



PRESS RELEASE: THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA FOR OCTOBER!

Merlyn Productions Theatre Company will present **"THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA"**, as adapted by RICHARD DAVIS, JR., October 18 to 22 at the Forrest Nickerson Theatre (285 Pembina Hwy).

"Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale returns to the Winnipeg stage after more than a decade!"

"When a muddy and dishevelled Princess catches the Prince's eye unexpectedly, the Queen insists she pass the "pea under the mattress" test to prove she really is a princess..."

"This light-hearted new adaptation features twists of contemporary humour, with a happy ending for all!"



The production runs approximately 50 minutes, and is geared for ages 3 and up. Children can meet the Princess, Prince, Jester, and their other favourite characters in the lobby after the performance.

Directing the play is Merlyn Productions Artistic Director JOHN CHASE. Mr Chase is a veteran of theatre for young audiences, having served as cast and staff at *Fantasy Theatre for Children* for 20 seasons, and produced classic children's theatre titles in Winnipeg for the past nine years.

The all-local cast ranges in age from teen to senior, featuring CORA FAST in the title role, physical theatre artist/instructor ARDYTH JOHNSON as the Queen, ROBERT HEWITT KING as the King, ETHAN LAPKIN as the Jester, TANNER LYSACK making his Merlyn mainstage debut as the Prince, and TIM SAYEAU as the Announcer. Stage managed by MANELLA VILA NOVA and SARAH SIMPSON-YELLOWQUILL. Costume design by KAITLIN KLASSEN. Properties by HEATHER FORGIE.

TITLE: THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA
VENUE: Forrest Nickerson Theatre – 285 Pembina Hwy (South of Confusion Corner)
SHOW TIMES: Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00 PM
Thursday, October 19 to Sunday, October 22 at 1:30 PM
Additional matinée Friday, October 20 at 10:30 AM.
TICKETS: General Admission - \$12 / Children (12 & under) - \$10
Group rates available for 10 or more.
RESERVATIONS: Online at MERLYN.BIZ or by phone at 204-415-2714

Interviews and comps for contest give-away are available upon request.

For further information, please contact Merlyn Productions at 204-415-2714 or info@merlyn.biz.

"Committed to staging quality theatrical entertainment at an affordable price."



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About The Company

Merlyn Productions is a live theatre production company that also operates the *Winnipeg Theatre School* (WTS) in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Each year, the theatre company presents a full season of stage plays for both general & young audiences, while the theatre school offers acting classes for ages 10 to 55.

Merlyn Productions was founded by Artistic Director John Chase as the successor to *C.G. Productions*, which staged plays from 1997 to 1999. Performers of many ages and skill levels from the greater community are welcomed into its cast and staff, who dedicate time for the love of their art form, and are committed to fostering local live theatre.

The *Winnipeg Theatre School* became part of the organisation in 2011. With the motto that "*some companies use professionals – we create them*", its 35-year-old brand came from *Fantasy Theatre for Children and The Theatre School*, to continue in FTC's tradition of quality training for all ages.

The company is producing its ninth consecutive season of plays for 2017, and performs at the Forrest Nickerson Theatre inside 285 Pembina as its mainstage venue.