

# Apple Time offers something 'unique' to launch Globe's Sandbox Series

When Sandbox Series co-ordinator Andrew Ritchie first saw the play Apple Time in June, he knew he wanted to stage it at the Globe.

ASHLEY MARTIN, REGINA LEADER-POST ([HTTPS://LEADERPOST.COM/AUTHOR/LPASHLEYM](https://leaderpost.com/author/lpashleym)) Updated: February 1, 2019



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[When Andrew Ritchie first saw the play Apple Time in June, \(https://leaderpost.com/entertainment/local-arts/deaf-crows-to-premiere-apple-time-this-weekend-in-regina\)](https://leaderpost.com/entertainment/local-arts/deaf-crows-to-premiere-apple-time-this-weekend-in-regina) he knew he wanted to stage it at the Globe Theatre.

Apple Time — [written and performed by students in the Regina Public School Division's deaf and hard of hearing program \(https://leaderpost.com/news/local-news/thom-students-view-hearing-world-through-a-different-lens-in-deaf-forest-art-exhibition\)](https://leaderpost.com/news/local-news/thom-students-view-hearing-world-through-a-different-lens-in-deaf-forest-art-exhibition) — is the first of three plays in the Globe's 2018-19 Sandbox Series.

Its first performance is Thursday evening, Feb. 7.

"I have seen very little deaf and hard of hearing theatre anywhere in Canada where I've lived, so I definitely went to see the show and I was really blown away by the talent of all the individuals," said Ritchie, the Globe's Sandbox Series co-ordinator.

"The Sandbox, one of its mandates is to focus on Saskatchewan artists and I think showcasing art that we don't see as often," added Ritchie.

In Apple Time, the "form of the art is I think unique to Regina stages."

Apple Time combines American Sign Language poetry, puppetry, mime and comedy to tell the students' stories of immigration and migration.

Artist Chrystene Ells worked with the students and their teachers Joanne Weber (<https://leaderpost.com/entertainment/local-arts/regina-play-deaf-crows-hopes-to-bring-insight-to-a-hearing-world>) and Michelle Grodecki to develop the project as the Deaf Crows Collective.

After their Globe run, the cast is heading to Ritchie's hometown of Edmonton, where they'll perform in Sound Off: A Deaf Theatre Festival, on Feb. 15. (<https://leaderpost.com/news/local-news/reginas-deaf-crows-headed-to-edmonton-sound-off-festival>).

The Sandbox Series plays are presented on the Globe's smaller secondary stage, for shorter runs than mainstage performances.

Historically, Sandbox shows have only had three or four nights each.

The next two plays in the series — Concord Floral, which begins March 28, and In Care, which begins June 13 (<https://leaderpost.com/entertainment/local-arts/deaf-crows-apple-time-to-kick-off-globes-2018-19-sandbox-series>), — are each showing 11 times.

"We've tended to have a very big audience turnout for our Sandbox shows," said Ritchie, "and I really believe as an actor and a director myself, I think it's so rare ... to give a show and actors the opportunity to do a longer run, and just the growth that happens in a play in that time for those actors."

He said it's important "to give professional and emerging actors the opportunity ... to really delve into that craft and give it the same amount of opportunity to grow."

Ritchie admits it's a risk to offer extended runs of these shows, but "some of the greatest things can happen from taking those risks, and I think all these plays have risky content and form inside them. And that's the kind of theatre that really excites me, and I'm really excited to see how Regina audiences interact with them and respond to them."

Sandbox Series subscriptions are available for \$45 plus taxes and fees. Single tickets are \$21. Learn more at [globetheatreive.com](http://globetheatreive.com) (<http://globetheatreive.com/plays/2019-sandbox>) or call the box office at 306-525-6400.

Apple Time is being presented at the Globe Theatre. Show dates and times are: Thursday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 9, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.

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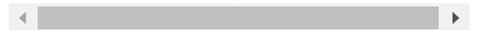
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