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
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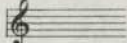
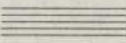
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John Gray's Rock and Roll



Written and Directed by
JOHN GRAY

October 4 – November 6, 1983

Set Design by **E. DON ZACHARIAS**

Costumes by **E. DON ZACHARIAS** and **BARBARA CLAYDEN**,
adapted from original design by **ARTHUR PENSON**

Lighting Design by **NICK CERNOVITCH**

Musical Direction by **J. DOUGLAS DODD**

Director's Associate – **ERIC PETERSON**

Choreography by **"The Monarchs"**

THE CAST

Screamin' John	ERIC PETERSON
Parker	FRANK MACKAY
Chink	JAY BRAZEAU
Shirly	BABS CHULA
Brent	ANDREW RHODES
Manny	ALEC WILLOWS
Pianist	JOHN GRAY

Production Stage Manager – **PAUL HANNA**

Assistant Stage Manager – **PAULA TURNER**

Technical Director – **RICH WILSON**

Audio Engineer – **ALAN (TINKER) AHOFF**

Production Coordinator – **BARBARA CLAYDEN**

Production Assistant – **LYNN PARLETT**

Seamstress Assistant – **LEE GREEN**

Originally produced by the Vancouver East Cultural Centre
and National Arts Centre.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission

ROCK AND ROLL is set in the small town of Mushaboom, Nova Scotia on the night of a rock and roll band's reunion. The year is 1980, but during the evening the band members flash back to their 1960's high school days as "The Monarchs". ROCK AND ROLL is loosely based on "The Lincolns", a Nova Scotia rock band with which John Gray and cast member Frank MacKay performed in the 1960's.

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JOHN GRAY (Playwright/Director) — has directed over sixty productions, composed for over twenty more and written three plays with music. His first, "18 Wheels", was about truck drivers and, after premiering in 1977 in Toronto, gained national recognition and has subsequently been produced across Canada. His play, seen at *Centaur* in 1979, *BILLY BISHOP GOES TO WAR*, was an outstanding success. Since its première in 1978, it has toured Canada twice, played in New York both on and off Broadway, at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. It also played at the prestigious Edinburgh and Bermuda Festivals, and for a limited season at The Comedy Theatre in London's West End. It was recently seen on CBC-TV. *ROCK AND ROLL* premiered in 1981 at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, then toured B.C. prior to a ten-week summer run at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre. It was presented in Toronto at Young People's Theatre and The Bathurst Street Theatre, and received excellent response in all locations. Mr. Gray's recent work includes two commissions from the Vancouver Children's Festival, "Bongo From The Congo" and "Balthazar And The Mojo Star", the latter of which will tour B.C. in Fall, 1983; an original score for the Vancouver Playhouse production of "The Tempest"; two one-act plays, "Snowbird" and "Florence, 1478"; and a new thriller, "You Better Watch Out, You Better Not Die", premiering at the Neptune Theatre in Halifax in December, 1983. Born and brought up in Nova Scotia, Mr. Gray trained as a director at the University of British Columbia, graduating with an M.A. in 1971.

ERIC PETERSON (Screamin' John) — In sixteen years of performing across Canada, Eric Peterson has become one of Canada's most widely seen and best known actors. He began his career in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, developed his skills in Vancouver and most recently has been based in Toronto. Mr. Peterson's portrayal of Billy Bishop in John Gray's international hit, *BILLY BISHOP GOES TO WAR*, seen at *Centaur* in 1979, has won him rave reviews throughout Canada, the U.S.A. and Britain. Eric Peterson and John Gray were commissioned to create a piece for the 1982 Vancouver Children's Festival, resulting in the delightful show, "Bongo From The Congo". Mr. Peterson also assisted John Gray in the original production of *ROCK AND ROLL* and joins the show this year in the role of Screamin' John, the spirit of rock and roll. Mr. Peterson's recent credits include the role of Mercutio in the Young People's Theatre production of "Romeo And Juliet", and the role of He in Theatre Passe Muraille's "D And C". *Centaur* audiences also saw him in *LES CANADIENS*.

FRANK MACKAY (Parker) — Singer, pianist, songwriter and actor, Frank MacKay is a native of Truro, Nova Scotia. He began his career performing in various Maritime rock bands, then tried his hand at acting and appeared in several productions with The National Arts Centre Theatre Company. Mr. MacKay joined the NAC Theatre Company for the 1977/78 season to appear in "William Schwenck And Arthur Who?". The following season he was seen as Barnardo/Player and Second Gravedigger in "Hamlet" and then subsequently appeared in both these productions on the Company's 1978/79 National Tour. During the same season, Mr. MacKay played the role of Horse in the NAC's "Equus". In 1981 Frank played Parker in the original production of *ROCK AND ROLL*. In 1982 he played Sancho in the Vancouver Opera's "Man Of La Mancha". Along with John Gray, Frank MacKay was a member of the original Lincolns, the band on which much of *ROCK AND ROLL* is based. Since then, he has been a major force in the Maritime rock scene, performing in such bands as Chalice and Soma. Most recently, Mr. MacKay has been touring the Maritimes with his own rock band. This spring, his band recorded a one hour special for CBC-TV taped from a local club that will be aired nationally in the Fall of 1983 with FM simulcast.

JAY BRAZEAU (Chink) — Actor, writer, singer, Winnipegger, Mr. Brazeau has appeared on over 100 television shows including "The Beachcombers", "Sesame Street", "The Catch", "Let's Go", and the Actra award-winning "Switchback". Some of Mr. Brazeau's theatrical credits are "Hats Off!", City Stage; Roger in "Grease" at The Manitoba Theatre Centre, Citadel Theatre and the O'Keefe Centre; Tree in "Sonny", and Ben in "Playing The Fool" for The Belfry Theatre; and Snug in "Midsummer Night's Dream" at The Bastion Theatre, Victoria. Mr. Brazeau is also a member of the Vancouver Theatre Sports League and plays on the team The Joe Clark Five. Recent roles of Mr. Brazeau's include Stephano in "The Tempest", Alfred Tubb in "Dry Rot", and Senex in "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum", all productions of The Vancouver Playhouse. Mr. Brazeau is a new member of the *ROCK AND ROLL* cast.

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BABS CHULA (Shirly) — has had extensive experience in comedy, cabaret, improvisational and musical theatre in Canada, U.S.A., Europe, North Africa and Hawaii. Ms. Chula has been a lead singer for several rock groups, most notably the highly popular band, The Street Hearts, has also sung back-up vocals for groups such as Shanana, Styx, and Elvin Bishop, and has appeared on numerous albums. In recent years she has been working in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Hawaii. She has also appeared in the popular Vancouver Theatre Sports, and on several television shows, including "Switchback". This past season Ms. Chula was featured in "Hotel Follies", "Ritz Blitz", and "El Grande De Coca Cola", local cabaret shows which each ran for many months. She is currently also working with the vocal band, Party Fever. Ms. Chula is presently residing in Vancouver with her husband and their five children. She is a new member of the ROCK AND ROLL cast.

ANDREW RHODES (Brent) — is a well-known, Vancouver-based actor, an accomplished musician on saxophone, flute, guitar, piano, organ and drums and performed with a number of rock bands before beginning his theatre career in 1975. Since then, he has gained a healthy reputation on the West Coast, working as an actor, composer, writer and musical director for a number of theatre companies in British Columbia. His most recent credits include the role of Miguel in the long-running Arts Club Theatre production, "El Grande De Coca-Cola"; the lead role of Frank N. Furter in "The Rocky Horror Show", also at the Arts Club Theatre; and "Man Of La Mancha" with the Vancouver Opera Association. A multi-talented and versatile actor, Mr. Rhodes has a stream of other credits, including the role of McCabe in "Red Devil Battery Sign" for the Vancouver Playhouse; "Mable Leaves Forever", an Arts Club Theatre production which he co-wrote and composed with Alec Willows and Simon Webb and in which he also performed; "Lithe And In Person", a two-man show which he wrote, composed and appeared in at the Arts Club Theatre, and on tour throughout B.C. and Seattle; the original production of Heath Lambert's one-man show, "Gunga Heath", which he directed for the Vancouver Playhouse; and played Brent in the original production of ROCK AND ROLL. Mr. Rhodes has also worked in television and film, including two CBC-TV specials, "Boo" with Alec Willows and Simon Webb, and "Slugmalion", with Doug and the Slugs. For Paramount Films, he appeared in "All Washed Up" and "Letters From Frank".

ALEC WILLOWS (Manny) — is a Vancouver actor who, in his own words, has been playing drums as long as he's been able to beat his chest! After performing with several rock bands, Mr. Willows turned to acting and has since appeared with a number of Vancouver theatre companies, including: Tamahnous Theatre, City Stage, ACME Theatre, where he performed in "Theatre Of The Stupid", and the Arts Club Theatre, appearing in "The Passion of Dracula", "Comedians And Hot L Baltimore". He and Andrew Rhodes co-wrote "Mable Leaves Forever" (a nostalgic look at the 1980's while there's still time), also for the Arts Club Theatre. Mr. Willows has worked in television, where he was seen in the CBC-TV special "Slugmalion" with Doug and the Slugs and "Boo" with Andrew Rhodes and Simon Webb. He also played in two films: "Harry Tracey" with Gordon Lightfoot and Bruce Dern, and "Touch The Wind", for Famous Players Theatres Productions. Mr. Willows appeared at the Manitoba Theatre Centre in "How I Got That Story", a play comprising twenty-one characters. Most recently Mr. Willows appeared at The Goodman Theatre in Chicago in the Shakespeare play, "Comedy Of Errors", and in New York with The Flying Karamazov Brothers. He played the role of Manny in the original production of ROCK AND ROLL.

E. DON ZACHARIAS (Set/Costume Designer) — has been working professionally in theatre for the past eight years. He has an extensive background in Interior Design as well as Theatre Set Design, having studied at the Banff Centre and the University of Manitoba in the Interior Design programs. Mr. Zacharias recently won the award for Set Design of "Cold Comfort", a Vancouver East Cultural Centre production, at the First Annual Jessie Richardson Award Ceremonies for outstanding achievement in Vancouver professional theatre. He has also designed for the Vancouver Playhouse production, "The Notebook Of Trigorin", and La Troupe de la Seixieme's "Coup de Sang". In addition to a long list of credits ranging from props to design, Mr. Zacharias is also a distinguished craftsman. His company, Paradise Designs Ltd., operates a successful, North American business selling crafted, wooden birds.

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NICHOLAS CERNOVITCH (Lighting Designer) — has been designing lighting since 1959. He has worked for numerous dance and theatre productions, both French and English, in Canada, the United States, and abroad. Dance artists with whom Mr. Cernovitch has worked include Alvin Ailey, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, and Jose Limon. He designed several ballets for American Ballet Theatre, including Rudolph Nureyev's full-length production of "Raymonda". Some highlights of Mr. Cernovitch's theatre work include the original production of James Joyce's "Ulysses In Night Town", directed by Burgess Meredith and starring Zero Mostel, and the original production of John Gray's **ROCK AND ROLL**, for which he received a Dora Mavor Moore Award. His work in opera includes the National Arts Centre's productions of "Don Pasquale" and "The Magic Flute". Since immigrating to Canada in 1979, Mr. Cernovitch has been resident lighting designer for Montreal's Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, and is widely acclaimed for his design of the highly successful rock/ballet, "Tommy". Mr. Cernovitch also designed the lighting for the National Film Board's recent dance film, "Gala", which featured eight Canadian dance companies at the first Canadian Dance Spectacular. Currently, in addition to lighting the new production of **ROCK AND ROLL**, Mr. Cernovitch is working on the opening gala for Toronto's new Harbourfront Theatre, and for the Centre Stage Production of "Summerfolk".

J. DOUGLAS DODD (Musical Director) — is a composer and musical director who has worked in theatre, film, and television. He has numerous credits to his name, including: "Law Of The Land" and "Caucasian Chalk Circle" for the Caravan Stage Company; "Some Kind Of Saviour" and "Walls" at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre; and, "Spoke-song" and "Piaf" at City Stage, where he was also resident musical director. Most recently, Mr. Dodd composed the music for several films, including "Big Meat Eater" for B.C.D. Entertainment; "Inside Out", a film for television featuring the theatre process at Matsqui Prison and "Skip Tracer" for Highlight Productions. He has also directed the music for three productions at Nanaimo's Malaspina College Theatre, "The Beggar's Opera", "We Too", and "Oh What A Lovely War". Mr. Dodd has also worked for the National Film Board composing music for various full-length, animated and documentary films such as "Jack Hodgins' Island", "Mary Of Mile 18", and "Jacks Or Better". He has recently completed a new production of "Piaf: Her Songs, Her Loves", presented by City Stage, and is currently working with Goldrush Sound Studios in Vancouver. Mr. Dodd also directed the music for the original production of John Gray's **ROCK AND ROLL**.

PAUL HANNA (Production Stage Manager) — is a freelance theatre person working out of Fredericton, N.B. He has written, directed, stage managed and worked in technical theatre. Mr. Hanna was founding Artistic Director of the Theatre New Brunswick Young Company in Fredericton where he wrote and directed numerous plays for children. He has also been Acting Artistic Director and Assistant Managing Director for Theatre New Brunswick, and Assistant Administrator and Workshop Director for the National Arts Centre English Theatre. He operated the NAC's Atelier Theatre where he directed "Sir Epicure Loses Face" and "Narrow Road To The Deep North". In the past year Mr. Hanna has directed "Zastrozzi" for Concordia University in Montreal; "Filthy Rich" for The Great Canadian Theatre Company in Ottawa; and, co-directed "200" for the New Brunswick Bicentennial Commission. His play, "Dr. Mildew's Marvelous Magical Musical Medicine Show", which he co-wrote with James Duplacey, toured the Ottawa area this past summer. Mr. Hanna also operates a theatre consultant business in Fredericton called Theatre Techniques. He is married and has two children, Jeremy and Keith.

PAULA TURNER (Assistant Stage Manager) — has worked in technical theatre for several years. She apprenticed in Stage Management in both Banff and Calgary, and then worked for two seasons with Theatre Calgary. Ms. Turner then moved to Vancouver where she now lives. She has worked on various productions, including "Cold Comfort" at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre, "La Bohème", "La Traviata" and "Carmen", all at the Vancouver Opera, and now for the first time on John Gray's **ROCK AND ROLL**. Ms. Turner has toured extensively with theatre groups throughout Alberta, Toronto and the Queen Charlotte Islands.

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RICH WILSON (Technical Director) — has been working in theatre since 1954 when he began as a Props Assistant with the film, "Creature For The Black Lagoon". He is now well-known throughout Canada and the Eastern United States for his creative work in several areas of technical theatre. Mr. Wilson worked as Production Manager and Technical Director for the Children's Theatre of Maine in Portland, Maine. After this he spent ten years as Props man with Confederation Centre in Charlottetown, P.E.I., on the production of "Anne Of Green Gables". Mr. Wilson then joined the Vancouver Playhouse where he spent nearly three years as Production Manager and Technical Director. He is now working as an independent Design Coordinator, most recently on the Paramount film "Space Hunter" and currently on the PNE (Pacific National Exhibition) Summer Fair Theme Show. Mr. Wilson has also taught extensively, teaching Literature and Drama at Florida State University, and Technical Theatre for three years at the University of Maine at Portland. He joins ROCK AND ROLL for the 1983 production.

ALAN (TINKER) AHOFF (Audio Engineer) — The West Coast's most demanded and most demanding sound man, Alan (Tinker) Ahoff has had fifteen years of experience touring with such musical groups as Little Richard, Ike & Tina Turner Revue, The Miracles, The Hollies, Bad Company and Jethro Tull, giving him a solid background in live sound. In 1978, he joined the Vancouver East Cultural Centre as the Resident House Soundman, and has since worked extensively in theatre. Most recently, Mr. Ahoff has worked with "The Rocky Horror Show", "The Nylons", "The Ecstasy Of Rita Joe", "Hank Williams, The Show He Never Gave", "Last Call", and "A State Of Grace". This year Mr. Ahoff re-joins John Gray's ROCK AND ROLL.

Author's Note:

In September of 1978 I went home to Truro, Nova Scotia, to play a reunion dance with *The Lincolns*, a band I played with from 1965 to 1968. Although *The Lincolns* were pretty hot stuff in the sixties, I approached the whole thing with misgiving. The possibilities for humiliation seemed endless. I could just see us playing has-been rock and roll to a dozen people in the Teachers' College gym, wondering where it all went.

Well, that didn't happen. In fact, a couple of thousand people showed up for what turned out to be a very high time indeed. I won't try to describe it because I think you had to be there, but at some point I realized that I might just have been part of what we could almost call a culture. This had never occurred to me before. I had always assumed that culture, particularly popular culture, was something that happened someplace else, something that you left home to find.

I thought there might be a show there. I started writing after *Billy Bishop Goes To War* premièred in Vancouver, and since the run was longer than expected, I found myself writing in Vancouver, Montreal, Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Washington, New York and Los Angeles. It was strange writing about home while experiencing the "big time" for the first time, and this might account for a fairly ironic edge to the script.

At some point, of course, the biographical-autobiographical aspect gave way to the internal needs of the story. John Wood and Eric Peterson were a big help in pointing out that facts are often neither true nor interesting. I would also like to thank Frank MacKay, Charlie Fletcher, Alec Willows, Barbara Williams, John Rutter, Andy Rhodes, P'shaw, Double D, Tinker, Donna, and the people at the National Arts Centre and the Vancouver East Cultural Centre who gave more to the show than one can reasonably expect.

Rock And Roll is about growing up, about youth nostalgia and about small town Canadian culture. It has its title because the music was the glue that held us all together.

— John Gray
May 1981

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With special thanks to Andis Celms, Ian Pool and the staff of the National Arts Centre; and Kay Staley and CP Air.

Thanks also to Joan Green and Ken Wells for loaning their car; Bob Bottieri and Walter Ockley for casting and transforming it for use in the play; and to Linda Boyd, Steven De Nure, Tamahnous Theatre and The Vancouver Playhouse for their kind help.

The Vancouver East Cultural Centre gratefully acknowledges the support of The Canada Council, the Province of British Columbia through the B.C. Cultural Fund, the City of Vancouver and the Koerner Foundation.

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ADDITIONAL CREDITS

The taped music in ROCK AND ROLL was recorded in Vancouver at Goldrush Recording Company (J. Douglas Dodd, Producer) with the following musicians. John Gray and Alec Willows sing back-up vocals on "Fat Boy".

DARYL BURGESS, Percussion; JOHN GRAY, Piano; ED HENDERSON, Guitar and additional arrangements; CHARLIE KNOWLES, Bass Guitar; AL WOLD, Saxophone. Live accompaniment for the song "Mom and Dad" is provided by Andrew Rhodes (Flute) and Jay Brazeau (Acoustic Guitar).

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Centaur Theatre Company, a professional company operating within the jurisdiction of Canadian Actors' Equity Association and a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres performs under the auspices of the Centaur Foundation for the Performing Arts.

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Associate Director – Judy Cutler

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Marcy Cohen Box Office Manager
Jennifer Cook Administrative Ass't
Terry Diab Publicity Co-ordinator
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Allan Patrick House Manager
Carmela Pratico Bookkeeper
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Ted Worth Business Manager
Stephane Zarov Ass't House Manager

production staff

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Griffith Brewer Properties Master
Charles H. Childs Production Manager
Alexander Gazale Technical Director
Bruce Giddings Assistant Carpenter
Sandra Harris Wardrobe Mistress
Jennifer Hazen Ass't Stage Manager
Marianne Kingsmill Properties Assistant
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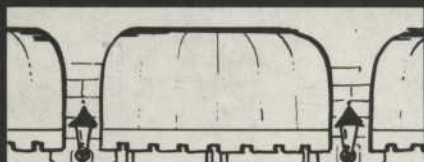
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