

JANUARY 8 — 23, 2016

THE WHO'S

TOMMY

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY PETE TOWNSHEND
BOOK BY PETE TOWNSHEND AND DES MCANUFF



Beddington Heights Community Arts Centre
TICKETS FRONTROWCENTRE.CA
403-246-8505

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THE WHO'S TOMMY - Music and Lyrics by PETE TOWNSHEND - Book by PETE TOWNSHEND and DES MCANUFF

Additional Music and Lyrics by JOHN ENTWISTLE and KEITH MOON

Originally Produced on Broadway by Pace Theatrical Group and Dodger Productions with Kardana Productions

THE WHO'S TOMMY is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019

Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax 212-397-4684





Executive Committee 2015-2016

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Our Mission

Front Row Centre Players Society is a charitable arts organization, dedicated to providing a fun and safe environment for anyone to participate in and learn all aspects of musical theatre and to deliver enjoyable, high quality entertainment to our community.

Our Vision

To be a driving force in the community by enhancing the cultural environment through the active promotion of musical theatre.

Our Values

Community • Fun • Diversity • Creativity • Passion
Safety • Opportunity • Teamwork

FRC's offices and production facilities are at

The Beddington Heights
Community Arts Centre

375 Bermuda Dr NW | Calgary, AB | T3K 2J5

403-246-8505 | info@frontrowcentre.ca

Charitable Registration #892438565RR0001

Hello and welcome to FRC's second production of the 2015-2016 season.

The Who's Tommy is the stage version of an iconic album by an iconic band and one that we decided to do with a lot of enthusiasm.

Tommy deals with some dark themes and we have worked to present these in a respectful manner, working with our full contingent of volunteers to bring together a show that will leave a lasting impression.

As always, a reminder that FRC is a registered charitable organization and all donations are tax-deductible – the Government of Canada is also offering additional incentives if you have not claimed a donation tax credit in the last 5 years. Check it out at:

<http://tinyurl.com/crataxcredit>.

Thanks to all for your support and on with the show!

Darren Stewart, President

Calgary's Premier Community Musical Theatre Company

THE WHO'S

TOMMY

The Who's TOMMY

Music and Lyrics by PETE TOWNSHEND

Book by PETE TOWNSHEND and DES MCANUFF

Additional Music and Lyrics by JOHN ENTWISTLE and KEITH MOON

Originally Produced on Broadway by

PACE THEATRICAL GROUP and DODGER PRODUCTIONS with Kardana Productions

The Rock Opera TOMMY, which was first performed by The Who in 1969, was originally conceived by Peter Townshend and Kit Lambert with contributions to the development by John Entwistle, Keith Moon, and Roger Daltrey.

THE VIDEOTAPING OR OTHER VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

THE WHO'S TOMMY

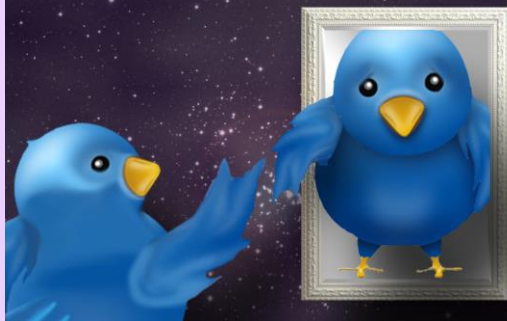
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

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Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax 212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

***Tommy* contains content that may not be appropriate for younger audiences (parental guidance recommended).**

This show uses strobe, haze and gunshot effects.



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SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| ☺ StoryBook Theatre | ☺ Shane Humphries |
| ☺ Calgary Community Theatre Ltd. | ☺ Javad Moradpour |
| ☺ Proline Shooters | ☺ Cale Thompson |
| ☺ The Sunderland Family | ☺ Kelly Maskey |

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THIS PRODUCTION BUT WHOSE NAMES DO NOT APPEAR.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



After witnessing the accidental murder of his mother's lover by his father, Tommy is traumatized into catatonia, and as the boy grows, he suffers abuse at the hands of his sadistic relatives and neighbors. As an adolescent, he's discovered to have an uncanny knack for playing pinball, and when his mother finally breaks through his catatonia, he becomes an international pinball superstar.

That's the description of the show as stated on MTI's website. Those are the events, but what is *Tommy* really about? This is more than a story about someone overcoming crippling adversity and achieving a meteoric rise to fame. This is a story about family, hope, love, forgiveness and acceptance.

Pete Townshend conceived of this show as paying homage to the teachings of Meher Baba, an Indian spiritualist who attracted a large number of followers in between 1933 and his death in 1969. The main principle of his teachings was that reality is the imagination of God, and each soul is in actuality a facet of the divine being. Each soul must undergo its own journey, experiencing all it can, until it realizes that it is not an individual but part of a much greater whole.

By stylizing the movement, the set, lights, props and costumes for this show, we seek to strip away the illusion that we surround ourselves with in our everyday lives. We instead strive to display the core emotional aspect present in these events, so that the audience can draw their own inferences to their lives and connect with the story on a primal level.

This play explores upon that idea, giving us a tale of a boy who goes through life lost within himself and not able to connect with those around him. It is a parallel for what we all go through in our own lives, focusing on ourselves and not seeing the impact we have on others or their impact upon us. This story is about how one person sees the influence that every action has played upon him, every good deed and every traumatizing incident, and how they shape him into the person he is supposed to be.

But in watching this show, we realize that *Tommy* is not really about one person, but about all of us. How we all go through life metaphorically deaf, dumb and blind to everyone else. Through him, we see our own lives. How all of us had to have gone through the events that brought us to this moment, or we wouldn't be the wonderful beings that we are. All the pain and joy we have felt has been necessary for our life's journey. By acknowledging that, we can thank the ones who have brought us joy, forgive those who have caused us pain, and ultimately forgive ourselves.

For in the end, we are all one, and whatever we visit upon others we visit upon our self.

SONG SYNOPSIS

Act One

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Overture | 9. Fiddle About |
| 2. It's a Boy | 10. Cousin Kevin |
| 3. Twenty One | 11. Sensation |
| 4. Amazing Journey | 12. Sparks (Reprise) |
| 5. Sparks | 13. Eyesight to the Blind |
| 6. Amazing Journey (Reprise) | 14. Acid Queen |
| 7. Christmas | 15. Pinball Wizard |
| 8. Do You Think It's Alright | |

Act Two

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 16. Underture | 24. Sensation (Reprise) |
| 17. There's a Doctor I've Found | 25. I'm Free / Pinball Wizard (Reprise) |
| 18. Go To the Mirror Boy | 26. I'm Free (2 nd Reprise) |
| 19. Tommy, Can You Hear Me? | 27. Tommy's Holiday Camp |
| 20. I Believe My Own Eyes | 28. Sally Simpson |
| 21. Smash the Mirror | 29. Welcome |
| 22. I'm Free | 30. We're Not Gonna Take It |
| 23. Miracle Cure | 31. Finale |

CASTLIST

Tommy/Narrator	Ty Kennedy
Mrs. Walker.....	Danielle Renton
Captain Walker	Bruce Fraser
Uncle Ernie	Brian Thiele
Cousin Kevin.....	Jake Sunderland
Gypsy/Dance Ensemble	Larra Caldie
Sally Simpson	Samantha Carson
Young Tommy	Felix Yoder
The Specialist/Dance Ensemble.....	Vicki Trask
Hawker/Minister	Scott Fea
Hawker/First Local Lad	David Mottle
Second Local Lad	Daniel Ripley
Lover	Thompson Harper
Dance Ensemble	Liz Lipton, Kaleigh Richards
Minister's Wife.....	Aileen Marcotte
Judge/Allied Soldier	Riley Galarneau

Ensemble

Shannon Beshara, Heather Low, Christopher Mavin, Sheila Vuksanovich

ORCHESTRA

French Horn (Alternates).....	Colin Lowe, Kendra Hamilton
Percussion.....	Andy Williamson
Guitar I	Craig Rautenberg
Guitar II	Johann Wentzel
Electric Bass.....	Erin Madill
Keyboard.....	Darren Pawlik
Harmonica	Scott Fea



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MEET THE CAST



SHANNON BESHARA (ENSEMBLE & HAIR DESIGN)

This is Shannon's first turn on the stage, but she has spent many quality hours on production teams for shows in her native Edmonton and with FRC (*Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Anything Goes*, *The Mystery of Edwin Droad*) doing makeup and costume support. She is scared to death, but is fulfilling a lifelong dream! Many thanks to Janos for taking a chance on a newbie, to the amazing cast and production team for all of their help, and to her wonderful Husband and Daughter for their love and support.



LARRA CALDIE (GYPSY/DANCE ENSEMBLE)

A year ago Larra drank the FRC Kool-Aid and has been hooked ever since. *Tommy* is Larra's third performance with FRC, and she is delighted to be cast as Gypsy for her very first principle role. Larra has also recently joined the FRC Board of Directors, and in her spare time she...haha who are we kidding; she has no spare time.



SAMANTHA CARSON (SALLY SIMPSON)

Samantha is very excited to finally be doing a show with Front Row Centre. Her previous credits include: *Frankenstein* (Cappuccino) and *Camp Rock* (SBT). She hopes you enjoy the show and can't wait to do more shows in the future.



SCOTT FEA (HAWKER/MINISTER)

Having enjoyed being part of a number of Calgary and area community theatre productions, on and off stage, Scott is thrilled to be in his first show with FRC and his first musical. Scott last appeared on stage as a bandit and a minister in Gas & Light's *Beaux Stratagem* and he is now concerned about the dangers of contrasting dual role typecasting.



BRUCE FRASER (CAPTAIN WALKER)

Bruce is pleased to be back for another production with FRC and as a certified old rocker, has been a Who fan for many years (too many!). Previous credits include Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, Kemp in *Young Frankenstein* (FRC), Wilbur in *Hairspray*, Sheldrake in *White Christmas* (StoryBook Theatre) and The Ghost of Christmas past in *A Dickens' Christmas Carol* (First Alliance Church). He is especially grateful for his wife's ongoing support of his theatre addiction! See you in the spring, honey!



RILEY GALARNEAU (JUDGE/ALLIED SOLDIER)

Riley is very excited to be working on his second show with Front Row Centre. He- Wait hold on.... Hey Thompson, wrong show. Yes, sure. Sorry about that, he forgets sometimes... You would have seen Riley before on the FRC stage in last season's *Anything Goes*, or more recently in Morpheus Theatre's pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty*. Riley hopes that you enjoy the show!



THOMPSON HARPER (LOVER)

Thompson is thrilled to be returning to the stage for *The Mystery of Edwin Droad* in his role of Neville-, wait, really? Are you sure Riley? Darnit! Okay round two. Thompson is thrilled to be returning to the FRC stage in *The Who's Tommy*! Selected credits include: *The Mystery of Edwin Droad*, *Anything Goes*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (FRC), *Shrek*, *Peter Pan*, *Hairspray* (SBT). Be sure to see him in the upcoming production of *Disney's The Little Mermaid* with StoryBook Theatre this May!

MEET THE CAST



TY KENNEDY (TOMMY/NARRATOR)

Ty is a fourth year Bachelor of Arts student at the University of Calgary. Performance highlights include *Charlie Brown* (*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*), Gilbert (*Anne of Green Gables*), Trevor Graydon (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*), Hot Blades Harry (*Urinetown*), and Annas (*Jesus Christ Superstar*). His interests include Broadway musicals, mastering various accents and character voices, martial arts and film reviewing. He is thrilled to get to rock out for you guys tonight and hopes you have a thrilling time!



LIZ LIPTON (DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Liz feels so lucky to be back under the beautiful lights of the stage with such wonderful people and can't wait to share this journey with all of you. Liz was most recently seen in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (FRC), *Young Frankenstein* (FRC), and *Legally Blonde the Musical* (FRC). She would like to thank her endlessly supportive friends and family for putting up with her being MIA and a special thanks to her incredible fiancée for always being her biggest fan. Feel free to sing along if you know the words!



HEATHER LOW (ENSEMBLE)

Heather is absolutely thrilled to be appearing on stage for the first time with FRC in *Tommy*. Before this Heather has - just a second. TJ are you serious? Vicki, he needs to move on. - where were we? Right, before this Heather has stayed firmly backstage, most recently as assistant stage manager on *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.



AILEEN MARCOTTE (MINISTER'S WIFE)

Aileen is more than thrilled to be in her first FRC show, and to be cast alongside such talent! Aileen is 17 years old, and a recent high school graduate. She spends most of her time singing and talking about musicals to her unwilling friends, and obsessing over dogs. Aileen has been classically trained in voice for 9 years, and recently appeared in StoryBook Theatre's production of *RENT*.



CHRISTOPHER MAVIN (ENSEMBLE)

Christopher is pumped to share this incredible production of *Tommy* with you! This will be Christopher's third show with FRC and it's going to be a psychedelic experience for everyone. He's been preparing for the show by listening to his father talk about The Who, that crazy English man. So strap yourselves in and prepare to be amazed by this roller coaster of a show. Previous credit include *Footloose* (Willard Hewitt), and *Young Frankenstein* (Ensemble).



DAVID MOTTLE (HAWKER/FIRST LOCAL LAD)

David has been working with Front Row Centre Players for quite a few years now. From shows like *My Fair Lady* and *Footloose*, to recently he was 'the Purser' in *Anything Goes*, and now *Tommy*. He would like to thank his lovely widow (and their dog!) for being there for him while he is away doing the do! Love you Layna. Miss you Maddy!



DANIELLE RENTON (MRS. WALKER)

This is Danielle's 3rd show with FRC and she is thrilled to have the chance to work with such a great team on *Tommy*. She wants to extend a special thank you to all the cast and crew, for helping to bring Mrs. Walker to life, and to all of those who have encouraged and pushed her out from behind the stage, to out front.

MEET THE CAST



KALEIGH RICHARDS (DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Kaleigh is thrilled to be joining the dance ensemble of *The Who's Tommy*! Kaleigh is a born & raised Calgarian & graduate from The Randolph Academy of the Performing Arts in Toronto. Recent theatre credits include: *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Front Row Centre), *Five By Eleven* (Sage Theatre Ignite! Festival), *Cocktails At Pam's* (Morpheus Theatre), *Nine* (Randolph Academy Presents), *The House of Bernarda Alba* (Toronto Fringe Festival). Enjoy the show!



DANIEL RIPLEY (SECOND LOCAL LAD)

The Who's Tommy is Daniel's third production with Front Row Centre, with previous credits *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Ensemble) and *Anything Goes* (Ensemble). With growing up listening to all the Rock Legends he is thrilled to bring out all the sound, soul, and feels to one of the most loved Rock songs of all time "Pinball Wizard" and many others in this amazing show.



JACOB SUNDERLAND (COUSIN KEVIN)

DID YOU KNOW JACOB CONNOR SUNDERLAND WAS IN *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR*... Jacob Sunderland is a grade 11 student at Bishop Carroll. When not at the theatre or at school, Jacob enjoys the small things in life such as British television and food. A big thank you to the entire cast and crew of *The Who's Tommy* and a massive thank you to his Mom and She Who shall not be named, his sister, for listening to him drone on and on about being in *JC*... or rather *The Who's Tommy*. Sent from my iPhone



BRIAN THIELE (UNCLE ERNIE)

This is Brian's 3rd production with FRC. He previously played Mr. McQueen in *Urinetown* and Herbert's father in *Spamalot*. Brian would like to acknowledge his amazing and patient better half, Deb, for all her love and support, as well as his son Dylan for his encouragement and impeccable comedic timing. Brian plans to use the money he earns from this performance to build a wall around Donald Trump... What? Volunteer? Oh.... Okay, scratch that last bit.... Enjoy the show!



VICKI TRASK (THE SPECIALIST/DANCE ENSEMBLE)

Vicki is pleased as always to be a part of her fifth production with FRC. Recent- Heather, TJ is still talking about *Drood*. *sigh* You're absolutely right. Anyways, recent credits include: *Urinetown*, *Anything Goes*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (FRC). Later this year, Vicki can be seen scene - voice stealing as Ursula in StoryBook Theatre's *The Little Mermaid*.



SHEILA VUKSANOVICH (ENSEMBLE)

Sheila is over the moon to be in her first FRC production! Her past credits include *Guys & Dolls*, *Oklahoma!*, and *West Side Story*. A bellowing shout out to her family and pals for their support and to her boyfriend for basically learning the soundtrack of *Tommy* with her. Sheila does not wish thank her dance shoes for deciding to walk out on her during this groovy experience.



FELIX YODER (YOUNG TOMMY)

The Who's Tommy is Felix's first show with FRC, and he is incredibly thrilled to be part of another performance. His past shows include *Les Misérables* (Gavroche) and *Rent* (Ensemble) with StoryBook Theatre, and he's ready to present another great show no matter what, even if it means needing a face massage after every show.

March 25 - April 9, 2016

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MEET THE BAND



COLIN LOWE (FRENCH HORN)

Colin Lowe has been an active part of the Theatre and Film industries in Calgary for 15 years. He has worked in many capacities in professional and community theatre, but especially loves the music of theatre and film. Musical credits include: *The Lion*, *The Witch and The Wardrobe*, *The Uprising* (F.A.C.), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (FRC), *We Won't Pay*, *We Won't Pay* (Rosebud), and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (The Cast). *Tommy* is a unique work that Colin is excited to be part of.



KENDRA HAMILTON (FRENCH HORN)

Kendra started playing French Horn with Westwinds sixteen years ago. She has been involved with various musical theatre productions over the years with this as her fourth show with FRC. Kendra is excited to be joining a great cast & crew in *Tommy* and enjoying the chance to play horn in a rock band.



ANDY WILLIAMSON (DRUMS)

Now appearing in his 7th FRC production, Andy has recently taken care of the drumming duties for *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Anything Goes*. Keith Moon redefined rock drumming and was an enormous influence, and nothing quite compares to his work in *Tommy*. Andy is excited to share his love of the drums and this rock opera with his family, friends, and faithful supporters of FRC.



CRAIG RAUTENBERG (GUITAR I)

Craig previously performed in *9 to 5 the Musical*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Always, Patsy Cline*. He collects Fender guitars and amplifiers.



JOHANN WENTZEL (GUITAR II)

Johann Wentzel returns to his FRC roots by joining the orchestra! After being onstage in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (FRC), *The Addams Family Musical* (CAST Program), and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (FRC), taking a role that doesn't require stage makeup is a welcome change. By day, Johann spends his time taming robots and striking deals as a Computer Science and Business double-major at the U of C, and singing in various choral groups such as the Alberta Youth Choir and the a cappella group Vocalectic.



ERIN MADILL (ELECTRIC BASS)

Erin is excited to be back in the pit band for FRC once again after a long hiatus for school. Especially since her return involves playing bass for *Tommy*. What a great come back to make. Enjoy the show and rock on!



DARREN PAWLIK (KEYBOARD)

Darren has been playing piano and clarinet for the Calgary community theatre scene for the past 20 years. His last FRC show was *Chess* in 2010, and he's excited to be back as a part of the *Tommy* band. He'll be taking a couple months off after *Tommy* closes before embarking on what he considers his most exciting role yet.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SHOWS

The Dinner Party – Morpheus Theatre

Friday January 22nd, 2016 - Saturday February 6th, 2016

Cinderella - Dewdney Players Group Theatre

Friday January 29th, 2016 - Saturday February 13th, 2016

Lord of the Flies - StoryBook Theatre

Friday February 5th, 2016 - Saturday February 20th, 2016

Summer on Fire - Scorpio Theatre

Friday February 12th, 2016 - Saturday February 20th, 2016

She Kills Monsters – Simply Theatre

Thursday February 25th, 2016 - Saturday March 5th, 2016

Proof – Workshop Theatre

Friday March 4th, 2016 – Saturday March 12th, 2016

The Paper Bag Princess: a musical - StoryBook Theatre

Friday March 4th, 2016 - Saturday March 19th, 2016



Visit www.calgary-acts.com for details on these and more!

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Alexandra May
Joey Sayer
Darren Stewart

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Marie Brothers
Herve & Mae Collet
Zena Drabinsky
Deb Finkleman
Carine Fosseze
Sherri Harbaruk
Doug Keeling
Ann Kilpatrick
Rahim Manji
Victoria Millitaire
Lorraine O'Neill
Marilyn Olynek
Sherry West
David Young
Jim Archibald
Howard Bergen
Herve & Mae Collet
Shannon Conner

Lorne Drabinsky
Sherri Harbaruk
Jennifer Keeling
Ijeoma Metuh
Victoria Millitaire
Shelley Moon
David Ramsey
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Barrie Wilson
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Mary Ann Russell

Jane Tetley
Catherine Abbott
Carol Astop
Wendy Baker
Carolyn Byers
Amanda Everett
Barry Hughson
Christine Kainz-Laatsch
Ann Kilpatrick
Neil Koven
Linda Marx
Tara Richard
Ivy Smid
Jane Tetley
Haylee Thompson
Colleen Trumble
Beth Wilson

Concession

Maidie Couvillon
Dennis Daly
Sherri Harbaruk
Stefanie Holick
Tricia Maher
Victoria Millitaire
Kathy Muis

Holly Mulloy
Kim Pearson
Daisy Pond
Elaine Roberts
Rob Wallis
Emily Wright

Barenders

Diane Chatelain
Tim Elliott
John Gray
Jeri Guenter
Marnie Juel
Adelle Karmas
Janine Kulbida
Laura Labovich
Jocelyn Laing
Kelly Medeiros
Elaine Roberts
Tracy Smith
Rick Yoder

DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Janos Zeller
Assistant Director	Kristine Astop
Musical Director	Chelsea Wellman
Choreographer	Danielle Desmarais
Producer	Darren Stewart
Stage Manager	Leah Winter
Lighting Design	Dave Smith
Projection Design	Dan Derksen
Set Design	Dave Smith, Janos Zeller
Costume Design	Frank MacLeod
Prop Design	James McGowan
Sound Design	Steven Eastgaard-Ross
Hair Design	Shannon Beshara
Makeup Design	Bob Cooper
Assistant Stage Manager	Meghan Skeet, Paige Fossheim
Assistant Stage Manager (Rehearsals)	Grace Rivero
Running Crew	Thomas Trask, Julie Wiebe
Lighting Board Operator (Tech Week)	James Ravenhill
Lighting Board Operator	Paige Fossheim
Follow Spot Operator	Ken Silcox, Russell Rokos, Rahim Manji, Eric Olberg, Janos Zeller
Sound Operator	Andrea Katz
Costume Assistant	Donna Barnfield, Marilyn Buehning
Costume Support	Elayne Fischer, Myrna Weiden, Lianne Smith, Jamie Macphee
Props Assistant	Samantha Stemmler, Kristine Astop, Meghan Skeet
Projection Operator	Darren Stewart, Janos Zeller, Kristine Astop
Gun Wrangler	Leah Winter, Lizzy Evashkevich
Assistant (to the Choreographer)	David Valentín Zapién Mercado
Assistant (Hair)	Samantha Carson
Photography	Andre Goulet
Rehearsal Pianist	Don Kuchinski, Jenn Brown Clarke

Special thanks to the cast and crew for the long hours of move-in.

MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



PETE TOWNSHEND (MUSIC, LYRICS & BOOK)

Pete Townshend was a member of The Who from 1962-82; the group's first recording was in 1964. He has written hundreds of songs, many of which have been chart hits. He has written and composed several major collections that have won international recognition; *Tommy* is the best known. In 1990, he was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Active as a songwriter, performer and producer, he continues to work as an editor at Faber and Faber, which he joined in 1983. Married, with three children, he lives in Twickenham, England. Bio Credit MTIshows.com Photo: Wikipedia.org



DES McANUFF (BOOK)

Des McAnuff received Tony Awards for his Broadway stagings of *Big River* (1985) and *The Who's Tommy* (1993). He directed Lee Blessing's *A Walk in the Woods* on B'Way in 1988 and in Moscow and Lithuania in 1989-90. He is Director-in-Residence of the La Jolla Playhouse where he served as Artistic Director from its 1983 revival until 1994, during which time the theatre won more than 200 awards for excellence. McAnuff is married to actress Susan Berman and they are proud parents of Julia Violet. Bio Credit: MTIShows.com Photo: playbill.com



JANOS ZELLER (DIRECTOR)

Janos has participated in over 50 productions in the last 13 years in various capacities, and was last seen onstage in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* for FRC. Director credits include: *The Producers*, *Spamalot* (FRC), *It's A Wonderful Life* (Morpheus). Selected performance credits include: *Urinetown* (FRC), *Macbeth*, (TSC), *Frost/Nixon* (Scorpio). Set Design credits include: *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Spamalot*, *Singin' In The Rain*, *Rocky Horror Show* (FRC). In his spare time, he also serves as FRC's Vice-President. Much love goes to his family for their support.



KRISTINE ASTOP (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR)

Kristine is thrilled to be a part of the *Tommy* team and is even more excited to be stepping into her first role as Assistant Director. She is a card-carrying geek who loves film, science fiction, video games, astromech droids, and all things to come out of the British Isles and New Zealand. But Kristine would eagerly run away at the promise of adventure if a YT-1300 Transport showed up outside her house. Special thanks to JZ for his patience, guidance and encouragement.



CHELSEA WELLMAN (MUSICAL DIRECTOR)

The Who's Tommy is Chelsea's fourth production overall with Front Row Centre, and her second foray into musical directing. Having previously musical directed *Jesus Christ Superstar* (FRC), Chelsea is clearly a huge fan of rock operas. After all, more music means more for her to do! Chelsea is thankful to have worked with such a talented cast, crew and band and hopes you enjoy the show!



DANIELLE DESMARAIS (CHOREOGRAPHER)

"I spit up like a sewer hole yet still receive your kiss. How can I measure up to anyone now after such a love as this"... Danielle couldn't be more excited to Choreograph *The Who's Tommy* with such an incredible team. She can honestly say this has been one of the most challenging shows she has ever worked on and is so proud of the hard work and dedication this cast put into making this vision come alive!



DARREN STEWART (PRODUCER)

Darren is usually involved in FRC shows, from the stage to the pit band and one of his favourite roles: producing. This is Darren's twelfth-ish show helming the production team. Most recently, Darren was on-stage in *Anything Goes* as Billy Crocker and *Jesus Christ Superstar* as Judas, and coming up the plan is to see him in a different environment... under the sea?

MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



LEAH WINTER (STAGE MANAGER)

This is Leah's ninth show with Front Row Centre Players, previously stage managing *The Producers* and *Legally Blonde*. This is her first rock opera. She would like to thank her partners for putting up with her crazy schedule.



DAVE SMITH (LIGHTING/SET DESIGN)

As he only seems to ever add them, David is pumped to finally be crossing off a show from his bucket list. It's been a long time since he and Janos first talked about this little skit; it's hard to believe it's finally come to fruition. When not doing theatre, David can usually be found sleeping or at Pearl Jam concerts. David is an avid Calgary Flames fan and he loves dogs. Particularly his own.



DAN DERKSEN (PROJECTION DESIGN)

Enjoy the trippy imagery and don't take candy from strangers!



FRANK MACLEOD (COSTUME DESIGN)

Frank was educated at Dalhousie University in Halifax (as an actor). While at school, he started to hang out in the costume dept. and learned to sew. When people stopped paying him to act, a friend said "Designers are hard to come by, you can always do that"... That was over 30 years ago... Somewhere along the way, he picked up the phrase "You can have it right or you can have it now but you can't have it right now". He likes to point out that he wins CAT Awards.



JAMES MCGOWAN (PROPS DESIGN)

James has worked on 8 shows with Front Row Centre; 1 on stage.

His first show with FRC was *Man of La Mancha* in 2005, and his most recent show was *Young Frankenstein* in 2014.

He was seen as Sir Lancelot in *Monty Python's Spamalot* (2013).

James would like to thank everyone who assisted with getting the props for the show.



STEVEN EASTGAARD-ROSS (SOUND DESIGN)

Stevee is pleased to return to the FRC design world following a bit of a break after *Anything Goes*. *Tommy* has been a real thrill and challenge to design. A full rock opera with multiple vocal effects and a large and talented cast. Thanks to Jamie for his support and Andrea for her assistance.



BOB COOPER (MAKEUP DESIGN)

Tommy is Bob's first production with FRC. With over 40 years working on TV, stage and film in his spare time. Bob supports local arts in Calgary and enjoys working in the theatre in any capacity, either onstage: *Brigadoon* (Banff School of Fine Arts and WTS), *Anything Goes* (WTS); backstage: *Flying Dutchman*, *Carman* (Calgary Opera); or directing: *Fawlty Towers* (WTS). Bob was thrilled when asked to do makeup for *Tommy*, and excited to be part of FRC.

MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



MEGHAN SKEET (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

This is Meghan's fifth show with FRC and first time as Assistant Stage Manager. Previous backstage credits include *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Anything Goes*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *9 to 5* (FRC); *Cinderella*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Children of Eden*, *Seussical*, and *The Music Man* (U of C Operetta Company). Meghan received a diploma in technical theatre from Mount Royal in 2004 where she majored in set painting, props and costumes.



THOMAS TRASK (RUNNING CREW)

FRC debut. For StoryBook: *Awesome Allie First Kid Astronaut*, *A Christmas Story*. Thomas thanks his family and friends for working around his schedule



JULIE WIEBE (RUNNING CREW)

Julie is excited to be working on her third show with Front Row Centre Players. She previously worked as a follow-spot operator for *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Anything Goes*.



PAIGE FOSSHEIM (LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR)

Paige Fossheim has played many roles on stage the last couple years and every so often you can find her behind the scenes as Hair and Makeup design. This will be her first time in almost ten years that she will be assisting on the technical side of the show. She is looking forward to learning a new aspect of the Theatre and looks forward to working with the cast and crew.



KEN SILCOX (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

After operating follow spots in the last 5 FRC shows, Ken figures he gets the best seat in the house. Not only does he get to enjoy almost every show, but he isn't committed to months of memorizing and rehearsals or set construction and painting. Besides, he figures, he gets to meet and work with some exceptionally talented, creative and fun people.



RUSSELL ROKOS (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

Russell is pleased to be able to return to FRC to help out with this production after a bit of a hiatus.



RAHIM MANJI (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

An avid fan of theatre, Rahim has watched many FRC productions in the past, but this is his first season working with FRC. He is excited to be a part of the production team for *The Who's Tommy* even though he has no prior experience with lighting ops. In his spare time, Rahim can be found hanging out with his 1 year old son, his 2.5 year old cat, his 25 year old car, or his forever 21 wife.

MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



ERIC OLBERG (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

This is Eric's second season with FRC. He has previously run follow spot for *Urinetown*, and ASMed for *9 to 5: The Musical* and *Anything Goes*. He looks forward to working on another show.



ANDREA KATZ (SOUND OPERATOR)

Andrea is eager to be returning to the theatre after an almost 5 year hiatus. During her absence she proudly served as Music Festival Manager for the CRIR Rodeo and Music Festival, which she is still involved in. After catching the Theatre Bug in high school Andrea repeatedly finds herself drawn to the blue lights and headsets of backstage. Past FRC shows include *Evita*, *Chicago*, and *Sweeney Todd*.



SAMANTHA STEMMLER (PROPS ASSISTANT)

Sam is excited to be doing props again! She also learned that, announcing to your parents that your plans for the evening were to "go downstairs and make a baby", probably needed to be phrased a bit more thoughtfully. :)



DAVID VALENTÍN ZAPIÉN MERCADO (ASSISTANT TO THE CHOREOGRAPHER)

"Let's do the whole combination, Facing away from the mirror. From the top. A-Five, six, seven, eight." Very excited to be part of this production and go in this "Amazing Journey" with everyone in the cast and crew. First time joining the fray as part of the production team, such a great experience. Hope this show makes everyone feels "Sparks".



DON KUCHINSKI (REHEARSAL PIANIST)

Interesting what Pete Townshend was able to create using pretty minimal harmonic resources.... A lot of different-sounding rock songs kinda-tied-together with recurring melodies and rhythms... Guess that's what makes it a rock-opera.... (duh!)... More like program notes than a bio. Anyway, thanks to Darren for including him, Jennifer for sharing accompaniment duties and especially Chelsea, his enthusiastic-more-than-capable-triple-threat MD.



JENN BROWN CLARKE (REHEARSAL PIANIST)

Jenn is happy to contribute in this small role to *Tommy*, given she has so little time these days to be involved in a show. Break legs everyone! Hope you enjoy the show. Love to David and Sutton for their continued support of all her crazy endeavours....

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