

SCORPIO  THEATRE
PRESENTS


The Laws of
Thermodynamics
by Cat Walsh



Directed by Aaron Conrad

May 26 to June 3 at 7:30pm - PWYC Matinee May 28 at 2:00pm
Tuesday May 30 7:00pm with Talk-Back to follow
at the Pumphouse Theatre
www.scorpio.ca



citrus  photography



Ability Society



**Alberta Foundation
for the Arts**



PUMPHOUSE THEATRE



Cast (in order of appearance)

Daniel Abrams.....	Norm Friend
Jerry Biddle	Cesar Salvater Jr.
Curtis Wayne Hickey	John Warkentin
Della	Mandee Marcil
The Girl	Claire Bolton

Crew

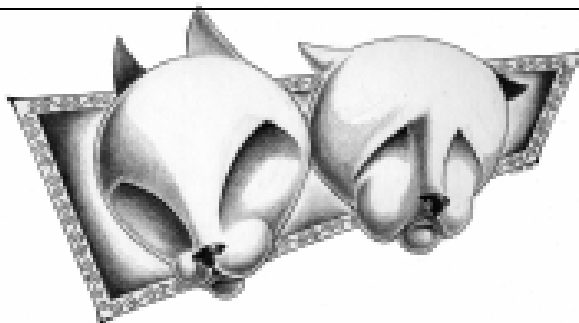
Producer.....	Daisy Pond
Director.....	Aaron Conrad*
Stage Manager	Daisy Pond
Assistant Stage Manager & Running Crew	Charlie Lenz
Set Design.....	Aaron Conrad
Lighting Design.....	Patrick Fitzsimmons
Sound Design	Luke Moar
Costumes	Claire Bolton
Properties & Set Dec	Mikee Ames
.....	Brad Laberge
Box Office Manager	Joey Sayer
Lobby Display	Charlotte Nixon

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

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 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 – Aaron Conrad

This is the way the world ends

This is the way the world ends

This is the way the world ends

Not with a bang, but a whimper...

- T.S. Elliot. "The Hollow Men"

When I first read Cat Walsh's "Laws of Thermodynamics" a number of years ago I knew that I wanted to bring it to the Scorpio stage.

After a season of alien invasions and medieval revenge, there was something immensely appealing about the quiet, melancholy way in which this world comes to its end, as well as the pervasive strangeness of the setting – the sense that something unknowable is lingering just outside your periphery. Hinted at, but never explained.

As this world limps its way to its conclusion we set our stage. Hopefully the sense of weariness and regret will tug at your senses. That things left unsaid, things left undone, will be as important to your recollections of this piece as those moments which enacted before you.

In short, I hope that this play haunts you the same way it has haunted me.

Thank you and enjoy the show.

~ Aaron Conrad



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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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Conditions apply. *Booking must include minimum roundtrip airfare originating in Canada & 3 nights accommodation. Discount is per booking & customer must quote redemption code FCSCORPIO50 at time of enquiry. †We will beat any written quoted airfare by \$1 and give you a \$20 voucher for future travel. "Fly Free" offer applies only where all "Lowest Airfare Guarantee" criteria are met but Flight Centre does not beat quoted price. Additional important conditions apply. For full terms and conditions visit www.flightcentre.ca/lowestairfareguarantee-flyfree.

A Word from the Playwright...

You can't win, you can't break even, you can't get out of the game. I came across this shorthand for the laws of thermodynamics while reading Brian Greene's *The Elegant Universe*. It struck me as not only a way of remembering these concepts, but as an apt description of life.

I started to wonder if the laws of physics could affect us on levels other than the physical world, if a physics of human connection exists. I'd had a few ideas kicking around about a small town waitress, the end of the world, and the nature of absolute justice. And so this script was born.



I knew I wanted to write a world where The End was very close and had been a long time coming, where the characters were long past tears and despair. The environment would be adversarial, with “the way things are supposed to work” no longer applying. And most importantly, I knew the apocalypse would have a sense of humour. So I started writing about the town of Crumb, Texas—a place where past, present and future share very cramped living arrangements.

There is a ridiculously optimistic aspect of human nature that forces us to struggle forward even in the face of certain doom, a singular unwillingness to imagine a future without ourselves in it. Daniel, Della, Jerry and Curtis fight to hold on to their world even as it crumbles around them. All four of them have one more thing they hope to accomplish, a last wish. That one thing that they believe will give their time on earth meaning. Whether they can accomplish it... well that brings us back to the shortcut: *you can't win, you can't break even, you can't get out of the game*. We are all here in this unyielding universe to lose, to experience loss, to be lost, although it's in our nature to fight to succeed. We're stubborn that way.

I'm so grateful to Scorpio Theatre for programming this play, and so excited to see this production. I hope you enjoy the show.

~ Cat Walsh

Cat is an award-winning performer and playwright based in Edmonton. Her work has recently been seen in *The Mommy Monologues* at the 2017 Skirts aFire Festival, and in *This Is YEG: New Plays for a Changing City* (Workshop West Playwrights' Theatre). She was also the playwright for Theatre Yes' national site-specific collaboration *ANXIETY* this past fall. Other plays include the quantum-inspired *Fetch*, and the black comedy *The Feast of All Saints*. Her play *The Laws of Thermodynamics* was nominated for an Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Award for Outstanding New Play. Her solo thriller *eleven-oh-four* received a Sterling nomination for Outstanding New Play at the Fringe, and Cat was awarded the Sterling for Outstanding Performance by an Actress at the Fringe. Cat is currently working on a new site-specific play, *Scatter*, which she'll perform in Victoria this summer. Her newest play *Do This In Memory of Me* will premiere in Edmonton next season in a bilingual production by Northern Light Theatre and L'Unitheatre. Cat is a member of the Citadel Theatre Playwrights' Forum, and a graduate of the University of Ottawa.



CAPPUCCINO

NEXT TO NORMAL

Music by
Tom Kitt


Book & Lyrics by
Brian Yorkey

Directed by Trevor Rueger
Musical Director Mande Marcil

Original Broadway Production Produced by David Stone,
James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman, Patrick Catullo and Second Stage Theatre

June 3rd - 17th
in The Studio at Vertigo Theatre

Next to Normal
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.MTIShow.com

Designed by  The House of Productions

CAST

Norm Friend (Daniel Abrams)



Norm, relatively new to Calgary, is thrilled to be portraying Daniel Abrams in this production of *The Laws of Thermodynamics*. After over 18 years in hibernation from the theatre, Norm is excited to be back on stage. Previous theatre productions include Romeo in *Romeo & Juliet*, Petruchio in *Taming of the Shrew*, Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and roles in *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, *Oh What a Lovely War*, and *Wild Abandon*.

Mandee Marcil (Della Watkins)

Mandee Marcil is no stranger to elaborate descriptors. She has been called "vivacious," "unapologetically forceful," and "really good looking." Her ability to captivate those in her sights is second only to her passion for performance (and self-elevating bios). Mandee is super stoked to be a part of *Laws of Thermodynamics*, even if playing a pregnant woman was never particularly high on her acting bucket list. Thanks to Scorpio Theatre and the amazing cast and crew (here's looking at you, BABAAAY) of *Laws* for this amazing opportunity. Select credits include: Yitzhak (*Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Laughing Monkey Productions), Martha (*Heathers The Musical*, CMT), Lin (*The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, CMT), Rusty (*Footloose*, FRC).



Cesar Salvater Jr. (Jerry Biddle)



Cesar is very proud of his short career with Calgary's community theatre, starting in 2015 with *Death of a Salesman* (Morpheus Theatre). In 2016, he could be seen in *For a Mature Audience Only* (Confederation Theatre), *Proof* and *Little Women* (Workshop Theatre), and *It's a Wonderful Life* (Morpheus Theatre). He would like to thank his family and friends for their support and Scorpio Theatre for the chance of being part of *The Laws of Thermodynamics*.

John Warkentin (Curtis Wayne Hickey)

During the first week of rehearsal for "Laws...", a scorpion fell out of the overhead bin of a United Airlines flight onto the head of a Calgary businessman. Scorpio, scorpion? Witches of Macbeth portent? John is all agog to join the Scorpio family, especially for this production. Previous acting credits include two Irish plays with Liffey Players and a key role in Fargo season three. John thanks his beloved, Rebecca, for his inner fire.





ATTIC PLAYERS PRESENTS

June 16-24, 2017 at 7:30pm

June 18th Matinee at 2:00pm

SEX with STRANGERS

Written By Laura Eason
DIRECTED BY AMANDA LIZ CUTTING

At the **Motel Theatre at Arts Commons**
225 8th Ave SE
(Up the stairs from Capuccini in Centre Court)

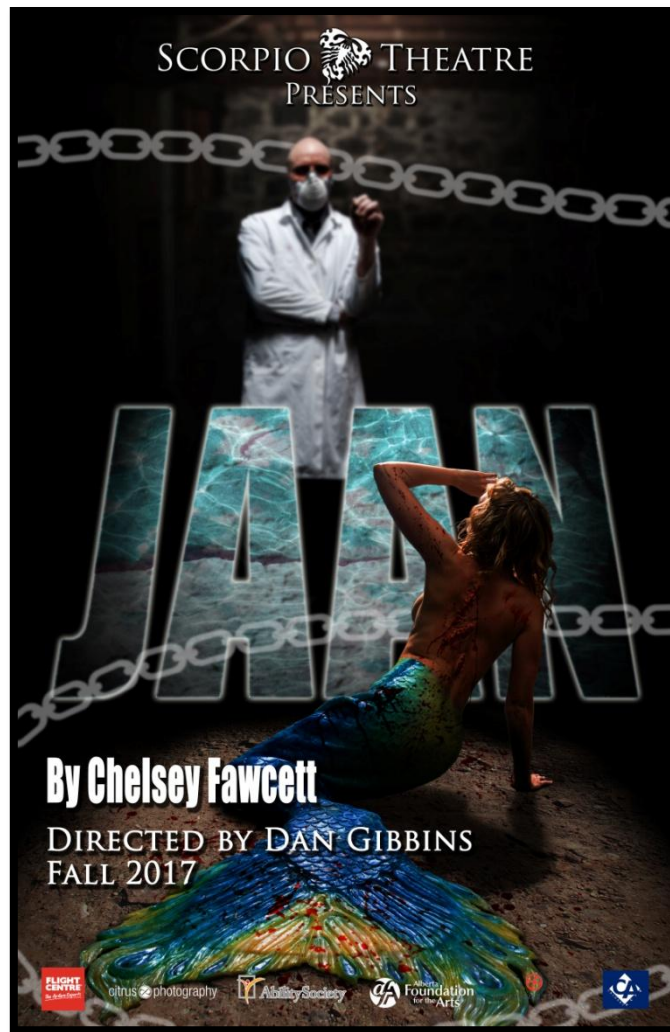
Tickets: \$22.50

RESERVE TICKETS BY EMAILING :
atticplays@gmail.com

Scorpio Theatre is proud to present our 2017-18 season.

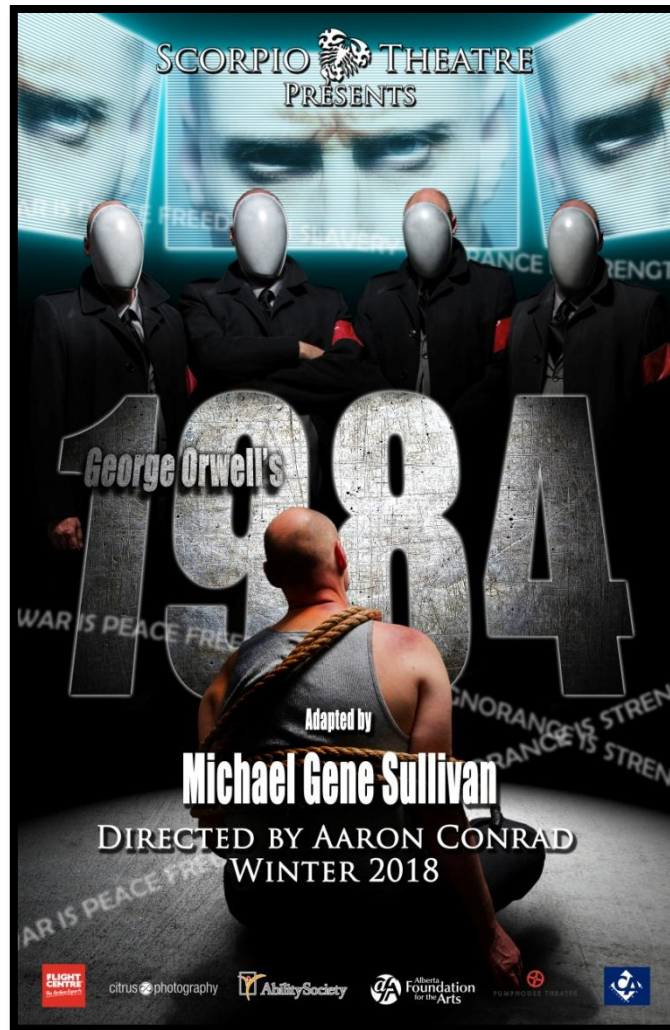


In “A Season to Captivate,” Scorpio takes on a feeling that is all too familiar these days... the sense of being trapped in a world without hope, a world you don’t control. The feeling of the future being tinged with dread rather than excitement. Whether it’s a scientist trying to redeem a lifetime of study and his unwitting test subject, a government worker beginning to question his loyalty to The Party and Big Brother, or an aging country singer and his former greatest fan facing an empty and uncertain future, Scorpio’s 18th season goes beyond feeling trapped to examine what hope and redemption might still be found even in the darkest hours.



Jaan:

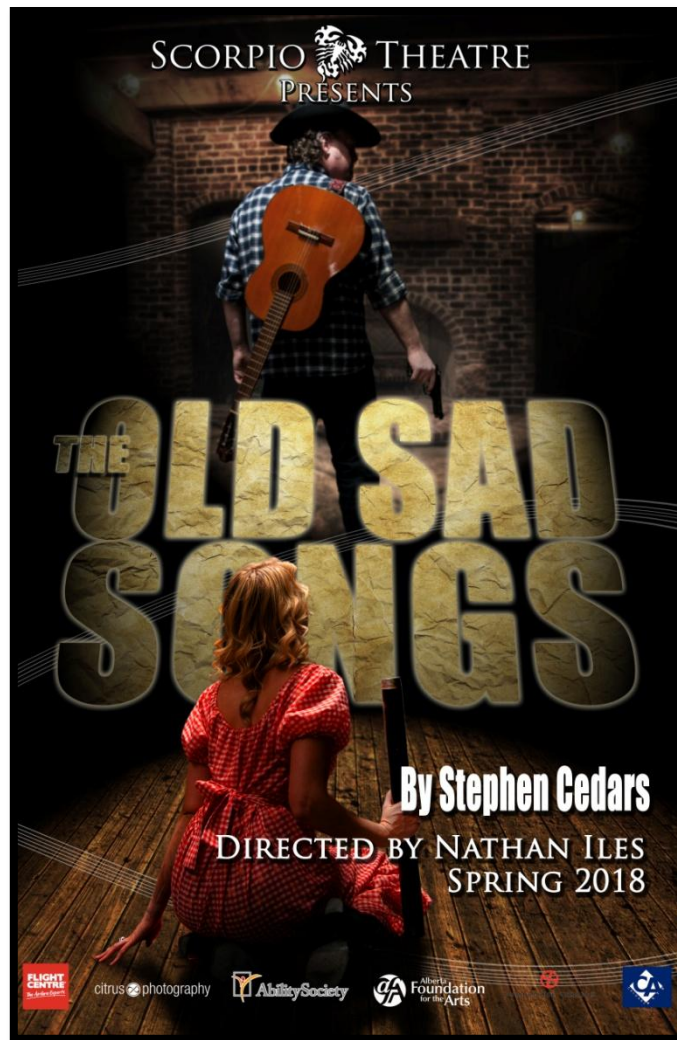
Dr. Bennett's career is one dotted with disappointment, failure, and ridicule. But the shocking discovery of a living specimen of the legendary "mermaids of Lake Minnewanka" is certain to turn that career, and the entire scientific community, upside down. But as we witness the journey that led to the discovery, study, and the shocking revelation to the scientific world, we learn that lines drawn between science and ambition are as deep and dark as the waters of Lake Minnewanka itself. Chelsea Fawcett's "Jaan", directed by Dan Gibbins, is certain to tease, taunt, and entertain while leaving you desperate for answers that may never come.



George Orwell's 1984:

War is peace. Ignorance is strength. Thought is crime. George Orwell's acclaimed work gives a harrowing warning of a dystopian future which, sadly, has become all too familiar. With the rise of nationalism across Europe and now in America, what better time to retell the warnings this story shares about a desperate future that we all hope to avoid, yet seem inexorably drawn towards.

Adapted for the stage by Michael Gene Sullivan, and directed by Aaron Conrad. Be sure to witness an unforgettable night at the theatre in its North American debut and remember: Big Brother is watching!

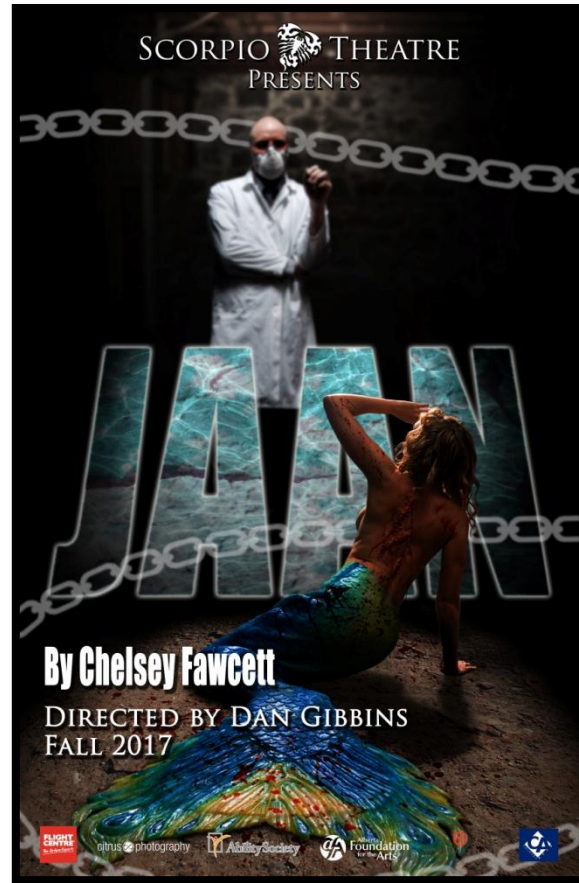


The Old, Sad Songs:

As a teenager struggling to find her voice, Valerie found comfort in the worlds of an old, barely famous country singer. As their correspondence carried on over the years their relationship became ever more entwined within the old, sad songs from his albums. And now, as he faces his coming mortality, a desperate decision leads them each to face themselves, each other and the possibility of redemption for them both.

Written by Stephen Cedars and Directed by Nathan Iles, “The Old, Sad Songs” will test the limits of romance, obsession and pride. A night of theatre that is simply not to be missed.

Coming up next for Scorpio Theatre:



Audition Call

Roles Available:

Dr. Bennett (30s-40s, M or F): Fringe ichthyologist, believes s/he has made a discovery of profound importance, and is driven to validate a lifetime of belief.

Dr. Vaideswaran (late 20s-40s, M or F): South Asian descent. Dr. Bennett's lover and key ally with the Royal Society, s/he is both intensely curious about Dr. Bennett's discovery, and concerned to be kept at a distance from it.

Dr. Yuen (30s-60s, M or F): East Asian descent. Dr. Bennett's harshest critic, staunchly opposed to even hearing him/her out over the discovery.

Dr. Gagné (30s-60s, M or F): Head of the Board of the Royal Society of Canada, and has agreed, slightly reluctantly, to hear what Dr. Bennett has to say.

Reporter (20s-early 30s, M): Sent to cover Dr. Bennett's story, but not taking it particularly seriously.

Dr. Vorontsov/Jaan (20s+, F): Role shared. Dr. Vorontsov is a part of the Board of the Royal Society of Canada, representing on behalf of human physiology. Jaan is a consistent presence, hinted at rather than fully seen.

Auditioners must prepare a dramatic monologue no more than five (5) minutes in length.

Auditions will be held Monday, June 19 and Wednesday, June 21 – 7:00-10:00 pm.

Callbacks will be on Monday, June 26 from 7:00-10:00 pm.

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

CREW

Mikee Ames (Properties and Set Dec)



Mikee is grateful to once again be on the Scorpio team. She is so proud of Brad, who is impressing everyone with his enthusiasm and creativity. She is a dancer at heart but now prefers roles that help others shine. Love to her mum, BL, DR, JPP, RA, MS and a house full of kittens.

Claire Bolton (Costume Design)

Claire is thrilled to be back costume designing for Scorpio Theatre! She is a graduate of the University of Calgary with a BFA in Drama (minor in Dance); as well as being the Co-Artistic Director of Full Circle Theatre she is also a member of Quest Theatre's Artist in Residency Program and Calgary Opera's Let's Create an Opera Program. Past Costume Design Credits include: *Love Song*; *Summer on Fire* (Scorpio Theatre).



Aaron Conrad (Set Design)



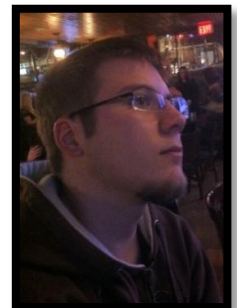
Aaron is thrilled to have the opportunity to bring this wonderful script to the stage. Aaron would like to thank everyone in the Scorpio family for their endless passion, dedication and professionalism. He would also like to thank his friends and family for their endless support and caring through all 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 directing credits include: *The Three Musketeers* (Scorpio Theatre), *Rumors* (Morpheus Theatre), *Cry Havoc* (Scorpio Theatre), *Pastoral Paranoia* (Scorpio Theatre), *Cry Havoc 3* (Scorpio Theatre), *Summer on Fire* (Scorpio Theatre).

Patrick Fitzsimmons (Lighting Design)

Patrick is happy to round out this season with such a unique show and stunning cast. He would like to thank everyone for their work and congratulate them on bringing the world to an end in such a heartfelt way.



Brad Laberge (Properties and Set Dec)



This is Brad's second show mastering props for Scorpio. He is thrilled to be part of the crew, both technically and socially. Outside of theatre, Brad is an off-road enthusiast and owns a ranch for neglected and wayward Jeeps. Love to Mikee.

Charlie Lenz (Assistant Stage Manager)

Charlie Lenz is thrilled to be a part of her 4th show with Scorpio Theatre and her 3rd as assistant stage manager. First with *It Came From Mars!*, then *Zastrozzi: Master of Discipline*, and now for the last show of the season *The Laws of Thermodynamics*.



Luke Moar (Sound Design)



‘After 5 years away, when I thought I was out, they pulled me right back in...’

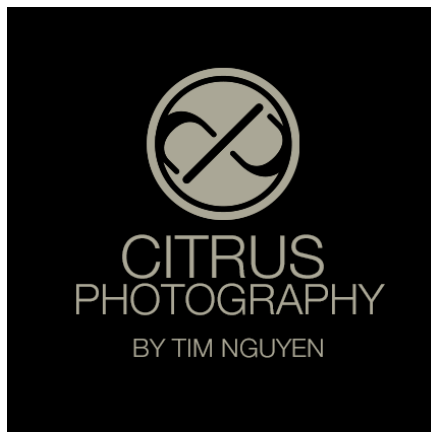
First, it was *It Came from Mars* for Scorpio last fall, now it's *Laws of Thermodynamics*. This show proved a unique challenge for both its simplicity and complexity that Luke has greatly enjoyed. He thanks the Scorpio Theatre team for again having the trust in him to bring him back into the fold once more.

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!



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



Scorpio Theatre would also like to thank Sean McDonald,
Premier Sports, all our volunteers, friends, family, and
fans for their continued support.

