

CAA Calling All Neighbours Episode 3 Full
Described Video Transcript

00:00:00:01 - 00:00:03:00
(NO AUDIO)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
A collection of cartoon houses appears on screen
The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is displayed

00:00:03:00 - 00:00:12:23
(TIMER TICKING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
A timer appears on screen, counting down from 10:00 seconds

00:00:12:23 - 00:00:20:00
(BELL RINGS)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The timer reaches 00:00 and disappears
Text appears in its place

TEXT ON SCREEN - The show is starting

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:00:20:00 - 00:00:20:07
(MUSIC)

00:00:20:07 - 00:00:26:23
[NARRATOR]
Whether right next door, across the country, or at the side of the road, good neighbours can be found just about anywhere.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
A collage of pictures of the cast of Come From Away appear over a white background

00:00:26:23 - 00:00:35:08
[NARRATOR]
CAA proudly presents Calling All Neighbours, an online series hosted by our CAA partners, experts, and community members.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is shown over a white and blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:00:35:08 - 00:00:46:02

[GEORGE]

On the northeast tip of North America, on an island called Newfoundland, there's an airport. Used to be one of the biggest in the world. And next to it is a town called Gander.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sits outside of the Royal Canadian Legion

TEXT ON SCREEN - George Masswohl

Claude & Others

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Aerial footage of a harbour town

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sits outside of the Legion

00:00:46:02 - 00:00:47:11

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:00:47:11 - 00:00:57:20

[NARRATOR]

CAA and Mirvish Productions welcome you to the Rock in a behind-the-scenes look at the hit musical Come From Away, which took place right here in Gander, Newfoundland.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast performs Come From Away on stage

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Exterior of the theatre is shown, featuring a sign for Come From Away

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A time lapse of the harbour in Gander is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Aerial footage of the harbour town

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The exterior of the Gander Royal Canadian Legion is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:00:57:20 - 00:01:09:08

[GEORGE]

It's a place where every resident, every community member, every family is your neighbour, and as history's shown, it's a place of unbelievable care, compassion, and humanity.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from outside of the legion

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:01:09:08 - 00:01:21:02

[NARRATOR]

To explore these themes, we reunite the cast for an in depth conversation about their shared experiences with the show, and to discuss how Come From Away is the ultimate display of neighbourly spirit.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast of the show speaks via video call; their video boxes appear over a white and blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from her box, which has enlarged

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen speaks from her box, which has enlarged

TEXT ON SCREEN - Kristen Peace

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali speaks from his box, which has enlarged

TEXT ON SCREEN - Ali Momen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from her box, which has enlarged

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis

00:01:21:02 - 00:01:27:02

[NARRATOR]

Then, hear the songs you know and love with exclusive virtual performances featuring the music of Come From Away.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane sings into a microphone

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Lisa and James sing via video chat boxes

00:01:27:02 - 00:01:35:20

[NARRATOR]

And finally, enjoy a backstage pass to the Royal Alexandra Theatre for a virtual in depth look at this Toronto landmark for the arts.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white photo of the Royal Alexandra Theatre is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The modern day Royal Alexandra Theatre is shown with cars and pedestrians passing

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A view of the stage from the theatre auditorium

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans over the auditorium seats

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of the empty auditorium

00:01:35:20 - 00:01:38:11

[NARRATOR]

All of this and more, starts right now.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast from Come From Away performs on stage

00:01:38:11 - 00:01:41:08

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is displayed

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:01:41:08 - 00:01:44:14

[STEFFI]

Oh, hi! (LAUGHING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from a video chat box over a blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George is visible via the video box

00:01:44:14 - 00:01:45:04

[KRISTEN]

Hello!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen is now visible in the video box

00:01:45:04 - 00:01:49:23

[STEFFI]

Hi, how's it going, everyone? Hi, George! Where is she? There she is!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from a video chat box

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha becomes visible in the video chat

00:01:49:23 - 00:01:52:02

[SACCHA]

Hi, friends! What's up?

00:01:52:02 - 00:01:53:04

[ALI]

What up?

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali becomes visible in the video box

00:01:53:04 - 00:01:54:10

[GEORGE]

This is it.

00:01:54:10 - 00:01:55:09

[STEFFI]

This is it.

00:01:55:09 - 00:01:56:12

[ALI]

This is it, we're back.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George is visible via the video box

00:01:56:12 - 00:01:58:10

[STEFFI]

We're back! (LAUGHS)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from a video chat box

00:01:58:10 - 00:02:00:12

[SACCHA]

A revival, baby.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha becomes visible in the video chat

00:02:00:12 - 00:02:01:18

[GEORGE]

Anybody remember anything?

00:02:01:18 - 00:02:02:12

[KRISTEN]

Nope!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen's video box appears

00:02:02:12 - 00:02:03:15

[STEFFI]

No!

00:02:03:15 - 00:02:04:09

[SACCHA]

Not a thing.

00:02:04:09 - 00:02:05:08

[ALL]

(LAUGHING)

00:02:05:08 - 00:02:07:04

[ALI]

I was about to say on the northeast bridge.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali's video box becomes visible

00:02:07:04 - 00:02:16:00

[STEFFI]

(LAUGHS)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box appears

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:02:08:10 - 00:02:16:00

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The Come From Away logo appears over a blue background

TEXT ON SCREEN - In conversation with the cast of Come From Away

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:02:16:00 - 00:02:37:17

[GEORGE]

Hey, so we're really lucky in that we have a few other members of the Come From Away Toronto cast here today to do a little bit of a Q&A like we do at the theatre when we're running. So, this is fun.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:02:29:02 - 00:02:37:17

[GEORGE]

Our show explores so many themes, but the one that keeps coming back throughout is the true power of human connection. How do you see it play out in our production of Come From Away?

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George's video box goes full screen as he speaks

TEXT ON SCREEN - George Masswohl

Claude & Others

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:02:37:17 - 00:02:51:18

[STEFFI]

Well, you know, the experiences that I've had with Come From Away, in terms of watching it as an audience member first, I saw one of the, like, first or second workshops of it when Sheridan did it at the Panasonic.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

Janice & Others

00:02:51:18 - 00:03:38:08

[STEFFI]

When I walked out of the theatre, I had this overwhelming sense of pride to be Canadian, first of all, but second of all, wanting to be a better person. Watching how selfless, and amazing and kind these people in Gander were, taking in 7,000 strangers, it just, honestly, it fills me with so much joy. And the message of, like, you know, kindness is free, humanity at its best, it's just a story for the times, especially at a time right now when the only way we can connect is virtually, and we can't be together. And I think there's going to be a really big need for a show like this when we come out of isolation and lockdown because of the themes of the show.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

00:03:38:08 - 00:04:19:14

[KRISTEN]

For people who are watching, because I don't think they know the amount of letters that we got. We received so many letters of people saying just that, that they came to see the show, and were touched so much by it that they wrote us letters saying that when the show ended, and they walked outside, they turned to whoever they went, came to the show with, and said, "How can we do better? I want to do something. I want to help, I want to do better, I want to be better." And isn't that amazing that a show, a theatre production, has left such a lasting impression on people, to know that they can be better humans.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Kristen Peace
Bonnie & Others, Dance Captain

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Kristen Peace

00:04:19:14 - 00:04:20:17

[ALI]

Mm-hmm.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:04:20:17 - 00:04:21:20

[KRISTEN]

How incredible!

00:04:21:20 - 00:04:24:02

[GEORGE]

That's theatre at its best. That's theatre...

00:04:24:02 - 00:04:25:16

[STEFFI]

Yes, yes.

00:04:25:16 - 00:04:34:21

[KRISTEN]

The importance of, of live theatre, coming into a theatre and watching humans on stage, and having that human connection.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Kristen Peace

00:04:34:21 - 00:04:36:10

[STEFFI]

Yeah.

[ALI]

Mm-hmm.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:04:36:10 - 00:04:47:13

[GEORGE]

So, CAA is celebrating what it means to be a good neighbour. Let's talk a bit about what some of those neighbourly moments in Come From Away are that really inspire each of us in our every day life.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George's video chat box becomes full screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

00:04:47:13 - 00:05:21:13

[ALI]

You know, kind of all of them, and the reason why I say all of them is that people just do it, and it's not like this thing. They just do it because it's the right thing to do, and it's normal. And you know, you have the line as Derm where it's like, "Well, you know, you would have done the same. Don't you just help your neighbour out? Aren't you just there for people? Don't you say hello? I don't understand. It's so normal." So, it just goes to show that what inspires me about all their neighbourly moments is that to be a neighbour is just something you do. It's not an event. It's just a thing you do.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Ali Momen

Kevin J./Ali & Others

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Ali Momen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

00:05:21:13 - 00:05:46:02

[SACCHA]

I totally agree with what Ali is saying, it's just that idea of, you know, there's no fanfare, you just do it. It's just like, you know, it's just common knowledge. You just do the right thing. I just love that. You know, and in terms of, there's lots of... Of course there's lots of neighbourly moments in the show, which is amazing, but also not surprising. And it's just like, something that, you know, anyone would do, that idea of you would have done the same.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis

Hannah & Others

00:05:46:02 - 00:06:02:23

[STEFFI]

Yeah, okay. So, I do have a favourite moment in Come From Away of just neighbourly love and kindness. And pardon me, I'm going to try to do it, but like, it's been a while so I don't know if my accent is going to be okay, for anyone watching.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

00:06:02:23 - 00:06:04:01

[GEORGE]

I think I know where you're going with this.

00:06:04:01 - 00:06:18:23

[STEFFI]

Okay, yeah, so my favourite line in the show is when I play this girl who works at Walmart, and she says this, "Thank you for shopping at Walmart. "Would you like to come back to my house for a shower?"

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

00:06:18:23 - 00:07:21:03

[STEFFI]

Not bad, right? Okay. That's my favourite moment in the show in general for myself because, again, it's just the selflessness of someone just inviting a total stranger to their house to just get cleaned up, and be comfortable, and just help. And if I may tie it in to CAA specifically, I'm a proud CAA Member myself, and I find that what's really cool about CAA is that you have someone who's really, really reliable, like a best friend, or a friend you dial up and call, and just know that your car troubles are going to be okay. Make your day better, even though it's gone really badly at that point. I just feel like there are so many characters in Come From Away that just, that take the extra step and go the extra mile to just make people comfortable, and be reliable, and kind. And yeah. Yeah.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi's video box becomes full screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

00:07:21:03 - 00:07:44:04

[GEORGE]

Hey, thank you all for those great answers. Really insightful I think for people watching that maybe haven't seen our show yet. Give them a little glimpse into what we think about it, and how we come to the stage, and bring our story to the stage. Thanks so much for that. Let's take a little break from Q&A. We'll come back and do more because I don't know about you guys, but I'm having a great time.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George's video box becomes full screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the white and blue background

00:07:44:04 - 00:07:45:20

[ALL]

(LAUGHING)

00:07:45:20 - 00:07:51:02

[GEORGE]

But let's, let's listen to one of the songs from the show now, shall we?

00:07:51:02 - 00:07:54:18

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is displayed

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe down the screen

00:07:54:18 - 00:07:57:21

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The Come From Away logo is shown over a blue background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Come From Away - Canadian Company

00:07:57:21 - 00:08:24:21

[GEORGE]

This song is about female pilot, Beverley, the adversity that she faced through her career, and her ability to overcome it all is a reminder of the social progress we've made as a society. And that's something we should all be proud of. But with the current state of the world, this song can carry another very relevant message. Over the course of this pandemic, we've all been feeling grounded.

00:08:24:21 - 00:08:47:19

[GEORGE]

"Me And The Sky" recognizes the challenges and frustrations that we face as we stay home, stay grounded, and wait for better days ahead. As we approach the 20th anniversary of 9/11, we find the song that rings true again, now more than ever. CAA's Calling All Neighbours, in partnership with Mirvish Productions are proud to present "Me and the Sky."

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks to the camera from the Royal Canadian Legion in Gander in a box over a blue and white background

00:08:47:19 - 00:08:50:18

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is displayed over a blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe down the screen

00:08:50:18 - 00:08:52:17

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane adjusts headphones over her head and approaches a microphone in front of her

TEXT ON SCREEN - Eliza-Jane Scott

Beverley/Annette & Others

00:08:52:17 - 00:09:20:10

[ELIZA-JANE SINGING]

American Airlines

Had the prettiest planes

So I applied as a flight engineer

But the World War II pilots, they all complained

They said, "Girls shouldn't be in the cockpit."

Hey, lady. Hey, baby, hey! Why don't you grab us a drink"

And the flight attendants weren't my friends back then

And they said, "Are you better than us, do you think?"

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane sings into a microphone while wearing headphones

00:09:20:10 - 00:09:22:00

(MUSIC)

00:09:22:00 - 00:10:06:18

[ELIZA-JANE SINGING]

But I kept getting hired

And the World War II crew, they retired

And the girls all thought much higher of me

1986, the first female American captain in history

Suddenly I'm in the cockpit

Suddenly I've got my wings

Suddenly all of those pilots protested me

Well, they can get their own drinks

Suddenly there's no one saying, "Stay grounded"

Looking down, passing them by

Suddenly there's nothing in between me and the sky

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane continues to sing

00:10:06:18 - 00:10:50:00

[ELIZA-JANE SINGING]

Suddenly I've got an all female crew
The news talked, it made headlines across the world
Suddenly it stopped
No one saying, "You can't," or, "You won't"
Or, "You know you're not anything
'Cause you're a girl
Suddenly I'm getting married
And we're putting pins on the map where we've flown
Suddenly I am a mother
And suddenly shocked at how much they've grown
Suddenly I'm wondering how my parents would feel
Seeing me teaching men to be pilots
'Cause suddenly I am a senior instructor
And somehow I am 51

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane continues to sing

00:10:50:00 - 00:11:08:15

[ELIZA-JANE SINGING]

Suddenly I'm flying Paris to Dallas
Across the Atlantic and feeling calm
When suddenly someone on air to air traffic says
"At 8:46 there's been a terrorist action"
And the one thing I loved more than anything
Was used as the bomb

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane sings more sombrely

00:11:08:15 - 00:11:11:16

(MUSIC)

00:11:11:16 - 00:11:37:22

[ELIZA-JANE SINGING]

Suddenly I'm in a hotel
Suddenly something has died
Suddenly there's something in between
Me and the sky

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane sings quietly

00:11:37:22 - 00:11:41:02

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is displayed over a blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe down the screen

00:11:41:02 - 00:11:48:03

[STEFFI]

Well, I think it's a good time to say that it's been 15 months since any of us have done the show.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from her video box over a blue background

00:11:48:03 - 00:11:54:15

[GEORGE]

I love, I love that we haven't lost the spirit of taking each other to task for even the smallest of mistakes.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from his video box over a blue background

00:11:54:15 - 00:12:00:00

[STEFFI]

(LAUGHS) My script with all my notes, what chair I move, whatever, is at the theatre. Like, I have to go get it.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from her video box over a blue background

00:12:00:00 - 00:12:01:04

[SACCHA]

Same! Same!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from her video box over a blue background

00:12:01:04 - 00:12:01:11

[STEFFI]

Like, I haven't...

00:12:01:11 - 00:12:02:03

[SACCHA]

All my...

00:12:02:03 - 00:12:02:20

[STEFFI]

... looked at my scripts.

00:12:02:20 - 00:12:04:07

[SACCHA]

My scripts, my makeup.

00:12:04:07 - 00:12:07:02

[KRISTEN]

I have no clue where mine is. Not a clue.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George's video box appears

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen's video box appears over a blue background

00:12:07:02 - 00:12:08:00

[STEFFI]

The script, yeah!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from her video box over a blue background

00:12:08:00 - 00:12:09:21

[ALL]

(LAUGHING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha laughs from her video box over a blue background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen laughs from her video box over a blue background

00:12:09:21 - 00:12:11:04

[ALI]

Not right now!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali laughs from his video box over a blue background

00:12:11:04 - 00:12:13:11

[STEFFI]

Now that's the sense of community.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from her video box over a blue background

00:12:13:11 - 00:12:20:00

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The Come From Away logo is displayed over a blue background

TEXT ON SCREEN - In conversation with the cast of Come From Away

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:12:20:00 - 00:12:30:14

[GEORGE]

Okay, so here's a thing about your, about your crafts. As performers, you, we, we're used to switching between different roles, especially in this show.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:12:30:14 - 00:12:46:06

[GEORGE]

What's the process, what's the process for you in creating I guess what they call virtual content now, right? And what do you find most exciting and challenging about it? What about you, Ali? You, now you, you have a podcast, so you're a Come From Away genius bar.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from his video box over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - George Masswohl

Claude & Others

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from his video box over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - George Masswohl

00:12:46:06 - 00:12:47:11

[ALL]

(LAUGHING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:12:47:11 - 00:13:06:03

[ALI]

Genius bar never closed. No, I got to say, you know, for me I view it very much like film and television in that so much of it is done in post. And so, the way it's shot is that you record it, you record your thing, you have really no idea what's going on, and especially when you're doing, just for the folks, for the folks watching at home, Folks! I sound like Joe Biden when I say folks. Folks!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali speaks from his video box over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Ali Momen
Kevin J./Ali & Others

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:13:06:03 - 00:13:06:23

[KRISTEN]

Folks!

00:13:06:23 - 00:13:23:15

[ALI]

For the folks watching at home, what basically needs to happen is that a lot of people don't know is that we cannot, in this Zoom chat, sing in sync because there's just latency over the internet. So, if you, if George was to clap a beat, we could never actually join it.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali speaks from his video box over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Ali Momen

00:13:23:15 - 00:13:27:14

[GEORGE]

And a one, and a two, and you know what to do!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from his video box over a blue and white background

00:13:27:14 - 00:13:35:10

(CLAPPING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast members clap from their video boxes

00:13:35:10 - 00:13:38:01

[GEORGE]

Oh, we're pretty good, actually. We're actually pretty good.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from the box on the upper left

00:13:38:01 - 00:13:39:12

[STEFFI]

It's not too bad.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from the box on the upper right

00:13:39:12 - 00:13:40:16

[GEORGE]
Not too bad.

00:13:40:16 - 00:13:47:19

[SACCHA]
Well, I will say though that self tapes, like, if we can stay with self tapes for the remainder of life, that would be amazing.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from her video box over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis
Hannah & Others

00:13:47:19 - 00:13:49:07

[ALL]
(LAUGHING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over a blue and white background

00:13:49:07 - 00:13:51:04

[GEORGE]
That's for sure, yeah.

00:13:51:04 - 00:13:53:01

[ALI]
Well, I love not having to travel.

00:13:53:01 - 00:13:53:22

[SACCHA]
Yeah.

00:13:53:22 - 00:13:57:06

[ALI]
Sometimes when you have an audition, or you, it's the whole day.

00:13:57:06 - 00:13:58:05

[STEFFI]
Yes!

00:13:58:05 - 00:14:00:23

[ALI]
It takes up your whole day.

00:13:59:08 - 00:14:00:23

[SACCHA]

Yeah.

[GEORGE]

Yeah.

00:14:00:23 - 00:14:06:03

[GEORGE]

Well, you could also be anywhere too, right? So, I'm in Newfoundland, but I'm still, I can still do self tapes, you know?

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from his box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - George Masswohl

00:14:06:03 - 00:14:16:10

[STEFFI]

So, the experience of creating Welcome to the Rock for this CAA event was definitely really interesting, and unlike anything I've ever done before.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from her video box over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

Janice & Others

00:14:16:10 - 00:14:44:14

[STEFFI]

Everyone had to record their own parts of the songs at home by themselves with a camera, and you know, the track playing in our ears. And it's definitely strange creating theatre, and creating songs and performances that way because you're actually not feeding off of anybody's energy and there's no one to play off of, and you're not with your peers on stage. So, it's a very different experience.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sings "Welcome to the Rock" via video chat

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast sings from video chat boxes

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sings "Welcome to the Rock" via video chat

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast sings from video chat boxes

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sings "Welcome to the Rock" via video chat

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Different cast members appear via video chat, singing

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast sings from video chat boxes

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Lisa sings from the box over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

00:14:44:14 - 00:15:07:09

[KRISTEN]

Well, if we're speaking of... (LAUGHING) Technical at home set up, I really wish you could see what's happening in my space. It's actually ridiculous. It's gotten comical at this point. A number of cardboard boxes piled up on top of each other, leaning up against a window, with my iPad perched on top.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen speaks from her video box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Kristen Peace

Bonnie & Others, Dance Captain

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

00:15:07:09 - 00:15:29:18

[SACCHA]

When I was asked to do this, I had to remember how the songs went! Isn't that crazy? How we, because we've done this show like 850 times, or somewhere in that ballpark. But yeah, it was really interesting to put it together, and then see it come all together, everyone doing their separate parts, but to see it all come together in the end was really cool.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from her video box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from her video box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis

00:15:29:18 - 00:15:50:00

[STEFFI]

Do you know what for me is so, so very challenging is that if I'm at home doing it by myself, and I'm not feeding off of the energy of an audience or my cast members, it's a very isolating experience, and it feels really kind of emptier to not have that sense of community.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

00:15:50:00 - 00:16:37:00

[STEFFI]

The thing about theatre that makes theatre theatre is that it's humans on stage performing for you. It's live, anything could happen, there's a sense of danger and wonder. There's a collective energy in the audience when the lights go down that everybody just decides to be in the present moment. And when you're shooting something, you just, you don't get that energy, you don't get that sense of immediacy, and spontaneity. You can press record and stop as many times as you like, and start over, and kind of, again, it's just the sense of community is not there, which is really difficult. I found personally really, really challenging to not be able to connect with people actually physically in that way.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

00:16:37:00 - 00:16:56:17

[STEFFI]

And it's something that, you know, digital things and virtual things will never replace the experience that is sitting in a theatre and watching something live. We're going to realize when we come out of this that we need human experiences like that, like theatre. That's my hope, anyway, that people will want to come back to the theatre.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Steffi DiDomenicantonio

00:16:56:17 - 00:17:19:21

[GEORGE]

So, we probably already touched on this question in a lot of different ways, but let's just get a little more specific, I guess. So, for each of you, what are some of the greatest lessons that *Come From Away* teaches us about kindness, and about our ability as humans to bring the best out of ourselves, and also to inspire others to do the same.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from the box over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from the box over the blue and white background

00:17:19:21 - 00:18:07:07

[ALI]

So, this show is really about, you know, kindness. And what's interesting, you know, to go to what Steffi said that definitely with this show, it's about human connection. It's that, you know, nothing is done alone. No man, woman, human is an island. Humans are inherently kind. I think humans are capable of being kind. I think human beings must strive to be kind, and I think when human beings are kind, it is better. And when we are far more collective and connected, it is better. So, this is a very kind of like aspirational show in terms of not just how we need to connect, but how we should be connecting, the manner in which we should be connecting to each other.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Ali Momen

00:18:07:07 - 00:18:29:16

[SACCHA]

You know, it really comes down to for me is really understanding compassion. It's like that compassion that we have, and that we should have, knowing that, you know, listen, life is not perfect. We, you know, we're all a work in progress, you know. This is, our whole life is a work in progress.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

00:18:29:16 - 00:18:48:04

[SACCHA]

You know, someone can appear to have everything, but could be struggling, and I wouldn't know it, and I probably judge. And you know, we're in an industry where we automatically have this, you know, not judge like maliciously or anything, but just like, you know, when we watch a show, and we're always, like, criticizing, you know, certain things.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

00:18:48:04 - 00:19:03:11

[SACCHA]

But to really understand someone's story is really big for me in terms of just, like, that idea of kindness. And yeah, that's the biggest thing that really jumps out at me is compassion.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha speaks from the box over the blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Saccha Dennis

00:19:03:11 - 00:19:08:14

[KRISTEN]

Kindness is free, empathy is free, patience is free.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen speaks from her video box

TEXT ON SCREEN - Kristen Peace

00:19:08:14 - 00:19:30:09

[GEORGE]

I can't think of a better way to wrap this up. Kiki, thanks for that. Thank you all, friends, family, neighbours. I miss you all, I really do. This is such a great treat, and I want to thank our neighbours at CAA for bringing us together to have this chat. And I look forward to... It's just like we're in the senior's lounge.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast's video boxes appear over the blue and white background

00:19:30:09 - 00:19:34:14

[KRISTEN]

Oh! The senior's lounge!

00:19:34:14 - 00:19:35:22

[SACCHA]

Miss that lounge.

00:19:35:22 - 00:19:44:17

[GEORGE]

You know, for anybody that's watching this wanting to know what the senior's lounge is, well, come see us and we'll maybe we'll let you in on that little insider's secret.

00:19:44:17 - 00:19:47:07

[ALL]

(LAUGHING)

00:19:47:07 - 00:19:48:06

[GEORGE]

Love you all.

00:19:48:06 - 00:19:49:14

[KRISTEN]

Love you!

[ALI]

Love you! Thank you!

00:19:49:14 - 00:19:51:08

[STEFFI]

Thank you!

[SACCHA]

Miss you, George.

00:19:51:08 - 00:19:53:03

[ALI]

Oh, yeah, then Zoom.

00:19:53:03 - 00:19:54:02

[STEFFI]

Bye!

00:19:54:02 - 00:19:55:17

[ALL]

(LAUGHING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast waves good bye to each other

00:19:55:17 - 00:19:59:03

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo appears

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe down the screen

00:19:59:03 - 00:20:02:11

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The Come From Away logo appears over a blue background

TEXT ON SCREEN - Come From Away - Canadian Company

00:20:02:11 - 00:20:54:12

[GEORGE]

"Welcome to the Rock" is our powerful opening number. Not only is this song a rally cry for all islanders, but a reminder of the kindness and neighbourly spirit found in all Canadians. When the sun is coming up, and the world has come ashore, if you're hoping for a harbour, then you'll find an open door. This is what it means to be a good neighbour, to look out for one another, to open your door for your community and for visitors, to care for each other unconditionally. This is what CAA does. This is what all great Canadians do. And now, we're proud to share this song with you. CAA's Calling All Neighbours, in partnership with Mirvish Productions celebrate this great Canadian spirit with a song that invites you into this magnificent story of Come From Away.

00:20:54:12 - 00:20:56:05

(MUSIC)

00:20:56:05 - 00:20:57:12

[GEORGE]

Welcome to the Rock.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from the Royal Canadian Legion in Gander over a blue background

00:20:57:12 - 00:21:01:16

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is shown

00:21:01:16 - 00:21:07:12

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast of Come From Away appears in boxes via video chat over a black background

00:21:07:12 - 00:21:18:13

[GEORGE]

On the northeast tip of North America, on an island called Newfoundland, there's an airport. It used to be one of the biggest airports in the world. And next to it is a town called Gander.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George speaks from the upper left box

00:21:18:13 - 00:21:21:03

[GEORGE SINGING]

Welcome to the Rock, if you come from away

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sings

00:21:21:03 - 00:21:21:11

[ALL SINGING]

Ha!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The whole cast is shown singing

00:21:21:11 - 00:21:24:00

[GEORGE SINGING]

You'll probably understand about a half of what we say

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sings

00:21:24:00 - 00:21:24:08

[ALL SINGING]

Ha!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The whole cast sings

00:21:24:08 - 00:21:27:04

[GEORGE SINGING]

They say no man's an island but an island makes a man

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George sings

00:21:27:04 - 00:21:32:04

[ALL SINGING]

Especially when one comes from one like Newfoundland
Welcome to the Rock!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George, Kristen and Lisa's boxes appear while they sing

00:21:32:04 - 00:21:39:08

[LISA]

Good morning, I'm in the classroom. It's our first day back, and the school buses are on strike, so I'm covering for Annette, who's running late.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Lisa performs via video chat

00:21:39:08 - 00:21:40:20

[ELIZA-JANE]

Sorry, Beulah, how's the kids?

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane's video chat box appears

00:21:40:20 - 00:21:51:09

[LISA]

Well, not exactly thrilled to be inside on such a gorgeous day, so I told them we'd only have a half day this morning, and they were quite pleased. Until I told them we'd have the other half in the afternoon.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Lisa and Eliza-Jane talk back and forth

00:21:51:09 - 00:21:54:02

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Lisa and Eliza-Jane laugh

00:21:54:02 - 00:21:57:00

[JEFF]

Welcome to the wildest weather that you've ever heard of

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Jeff sings via video chat

00:21:57:00 - 00:21:59:23

[DAVID SINGING]

Where everyone is nicer but it's never nice above

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

David's video box pops up next to Jeff's

00:21:59:23 - 00:22:02:20

[ELIZA-JANE]

Welcome to the farthest place you'll get from Disney Land

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane's box pops up beneath Jeff and David's

00:22:02:20 - 00:22:04:03

[GEORGE SINGING]

Fish and chips and shipwrecks

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

George's box pops up next to Eliza-Jane's

00:22:04:03 - 00:22:18:21

[ALL SINGING]

This is Newfoundland!

Welcome to the Rock!

An islander, I am an islander

I'm an islander, I am an islander

I'm an islander, I am an islander

I'm an islander, I am an islander

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast sings from the video chat boxes

00:22:18:21 - 00:22:31:04

[CORY]

That morning, I'm in my car. The kids cross Airport Boulevard to get to school, and that time a day, people are in a little bit of a rush to get to work and stuff. So, normally I sit there and run my radar.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Cory performs from his video chat box

00:22:31:04 - 00:22:32:02

[ALL]

Whoop-whoop!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The whole cast is shown

00:22:32:02 - 00:22:41:08

[CORY]

And if they're speeding, I'll stop them, and write out a warning ticket. Alright, STHD. Slow the hell down.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Cory performs from his video chat box

00:22:41:08 - 00:22:44:22

[SACCHA]

Welcome to the land where the winters tried to kill us and we said

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Saccha sings from her video box

00:22:44:22 - 00:22:47:01

[ALL SINGING]
We will not be killed

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The whole cast is shown

00:22:47:01 - 00:22:50:15

[ALI]
Welcome to the land where the waters tried to drown us and we said

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Ali performs from his video chat box

00:22:50:15 - 00:22:52:18

[ALL SINGING]
We will not be drowned

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The whole cast is shown

00:22:52:18 - 00:22:56:07

[STEFFI SINGING]
Welcome to the land where we lost our loved ones and we said

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Steffi sings from her video box

00:22:56:07 - 00:22:58:12

[ALL SINGING]
We will still go on

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The whole cast is shown

00:22:58:12 - 00:23:01:00

[KYLE SINGING]
Welcome to the lands where the winds tried to blow

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Kyle performs from his video chat box

00:23:01:00 - 00:23:03:09

[ALL SINGING]
And we said no

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The whole cast is shown

00:23:03:09 - 00:23:21:15

[KRISTEN]

That morning, I dropped the kids off at school, and head to the SPCA, where I'm greeted by my other kids, all barking and meowing for breakfast and a belly rub. Not that I'm complaining. I loves them. But by the time feeding's done, I've got to get back to pick up my human kids, so I take just one second for myself, and I'm sitting in my car.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen performs from her video box

00:23:21:15 - 00:23:22:18

[LISA]

I'm in the staff room.

00:23:22:18 - 00:23:23:18

[ELIZA-JANE]

I'm in the library.

00:23:23:18 - 00:23:25:10

[ALL]

And I turn on the radio.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Lisa and Eliza-Jane's video boxes pop up next to Kristen's

00:23:25:10 - 00:23:26:08

(MUSIC)

00:23:26:08 - 00:23:53:01

[ALL SINGING]

You are here at the start of a moment
On the edge of the world where the river meets the sea
Here on the edge of the Atlantic
On an island in between there and here

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The whole cast sings together

00:23:53:01 - 00:23:59:14

[CORY]

I'm running my radar when Bonnie comes by. She pulls up, and she's waving at me like mad, so I roll down my window, and she says...

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Cory speaks from his video box

00:23:59:14 - 00:24:00:20

[KRISTEN]

Oz, turn on your radio!

00:24:00:20 - 00:24:01:17

[CORY]

Slow down, Bonnie.

00:24:01:17 - 00:24:04:06

[KRISTEN]

Jesus H, Oz! Turn on your radio!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Kristen's box appears next to Cory's; they perform back and forth

00:24:04:06 - 00:24:05:10

[ALL SINGING]

It's where our story starts

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The whole cast sings

00:24:05:10 - 00:24:06:21

[STEFFI]

It's my first day at the station.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi performs from her video box

00:24:06:21 - 00:24:08:01

[ALL SINGING]

Where we'll end the night

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast sings

00:24:08:01 - 00:24:09:20

[JEFF]

I'm getting coffee for the picket line.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Jeff is shown

00:24:09:20 - 00:24:10:20

[ALL SINGING]

Where we know by heart

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast sings

00:24:10:20 - 00:24:12:17

[BARBARA]

Five minute till my smoke break.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Barbara speaks from her video box

00:24:12:17 - 00:24:13:20

[ALL SINGING]
Every single flight

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The cast sings

00:24:13:20 - 00:24:15:17

[ALI]
I'm off to work at the airport.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Ali performs from his video box

00:24:15:17 - 00:24:26:15

[ALL SINGING]
Welcome to the fog, welcome to the trees
To the ocean and the sky and whatever's in between
To the one's who've left, you're never truly gone
A candle's in the window and the kettle's always on

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
All of the male cast members sing together

00:24:26:15 - 00:24:43:05

[ALL SINGING]
When the sun is coming up and the world has come ashore
If you're hoping for a harbour then you'll find an open door
In the winter, from the water to whatever's in the way
To the one's who have come from away we say
Welcome to the, welcome to the
Welcome to the, welcome to the
Welcome to the, welcome to the
Welcome to the Rock!

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The cast sings together; the video boxes flash on screen

00:24:43:05 - 00:24:47:05

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)
Blue bars swipe down the screen

00:24:47:05 - 00:24:50:18

(MUSIC)

00:24:50:18 - 00:25:01:08

[NARRATOR]

In 1900, Toronto was a quiet town of only 200,000, but only five years later, it had grown by 50% to 300,000. The city was bustling.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Still black and white shots of Toronto in the early 20th century are shown

00:25:01:08 - 00:25:13:18

[NARRATOR]

The main form of entertainment was live theatre, but most of the theatres were makeshift relics from the last century, when Toronto was still a backwater. The city needed a new theatre that reflected its new status.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of a theatre called the Grand

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Black and white shots of theatres in the early 1900s are shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white photo of men standing with early cars is shown

00:25:13:18 - 00:25:27:08

[NARRATOR]

In 1906, Cawthra Mulock, known as the Boy Millionaire, set about correcting this. He hired architect, John Lyle, and instructed him, "Build me the finest theatre on the continent."

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A photo of Cawthra Mulock is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A photo of John Lyle is displayed

00:25:27:08 - 00:25:37:09

[NARRATOR]

The Royal Alexandra Theatre, the first North American theatre to be issued a royal patent by Buckingham Palace, officially opened on August 26th, 1907.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of the Royal Alexandra Theatre in the early 1900s is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A shot of the plaque detailing the royal patent

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of the full auditorium of the theatre

00:25:37:09 - 00:26:08:18

[NARRATOR]

Immediately the Royal Alex became the place to be. Its roster of stars is an honour roll of 20th century theatre. Mary Pickford, Helen Hayes, Al Jolson, Orson Welles, Humphrey Bogart, John and Ethel Barrymore, Fred and Adele Astaire, Katherine Cornell, Deborah Kerr, John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson, Edith Piaf sang here, Paul Robison played Othello here, Pavlova danced here, the Marx brothers made Alex audiences laugh, and Mae West made them blush.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A shot of the Royal Alexandra exterior in the early 1900s

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white photo of a group of men in uniform standing in front of the Royal Alexandra theatre

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The pictures of the stars named are shown one after the other

00:26:08:18 - 00:26:11:21

(MUSIC)

00:26:11:21 - 00:26:18:02

[NARRATOR]

By the late 1950s, it was the city's only surviving legitimate theatre that had not been converted into a cinema.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white photo of the exterior sign of the Royal Alexandra Theatre

00:26:18:02 - 00:26:19:09

(MUSIC)

00:26:19:09 - 00:26:31:07

[NARRATOR]

But its fortunes began to wane. First film, and then television offered other forms of entertainment. The Royal Alex had to find new energy, and perhaps a new owner, to flourish again.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Black and white shots of people wearing 3D glasses at a theatre, and a family watching television together are shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of the camera panning over empty auditorium seats

00:26:31:07 - 00:26:44:22

[NARRATOR]

That owner was Ed Mirvish, who with the enthusiastic support of his wife, Anne, bought the theatre in 1963 saved it from demolition, spent lavishly to restore it, and built an exciting neighbourhood around it.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A photo of Ed Mirvish is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A photo of Anne Mirvish is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A newspaper article detailing the purchase of the theatre by Ed Mirvish is displayed

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of Ed Mirvish speaking to someone else

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of the exterior of the restored Royal Alexandra Theatre

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

An old fashioned map of downtown Toronto is shown

00:26:44:22 - 00:26:55:17

[NARRATOR]

Today the Royal Alex is as vital as ever, and still considered the finest theatre on the continent. Let's now discover the building itself.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A shot of the exterior of the Royal Alexandra Theatre in the present, with cars and pedestrians passing in front

00:26:55:17 - 00:27:06:13

[NARRATOR]

The exterior of the building is brick and sandstone. Beneath its exterior walls are two feet of concrete, reinforced by a steel structure, the first theatre in North America to be constructed this way.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans over the exterior of the building, including the Come From Away sign

00:27:06:13 - 00:27:19:16

[NARRATOR]

Stepping into the front foyer, it's easy to see the splendour of the materials used. The foyer is clad in a green marble imported from Italy. The floor is a mosaic created by craftsmen in Venice.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans over the front foyer

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans over the marble walls

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows the mosaic tile floor

00:27:19:16 - 00:27:31:01

[NARRATOR]

Step through the second set of doors, and you're in a sea of rich walnut wood imported from Turkey. The grand staircases were hand-carved of cherrywood from Austria and Hungary.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera moves through the doors of the lobby and turns toward the staircase on the right

00:27:31:01 - 00:27:46:01

[NARRATOR]

Above the doors leading into the auditorium is the crest of the British royal family, as the Alex has a royal patent, and is named after Alexandra, the consort of Edward the VII, later Queen Alexandra, and the great grandmother of Queen Elizabeth II.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans up to the crest of the British royal family over the doors to the auditorium

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A framed photo of Queen Alexandra that hangs on the wall is shown

00:27:46:01 - 00:27:53:12

[NARRATOR]

Off the front lobby are rooms where the audience can rest, and perhaps enjoy a beverage before the performance, and at intermission.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans across a painted sign over a door that reads, "Empire Room"

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The interior of the Empire Room is displayed

00:27:53:12 - 00:27:59:06

[NARRATOR]

The manager's office is also here, a wood panelled room where the theatre's early news clippings are kept.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans around the manager's office

00:27:59:06 - 00:28:06:08

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Bound books of news clippings line the walls of the room

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Various news articles about the shows playing at the Royal Alexandra Theatre over the years are displayed

00:28:06:08 - 00:28:15:04

[NARRATOR]

Inside the auditorium, the wainscotting and doorways are of sturdy Canadian oak. The walls are covered in cream and gold silk.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The walls of the auditorium are shown

00:28:15:04 - 00:28:23:10

[NARRATOR]

The seats are upholstered in striped cream and gold wool, and silk gaberdine, specially woven in England by Burberry's.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows the auditorium seats

00:28:23:10 - 00:28:35:11

[NARRATOR]

Until the 1950s, it was customary for men to wear hats, but what to do with them during the performance? The answer was to put them under the seat in these specially designed wire racks.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A black and white shot of men lifting their hats in a group of smiling women is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The wire racks under the seats in the auditorium are shown

00:28:35:11 - 00:28:46:07

[NARRATOR]

All the decorative carvings in the building were made by artisans brought over from Germany. All the ornate plasterwork on the walls and ceiling was made by master craftsmen from France.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The decorative carvings on the banisters are shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The plaster on the walls is displayed

00:28:46:07 - 00:29:10:10

[NARRATOR]

At the top of the proscenium arch, which frames the stage, is the sounding board. Its purpose is to bounce the sound of the actors' voices from the stage into the auditorium. At the Royal Alex, the sounding board features a mural by Frederick Challener, the finest muralist of his time. It shows a classical scene, Venus and attendants discovering the sleeping Adonis, with Cupid close by.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans up the arch

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The mural on the sounding board is shown

00:29:10:10 - 00:29:28:13

[NARRATOR]

Now, let's go to the dress circle, which is the second level of seating in the auditorium. Thanks to the structure's steel frame, the Royal Alex was the first theatre to have cantilevered balconies, meaning the weight of the balconies is held up by the steel and concrete structure, not pillars, which would obstruct the view of audience members seated behind them.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows a seat in the dress circle, and then pans over the lower seats to show the stage

00:29:28:13 - 00:29:39:22

[NARRATOR]

When Lady Diana, the Princess of Wales, came to see Les Miserables at the Royal Alex in 1990, this is where she sat. Dress circle, first row, centre seat.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A still photo of Princess Diana walking into the theatre is shown

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A still photo of Diana greeting fans

00:29:39:22 - 00:29:48:10

[NARRATOR]

Off the dress circle is the CAA Lounge. Overlooking King Street, this gracious room is beautifully appointed, and a favourite with patrons.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans around the CAA Lounge inside the theatre, with a piano, a bar and seats

00:29:48:10 - 00:29:59:06

[NARRATOR]

The balcony is the third level of seating. It offers great views, but is much higher up. In the 19th century, the balcony would have been called the gods, for obvious reasons.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows the seats on the balcony, and shows the view to the stage

00:29:59:06 - 00:30:08:18

[NARRATOR]

On the sides of the stage are a few more seats. These are called the boxes. Traditionally, this is where public figures sat so that they could be seen by everyone else in the auditorium.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows the box seats on the sides of the stage

00:30:08:18 - 00:30:23:17

[NARRATOR]

Now, let's walk back downstairs to the orchestra level. But first, as we descend the staircase, note all the framed photos on the walls. These are only some of the noteworthy stars from the Royal Alex's first four decades.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A staircase lined with framed and autographed photos of stars who have worked at the theatre is shown

00:30:23:17 - 00:30:39:03

[NARRATOR]

Before we go on stage, and backstage, let's go to the newest part of the building, the Yale Simpson Lounge. Named after a former general manager of the theatre, it was built in 1990 in the former crawl space of the theatre.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

An ornate carving of a face hangs from the wall in the theatre

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans across the lounge

00:30:39:03 - 00:30:44:00

[NARRATOR]

We'll go backstage through the green room, which is located just the other side of this door.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera approaches a door that has a sign reading "Staff Only Past This Point," and opens it

00:30:44:00 - 00:30:45:05

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera moves up the stairs from the door to the green room

00:30:45:05 - 00:30:58:15

[NARRATOR]

The green room is where the actors, crew members, and musicians can hang out when they're not on stage. There are many theories about why it's called the green room, but you should know that no green room in any theatre is actually green.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera moves through a room with booths and tables, fridges and appliances

00:30:58:15 - 00:31:08:01

[NARRATOR]

Behind the back wall of the stage are the dressing rooms. In fact, there are four levels of dressing rooms, which can accommodate more than 40 performers.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows the dressing room, with clothes hanging from the wall and make up tables

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Different dressing rooms are shown

00:31:08:01 - 00:31:20:06

[NARRATOR]

Here we are in the stage right wings. The set on stage is Come From Away, which has been playing at the Royal Alex since February of 2018 - one of the theatre's most popular shows.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The set from Come From Away is visible from the side of the stage; the camera moves on stage

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast of Come From Away performs on stage

00:31:20:06 - 00:31:28:23

[NARRATOR]

Notice that the view from the stage allows you to see every seat in the auditorium. That means every seat provides a good view of the stage.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The auditorium seats are visible from the stage

00:31:28:23 - 00:31:57:11

[NARRATOR]

Now we are in the old stage door room, which is located on the east side of the building. Until the late 1980s, this was the entrance to the stage for everyone who worked here. The room has been left intact because of its rich history. And a new stage door was created at the rear of the building. Notice that there are more actors' photos on the wall, even on the ceiling. If these walls could talk, the stories they could tell of the lives of the show people who have walked through here.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera pans around a room with writing and pictures on the wall

00:31:57:11 - 00:32:18:23

[NARRATOR]

We are now on the fly floor. In olden days, this is where technicians would control the scenery hung in the fly tower. They would lower scenery pieces onto the stage to create a new setting, while raising or flying out the scenery from the previous scene. Fun fact - the people originally hired to do this job were sailors because they had experience with ropes and sails.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The camera shows a room with ladders, ropes, and technical equipment

00:32:18:23 - 00:32:20:19

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A pile of rope is shown

00:32:20:19 - 00:32:26:07

[NARRATOR]

The fly tower is almost a hundred feet tall. Behind it are the four levels of dressing rooms.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The fly tower is shown from the stage side

00:32:26:07 - 00:32:32:22

[NARRATOR]

What a different world it is back here from the rich and gilded world of the auditorium and lobbies.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Shots of writing on the wall, cables and labeled technical equipment backstage

00:32:32:22 - 00:32:54:07

[NARRATOR]

Thank you for joining us for this tour of the Royal Alex. We hope you've enjoyed a little of this beloved building's history. In closing, here is David Mirvish, the theatre's owner. He is the son of Ed and Anne Mirvish. Like his parents, he loves this building, and is committed to continuing its long tradition of offering the best in theatre to audiences in Toronto and beyond.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A shot of the stage and auditorium of the theatre

00:32:54:07 - 00:33:40:17

[DAVID]

The theatre isn't just another business, it's a life-long passion. The Royal Alexandra Theatre is the place where my wife and I had our first date. I'm very honoured to partner with CAA in making theatre more accessible to its members. CAA's dedication to its community, and its support of the arts is superb. Thank you for that support. As a member since 1966, they give me the confidence to keep running my car. I look forward to seeing you at the theatre when the time is right. Please stay tuned for a big announcement delivering CAA members even more excitement and benefits when they attend our four incredible theatres.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

David speaks to the camera while sitting in his convertible outside of the theatre

00:33:40:17 - 00:33:51:06

(ENGINE RUMBLING)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

David drives away

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo appears

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe down the screen

00:33:51:06 - 00:34:05:09

[NARRATOR]

We hope you enjoyed today's episode. And remember, CAA Members save on select Mirvish shows, and receive free coffee and coat check at all Mirvish theatres. Visit mirvish.com for the latest updates on Mirvish theatres and shows.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Text over a blue and white background

TEXT ON SCREEN - CAA Members save on select Mirvish shows and receive free coffee and coat check at all Mirvish theatres.*

Visit mirvish.com for the latest updates on Mirvish theatres and shows.

(Disclaimer)

00:34:05:09 - 00:34:08:05

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe across the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A shot of clouds passing across a shining sun

00:34:08:05 - 00:34:13:04

[NARRATOR]

Calling All Neighbours is a virtual series that celebrates what it means to be a good neighbour.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A cyclist rides a bike down a bike path

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Fish swim in a fish tank

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Birds sit on a branch

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

An aerial shot of the Gander harbour

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A zoo keeper walks through an enclosure

00:34:13:04 - 00:34:18:19

[NARRATOR]

Good neighbours look out for each other, they're there for you on the good days and the bad.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A mechanic stands next to a car and speaks to the camera

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast from Come From Away performs on stage

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A woman rides her bike through an intersection as a vehicle waits

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A pedestrian crosses the street as a cyclist waits

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Turtles swim together

00:34:18:19 - 00:34:34:15

[NARRATOR]

They are your friends, and in some cases, your family. CAA thanks you for tuning in. This virtual series is our way of thanking you for welcoming us into your communities for over 115 years, and for allowing us to be your neighbour.

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The cast of Come From Away speaks via video chat boxes

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A baby gorilla rides on the back of its mother

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The mechanic works on the wheel of a car

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The mechanic removes a glove box from a car

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A turtle swims in a tank

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Eliza-Jane sings into a microphone

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A zoo keeper feeds rhinos

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Cast members from Come From Away sing via video chat

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A mechanic works on a car with its hood up

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Ali speaks via video chat

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Steffi speaks via video chat

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A family of gorillas walks in its enclosure

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

A school of fish swims in a tank

00:34:34:15 - 00:34:39:00

(MUSIC)

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe up the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

The CAA Calling All Neighbours logo appears

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Blue bars swipe down the screen

(DESCRIBED VIDEO)

Black screen

TEXT ON SCREEN - (Trademark information)

END OF TRANSCRIPT