

Gordon McCall, Artistic Director

# CENTAUR

THEATRE COMPANY

Montreal, October 4 - 30, 2005

## CONDORVILLE

by David Fennario

directed by Gordon McCall



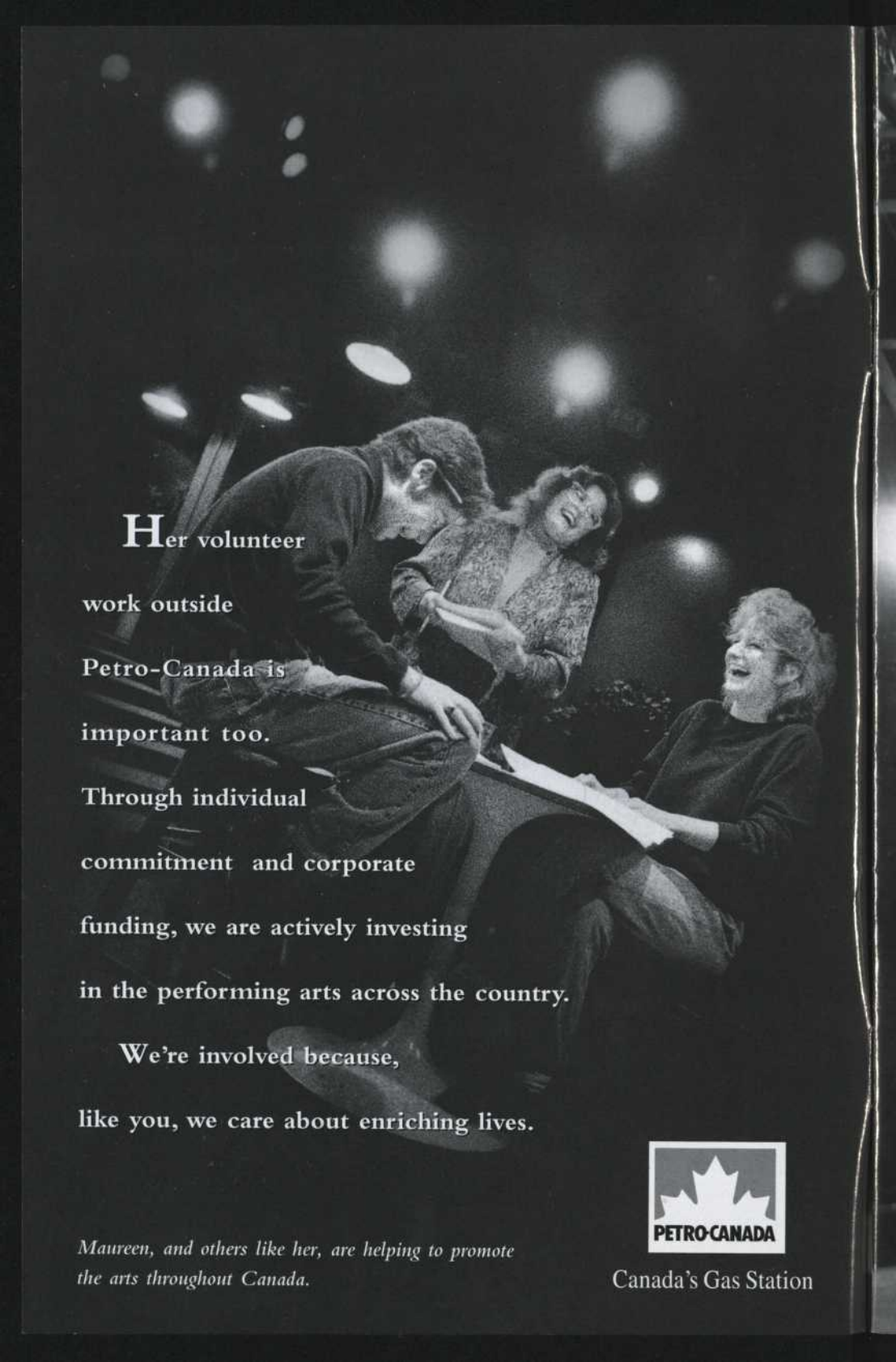
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*Montreal Stories*



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October 4-30, 2005

# **Centaur Theatre Company**

presents

# **CONDOVILLE**

**by David Fennario**

acting company (in order of appearance)

**Jean Archambault**

*Thibault*

**Michel Perron**

*Paquette*

**Yolande Circé**

*Cécile*

**Kent Allen**

*Johnny*

**Patricia Yeatman**

*Irene*

**Neil Napier**

*Andrew*

**Quincy Armorer**

*Filipe*

**Madeleine Péroquin**

*Bibi-diane*

directed by

**Gordon McCall**

set design by

**Anne-Séguin Poirier**

costume design by

**Susana Vera**

lighting design by

**Luc Prairie**

stage manager

**Melanie St-Jacques**

assistant stage manager

**Marc Ouellet**

additional voices

**Brian Britt**

**Meredith Sharpe**

**Special thanks to Tom Fennario and Babz Chula**

**THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION**

Time: The Present

Location: "The Pointe" - Pointe St. Charles, Montreal, Quebec

# CENTAUR AND THE CITY!

ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

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## SEAGRAM ART GALLERY

at CENTAUR THEATRE

Dani Hausmann. Born in Caracas, Venezuela. Architect. Filmmaker. Photographer.

While scouting for film locations in the early 1990's he discovers a ghostly "à louer ou à vendre" Montreal of derelict industrial buildings and begins Squeeegeel: a record of encounters with alienated youths and ancient survivors who have come to colonize these spaces. Eventually he too will, in *Out of The Box* and *By the Red Path*, take his place on the abandoned stage.

The small, picturesque, figure added to provide scale in 19th Century photographs of historical monuments, becomes, in his work, the principal motif and is allowed to rebel and act out its own conflicts and desires.

No darkroom or digital effects are used.

He has recently had solo exhibitions at the Usine C arts centre, the Art en Majuscule Gallery in Griffintown and the Maison de la Culture Marie-Uguay.

For rental information call : 288-1229



# Welcome to Montreal Stories



**O**n behalf of everyone at Centaur Theatre Company, I want to welcome you to our seven-play season of Montreal Stories. This year we've decided to celebrate our community with plays dedicated solely to the spirit, imagination and electric personality that is Montreal.

We're proud to be the theatre that puts Montreal first, with our plays, with our artists, with our community animation, and with you.

What a lineup – what a trip. From Pointe St. Charles to Hudson, to Chicago via Montreal, to Côte St. Luc to the Plateau, from 1956 to 2005, and back to the future with Bowser & Blue, Josh Freed and Terry Mosher (Aislin), we've got a lot of great stories to tell.

Fasten your seat belts and enjoy the ride.

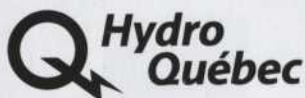
We're happy to take you there.

Gordon



Gordon McCall  
Artistic/Executive Director

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# Biographies



**David Fennario** (Author)

I told a friend of mine that sometimes it seems like my plays write themselves, because so many of the expressions and opinions come from people I've been listening to all my life, down in Verdun/Pointe Saint Charles. I didn't make up the text, I just put their words down on paper in a dramatic form.

*Condoville* is a community effort. May the play prove itself useful to the community in its struggles for a decent and productive life.



**Gordon McCall** (Director)

Gordon has recently returned from Melbourne, Australia where, as part of Centaur's International Collaboration Initiative, he directed a successful production of *Cheech* by Montreal playwright, François Létourneau. He'll reprise his direction of this play for Centaur with a Montreal cast in the new year. A graduate of the M.F.A. program in directing from The University of British Columbia, Gordon is also a Les Masque award-winner for Artistic Direction, a member of the Board of Governors of The National Theatre School of Canada, a member of The McGill University Shakespeare in Performance Group, founding Artistic Director of Saskatoon's Shakespeare On The Saskatchewan Festival, and is beginning his ninth season as Artistic/Executive Director of Centaur. Well known to Montreal audiences as an actor, Gordon is also in demand as an educator, public speaker and writer. He is a featured monthly theatre columnist for *Movie Entertainment Feature* magazine and his new book, *Lunatics, Lovers and Other Poets: The Birth of the Shakespeare On The Saskatchewan Festival* will be published by Scirocco Drama in the spring of 2006. Gordon thanks the tremendous *Condoville* cast, crew, and design team and especially David, for an unforgettable experience. He dedicates this production to his brother, Scott.



**Kent Allen** (Johnny)

Kent was last seen at Centaur, as Duffy, in the wonderful Australian play *Life After George*. While working in theatres across Canada is always a great pleasure for Kent, returning to work in Montreal is the highlight. In the interim, Kent has appeared at Stage West, Calgary, in *Remember Me*, Persephone Theatre's production of *The Diary Of Anne Frank*, and *In A World Created By A Drunken God*. He taught two sessional classes at the University of Saskatchewan, co-directed *Buz' Gems Blues* at the Saskatchewan Native Theatre, and performed in several independent film projects. He can be seen in the soon to be released film *Now and Forever* and *The Tommy Douglas Story* (CBC). Kent has recently concluded the run of his 100<sup>th</sup> professional stage appearance, (Saskatchewan's Centennial year) in the one-man show *Horse High, Bull Strong, Pig Tight*, at Dancing Sky Theatre. Kent is active as an ACTRA councillor and ACTRA 'Gym Night' co-ordinator, and stands on the Ministers Advisory – Status of the Artist Committee. Kent lives in Saskatoon, with his wife Kathy, and their children Lauren and Dominic.



## A Candle For Bibi, Spray Paint For Go-Go

Saturday, September 10th –

*The cast, stage management and director  
on a tour of Pointe St. Charles with David Fennario and son Tom.*

Today we lit a candle for Bibi-Diane in the Notre Dame de Sept Douleurs church and spray-painted “Go-Go Loves Cathy” under an overpass in Pointe Saint Charles. We watched traffic zoom by the Black Rock memorial and its shamrock festooned wrought iron fence that protects the remains of 6,000 Irish immigrants who lie eternally beneath the median. David regales us with the history of the Black Rock and tales of the Fenians who hid their guns in secret corners of The Point in days of old. We check out the Devil’s Walk that runs near the railway overpass, eat delicious roast beef sandwiches at Magnan’s Tavern on St. Patrick Street, pass by the “Bucket O’ Blood” Taverne, and visit the backyard of the co-op where David used to live and where he wrote Balconville so many years ago. We talk with the owners of a little Congolese grocery, scout Momo’s Depanneur, cruise by the famous war monument and check out Parc Joe Beef. And last, but certainly not least, we gaze upon the raison d’être of David’s new play, the massive new condo complex at the corner of St. Patrick and des Seigneurs, once sight of the Belding-Corticelli Factory and workplace of so many residents of The Pointe. Twenty-five years after the Balconville characters of Claude and Cecile Paquette, Thibault and Johnny and Irene first sprang to life in David’s imagination, The Pointe has drifted far away from the world that surrounded their co-op so many years ago. It’s becoming “gentrified”. House prices are booming and condos are springing up like well-heeled beehives throughout the once looked-down-upon neighbourhood. Condos stand shoulder to shoulder with the ancient churches that still protect the spirit of many of the poor and downtrodden of these streets. But while the spirit is strong the condos are closing in.

We see all this and more on that day. Subsequently throughout rehearsal we make many visits to the neighbourhood, drawing inspiration and fact from the people and the streets. Condoville has its roots proudly and deeply embedded in Pointe St. Charles. We are fortunate to have shared this journey with David. We’re proud to launch our Montreal Stories season of original plays with Condoville, a story that only David Fennario could tell.

Welcome to the neighbourhood.

Gordon McCall, Director



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**Jean Archambault** (*Thibault*)

One of the original members of the *Balconville* cast, Jean Archambault is thrilled to have the privilege to join David Fennario and Gordon McCall to continue the adventure with *Condoville*. He has also starred in Fennario's plays, *Nothing to Lose*, and *The Death of René Levesque* at Centaur. Some of his other theatre credits include: the Infinitheatre production of Samuel Beckett's *Fin de Partie/End Game*, directed by Guy Sprung, which toured at a festival in Cairo; *Memoir* by John Murrell, *Hosannah* and *En Pièces Détachées* by Michel Tremblay, both under the direction of André Brassard, and the National Theatre School's production of *Le Monde Est Un Champignon* by Isabelle Hubert.



**Quincy Armorer** (*Filipe*)

Quincy is honoured to be a part of this historic production, and has enjoyed "playing" with this talented ensemble of artists. He last appeared on the Centaur stage in the 2004 production of *Tiger's Heart*. Other credits include: *A Common Man's Guide to Loving Women* (Black Theatre Workshop), *The Fantasticks*, *Twelfth Night* (Piggery Theatre), *Fame: The Musical* (Grand Theatre, Kingston), *Measure For Measure*, *King Lear*, *The Taming of The Shrew*, *Titus Andronicus*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Shakespeare by the Sea), and *Romeo and Juliet* at the Minack Theatre in Cornwall, England. Film and television credits include *Julius Caesar* (Bravo) and *Big Sugar* (Galafilm). Quincy is the newly appointed Associate Artistic Director of Black Theatre Workshop and will be appearing in their March mainstage production of *Blacks Don't Bowl*. He would like to thank David and Gord for this incredible opportunity, and his parents and brothers just for being who they are.



**Patricia Yeatman** (*Irene*)

Patricia was last seen on the Centaur stage as Lindsay in *Life After George* and prior to that as Jean Brodie in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. Very recent performances include *The Long Weekend* (Maho Casino/Resort, St.Maarten), *Blessings in Disguise* (Touchmark Theatre), and dual roles in the premiere of *Separate Beds* (Showboat Festival and Stage 237 in Kingston). Other favourite roles include Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*, Myrtle in *Kingdom of Earth* (Touchmark), Cindy in the premiere of *Self-Help* (Theatre Aquarius/ Stage West). For the Sudbury Theatre Centre- Paulina in *Death and the Maiden*, *Driving Miss Daisy* and Nana in *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again* (also for Bluewater Playhouse), Patsy in *Perfect Pie* (Bluewater), Theda in *It Had to be You* (Victoria Playhouse), Bananas and Bunny in *The House of Blue Leaves* (Theatre Aquarius and Newfoundland). Also for TNL, the one-woman *Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* (Theatre Newfoundland/Labrador) and for the Imperial Centre *Shirley Valentine*. Selected TV and film credits: *Jeff Limited*, *The Associates*, *Blue Murder*, *Riverdale*, *The Bridal Path* (Toronto/Montreal Film Festivals/Bravo), *Blood & Straw* (winner Minneapolis Short Film Festival). Favourite role of all time is that of wife to Mark, and mom to Erin, K.Kathryn, Christopher and Amanda, as well as nana to granddaughter Makayla.



**Yolande Circé (Cecile)**

Reprising her role as the original Cecile from *Balconville*, Yolande is an actor, and television and radio broadcaster. She researches, directs and hosts *Angles de Société*, a show on Radio Ville-Marie 91.3 FM, which deals with social issues. Her acting career has included pieces by Adamov, Brecht and Ionesco at *Théâtre des Apprentis-Sorciers*; several appearances with *La Troupe de Pique à Tout* with Paul Berval, Denis Drouin and Olivier Guimond, and a number of musical roles at *Théâtre des Variétés* with Gilles Latulippe. She is also one of the founding members of *Théâtre des Salthimbanques*.



**Neil Napier (Andrew)**

Neil is happy to be back on the Centaur stage after appearing in the 2004 production of *The Shape Of Things*. Other recent theatre credits include: Ted in *The Foursome* (Townships Stage); Tim in Eric Bogosian's *Suburbia*, (Persephone Productions); as well as the Wolf and Cinderella's Prince in Steven Sondheim's musical, *Into The Woods* (One Foot Productions). He can also be seen in episodes of YTV's *15/Love*; and Showtime's *Naked Josh*, as well as upcoming television movies, *Human Trafficking* (NBC), *One Dead Indian* (CTV) and *Timebomb* (CBS). A proud Native of this beautiful city, Neil is thrilled to be a part of Centaur's season of *Montreal Stories*, and excited to be exploring Mr. Fennario's vision of "the Pointe" in his wonderful new play. Thanks to Gordon McCall and David Fennario for this journey! Neil would also like to thank his parents for their undying support, and Pinhead for her love and inspiration.



**Madeleine Péloquin (Bibi-diane)**

Madeleine Péloquin is a 2002 graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada. Since she completed school she has starred in a number of plays, including *Les Gars*, directed by André Robitaille, *Honey Pie*, directed by Claude Poissant as well as *Les Zurbains* at Théâtre Le Clou, and featured in several francophone television series. Her participation in *Condoville* is her English theatre debut. She is thrilled to meet all of the Centaur team and thanks them for their warm welcome.



**Michel Perron (Paquette)**

Finding yourself on the ground floor of a new David Fennario play, being whipped into a creative frenzy by Gord McCall, and breathing life into *Condoville* alongside such a talented group of actors, has been an amazing journey. Or as they would say in the Pointe "one hell of a ride" Hi. My name is Michel Perron, and I have the pleasure and honour of filling "Paquette's" shoes. I feel truly blessed to be back again doing what I love the most. Enjoy the ride!



**Anne-Séguin Poirier** (*Set Designer*)

A Graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada in 2001, Anne-Séguin Poirier has designed sets and costumes for many shows at the Atelier Lyrique of the Montreal Opera and the Ensemble de Musique Contemporaine de Montréal. She also works with theatre directors like Marcelle Dubois, Michel Lefebvre and Gordon McCall, for whom she designed the set of *Anna in the Tropics*, her first production at Centaur. She extended her practice to exhibition design with the inspired environment inside the Musée des Naufrages at Baie-Trinitée. Anne-Séguin Poirier was also Props Coordinator on the production of *Don Juan* directed by Gilles Maheu, presented in Montreal in 2004 and in Paris in 2005. She currently designs set elements and props with Michel Lemieux and Victor Pilon for *In concert*, the new company and creation of Cirque du Soleil.



**Susana Vera** (*Costume Design*)

This is Susana's second design at Centaur and she is happy to return to work with Gordon McCall; and for the first time with David Fennario. Previous designs include: *Anna in the Tropics* (Centaur Theatre Company); *The Love List, I Love you your perfect now change* and *Kingfisher Days* (Eastern Township Theatre Company) and *Le Songe/Dreamplay* for Temenos. She has also worked in such ateliers as Monument National, The Atlantic Theatre Festival and Repercussion Theatre. Susana is extremely grateful to be working with the excellent wardrobe team at Centaur.



**Luc Prairie** (*Lighting Design*)

Luc has been lighting up stages for theatres and operas and has been contributing his expertise to the field of musicology as well as corporate events. Last season for Centaur, Luc worked on *Anna in The Tropics*, *Burnt Piano*, *Mambo Italiano*, and *Tales From Ovid*. Previous Centaur credits include *The Shape of Things*, as well as *The Paris of America*, *Proof* and the return of *Mambo Italiano*, *The Cripple Of Inishmaan*, *Freeze*, *Art* and *Mambo Italiano*, which went on to the Elgin Theatre in Toronto as a Mirvish Production. Other Centaur credits include *The Weir*, *Wit*, and *The Crucible*. He has also dazzled the stages in *Appelez-moi Stéphane* (Compagnie Jean-Duceppe), *Man of La Mancha*, *Hedda Gabbler*, *The Glass Menagerie* (for which he was nominated for a Les Masque Award), *Salt Water Moon*, *The Three Penny Opera* and *Having Our Say* (Saidye Bronfman Centre). His previous lighting credits include: *M. Bovary* and *Les Précieuses Ridicules* (TNM); *La Preuve, Le vent et la tempête*, *Mambo Italiano*, *La Mémoire de l'eau* and *La Ménagerie de verre* (Théâtre Jean-Duceppe); *L'Heureux stratagème* (Théâtre Rideau Vert); *Measure for Measure*, *The Possibilities* (Montreal Young Company); and *Il Travatore* (Calgary Opera) *Norma* (Opéra de Montréal). He is teaching at the National Theatre School of Canada.



**Melanie St-Jacques** (*Stage Manager*)

Melanie feels very privileged and is so very happy to be a part of such a historical event in the Montreal theatre community. She was previously at Centaur with last season's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*. Other Centaur credits include *Tales From Ovid*, *Life After George*, *Vinci*, *Proof*, *Copenhagen*, *Art*, *Dinner with Friends* and *Trick or Treat*. Melanie spent a fantabulous summer in Lac Brome, working on their season of four shows: *Sexy Laundry* (co-production with Hudson Village Theatre), *Four Anglos of The Apocalypse*, *Tall Girl* and *Honky Tonk Blue*. Other summer stock theatre credits; *Having Hope at Home* (Lighthouse Festival Theatre), *Twelfth Night*, *The Fantasticks*, *Tango* (Piggery), *Here on The Flight Path* (Hudson Village Theatre). Other credits include: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (co-production with MTC/Saidye Bronfman), *Sunday Father*, *Man of LaMancha* (Saidye Bronfman). Melanie graduated from the DOME Theatre School. Thanks to the Centaur Theatre team for this opportunity. Also, warm thanks to family and friends for all that they do.



**Marc Ouellet** (*Assistant Stage Manager*)

Marc is very excited to be returning to Centaur and his native city for the World Premiere of *Condoville*. Several seasons ago, he was the assistant stage manager on *The Winter's Tale* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Over the years Marc has worked in many theatres across Canada. Highlights include: *Over The River and Through The Woods*, starring Cloris Leachman; *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Leader of the Pack* and *Beehive*, at Stage West Mississauga, *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, and *Seven Stories* at the Sudbury Theatre Centre under the Artistic Direction of Gordon McCall. He has also worked at Théâtre Français de Toronto, Drayton Entertainment and Magnus Theatre.

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*Special Thanks*

**Brian Britt, CFCF**

**Jonathan Himsworth**

**Yanick MacDonald, Photographer**

**Felix Rebolledo, Hotspots Productions**

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ACTORS WHO PARTICIPATED IN WORKSHOPS AND READINGS OF CONDOVILLE AT CENTAUR THEATRE

Catherine Allard	Yolande Circé	Scott Kettle	Madeleine Péloquin
Jean Archambault	Danielle Desormeaux	Fanny LaCroix	Michel Perron
Quincy Armorer	Kim Doucet	David LaPommeray	Meredith Sharpe
Irene Arseneault	Dawn Ford	Danette Mackay	James Sorley
Dorothée Berryman	Daniel Richard Giverin	Gordon McCall	Alexandra Valassis
Jean-Guy Bouchard	Terry Haig	Neil Napier	Isabelle Vincent
Mark Camacho	Radek Hajda	Omari Newton	

# THEATRE OF TOMORROW

**educates and inspires young leaders of tomorrow**

Centaur Theatre Company is proud to have developed its popular Theatre of Tomorrow (TOT) program, designed to inspire and enhance the theatre going experience in the lives of thousands of local high-school students.

Each year, close to 3000 young people attend special matinee performances of Centaur Theatre Company productions through the TOT program. Centaur teams up with educators by providing participating high schools with tickets at special discount prices, instructional workbooks and the unique opportunity to meet the actors and creative team after the show. The TOT experience begins with students reading the play before attending the performance. Teachers are provided with a workbook that includes detailed background information on the play and production, notes on the playwright as well as suggested improvisations, preparation activities and theatre games. In many cases, seeing a show at the Centaur is the first live theatre experience for the student. With this in mind, the workbook includes an introduction to theatre etiquette, an overview of "who's who" in the theatre process as well as the inside track of what it takes to stage a theatrical production. Following the performance, students can articulate ideas and ask questions at a moderated talk-back session with the cast.

Artistic Director Gordon McCall selects TOT productions for their educational value as well as their potential to entertain and inspire. This season's TOT shows are: *Condoville* by David Fennario, *Hellfire Pass* by Vittorio Rossi and *CHEECH* by François Létourneau, *Have A Heart* by David Sherman and *Bye Bye Baby* by Elyse Gasco. The discounted ticket price and costs associated with TOT, are generously subsidized by Great West Life.

For more information on how you can support the Theatre of Tomorrow initiative and join Centaur Theatre Company in encouraging cultural activity in

the lives of thousands of young people contact Kika Armata, Group Sales and Outreach Coordinator at (514) 288-1229 x277 or by fax at (514) 288-8575.

At Great-West Life, London Life and Canada Life, we are committed to enriching communities through our support of the arts. We focus on accessibility and audience involvement, and encourage the participation and education of youth. We're proud to support Theatre of Tomorrow through the Centaur Theatre Company as they engage minds, entertain audiences and encourage new ideas.

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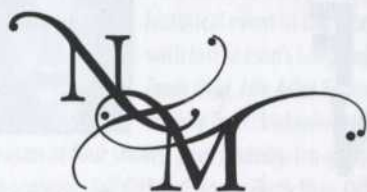
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To create, develop and present a season of thought-provoking plays that reflect our artistic vision and inspire and engage the Montreal community is a joy and a privilege for all of us who are associated with this great theatre company.

Centaur Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the following Director's Circle members and thanks them for their generosity.



Gordon McCall, Artistic & Executive Director



## THE DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

### Leading Roles (\$500 & above)

Marie Anna Bacchi  
Diana & John Bennett  
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Anonymous  
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Jill & Stuart Cobbett  
Rhoda Cohen  
James Hardy and Karen Craft  
David M. Culver  
Jennifer Davidson  
Janet Boeckh & Dominik Dlouhy  
Jane H. Dunn  
Victor and Leslie Eiser  
Justice and Mrs. Frederick L. Forsyth  
Joyce Fung  
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Janet & Gordon McConnell  
David Meisels  
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Ashok Narang  
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Andrew Pelletier  
Kim Playle  
Phyllis & John Rae  
Carolyn Renaud  
Cherry & Michael Richards  
Katherine & James Robb  
Dennis A. Sharp & Hélène Côté-Sharp  
Alison & Joel Silcoff

### Featured Players (\$250 - \$499)

Sylvia & George Aikins  
Lorraine & Marc Belcourt  
Diana & James Bouchard  
Gilles Bourgeois  
Kit Brennan & Andrew Willmer  
J.H. Brodeur  
Susan Brown  
Regula Brunies  
Brock & Simone Clarke  
John N. Fawcett  
Jack & Pat Giacomelli

Joan & Howard Golberg  
"The Honorable Alan B. Gold OC, OQ, QC"  
Nancy & James Grant  
Betty & Arnold Issenman  
Hugh A. Jones  
George King  
John LeBoutillier  
Lloyd MacLean  
Doug & Chris Onions  
Joan & Alex Paterson  
Dorothy & Cyril Reitman  
Susan Fitzpatrick  
Joan & Herbert Spindler  
Mr. & Mrs. Reginald F. Steers  
Phyllis & John Stewart  
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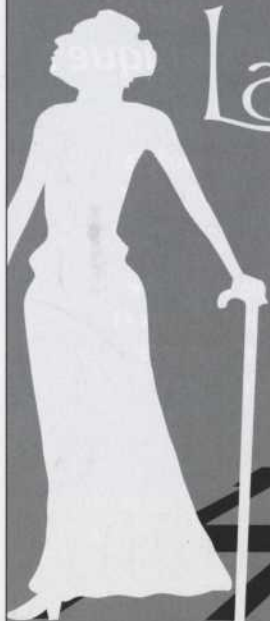
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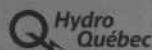


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*Centaur Theatre Company is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association, under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement. Centaur Theatre Company performs under the auspices of the Centaur Foundation for the Performing Arts.*

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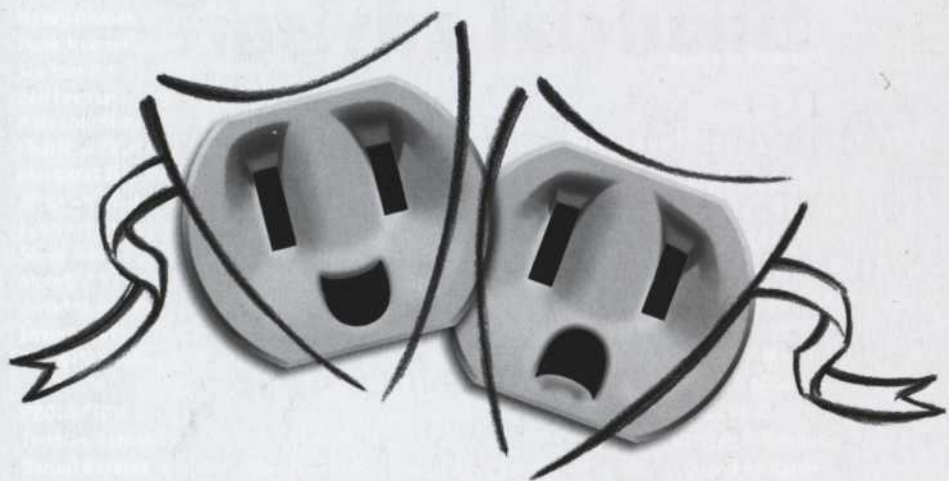
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