

OUTSIDE JOKE'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL: BIGGER DICKENS ENERGY

RELAXED PERFORMANCE CONTENT & SENSORY WARNINGS

Note:

As this show is improvised, every performance will vary and may include content and sensory warnings not included here.

To improvise something means to make it up as you go. There is no script for *Outside Joke's A Christmas Carol: Bigger Dickens Energy*. The performers use the classic story as the framework: there is always Scrooge, and he is always a mean miser. There is always Bob Cratchit and three spirits (the ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Future). But at the beginning, the performers will ask the audience to shout out a suggestion for a non-geographic location (eg: a library or a day spa) and that will set the location of the story and Scrooge's occupation. Tiny Tim will often have a new name or characteristics that reflect the new arc of the story.

But Scrooge always wakes up on Christmas Day having learned from his experiences with the ghosts, a changed, happy and generous man.

Content Warning:

This show is an improvised version of "A Christmas Carol" which means that there will be ghosts who visit (including one that represents "death") and talk of death and the afterlife.

Actors may use profanity during the performance.

Sensory Warning:

- Actors will ask the audience to yell out suggestions to help with improvised show
- Bells ring at different point during the show
- At times the lights will turn off shortly
- Some loud music and lights that sweep across the stage and lower seats.
- Artificial fog is used towards the end when the Ghost of Christmas Future comes on
- The Ghost of Christmas Future is meant to be a bit scary but is just a puppet hanging from a string that one of the actors operates.

MEET THE ARTISTS



Paul De Gurse (he/him)

Paul De Gurse is a Winnipeg-based music director, educator, and composer. He has conducted orchestras at theatres across Canada, including Rainbow Stage, Neptune Theatre, Drayton Entertainment, and Toronto's Musical Stage Company. He is the Managing Director and one of the founders of the Village Conservatory for Music Theatre, a non-profit charitable educational organization based out of Winnipeg, which provides alternative post-secondary performing arts education. This show and all future ones are for Tom.



Andrea del Campo (she/her)

Andrea is simply delighted to be continuing the Outside Joke/PTE love affair for the third season in a row! She is a Winnipeg-based performer and producer with credits on every professional Winnipeg stage and many film and television productions. Andrea's 20+ years of performing with Outside Joke are among the most precious treasures of her life, and she feels incredibly lucky to spend so much time making jokes with her dear friends. Catch up with her at www.andreadelcampo.com.



Chadd Henderson (he/him)

Since the day he was hatched, Chadd Henderson has wanted to do but one thing: fly a dragon! Instead of lamenting the fact that this is impossible, he decided to become an improviser and accomplish his goal using imagination. And thus began a love affair between Chadd and the art of improvisation, which endures to this day.

MEET THE ARTISTS



Toby Hughes (he/him)

Toby's work doing improv has been some of the most creatively fulfilling art he has had the privilege of participating in. Toby wants to get better at dancing. Recent theatre credits include *Que* at Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre and *Yogo* at the Warehouse (with RobYn!). If Toby were an animal, he would be a tree, and is so grateful to those who have nourished his roots and shone sunlight on his leaves. Also the birds that eat caterpillars out of his bark. This metaphor has gone too far.



RobYn Slade (she/her)

RobYn Slade is a Winnipeg-based actor and improviser. Select theatre credits include *Outside Joke: The Improvised Musical*, *Outside Joke's A Christmas Carol: Big Dickens Energy*, *The Gravitational Pull of Bernice Trimble*, *The Brink*, *MunschBusters!*, *How It Works* (PTE); *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* (Theatre Projects Manitoba); *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea* (The Keep Theatre); *Yogo*, *The Cottage*, *Steel Magnolias* (Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre); *204FM* (One Trunk Theatre); *New Canadian Kid*, *IMPROVident* (Manitoba Theatre for Young Audiences). What an absolute gift it is to share this space and this show with you all - thank you!



Jane Testar (she/her)

Jane's first major acting role was Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof* at Kelvin High School alongside Chadd, Andrea, and Toby of Outside Joke. In the 21st century, Jane has had the good fortune of being part of Outside Joke, as well as the sketch comedy troupe Hot Thespian Action, and the Fu Fu Chi Chi Choir. She has appeared on stage in Theatre Projects Manitoba's *None of This Is Happening*, in French with Cercle Molière's *Que Faire d'Albert?*, in Noël Coward's *Private Lives* (RMTC), and *The Winter's Tale* with Shakespeare in the Ruins. She is also a frequent CBC Radio contributor and is currently the host of the CBC Comedy Factory Podcast.