



Front Row Centre Players presents

Leader of the Pack

the Ellie Greenwich musical

Music & Lyrics by Ellie Greenwich & Friends
Additional Material by Jack Heifner
Based on an original concept by Melanie Mintz

Directed & Choreographed
by Angela Woodard

November 4th to 12th, 2005

at the Victor Mitchell Theatre - 2140 Pumphouse Avenue SW

FOR TICKETS CALL 263-0079

or visit www.frontrowcentre.ca



"Leader of the Pack – The Ellie Greenwich Musical" is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French

President's Message

Dear Front Row Centre Players Supporters,

Thank you for attending this wonderful production of **Leader of the Pack – The Ellie Greenwich Musical**. Over the last 17 years, FRC has entertained many thousands of theater lovers, just like you. We hope you enjoy this show as much as we love bringing it to the stage.

I want to give special thanks to our director, Angela Woodard. Without her boundless energy, talent, enthusiasm and drive, this show would not have been possible.

Our actors and their extensive support staff are all key components of our theater, but without your continued support, all their hard work would be in vain. I applaud and thank you. Enjoy.

Les Sorenson
President - FRC

Calendar Notes

January 13-28, 2006



Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber; Lyrics by Tim Rice
Directed by Richard Michelle-Pentelbury

Argentina's controversial First Lady Eva Peron is the subject of this dynamic musical masterpiece. Eva Maria Ibarguren Duarte escaped her dirt-poor existence for the bright lights of Buenos Aires. Driven by ambition and blessed with charisma, she was a starlet at twenty-two, the president's mistress at twenty-four, First Lady at twenty-seven, and dead at thirty-three. Saint to the working-class, reviled by the aristocracy and mistrusted by the military. Told through a compelling score that fuses haunting chorales with exuberant Latin, pop and jazz influences, **Evita** creates an arresting theatrical portrait as complex as the woman herself. Songs include *"Don't Cry For Me, Argentina"*, *"High Flying, Adored"* and *"Another Suitcase in Another Hall"*.

Tickets available through the Pumphouse Theatre Box Office

Phone – 263-0079 or electronically @

<http://www.pumphousetheatres.ca>

Cast of Leader of the Pack

Ellie Greenwich	Katie Schoenberg
Jeff Barry	Brent Middleton
Gus Sharkey	Michael Brown
Narrator/Priest	Allan Crowley
Rosie/Old Ellie	Judy Gilbert
Shelly	Erin Madill
Mickey	Caitlynne Medrek
Judy/Tina/Journalist	Jutah Hinds-Tottle
Darlene	Rosemary Van Dyk
Betsy	Sherry West
Alice/Waitress	Rachelle Hudson
Jasmine	Krista Mitchell
Mervin	Janos Zeller
Clifford	Jeff Clarke
Phil	Lawrence Bolokoski
Frank/Photographer	Rudy Lenz
Brooks/LotP	Les Sorenson

Musicians

Pianist	Don Kuchinski
Guitar	Jim Shultz
Bass	Mark Johnston
Saxophone	Paul Evans
Percussion	Dave Ramsey

2006 CAT Awards

The first annual Calgary-ACTS CAT awards in 2004 were a resounding success.

Now, your opinion counts in 2006

Vote for your favorite performances of the 2005-2006 season online at: <http://www.calgary-acts.com/>



Crew

Assistant Stage Manager
Costume Construction

Rehearsal Pianist
Running Crew

Set Pieces
Set Piece Upgrades
Props
Set Painting

Sound Operation
Lighting Operation
Follow Spot Operation
Lighting Setup Tech

Move in Crew
Front of House Manager
Program Design

Angela Woodard
Rachel Millard
Robertta Fernades
Neil Marshall
Mayhem
Frank MacLeod
Don Kuchinski
Cathy Bentley
Angela Woodard
Bill Brown
Laurier Dubeau
Angela Woodard
Dave Gagnier
Jacquie Uhrich
Matt McFadzean
Angela Dyck
Ronni Church
Nick Schesnuk
Jareth Li
Dan Derksen
Mark Shpur
Derek Kemle
The Family Uhrich
Sherry West/Les Sorenson
Les Sorenson

Front of House Volunteers

Adeline Thomson
Amanda Guenther
Caroline Richards
Carolyn Byers
Cathy Swanberg
Chris & Tannis Latz
Cynthia Medrek
Darren Stewart
Debbie Collins
Denise Cormier
Dennis Thomson
Deseray Collins
Esther Huang
Gina Power
Janice Kinch
Janine Lubey
Jennifer Lubey
Jevon Hills

Kari Burgess
Laurel Cole
Mac Tetley
Marina Ibragimova
Mary Ann Tenove
Pam Forsberg
Pam Thomson
Pasqualina Iapapaolo
Pat Beceda
Stephanie Holick
Sylvia Schmidt
Tanya Heschl
Tarra Riley
Teresa Tadman
Tim Elliot
Trish Befus
Trish Sweep

Show Synopsis

Time: 1960s

Place: New York, U.S.A.

There will be a 15 minute Intermission between Act 1 and Act 2

ACT 1

Opening - **Be My Baby**

Scene 1 – Ellie's House

Mmmm... My Name is Ellie

Jivette Boogie

Scene 2 – Outside the Brill Building, Broadway N.Y.

Scene 3 – A studio within the Brill Building

Why do Lovers Break Each Other's Hearts

Today I Met the Boy I Gonna Marry

Scene 4 – At the Dance

I Wanna Love Him So Bad

Do Wah Diddy

And Then He Kissed Me

Scene 5 – Lover's Lane (Night)

Hanky Panky

Scene 6 – Recording Studio within the Brill Building

Maybe I Know

Not to Young to Get Married

Scene 7 - Chapel

Chapel of Love

ACT 2

Scene 1 – A studio within the Brill Building

What a Guy

Song Writers Medley

Baby I Love You

Scene 2 - **Leader of the Pack**

Scene 3 – Ellie and Jeff's Apartment

Scene 4 – Chez Smooch – Cha Cha's Night Club

Look of Love

Scene 5 – Ellie's Apartment

Christmas, Baby Please Come Home

Scene 6 - A Studio within the Brill Building – 2 Years Later

River Deep Mountain High

I Can Hear Music

Scene 7 - **Rock of Rages**

Scene 8 – Ellie Apartment – Present Day

Finale - **Da Do Ron Ron**

Cast Notes

We all know how much Ellie Greenwich's music meant – 100 million sales says it all, but what did the cast think of the show – the music, the dancing, the injuries and illnesses....Ah yes....theatre – WE LOVE IT!

- "I would say it's incredible – the talent is incredible. I'm having loads of fun"
- "Wow – The energy that comes from the cast - good to be a part of it all"
- "At times, it was a pain in the butt, but now we're done learning, it's been fun!"
- "The songs, the harmonies – just rehearsing them has been a blast!"
- "Exciting, that's all"
- "Thanks Frank! I won't be completely naked! (at least not until Hair)"
- "This is my first musical...I haven't quite mastered the kick ball change"
- "Well...I'm definitely not as young as I used to be"
- "Watch out for piano benches"

There are many more comments along the same line, but I think the message here is clear – The cast and crew had a wonderful time putting this show together, and we know that you, our audience, will enjoy watching it as much as we enjoy performing it.

A last word on this goes to our director, Angela who, during one particular hair pulling rehearsal said something akin to "\$#@%\$^%#" but followed that up with "Pleasantly surprised" and a few minutes later "It sounds great!"

As a cast, we want to thank our musicians, especially our rehearsal pianist Don, for their amazing sound, and of course, all the people behind the scenes and in particular, Angela and Les – producers, actors, dancers, singers, and apparently people who can pack more than 24 hours into a day! – We couldn't have done this without you – Thanks and enjoy the show.

The Cast of Leader of the Pack

Leader of the Pack – How it all began

On January 19th, 1984, a show called "Ellie Greenwich: An Evening of Songs" was performed at New York's Bottom Line nightclub in Greenwich Village. The event provoked such a response that a newly titled show, "Leader of the Pack: The Ellie Greenwich Musical" ran from April 27 to May 27, again at the Bottom Line night club to even more rave reviews and media acclaim.

A very long and winding road eventually transformed "Leader" onto the Broadway stage by April 1985 at the Ambassador Theatre, around the corner from the Brill Building where it all began. The show ran for several months to packed houses and won a Tony nomination for Best Musical, with a cast album produced by Ellie and Bob Crewe, nominated for a Grammy award.

On May 29, 1991, Ellie Greenwich and Jeff Barry were reunited on stage with the induction into the songwriters Hall of Fame. The award was presented by none other than Cyndi Lauper and Canada's own, Paul Schaffer. Both of whom are huge fans of Ellie's.

Ellie Greenwich has since returned to writing, producing and singing radio and television commercials. She has recently written numerous, yet to be recorded songs and has spent the last few years writing and producing for television sitcom, and original stage musical and a children's cartoon series.

Front Row Centre Players

is proud to announce our lineup for the **2005/2006 season**, which promises a celebration of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s (or 40s, 50s and 60s, depending on how you count!). All of our shows have open auditions, announced through Calgary's print media, Calgary-ACTS and the FRC website at www.frontrowcentre.ca.

January 13-28, 2006



Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber; Lyrics by Tim Rice

Directed by Richard Michelle-Pentelbury

Argentina's controversial First Lady is the subject of this dynamic musical masterpiece. As an illegitimate fifteen-year-old, Eva Maria Ibarguren Duarte escaped her dirt-poor existence for the bright lights of Buenos Aires. Driven by ambition and blessed with charisma, she was a starlet at twenty-two, the president's mistress at twenty-four, First Lady at twenty-seven, and dead at thirty-three. Eva Peron - saint to the working-class, reviled by the aristocracy and mistrusted by the military - was destined to leave a fascinating political legacy unique in the 20th century. Told through a compelling score that fuses haunting chorales with exuberant Latin, pop and jazz influences, Evita creates an arresting theatrical portrait as complex as the woman herself. Songs from this show include *"Don't Cry For Me, Argentina"*, *"High Flying, Adored"* and *"Another Suitcase in Another Hall"*.

May 26-June 10, 2006



Lyrics by Gerome Ragni and James Rado; Lyrics by Galt MacDermot

Directed by Joey Sayer

The 1960s and flower power live again in this classic musical, celebrating the age of *"Aquarius"*. Hair has no storyline to speak of. Unlike most musicals of its period, it was based on a vision -- a sense of a particular time and place -- rather than a plot. Hair presents a series of incidents in the lives of a tribe of hippies, all non-collegiate dropouts devoted to a philosophy of "make love, not war". Characters include: Claude, a draftee who attempts to escape his stuffy, bourgeois background by pretending to be from Manchester, England; Sheila, an anti-war protest leader who sings the touching song about the unkindness of most people, *"Easy to be Hard"*; Berger, the group's rebellious leader who has just been expelled from high school; and Hud, an outspoken and dynamic black power activist. In the course of the play, these characters reject the values of their parents and the establishment, lashing out at pollution, war, the draft, racial bigotry, and what they see as mindless patriotism, rigid sexual standards, and middle-class hypocrisy. The tribe finally groups together at the end to lament the *"Flesh Failures"* and to *"Let the Sun Shine In"*.

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