



Presented by Central
Alberta Theatre



The Birds and the Bees

BY MARK CRAWFORD
DIRECTED BY TANYA RYGA

March 7 to 16, 2024



Central Alberta Theatre
CentralAlbertaTheatreRedDeer.com

Festival Hall
4214 58 Street
Red Deer, AB

ABOUT CENTRAL ALBERTA THEATRE

Formed in 1970, Central Alberta Theatre is a registered Canadian Charity providing live theatre experiences for the residents of Red Deer and the surrounding area. CAT operates the Red Deer Memorial Centre, a 700 seat venue, offering live music, theatre, speakers and other entertainment events on behalf of the City of Red Deer. CAT's mission is to produce enjoyable opportunities in theatre through volunteerism, participation, and performance.

*For more information or to rent any of the spaces for your next event,
please call 403-347-8111*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Central Alberta Theatre (CAT) gratefully acknowledges that the Indigenous traditional territories upon which we live and tell stories are represented by Treaty 6 (north of the river) and 7 (south of the river.) It is also a Métis gathering site. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people whose footsteps have marked these lands since time immemorial. We are grateful for their respectful stewardship that enable us all to enjoy the riches of this territory.

CAT Office:

4214 58 Street, Red Deer, AB T4N 2L6

Phone: 403-347-8111

CentralAlbertaTheatreRedDeer.com



AUDIENCE INFORMATION

Recording Devices



We kindly ask you to please turn off cell phones and electronic devices for the duration of the performance. The use of cameras and recording devices are strictly prohibited.

Important Notes

The play runs approximately 60 minutes for Act 1, and 50 minutes for Act 2. There will be a 15-minute intermission.

Please note that disruptive or abusive behaviours will not be tolerated in our theatre. This is a safe space for our performers and volunteers who are bringing the show to life for everyone's enjoyment, and we will ask anyone disrupting that experience to please remove themselves.

The Birds and the Bees

by Mark Crawford

THE CAST

ROXZANE ARMSTRONG	Gail
ASH ROSE	Sarah
TOM BRADSHAW	Earl
EVERETT DOOL	Ben

THE CREATIVE TEAM

MARK CRAWFORD	Playwright
TANYA RYGA	Director
LYNN OLSON	Stage Manager

CARRIE HAMILTON	Set Designer
BARBARA JEAN ASKIN	Props/Set Decor
KIRSTEN GRAY	Costume & Wardrobe
DAN METZGER	Sound Designer and Operation
JILL CRAIG	Lighting Designer
JEREMY ROBINSON	Production Manager

The Birds and the Bees takes place over one year.

Act One – May 1st

Act Two - June 12th, New Year's Eve, May 1st

The Birds and the Bees premiered at the Blyth Festival
in June 2016.

The Birds and the Bees is produced by permission of the
Playwright and Marquis Literary
(Colin Rivers) www.MQlit.ca

DIRECTOR - TANYA RYGA



Tanya has spent her entire work-life in theatre, initially as a professional actor/singer but when she moved to Central Alberta to raise a family with Larry Reese (artist/film actor) she joined the theatre faculty of the Performance and Creation Program at Red Deer Polytechnic. Teaching was a huge improvement ha ha!!! Over the decades she has collaborated with many theatre artists and companies, and has co-founded five theatre groups - the latest being Sylvan Lake Theatre, where she serves as Artistic Director. Tanya loves to direct, especially new works, and still finds time to teach acting and directing.

Director's Message

A huge thanks to Central Alberta Theatre for green lighting this production. It's an hilarious script and we've been itching to get to play with it. It's the perfect spring show for the final slot in CAT's season. In addition to the absolute thrill of directing, I was so fortunate to bring on board my Red Deer Polytechnic colleagues Carrie Hamilton (theatre designer) and Tom Bradshaw (actor). Amid the rehearsals, production meetings and show development it's been quite the reunion with about a dozen theatre artists onstage, backstage, including CAT staff all being former RDP grads! This show represents a perfect coming together of the community, professional and educational theatre talents of our region. Theatre has always been collaborative by nature, but local theatre groups have been sharing resources and working together like never before. *The Birds and The Bees* is a perfect example. Once the play closes at CAT it heads west to be part of the Sylvan Lake Theatre season, running April 5 & 6. For tickets and information on the show in Sylvan and to see it again: www.sylvanlaketheatre.com

Tanya Ryga, Director
The Birds and the Bees

THE CAST

in order of appearance



ROXZANE ARMSTRONG

Gail

Roxzane's been doing theatre in Red Deer since being one of the first fresh-faced graduates of the Theatre Studies Program at RDC way back when. She's had the privilege of working with many of the local theatre companies; most recently on stage with Red Deer Players for *Absinthe, Bourbon, Vodka and Sake*, and more recently, giving improv a try with BullSkit's *Maestro*, and Improv Jelly's drop-in *Jelly Jam*. She's very excited to be returning to the CAT stage for a rip-roaring comedy that she hopes makes you laugh and maybe touches your heart a little too.



ASH ROSE

Sarah

Ash is an actor, improviser, puppeteer, producer, and award-winning playwright. She is also a freelance writer who creates reviews and editorials for the video game industry. She holds a BED in English/Art and a Theatre Performance and Creation diploma. She has performed and trained internationally (USA, Italy, Slovenia), and creates plenty of content locally and online. She's a certified beekeeper and an avid squirrel enthusiast.



TOM BRADSHAW

Earl

Tom holds an MFA (Acting) degree and Postgraduate (Voice & Speech Education) from York University and trained at ProActors Lab in Toronto. He has taught at York University, Red Deer Polytech, and the Canadian National Voice Intensive. Today, Tom holds the position of Culture Coordinator for the Town of Sylvan Lake and hosts the *Workcookie* Podcast. Last year he was awarded best actor for his role in the RDP short film *The Janitor*. Tom is thrilled to be performing with such a talented cast and finally getting to work with one of his favourite directors.

THE CAST & CREATIVE TEAM

(Continued...)



EVERETT DOOL

Everett Dool is a Central Alberta actor who is very excited to be making his debut with Central Alberta Theatre in *The Birds and the Bees*. He has worked on previous theatre projects in Central Alberta such as *Bard on Bower* here in Red Deer, and the *Sylvan Lake Theatre Trail*. He also has worked around Alberta in various film projects. When he's not working on his craft, he'll be found playing roleplaying games such as D&D with other talented artists, trying to find time to play guitar or write, or spending time with his family and friends.

Ben



LYNN OLSON

Lynn has been a CAT member for 20 years+ and has volunteered for many roles which include Props, Set Decor, Painting, Makeup, Back Stage crew, Lighting operator, Acting, Directing and Stage Managing. She has enjoyed all these roles and has worked with some awesome people along the way. She's looking forward to continuing involvement with this great community theatre called CAT.

Stage Manager



KIRSTEN GRAY

Kirsten is excited to be working with the wonderful cast and crew from Central Alberta Theatre. Kirsten graduated from the Theatre Production program at MacEwan University in 2015 then moved to Vancouver where she attended the Makeup Design program at the Vancouver Film School. *The Birds and the Bees* is the first theatre production she has worked on since moving back to Alberta and is thrilled to share this production with you!

Costume & Wardrobe

THE CREATIVE TEAM

(Continued...)



BARBARA JEAN ASKIN **Props/Set Decor**

Barbara Jean has taught drama, musical theatre, and theatre tech in Red Deer for over 30 years, directed and designed 8 musicals, over 50 One-Acts, and over 200 collective creations, designed and decorated sets for a variety of shows.

Her most recent directing credit is *Stag and Doe* for Central Alberta Theatre. Acting credits are long and varied from community to professional theatre.

Barbara Jean is thrilled to be working on this show with such talent!



CARRIE HAMILTON **Set Designer**

Carrie Hamilton, Resident Designer for the Red Deer College Theatre program for over two decades, crafted set, costume, or lighting designs for nearly 30 productions, including *Cabaret*, *Crazy for You*, *Richard III*, and *Lend me a Tenor*. She has designed professionally across Alberta and was Art Director for the film *To The Victor*. Carrie holds an MFA in Theatre Design and has instructed at the Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts, The Citadel Theatre, and U of A. A globetrotter exploring cultural hubs worldwide, she debuts her production design with Central Alberta Theatre and Sylvan Lake Theatre in *The Birds and the Bees*.



DAN METZGER **Sound Designer**

Dan has been involved with the technical portion of theatre for several years. Over that time, Dan has worked with several Central Alberta theatres, on a wide variety of productions, the latest being a very successful run of Innisfail Town Theatre's production of *The Regifters*. Dan is looking forward to helping bring to you a great production of *The Birds and The Bees*.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

(Continued...)

JILL CRAIG

Lighting Designer

Jill is excited to be part of the production team for *The Birds and the Bees*. She has participated on the crew side of theatre with CAT for 3 seasons now. "It is easy and lots of fun! You should come play with the lights too! There are lots of opportunities." She thanks you so much for bringing your energy and enthusiasm in the role of audience!



PRODUCTION TEAM/ RUNNING CREW

Set Decor & Props: Barbara Jean Askin

Set Construction: Lacey Oleson-Rinehart, Brandon Oleson-Rinehart, Bruce Barss, Grant Woodcock, Andy Nokes, Jerry Reaume

Painters: Carrie Hamilton, Elena Rousseau, Bruce Barss, Wanda Bornn, Tracy Hill, Barbara Jean Askin, Debby Allan, Kirsten Gray, Pamela Cregg, Kay Parkkari

Sound Operator: Dan Metzger, Lloyd Jackson

Lighting Operators: Jill Craig, Alanna Chynoweth

Production Photography: Karli Kendall

CAT Operations & Technical Manager: Darrel Dixon

CAT Assistant Operations & Technical Manager: Cassidy Crawford

CAT Stage Technician: Chris Walker

CAT Production Manager: Jeremy Robinson

CAT Front of House Manager: Jason Steele

CAT Bookkeeping / Administrator: Lou-Anne Winship

CAT Marketing: Karli Kendall

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Tamarack Jack's Honey & Meadery, all the actors who auditioned for the CAT season, Jan&Jen productions (photography), Ashley Luck, Norene Reaume, Zoe Smibert, Mark Henwood, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Red Deer Arts Council, Pamela Cregg Photography, Karli Kendall, Albertus Koett & Treehouse Youth Theatre, and many others, especially the Cast and Crew (and their families and friends) for their help throughout this process!

We wish to thank any volunteers, including our Front of House team, who may have been missed by our printing deadline. We deeply appreciate the time and effort you have committed to Central Alberta Theatre!

Thank you for your support!

Volunteers Make It Happen

Thank you to all our volunteers for being a part of the 2023 - 2024 theatre season. Our success starts with our community, and our volunteers are our true leaders in it. There are many ways to get involved if you're interested in becoming a volunteer. We have many volunteer roles (onstage and off!) available and we would be happy to work with you to find a great fit.

Sponsors Make It Possible

We appreciate the community leadership of local businesses and organizations supporting CAT's endeavours each year. There are a variety of sponsorship opportunities available and we would be happy to discuss these with you. You can support a performance, a season, or even becoming a signature sponsor, we would love to work with you during the 2023-2024 season. For more information, please visit our website or, of course, call us anytime.

COME JOIN US!

Find out more on our website at :

CentralAlbertaTheatreRedDeer.com

Or call:

403-347-8111



Upcoming Memorial Centre Shows

- March 8 Snowed In Comedy Tour 2024
March 28 Letterkenny Presents: Stand Up
March 30 Four by Four
April 4 Colin James Blues Trio
April 5 Mini Pop Kids
April 12 Hotel California
April 24 The Country Divas
April 26 Pink Floyd & Rush - One Night Only
May 1 Louisiana Hayride Show
May 3 Todd Barry
September 6 Relive The Music 50's & 60's
September 14 Queen: It's a Kinda Magic

MEMORIAL CENTRE

Call the Box Office at 403-347-8111
to get your tickets today!

Box Office Open Weekdays 9:30am - 2pm

Sylvan Lake Theatre



THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

April 5 & 6, 2024
at HJ Cody High School

By Mark Crawford
directed by Tanya Ryga

The Birds and the Bees is a knee-slapping, rip-roaring comedy about sex and climate change! It's the bees knees indeed.

Rated 14+.

Tickets on sale now at
sylvanlaketheatre.com/events



Coming up this Season!

**Heartland Regional
One-Act Festival**
April 19-20, 2024

CATNIPS

Apr 25 -27, 2024

**Provincials are in
Grande Prairie**
May 18-19, 2024





CURRENT SEASON SPONSORS

Central Alberta Theatre (CAT) would like to extend a special thank you to the following organizations.

GOVERNMENT FUNDERS



SPONSORS & PARTNERS



DONORS/PATRONS

Arun Mishra, Cynthia Edwards, Irma Francis, Clem Nadon, Gary Pottage, Dave Perry, Lois Caron and Border Paving.

DONATE

Central Alberta Theatre (CAT) has been a community theatre organization for over 53 years. Our vision is to be the community leader in engaging Central Alberta in Arts and Culture. Central Alberta Theatre offers our community the opportunity to experience the Arts by encouraging creativity, nurturing new relationships, providing learning opportunities and stimulating experiences, and fostering appreciation and involvement. Please consider a donation to ensure Central Alberta Theatre can continue to create exceptional and fun entertainment experiences.

CENTRAL ALBERTA THEATRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Cynthia Edwards
First Vice-President: Michael Sutherland
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