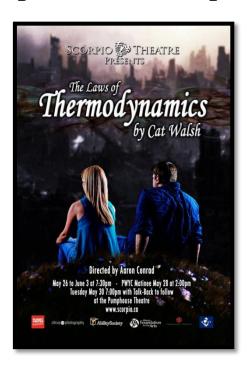
Darcy is thrilled to be part the show. Darcy is awed by the talent this show brings and was tickled when asked to be a part of it. Every human being needs a place where their crazy is encouraged and Scorpio has been very embracing of Darcy's crazy. Enjoy the second take on Scorpio's end of the world!



## Scorpio's 2016-17 Season



## Coming up next for Scorpio Theatre:



May 26 to June 3, 2017

When the end of the world came, it was not by fire or flood. It wasn't Martians or climate change or a meteor from space. It wasn't even revenge. Instead the end of the world was something much quieter, much softer, and much more melancholic. Now, so near to the end, one man finds himself in a place he said he'd never be with people he'd never imagined meeting – playing out the last mysterious chapter of his life in haunting parallel to the sombre fate facing our world. Scorpio Theatre's Artistic Director, Aaron Conrad, directs a night of theatre certain to stick with you long after the curtains have closed and all the lights have gone black.

#### Roles available:

**Daniel Abrams**: Journalist. New in town. Male; mid-20s to mid-40s

Della Watkins: A waitress. Southern, but not a belle. Extraordinarily pregnant.

Female; mid-20s to late-30s

Jerry Biddle: Convicted arsonist. Resident of Cold Valley Maximum Security Prison in

Crumb. Male; late-20s to mid-40s.

Curtis Wayne Hickey: Convicted murderer. Male; mid-40s to late-60s.

Auditioners should prepare two contrasting monologues totalling no more than 5 minutes.

Auditions will be held Monday, March 27 and Wednesday, March 29 - 7:00-10:00 pm. Callbacks will be the afternoon of Sunday, April 2.

Book your audition time by emailing bookings@scorpio.ca.

#### **CREW**

#### Mikee Ames (Properties and Set Dec)



This is Mikee's second show with the Scorpio folks. She is a dancer at heart but now prefers roles that help others shine. Love to her mum, BL, DR, JPP, RA, MS and Waffles & Pippin.

#### Sarah Andrechuk (Running Crew)

Sarah Andrechuk has loved theatre her whole life. She danced for 13 years and did musical theatre and drama throughout high school. Sarah's first show working backstage was with Storybook Theatre back in 2011, and she worked as an ASM for 6 shows up until 2013. Sarah is very excited to be backstage again with her first show with Scorpio!



#### Tawni Barton (Costume Design)



Tawni is very eager to be a part of this production. Zastrozzi was a personal challenge for her, with many alterations and specialty pieces. Tawni has been attending Olds College, majoring in Costume Cutting and Construction, and has recently become the new tailor for espy experience in Inglewood. She has had the pleasure of being a part of Scorpio Theatre for almost three years, has costumed five productions for them, and performed in four. Tawni is looking forward to continuing her work with Scorpio and developing her skills as a tailor.

#### **Diane Edwards (Set Painting)**

Diane has helped out on a few of Scorpio Theatre's productions now, and loves doing so. She is happy to be back in the fold working on the production of *Zastrozzi*. Diane was a professional painter for many years, and is very excited about being able to utilize her talents as a faux finisher again on this set.



#### **Steve Ford (Sound Design)**



Once upon a time Steve was the proud bearer of the Toque of Legend and a prolific musician/producer (credits including original music for the Gemini award winning series *Pure Pwnage*). Years after losing both his way and his hat, he attempted a comeback with last season's CAT award nominated score for *Love Song* (Scorpio Theatre). He is excited to work with Scorpio again on the ambitious *Zastrozzi*, in hopes to further appease his Muse.

#### **Patrick Fitzsimmons (Lighting Design)**

Patrick is truly excited to be working on such a challenging show, and would like to thank the rest of the cast and crew for their work and dedication.



#### **Dan Gibbins (Co-Producer)**



Dan is a playwright who's been toiling away in Calgary, Alberta since a time known to history as "the late 90s." He's written around 30 plays, and is now head writer on Writers' Circle: the Series, available on finer YouTubes or at <a href="https://www.writerscircleseries.com">www.writerscircleseries.com</a>. He occasionally talks about his plays, his travels, and his thoughts on life in the future over at <a href="https://www.talesfrompartsunknown.com">www.talesfrompartsunknown.com</a>.

#### John Knight (Violence Design)

John is thrilled to be working with Scorpio Theatre again; and on such an iconic show! Select fight direction credits include, *She Kills Monsters* (Simply Theatre), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Spiritfire Theatre), *Love & Warcraft* (Workshop Theatre), *Conventional Lunacy, Cry Havoc 3* (Scorpio Theatre). John is a two time recipient of the CAT Award for Outstanding stage fight and an Apprentice Instructor with The Academy of Fight Directors Canada. Thanks to Eva for always supporting my adventures!



#### **Keith Kollee (Director)**



Keith has been bleeding red and black for several years now. He started with the company on *Cry Havoc 2*, and, since that time, he has acted in shows, served on the board, run the bar, and directed a fun little show called *Reservoir Dogs*. You can also catch Keith's directorial and writing efforts in film on *Writers Circle*, a webseries that includes a great number of talented Scorpio members. Check it out on YouTube or at writerscircleseries.com!

#### **Brad Laberge (Properties and Set Dec)**

This is Brad's theatrical debut. After helping out on the periphery of *It Came From Mars*, Brad was extremely keen to create and build for this incredible show. Advised by Mikee, Brad took the reigns and built most of these props from scratch.



#### **Charlie Lenz (Assistant Stage Manager)**



Before joining Scorpio Theatre in 2016 for their production of *Love Song* she worked with Storybook Theatre as both a stage hand and a sound operator for multiple productions in 2012-2013. She is very proud to be a part of Scorpio's 17th season as an assistant stage manager, first for the production of *It Came From Mars* and now *Zastrozzi: Master of Discipline*.

#### Sarah McMillen (Make Up and Effects)

Sarah has worked on several productions with Scorpio since 2011 and always enjoys the process immensely. Sarah leads a hectic lifestyle with multiple jobs, volunteering, her dogs and the odd social event; meaning that she sometimes drives her theatre family a little insane. But she loves them all the more for their patience and most importantly, artistic vision. Sarah also despises writing about herself and so procrastinates ridiculously and unforgivably!



#### <u>Darren Moore</u> (Associate Stage Manager – Fights)



Once again, Scorpio has stepped back into the world of fight choreography. With that, comes the return of Darren as the manager of violence. While he is sure the rest of the show is great, these fights are fantastic. He has enjoyed watching the actors (some new, having never picked up a weapon before) bring their characters, and varying fight styles to the stage. Enjoy the show & enjoy the fights.

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

Pat is used to being heard, and, although most people tend to ignore him, his sound designs take up the slack. He has turned a stage into a battlefield, an empty office come alive with people, and made a busy convention and a chaotic wedding sound like they're in the same place. More often than not, he'll slip in a pop culture reference or his rapidly growing daughter Rose, into the mix.



#### **Matt Pickering (Set Design/Builder)**



This is Matt's ninth show with Scorpio Theatre! He's worn a lot of production hats, including writer, actor, assistant director, director, weapons maker, set builder, and now set designer/builder. This is the most ambitious set Scorpio has ever attempted, and Matt is thrilled to design the first show we've ever done in the Victor Mitchell Theatre! A big thank you to his co-designer James for his technical expertise and hard work! Matt can't wait to see it finished!

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

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!



#### Ian Pond (Armour & Weapon Design & Construction)



Ian is excited to be working on another production with Scorpio Theater especially on such an ambitious project as Zastrozzi where production has allowed him to experiment with the fabrication of weapons and armour. When not making people (look) deadly Ian is the Graphics and Media Director for Scorpio as well as Co-Executive Producer (with Keith and Dan) of the wildly popular webcomedy Writer's Circle: The Series.

#### James Ravenhill (Set Design/Builder)

James is excited to be back for his second production with Scorpio Theatre. Previous credits include *Heathers*, *The Musical* (Cappuccino Musical Theatre), *Conventional Lunacy* (Scorpio Theatre), *The Field* (Liffey Players Drama Society), *Sarah and the Dinosaur*, *Shadowlands* (Fire Exit Theatre), *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Catch Me if You Can*, *Jekyll and Hyde* (Front Row Centre Players).



#### **Susan Soprovich (Set Painting)**



Susan has been involved with several of Calgary's community theatre groups over the past decade in a variety of roles including as actor, set painter/illustrator and managing public relations. She has created full scenic backdrops, full length portraits and faux finishes for a number of shows such as *The Rape of the Belt, Ruddigore, Jack the Ripper, Boeing Boeing, Dracula, Camelot, The Gondoliers, Sweeney Todd, Seasons in the West, The Dresser, Twelfth Night and The Mikado*. She's pleased to be working with many talented individuals at Scorpio once again!

#### Anthony "Ton" Yuen

After a brief hiatus Anthony has taken a break from listening to Adele to return for his umpteenth show with Scorpio. He's thankful that Scorpio Theatre asked him to reprise his favourite roll of "ton". In fact, he was so excited that he even considered writing his own bio. Except, he didn't. He would like to thank the most beautiful Ann for putting up with him and allowing him to play with his favourite people. Again.

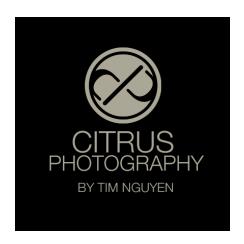






# For their continued support, Scorpio Theatre would like to thank:









**Eastlake Location** 

Scorpio Theatre would also like to thank Ann Crowe, Adam Jamieson, Morpheus Theatre, Workshop Theatre, FMAV, the Pumphouse Theatre staff, all our volunteers, friends, family, and fans for their continued support.