

# ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## PAUL GROSS STARS IN *THE SEAFARER* AT ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

***ATP's 50th Anniversary Season sees renowned Canadian actor return to the Calgary stage for the first time since 1981***

**CALGARY, September 26, 2024** – Alberta Theatre Projects (ATP) is thrilled to kick off its highly anticipated 50th Anniversary Season with *The Seafarer*, starring Calgaryan Paul Gross. This gripping dark comedy by Tony-nominated playwright Conor McPherson runs October 15 – November 10, 2024, at the Martha Cohen Theatre.

Under the direction of acclaimed theatre director Peter Pasyk, whose portfolio includes prestigious companies like the Stratford Festival and Soulpepper Theatre Company, *The Seafarer* celebrates the bonds of camaraderie, the possibility of redemption, and the enduring hope found in second chances.

“I’m thrilled to be bringing *The Seafarer* to Alberta Theatre Projects, especially with such an extraordinary team. Peter Pasyk’s direction, alongside an all-Calgary cast led by Paul Gross, brings a depth and intensity to this haunting and darkly comic story,” says ATP Artistic Director Haysam Kadri. “Audiences can expect to be taken on an emotional journey—filled with tension, humour, and a touch of the supernatural. It’s a powerful exploration of redemption and human frailty, and I can’t wait for audiences to experience it up close.”

Born in Calgary, Paul Gross returns home to grace the stage of the Martha Cohen Theatre in this critically acclaimed production. Well-known for his work as a Canadian actor, film and television director, screenwriter, playwright, and producer, he is also a University of Alberta graduate. He rose to fame following his lead role as RCMP Constable Benton Fraser on *Due South*, and he wrote, directed, produced and starred in the film *Passchendaele*. He has performed on stages across the country, including playing the titular role in *King Lear* at the Stratford Festival in 2023. Gross was awarded the Order of Canada in 2015 for his contributions to Canadian film and television, as an actor, writer and director.

*The Seafarer* runs October 15 – November 10, 2024 in the Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons (215 8 Ave. SE). Tickets are available at [albertatheatreprojects.com](http://albertatheatreprojects.com) or 403-294-7402.

### **Cast (Alphabetical):**

Paul Gross as Mr. Lockhart  
Christopher Hunt as Richard Harkin  
Chirag Naik as Nicky Giblin  
Shaun Smyth as James “Sharky” Harkin  
David Trimble as Ivan Curry

### **Creative Team:**

Conor McPherson – Playwright

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Peter Pasyk – Director  
Steven Conde – Assistant Director  
Ralamy Kneeshaw – Costume Designer  
Hanne Loosen – Set and Props Designer  
Anton deGroot – Lighting Designer  
Kathryn Smith – Sound Designer  
Jane MacFarlane – Dialect Coach  
John Knight – Fight Director  
Donna Sharpe – Stage Management  
Michael Luong – Assistant Stage Management

**Audience Advisory:** Mature language, alcohol use. Suggested for ages 16+.

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**For media inquiries, please contact:**

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**About Alberta Theatre Projects:**

Alberta Theatre Projects has been a cornerstone of Calgary's arts community for five decades, showcasing the best in live theatre and fostering a vibrant cultural hub for audiences of all ages. With a commitment to artistic excellence and community engagement, ATP continues to inspire, entertain, and enrich the lives of theatregoers across the region.

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