



MAY 1 TO 6 Centre Stage

A little slice of Broadway comes to town when the hit musical *Chicago* (page 98) takes the stage at The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts. It's brimming with big production numbers filled with dancing, jazz music and (of course) razzle-dazzle—everything you'd expect from the show that won a slew of Tony Awards and sells out theatres wherever it goes.

DINNER BEFORE THE SHOW Make a reservation at the very romantic *Villa del Lupo* (page 121) or visit *Blue Water Cafe and Raw Bar* (page 126), where celebrity-spotting is almost as popular as the fresh seafood.

5 BLASTS FROM THE PAST

1 The Police rock GM Place (May 28 and 30; page 97).

2 Martha Reeves and The Vandellas have fans "Dancing in the Streets" at the Red Robinson Show Theatre (May 19; page 97).

3 The Commodores bring Motown grooves to the River Rock Show Theatre (May 4; page 96).



PHOTO: THE COMMODORES

4 Björk shows off her eclectic vocal stylings at Deer Lake Park (May 23; page 96).

5 Frankie Avalon and Bobby Rydell make you remember the teen idols they once were, at the Red Robinson Show Theatre (May 26; page 96).



PHOTO: FRANKIE AVALON

MAY 14 TO 21 TINY TOTS, BIG FUN

Turning 30 doesn't have to cause a crisis. After three decades, the *Vancouver International Children's Festival* (page 100) is still young at heart. Join the fest for a week-long birthday celebration filled with jugglers, authors, storytellers and musicians, all under the white tents in Vanier Park.

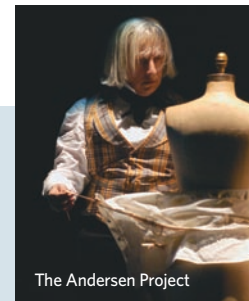


PHOTO: THE ANDERSEN PROJECT

STAGE STRUCK

Anyone lucky enough to have seen a Robert Lepage show understands the inadequacy of mere words to describe his multimedia spectacles.

His latest, *The Andersen Project* intertwines past and present in a modern-day fairy tale (May 3 to 27, Vancouver Playhouse; page 98). The four mothers in *Mom's the Word 2: Unhinged* have probably read more than their share of fairy tales, but none of the moms could be accused of living in one. In fact, coping with teenagers—the topic of this high-energy show—is more akin to a nightmare than a bedtime story (to Jun. 9, Arts Club Granville Island Stage; page 98). **W**



PHOTO: MOM'S THE WORD 2

MAY

May 3 KAORI OTAKE

Orpheum Theatre
Celebrated harpist performs with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (page 97).



PHOTO: KAORI OTAKE

May 5 GEORGE CARLIN

River Rock Show Theatre
The comic isn't afraid to recite the seven words you can't say on TV (page 100).

May 6 BANK OF MONTREAL VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL MARATHON

The world's most scenic 42-km (26-mi) race (page 95).



PHOTO: GYPSY

May 10 GYPSY

Stanley Theatre
Opening night of the show-biz musical (page 98).

May 18 RICHMOND NIGHT MARKET

Riverside
First night of the popular summer market (page 95).

May 28 FIT FOR A QUEEN

STANLEY THEATRE
Drag queens strut their stuff for charity (page 95).

MAY 31 TO SEPTEMBER 24 THE PLAY'S THE THING

Theatre gets closer to nature with *Bard on the Beach* (page 98), the annual festival in Vanier Park. Each night, glorious ocean and mountain views form the backdrop for two mainstage shows and two studio shows running on alternating nights. *The Taming of the Shrew* (pictured), the Bard's feisty tale about the battle of the sexes, kicks everything off May 31.

