

# All You Need Is Love-A (Love-A, Love-A!!!)

A Commedia dell'Arte Musical  
Written/Directed by Holly Derbyshire



# Notes from the Playwright

**Warning:** This play does not take itself too seriously- please sit back, relax and enjoy the show! Also, the play is INTERACTIVE. Do not be surprised if the actors come off the stage and engage with you. Have fun with them!

## The Commedia Tradition and Synopsis of the Play:

"All You Need is Love-a (Love-a. Love-a) !!!" was inspired by Beaumarchais' "*The Marriage of Figaro*" written in 1778. It is a descendant of a theatre tradition called "Commedia dell'Arte" that began in Italy in the 1500s. Commedia is the origin of what we know today as "slapstick comedy" and was usually unscripted, relying on the actors' knowledge of their characters. The distinct personalities of the stock characters and the crazy elaborate jokes ("lazzi") help drive the plot. The storyline involves the class struggle between the rich and the poor.

There are three distinct social levels in this story- the "vecchi" (the old people): in this case, Dottora and Pantalona. Dottora is a big talker and likes to brag about her intelligence which is mainly pieces of paper; meaningless diplomas from unknown universities. Pantalona is extremely rich and cares only about her money and reputation at the cost of her daughter's happiness. The second level is the "Innamorati" -the lovers- Isabella (Pantalona's daughter) and Flavio (who turns out to be Dottora's servant, Puttanesca). They are deeply in love, but their affection is not approved by the Vecchi (Pantalona and Dottora) so the lovers suffer as a result. The third class is the "Zanni" or the "clowns" who try to outsmart the Vecchi so the lovers can be together. These are Puttanesca (Dottora's servant aka Flavio) as well as Arlecchina and Columbina who are Pantalona's servants.

Problems begin when Dottora arranges to have her "son", the arrogant braggart Capitano, become engaged to Isabella. Capitano does not love Isabella, he only wants her money. Isabella loves Flavio and wants nothing to do with Capitano, but she cannot disobey her mother.

The servants all decide to help unite the lovers. Will they succeed? Many merry mix ups occur and in the end there are three couples. Who will they be? Hopefully there will be a happy ending! They say love conquers all - or - **All You Need is Love-A, Love-a, Love-a!!!!?**

## My thanks to:

*James McBride*, master builder-technician, who built the set, programmed the lighting, set up the sound system, and helped actors create characters and choreography; *Taramay Curtis* sound and light tech supreme who also designed and created the Fringe videoclip promo; *Kira Malkin* who created and directed the choreography for all the group numbers. She is also the backstage manager; *EMT* for allowing us to use their hall and facilities to bring this vision to life; *Steffni Ault* for her calm, professional organization in this frenzy of activity; *Susan Rasko*, for her flexibility and patience in designing posters, programs and other promotional material for the show; *Daisy Cheers/Shannon Diachinsky* for opening and closing the hall all hours of the day and night; *Tristan Ault-Toupin* for shooting the videoclip video and individual portraits of the characters; *Cheri Riddell* for her help in detailing the costumes; *Alex Nees* for her creative ideas and designs; *Rod Caroca* for loaning us the invaluable !Nacho Libre luchador mask!; the *Cast* for their creativity and dedication; *Emily Barnaschone* for coordinating and leading photo shoots and countless other sundry activities; and finally, to *Malik Hinton* for encouraging me to write and submit this piece in the first place. It has been an incredible journey. I am so grateful to you all. Much love and many thanks.

*Holly Derbyshire*



# Our Production Crew

**Holly Derbyshire (Playwright/Co-Director, Co-Music Director, Sound and Light Design)** – Holly has worked all over the world teaching choir, visual arts and drama. She wrote, directed and performed in a number of musicals in Lebanon and Japan. Her love is writing character-driven comedy and she believes there is no greater joy than making people laugh. Holly is a Queen's University Alumna, with a Bachelor of Education in Visual Art and English. As a professional singer, she worked at Jazz clubs in Lebanon, Kobe and Osaka. As a strong advocate of the arts, who believes in its power to transform society in a positive way, Holly wrote a prize-winning paper entitled: "Re-thinking the Curriculum; Towards a More Artistic Perspective". While holding the position of Fine Arts Department Chair in Beirut, Holly taught the International Baccalaureate Theatre Arts course where part of the syllabus covered "World Theatrical Traditions". This is where she found her love for the Italian Renaissance tradition of Commedia dell'Arte - the beginning of what we know as "slapstick comedy" today. Happy to be back in Canada, Holly has made Edmonton her new home. She sincerely hopes you enjoy this EMT Fringe production of *All You Need Is Love-A (Love-A, Love-A)!!!* Please sit back, relax and enjoy the show!



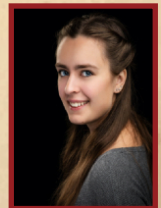
**James McBride (Co-Director, Co-Music Director, Sound and Light Design)** Jim is thrilled to have joined the artistic team for this production. He has worn many different hats with Edmonton Musical Theatre over the course of 10 plus years, such as; performer, producer, director, technician, carpenter and Board member. Jim has a background in production shows with the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose, a local performing and fundraising group. With them, he has played roles in productions such as *Rocky Horror*, *The Lion King*, *West Side Story*, and *Avenue Q*. Jim loves the camaraderie and fun of theatre... and relishes every opportunity to collaborate on a production.



**Taramay Curtis (Co-Director, Co-Music Director/ Technician)** – Taramay is a Fringe Festival performance veteran. She was a professional musician with the Canadian Forces for 12 years where she discovered her passion, and side hobby, of performing in community theatre. From 1995-2025 Taramay was artistically involved with the Beverly Heights Variety Show for 30 years where she co-wrote, directed, was musical director, choreographed, provided technical support, was props and production designer for 7 of the company's well received shows. As a free lance drummer, currently she performs keyboards, vocals, and percussion with the band SHAGUAR. The cast and crew of *All You Need Is Love-A (Love-A, Love-A)* is delighted that Taramay shared all of her talents with this Fringe production. She is glad to be sitting behind the console for this production and supporting the arts in Edmonton.



**Kira Malkin (Choreographer/Stage Manager)** – Kira has participated in musical theatre from age 3, starting with Visionary College. She attended Foote Theatre School and St. Albert Children's Theatre summer camps. Kira discovered Edmonton Musical Theatre and has been involved since age 8, in classes and productions ever since. Her involvement has included performing, and stage management for in year-end productions and many Fringe shows. She was a proud member of the EMT Youth Show Group during Canada's 150 celebration year. Kira has been employed as an artistic assistant for EMT Juniors programs and summer camps. After being behind the scenes for *Grease*, *Broadway Rocks Again*, *The Little Mermaid* and *And The Tony Award Goes To....* Kira is delighted to work her magic, on and off stage, in *All You Need Is Love-A (Love-A, Love-A)* following last year's hit Fringe show *Miscasts*.





# Our Cast

**Malik Hinton (*Flavio Hotto and Puttanesca*)** – Hot off the press of portraying Jeremy Stroman in *And The Tony Award Goes To...* Ushering in another Fringe season, Malik is jubilant to be back home with Edmonton Musical Theatre marking the occasion working with one of his favourite life & theatre cohorts, Holly Derbyshire; bringing her commedia dell'arte vision to life! Previously credited as Jean-Michel in *Cinderella*, Prince Eric in *The Little Mermaid*, Seymour Krelborn in *Little Shop of Horrors* ... stay tuned for Malik's next major show stop as Willy Wonka in *Charlie & The Chocolate Factory*, playing all December long at Festival Place. Rumour has it... you can also catch Malik chewing bubble gum & kicking a\*\* this Fringe season as HIMSELF in Season 2 of *EDMONTASK*. HAPPY FRINGING!



**Emily Barnaschoné (*Isabella Ritcha*)** – Emily is beyond thrilled to be back onstage with EMT in her second Fringe production with the company after last year's successful *Miscasts*. She has also performed in the hugely successful productions of *Grease*, *Broadway Rocks Again* and in *The Little Mermaid* as the sparkly Mersister, Allana. Following her passion for performing musical theatre there was no down time for this busy actor as she joined this cast immediately following the production of *And The Tony Award Goes To...* in June. Emily has 14 years of experience in the theatre and has been vocally training extensively during those years with Crystal Hanson. Look out for her to announce all of the upcoming news here at EMT as she is the Social Media Manager for the organization. Make sure you follow her for all of the EMT updates!



**Shannon Diachinsky (*Dottora la Stupida*)** – Shannon is so excited to be back on stage with EMT! She has been involved with Edmonton Musical Theatre for over 10 years! She believes in its mission and vision and is part of the Board of Directors. Past Edmonton Musical Theatre credits include: *Wedding Bells and Bombshells*, *Grease*, and *The Little Mermaid*, along with a variety of fundraising shows. For this Fringe production, she hopes you appreciate her cheesy accent and ridiculous character in all the zany ways she does. Shannon would like to thank her loving husband and four children who have to put up with her practicing around the house and who frequently practice lines with her - love you Diachinskys!



**Gabii Minorah (*Pantalona Ritcha*)** – Gabii is a fierce performer with a captivating presence with 3 years of Drag experience. She is thrilled to be making her debut with Edmonton Musical Theatre in this Fringe production. Her beauty shines through in every dance move, every note sung, and every word spoken... which inspires others to embrace their own fierceness.



**Robert Woodbury (*Capitano Braggadoro*)** – Robert is a theatre guy since forever. His singing career began at aged 7 as an award-winning soprano soloist in Kitchener, Ontario. Since then, he has trained with Eva Bostrand, Merla Eichman and Yoachim Segger. Robert did murder mysteries and musicals in the 80's and 90's and has been the solo and choir singer for St Andrews United Church for almost 20 years. As well, he is a dedicated karaoke junkie since that was invented! Robert is also a very talented caricature and fine artist who works every K-Days and at West Edmonton Mall in Galaxyland and has sold many paintings. He is father to 7 kids, 2 cats, and a dog named Luna.



**Gracen White (*Arlecchina*)** – Gracen is thrilled to be performing in their first show with Edmonton Musical Theatre. A recent graduate from Queens University with a Bachelor of Music Theatre she is very honoured and excited to be performing for you today. Past stage credits include Corporal Joanie and Featured Tap Dancer in *The Clover Report* (MusicalMania!), Phantom/Dance Captain in *Rocky Horror Show*, Sally/Ensemble in *Let's Dance* (workshop), Featured Soloist in *New Faces 2022* (St. Lawrence College); and Dancer in *Broadway Bound NYC 2019* Intrepid Performance (Be Discovered!). She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Zoë Hawnt (*Columbina, Gipsia and Dragon Lady*)** – Zoë is an accomplished performer with over 20 years of experience. Career highlights include; 7 Piece Show Band (Lead Singer) Shakin Not Stirred with EMT's resident Music Director Brad Heintzman, performing with the Alberta Youth Choir under the direction of Frank Ganant who led the choir to win the Nationals and she had the wonderful opportunity to sing under the direction of Sir John Rutter. Zoë is an accomplished, seasoned Flute player and currently sits on the board for the Edmonton Flute Association, along with sharing her passion for singing to young students through private vocal lessons. She is thrilled to be back on stage and hopes you have a fantastic time!





# All You Need Is Love-A (Love-A, Love-A!!!)

## Scene 1— In front of Pantalona's Palace

L.O.V.E.

Flavio and Isabella

*Kaempfert/Gabler*

Dottora is Back

Dottora/Capitano

*"The Bitch is Back"- Elton John/Bernie Taupin*

I'm Too Sexy

Capitano/Dottora

*Right Said Fred*

## Scene 2— Inside Pantalona's Palazzo

Money

Pantalona with

*Gordy/Bradford-Flying Lizards version* (Isabella/Arlecchina/Columbina)

Mr. Vain

Puttanesca

*Culture Beat*

(Isabella/Arlecchina/Columbina)

## Scene 3— Creepy Downtown at Night

Stayin' Alive

Capitano

*Bee Gees*

I Put a Spell on You

Columbina

*Screamin' Jay Hawkins*

Look What You Made Me Do

Columbina/Arlecchina/Puttanesca/Isabella

*TaylorSwift*

## Scene 4— Inside Dottora's Library

Money, Money, Money

Capitano (Dottora/ Puttanesca

*ABBA*

/Columbina/Arlecchina)

## Scene 5— Wedding Ceremony, Pantalona's Garden

White Wedding

Capitano/Dottora

*Billy Idol*

Chapel of Love

Columbina/Arlecchina

*Ellie Greenwich*

Marry You

Isabella/Flavio

*Bruno Mars*

That's Amore

Entire Cast

*Warren/Brooks*

We Are Family

Entire Cast

*Rodgers/Edwards for Sister Sledge*

All You Need is Love

Entire Cast

*Lennon*

# All You Need Is Love-A (Love-A, Love-A!!!)

## Our Cast of Characters

Players (In order of appearance)

FLAVIO HOTTO/PUTTANESCA  
ISABELLA RITCHA  
COLUMBINA/Gipsia/Dragon Lady  
ARLECCHINA  
DOTTORA  
CAPITANO  
PANTALONA

Malik Hinton  
Emily Barnaschoné  
Zoë Hawnt  
Gracen White  
Shannon Diachinsky  
Robert Woodbury  
Gabii Minorah

## Our Production Crew

Playwright/Co-Director/Co-Music Director  
Sound & Light Designer/Co-Director/Co-Music Director  
Sound & Light Technician/Co-Director/Co-Music Director  
Choreographer/Stage Manager  
Costume/Set Designer  
Costume Detailing  
Poster/Program  
Social Media Manager  
General Manager  
Asst. to GM  
Fringe Festival Staff

Holly Derbyshire  
James McBride  
Taramay Curtis  
Kira Malkin  
Holly Derbyshire  
Cheri Riddell  
Susan Rasko, Alex Nees  
Emily Barnaschoné  
Steffni Ault  
Daisy Cheers, Shannon Diachinsky  
Murray Utas, Andrea Handal Rivera,  
Victoria deJong, Lore Green

## Our Appreciation to:

EMT Board of Directors  
Susan Rasko – Image 'n' Art  
Red Socks Photography  
Concession Staff  
Wayne, Kathy & Mia Malkin  
The Cast  
Tristan Ault-Toupin

Woodcroft Hall  
Arlene Huhn  
The City of Edmonton  
Edmonton Arts Council  
New Horizons  
Alberta Foundation for the Arts  
Edmonton Community Foundation





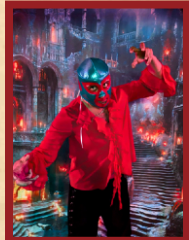
# Edmonton Musical Theatre

Edmonton Musical Theatre (EMT) has been in operation since 1977, training Edmonton and area talent in musical theatre arts. During this time, EMT has expanded from offering one adult program in a local church basement, to offering a full complement of classes to students of all ages, summer camps for youth and community-based programs to individuals with disabilities.

EMT welcomes everyone no matter the skill level. The only pre requisite is a passion for musical theatre and a desire to learn. Whether your goal is a performing career or self-actualization, EMT will give you the basics to continue your journey. Many alumni have taken their skills to local community theatre stages as a part of Edmonton's rich cultural scene or gone on to institutes of higher learning having discovered their love for musical theatre.

## Our Mission

Edmonton Musical Theatre is dedicated to educating our students with the highest degree of professionalism in the area of musical theatre performance techniques. This includes singing, movement, choral and dance. We nurture our students, from Edmonton and the surrounding area, and help them reach their fullest potential.



# Broadway Boomers

## Musical Theatre Program

*Funded by Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Grant our new program is free of charge to participants ages 55 plus*

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- September 18 to December 4
- Performance Saturday December 6 at 7 pm
- Interest/interview Day TBA

For more information watch our website  
[edmontonmusicaltheatre.ca](http://edmontonmusicaltheatre.ca)



Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program

# Edmonton Musical Theatre

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E-mail: [edmmusth@telus.net](mailto:edmmusth@telus.net)

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*Information & registration forms at [edmontonmusicaltheatre.ca](http://edmontonmusicaltheatre.ca)*



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