

SCORPIO THEATRE



and

Morpheus Theatre

Present a co-production of



Sylvia

By A.R. Gurney

Directed by Ted Lach

January 12 - 27, 2024

At the Pumphouse Theatre

General Admission \$25

Students and Seniors \$22

403-246-2999 Morpheustheatre.ca

SYLVIA is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC,
servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)



SYLVIA was originally produced by The Manhattan Theatre Club
with funds provided by Milkbone on May 2, 1995.

Cole Porter's "EV'RY TIME WE SAY GOODBYE"
is used by permission of the Cole Porter Musical & Literary Property Trusts.

"EV'RY TIME WE SAY GOODBYE" Copyright © 1944, Chappell & Co., Inc.
Copyright renewed. Assigned to John F. Wharton, Trustee of the Cole Porter
Musical & Literary Property Trusts, Chappell & Co., Inc., Publisher.
International Copyright secured. All Rights Reserved.

Cast

Sylvia.....Snizhana Gukasian-Korobeinikova
Greg.....Stuart Bentley
KateLaura J. Cutler
Tom / Phyllis / LeslieRowena Romero

Crew

ProducerSean Anderson
Co-ProducerThomas Hall
DirectorTed Lach
Stage Manager.....Thomas Hall
Assistant Stage Manager.....Elayne Fischer
Set DesignThomas Hall
Properties and Set Decoration.....Carl Bishop
.....Scarlet Bishop
Lighting Design.....Thomas Hall
Sound DesignThomas Hall
Graphics Design.....Ian Pond
Costume DesignRhonda Miller Mottle
Costume Assistant.....Elayne Fischer
Running CrewKaren D. Moffat
.....Ted Lach
.....DeNeane Osmond
Program Design.....Stuart Bentley

Lobby Display.....Chelsea Hall
Front of House Managers.....Beth MacLean
.....Diane Medinski
.....George Thomson
.....Cheryl Wheat
.....Janos Zeller
Ushers.....Carol Abbott
.....Anna Aubrecht
.....Kathy Bauer
.....Dea Bowes
.....Reg Brehaut
.....Karen Choy
.....Sheila Clarke
.....Sara Drabinsky
.....Carine Fosses
.....Michelle Iston
.....Fedya Noorelahian
.....Astrid Olsen
.....Sharon Olsen
.....Christine Reynolds
.....Susan Rubin
.....Alix Schubert
.....Monti Tanner
.....Jason Tief
.....Jeri Wallis
.....Corinne Webb
.....Cheryl Wheat
.....Raha Yaran

Special Thanks: TELUS Spark Science Centre, Dave Sandy, Thomas Feilding, Adanna Nawalkowski, Adeona Warren, Valerie Dove, Katie O’Keefe, Peter Warne

If you enjoyed our production, consider nominating us for a CAT Award at:

<http://www.calgary-acts.com/nomination.php>

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Two decades ago in university a woman I was seeing was stage managing a show outside of school. She came to me one day and said, “My show just lost it’s Lighting Designer so you’re doing it now.” Just like that I had been voluntold into my first design outside of school and Scorpio Theatre’s “Two Guys, a Couch and the Fate of the World” had a lighting designer. Since then, I have designed multiple shows with them, had many fun afterparties with them. I even proposed to my wife, their former events director, IN their rehearsal hall (it was much more romantic than that sounds). We had a lot of fun times and put on good shows together however like so many others I eventually drifted away from Scorpio.

Then a few years ago I heard through reliable sources that the company was considering shuttering its doors and closing forever. The company was losing steam, some hard-working people had gotten understandably tired, some important things started to slip through the cracks, and no one was certain about fixing things. I approached the existing board and offered a plan and my help in righting the ship. I’m very grateful that the then board accepted me, and my proposal and we began the work to breath some life back into the company. It has been an uphill battle but thanks to the help of some incredible people and the support of the amazing Calgary theatre community. I would like to thank the board, especially our Treasurer Erin Howe and our Vice President Stuart Bentley. Now I am honored as the president of the company to say the following words to you.

Welcome and thank you for coming to Scorpio and Morpheus Theatre’s presentation of Sylvia by A.R. Gurney! We hope you enjoy the show.

- Thomas Hall

DIRECTOR’S NOTES

“Drop the leash, Greg, and once again take hold of your wife’s hand. See if you are capable of walking with her, side by side, toward the setting sun “ - Leslie, Act 2 Scene 3

At first glance, A.R. Gurney’s “Sylvia” is a story about the relationship between a man and his dog, but once you start looking deeper it truly becomes a story about connection and communication. Any dog owner can tell you that each animal has their own unique voice and attitude. We talk to ourselves in their voice (come on, you all know you have), answer questions, make comments and observations... they help fill a social void we never knew we had. But Greg takes things too far, despite being warned that *“You can get lost in it”*.

While some of the pop culture references made are a *little* dated, what amazed me about the script was how relevant the ideas and explorations of love, marriage, companionship, and communication still were. For me, those themes resonated deeply in modern society as much as they did nearly 30 years ago when the play was first produced. I greatly enjoyed my time in rehearsals, due in no small part to the remarkable cast and crew who all worked tirelessly to explore this world and bring its poignant story to the stage - their dedication and commitment were an inspiration to me, and I hope you’ll find yourselves inspired after joining us on this journey filled with love, laughs, and one or two serious moments.

- Ted Lach

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 us at scorpiotheatre@gmail.com

We'd love to hear your feedback!

Thank you for your patronage, and enjoy the show!

Scorpio Theatre Society

CAST

Snizhana Gukasian-Korobeinikova (Sylvia)



Snizhana is an experienced actress with a master's degree in acting from Kharkiv National University of Arts (Ukraine). For the last 10 years she taught stage speaking, voice technique and acting in her Alma Mater and worked in local theaters, as an actress. Her favorite roles are: Belina ("The Imaginary Invalid"/Jean Baptiste Moliere), a Green Woman ("Peer Gynt"/ Henrik Ibsen), Angelica ("The Last love of Don Juan/ Éric-Emmanuel Schmitt). As a director and producer Snizhana headed a theatrical company "STELIA" (which means Roof) with her students. She starred in TV series and short films in Ukraine.

Snizhana is very excited to perform the role of Sylvia with Scorpio Theatre. When she's not on stage, Snizhana spends time with her loving son, husband and friends. She loves knitting, hiking and bike riding.

Stuart Bentley (Greg)



Stuart has been acting on stage, in front of a camera, or behind a microphone for over 50 years. Favorite stage roles include My Fair Lady (Higgins), Deathtrap (Sidney), Urinetown (Cladwell), Mary Poppins (Admiral Boom and Bank President) and Frost/Nixon (Nixon). Other credits include a tough family lawyer in the AMPA award winning feature film Common Chord, an imprisoned Irish journalist in Someone Who'll Watch Over Me (the winning entry in the 2012 Acting Irish International Theatre Festival in Dublin, Ireland), the crazed killer Gordo in the feature film Herschel Gordon Lewis'

Bloodmania, and TV roles in such shows as Damnation, Wynonna Earp, Heartland, Ride and Fargo. For the last few years has been narrating audiobooks from his home studio.

Laura J. Cutler (Kate)



After careers as an RCMP officer, flight attendant, hotel executive and author, Laura is thrilled to be reunited with her first love, the theatre, and extends profuse thanks to Scorpio Theatre for this experience and exposure. This is Laura's Calgary acting debut and to play an "anti-dog" character was a challenge indeed.

Rowena Romero (Tom / Phyllis / Leslie)



This is Row's first production with both Scorpio and Morpheus Theatres. She's thrilled to work with such a talented cast and crew. Previous roles include shows with Front Row Centre (3 musicals), Lunchbox Theatre, and Occasional Notes. Row sends thanks to her Toastmasters Pals, the Watkins', and Joey Sayer for always believing in her. Hugs to her Mom, siblings, the Bear Cubs, and her special Karaoke Buddy for their love and support.

CREW

Sean Anderson (Producer)



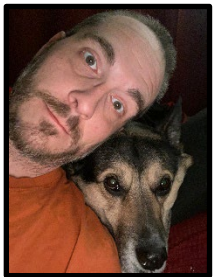
Sean and Morpheus Theatre are pleased to be working with Thomas, Ted, and Scorpio Theatre on their amazing production. We hope you enjoy Sylvia, and we hope to see you at many more productions in the future.

Thomas Hall (Set Design, Lighting Designer, Sound Designer, Video Designer, Painter, Technical Director, Stage Manager, Producer)



Thomas holds his Bachelors of Fine Arts from the University of Calgary and for the last 20 years has been helping to facilitate theatre and live arts in our fine city. On top of being President of Scorpio Theatre he is also the Technical Director of the Calgary International Fringe Festival and can be found at the moment, helping create and maintain some of the fantastic experiences at the TELUS Spark Science Centre. He wants to thank his family, especially his wife Chelsea for her eternal support.

Ted Lach (Director)



Ted is thrilled to be back behind the director's chair for this co-production of A.R. Gurney's "Sylvia". Selected theatre credits include: 1984 (Scorpio Theatre), Moby Dick (Scorpio Theatre), Who Knows (Scorpio Theatre), and Neverwhere (Mob Hit Productions). Special thanks to my family, Thomas Hall, Sean Anderson and Morpheus Theatre, and to the entire Calgary theatre community for all of your help and support in making this production a reality.

Rhonda Miller Mottle (Costume Design)



SM: Mamma Mia, ASM: Busytown, Peter Pan, Victor/Victoria, COSTUME DESIGN: Miracle on 34th Street, Ella Goes to Comic Expo, Pajama Games, Spamalot, DRESSER: Evita, ACTOR: Little Women (Aunt March), Willy Wonka (Grandma Georgina), Footloose (Betty Blast), Titanic, HMS Pinafore, Miss Saigon, OF INTEREST: When not ensconced in theatre Rhonda shares time with family, including three grandbabies: James, Cecilia and Charlotte, and friends. Boldly go! THANK YOU: Karen Sevick, DVM

Elayne Fischer (Assistant Stage Manager, Costume Assistant)



Elayne has been involved in countless productions over the last 15+ years: sewing, follow spot, quick changing, props, and, even, a little acting (Robin Hood). Stepping into the world of ASMinG has allowed Elayne to engage with the production process in new and exciting ways, that she thoroughly enjoys! Sylvia brings us into the emotional world of how our dogs love us! Hope you enjoy this incredible journey!

Carl Bishop (Set Decoration and Properties)



Carl has been working in theatre and film in Calgary for over 30 years. When not acting, directing or building things, he's playing the part of dad to a couple of brilliant daughters. He has previously served as President of Scorpio theatre and has both directed (It Came from Mars) and acted (1984) in previous Scorpio Productions. For Morpheus, he has directed (The Odd Couple) and acted (Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead).

Scarlet Bishop (Set Decoration and Properties)



Scarlet Bishop is nine years old, but has wisdom and ingenuity beyond her years. She is truly the embodiment of a walking, talking Hallmark card and has yet to come up with an idea that she can't build out of tape and cardboard. As a student of music and dance, she has previously performed in The Little Mermaid, and has adapted her own production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory for her school drama club.

Karen D. Moffatt (Running Crew)



Karen has worked for several Theatre companies over the past 41 years. She studied theatre at both Mount Royal and The University of Calgary as a stage manager, playwright, director and all around Dogs body. She was the Entertainment Lead at Calaway Park and she also worked in the music industry. Through out the years she managed robots, singing ants, swinging gorillas, aliens, frazzled rock stars, randy Brits, curious detectives, strangers on a train, a ghostly woman in black and she wrangled a zombie or two. Please note that dogs are her favorite people.

DeNeane Osmond (Running Crew)



DeNeane is an emerging designer based in Calgary and while her passion lies in creating humorous, quirky characters, she is currently exploring Calgary's vibrant theatre scene, collaborating with artists to bring imaginary worlds to life. Most recent projects include StoryBook Theatre's Honk! (Set Designer), StoryBook Theatre's Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (Set Assistant), and Forte Musical Theatre Guild's Tick...Tick...Boom! (Production Assistant).

Morpheus Theatre
Presents



*The Peacock
Season*

By Otis Bigelow

Directed by Nicola Payton

February 2-17, 2024

At The Pumphouse Theatre

403-246-2999 Morpheustheatre.ca