

Panasonic Theatre

STARVOX ENTERTAINMENT/COREY ROSS

Presents



Written and Originally Directed and Choreographed by

STUART ROSS

Musical Continuity Supervision and Arrangements by

JAMES RAITT

Originally Produced by

GENE WOLSK

With

SCOTT BEAUDIN
JONATHAN CULLEN

MATT CASSIDY
JEFF MADDEN

TYLER CHECK
SAYER ROBERTS

Set/Props/Costume Design

JENNIFER GOODMAN

Lighting Design

BETH KATES

Sound Design

JOHN LOTT

Music Director

MARK CAMILLERI

Stage Manager

DIANNE WOODROW

Production Manager

AMY-SUSIE BRADFORD

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INTERNATIONAL INC.

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Directed and Choreographed by

DAYNA TEKATCH

FOREVER PLAID is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

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author's note

WHEN MOST OF US THINK OF THE 1950S, WE THINK OF ROCK 'N' ROLL, GREASERS, hot rods, Elvis, Annette, Fabian, D.A., haircuts and teenage rebellion. But there was a flip side to this era — the side of harmony, innocence and the sincerity of dreams. It is the side that's been lost in the shuffle of progress. It was a time when most parents and kids listened and danced to the same music; when families partook of the ritual of gathering in front of the TV to watch their favourite variety shows, like the *Ed Sullivan Show* or the *Perry Como Show*. It was a time when every family worked to fulfil the American Dream.

It was a period when four-part guy groups harmonized their way across the airwaves, jukeboxes and hi-fis of the country. Throughout the land they would stand at a quartet of microphones, crooning a multitude of chaperoned prom-goers into dreamy romance.

They wore dinner jackets and bow ties (or perhaps cardigans and white bucks). Each move was drilled to precision. Each vocal arrangement soared to stratospheric heights of harmony. This sound crested right before rock 'n' roll stole the heartbeat of music across the globe.

During this time, guys across the country banded together to sing in the basement for fun. If things worked out they might be hired to sing at weddings, conventions, proms and country-club socials. Inspired by the success of the recording stars, they made plans to zoom into careers of fame and fortune. But the musical taste of the USA was changing and the country would not stop to listen to their dreams.

This is the story of such a group — FOREVER PLAID.

Once upon a time, there were four guys — Sparky, Smudge, Jinx and Frankie — who loved to sing. They all met in high school, when they joined the audiovisual club (1956). Discovering that they shared an affection for music and entertaining, they got together and dreamed of becoming like their idols — The Four Aces, The Four Lads, The Four Freshman, the High-Los and The Crew Cuts. They rehearsed in the basement of Smudge's family's plumbing supply company. It was here they became Forever Plaid — a name that connects the continuation of traditional values of family, home and harmony. Although rock 'n' roll was racing down the fast lane like a candy apple “verre,” they believed in their music. As their sound developed, they sang at family gatherings, fundraisers and eventually graduated to supermarket openings and proms. They had little time for romance or leisure for they supported their fantasy by holding down day jobs — Frankie was in dental supplies, Smudge was in bathroom fixtures, Sparky was in better dresses. They devoted themselves to singing at nights and on weekends. Then, finally, they landed their first big gig at the Airport Hilton cocktail bar — The Fusel Lounge.

— Stuart Ross

the cast

SCOTT BEAUDIN	Sparky
MATT CASSIDY	Smudge
TYLER CHECK	Swing (Smudge, Frankie)
JONATHAN CULLEN	Frankie
JEFF MADDEN	Jinx
SAYER ROBERTS	Swing (Sparky, Jinx)

MUSICIANS

MARK CAMILLERI — *Music Director/Piano/Conductor*
STEVE HEATHCOTE — *Drums*
PAT KILBRIDE — *Bass*

the songs

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DEDICATION

Forever Plaid is dedicated to the “good guys”; to the guys who wheeled the projector carts for the AV club; to the guys who saved their allowance to give their parents a special night on the town for their anniversary; to the guys who carried an extra handkerchief; to the guys who never went beyond first base, and if they did, they didn't tell anyone. We Salute You!

the company



SCOTT BEAUDIN

Sparky

At age 23, career highlights include a season at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival (*Oliver!* 2006),

along with nearly 40 credits to his name in television and film, including lead roles in *Summerhood* (Best Film, Sand Diego Film Festival; Best Film, Canadian Comedy Awards) and *Victoria Day* (Sundance Film Festival, World Dramatic Competition). Scott was nominated for a Young Artist Award for his work on Syfy's *Haven*, and has a lead role in the award-winning web series *Ruby Skye, P.I.* Scott would like to thank Heather, his parents, Danielle, Jim, his teachers Tom, Linda and Lou, and the amazing team of people involved with this production.



MATT CASSIDY

Smudge

Matt was most recently seen on the television series *Private Eyes*, *Reign* and *Mohawk Girls*.

On stage, Matt was in the Canadian company of *Jersey Boys*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma!* and *Moby Dick* at the Stratford Festival and the world premiere of *Lord Of The Rings* with Mirvish Productions. Other favourite theatre credits include *Generous*, (GCTC); *Billy Flynn* in *Chicago*, *Brad* in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Stagewest); *Fred* in *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Pharaoh* in *Joseph and The Amazing...* (Grand Theatre London); *Murder in Noirville* (Laugh Out Loud Orillia); *Beauty and the Beast*, *Secret Garden*, *Honk!* (Globe Theatre Regina); and *Forever Plaid* (Charlottetown Festival). The past two winters Matt and his wife,

Sarah, have produced the Panto *Freezing The Musical* in Ottawa. He is a graduate of Sheridan's Musical Theatre program and is a proud member of CAEA and ACTRA. Matt would like to thank his family for all of their support.



TYLER CHECK

Swing (Smudge, Frankie)

Tyler is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Forever Plaid* and to get the chance to work with such a talented

group of performers. Past theatre credits include Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde* at Theatre Sheridan, Smudge in *Forever Plaid* at the Stirling Festival Theatre, Sir Bedevere in *Spamalot* at the Stephenville Theatre Festival, and the Father in *33 1/3* as part of the Canadian Music Theatre Project. Tyler is currently writing and developing an original musical called *Liam: The Musical*. He also runs a weekly podcast series interviewing prominent people in the theatre industry in Canada called *Let's Grab Coffee*. Tyler would like to thank the Talent House, the cast and crew for making this production such an incredible experience, and his family for their constant love and support.



JONATHAN CULLEN

Frankie

The Book of Mormon (Standby Elder Price, 1st National Tour); *Next to Normal* (Henry, MTC); *Joseph and the Amazing*

Technicolor Dreamcoat (Stage West Calgary); *Billy Elliot* (1st National Tour); *West Side Story* (Theatre St. John's); *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Charlottetown); *Oberon, Anything Goes*, *Metamorphoses* (Theatre Sheridan). TV: *Bomb Girls* (Global). Film: *Cold Season*

(Lua). Jonathan is excited to be part of his grandfather's favourite show! When not on stage he can be found playing with the pop/soul group Silver Lining. Thanks to Bruce and the gang at TH and to my Mom and Brother for teaching me to believe. wearesilverlining.com IG:@tSilverlining



JEFF MADDEN

Jinx

Jeff Madden is best known for starring as Frankie Valli in the hit musical *Jersey Boys*, winning the Dora award for

Outstanding Performance in a Musical for his work. After the two-year run in Toronto, he later starred in the Australian production for 15 months. This is Jeff's first Toronto musical appearance since appearing in *Dani Girl* (TIFT) and Angelwalk's production of *I Love You Because* (Dora nomination) in 2012. Previously, Jeff was a member of the prestigious Shaw Festival ensemble for eight seasons. After

performing across Canada in various plays, musicals, concerts, television shows, corporate gigs and recording two CDs, Jeff now enjoys teaching acting and singing at Sheridan College and the Randolph Academy, directing and dramaturging new musicals, and finishing a Masters of Education degree from the University of Toronto.



SAYER ROBERTS

Swing (Sparky, Jinx)

Living amongst these tunes and sensibilities, Sayer is home. Recently moved from Vancouver, he's

making his Toronto debut with the *Plaid* lads. Previous credits include: Marius — *Les Misérables* (ArtsClub); Johnny B — *Red Rock Diner* (ArtsClub); Marius — *Les Misérables* (Chemainus Theatre Festival); Curly — *Oklahoma!*, Barnaby — *Hello, Dolly!* (RCMT); Rolf — *The Sound of Music* (Gateway); and Barrett — *Titanic* (TUTS).

the creative team



DAYNA TEKATCH

Director and Choreographer

Dayna has worked extensively all across this excellent country. Director credits include: *Avenue Q*

(Citadel-Sterling award for Outstanding Musical); *Oliver!* (National Arts Centre); *The 39 Steps* (Neptune/Stage West/1000 Islands); *Same Time Next Year*, *Midlife: The Crisis Musical* (Orillia Opera House); *Driving Miss Daisy* starring Michael Learned, *Tuesdays With Morrie* (Starbright). Choreographic credits include: *Alice Through The Looking Glass* (Stratford/NAC/Charlottetown/MTC/Citadel); *Wizard of Oz* (YPT/Globe); *Evangeline*

(Charlottetown/Citadel); *Funny Girl*, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* (Segal Centre); *Drowsy Chaperone* (Vancouver Playhouse/NAC/1000 Islands/Citadel-Sterling award for Outstanding Choreography); *The Penelopiad* (Citadel); *Romeo & Juliet*, nativity, *A Christmas Carol*, *Creation*, *Sound of Music* (NAC); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Palmer Park*, *All's Well That Ends Well* (Stratford); *Buddy Holly*, *Rocky Horror* (Aquarius). Dayna spent nine seasons in the company of the Stratford Festival as an actor and choreographer and five seasons with the National Arts Centre as a director, choreographer and actor. She was on the faculty of the Banff/Citadel Professional Training Program for

three years and is the proud recipient of two Tyrone Guthrie awards and The Richard March award. She lives in Toronto with her inspirations, son Liam and husband Sean C. Robertson.



DIANNE WOODROW

Stage Manager

Selected Production Stage Manager credits include:

The Boys in the Photograph, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Lion King*,

Rent, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Les Misérables*; *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*; The Shaw Festival, Charlottetown Festival. Other stage management credits include shows at Soulpepper Theatre, the National Arts Centre, the Canadian Opera Company, the Stratford Festival and Manitoba Theatre Centre.



LAURA GRANDFIELD

Assistant Stage Manager

After growing up in Thunder Bay and graduating from Sheridan College, Laura

loves cultivating her skills

and backstage choreography as well as exploring all of Ontario with Smile Theatre and shows like *Hair* (The Grand Theatre), *Carmen* (Opera Lyra Ottawa), and *Spamalot* (Drayton Entertainment). Much love to her friends and family for their endless support. Enjoy the show!

JENNIFER GOODMAN

Sets/Props/Costume Design

Jennifer is a freelance set, costume and lighting designer. She trained at the University of Alberta, Concordia University, the Banff Centre and the Stratford Festival. Selected designs include: *Elle* (Passe Muraille), *The Mountaintop* (Theatre Kingston), *Generous* (GCTC), *The Tempest* (2 Planks, Merritt — outstanding costumes), ...

Charlie Brown (Globe), *Billy Bishop...* (Theatre Northwest), *7 Stories* (Tableau d'Hôte, MECCA — best set design.) www.jennifergoodman.ca

BETH KATES

Lighting Design

Starting her career at 14 doing lights for bands in Toronto, Beth is a self-taught, award-winning Lighting, Projection, Set, Costume designer, mom to Aaron, and the co-creative director of Playground Studios. Highlights: *Ragtime*, *Pygmalion* and *Alice in Wonderland* (Shaw Festival); *Dee Snider's Rock & Roll Christmas Tale*; *SEEDS* (Blyth), *Vigilante* (Catalyst); *Bubble Guppies* (Koba); all the Ross Petty pantos since 2011. Upcoming: an installation at Trius vineyards; *The Last Donnelly Standing* — a collaboration with Paul Thompson and Gil Garratt at the Blyth Festival, and video for Twisted Sisters latest tour. www.playgroundstudios.ca www.bethkates.com

JOHN LOTT

Sound Design

Toronto native John Lott has been designing sound for 25 years throughout North America and is pleased to make his debut with Starvox Entertainment and Mirvish Productions. He has spent seasons with Shaw Festival, Stratford Festival, Soulpepper Theatre Company, Canadian Stage and Charlottetown Festival. John's career started in this theatre when it was called the NewYorker. John is the Canadian representative for Sound Associates, the largest supplier for Broadway sound design in North America.

MARK CAMILLERI

Music Director

Mark is thrilled to be back working with Starvox Entertainment. Theatre highlights include *Dee Snider's Rock & Roll Christmas Tale*, *Toxic Avenger*, *Mamma Mia!* and *Dirty Dancing*.

Concert highlights include Céline Dion (on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*), the Canadian Tenors, Andrea Bocelli, The Priests, Sarah McLachlan, Marvin Hamlisch, Mike Burstyn, Jeff Beck and Il Divo. Mark also owns and operates IMAGINE Sound Studios. www.imaginesound.com

STARVOX ENTERTAINMENT/COREY ROSS

Producer

Founded in 2005 by Corey Ross, Starvox Entertainment was ranked on *Profit Magazine's* list of Canada's top growth companies for three years running — 2013, 2014 and 2015 — the only live entertainment company ever to be graded. In 2013, Mr. Ross was a producer on the Canadian production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *CATS* and in 2014 remounted *Evil Dead — The Musical* to record-breaking sales in Canada and the United States and continues to tour this production throughout North America. Since 2012, Starvox has toured the West End hit

show *Potted Potter: The Unauthorized Harry Experience*, which continues to sell out theatres in Canada and the U.S. Starvox recently produced Trey Parker's *Cannibal! The Musical*. Starvox has presented two productions written and directed by Woody Harrelson, presented John Malkovich in *Giacomo Variations*, and produced nationally broadcast concerts for the Stephen Lewis Foundation featuring Alicia Keys, Annie Lennox and Harry Belafonte, among others. This upcoming touring season, Starvox is presenting the critically acclaimed *One Man Star Wars® Trilogy*; the remount of the hit *Forever Plaid*; the Broadway musical *Disenchanted* and the adored parody *Graeme of Thrones*. While continuing to tour the ever popular *Potted Potter: The Unauthorized Harry Experience* and *Evil Dead — The Musical*, Trey Parker's *Cannibal the Musical* will also be on the road for its first North American tour during the 2016-2017 theatre season.

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credits & acknowledgments

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General Manager	LANI MILSTEIN
Stage Manager	DIANNE WOODROW
Assistant Stage Manager	LAURA GRANDFIELD
Associate Lighting Designer	SANDRA MARCROFT
Technical Director	BRYAN STEELE
Props Shopper	JACKIE McCLELLAND
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Production Accountants	DAVE PENNINGTON, AHMAD S. NATAJ
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Starvox Booking Agency	PAUL BONGIORNO, GLENN WHITE

SPECIAL THANKS

Marilyn Sherman, Len Gill, David Johnston, Sam Paisley, Diana Panagiotopoulos, Maia Ross, ARM & Associates — Allan Moffatt, Maggie Buski, Merriam Music — Stu Harrison, Alan Merriam

Rehearsed at Lower Ossington Theatre
and Imagine Sound Studios

Forever Plaid officially opened in New York City
on May 20, 1990, with the following cast:

FRANKIE	Guy Stroman
SMUDGE	David Engel
SPARKY	Jason Graae
JINX	Stan Chandler
UNDERSTUDIES	Larry Raben, Drew Geraci

Production team for the original production of *Forever Plaid*

Scenery	NEIL PETER JAMPOLIS
Lighting	JANE REISMAN
Costumes	DEBRA STEIN
Sound	MARK SALZBERG
Assistant Director	LARRY RABEN
Hairstyles	BOBBY GRAYSON
Stage Management	JOHN RAINWATER/CONNIE DREW

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Box Office Manager	GERARD RAJU
Assistant Box Office Manager	DENNIS WONG
Maintenance Manager	KEVIN MCCARTHY
House Head Technician	JASON BROWNING
Assistant House Head Technician	G. STUART BAULCH

CREDITS

Scenery constructed by Hamilton Scenic Specialty; Lighting equipment supplied by Christie Lites; Audio equipment supplied by Sound Associates



Starvox Entertainment engages under the terms of the Independent Theatre Agreement, professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actor's Equity Association.



All local musicians employed in this production are members of the Toronto Musicians Association.



Backstage Employees are represented by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (or I.A.T.S.E.).