

Caravan Gibsons/Sunshine Coast Shows: July 26 to 29, 2017

The Caravan Stage Company, founded in Victoria & Sooke in 1970, is returning to its Homeland for the first time in 30 years. After a month long booking at Expo 86 and a full season of touring Vancouver Island and Gulf Islands in 1987, the Caravan departed BC as the World's Only Horse Drawn Theatre Company and is now returning as the World's Only Tall Ship Theatre. For the past thirty years the Caravan has been touring Canada and the US, as well as the River Waterways of Europe, the Black Sea, the Adriatic, the Balkans and the Mediterranean.

The Caravan will arrive on its beautiful 90ft Tall Ship, the Amara Zee, tie up at the end of the Wharf Head at Gibson's Landing, and transform the Caravan ship into a fully rigged, technologically inventive, contemporary theatre. The audience will gather in the Parking Lot space directly in front of the ship, and experience a 75-minute performance of an original work (*Nomadic Tempest*) that encompasses a lavish musical score; live singing and recorded lyrics and sound effects; mythical, metaphorical & surreal characters; spectacular lighting, video graphics and imagistic projections; aerial artistry; special and surprising transformations of the ship stage environment; with a story opera that will not only enthrall audiences from age 10 to 100, but will also elucidate and inspire people with a compelling, imminent and futuristic theme.

Why Gibsons and the Sunshine Coast: The Caravan has selected Gibsons because it is the Gateway to the Sunshine Coast and the marine epicenter for the entire watershed of the Salish Sea eco-region. The shows at ***Gibsons*** will be the Canadian Premier of the Caravan's new show, ***Nomadic Tempest...*** an original musical spectacle show featuring Four Monarch Butterflies played by aerial artists, as metaphorical climate refugees in a globally warmed & dreadlocked planet circa 2030. Each of these Monarch characters sing in their own "tongue": ***Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic & Salish Hənqəminəm.*** ***Accordingly, Gibsons*** was selected to be the scene of the Caravan's heralded return to the Salish Sea, to celebrate the Sesquicentennial in 2017. ***Gibsons*** is a historical appropriate choice to initiate the Caravan's first Canadian tour in 30 years ... ***with Gibsons*** being selected by the UN Environmental Program as the "Most Liveable Community in the World", plus being awarded the "Climate Action Award" by the Community Energy Association...& ***the traditional homelands of the Squamish, Tla'amin, and shíshálh First Nations.***

In a Region blessed with an alluring and magnificent cornucopia of nature's beauty, from the shores of the coastal waters to the crests of the towering mountains, a land inhabited by peoples for many, many centuries, it is this region and maritime nexus that will provide the host community for this new show presented on the Caravan's ship theatre. The Caravan's show endorses the values of an emerging local and global perspective that embraces a compassion for the sustainable ethos of the original & current inhabitants of this land, and foreshadows a coming vitality that will overcome the entrapped destiny of resource extraction, and move all of us forward/toward a renewable future.

Caravan Show Site at the Gibson's Landing Wharf-Head



The Caravan show exists on a plane of imagination with the likes of Laurie Anderson, Steve Reich, Brian Eno & Phillip Glass only on a much larger scale. It's an opera, a concert, and a major performance art delivered by a beautiful talented ensemble. It made me want to run away with the circus!

Reg Flowers, Artistic Director, Falconworks Artists Group, Brooklyn NY



NOMADIC TEMPEST

A HERO WITH A 1001 VOICES IN
A MYTHIC MIGRATION FOR ALL AGES



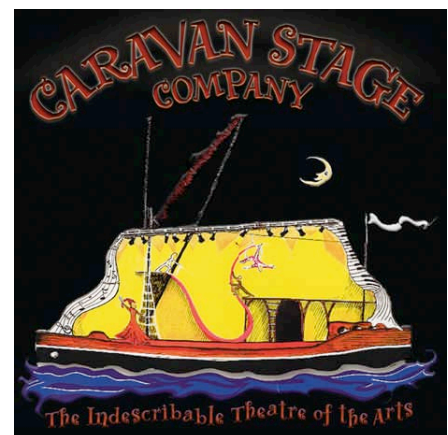
The Caravan Stage Company, founded in 1970, is launching a new show for its 47th & 48th seasons (2017 & 2018) ... a Fable created for audiences of all ages, from 10 to 100. It will feature the mythic saga of a band of *Monarch Butterflies* as a visual metaphor for refugee migrant characters struggling through their exile pilgrimage, journeying over a Land caked with consumptive delights, clamorous raptures and raging racism ... a Planet engorged with many species rushing to stake their claim on a patch of paradise... ***The Land of SwallowWart!***

NOMADIC TEMPEST will present the spectacle of four aerial artists gyrating, dancing, and flying through the sky above the decks of the *Amara Zee*, the Caravan's 100ft theatre ship. The ***NOMADIC TEMPEST*** Monarchs are from four global regions: ***Salish, Syria, China & Mexico***. Their lyrics/songs will be pre-recorded in each of the above languages, and the original English lyrics will be projected as subtitles during the show. Reigning above these intrepid beauties, is the commanding monster, ***Lord SwallowWart***, a titanic grasping, bellowing, galloping alien Beast that came to the Planet as an invited guest and now rules the air, soil and water from it's throne on top of the world... 40ft above the decks of the *Amara Zee*...overlording the planet, smoking & swallowing all above and all below! Roving and crooning about the earthlings on the shore, we see a mysterious narrator/singer...***Kanandra***...who can foresee the Future but is cursed by *SwallowWart* so that no one will believe her prophecies ... even though she can understand and speak the tongue of all species on the Planet.

This new Caravan fantasy will also feature a virtual phantasmagoria of visual special effects and video projections. Showing on the Caravan's main screen, (90ft X 40ft) with the new 20,000 lumens BARCO projector, will be a continuous cinematic panorama of originally designed video graphics, animations, & images, including a profusion of ***sky-river*** images simulating the flight paths of the Monarchs gliding upwards of 4000 ft above the Earth. Within the upper trusses and the lower decks, as the Aerialists cavort, a scenic conjuring of a palette of surprises, colors, and mechanical transformations will be engineered into this show...enough to keep even the yet-to-be-born generations gurgling in expectant fascinations.

NOMADIC TEMPEST will be a gourmet feast for the eyes, ears, hearts and minds of all those drawn into the Caravan net of this theatrical, operatic, aesthetic cornucopia. Beware, this show will not only steal your heart, but also make you want to run away with these circus gypsies!

The Caravan show is this amazing experimental Rock Opera, with giant puppets, gorgeous lights & music, aerialists, and a talented & engaging cast. We were blown away by the spectacle. The Caravan is a massive operation, a game changer for the downtown cultural life. Go See the Caravan Show!



METRO JACKSONVILLE, Jacksonville, Florida

RECENT CARAVAN SHOW PHOTOS



I can attest to this fact: there is absolutely nothing like the Caravan Stage Company anywhere else in the world. The Caravan is a Canadian National and International treasure to be valued and shared among those who witness to their genius and artistic and creative excellence.

Catherine O'Grady, Executive Director, Ottawa Jazz International Festival



The work of Caravan Stage Company is legendary within the International theatre community. It is, and always has been about as culturally unique as it gets. No other Canadian company comes close to the scale and invention of Caravan's theatre that was a mainstay in Canadian theatre for many years. The material this troupe creates and presents is special, epic & spectacular as befits the stage they play upon.

Jim Gerard, Past Executive Director, Toronto Arts Council

Caravan's "Amara Zee" will be shipped from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Northwest in 2017



It is BBC's passion that drives us to the highest levels of performance. Passion is the reason that performers, like the ones in the Caravan Stage Company, are inspired to explore our world through theatre, music, poetry and visual arts. We are excited to see the Amara Zee move with BBC Chartering and we are pleased that we can bring the shows of the Caravan Stage Company to people around the world!

Svend Anderson, CEO, BBC Chartering

I travel the world and am never surprised to meet someone whose experience with the "Caravan" set them on the path of their current journey. I, for one, credit the founders of the Caravan for setting me on my journey in a career in the global arts community.

David Baile, CEO, International Society for the Performing Arts