



### **Royal MTC Reveals 2026/27 Season Subscriptions on sale now!**

**WINNIPEG, January 23, 2026** – Royal MTC is pleased to announce the 2026/27 playbill bringing another season of world class theatre to the local stages. “The theatre has been teeming with people this past season,” says Artistic Director Kelly Thornton, “and we intend to keep it that way.” Thornton has carefully selected 10 extraordinary productions which include world premieres, internationally acclaimed plays, and beloved classics designed to entertain and inspire Manitobans.

“I’m proud to say that the 26/27 season is decidedly ‘elbows up’, with a substantial number of Canadian works that impress on the world stage.” adds Thornton. The season offers a world premiere spy thriller, commissioned by Royal MTC, that spins the tale of one of Winnipeg’s iconic heroes, a classic retold with contemporary flair, several celebrated novel adaptations, an iconic musical for the whole family, and the long-awaited return of an Indigenous classic.

The 2026/27 season has something for everyone, the new theatre-goer, a long-time subscriber, a family looking for a holiday treat, or a student looking for edgy new work. A subscription remains the most cost-effective way to enjoy multiple shows in a season. Royal MTC now offers a digital ticket option making it easy to share or split subscriptions with family and friends.

#### **John Hirsch Mainstage**

##### **Cyrano de Bergerac**

October 7-31, 2026

By Edmond Rostand

Adapted by Jessy Arden

Directed by Amanda Goldberg

In partnership with Citadel Theatre and The Grand Theatre

A gifted wordsmith and legendary duelist, Cyrano de Bergerac disarms with a flick of a sword and his rapier wit. Unrivalled in battle, Cyrano loses all swagger when it comes to matters of the heart. In a world that judges a book by its cover, the poet with “the nose” has sworn off finding a lover. Loyal to a fault, Cyrano smothers the sparks of his own attraction to Roxane to woo her on behalf of a fellow soldier. Will he rip off the mask or forever deny his own heart?

Showcasing swashbuckling duels, witty repartee and a love triangle for the ages, this contemporary adaptation will have us rooting once again for the noble Cyrano.

**Anne of Green Gables – The Musical™**

November 25 – December 19, 2026

Book by Donald Harron

Music by Norman Campbell

Adapted from the novel by L. M. Montgomery

Directed and Choreographed by Julie Tomaino

Literally leaping from the pages of Lucy Maud Montgomery’s beloved novel, this gorgeous musical retells the heartwarming coming-of-age story of one gregarious orphan from Prince Edward Island.

When loyal siblings Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert attempt to adopt a child to help with the family farm, they get much more than they bargained for. While Anne Shirley’s arrival disrupts the quiet lives of Avonlea’s quirky citizens, her wild imagination and unwavering enthusiasm opens the hearts of her new family, her classmate Diana Barry, and one rascal boy named Gilbert Blythe. Make no mistake, “Anne with an E” is unstoppable, and sure to delight audiences of all ages.

The triumphant return of director Julie Tomaino (*Elf-The Musical*) promises show-stopping numbers, and a fresh and fearless perspective to this Canadian classic.

**Intrepid**

January 13 – February 6, 2027

By Alex Poch-Goldin

Directed by Kelly Thornton

A World Premiere

*“And you shall be called...Intrepid. You are brave and invulnerable to fear or intimidation.” – WINSTON CHURCHILL*

An action-packed spy thriller recounting one of Winnipeg’s greatest heroes, William Stephenson, who became Churchill’s spymaster and the inspiration for James Bond. It’s 1940 and the fate of the free world depends on a nearly impossible plan to trick the United States into joining World War II and stopping Nazi plans for world domination.

Employing espionage, propaganda and the ageless art of seduction from atop Rockefeller Center in New York, Stephenson schemes to manipulate Roosevelt, destroy the Nazis’ nuclear ambitions, and assassinate the German intelligence chief Reinhard Heydrich - ‘The Man with

the Iron Heart'. Inspired by true events, Poch-Goldin weaves 1940s song and dance into an electrifying tale of intrigue, danger and double-crossing.

**My Name is Lucy Barton**

February 17 – March 13, 2027

By Elizabeth Strout

Adapted by Rona Munro

Directed by Emma Welham

If you were stuck in a hospital bed for nine weeks, where would your mind go? After complications to a routine surgery, Lucy wakes up to find an unexpected visitor at the foot of her bed - her estranged mother. As the days go by, conversations explore the complexities of life, as Lucy attempts to reconcile her impoverished childhood with her present affluence, and the precarious relationships she has as both a daughter and a mother. A gut-punching and gorgeous love story, *My Name is Lucy Barton* reveals our deepest and most profound bonds of human connection.

Based on the best-selling novel by Elizabeth Strout, and starring Winnipeg's own Jennifer Lyon, this stunning adaptation has captivated audiences from Broadway to the West End.

**Waiting for Godot**

March 24 – April 17, 2027

By Samuel Beckett

Directed by Rodrigo Beilfus

A revival of the Shakespeare in the Ruins production

Is it possible that two seemingly homeless men represent all of humanity as they wait for someone – or something – to give their lives meaning? As Vladimir and Estragon wait for the mysterious “Godot”, they banter about minor complaints like the tightness of their boots, to major questions like the meaning of existence. Torn between hope and uncertainty, this hapless pair hosts an array of strange visitors while dutifully waiting for their promised salvation.

Deeply influential and iconically enigmatic, Samuel Beckett's comic, absurdist masterpiece asks the simple yet profound question, “What are we doing here?” Today, Vladimir might be talking to us when he reassures his pal, “Tomorrow, everything will be better.”

Royal MTC is thrilled to stage one of the most significant plays of the 20<sup>th</sup> century with this revival of Shakespeare in the Ruins' brilliant production. Indoors, this time!

**fareWel**

May 5-29, 2027

By Ian Ross

Directed by Kevin Loring

In partnership with National Arts Centre Indigenous Theatre

There's a cry for change on Partridge Crop Reserve. The welfare cheques are late – if they're coming at all – the Chief is pushing his luck in Vegas (again) and a restless desperation has led to rumblings of self-government. There's a lot at stake and establishing a new system without

real change feels like building a house on a crumbling foundation. Can this spirited group of ordinary Joes ditch the fareWel for good and take control of their lives?

Crackling with Ian Ross's trademark wit and warmth, this dark comedy about life and politics on a Reserve was awarded the 1997 Governor General's Award for Drama.

### **TOM HENDRY WAREHOUSE**

#### **Goblin:Macbeth**

October 21 – November 7, 2026

Created by Rebecca Northan and Bruce Horak with Ellis Lalonde

Directed by Rebecca Northan

A Spontaneous Theatre Creation

When three goblins come across a copy of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, they decide to take over the stage, choosing the bloodiest play they can find: *Macbeth*. Blending comedy, fantasy and tragedy in an unpredictably interactive and exciting theatrical experience, the goblins present a uniquely fresh take on a Shakespearean classic.

From the company that brought you *Blind Date*, this Spontaneous Theatre production debuted in 2022 to instant success and multiple sold-out runs across the country.

#### **Comfort Food**

November 18 – December 5, 2026

By Zorana Sadiq

Directed by Mitchell Cushman

A Crow's Theatre production

Bette is a popular cooking show host whose young-mom persona is about to expire – both on TV and in real life. With her son KitKat spending more time in the deep space of the internet, and her show failing, they hatch a plan for him to make a much-anticipated reappearance to boost ratings. But what could possibly go wrong when family dysfunction goes live on air?

A play about finding your way in the kitchen of life, this gripping duet mixes dynamic camera angles, real-life cooking and online fame all before a live studio audience.

#### **Misery**

January 27 – February 13, 2027

By William Goldman

Based on the novel by Stephen King

Directed by Ardith Boxall

Also, 2027 Regional Tour

When famous author Paul Sheldon regains consciousness following a car wreck, he's bedridden in an isolated home. By a stroke of luck, the woman who saved him is both a nurse and his "number one fan". But soon, Annie's mild-mannered veneer wears thin, and Paul realizes his fate is tied to a woman who is obsessively plotting to keep him to herself.

As only he can do, Stephen King builds chilling tension as Annie's escalating demands threaten to send Paul hurtling toward an unhappy ending. The 1990 film version of *Misery* introduced a generation to Annie Wilkes. Today, she returns to a society just as obsessed with our heroes. Turns out, misery does love company.

### **Fifteen Dogs**

March 3-20, 2027

Based on the novel by André Alexis

Stage adaptation by Marie Farsi

Directed by Haysam Kadri

In partnership with Alberta Theatre Projects

Over drinks at a local watering hole, Greek gods Apollo and Hermes wager that any animal would die unhappy if granted human intelligence. For their experiment, they choose man's best friend – fifteen of them. After "the change", the dogs marvel at their gift of language and revel in their newfound mindfulness. But curiosity turns to unrest when clashes over status, freedom and conformity threaten the pack. As the gods meddle from above, the dogs wrestle with the complications of their new world order, often with devastating, and sometimes hilarious consequences. Will they roll over and accept their fate or stay true to their natural instincts?

Sit, stay and treat yourself to this modern-day fable, based on André Alexis's global bestselling novel.

### **SUBSCRIBERS GET THE BEST SEATS AT THE BEST PRICE**

Subscription packages for the 2026/27 season start at \$180 (Mainstage) and \$105 (Warehouse). Current Royal MTC subscribers can renew now by calling the Box Office at 204 942 6537 (toll-free at 1 877 446 4500), or by visiting [royalmtc.ca](http://royalmtc.ca). Subscription benefits include substantial savings over single ticket prices, an easy monthly instalment plan, as well as dining and retail discounts.

### **ABOUT ROYAL MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE**

The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre produces 10 plays on two stages, a regional tour, a wide range of youth programming and two festivals: Pimootayowin: A Festival of New Work (founded in 2021) and North America's second-largest Fringe, the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival (founded in 1988). Attendance for Royal MTC programming averages 300,000 each year, and many Manitobans also support the organization with donations and volunteer time. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Kelly Thornton and Executive Director Evan Klassen, Royal MTC remains Manitoba's flagship theatre.

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