



ALBERTA **THEATRE** PROJECTS

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MEDIA RELEASE

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What's Now, What's New, What's Next

Alberta Theatre Projects Announces New Managing Director

Calgary, AB – Alberta Theatre Projects is pleased to announce **David Shefsiek** as the new Managing Director.

"A great managing director is the secret weapon of a dynamic arts organization. David Shefsiek brings fresh ideas, a real depth of experience and a personal passion for original and exciting live theatre to Alberta Theatre Projects. He'll be a terrific addition to our lively team. We can't wait to unleash him," said Artistic Director Vanessa Porteous.

Shefsiek has been active in the performing arts industry for over 25 years, having held senior management positions at Pacific Opera Victoria, Vancouver Opera, and Pittsburgh Opera. With experience in New York City at the Big Apple Circus, he brings an original and contemporary vision to the arts.

In some ways, Pacific Opera Victoria is the Alberta Theatre Projects of Canadian opera - representing diverse and original productions that support Canadian artists - making Shefsiek a natural and inspiring fit to our contemporary vision.

"I am thrilled and excited about this appointment. David is a very well-respected and proven leader in the performing arts sector. His unique background and experience makes him a natural to help grow support in the community for Alberta Theatre Projects specifically, and for the Calgary arts scene in general," said Angie Gelin, President of the Board of Directors at Alberta Theatre Projects. "His deep understanding of the pivotal role the performing arts plays as a community builder and connector will greatly complement Artistic Director Vanessa Porteous' artistic aspirations for Alberta Theatre Projects."

In accepting the position, Shefsiek states "Calgary is an exciting and intriguing city. It's bold, multi-dimensional, and alive. Alberta Theatre Projects reflects the city and its energy, and sets out to engage, to challenge, and to captivate its audiences with the best of today's theatre. I am so pleased to join this remarkable company, and to work

side by side with Vanessa and the ATP team to build on the company's vital history and realize the vivid possibilities that lie ahead".

Shefsiek will officially join Alberta Theatre Projects October 1, 2010. He looks forward to meeting the adventurous audiences that give life to the company, and sharing many evenings of discovery and excitement on the leading edge of Canadian theatre, while inspiring many conversations along the way.

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