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Issue 3 - Sept. 2018

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MATT WEBB FROM  
**MARIANAS  
TRENCH**



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LOUD LUXURY  
JUDAS PRIEST**

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# Equus explores the horror at the heart of the normal

By Michael K. Potter

When I was 14 I had a teacher who would lend me plays so I'd stay out of trouble. One of those plays told the story of a troubled boy who loved horses, but one night attacked them in a violent frenzy, and the equally troubled psychiatrist trying to save him. But it was also about so much more: religion, sex, alienation, passion. Over the years this story stayed awake in my mind, just under the surface, as I dreamed of ways I could someday bring it to life.

One week after autumn begins, Peter Schaffer's *Equus* will open. How appropriate. Autumn is when the natural world around us dies in bits and pieces, with the promise of eventual rebirth come spring. It is also a time to reflect on where we are, where we've been, and where we're going. Autumn, I find, is sweetly unsettling: the season of horror – not in that cheap gory type we see splashed across cineplex screens,

but bone-deep horror that invites us to confront our fears even as we tremble.

At its heart, *Equus* is about how and why we live the way we do. Think over the hundreds of moments that fill any given day of your life. Think about all the choices that led you into those moments. How many of those choices did you even make, consciously? How many were made for you, out of habit and convention drilled into your mind from childhood onward? How many were made so you could be normal – so you could fit in to the world around you and feel accepted and comfortable by the demands placed upon your shoulders by family, friends, teachers, employers, even total strangers?

These are questions Dr.

Martin Dysart has been asking himself – and they make him uncomfortable. When he meets Alan Strang – the teenage boy accused of stabbing out the eyes of six horses in the stable at which he worked – he's already wracked with doubts.

Although Alan is his patient, and clearly disturbed, Dysart finds himself identifying with him. He starts to wonder: what does it mean to say that Alan is insane? Maybe

Alan's insanity is just what happens when someone can't conform to a world to which none of us should conform.

Why stage *Equus* in 2018? We have reached the point, finally, where we can no longer ignore the inadequacy of the normal world of commercialism, rationality, respectability, and polite obedience. Its empty

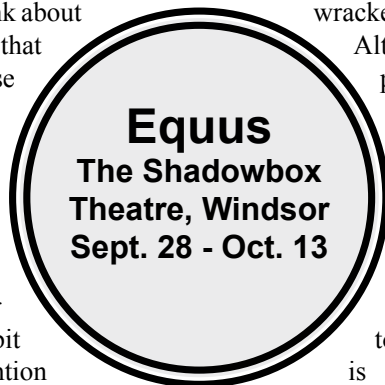
rituals ignore our deepest desires and our craving for meaning, connection, and awe. What were sold to us as wide paths leading to whatever destinations we dreamed are cold, dark, dead ends.

Clearly, Alan's life has led him to a twisted and violent place, where his budding sexuality and need for meaning have become one. Alan's life – a life of pure passion, from the deepest suffering to the highest ecstasy – is alluring because the painful side of it seems avoidable if

we have the will to change our world so it accommodates pure worship. Conformity is a choice we make in every moment – choices that force us to repress the primal parts of our nature.

There is beauty in confronting what horrifies us. *Equus* asks us to face it, and maybe even embrace it. At least a little.

Post Productions presents Peter Schaffer's *Equus* at The Shadowbox Theatre (103b – 1501 Howard Ave) Sept 28 to Oct 13. Tickets available at [postproductionswindSOR.ca](http://postproductionswindSOR.ca).



This year's Coming Home Music Festival (CHMF) actually features a headlining act that is truly coming home to the 519.

Loud Luxury, an electronic dance music (EDM) duo originally based in London, co-headlines this year's party with Fetty Wap

## Loud Luxury returns to where it all began

By Dan and April Savoie

on Saturday, September 15 at Windsor's Riverfront Festival Plaza. It's a big change from when the duo was here

"You know it's actually a first time we'll be in Windsor since our very first gig ever as Loud Luxury," Joe Depace told 519 Magazine. "We got booked in a place called the Boom-Boom Room. I'm not sure if anyone remembers it, but that was our first show that we ever did. It feels really good to be coming back to Windsor and the 519 for such a big show. It's going to be an amazing party and we couldn't be more excited."

Depace and Andrew Fedyk formed Loud Luxury at Western University in 2012 and have been creating quite a stir in the dance music world with a handful of releases featuring original material and remixes. Their latest single *Body* rose to the Top 10 singles charts in Canada, as well as the US and UK.

CHMF is expected to be the largest outdoor event in Windsor

this year with crowds expected to be in excess of 8-10,000, clearly indicating the increasing popularity of EDM.

"I think EDM is getting bigger than ever," added Fedyk. "You see it all over the world where artists like The Chainsmokers are playing the craziest festivals and places that you would never think of like Cyprus, Turkey, Lebanon. There are lots of people that are just in it for the money because it's not just a crazy phenomenon the way it was when it was new in 2012. But we're just happy to be a part of it and get our music to go viral."

The EDM-pop duo currently resides in Los Angeles, but they'll always call London and the 519 their home.

"I grew up there and London always had a really good electronic



thing going on," Depace explained. "We were always pretty blessed with that and it gave us the foundation that we needed to get this thing off the ground."

"But we started looking for something more and that's what's really cool about L.A. - you can come here, go to a bar and there'll be five different people laying tracks. There's just a lot of talent to work with. But we're just grateful to have both backgrounds and being from a cool fun party city like London."

Loud Luxury performs at CHMF on Saturday, September 15 at Windsor's Riverfront Festival Plaza. Tickets start at \$25 at [cominghomemusicfestival.com](http://cominghomemusicfestival.com). The festival also features Fetty Wap, Peter Jackson, Nati, Alley Kay, Impens and Twinns.



Long before pop culture's current fascination with magic and illusion, there was one Canadian magician who set the standard for decades. Ted Outerbridge

has charmed audiences with his illusions and tricks since 1982 and his current Magical Odyssey Tour will transform audiences back to the Golden Age of magic from the

# Making historic illusions modern

By Dan and April Savoie

years 1880 to 1930. He brings that tour to the 519 when he visits the Chrysler Theatre in Windsor on Saturday, September 22.

The Magical Odyssey Tour features a stunning routine he calls The Incredible Shrinking Woman, where he'll shrink his long-time wife and partner Marion to about a foot in size.

"We've always been intrigued by Alice in Wonderland and The Shrinking Potion in the book," Ted explains in an interview with 519 Magazine. "We've discovered that if you read the book really closely and if you read between the lines, you can crack the code for the Shrinking Potion. We've done that and Marion is going to shrink during this show. She will become the Incredible Shrinking Woman and shrink down to about 12 inches tall and then she'll get restored to her regular height again. If all goes well, if we mix the potion properly, it's going to

be quite the experience."

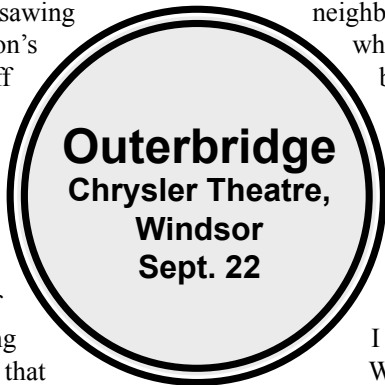
Along with the shrinking act, Ted will explore many of the popular illusions of the era, including magic routines mastered by legends like Howard Thurston and Harry Kellar. He's planning on sawing some Marion's body parts off while audience members hold them and he's added a reworked modern version of the dancing handkerchief that involves it dancing around in the audience.

His fascination with magic began at the age of seven when a man pulled a trick on him.

"I was eating spaghetti at the age of seven," he remembers. "A man walked up to me and pulled an egg out of my ear and I was totally blown away. I thought it

would be fine if I could make other people experience that wonder that I had experienced. So I went to the school library and I started learning tricks. By the age of 12 I was actually a birthday party magician in my neighborhood. My friends who had paper routes became jealous of me. I could earn the same money they were making all week in a 30-minute show. When that happened, I knew I hit the big time."

When Ted and Marion visit Windsor they'll be performing a very interactive show where members of the audience will be able to check out the props and become part of the show itself. He visits the Chrysler Theatre in Windsor on Saturday, September 22. Tickets start at \$20 at [chryslertheatre.com](http://chryslertheatre.com)



# The world's longest running musical comes back to Windsor

By Dan Savoie

Les Misérables is the world's longest running musical and a true modern classic. Based on Victor Hugo's novel and featuring one of the most memorable scores of all time, it's as groundbreaking today as it was when it first premiered in London in 1985. And that's what makes it the perfect choice to kick off Cardinal Music Productions 2018 fall production schedule. A School Edition of the popular musical opens on September 21 and runs for two weeks.

As one of his all-time favourite musicals, producer and director Joseph Anthony Cardinal selected the show as part of the season based on the passion he felt when he performed the lead role in 2013 for Theatre Alive's final show.

"I was fortunate enough to play Jean Valjean myself and I wanted to give the youth in our area a chance to experience what I did," Cardinal told 519 Magazine. "I

chose Les Mis because I love the show and I adore the magical moments the songs produce on the stage."

In 19th century France, Jean Valjean is released from years of unjust imprisonment, but finds nothing in store for him but mistrust and mistreatment. He breaks his parole in hopes of starting a new life, initiating a life-long struggle for redemption as he is relentlessly pursued by police inspector Javert, who refuses to believe Valjean can change his ways. Finally, during the Paris student uprising of 1832, Javert must confront his ideals after Valjean spares his life and saves that of the student revolutionary who has captured the heart of Valjean's adopted daughter.

The Cardinal production features a 35-member youth cast

who will run through the slightly abridged school version of the show. It still has a total runtime of more than two hours

and maintains all the songs and essential scenes. Many of the cut scenes in this

version were actually removed from the first Broadway show and haven't been used in London or Broadway since 1997.


Featuring beloved songs like I Dreamed A Dream, On My Own, Stars, Bring Him Home, and One Day More, this epic and uplifting story has become one of the most celebrated musicals in theatrical

history and has been seen by more than 70 million people in 22 different languages across 44 countries.

Les Misérables runs September 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 in The Green Room Theatre at E.J. Lajeunesse in Windsor. Tickets start at \$22.50 at [cardinalmusicproductions.com](http://cardinalmusicproductions.com).



Photo by Jen Gurniak



**GOWAN**  
The Colosseum  
Windsor  
Sept. 7

# CLOWNING AROUND WITH

# Gowan

By Dan Savoie

After 20 years of performing with the classic rock band Styx, frontman Lawrence Gowan is heading out on the road once again to perform some of his solo hits from the 80s and 90s. These songs are the anthems for Canadian teens of the era - (You're A) Strange Animal, Moonlight Desires, All the Lovers in the World, Dancing on My Own Ground and the essential 1985 masterpiece A Criminal Mind. He heads to The Colosseum at Caesars Windsor on Friday September 7.

Interviews with Gowan are never boring. He always takes the time to give polite and honest answers, and more often than not, he's got a neat little tidbit up his sleeve. This time out he surpassed all my usual expectations and spoke of an

odd stint he had as a clown on Canada Day. We actually had a chat this last Canada Day and the interview felt very Canadian throughout. He's a very proud Canuck who can't wait to get out there and perform those hits for his fans.

**You're an iconic 80s and 90s Canadian. Do you have any great Canada Day memories?**

One of my favorite stories is about Canada Day. When I was 17 years old, I was hired at Queen's Park in Toronto to be a clown. It was a full clown make-up - you know the creepy looking clown with the red nose and the white face. The Queen Mother was visiting on that day and she got her out of her limo. I was able to walk right up to her and basically do some kind of clowny Hello. And she smiled,

laughed and was amused for a half a second and then went on with her day. I spent the rest of the afternoon as a clown. I was just thinking that would never now, and it could never happen again. To get that kind of access, to someone that high up in the government or the Royal Family, would never happen. And that was really quite astounding just how convivial the whole affair was. Also, in 1999 I was playing a Gowan show in Quebec and it was the last show I did as Gowan before joining Styx 20 years ago.

**Joining Styx must've been a little different for you because you're a very personal musician. You'll go out and you'll chat with your fans. Does being a member of Styx mean there's a bit more**

### security wall put out?

Umm, funny enough I treat it exactly the same way that I did in my solo days. I still enjoy meeting people who are usually congregated by the bus or something like that after shows and I try to make myself accessible. Honest to God, Dan, I came into it with a Canadian attitude. I make it that way today. There are sometimes like the winter months in particular that I can't spend too much time standing outside chatting with people in case I get sick and can't do the show the next day, but generally speaking I try not to be a dick when I meet people.

### 20 years in Styx and that's longer than the original Styx.

Correct. That's right.

### That's cool because you've created another era.

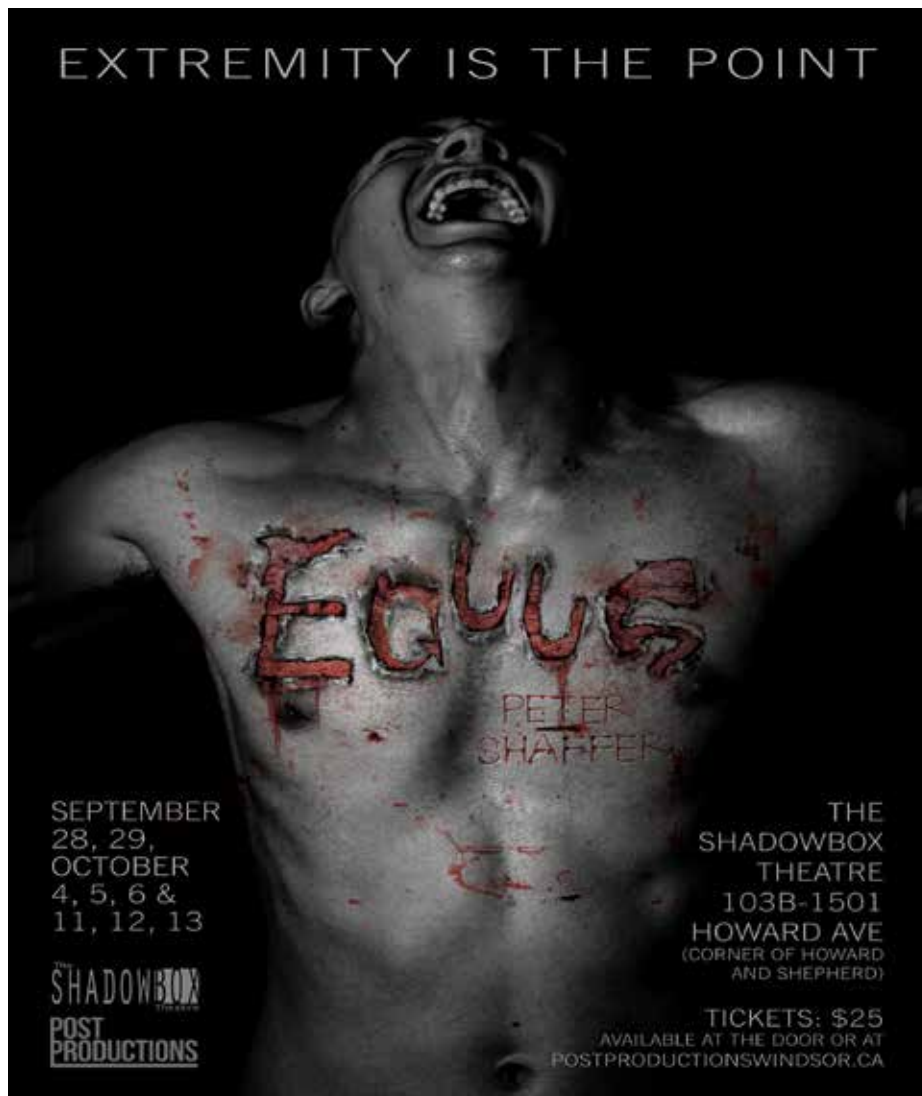
That is true this is an era when classic Rock bands of the last half of the 20th century were part of the great musical statement of those 50 years. I try to attempt to exceed and go beyond what the band was doing back then. They had intense recording and touring years, but to attempt to elevate the show beyond that and to play over a hundred shows a year. We carry that logo all around the world and we made a new record "The Mission" last year. I think I came to the band at a great time because the guys have a great deal of gratitude and a great deal of pride in what the band has been able to accomplish. You know it's closing in on five

decades of existence at this point.

### I remember when you joined the band. You were so excited. Is there still some of that magic, there? After 20 years it can't feel the same.

You know what's exciting to me is being able to play rock music every single day that I get up and having the day end with several thousand people on their feet with big smiles on their faces and their arms up in the air. That's really what the goal was at the beginning and by 1999 I had 14 years of playing my Gowan shows. Just because of the way my record contract was structured, it was not incumbent upon them to release the albums in the States. I had come to a point where, especially with the Internet emerging, we began to notice people around the world discovering Gowan records. But I still felt like nothing was really connecting with me in the United States. They're our closest neighbor and the biggest rock market that exists, and so suddenly be given an entrance into that world was exciting. I kinda figured it was a two pronged opportunity. One, to be part of this legendary band, obviously, and the second was all those years that were put in making those Gowan records. I'm very proud of the Gowan material and to this day I love playing it.

Gowan heads to Caesars Windsor on September 7 and returns to the 519 in March to play the Chatham Capitol Theatre.



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**THE MANY SIDES OF  
MATT WEBB FROM  
MARIANAS  
TRENCH**

By April Savoie

**It's not very often that there's a real and true personal connection when doing interviews with rock stars, but when Marianas Trench guitarist Matt Webb added Playboy model Jessica King into his life for a short period of time, my personal connection with a rock star finally happened.**

**A few years back I worked for a newspaper in Regina with Gary King, who just happens to be Jessica's dad. Matt and Jessica are no longer dating, but I had my connection.**

**Marianas Trench is headed to The Imperial in Sarnia for a sold-out show on Wednesday, September 5.**

**I wanted to start by saying we have a slight connection.**

Oh do we

**We do. You dated Jessica King for a bit.**

Yeah.

**I'm really good friends with her dad Gary.**

Oh you're kidding me.

**I used to work with Gary in Regina.**

Oh you're kidding me. I love Gary, he's a great guy.

I still see him sometimes when we're in Regina.

**And that was it. As simple as it was, I made the connection and we had a great chat about all things music in his solo career and in the Marianas Trench world.**



**It's great to hear new solo stuff from you. Again and Again is a cool song**

I was sitting around with a little spare time and I thought I would throw out a song. Nothing serious but yeah it was a lot of fun.

**When you write something like Again and Again, when does it become a solo song rather than a Marianas Trench song?**

Well I don't know. When I was writing it I was writing with some other friends completely separate of that Mariana's stuff and had every intention of it being a solo song. I don't know why I just had it and we did it in December and I wasn't in the studio and I wasn't on tour and I was just by myself hanging out with some other friends.

**Do you find yourself like oh no I'm going to keep this one to myself when you do write songs?**

Well you know with Mariana, Josh is obviously the brains behind that one. He's the primary songwriter obviously so he always wants to save his A-game for the Trench. You're always trying to do your best, but there's just certain stuff that you come up with that doesn't necessarily fit into that particular style and maybe you save it for some other project. We're creative people and it's always fun to just make music whether it's suites Marianas Trench or not.

**When Bad Girl came out, it looks like you had fun with the music video as the main guy. With Again and Again, it's like you only make a cameo appearance. I love the idea that people asked you to take their picture.**

Oh thanks, that was a fun shoot. I'm such a miserable actor. I don't like to plaster my face all over the place. People have seen enough of me, they can find me in other places if they need to. I just like the idea of doing a video. It was great, because I just got to sit around and eat food all day and watch the actors at work.

**Josh also has a new solo single out as well. Is there a friendly rivalry between you guys?**

(laughter) You know what, there's no rivalry at all. I think it's like everybody's wishing maximum success for everybody else - it's meant to be shared. I can't compete with that guy, are you kidding me? He's such an accomplished and successful songwriter and myself on the other hand, am not so much, so I really can't compete.

**With solo songs out, from different member of the band, is there a danger that it may affect the band as a whole?**

Oh absolutely not. In fact I find that this stuff really helps the band because we're in between album cycles right now with Mariana Trench and we're in the studio working on new stuff, but sometimes our stuff isn't ready to come out yet and people haven't heard anything from any of us in a while. It's nice when Josh puts out a song or Mike puts out something or I put out a song. It's just like keeping the name out there, keeping that brand alive. We're literally spending 40 hours a week in the studio right now working on a new record - things couldn't be any better.

**So you said you were in studio, when can we expect the album out.**

That's a good question. I am really hoping for a release before the end of the year. I think we'll be done. I would say we are 60/70 percent of the way there. It's getting close and the songs are really awesome, really strong and feel like it's some of the best material that we've ever done. I'm really excited to release it.

**So do you guys have a concept in mind for this new one.**

Yeah there is. It's always nice to have a concept piece, for the writing and the recording and then a live show with photos and outfit. We're keeping it all close to the chest right now because we want it to be a surprise for everybody.

**You guys have had a series of concept albums. Did they start out that way or did they develop into something as they grew?**

Yeah I think it just kind of evolved that way. Certainly we didn't set off from the very

beginning like that, but as we started focusing on concepts it made everything more fun and more cohesive. If you have an overall concept you can pull from it for everything - from the production of the show, the lighting, the style of photos that you take and the outfits that you're wearing; the mood of the songs that you're recording; the instruments that you were playing everything like that. I never really thought about that until we started doing that. So instead of just having a rock record, you're dressed as vampires or something like that and it's all sort of cohesive in a way.

**So tell me about your writing process is there a formula how you go about writing.**

Me personally? What I usually do is sit down at home and create a demo. I have some drum ideas and some bass ideas and I build guitar ideas and a musical track around it. And then the last thing to come is generally that the melody and the lyrics for me and that's the way that I write. Josh is kind of the other way around. He starts with a melody in his head and then builds a song around that. And obviously he's pretty good at it so maybe he's doing something right and I'm doing something wrong, but I don't think there's rules. Some people like to start with the title and then they build around that, while others start with the whole lyrical concept. I'm a musician first and a writer later, so I start with the music and it develops from there.

**You've been with Marianas Trench since you were a teen. Teens change as they grow. Do you think the band has changed or has it grown with you?**

Yeah it's definitely grown with all of us as we've grown older, you know certainly in terms of songwriting style. There's different experiences to reflect on as we're older now and when we first started we were very much like a rock band and opening for Three Days Grace and Theory of a Deadman. Now we're sort of a pop rock band and we're still doing what we've always done, but it's just evolved along the way. And you know as we gain more experience, hopefully that's all reflected in the music that we make, and the shows that we play.

**So you must still enjoy doing what you're doing then?**

Absolutely yeah. We have so much fun. We have a lot of fun in the studio together and then when the studio stuff is done, we have a lot more fun on the road together. It's like a family of four plus our crew. We've been together for a very long time and have a lot of fun, but I think we'll continue to do it as long as we can. I don't think it gets any better than this, to be honest with you.

**I always loved your Juno Awards red carpet entrances. They got crazier and crazier as you went along. Will we see more of that from you guys in the future?**

We like to wait till the last minute for those things and then quickly brainstorm something incredibly inconvenient and uncomfortable. Sometimes we're restricted by permits and by the bylaws and you know rules and stuff, but we certainly try to do wacky things and I can't imagine us stopping that for any reason. The problem is it's tough to top yourself every year. You know what I mean, like we've had some pretty legendary red carpets instances over the years but they keep upping it every year it gets more and more challenging.

**It's no secret about Josh's past addictions - he's been very open about it. As a high school friend, you must have seen the worst of it.**

It's tough to say. When we were in high school together. I met Josh when I was in grade school and he's a little bit older and he was just a wacky guy. I didn't really see him as worst or anything - he was basically in school for a while and then he just disappeared, and I guess at the time I was like "Where the hell did that guy go", but he was actually no longer in school because of some issues he had. I didn't know any of that at

the time, I was just pretty fresh so I didn't really know what was going on and we didn't become super close until after that time in his life.

**So was there ever a danger that could have happened to you.**

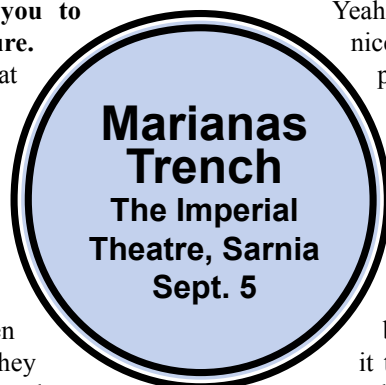
I'm sure it's possible it could have been anybody, but I just never went down that path. I don't know why and I thank my lucky stars that it didn't. That was something didn't really appeal to me. I just wasn't interested.

**But you guys always remained friends and business partners in the band through the ups and downs. There is certainly a special bond there.**

Oh yeah absolutely, we speak our own language I suppose. It's probably like we're twins or something like that. We all know everything that there is possible to know about one another in our band that's for sure. That's what happens when you spend 15 years together. I mean I spend more time with the band guys in a band with anybody else.

**The Imperial is a smaller theatre. Is there a different show or a different energy at the smaller halls that you perform at?**

The small shows are awesome because you can engage with the audience so much more. You know you can make eye contact with every single person in the room which you can't do at a bigger venue or an outdoor venue. I love the energy of the small shows. The big shows are so much fun because you get to incorporate a larger than life production, and you feel like a big rock star up there. But then when you get back into clubs you realize you're missing a lot of that audience interaction and a lot of that energy that comes from those shows.



# CRIME SCENE IGNORE THE EVIDENCE DO NOT CROSS

Windsor alternative hard rock band Ignore The Evidence are fairly new to the scene, but they're making an impact. Their debut self-titled album was released earlier this year, which contains 10 cutting edge tracks of music that blend 90s grunge with modern pop punk.

"When we were recording the album, we really wanted to accomplish something that we liked and hopefully that everybody else would feel the same way about," said vocalist and guitarist Will Jaber. "We ended up going in the studio at Sound Foundry Studios with Brett Humber and we were just going to do three songs. Then it became six songs and the next thing you know it's a 10-song album." The band began as a bunch of friends with a love of music. It progressed from hanging out to jamming and eventually writing original material. Then it reached a

point where the band needed a name.

"You can put this one on me," revealed bassist Gabe Hand. "We had a tough time deciding on the name and we worked on it for a while. We spent time on Google and found out just about every name we wanted was already taken. About 150 to 200 tries later and we came up with Ignore The Evidence. At that point we're like OK somebody Google it. We stuck with it and we really like that don't judge a book by the cover spin that it has"

"A lot of people ignore the simplest things. like things that do damage to the environment or things that happen politically," Jaber continues. "Everybody's got their own viewpoints on life, but I think there's a lot of times in the world when you can say to people to just ignore the evidence. Maybe it's better to ignore some of that ev-

idence and just live life."

The band's first gig wasn't actually in Windsor, it was in London at The Richmond Tavern. An experience the band looks back to with a sense of pride.

"It was actually really nerve racking because you've got to pack in your gear, you're driving out there and it's something brand new," Jaber explained. "I think we set the bar so high, even for ourselves, that the show went extremely well. We knew at that moment, right then and there, that the sky is the limit"

The band draws its sounds from a few different influences, including 90s band Green Day, Weezer and Foo Fighters, but there's a lot more to the Ignore The Evidence sound than those 90s influences.

"We all enjoy different styles of music, some more than others, but we all kind of dislike the same music," explained lead guitarist Charlie Bondy. "One thing we can say is that we know that we're not going to be playing the music we don't like. When we go to write songs, it can take any kind of turn and pull from any of our influences. That's why you get a little bit of everything on our album."



**"About 150 to 200 tries later and we came up with Ignore The Evidence. At that point we're like OK somebody Google it. "**

By Dan and  
April Savoie

Photo by John Liviero (Sooters)



# What Does Liberation Mean to you?

By Dan and April Savoie

6 to 16, will give its actors the freedom and choice to bare it all should they feel comfortable to do so.

“In one of the first conversations I had with the cast, I asked them ‘What does liberation mean to you?’”, says artistic director, Chris Rabideau in an interview with 519. “I wanted the cast to be free to feel that liberation and to show that liberation. It was written in the play because after a rehearsal during the making of the show, they went outside, and there were people in a park who were all nude laughing and listening to music, without any care or shame. The cast felt the show was missing this kind of liberation. I gave our cast that same freedom to take off as much or as little as they were comfortable with. It is completely up to them.”

Although much has been written about the nudity in the

show, Hair is a lot more than just a flickering nude scene. Hair is the American Tribal Love-Rock Musical. It tells the story of the “tribe”, a group of politically active, long-haired hippies of the “Age of Aquarius” living a bohemian life in New York City as they fight against conscription into the Vietnam War.

Rabideau selected Hair for the 2018 season because he felt the show was just as relevant today as it was in 1968. It’s part of ACT’s continuing efforts to break cultural, racial and sexual boundaries.

“We once again find ourselves in a cultural shift,” he points out. “With movements like #METOO, LGBTQ fights for equality and Black Lives Matter (to name a few), this show fits into our present political landscape. Hair’s relevance is within its call for



**Hair**  
Chrysler Theatre,  
Windsor  
September 7-16

action and it’s need for social change which mimics what’s happening in our world today.”

ACT’s version of Hair was created through a seven week intensive program called 30 Under 30, a summer program that brings together youth 18 to 30 to develop theatre skills, be mentored by local artists and produce a show. It is dedicated to celebrating Windsor-Essex County’s artistic talent under the age of 30.

Hair is being staged at the Capitol Theatre in Windsor on September 7, 8, 9, 14, 15 and 16. Tickets start at \$30.

Much like its original Broadway production 50 years ago, the infamous nude scene in the rock musical Hair, which is being staged by Arts Collective Theatre (ACT) from September

# THE KING OF POP LIVES ON IN TRIBUTE SHOW

Michael Jackson is one of the most widely beloved entertainers and profoundly influential artists of all-time. MJ was not only a great singer and songwriter, he was also an amazing performer, a caring dad and compassionate humanitarian. Now that he’s no longer with us, the music world hasn’t been the same – however, Michael Firestone isn’t about to let the magic die. He brings his world-famous Jackson tribute show, I Am King, to the Chrysler Theatre in Windsor on September 29.

It’s a tiresome combination that not many tribute artists have the skills to pull off.

“I’m not trying to be him,” Firestone explained in a 519 phone interview from his Las Vegas home. “I’m just giving everyone my interpretation, which I hope is as close as possible to the performer and the humanitarian that he truly was.”

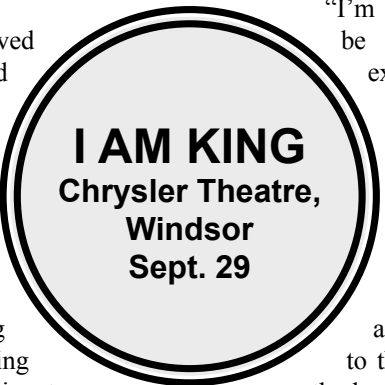
Despite the negativity that surrounded Jackson’s later years, Firestone still looks to MJ as an inspiration. He chooses to ignore the many unconfirmed and undocumented news reports that always seemed to follow the singer around.

“He wanted to be Peter Pan because that’s what he most loved when he was a young boy - and he never wanted to get out of that,” he said. “It’s not weird; it’s very

understandable – he never had a normal childhood. I think that because he went through all that stuff he became a stronger man and I’m very inspired by someone that could overcome all that. It took me to when I was almost 25 to really start going ‘oh yeah, dude, I DO want to go to Disneyland’ and ‘I do actually wish I was 10’.”

I Am King explores the world of the King of Pop with an incredible cast of talented musicians and Broadway and Las Vegas dancers to bring Jackson to life in an explosion of unmatched energetic perfection few tribute shows have been able to achieve.

Firestone was chosen as one of two official Michael Jackson impersonators for the Michael Jackson Laser Spectacular shows in theaters and casinos all over the USA and Canada including the Tacoma Dome and has performed as an MJ tribute artist in live shows such as MTV Magic and Around the World in Asia, Legends in Concert in Myrtle Beach, La Cage and Masquerade in Atlantic City.



**I AM KING**  
Chrysler Theatre,  
Windsor  
Sept. 29

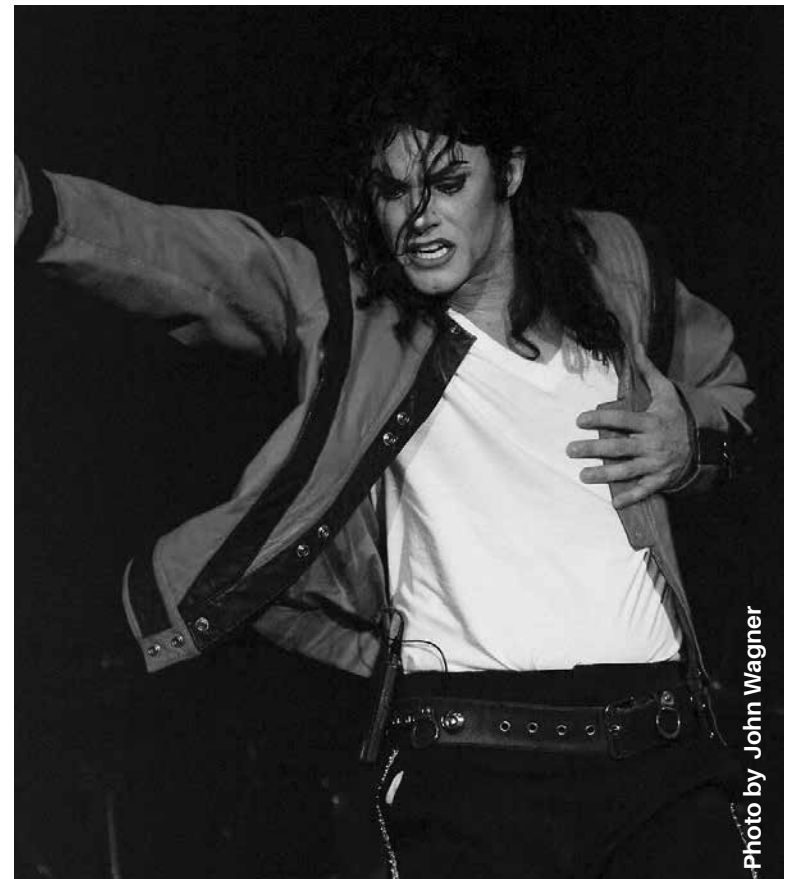


Photo by John Wagner

Unlike most MJ tribute shows, I Am King is about as real as it gets. Firestone not only sings the music live, he also moves and dances like just like the King of Pop did.

I Am King heads to the Chrysler Theatre on Saturday, September 29. Tickets start at \$35 at chryslertheatre.com.

# PRINCIPAL RADITCH REDISCOVERS DEGRASSI

By Dan and April Savoie

Windsorite Dan Woods has had considerable success with classic automobile television shows like

Chop Cut Rebuild and Classic Car Restorations, but for most viewers he'll always be



remembered as Principal Daniel Raditch on Degrassi Junior High, Degrassi High and Degrassi: The Next Generation. The star of the quirky, cutting edge CBC and CTV shows will be at Windsor ComiCon with fellow Degrassi stars Pat Mastroianni (Joey Jeremiah) and Stacie Mistysyn (Caitlin Ryan) on September 29 and 30.

“You don’t really realize how much the show has impacted people’s lives until you have people coming up to you telling you how important the show was to them when they were younger,” Woods says of the Degrassi phenomenon in an interview for 519 Magazine. “You sort of lose that over the years and forget about it. And then you get a great reminder when people are so enthralled to come meet you. It’s really humbling.”

The original cast of Degrassi High reunited for the first time in 20 years at Toronto’s ComiCon in 2017 amidst Degrassi Junior High’s 30th anniversary. For more than three decades Degrassi has grown to become a large part of Canadian pop culture and almost an international calling card for growing up in Canada.

The original show ran from 1987 until 1989, and was followed by Degrassi High in 1990-91 and the long-lived Degrassi: The Next Generation from 2001-2015. Over those years, the Degrassi gang dealt with topics such as suicide, HIV and AIDS, drugs, and alcohol. For Woods, the controversy peaked with a two-part special depicting a high school shooting at Degrassi High in 2004.

“There’s actually been a few shootings on the Degrassi series,” Woods explains. “There was a suicide in Degrassi High, followed by Aubrey being shot in Next Generation and then a couple seasons later another primary character was killed. The writers

of the show were watching things going on in the US at the time and would take stories from the actors about what was happening at their actual school and incorporate them into storylines. The big thing at the time was Columbine which happened in between Degrassi High and Next-Generation. The idea that Mr. Raditch would have been transferred as a result of that shooting is generally what the Canadian attitude would be.”

Woods is looking forward to Windsor ComiCon.

“We’re going to give fans of the show an opportunity to talk with us, meet us and share their stories about the show,” Woods adds. “You’ll find that Pat, Stacie and myself are very open to talking about the show and sharing our memories with fans. And we’re getting the good fortune of meeting the ones who gave us a chance to enter their homes and lives.”

Windsor ComiCon takes place at The Colosseum at Caesars Windsor September 29 and 30. Tickets start at \$20.

## A HERO TO THE SUPERHEROES

By Dan and April Savoie



I wouldn’t have a job if it weren’t for the fans buying the comics I work on,” Hanna said in a 519 phone interview from his Pennsylvania studio. “The other thing is I enjoy at conventions is that I get to do a lot more penciling work. I frequently do commissions on site right in front of people so I actually consider that part of the entertainment for my job even if I’m not doing a sketch for you specifically. If you walk by my table you can see me drawing almost always. I’m either talking to the fans or drawing the entire time.”

Hanna has been drawing and inking comics for 30 years. His work has been published in over 100 graphic novels and he’s inked well over 21,000 pages of comics art. Known for his very adaptable inking work and finishes that enhance the pencil work of a wide variety of artistic styles. It’s a skill that has landed him jobs with

elite comics like Batman, X-Men, Iron Man and an extended 15 year run with Spider-Man, inking almost every title starring the wall crawler during that time.

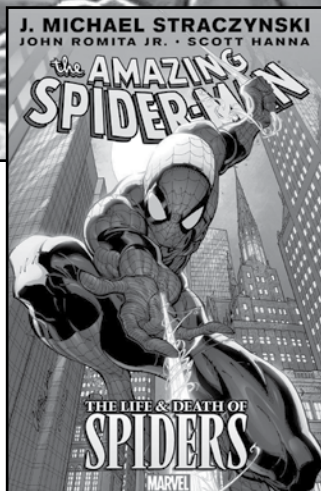
“With Spider-Man I had the chance to work on wonderful stuff done with a lot of really phenomenal creators,” he recalled. “I loved working with J. Michael Straczynski when we introduce Merlin. When we did the 9/11 issue, The Amazing Spiderman 36 – which is also called the black issue, it dealt with 9/11. Everybody involved in that issue had been in New York for a period of time. I lived in New York for about 14 years, so we were all very close to this subject and we poured our heart and soul into it.”

And speaking of heart and soul, it’s that work ethic that makes Hanna the leading inker in the business.

“When I do inking I try to

enhance light, enhance form, enhance the textures,” he explained. “All those things are very important elements and help the process progress and make it print ready. So that’s the big thing to me. Pencils are super, super important and they’re what gets the drawings started, but until you ink it, I don’t ever consider it finished.”

Hanna will be at Windsor ComiCon, which takes place at Caesars Windsor September 29 and 30.



A top inker in the comic book industry is coming to Windsor ComiCon. Scott Hanna, an inker and artist who’s worked on almost every major Marvel and DC superhero, will be at the convention to share stories, showcase his art and meet the fans.

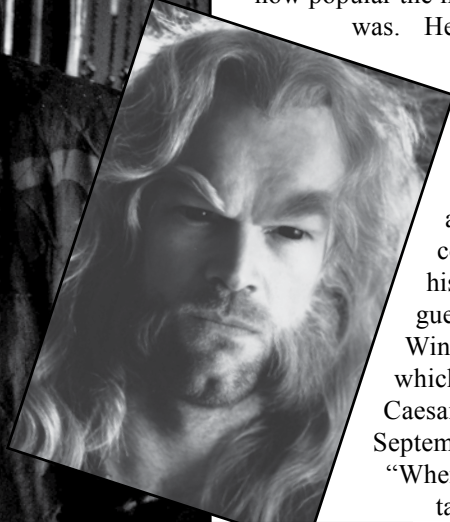
“I love to meet the fans because





When Saskatoon born actor Tyler Mane accepted the iconic role of Michael Myers in the Rob Zombie remakes of the

Halloween movies he never realized



# HE'S THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK

By Dan and April Savoie

how popular the movie franchise was. He donned the mask for two films and regularly makes appearances at comic conventions like his upcoming guest spot at Windsor ComiCon, which takes place at Caesars Windsor on September 29 and 30.

“When I originally talked with Rob, he wanted to make the movie from the perspective of Michael being a product of his environment by showing the whole backstory,” Mane told 519 Magazine. “I

think that helped me a lot because it showed that he was a product of what happened around him and that he could very well be the guy next door. I didn't realize how big the franchise was at the time but I have watched some of the original movies and I really enjoy the very first one with Nick Castle as Michael Myers. We have to watch it every Halloween.”

One of the perks of being Michael Myers in the movie is that Mane got to keep the original costume and mask from the production. It's one of the treasures of his career.

Along with Halloween, Mane has had a few other important movie roles, such as Sabretooth

in the original X-Men movie, as well as roles in Troy, The Scorpion King and another Zombie picture The Devil's Rejects.

Growing up in Saskatoon, a young Mane was more interested in Stampede wrestling than comic books, but it's actually the comic book industry that changed his life – he met his wife Renae Geerlings at a convention in 2000 and reconnected at the 2001 Chicago Wizard World show and they've been together ever since.

Mane will be at Windsor ComiCon meeting and greeting fans. It takes place at Caesars Windsor on September 29 and 30.

*Tickets start at \$20 and can be purchased at windsorcomicon.com.*



## A REUNITED SCENE

Broken Social Scene is a bit of a phenom in the Canadian scene. The musical collective, known for being the breeding grounds of popular singers like Feist and Emily Haines of Metric, took a bit of a break and have returned with a new album and a new tour. The band is bringing their Hug Of Thunder tour to the 519 for a show at Olde Walkerville Theatre on Saturday September 15.

Hug Of Thunder is the band's first release in more than 7 years and the tour is their first all out tour in more than

five. When they hit Windsor, the band, which can sometimes reach as many as 19 members on stage, will be bringing a cast of eight with them (Ariel Engle, Andrew Whiteman, Charles Spearin, Brendan Canning, David French, Kevin Drew, Sam Goldberg Jr. and Justin Peroff).



“Despite everyone having their own independence, we've always treated the band as a friendship-based unit,” Canning told 519 Magazine. “So whatever new and exciting things are coming into everyone's world and all the successes that may come with a solo career, that friendship is what brings us back together.”

Phog Lounge and Happy Little Crowd Productions present Broken Social Scene at Olde Walkerville Theatre in Windsor on Saturday September 15. Tickets are \$35.

## WIN A SCOTT HANNA ORIGINAL PENCIL ARTWORK

We're giving away a Scott Hanna original pencil sketch to one lucky fan.

It's simple, send an email to [batman@519magazine.com](mailto:batman@519magazine.com) and tell us the name of at least 2 comic books Scott has worked on.



Contest closes September 20, 2018. By entering this contest you grant 519 Magazine the ability to send you future contests and emails, which you may opt out of at any time.

One entry per person. Winner will be contacted by email and can claim their prize during ComiCon.



# 10 FUN QUESTIONS WITH...

**Without using the word. What is your definition of fun?**

Oh, my family make fun of me all the time, so probably just a few minutes ago.

is reading this. I'd never hear the end of it.

Music

**Have you ever had fun in church?**

**So what is the most fun you've had with your clothes on?**

**What's the most fun you've had in the last 24 hours?**

In Church? I have actually. I mean I'm not a church goer not by the stretch of the imagination. But when I do go, it's for some occasion or another you know it will be for a wedding or a christening or even a funeral. After all those three things, afterwards there's just a big party afterwards so yeah I have had fun in Church or Church related.

With my clothes on? Um, Flying very large airplanes. I love doing that, well I haven't for a while, but yeah flying little micro light aircrafts.

Having a really nice meal with some friends and my wife.

**What is more fun - Chocolate or whipped Cream?**

Chocolate everytime.

**What is the most fun you've had with your clothes off?**

Probably skinny dipping in Hawaii.

**What was the most fun you had watching a movie.**

Probably watching Life of Brian for the first time by Monty Python.

**What's more fun, a mother-in-law or going to the dentist?**

**Does being a member of Judas Priest make you a fun person?**

**When was the last time you were made fun of?**

I better say Mother-In-Law, because you never know who

No, I'm a fun person anyway. I think I'd been fun with or without my career.

IAN HILL of Judas Priest



## THE 519 ACTORS WORD SEARCH

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 KYLE KIMMERLY  
 ALEX MONK  
 ROB TYMEC  
 BRUCE JAMIESON  
 AINE DONNELLY

ALLISON STILL  
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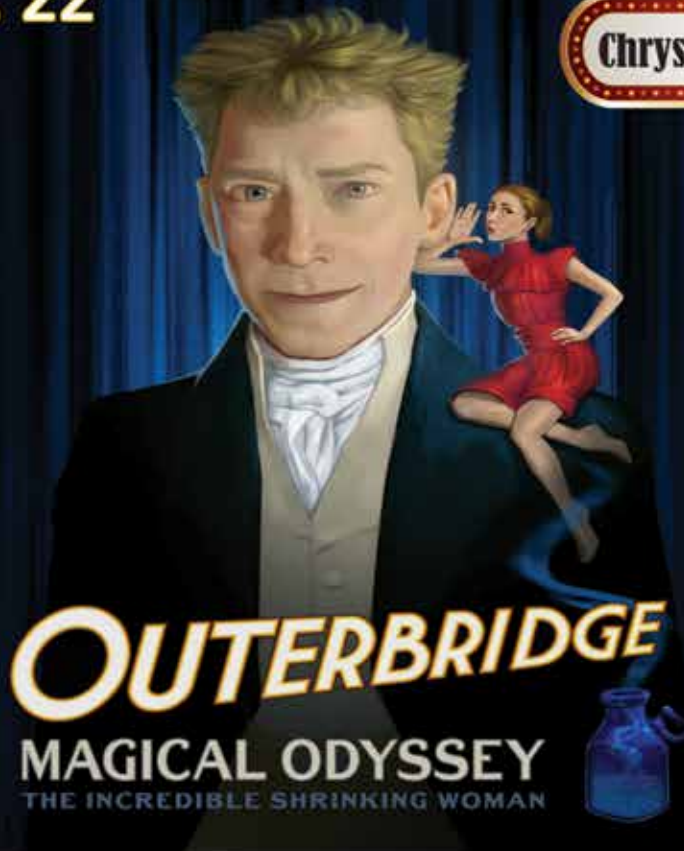
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