



JENNIFER TOULMIN

Though not a native of the Atlantic Provinces, Jennifer Toulmin recently moved east to don the fiery tresses of Prince Edward Island's most famous fictitious daughter in the Charlottetown Festival's production of "Anne of Green Gables—The Musical". Born in Toronto, Ontario, Jennifer has been involved with various aspects of the stage for her entire life. Her professional career began at seventeen when she landed her first lead. Soon after, during her graduating year at the Randolph Academy of Performing Arts, she was given a role in the major Canadian musical production "Mamma Mia!" and has been treading the boards of Canadian stages ever since.

An associate of the Royal Academy of Dancing in London, England, Jennifer has received advanced certification from both the Royal Academy and the International Society of Teachers of Dancing. As well as being an accomplished dancer in a variety of styles including ballet, jazz/modern, tap and national dancing, Jennifer has made significant inroads as a singer. She was personally chosen by songwriters Elaine and the late Norman Campbell to record their number "Gee I'm Glad" for Field of Stars, an album celebrating Canadian Musical Theatre.



For Jennifer, the role of feisty Anne Shirley, beloved dreamer of Canadian literature, is a challenge and an honour, and it signals a new phase in a lifelong dedication to the performing arts for the young actress. Already the role has attracted some lofty attention: Jennifer had the pleasure of welcoming Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamodo of Japan to the opening night performance of "Anne". The former Right Honourable Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien, was also very excited to meet Jennifer. "It was an incredible honour to meet the Prime Minister, and a day I will never forget." Jennifer also welcomed two young girls on behalf of the Children's Wish Foundation, their one wish was to meet the ebullient Canadian redhead.

A nurturing and compassionate spirit is what Jennifer feels reflects the Canada within her. Her homeland's sense of international fairness and cooperation and its acceptance of internal diversity have coupled with an upbringing in the theatrical world, a mutable and varied human arena, to give this young performer a truly tolerant humanistic outlook that informs her dedication to the arts. For Jennifer, singing, dancing and acting are more than simply professional pursuits; they are a matter of heart. Contributing is important to her, whether by performing in Actors' Fund Benefit or inspiring the future talent of Canada by speaking at schools. One of Jennifer Toulmin's great hopes is to add, over the course of a long career, to Art, the tale of our living history.