

STORY THEATRE CO

JIM LEARD, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
presents



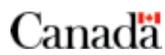
THE CALL WENT OUT

For reservations and info contact
Patricia O'Brien, General Manager

1291 Gladstone Avenue
Victoria, BC V8T 1G5

Tel 250-383-4140
Fax 250-385-6336

info@storytheatre.ca
www.storytheatre.ca



Veteran's Affairs Community Engagement Fund financially supported the content development and production of the initial 2014 "The Call Went Out".

A TEACHER'S GUIDE



A Teacher's Guide

Company Information	_____	3
Synopsis	_____	3
How music helps us understand the past	_____	4
Background to WWI	_____	4
Online resources for understanding WWI	_____	5
Book list for grades 6 and up about WWI	_____	6
Poetry used in the performance	_____	6
Songs used in the performance	_____	9

COMPANY INFORMATION

THE STORY THEATRE COMPANY from Victoria, British Columbia began touring across Canada and The United States in 1981. Since those early days Story Theatre has been traveling from coast to coast visiting schools and communities and sharing its infectious blend of storytelling, music, and games. The company receives rave reviews wherever it plays ... and is always invited to return as soon as possible. The simple imaginative staging of traditional folklore, fairy tales, and legends brings well-known stories to life in a style that is fun for everyone from the younger ones in the front rows through the upper Elementary kids, as well as for the teachers and adults who have come along with them. The music and storytelling games lift the performance beyond the ordinary and make it a truly memorable event that will keep the audience enthralled, entertained, and wishing for more. Besides traveling through almost every Province in Canada, with notable stops at a number of Children's festivals and several appearances at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, this professional troupe from Victoria gained an international reputation on its tours of the Eastern seaboard.

Artistic Director JIM LEARD continues his long standing tradition of "getting the message across" while creating shows filled with warmth, humour, and respect for the audience. Jim has been involved in BC Arts and Education since graduating from the University of Victoria in 1970 and is an accomplished writer, director, educator and actor. He spent several years touring to the schools with Company One and Bastion Theatre, taught Children's Theatre and Creative Drama classes, developed workshops for ABCDE conferences, worked in collaboration with the Royal British Columbia Museum, and has held workshops across the country. He has taught at The National Theatre School of Canada, and had his work showcased internationally over the past 30 years. He continues to write stories and poems for young people and can often be found in local classrooms as a storyteller spinning tales old and new.

"...the company is a storytelling group that exudes fun and excitement. The social and educational values are naturally a part of what we create but first and foremost it has to be entertaining... I figure if I have a good time putting it together then the audience will have a good time too"

Synopsis

In 1914, the First World War broke out in Europe and the call went out for men all across the British Empire to sign up and defend the homeland. The Story Theatre Company and the Royal BC Museum have teamed up to present music, songs and poetry of the period mixed with letters from the young men who traveled over to the trenches to create "The Call Goes Out."

Both script and music have a British Columbian flair, through letters from the BC Archives written by local soldiers. These voices will be given new life, as they are presented along with poetry and music written at the time, with several from BC, to create the emotion and turbulence of those early years of the war.

There was the excitement of a noble cause, defending the homeland, and the rush to aid the recruitment effort, mixed with a growing casualness about the horrors found on the battlefield. This 30-minute presentation brings back the efforts and sacrifices made by British Columbians in the early years.

Sections include:

A newspaper story from Aug. 28, 1914 is related announcing that *Overseas Contingents of 50th Highlanders and 88th Fusiliers Leave Today. The 500 Victoria Volunteers will leave this morning, August 28th. The former will parade at the Willows Camp at 8:45 and the latter will fall into line at 8:00 at the Esquimalt dockyard.*

The song *The Best Old Flag* and the poem *Khaki*, by Gordon V. Thompson 1915 and excerpts from the letters of Sergeant Raymond Mc Illree who left Victoria with 88th Fusiliers, August 28th, 1914 to his parents, starting with his letter dated Feb. 17, 1915 and March 6, 1915 followed by another verse of *Khaki* and another verse of *The Best Old Flag*.

Excerpts of a letter from Joseph Callanan writing from somewhere in Flanders to his friend Frederick Tregillus in Barkerville, BC, May 23, 1915 and another song, *Take Me Back*.

The words of Arthur H. Fitzgerald (British Field Force, France) to his Dodie, "But you cannot knock the good spirits out of our bunch they just don't give a damn... and God help the man who can but will not come out. After the war is over, he will be nothing but a yellow dog. I believe my mother would have never spoken to me again if I had not come." followed by the song *I'll Make a Man of You*.

The play concludes with the song *The Best Old Flag* and the poem *Are You the Guy?* by Edward John Rashleigh.

The Call Goes Out is an expression of our respect for those that answered the call.

Music as a tool to understand the past from McMaster University
<https://library.mcmaster.ca/archives/exhibits/worldwar>

"The First World War has always been a topic of fascination for Canadians because it was such a formative period in our country's history. Most agree that it was during the war years that Canada came into its own as a nation and was finally recognized as a country independent of the British Empire by the international community. This is the big picture. Less often discussed are the equally important changes that were taking place far from the global stage on the Canadian home front. World War I was a time of incredible transformation for Canadian society and in order to capture this period of change it is as important to examine the experience of the civilian as it is to account for the experience of the soldier. However, as we move further and further from this period of history, it becomes increasingly difficult to find sources through which to rediscover wartime Canada, particularly as most sources on the war take a 'big picture' approach, focusing on battles and alliances rather than munitions work and knitting socks. How then to explore this aspect of Canada's history?"

"Enter the war song, one piece of the puzzle that is the Canadian World War I experience. Music is an excellent source of information on Canadian society during this period as it is unaltered by time and untouched by faulty human memory. Moreover it is an emotional medium and therefore reflects what Canadians were feeling as the war progressed in a way that history books do not. In view of these factors, this website endeavours to explore the war songs that were sung in Canada during the First World War to tease out the story of what transpired on the Canadian home front."

A collection of WWI songs, lyrics, and midi files are available through the above link.

- Blog post on the Canadian Encyclopedia <http://blog.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/blog/posts/music-mondays-war-songs/> also discusses the influence of music during this time and has audio files of six songs from that time period.
- Link to website about World War I has links to songs of the time organized by year <http://www.firstworldwar.com/audio/index.htm>

Background of WWI

From the Royal BC Museum site British Columbia Remembers the Great War
<http://learning.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/pathways/british-columbia-remembers-the-great-war/overview/>

World War I (1914-18) is sometimes called The Great War because of the great number of countries involved and the great number of people killed.

When Britain declared war on Germany on August 4, 1914, Canada was still part of the British Empire, and so was also automatically at war. At the time, most British Columbians (two thirds) came from Britain or were of British descent. Most of the 55,570 British Columbians who served in the war reflected this fact.

However, some of those who served for Canada came from other cultural backgrounds. First Nations volunteers came from dozens of small communities and reserves. Chinese, Japanese and Sikh communities contributed volunteers. In addition, young women also served (and died) as front-line nurses.

A Movie Camera Is A Time Machine (Royal BC Museum site)

This site has archival film footage from WWI with explanations.

<http://curious.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/a-movie-camera-is-a-time-machine/>

Recruitment and Conscription information:

From The War Museum Canada <http://www.warmuseum.ca/firstworldwar/history/life-at-home-during-the-war/recruitment-and-conscription/conscription-1917/>

The federal government decided in 1917 to conscript young men for overseas military service. Voluntary recruitment was failing to maintain troop numbers, and Prime Minister Sir Robert Borden believed in the military value, and potential post-war influence, of a strong Canadian contribution to the war.

A Momentous Debate

The 1917 conscription debate was one of the fiercest and most divisive in Canadian political history. French-Canadians, as well as many farmers, unionized workers, non-British immigrants, and other Canadians, generally opposed the measure. English-speaking Canadians, led by Prime Minister Borden and senior members of his Cabinet, as well as British immigrants, the families of soldiers, and older Canadians, generally supported it.

Read more about the conscription debate, the result and the election of 1918 at the link above.

Sites about WWI:

UVic site:

A City Goes to War for teachers <http://acitygoestowar.ca/for-teachers-2/introduction/Introduction>

In part A City Goes to War is about memorialization. The site increases access to primary source material so that the memories of the War are not forgotten, but it is more than just creating an online archive to aid our remembrance. A City Goes to War looks more closely at communities to reveal a previously neglected area of research: the lived experiences of Canadians during the First World War.

The teaching package builds on this philosophy by asking students to construct an historical Facebook profile for one individual who lived in Victoria during the War. An online tool, Fakebook, has already been created for just such an assignment. Fakebook was built for history and social studies educators to allow their students to create profiles for historical people. We use the Fakebook/Facebook interface as a lure to entice students into exploring the nuances and complexities of historical scholarship. See the full assignment here.

Canada History Magazine <http://greatwaralbum.ca/Great-War-Album/Home> has articles about

Air Force

Animals in War

Life on the Frontlines

Medicine

Navy

Newfoundland

Prisoners and Internees

Upheaval on the HomeFront

From Canada.com http://ww1.canada.com/The_Great_War_1914-1918

A century ago, a bloody war on foreign soil helped forge a Canadian identity and write a remarkable chapter in the nation's history. Join us in a journey through those years, with images and stories from the home front and the front lines of battle.

The Order of the White Feather https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_feather

In England, in August 1914, at the start of the First World War, Admiral Charles Fitzgerald founded the Order of the White Feather with support from the prominent author Mrs. Humphrey Ward. The organization aimed to shame men into enlisting in the British Army by persuading women to present them with a white feather if they were not wearing a uniform.

Billy Bishop Goes to War by Joel Gray and Eric Petersen

<http://www.cbc.ca/player/Shows/Shows/More+Shows/Billy+Bishop+Goes+to+War/ID/1639918569/>

Saanich Remembers World War I

<http://www.saanich.ca/discover/artshéritagearc/saanicharchives/saanichremembers.html>

History Pin tours Victoria, BC WWI

<https://www.historypin.org/tours/view/id/3419/title/Victoria%20%28BC%29%20during%20WWI>

Anti War <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpUZDothuBNT6A8o5GT7H0A>

NO GLORY IN WAR Concerned that the centenary of WWI would be used for the glorification of war, a number of writers, actors, musicians, artists, teachers and campaigners came together in the NO GLORY IN WAR campaign to say, use the World War One centenary in 2014 to promote peace and international co-operation in Britain.

Books:

Canada's Great War Album <https://secure.canadashistory.ca/online-store/index.php?cat=E&=&feature=CDHGWA&>

Picture Books

The value of picture books in the classroom in all grades

<http://paulwhankins.edublogs.org/2015/08/01/let-er-ripp-picture-books-in-every-classroom/>

- *Archie's War* by Marcia Williams (Grade 4 and up) Scrapbook of a 10 yr old boy - graphic novel
- *Eyewitness World War I* Dorling Kindersley Non Fiction (Grade 4 and up)
- *In Flanders Field: The Story of the Poem by John McCrae* by Linda Granfield Non Fiction (Grade 4 and up) many historical photos
- *War Game* by Michael Foreman (Grade 4 and up) Based on a true account of a soccer game played between the German and English troops in no-man's land on Christmas Day in 1914 during World War I, this book tells the story of four young men who have recently enlisted and have found that war is not as glamorous as they had once thought. There's a short animated version by Illumination Films <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04HavrS3VOY>
- *Where Poppies Grow: A World War I Companion* by Linda Granfield Non Fiction (Grade 4 and up) many historical photos

Novels - brief descriptions from various sources including Amazon, Publishers Weekly, School Library Journal, backs of the books

- *After the Dancing Days* by Margaret I Rostkowski (Grade 6 and up) Annie is both fascinated and repelled by the wounded soldiers whom she sees being wheeled off of a train in her small Kansas town at the end of World War I. When her father, a doctor, begins to work in the veterans hospital, and her grandfather reads to a blind vet there, Annie has the opportunity to visit and make friends with two soldiers.
- *And in the Morning* by John Wilson (Grade 8 -12) Although this novel focuses on World War I, it's a timely reflection on the realities of war that presents a powerful, timeless anti-war argument. Jim Hay is just shy of 16 when his father enlists in Britain's Highland Light Infantry.
- *Charlie Wilcox* and *Charlie Wilcox's War* by Sharon McKay (Grade 5 and up) In 1915 in Newfoundland, fourteen-year-old Charlie, anxious to disprove his parents' belief that his club foot makes him unfit for fishing and seal hunting, stows away on a sealing vessel only to find himself on a troop ship headed for the war in Europe
- *Dear Canada Series: Brothers Far From Home: The World War I Diary of Eliza Bates* by Jean Little (Grade 4 and up)
- *Lord of the Nutcracker Men* by Iain Lawrence (Grade 5 and up) Ten-year-old Johnny eagerly plays at war with the army of nutcracker soldiers his toymaker father whittles for him. He demolishes imaginary foes. But in 1914 Germany looms as the real enemy of Europe, and all too soon Johnny's father is swept up in the war to end all wars.

- *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo (Grade 7-12) “A powerful story about war’s costs, and who pays the price.” Publisher’s Weekly, Starred Review
- *The Night Flyers* by Elizabeth McDavid Jones (Grade 5 and up) Mysteries through History about a 12 year old girl and her homing pigeons.
- *The Singing Tree* by Kate Seredy (Grade 5 and up) A Newberry Honor book about WWI on the Hungarian Plains, a sequel to *The Good Master* , autobiographical
- *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo (Grade 5 and up) This World War I novel is told by an English farm horse, Joey.

Non Fiction

- *Passchendaele: Canada’s Triumph and Tragedy on the Fields of Flanders* by Norman Leach (Grade 6/7 and up) This thoroughly illustrated, readily accessible account of the Battle of Passchendaele tells the story of Canada’s triumph and tragedy in the War to End All Wars. It is a story we must always remember.
- *Silent In an Evil Time: The Brave War of Edith Cavell* by Jack Batten (Grade 6/7 and up) Using her wit, determination, and sheer bravery, Edith Cavell, a British citizen, helped save the lives of one thousand soldiers during World War I. As Matron of a hospital in Brussels when the war broke out in 1914, she soon found herself involved in a secret organization to assist soldiers trapped behind German lines.
- *The Frightful First World War* by Terry Deary (Horrible History Series) (Grade 5 and up)
- *Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting* by Jim Murphy (Grade 6/7 and up) In a stunning narrative illustrated with archival photographs, two-time Newberry Honor Book author Jim Murphy weaves the voices of World War I soldiers with historic background and riveting accounts of a miraculous Christmas Truce. The beautiful heart rendering narrative will remind everyone how brotherhood and love reach far beyond the boundaries of politics and war.
- *War Stories (True Adventure Stories)* by Paul Dowswell (Grade 5 and up)
- Online bibliography of books about Canada and WWI (Grade 9-12)
<https://www.vimyfoundation.ca/bibliography>

Poems in the production:

KHAKI

By Gordon V. Thompson, 1915

Colors may change in fashion,
Change in the spring and fall;
Some that are worn in summer
In winter will not do at all;

Khaki is always stylish,
Now you see it everywhere!
Khaki is right for the men who fight
It’s the color that our soldiers wear

Oh the man who’s dressed in khaki
Is the man who fights the foe!
And the man who’s dressed in khaki
Is the man we’re proud to know!

For he fights to guard the Empire,
Our gallant soldier lad!
Let us cheer him along with a rousing song
The man in the khaki clad.

A Soldier in the Trenches
from: *The Ones Who Have To Pay:*
The Soldier-Poets of Victoria, BC in the Great War 1914-1918

The raid we made on Fritz
Oh it is really very easy
If you only know the way
Not the slightest bit of danger,
And we do it every day.

There were seven in our party,
The moon was shining bright.
As we crawled out on our stomachs
Into "No Man's Land" that night.

I could hear the bullets whistle
And the big shells bursting near,
Then the sergeant crawling forward,
Kicked me right behind the ear.
Next a shell dropped close beside me,

Lucky thing it was a "dud",
But it left me lying gasping
With my throat choked up with mud.
Then a "star-shell" floated upward,

Making it as bright as day,
With the whole bunch lying on me
Covered in the mud I lay.

Now we always have fixed bayonets,
When we go upon a raid;
Mine got tangled in my trousers
And a nasty gash it made.

Once again we started forward,
Crawling on our hands and knees,
But they kept the "star-shells" going
And we had to lie and freeze.
Then I thought I saw a German
And was just about to fire,

"HEY!"
When I found it was the sergeant
Tangled up in Fritz's wire.
Out and in we crawled and wriggled,
Crossing trenches, holes and wire;
But they must have heard us coming,
For their guns began to fire.

There we lay and calmly waited
Till they emptied all their guns,
Then went back and took them with us
That's the way we capture Huns.

Are you the Guy? by Edward John Rashleigh
(Bantam Press, 12 August 1915)

Are you the guy that walks in the street
With a crease down your pants, so trim and so neat,
And you smile at every girl you meet?
Are you?

Are you the guy that stands on the curb
And waits, as the beat of the drum is heard?
And you say, "What a fine lot of fellows! My word!"
Are you?

Are you the guy that's seen at the dance,
Dressed in "civvies" won't take the chance
To prove you're a man, as the others have done,
And get into khaki and shoulder a gun?
Are you?

Are you the guy that goes to the wharf
To give a farewell to a bunch that is off?
You've got a good job, it's easy and soft,
And you only have time for tennis and golf?
Are you?

Are you the guy that I've spoken about?
Then don't let it be any more.
Join up with the colors and serve our king.
Then cheers for you as well will ring,
And you'll be a piker no more.

Songs in the Production:

BEST OLD FLAG by Charles F. Harrison, 1914

Though England's foes may assail her, Though the war clouds hang around,
Still the bright sun smiles O'er Britain's Isles, For friends in need She's found.
From India's Strand to Baffin's land, They have answered the Empire's call;
For we can't turn our back On the old Union Jack, the Best old flag of all.

Chorus:

Then give three cheers, Three British cheers For the old Red, White and Blue.
Let the world all know That Britain's foe Is Canada's foe too.
Across the sea In Germany, Our boys, they will prove their worth
For the Maple Leaf Our emblem dear And the best old Flag on earth.

When England said men were wanted Far across the sea to go,
From the east and west, They came, our best, To lay the tyrant low.
So here's good luck to Jack Canuck! For he's ready to fight or to fall,
And he'll stick to the last, For he's nailed to his mast The best old flag of all.

Chorus:

Take me back by O. F. Beck, 1914

Take me back
Take me back
Take me back to dear old Canada
Where the wild Canadian rose
And the four leaf clover grows

Take me back
Take me back
Where the crimson creeper climbs
And the morning glories twine round the vine
Take me back to Canada

Johnnie Canuck's the Boy, By Jean Mulloy, 1915

So we're off to sunny France
To make the Germans dance
Their goosestep on the way to old Berlin
Johnnie Canuck's the boy
You'll hear our shouts of joy
When we go marching in

We'll beat the Kaiser's hordes
We'll bring you back their swords
And scores of iron crosses never fear
When we come rolling home
Across the raging foam
Hip! Hip! Hurrah! You'll hear our ringing cheer.

I'll Make A Man of You

(from the film and play [Oh What a Lovely War](#))

The army and the navy need attention
The outlook isn't healthy you'll admit
But I've got a perfect dream
Of a new recruiting scheme
Which I really think is absolutely it
If only other girls would do as I do
I believe that we could manage it alone
For I turn all suitors from me
But the sailor or the Tommy
I've an army and a navy of my own.

Chorus: On Sunday I walk out with a sailor
On Monday I'm taken by a Tar
On Tuesday I'm out with a baby Boy Scout
On Wednesday a Hussar
On Thursday I gang out wi' a Scottie
On Friday the captain of the crew
But on Saturday I'm willing
If you'll only take the shilling
To make a man of any one of you.

Good Luck To The Boys Of The Allies
Words and Music by Morris Manley, 1915

They're jolly and brave,
But never do rave
About their pride and bravery

Right at the front they stay
In thickest of the fray
They'll win the fight
Their hearts are right
You bet they're filled with pluck

Right on their track
When they come back
We'll cheer our Johnny Canuck

Khaki Clad Soldier
by Gordon V. Thompson, 1915

I'm only a Khaki-clad soldier
And I hail from B.C.
I'm far away from my homeland,
And from those dear to me;
I've answered the call of duty,
I have filled a place in the line,
I'm only a Khaki-clad soldier
From the land of the lofty pine.

HIS DREAM OF THE GOLDEN WEST by Sarah MacIntyre

The sun had sunk in the West.
The birds had gone to rest.
A wounded soldier lay dreaming of home
And the girl he loved the best.
He thought of his mother dear
And his father with silvered hair
And his thoughts went back to his own home town,
'Way back in the Golden West.

First chorus:
Dreaming of home sweet home
Dreaming of friends so dear,
Dreaming of her who is far away Dreaming that she is near

The sun rose over the hills
And the day dawned bright and clear
But death had silenced the soldier boy,
The heart that never knew fear.
He sleeps with the noble slain.
He loved his country best.
They covered him o'er to dream some more,
To dream of the Golden West.

Second chorus:
Visions of home arise.
Mother of mothers the best,
I feel your hand on my fevered brow
I'm back in the Golden West.

[\(Link to sheet music of this song\)](#)