

2 A C R O S S

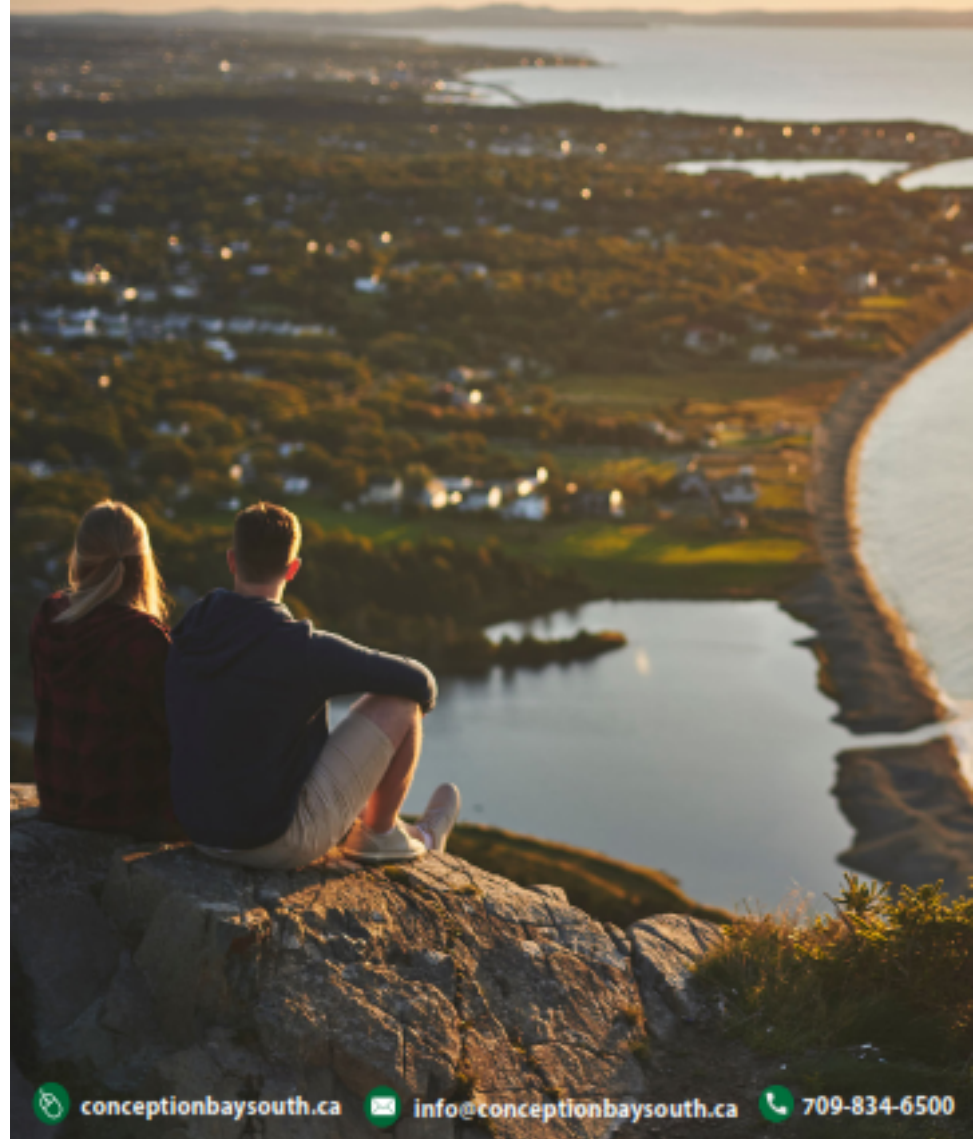
by Jerry Mayer



October 2-3, 2026
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2 Across!

by Jerry Mayer

2 Across is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. concordtheatricals.com

Director: Meghan Keating

Producer: Gord Billard

Stage Manager: Jaclyn Dimmer

Lighting & Sound Design: John Bonnell

Lights & Sound Operation: Bob Sharpe, Natalie Keith

Set Design: Chris Panting

Set Construction: Chris Panting, Leah Bugden

Production Assistant/ Voice: Susan Bonnell

Props: Natalie Keith, Leah Bugden, Cast

Cast Photography: Phonse King

Front of House: Jacqui Cook, Andrea Peddle

Theatre CBS wishes to thank:

Nick Shaw and the Metrobus team
Derek Baggs and Cassie Johnson

Theatre CBS Board of Directors:

Gord Billard, Jacqui Cook,
Jaclyn Dimmer and Andrea Peddle



TheatreCBS.com
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It's our birthday!

Can you believe that theatre has been brought to the shore for 5 years this fall? This little theatre company has been a labour of love, brought to you by our loyal casts, crews, and patrons. We have been supported by the community, and we couldn't be happier.

So, **Happy Birthday** to us, and cheers to many more years of drama, art, tears, and laughs.

Director's Notes

Jerry Mayer's *2 Across* is, at its heart, a story about two strangers who unexpectedly find themselves sharing a journey. Michelle and Chris bring these two wonderfully complicated people to life, and watching them bring these characters from script to stage has been one of the great joys of this process.

In many ways, my experience with Theatre CBS has been its own journey. When I agreed to direct *2 Across*, I very quickly found myself surrounded by a group of people who were willing to collaborate, listen, laugh, problem-solve, and create something together. What began as an invitation to direct became a genuine connection to a wonderful community.

And, of course, there is Will Shortz.

As someone who has a deep and lifelong love of crossword puzzles (thanks, Mom!), consider this production a small love letter to the world of puzzles, wordplay, and the joy of finding that elusive answer.

To Michelle and Chris: thank you for trusting me, for taking risks, and for bringing so much heart, humour, and humanity to this story.

To everyone at Theatre CBS - Jaclyn, Susan, Gord, John, Bob, Natalie, Leah, and Andrea - thank you for opening your doors and making me feel welcome. The work that happens in community theatre is only possible because of the people who are willing to give their time, talent, energy, and enthusiasm to something bigger than themselves. This production belongs to all of you.

To our audience: I hope that when you watch *2 Across*, you enjoy the laughs, the surprises, the puzzles, and the journey—but I also hope you feel the sense of community that made it possible. Sometimes we step onto a train - or into a theatre - not knowing exactly where the journey will take us. I'm very glad mine brought me to Theatre CBS. Thank you for having me.

Enjoy the show.

Meghan

Meet the Cast and Crew

Michelle Lambert - Janet

Crossword puzzles were one of Michelle's early loves in life - her husband was one of her later loves. Her love of theatre came somewhere in between! The fact that this show combines all three, has her _____ (8 letters - Michael Jackson song with a different ending).



When Michelle isn't hard at work learning lines, she can often be found hard at work in her studio making jewellery, or on the set of a locally produced film or _____ (10 letters - device on which one watches moving pictures) show. Her credits include *Son of a Critch*, *SurrealEstate*, *Sweet Angel Baby*, *Party Pirate*, and *Hudson & Rex*.

2 Across is Michelle's second show with Meghan as her director, her sixth show with Theatre CBS, and her twelfth show with her husband, Chris! The actors may be the ones you see on the stage, but it takes the _____ (5 letters - the two extremities at the end of human arms, used for gripping, touching, and feeling) of many talented people who work off the stage, to make a show a success. Michelle would like to thank those who give their time and expertise but who don't get to take a bow in front of everyone. She would also like to thank you, our amazing audiences, who come out to support community theatre time and again. We couldn't do this without you!

Meghan Keating - Director

Meghan is an access and privacy expert with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and a sole practitioner with Keating Law. She has been working behind the scenes of local community theatre for over 10 years, with St. John's Players, DW Productions, Elevator Pitch Production, and Nothing On Productions, amongst others. She thanks the amazing crew and board at Theatre CBS for their time and talent in putting this show together.



Chris Panting - Josh

Chris has been involved in local theatre since 2004 and escapes to it as often as he can. He has worked with many theatre companies in many different capacities, both on stage and off: actor, set designer / builder, prop maker, stage manager, and board member. More recently, he's taken a crack at directing.



If you're not a theatre-goer (and why aren't you?), you may have seen Chris on TV in *Hudson & Rex*, *Saint-Pierre*, or *Son of a Critch*. He has also worked behind the scenes with some of the local film and television productions since 2018. Chris is happy to say that *2 Across* is his ninth production with Theatre CBS, and that, as always, he's working with a great crew.

In the play, his character Josh is a pretty laid-back guy who meets the intriguing Janet, who helps him change his life for the better. In a literal "life parallels art" situation, pretty-laid-back Chris met the intriguing Michelle Lambert (while doing theatre, incidentally), and she helped change his life for the better. It is Chris' firm belief that in a world of division and conflict, we need the arts more than ever. He thanks you for coming out!

Jaclyn Dimmer - Stage Manager

Jaclyn has been part of the Theatre CBS community for several years, both off and onstage. Her acting credits include *Play On!*, *Ageless*, as well as the Christmas shows. She stage managed for: *Duckish*, *Popcorn Falls*, and *The Hollow*. She really enjoys being involved in the arts here in CBS and hopes you all enjoy the show.



Gord Billard- Producer

After 30 years of teaching, Gord retired in 2021 and was immediately invited to co-found Theatre CBS. Five years later, he currently serves as board president and treasurer. He has directed for Theatre CBS, including *It's A Wonderful Life*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Ageless*, and *What is the Meaning of Christmas*. He has also acted in *The Hollow* and *Duckish*. Gord thanks you for your support and hopes you enjoy *2 Across*.



John Bonnell - Lighting and Sound Design

John is an award-winning theatre technician, experienced in stage management, sound design, lighting design and music performance and composition. John's extensive theatrical résumé includes productions with MUN Drama, Beothuk Players, Theatre Newfoundland Labrador, Kittiwake Dance, Playgroup, and Theatre CBS. His work was recognized at the Provincial Drama Festival, where he received the Award for Best Lighting Design in 2024 for *Duckish* and in 2025 for *Popcorn Falls*, both produced by Theatre CBS. John is delighted to be working with the talented cast and crew of *2 Across*.



Susan Bonnell - Production Assistant / Voice

Susan Bonnell is an award-winning actor, director, and communications professional. She was a founding member of Theatre CBS and has proudly contributed in some way to all our productions to date. This season, Susan directed *Popcorn Falls* at the Drama Festival, offered an interactive backstage workshop for *Play On!*, and adapted *The Old Woman Who Lived in a Vinegar Bottle*. She hopes you continue to support theatre in Conception Bay South.



Leah Bugden - Props, Set

Leah is thrilled to join *2 Across* as a crew member. She has been involved with theatre onstage and offstage, performing as Deb in *Ordinary Days* (CFPA, 2025), ensemble in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (PMP, 2025), and ensemble in the upcoming production of *Scrooge* (PMP, 2026). As a teacher, she has also worked on various school productions, most recently directing two shows at Leary's Brook Junior High.



Natalie Keith - Props/Lights

Natalie is excited to be returning to the world of theatre. This is her second play with Theatre CBS, working as part of the production team. Outside of community theatre, Natalie can be found teaching, directing her junior high drama club, and dabbling in playwriting.



Bob Sharpe - Sound

Bob began his arts career as a teenager, working backstage at St. John's Arts and Culture Centre. That early experience sparked a lifelong passion for technical support. Before retiring, he spent more than 35 years as a radio technical professional with CBC. Bob remains active in his community through the Lions Club, provides sound support for the 9 a.m. Sunday services at the CBS Salvation Army, and works part-time as an audiovisual technician at The Rooms.



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