

October 29th 2021

To the Arts Council of New Westminster

RCTC ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

Our Season runs from September to August, and so we are unable to present a complete report for this current season. Therefore we are covering the period from early 2020 up to today, October 29th 2021.

On March 13th 2020 we played our last show as all venues shut down. From then until the middle of 2021, we were basically dark. There was the possibility of pivoting to virtual performances, but without having the equipment, qualified personnel or enough money to hire them, we felt we could not deliver anything close to our usual standard and so we chose not to go this route. With the exception of streaming two archived pantos during the month of December we remained dark until we decided to proceed with a full season for 2021/2022.

Accordingly we went into production in September 2021 and presented Noel Coward's 'Blithe Spirit' at both Surrey Arts Centre and the Anvil Centre in October. We just recently closed at the latter. As a company we took a leap of faith to go ahead, given the financial risk inherent, because at most we could hope for 50% houses in each theatre and with the distinct possibility that people might not want to come back to live theatre at all. Fortunately we found that people were ready and willing to come back and we had a successful run at both theatres.

The rest of our season comprises

'Alice in Wonderland', at SAC and the Massey Theatre December/January:

'The 39 Steps' at SAC and the Anvil in March; and

'Screwball Comedy' at the Anvil in early May.

All of these shows will feature Relaxed Performances* in partnership with the Massey and the Anvil.

In addition this Season we will be partnering with the Sheraton Vancouver Guildford to present a dinner theatre event as part of 'Dine Out Vancouver' on 27th, 28th and 29th January. The play will be 'Eat Your Heart Out', a comedic and poignant look at one young actor's journey to find a paying gig.

We will also be partnering with the City of Surrey to present drama and improv classes at the new Clayton Community Centre in Surrey as well as continuing to operate the Studio at 10660 City Parkway, Surrey.

We wish our fellow artists much success as our world slowly comes back to life.



Ellie King
Managing Artistic Director

**A Relaxed Performance is specially adapted to accommodate those members of our audience with intellectual or other disabilities and is offered at 50% of regular ticket prices.*