



## Neptune Theatre spreads the love with 2018/19 season lineup

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Halifax, NS – February 14, 2018** – Neptune Theatre shared the lineup of its 2018/19 season today at its annual Season Launch event hosted by Artistic Director Jeremy Webb.

The launch, the first for Webb whose tenure as Neptune's Artistic Director began on January 1, also featured remarks from Lisa Bugden, General Manager, Rebecca Hiltz LeBlanc, President of the Neptune Theatre Foundation, Laura Caswell, Director of Education, and a roster of special guest speakers and performers including a performance by Cyndi Cain and the Nova Scotia Mass Choir from the new season's musical finale *The Color Purple*.

Here is the season at a glance:

### SUMMER SERIES

*The Argyle Street Kitchen Party* ~ July 3 – 29, Scotiabank Stage  
*Five Guys Named Moe* ~ August 7 – 26, Fountain Hall

### MAINSTAGE SERIES

*Shakespeare In Love* ~ September 4 – October 7  
*Playing With Fire* ~ October 16 – November 4  
*The Bridge* ~ January 22 – February 10  
*Noises Off* ~ February 26 – March 17  
*New Magic Valley Fun Town* ~ April 4 – 21  
*The Color Purple* ~ April 9 – June 2 (Exclusive Canadian premiere!)

### HOLIDAY PRODUCTIONS

*Cinderella* ~ November 27 – January 5  
*Dickens' A Christmas Carol* ~ November 28 – December 27

### STUDIO SERIES

*KAMP* ~ October 23 – November 11  
*LO (Or Dear Mr. Wells)* ~ February 5 – February 24  
*Little Thing, Big Thing* ~ May 7 – 26

### BONUS FEATURES

*Funk, Soul, & Rare Grooves – An Evening with The Mellotones* ~ November 16 – 17  
*The Lear Project* ~ March 22 – 24  
*Diva Station: In Century of Song* ~ April 25 – 28

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“I am ecstatic to be able to finally share this season,” said Jeremy Webb. “From a celebration of maritime music to a romantic love affair involving Shakespeare to an inspirational story about triumph, this is a season of love, jam-packed with familiar titles, new Canadian plays and outstanding local work. These shows are engaging, thought-provoking, and full of laughter, joy and heartache.”

The mainstage series begins with the stage adaptation of *Shakespeare In Love*, directed by Webb.

“*Shakespeare In Love* is one of my favourite movies,” he said. “It combines everything I love about theatre: comedy, Shakespeare, love... and a bit with a dog. I am especially excited because this production will have an entirely local cast.”

Webb will also be writing and directing the holiday production *Cinderella*. The beloved story will be recreated as a pantomime, with humour, up-to-the-minute pop songs and will be fun for the entire family. It will feature Martha Irving as the Fairy Godmother.

Neptune’s 2019 production of *The Color Purple* will be the Canadian premiere. The musical is a stage adaptation of the beloved novel by Alice Walker that was also adapted into a film starring Whoopi Goldberg, Danny Glover and Oprah Winfrey. It was recently revived on Broadway, winning two Tony Awards including Best Revival of a Musical.

“I first saw *The Color Purple* on Broadway 10 years ago,” said Webb. “At the time I never would have dreamed I’d be standing on the Neptune stage announcing the Canadian premiere. Our audience is going to be the first in the country to see it.”

Ticket packages and season subscriptions for the whole season are available now. All tickets and packages are offered at a discount until April 30 and come with extra accessories like first choice seating, complimentary exchanges, discounts at nearby local businesses and restaurants, and extra savings on additional passes and tickets to the holiday production. Packages for seniors, students and those under 30 are also available.

Neptune’s current 55<sup>th</sup> season is still going strong with several shows remaining including the season-ending musical *MAMMA MIA!* which opens in Fountain Hall April 10. Tickets have been selling fast and are available for that and the rest of the 2017/18 season at [www.neptunetheatre.com](http://www.neptunetheatre.com), in person at the Box Office, or by phone at 902-429-7070 or toll free 1-800-565-7345.

**Now in its 55th Season, Neptune Theatre inspires audiences with great stories. Located at 1593 Argyle Street, Neptune boasts two newly renovated stages: Fountain Hall and the Scotiabank Stage, plus a year-round Theatre School and a province-wide Young Neptune Company Tour. Learn more about the shows of next season at [neptunetheatre.com](http://neptunetheatre.com).**

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