



## North America calling on Prydz

### musicpreview

#### Eric Prydz

With Dana Bergquist and Luke Morrison  
Thursday, 18 October at 8pm  
Empire Ballroom

ALEXANDER WITT  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Even if you don't recognize the name Eric Prydz, you've heard likely his song "Call on Me." And even if you haven't heard it, you've downloaded the crotch-gyrating aerobics workout music video—the one with the über-catchy modulation of Steve Winwood singing that we all watched with glee in 2004.

Prydz is in town for the first time tonight, and if you've ever had a good excuse to put on your tightest aerobics outfit to go to a venue, this is it: for all we know, this could be a one-time event. Prydz hates flying.

Despite "Call on Me" reaching big-hit status two and a half years ago,

North Americans have been waiting to get a live show until now due to his flight anxiety. Rumor had it that he was going to sail to North America from the UK.

"That was plan B actually," Prydz says from a Montreal lounge. "If I couldn't get on the plane, I was going to get on the Queen Mary [...] to travel from the UK to New York. Finally, I decided to get my ass on a plane and get over here."

To the mainstream scene, Prydz seems like a one-hit-wonder, although he released a remix of Pink Floyd's "Another Brick in the Wall" called "Proper Education" in 2006. That, however, is more his doing than anyone else's.

"Instead of following up with another similar single and trying to capitalize on the momentum of 'Call on Me,' I went back underground and got back on to what I love do, which is underground pub music."

Prydz's listeners know that his genuine sound is a little bit different than that hit, anyways. There are a lot of them out there, and Prydz has been pleasantly surprised by his Canadian

fanbase so far.

"[Canada's] sort of the other side of the world, really. The shows have been really good, and the people have been really up for it, and they all seem to know my music, and that's been really fun," he says.

"'Call on Me' came around, and it was one of the records—I knew it was going to be a big club record because we were playing it in Stockholm for two years before it was even big in the rest of the world, and then it just got out of proportion," Prydz continues. "It was number one in twelve countries, it sold over 4 million copies, and it just got really, really crazy."

But he's not just coming to Edmonton to play one track—especially not one that got a name because of a raunchy video. Prydz takes a fair bit of flak about the "Call on Me" music video, and he's ready to move on. He's not the crotch-thrusting dancer; he's the artist in the background.

"I don't really see the point of me trying to show a face to put with the music. I want the music to speak for itself," he says.

## Almost, Maine shares 'aurora moments'

### theatrepreview

#### Almost, Maine

Runs 18 October-4 November  
Tuesday-Saturday at 8pm, Saturdays  
and Sundays at 2pm  
Directed by Coralie Cairns, John  
Hudson, and Wayne Paquette  
Starring John Hudson, Jeff Haslam,  
and Sharla Matkin  
Varscona Theatre

MARIA KOTOVYCH  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

With winter soon to exhale its icy cold our way, Albertans are no doubt preparing for the change in climate. But in the same breath that bitterly complains about the cold, Albertans will speak in marvel of the Prairies' picturesque beauty: the big blue sky and the stars that decorate it—and then there are the northern lights.

Shadow Theatre's production, *Almost, Maine*, incorporates this phenomenon as one of its central themes. Following several characters in a series of short, interlocking stories, *Almost, Maine* shows the realizations these people make about life and love, with all of them experiencing an "aurora moment" at the same time as the *aurora borealis* appear in the sky.

"The idea of an 'aurora moment,' the idea of when you see the northern lights, [is] when you understand something clearly in your life for the first time. I think all the characters go through that in every scene. It's what makes the play so charming," actor



Jeff Haslam says.

The realizations that the characters make generally revolve around the theme of love: some fall into it, others fall out of it, and more still rekindle old relationships. But *Almost, Maine* takes a unique approach to presenting some of the traditional notions about love: the play takes a literal interpretation of many of these clichés and the characters act accordingly.

"[We see] literal metaphors that appear onstage," Haslam explains, noting that it's then up to the audience to decipher those metaphors.

One of Haslam's characters is a tough, solid man who has a hard time articulating his love for his partner of eleven years. Despite his continued love for her, she no longer knows this, and at one point, she decides to take her love—literally depicted as a giant, fuzzy pink cushion—and

return it to him.

When characters are faced with their "aurora moments" of understanding, they're forced to make some choices, and both Haslam and fellow actor Sharla Matkin agree that Albertans will have no problems relating to the central image of the *aurora borealis*.

With blue and grey costumes and a set that portrays a glowing vibrancy in the cool air, the stage is designed to look like a great vast space—the natural beauty *Almost, Maine* is trying to remind you of as the winter approaches.

"This play is filled with references to the sky, the idea of the sky, characters looking at the sky and stars," Haslam explains. "[They're] ethereal things that you can't hold onto but that make you feel small and cozy."

## What Can We Learn From Survivor?



The TV series *Survivor* is not so much a TV game as it is a laboratory experiment to confirm many forms of psychological and social behaviour when "normal" people are subjected to physical and mental stress.

The Edmonton Chinese Lions Club (ECLC) is honoured to invite Yau-Man Chan, the popular *Survivor Fiji* contestant, to Edmonton to give a talk on "What can we learn from Survivor?" in support of the Youth Emergency Shelter Society (YESS).

The talk is a layman's view, with insider knowledge of how the nastiness of contestants is a mirror on our society.

Date: Saturday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> 2007

Time: 2pm-5pm (Show 1)

7pm-10pm (Show 2)

Place: South Learning Center  
NAIT Main Campus,  
11762-106 St

Price: \$25

To purchase tickets online, please go to:

[www.edmontonchineselionsclub.org](http://www.edmontonchineselionsclub.org)

[www.yess.org](http://www.yess.org)



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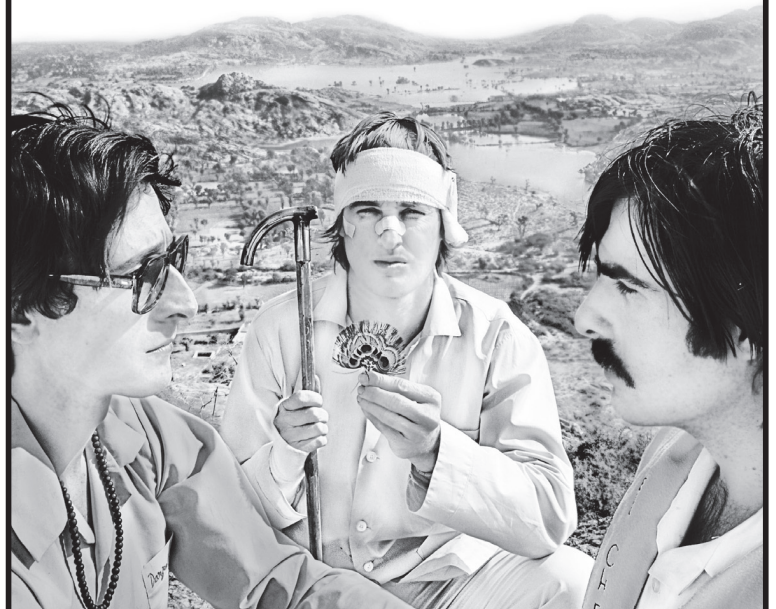
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