



ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

A DISTINCTLY CALGARIAN TAKE ON A CLASSIC FAIRY TALE COMES TO ATP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

***Slipper – A Distinctly Calgarian Cinderella Story* will charm audiences with laughter, music, dance numbers, and dazzling costumes**

CALGARY, ALBERTA – After last year’s hit run of *Legend Has It*, [Alberta Theatre Projects](#) is thrilled to welcome back the uproarious comedic talents of Canadian theatre sensation and native Calgarian **Rebecca Northan** for their annual family holiday show. This season, Northan, a master of audience engagement, has teamed up with collaborators **Bruce Horak** and **Christian Goutsis** to put a Calgary-twist on the British tradition of the holiday pantomime with a locally-inspired retelling of the classic story of Cinderella set in modern-day Calgary. Running from **November 22nd to December 31st**, [Slipper: A Distinctly Calgarian Cinderella Story](#) is a hilarious and heartfelt story told on a grand scale, full of jokes about life in Calgary.

“I had never seen what’s considered a traditional panto as a kid,” says Northan, who began her career as a young actress and improviser in Calgary the early 90’s, “but I realized the training I had at Loose Moose Theatre Company doing kids’ shows there borrowed a lot of conventions from panto.”

A popular style of family-friendly holiday theatre that’s been delighting British audiences for over 200 years, pantomime, or “panto” as it’s more commonly known, features several core elements including physical comedy, audience participation, cross-dressing actors, popular song spoofs and topical humour, all woven into an adaptation of a traditional fairy tale.

Unlike her previous work with ATP, however, *Slipper* finds Northan taking the reins behind the scenes as playwright and director, rather than appearing onstage herself. It’s also different from *Legend Has It* and *Blind Date* in that the play is almost entirely scripted, a departure from the “spontaneous theatre” that Northan is best known for.

“There are plenty of moments for the audience to shout out and participate from their seats, as a group – rather than an individual being invited up to be the star of the show, as in my previous work,” Northan observes. “Slipper is 95 per cent structured, 5 per cent improvised.”

The show is also a celebration of everything Calgary and includes familiar locations, local music, special celebrity guests, and more than a few Nenshi references.

“*Slipper* is my love letter to Calgary,” says Northan. “Calgary is such a big part of my heart that I have never been able to stay away for long. There really is a something special about this place that you can’t find anywhere else.”

“It’s such a pleasure to have Rebecca Northan joining us again for our family holiday show,” says ATP Artistic Director and the production’s dramaturg, Vanessa Porteous. “It’s hard to imagine a more joyful way to celebrate the season than by sharing a laugh with friends and family.”

Slipper includes memorable performances from Anna Cummer, Chantelle Han, Ellie Heath, Sara-Jeanne Hosie, Kevin Kruchkywich and Joel Schaefer.

Slipper – A Distinctly Calgarian Cinderella Story runs from **November 22** to **December 31** at the **Martha Cohen Theatre** at Arts Commons (215 8 Ave. SE). Tickets are available at www.atplive.com or 403-294-7402.

Follow the hashtag **#YYCSlipper** on Twitter and Instagram for the latest news about this production.

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Media kit, high-resolution images and video recordings available at www.atplive.com/media

MEDIA CALL for photography, videography, sound and interviews on **Tuesday, November 22** at **12:00 PM** at the Martha Cohen Theatre.

ABOUT ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

Alberta Theatre Projects is a Calgary-based, not-for-profit, professional theatre company that celebrates the art of live theatre. From its home in The Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons, the company produces world-calibre shows with a focus on idea-driven new works, plays by Canadian playwrights, and contemporary theatre from around the world. It is also a national leader in new play development and dramaturgy.

www.ATPlive.com

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