

# ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS BRINGS RAJIV JOSEPH'S WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND REMARKABLY MOVING *KING JAMES* TO THE STAGE

**CALGARY, February 10, 2025** – Explore the intersection of theatre and sports as **Alberta Theatre Projects** (ATP) brings Pulitzer Prize finalist **Rajiv Joseph's** clever and fast-paced comedy [\*King James\*](#) to the Martha Cohen stage. Directed by ATP's Artistic Director **Haysam Kadri** and in association with **Theatre Aquarius**, *King James* runs February 25 – March 16, 2025.

Tracing the arcs of two friends whose turbulent relationship is best navigated through their shared love of basketball, *King James* dives into the heart of basketball fandom and highlights the profound connections that sports can cultivate. Told over twelve years (from LeBron James' rookie season to his 2016 NBA Championship with the Cleveland Cavaliers) *King James* is an intimate exploration of the place that sports occupy in our lives and relationships.

"This collaboration between Alberta Theatre Projects and Theatre Aquarius exemplifies the best of what theatre can achieve—uniting creative forces to deliver a compelling story that resonates across communities," says Kadri. "I'm so excited to be working with artists and professionals who are committed to bringing the energy and heart of *King James* to the stage, making this production a truly special experience for all."

*King James* stars **Michael Blake** (The Prince/Beast in *Beauty and the Beast* at Theatre Aquarius, The Player in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* at Mirvish/Neptune); 10 seasons at Stratford Festival of Canada including Othello in *Othello*), and **Devin MacKinnon** (*King Lear*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (u/s), *Richard III*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Paradise Lost*, *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (u/s) at the Stratford Festival; *Little Women*, *A Christmas Carol* at Theatre Calgary).

Toronto born multi-disciplinary artist **Diana Reyes** also known as **Fly Lady Di** (*Our Fathers, Sons, Lovers and Little Brothers* at Tarragon and Segal Centre, *Mixie and the Half-Breeds* at fu-GEN, and *Cacao* at Aluna Theatre) will be spinning beats before and during the show.

*King James* runs February 25 – March 16, 2025 at 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:

Michael Blake – Shawn  
Devin MacKinnon – Matt  
Diana Reyes (Fly Lady Di) – DJ

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**Creative Team:**

Rajiv Joseph – Playwright  
Haysam Kadri – Director  
Kodie Rollan – Assistant Director  
Brian Dudkiewicz – Set/Props/Costume Designer  
Louise Guinand – Lighting Designer  
Maddie Bautista – Sound Designer  
Laurel Oneil – Stage Manager  
Raynah Bourne – Assistant Stage Manager

**Audience Advisory:** Strong language. Recommended for ages 16+

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For media inquiries, please contact:

Danielle Barton  
[dbarton@atplive.com](mailto:dbarton@atplive.com)  
403-305-3406

**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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