

July 2Nd - 8th, 2017

www.blackstonesandbathtubs.com

Created by

Katy Bowen-Roberts · PRODUCER

Jessica Lowry · WRITER & DIRECTOR

James Mark · MUSIC ARRANGER & MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHOREOGRAPHER • Nicola Jackson LIGHTING DESIGNER • Robinson Wilson SOUND DESIGNER • Paul Tedeschini VIDEO DESIGNER • Raymond Knight

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A message from the Producer of Razzle Dazzle Productions:

Creating and producing a musical legacy for Nanaimo in celebration of Canada's 150th year has been an honour. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those involved in making this production possible: the Nanaimo Canada 150 Society, the sponsors, the community, our creative team: talented scriptwriter Jessica Lowry and our fabulous arranger James Mark, the cast and crew, the people of Nanaimo filling the auditorium and last, but not to be forgotten, all those who came before us and made Nanaimo's history and culture so colourful. The journey of exploring pieces from Nanaimo's past and present has been a wonderful experience that has left me proud to have been raised in Nanaimo. We are excited to share this with Nanaimo. I hope that you enjoy the dramatic musical ride you are about to embark on exploring Nanaimo's past through music, story, song and dance.

Katy Bowen-Roberts of Razzle Dazzle Productions

Director's Notes:

Blackstone & Bathtubs follows four tourists who are swept into a dream through the force of a supernatural storm. In this dream, windows of story, song and dance are inspired by Nanaimo's 'explosive' past. While researching the theme I read and was humbled to listen to different origin of fire stories from the Coast Salish people. These are rich, complex stories. In our production, The Voice is a guide who moves our tourists through this dream and at points weaves in the teaching of the sensitive interconnectedness of all things, the kind of respect, understanding and balance that is imperative for sustaining life. This is a theme that resonated with me in many of these stories and a vital universal message for us as we reflect on Canada 150 and the future.

Of course it is impossible to summarize a vast history into one short show. But through the abstract storytelling enlivened in this dream inspired musical we hope you are moved to read on and use this map and resources to get out and explore Nanaimo for yourself- deepen your relationship to the city and its people- past, present and future.

But, do keep a watchful eye on the mischievous and mystical power of The Nanaimo Bar!

Jessica Lowry - Writer/Director

We encourage you to read through the program notes before the show!

SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION

The Coast Salish People, located in the centre of Coast Salish territory on the eastern coast of Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and the Fraser River in the Canadian province of British Columbia.

COAL TYEE

Ki-et-sa-kun was a Snuneymuxw man credited with having paddled to Victoria to show a blacksmith evidence of the bounty of the black stone outcrops of coal in Nanaimo, coal that would ignite the birth of Nanaimo as a coal mining town (1852-1950). The Snuneymuxw knew of the 'pitst', the black stone outcrops around Nanaimo harbour for thousands of years. Their oral history warned that these black stones belonged to Qwunus, the black whale that migrated annually through the Georgia Straight, and that were not to be disturbed.

At numerous points in the show you will hear **Hul'q'umi'num** spoken. It is the native language of the Snuneymuxw first nation. In honour of Ki-et-sa-kun's discovery, he was given the name Coal Tyee, meaning Great Coal Chief. You will hear reference to places of significance within the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw.

Te' 'tux stun - Mount Benson

Sxwuyum - Millstone River

Qwam gwam ga - Nanaimo River

Slhthemun - Jack Point Estuary

Tle: ltxw - False Narrows/Gabriola Island

Saysutshun - Newcastle Island

Tulsa shaqathutstun - Petroglyphs

Stilnup - Departure Bay

CAPITOL THEATRE

The Capitol Theatre, once located at 220 Bastion street in downtown Nanaimo, hosted a showing of Nanaimo's first moving picture. At the time, prominent Chinese entrepreneur Mah Bing Kee was invited. Upon arriving the manager requested he sit segregated by race upstairs. Mah Bing Kee held his ground and the manager relented. Bing Kee also insisted that this be the case for "Not only for me but all Chinese people'. He later regretted that he should have said for all people regardless of race, culture or ethnicity. In our dream, he has that chance!

CHINA TOWN FIRE 1960

By 1911, Nanaimo's third Chinatown was well established on Pine Street and had a population of approximately 1,500. The population and economic vitality of the Pine Street Chinatown waned in the early 1920s due to a decline in the coal industry and the Chinese Exclusion Act. The area became increasingly derelict and was destroyed by fire on September 30th, 1960.

JEAN BURNS BUILDING

This corner building was on 14 Commercial Street in Nanaimo and suffered a destruction of a majority of its structure in 2016. This building retains its name for its association with Jean Burns, who operated a Ladies and Children's Wear Shop from this site for over forty years beginning in 1934.

NANAIMO'S RED LIGHT DISTRICT

Nanaimo had a red light district between 1890s and 1920s in what is now a part of Terminal Avenue close to Mr.Lube and White Sails Brewery. The conditions in these Fraser Street Bordellos were dismal. 'The lack of proper sewer drainage often flooded basements, and its close proximity to the ravine, where the city's garbage was often dumped, created an awful stench, especially in the summer'- fraserstreetwordpress.com

ESPLANADE NUMBER ONE MINE EXPLOSION

'Operated by the Vancouver Coal Company, the Number One mine opened in 1884 at the foot of Milton Street in Nanaimo. Its shafts and tunnels extended under the harbour to Protection Island, Newcastle Island, and the Nanaimo River. On May 3rd 1887, 150 men and boys lost their lives in what was at the time the world's largest man-made explosion. The blast sealed many miners off in side shafts where they spent hours waiting until their oxygen ran out. Men were found with messages etched into the dirt with their shovels, some marking off the hours they'd spent waiting for rescue.' from Coal Watch.

53 of the victims were Chinese who in the inquest and reports by the Minister of Mines were listed as 'Chinamen, names unknown' followed by a tag number. BC employers did not have to report the death of Chinese employees until 1897.

NEWCASTLE ISLAND

Saysutshun is part of the Snuneymuxw First Nation Traditional Territory. Traditionally a place for healing, a training ground for competitive canoe pullers and a gathering place for traditional medicines, it is now a Marine Provincial park that you can visit by boat and learn more in depth about the culture embedded there.

Newcastle Island has seen many uses, from Sandstone quarrying (1869-1932) to being owned and operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway as a resort destination (1931 to the start of second world war)

BROTHER XII

Edward Arthur Wilson, known as Brother XII, was an English mystic/cult leader who, in the late 1920s, founded an influential spiritual community/cult located just south of the city of Nanaimo, Cedar by The Sea.

PETROGLYPHS

In the sandstone in specific areas of Nanaimo, Newcastle and Gabriola Island are Snuneymuxw rock carvings dating thousands of years ago. Petroglyph Park is in downtown Nanaimo. Cedar by the Sea also has an archaeological petroglyph site. These sites are fragile and need to be treated with great care.

NANAIMO BATHTUB RACES

Since 1967, Nanaimo hosts an annual event where competitors race in motorized bathtubs. This has become an international event. The bathtub races are part of the Nanaimo Marine Festival that runs July 1st- 31st.

THE NANAIMO BAR

A dessert with three distinct layers that include a chocolate coconut base, a custard centre and ganache top layer. These rich bars were said to have emigrated from Britain and were in the lunch boxes of many a miner, a little light in the dark underground.

RESOURCES AND PLACES TO EXPLORE NANAIMO:

Nanaimo Museum nanaimomuseum.ca

Vancouver Island University First Nations Studies ah.viu.ca/first-nations-studies

Snuneymuxw First Nations www.snuneymuxw.ca

Petroglyph Park www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/petroglyph/

Newcastle Island www.newcastleisland.ca

The Nanaimo Art Gallery nanaimogallery.ca

Nanaimo Marine Festival bathtubbing.com

Tourism Vancouver Island www.tourismvi.ca

Royal BC Museum www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca

The Nanaimo Archives nanaimoarchives.ca

Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society www.cvims.org

Nanaimo Science and Sustainability Society http://nanaimoscience.org

Georgia Straight Alliance georgiastraightalliance.org

To find our more about the Hul'q'umi'numlanguage www.firstvoices.com

- Image 1-21971 and F-09838 courtesy of The Royal BC Museum and Archives
- Historic images courtesy of The Nanaimo Archives



NANAIMO COMMITTEE

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Co Chair	Diana Johnstone
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Director of Administration	Camela Tang
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Youth Advisory Council Liaison	Michael Ribicic

Thank You!

Snuneymuxw First Nations

The City of Nanaimo

Bill Yoachim

Laura Cranmer

DEMEX Deconstruction Inc.

The Port Theatre staff

KKP Design and Print

Brian Hazelbower with "The Harbour City Beat"

Bob Bossin, "The Nanaimo Song"
"Based on the song (It's so nice not to be in) Nanaimo
by Bob Bossin, c1994. Rewritten with Permission

Tempo Dance

Parents of all dancers

Nathan Barlow

The Fagan Clan

Christine of The Nanaimo Archives

Gary Manson

Celestine Aleck

Arlene Deptuck

The Nanaimo Museum

The Cumberland Museum

Peter & Annette Bowen-Roberts

David, Nicholas & Matthew Mayert

Graeme, Harper, Sterling & Marina Rouse

Denise & Larry Lowry

Tamarak, Samuel & Ella Mark

Mary & Helmut Mark

Margot Holmes & the Vancouver Island Symphony staff

VIU Music Department.

VIU A&H faculty

Ladysmith Community Marina, Rod Smith and family

Vancouver Island Conference Centre

Liza Taylor, Catsass Media Design

The Production Team



Katy Bowen-Roberts | PRODUCER

Katy trained at UBC where she achieved a BMUS completing courses in directing and performing. She produced the Port Theatre's 10-year anniversary celebration show and was the 'Programming Coordinator and Host' for the popular Random Acts Series. She established Razzle Dazzle Productions in 2007 and is working towards production of the 11th annual Yellowpoint Christmas Spectacular www.yellowpointchristmasspectacular.ca. Tickets are now on sale! Katy is also working towards production of the second annual "Night of White" fundraiser for the Vancouver Island

Mountain Sports Society in the Comox Valley on August 26th.



Jessica Lowry* | WRITER / DIRECTOR

Jessica graduated with distinction from The University of Alberta's conservatory acting program and has worked as an actor across Canada including three seasons with The Shaw Festival Theatre. There she was recipient of a Saunderson award and Christopher Newton award for continuing studies. Most recently she performed in Theatreone's 52 Pick Up and wrote and performed Clear Cut for The Nanaimo Art Gallery. Jessica was a selected participant in Calgary's One Yellow Rabbit summer lab for performative creation- a masterclass that connects yoga, theatre, writing with a

special focus on trusting the work of the subconscious as a creative source. She teaches and trains in lyengar yoga at Bend Over Backwards in Nanaimo. Jessica is humbled and grateful to be working on this project and with such a fantastic team



James Mark | composer/arranger, director & violinist

James is a professor of music at the Vancouver Island University. He teaches courses in digital music notation and studio recording and is currently the music department chair. James also teaches violin performance at VIU and at the Nanaimo Conservatory of Music. He is a core member of the Vancouver Island Symphony and is continually working as an arranger and composer. Since 2007 James has been the arranger, musical director and violinist for the Yellowpoint Christmas Spectacular. A project that recently celebrated its 10th year with sold out performances on its island tour.



Nicola Jackson | CHOREOGRAPHER

Born and raised in England. Nicola started ballet at three, and throughout her childhood was absorbed in Arts & Dance! Her vocation led to three years professional Dance & Musical Theatre training in London, England. Following graduation Nicola spent 8 years performing professionally, the majority of which was as Dancer & Dance Captain for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Alongside her love of performing runs a passion for the creative process; choreography & teaching, working with directors, producers, musicians, lighting & sound technicians. The countless hours of preparation to create those magical moments onstage - there's nothing like it!

The Production Team continued



Robinson Wilson | LIGHTING DIRECTOR

Robinson Wilson is a graduate of the Technical Theatre program at VIU and the Film Arts Program at Langara College's Studio 58. Recent lighting design work includes 52 Pickup for Theatre One, his production of William Shakespeare's The Tempest, and A Different Moon, for VIU, while also mentoring design students through the directed studies program. He has 16 years experience in concert lighting as a venue technician and freelance designer. Since 2011, he has been the Lighting Designer for CYMC Musical Theatre program, where highlights include Shrek, West Side Story, Fiddler on

the Roof, and Les Miserables. Robinson has most recently worked as Director's apprentice for "The Winter's Tale" at Bard on the Beach.



Shelby Matthews | STAGE MANAGER

After a childhood of acting in community and school theatre, Shelby pursued her love of theatre in her post-secondary education. In 2014 she completed her BA in Theatre at VIU where she stage managed several one act and full length mainstage productions. After graduating, she continued to pursue the technical side, from stage managing the Vancouver Island Symphony numerous times, to doing both stage management and tech at the Harbour City Theatre. She has been involved with the Nanaimo Fringe Festival for the last five years, most recently sitting on the board of direc-

tors. She now is acting as the Event Manager of the entire festival as well as working in Youth Theatre as a Production Assistant and SM for Headliners Productions for the past 3 years.



Paul Tedescini | SOUND DESIGN

Select sound design credits include; I Think I'm Fallin'- The Songs Of Joni Mitchell, Moms The Word, Puttin' On The Ritz, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike (The Belfry Theatre), Circle Mirror Transformation (Arts Club Theatre), 39 Steps, Noises Off (Western Canada Theatre), Fresco (Shadbolt Centre/The Cultch), Gaslight (Blue Bridge Theatre), Ring Of Fire - Project Johnny Cash, It's A Wonderful Life, Les Miserables, Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story, Steel Magnolias, Chickens (Chemainus Theatre Festival), Into The Woods (Canadian College of Performing Arts), The December Man (Harbour City Theatre).



Raymond Knight | VIDEO DESIGN

Raymond Knight is a Vancouver Island based filmmaker and visual artist. He specializes in music videos and short films and has recently finished producing/directing his first feature film 'Beyond Control'. With several short film scripts completed he hopes to bring more independent productions to Nanaimo and continue building the filmmaking community.

The Production Team continued



Sarah Macdonald | costume alterations

Sarah has been passionate about sewing and costuming for over 15 years. She spends most of her time creating professional stage costumes for Elvis tribute artists from her home in Nanaimo, but is always excited to join the Razzle Dazzle team and help the cast look their best!

The Musical Mumbers

Nanaimo Harbour – present The Nanaimo Song

The Dream of Nanaimo

Tzi-Tzi-Watul chant**

Black Stones Theme* reoccurring

Jasmine Flower Song

Broadway Melody ~ Capitol Theatre, Nanaimo, 1924

Working Man ~ 1887 Number One Mine Explosion

Sing Sing - Newcastle Pavilion 1933

Welcome Chant**

Row, Row, Row Your Boat ~ Wipe Out

House of the Rising Sun ~ Nanaimo Red Light District

Brother XII ~ Hallelujah

Hi-Luk chant**

Nanaimo Harbour, Present Departure Bay

The Harbour City Beat

* composed by James Mark

^{**}original chants shared by Gary Manson

The Cast



Amy King | IVANKA

Amy is an actor, singer, dancer, and prairie girl originally from Saskatchewan, and made the move out west to graduate from the Canadian College of Performing Arts in Victoria, BC. Now residing in Vancouver, she is ecstatic to spend some time back on the island! Recent credits involving new premiere works include: Charlotte Bronte in *Ties of Blood*, Lulu in *American Refugee*, and two seasons with the Gold Fever Follies in Rossland, BC.



Alex Nicoll* | WILSON

Alexander Nicoll is a professional actor with da Costa Talent, originally from Courtenay, BC, and a graduate of Capilano University's musical theatre program. He last performed on the island in the 2014 Yellowpoint Christmas Spectacular, and recent credits include Mary Poppins in both Kamloops and Saskatoon, The Little Prince at Theatre Calgary, and Les Miserables at The Arts Club.



Kirsten Van Ritzen* | HENRY

Kirsten has performed at theatres across Canada. She is delighted to once again take part in the premiere of a new work. Nominations include: 'Ovation Award Outstanding Performance Female', 'M Award Top Comedian', L.A. Theatre 'Best Comedic Solo Play', 'M' Awards (Sin City Improv Victoria), and Canadian Comedy Award (Sin City Improv Toronto). Kirsten has acted in TV roles for Disney, Hallmark, Lifetime, CBC, APTN, YTV. She is also a playwright and producer, and now makes her home in Victoria. www.kirstenvanritzen.com



Sean Patrick Sonier | HENRY

Sean Patrick Sonier is a Studio 58 graduate who has travelled all the way from New Brunswick to reside in the vibrant city of Vancouver. He did however make a quick stopover in Ontario to receive a B.A. Specialization in Theatre with a minor in Arts Administration at the University of Ottawa. Select past credits include: The Music Man (Gateway Theatre), Bedstefader (Caravan Farm Theatre), The Faerie Play (Mortal Coil), Oklahoma, Kosmic Mambo (Studio 58), Cinderella: an East Van Panto (Theatre Replacement).

The Cast continued



Xulsimalt - Gary Mason | THE VOICE

Gary was born on the mouth of the Snuneymuxw River in 1948. He now lives 100 feet from where he was born. Married to Donna Manson, they have six children and eight grandchildren. Gary is a survivor of Residential School and deeply connected to culture and land. Gary retired from commercial fishing. He has worked as an elder at Vancouver Island University and been involved in healing circles for the last five years. Gary is a regular canoe journey participant and is glad to sit as an elder at Vancouver Island University. Gary is grateful that Snuneymuxw has been included on

this project and is appreciative of the humour in the production.

*The participation of this Artist is arranged by permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the provisions of the DanceOperaTheatre Policy (DOT)



The Dream Spirits/Dance Ensemble

Part of The Canada 150 vision is to include vibrant opportunities for youth. These 7 dancers were selected through an audition to be part of a professional production.

Sarah Deptuck has been dancing with Tempo Dance Academy for five years. She has performed with Dance the Magic in Disneyland, California, and is planning on travelling to New York to perform with Tempo in July. Sarah has also choreographed the Wellington Secondary production of "*The Wizard of Oz*". Sarah is grateful to be a part of this production!

Lisa Deptuck has been dancing at Tempo Dance Academy for eight years. She has performed with Dance the Magic in Disneyland, California, and is planning on travelling to New York to perform with Tempo in July. Lisa also performed as various characters in Tempo Dance Academy's production of *Frozen*. She is very excited to be part of this production!

Halle Ebdrup is 14 years old and she dances at Tempo Dance Academy. She has been dancing for many years and has been in productions with her studio including The *Grinch, Frozen* and more! Most recently she traveled to Germany with Team Canada to compete in the world show dance championships. She is currently training in styles including lyrical jazz, modern, acro, ballet, pointe, jazz and modern stage and is enjoying learning new work and training daily.

Sarah Kielly started dancing at 3 and is now 17 years old. Most recently she danced in her dance studio's rendition of *Frozen* where she played Sven. Sarah has trained in various styles such as jazz, ballet, contemporary, modern, tap and hip hop and has danced with her dance studio's performing company in Disneyland and sets out to perform with her studio in New York in July.

Ashley King is 15 years old. She dances at Tempo Dance Academy and Inception youth dance academy. With Tempo Dance, she has performed in numerous productions including *The Grinch, Charlie Brown* and *Frozen*. She is currently studying ballet, fast and lyrical jazz, modern and pointe but enjoys learning a variety of different styles.

Paige Skirrow has been dancing at Tempo Dance Academy since she was two years old. She has participated in many competitions over the years. She will be performing in New York with Dance the Magic in July 2017. Paige is very honored to be a part of this production!

Ava Smith is described by choreographers as "fearless". She has received numerous awards for her work in ballet, contemporary, modern, jazz, and modern stage since 2011. Ava has performed in Disneyland and will dance on Broadway this July. Ava dances with Rhythm Dance Academy and with Inception Youth Dance Company.

Voice of the Children

This group of talented Snuneymuxw youth along with Gary Manson worked with translations and compositions in Hul-q-umi-num.

Talela Alexandra cheekeye Manson Mia sumiya Manson Rose Lauralee Manson Justice tilum Manson Summer eemiya Manson

The Band



Melissa Hill | KEYS

A local Vancouver Island musician, Melissa Hill received her Piano Performance degree from UBC and following that pursued jazz and songwriting. She has recorded three albums. The latest recording of original music, Melissa Hill Live, features a global feel inspired by her performance at the Jamaica Jazz and Blues Festival. Following Jamaica, she has performed on the Island of Providenciales, in Turks and Caicos, Butchart Gardens in Victoria, and Black Rock Resort in Ucluelet. She is very excited to be working on this project.



David Baird | DOUBLE BASE/ELECTRIC GUITAR

Dave studied jazz up at VIU. Since then he has performed with dozens of projects in a wide variety of musical styles, ranging from cruise ship lounge bands to touring with rock bands. His latest venture had him performing three shows with Theatre Newfoundland all summer long including his debut as an actor where he played the role of Captain English in *The Sinking of the SS Ethie*, for the Gros Morne theatre festival. Dave has been the Double Bass/Bass Guitar player for the past 10 years for the Yellowpoint Christmas Spectacular. He teaches bass privately and is an avid bird watcher in his spare time.



Graham Villette | DRUMS

Graham has just completed the Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies Program at Vancouver Island University. He has been playing music for over ten years and working as a professional drummer since the age of fifteen. Graham performs frequently with many West Coast based groups, most notably the Nanaimo Musicians Association Big Band under the direction of Bryan Stovell, Andrew Homzy's NOLA NightHawks, and the Vancouver Island University Big Band.



Jesse Marshall | GUITAR

Born in Nanaimo, Jesse began post-secondary music studies at the age of fifteen. Since then he has been fortunate to receive many awards and scholarships, including the Fraser MacPherson Jazz Fund Scholarship, and the Nanaimo Arts Council Achievement Award. Jesse currently plays guitar in Andrew Homzy's N.O.L.A. Nighthawks, and with the Nanaimo Musicians' Association Big Band.



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Créée par



Katy Bowen-Roberts · METTEUSE EN SCÈNE

Jessica Lowry · ÉCRIVAIN ET RÉALISATRICE

James Mark · ARRANGEUR ET DIRECTEUR DE MUSIQUE

CHORÉOGRAPHE · Nicola Jackson

CONCEPTEUR D'ÉCLARAGE · Robinson Wilson

CONCEPTION SONORE • Paul Tedescini CONCEPTION VIDÉO • Raymond Knight

PARTENAIRE ÉTOILE

