



AlvegoRoot announces 2019 Season Stories Imagined and Reimagined

AlvegoRoot Theatre is pleased to announce its 2019 Season in partnership with Fanshawe Pioneer Village. In the summer of 2019 AlvegoRoot will present two plays, one a world premiere and the other an exciting revival of London's theatrical past. Both plays will be performed in the beautiful setting of Dr. Jones' Barn at Fanshawe Pioneer Village. The plays will run in repertory from July 10th to July 25th.

"Our 2019 Season theme is Stories Imagined and Reimagined. We are taking stories from the past and reimagining them in exciting new ways. There is a new local play based on a classic, an early piece of Ontario theatre and, to top it off, a revival of one of London Ontario's first playwrights Hilda Mary Hooke!"

- Adam Corrigan Holowitz, Artistic Director

A classic tale imagined in a Southwestern Ontario setting

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

LIFE ON THE ANTLER RIVER

By Adam Corrigan Holowitz

After the novel by Kenneth Grahame

Opening the season will be a new play by Adam Corrigan Holowitz, based on the novel ***The Wind in the Willows*** by Kenneth Grahame. Holowitz's play takes the story out of its original English setting and places it in a local Southwestern Ontario context. The play follows the cycle of a year in the life of the animals who live along the Antler River. Over this year a deep friendship builds between Mole and Ratty, who aided by the wise Badger, help the impulsive Mr. Toad get out of a series of sticky situations. This is a play created for both adults and children. While full casting will be announced in the spring, AlvegoRoot can reveal two exciting pieces of casting: **Jason Rip will play Mr. Toad and Elizabeth Durand will play Badger.**

"The first play I ever saw (at the age of three) was a stage version of *The Wind in the Willows*. I always have felt a deep connection with Grahame's sensitive and mystical depiction of life on the river. With this new play, I have transported the story to London Ontario and our own Thames River, which for this play will be called by a version of its original name *The Antler River*. With this play I want to explore the natural history of our region through the endearing stories of Ratty, Mole, Badger and of course the motorcar driving Mr. Toad". - Adam Corrigan Holowitz

An exciting dive into London's theatrical past with

FOOLS AND LOVERS

WIDOWS' SCARLET

By Hilda Mary Hooke

BROTHERS IN ARMS

By Merrill Denison

AlvegoRoot will dig back into London's theatrical past with a double bill of comedies from the early 20th Century entitled ***Fools and Lovers***. The first play ***Widows' Scarlet*** (1939) is by one of London Ontario's first playwrights Hilda Mary Hooke. The play is inspired by the life of Doctor Troyer who lived near Long Point and fancied himself a witch hunter. The second play ***Brothers in Arms*** (1921) is by Merrill Denison, one of Canada's most successful early playwrights. The play is a satire about a businessman and his wife who after a weekend in the bush are attempting to get back to the city in time for an important business transaction.

"The majority of the plays we do are new works. But it is also important to give voice to our theatrical past. I am excited to reintroduce the work of Hilda Mary Hooke to audiences. People will be delighted at how fresh, intelligent and funny her work remains. There have been several calls recently for a revival of her work, and we are proud part of this revival. Merrill Denison will be familiar to our audience as he appeared as a character last season in *Welcome to Bon Echo*. This season our audience will get to see his writing on stage in a work that was the most produced play in Ontario in the 1920s." - ACH

For more information or to set up an interview please contact:

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THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

LIFE ON THE ANTLER RIVER

Written and directed by Adam Corrigan Holowitz

After the novel by Kenneth Grahame

Opening: July 10 at 3:00pm

July 11, 17, 18, 23 at 7:30pm

July 24 at 2:00pm

Join Ratty, Mole, Badger and Mr. Toad for an adventure on the Antler River in Southwestern Ontario.

FOOLS AND LOVERS

WIDOWS' SCARLET

By Hilda Mary Hooke

BROTHERS IN ARMS

By Merrill Denison

Directed by Adam Corrigan Holowitz

Opening: July 10 at 7:00pm

July 16, 24, 25 at 7:30pm

July 17 at 2:00pm

Two comedies from Canada's theatrical past!

"Widow's Scarlet" is produced by special arrangement with PLAYWRIGHTS GUILD OF CANADA.

"Brothers in Arms" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

OPENING DAY!

Wednesday July 10th

Join us in celebrating the opening of the 2019 Season!

3:00 pm: THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

4:30 pm: DINNER

5:15 pm: INSIGHTS ON THE PLAYS

7:00 pm: FOOLS AND LOVERS

Dinner and Insights included with your purchase of tickets to the plays.

Tickets will go on sale in the spring.

Fanshawe Pioneer Village

Enter at 1424 Clarke Road

www.fanshawepioneervillage.ca

www.alvegoroot.wikifoundry.com