

A Quebec English-Language Premiere!

# The Orphan Muses

BY  
MICHEL MARC BOUCHARD

TRANSLATED BY LINDA GABORIAU



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COMPANY

Gordon McCall,  
Artistic Director



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PEGABO



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THEATRE  
COMPANY**

Gordon McCall,  
Artistic Director

# The Orphan Muses



October 21 – November 30, 1997

*Written by*

**MICHEL MARC BOUCHARD**

*Translated by*

**LINDA GABORIAU**

*Directed by*

**JACKIE MAXWELL**

*The Cast*

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

*Catherine* DONNA GOODHAND

*Isabelle* WANETA STORMS

*Luc* BEN BASS

*Martine* FIONA HIGHET

*Set & Costume Designer*  
DENNIS HORN

*Lighting Designer*  
LUC PRAIRIE

*Assistant Director*  
EDA HOLMES

*Stage Manager*  
LYNN MCQUEEN

*Apprentice Stage Manager*  
SHAUNA JAPP

**TIME AND PLACE**

Saint-Ludger de Milot, in the Lac-Saint-Jean region of Québec.  
April 1965.

Act I: Holy Saturday. Late afternoon.

Act II: Holy Saturday. Evening.

Act III: Easter Monday.

*There will be one intermission.*

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# ABOUT THE Playwright



**B**orn in Lac St. Jean in 1958, Michel Marc Bouchard wrote and mounted his first plays at Collège de Matane during his studies in Tourism. He completed his B.A. in Theatre in 1980. Since then, he has penned over 25 plays, all of which have been staged, and which include the well-known *Lillies* (1987), *The Orphan Muses* (1988), *The Tale of Teeka* (1990), *Heat Wave* (1991) and *Coronation Voyage* (1995). His works, translated into 9 languages, have represented Canada in major festivals around the world and

have been performed in the capital cities of 4 continents.

Michel Marc Bouchard is the recipient of many grants and awards, including the Dora Mavor Moore, the Floyd S. Chalmers, and, for the Vancouver productions of *Lillies* and *The Orphan Muses*, nine Jesse Richardson Awards. The film adaptation of his play, *Lillies*, for which he wrote the screenplay directed by John Greyson, received numerous European and American prizes and a 1995/96 Canadian Genie for Best Feature Film.

During the past few years, Mr. Bouchard has taught at the Université du Québec à Montréal, at Chicoutimi, and at the University of Ottawa. He has acted as Artistic Director of Ottawa's Théâtre du Trillium, President of the Centre des Auteurs dramatiques and Vice-President of the Centre du Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui. His most recently staged work was *Pierre et Marie...et Le Démon*, a comedy directed by Martin Faucher at Théâtre de Rougemont.

This fall, Michel Marc will participate in two other major, highly awaited theatre projects in Montreal: Théâtre Petit à Petit's *Les Huit Péchés Capitaux* under the direction of René Richard Cyr and Claude Poissant and in Urbi and Orbi's production of *Contes Urbains* featuring his work, *Le Jade et L'Ebene* at Théâtre de La Manufacture. In the new year, the Compagnie Jean-Duceppe will produce his new play, *Le Chemin des Passes-Dangereuses*. The latter will receive its European premiere at Théâtre en Scène in Roubaix.

Centaur's production of *The Orphan Muses* marks the Quebec English-language premiere of Michel Marc Bouchard's play.

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ABOUT THE

# T ranslator



**L**inda Gaboriau has translated more than forty-five plays, including the works of some of Quebec's most prominent playwrights. Her translations of plays by Michel Marc Bouchard, René-Daniel Dubois, Normand Chaurette, Gratien Gélinas, Michel Garneau, Jovette Marchessault and Théâtre de la Marmaille (*Deux Mondes*), have been published and widely produced across Canada and abroad. Her translation of

Bouchard's *Les Feluettes* (*Lillies*) was nominated for the Governor General's Award for Literary Translation and won the Dora Mavor Moore, Chalmers and Jesse Richardson Awards.

Most recently, her translation of the Daniel Danis play *Stone and Ashes*, was nominated for a 1995 Chalmers Award and won the 1996 Governor General's Award. Ms. Gaboriau also works as a free-lance broadcaster and journalist, having hosted and produced radio shows for the CBC and Radio-Canada networks, and was the theatre critic for the Montreal Gazette. She has contributed to various publications in Canada and the United States.

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# W B I O G R A P H I E S Who's who

**BEN BASS** (*Luc*) has extensive theatre, film and television credits to his name.



Theatre work includes *In The Ring* by Jean Marc Dalpé, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, and *Shakespeare Gym* all at the Stratford Festival, *Democracy* at the Belfry and *Romeo And Juliet* at the Citadel. He was nominated for a Vancouver Jesse Award for outstanding support performance in a musical. His film and television credits include *Forever Knight* (CBS/CTV Paragon), *Andrea Martin: Together Again* (HBO/CBC), and *A Cool, Dry Place* (20th Century Fox). Ben studied theatre at The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in England, and École Jacques Lecoq in France.

**DONNA GOODHAND** (*Catherine*) This is Ms. Goodhand's first appearance at



Centaur. Her theatre credits include: *King Lear*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Stratford); *What Is To Be Done?*, *Mrs. Klein*, and *A Woman's Comedy* (Tarragon) for which she was awarded a Dora; *Hamlet*, *The Club*, *Waiting For The Parade* (The Grand Theatre Company); *New World* (National Arts Centre/Centre Stage); and *Arms and the Man*, and *Cavalcade* (Shaw Festival). CBC Radio drama credits include: *Famous Last Words*, *Crackpot*, and numerous episodes of *Vanishing Point*. Television includes: *Ultimate Betrayal*, *Undue Influence*, and airing this winter, episodes of *Fast Track* and *Psi Factor*.

**FIONA HIGHET** (*Martine*) is thrilled to be making her debut at Centaur. She



recently played Kate in Daniel Brooks' *Insomnia* with the Augusta Company. Other theatre credits include *Kalldewey*, *Farce* at Theatre Smith/Gilmour, *Taking Liberties* at Arbour Theatre, and *The Little Years* at Theatre Passe Muraille, for which she was nominated for a Dora Award for Best Actress. Fiona last worked with Centaur's Gordon McCall at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, where he directed her in *The Hot L Baltimore*. Film and television includes: *No Contest II*, *The Hardy Boys*, and, airing this season, John Woo's *Once A Thief*.

**WANETA STORMS** (*Isabelle*) studied at the National Theatre School, during



which she performed in *The Country Wife* and *Mad Forest* at Centaur. After graduating, she played Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Bellamy in *The Fantastiks* (McGill Festival). Since moving to Toronto, she has been seen as Thomasina in *Arcadia* (Canadian Stage/MTC), Anne Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* (YPT), Emily in *Our Town* (Neptune), Breda in *Digging For Fire* (Paramour Productions), and Susan in *The Witch of Edmonton* (Equity Showcase). Recent films include *A Midwife's Tale* (PBS) and *Joe's So Mean To Josephine* (Accent/Alliance).



# JERUSALEM

## THE MUSICAL

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The Gazette



# Behind the Scenes

JACKIE MAXWELL (*Director*) has worked extensively throughout Canada as a director and dramaturg. During her eight year tenure as Artistic Director of Toronto's Factory Theatre, Jackie, in collaboration with Montreal's CEAD, commissioned the translation of many French-Canadian plays including Michel Marc Bouchard's *Lillies*. She also directed Linda Gaboriau's translations of Daniel Danis' *Stone and Ashes*, and Michel Garneau's *Warriors*, and was nominated for a Dora Award for her recent direction of Carole Frechettes's *The Four Lives of Marie* at Tarragon Theatre.



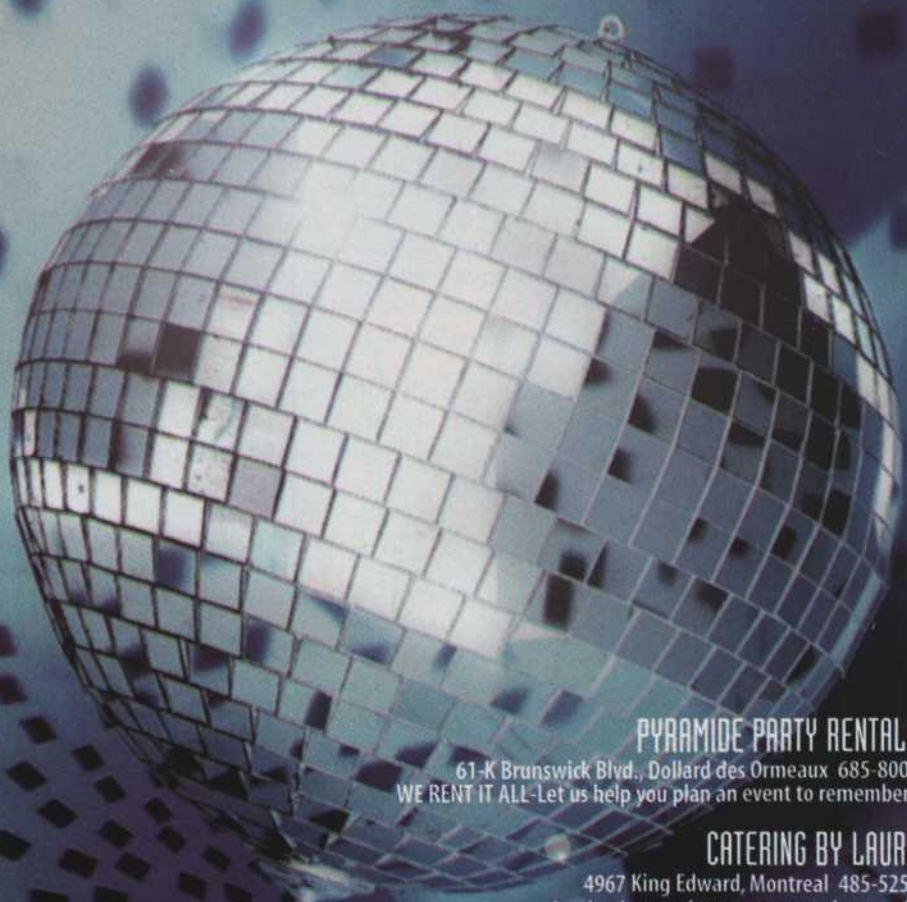
Other favourite productions include Andy Jones' *Still Alive* for Factory Theatre; *Goodnight Desdemona*, *Good Morning Juliet* at the Grand Theatre, London; *Dancing at Lughnasa* at Theatre Calgary and Canadian Stage Co., Toronto; and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Young People's Theatre.

She is currently guest director at the Graduate Centre for Drama at the University of Toronto and Head of New Musical Development for the Charlottetown Festival. Other upcoming projects include directing Carol Shield's *13 Hands* for Theatre New Brunswick and directing the graduating acting class of the National Theatre School in new plays by the playwrighting graduates.

DENNIS HORN (*Set & Costume Designer*) is delighted to be working at Centaur and to be continuing his association with Gord McCall. He comes to Montreal directly from the 1000 Islands Playhouse in Gananoque, Ontario where he designed the set and costumes for *Vigil*. Other recent credits include *Salt-Water Moon* at Theatre Orangeville, the premiere of *Hard Hats: The Musical* at the Lighthouse Festival, *Blithe Spirit* at T.I.P., *Lost In Yonkers* directed by Al Waxman at the Atlantis Theatre in Toronto, and *East of Elvis*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and *An Inspector Calls* all at the Sudbury Theatre Centre. When not living out of a suitcase, Dennis lives in Elora, Ontario with a very enthusiastic two year old English Springer Spaniel named Bailey. He hopes to one day have a garden that will not embarrass his neighbors. Dennis is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.



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LUC PRAIRIE (*Lighting Designer*) has



been a lighting designer, assistant designer and stage manager since 1974, and has worked on over 100 productions as lighting designer and on approximately 50 shows

as assistant director and stage manager. This past year, Luc designed lights for our opening show, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* and shows at Grand Theatre (London), Casino de Montréal, Théâtre Jean-Duceppe and Usine C. In the past he has designed for Le Théâtre de Marjolaine, Le Théâtre D'Aujourd'hui, Tess Imaginaire, Le Café de la Place, Le Théâtre de la Manufacture, Le Théâtre Populaire du Québec, and Opera McGill. Work outside Quebec includes The National Arts Centre, Center Stage Company, (Toronto), Manitoba Theatre Centre, Mirvish Productions (Toronto), Theatre New Brunswick (Fredericton), Persephone Theatre (Saskatoon), Guelph Festival, Pacific Opera (Victoria), Canadian Opera Company (Toronto), and Belfry Theatre (Victoria). In addition, Mr. Prairie redesigned *The Real World* for The Mayfest in Glasgow, Scotland for Tarragon Theatre (Toronto).

EDA HOLMES (*Assistant Director*) After



a fifteen year career as a professional dancer with the San Francisco Ballet and the Frankfurt Ballet, Eda studied directing at the National Theatre School of Canada. She

received a Fox Foundation grant and a Canada Council Emerging Artists grant to create and direct an original production entitled *Standing Female Nude* to premiere next March at the Tarragon Theatre in Toronto. She is thrilled to have this opportunity to work with Jackie Maxwell.

LYNN McQUEEN (*Stage Manager*)



returns to Centaur for its 29th Season with *The Orphan Muses*. Last year she was stage manager for *Vigil* and *The Winter's Tale*. Her previous Centaur credits

include *Come Good Rain*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Arms and the Man*, *Playboy of the West Indies*, *Karla and Grif*, *The Death of René Lévesque*, *Our Country's Good*, and *Hank Williams: The Show He Never Gave*. Lynn has stage managed plays for various other Canadian Theatre companies, most recently the national tour of *Past Forgetting*, and Halifax's Eastern Front Theatre Company's production of *Whylah Falls*. Lynn was also the Co-ordinatrice Artistique of the St. Denis televised Galas at the Just For Laughs Festival for the past two summers.

SHAUNA JAPP

(*Apprentice Stage Manager*) is excited to be returning to Centaur where she was both production and stage manager for Portico Blue's *After The Fact*, part of Centaur's X-TREME DIRECTIONS series. She has worked in Montreal as an assistant stage manager on *Blue Valentine* for Theatre 1774 and as the stage manager on *All Fall Down* with Found Productions and on *House for Imago*. Most recently, she stage managed *On Golden Pond* and *The Woman In Black* for Village Theatre's '97 summer season. Shauna graduated from the University of Windsor with an honors BA in Drama; and attended The Banff Centre for the Arts summer '96 stagecraft program.

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# The Orphan Muses

LES MUSES ORPHELINES "premiered" on stage in French, in Montreal, at le **Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui** on September 7, 1988. André Brassard directed the play.

THE ORPHAN MUSES, the English translation of the play, directed by David Ross, was first presented by the **Western Canada Theatre Company** in Kamloops, at the Sagebrush Theatre on January 20, 1995.

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Atlantic Theatre Festival

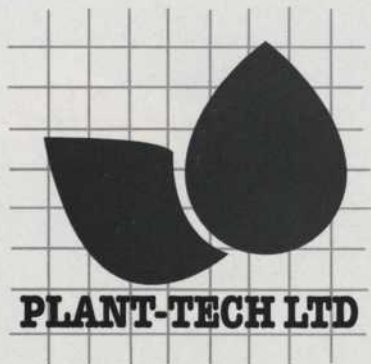
Jane Christopher, Thousand Islands Playhouse

Steve Gannon, Department of History and Heritage National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa

Paul Keenan

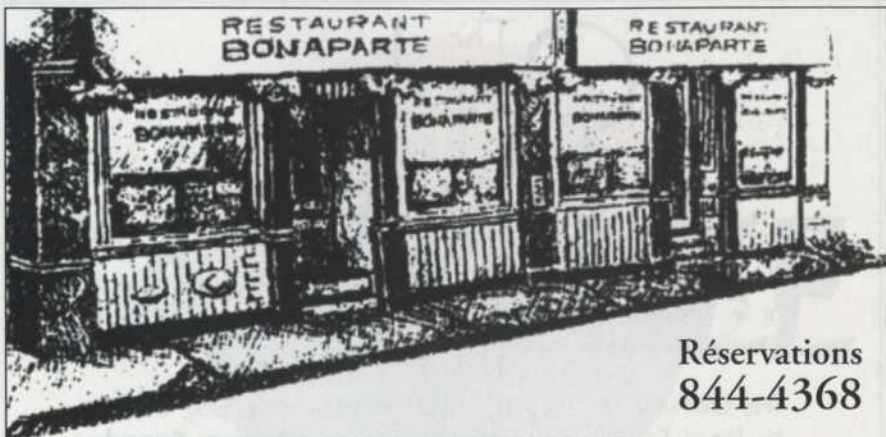
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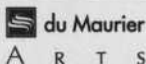
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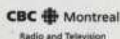
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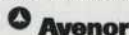
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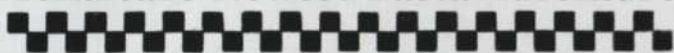
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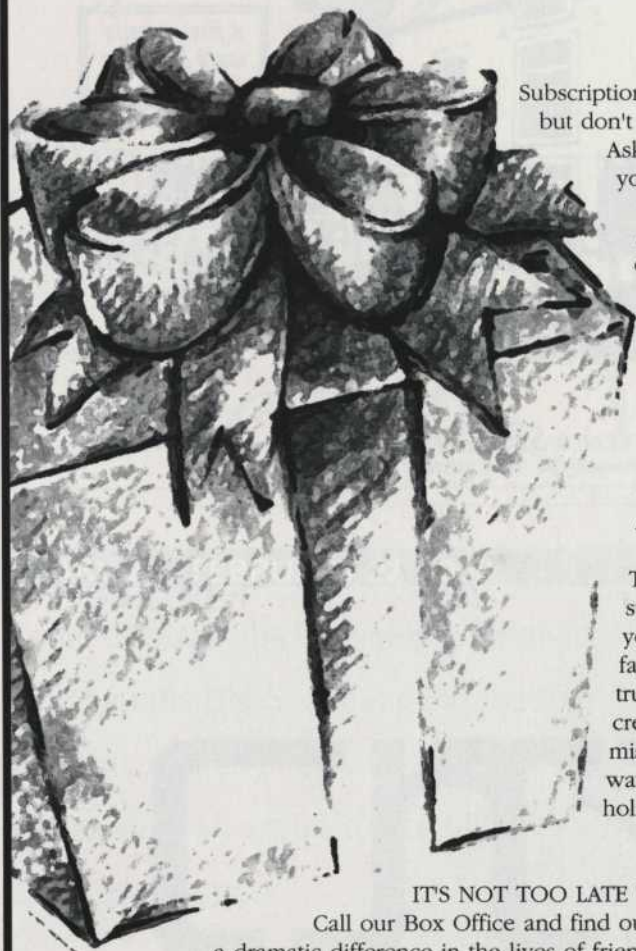


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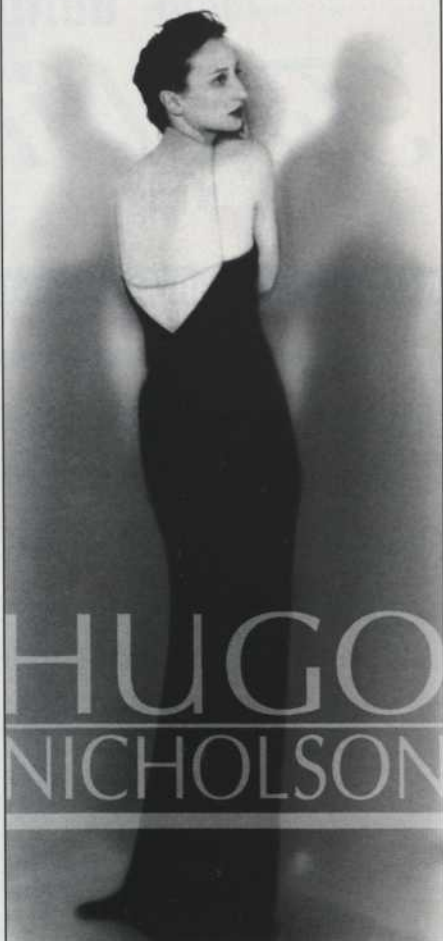
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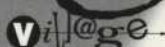


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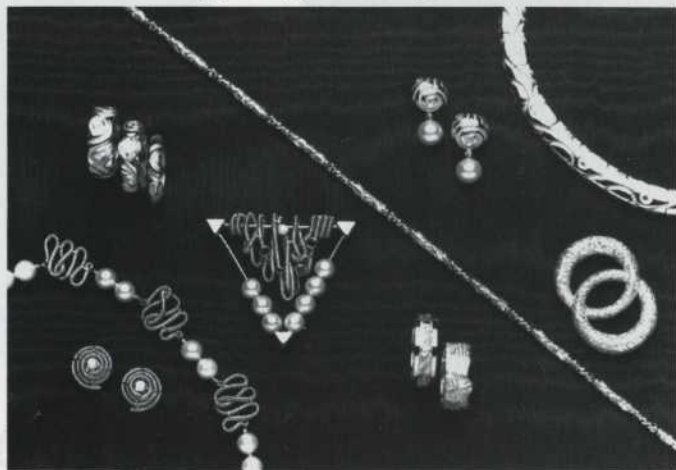


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# CENTAUR THEATRE COMPANY'S Saturday Morning

**OCTOBER 25, 1997**

TRICYCLE PRODUCTIONS presents

## **JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH** by Roald Dahl

Based on the popular children's book about a young orphan whose world is suddenly changed when a mysterious man gives him a bag of magical insects. Together with his new friends, James sets out on a new and exciting journey to make his dreams come true.

**NOVEMBER 15, 1997**

YOUTHATRE presents

## **TALES FROM THE ARABIAN NIGHTS** by Simon Johnston

MUSIC, LIVE ACTORS & GIANT PUPPETS!

Explore the world of Ancient Persia on a magic carpet with Ali Baba, Sinbad, Sheherazade and friends. Learn about their exotic world through stories and adventure.

**NOVEMBER 22, 1997**

TOGETHERCOLORED PRODUCTIONS presents

## **BABALOO AND GANOOSH**

Babaloo is an in-line skating, Beethoven-listening boy who meets up with the Dr. Seuss-reading Ganoosh at the sign-in for a song competition. The silliness soars as these two clowns pool their talents to create an award-winning song!

**NOVEMBER 29, 1997**

LES CABOTINS presents

## **THE LETTER**

A bilingual, musical comedy, rich with surprises and misunderstandings - and using traditional Commedia Dell'Arte's colorful characters and movement.

**DECEMBER 13, 1997**

PEGASUS PERFORMING ARTS presents

## **CINDERELLA**

The famous story remains intact. PLUS, there is a definite Christmas flavor with song, dance and audience participation.

**ALL SHOWS START AT 10:30 A.M. AGES K TO GRADE 6**

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**W**e invite you to explore - and join - the informal post-show surprise of our New Saturday Night Cabarets. Enjoy theatre at its impromptu best as Centaur's staff, crew, guest directors... and the community at large take to the stage to present five-minute pieces of cabaret-style savvy.

New Artistic Director, Gordon McCall, will be hosting the cabarets along with many other talented Montrealers.

This is yet another opportunity for us to celebrate together the wonderfully varied world of theatre.



# SATURDAY NIGHT CABARETS!

So...visit our Seagram Gallery on Saturday nights. Have a drink. Say hello. Relax and enjoy the spontaneity of Centaur's

New Saturday Night Cabarets!

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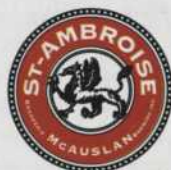
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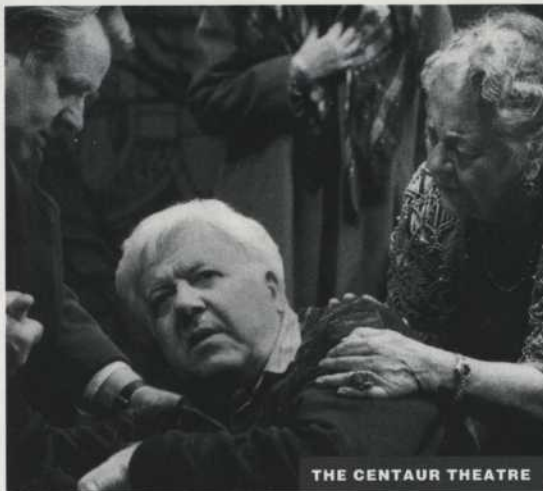
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**CENTAUR**  
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COMPANY

453 St. François-Xavier  
Old Montreal, Quebec  
H2Y 2T1

**Gordon McCall - Artistic and Executive Director**  
Charles Childs - General Manager

### ADMINISTRATION

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James Archibald	Maintenance
Wanda Ariano	Development Director
Resa Leinwand	Communications & Marketing Assistant
Virginia Massey	Receptionist
Kristin McLeod	Development Assistant
Maggie Murphy	Assistant Box Office Manager
Aleksandra Oleszkiewicz	Accounting Manager
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Catherine Vokey	Administrative Assistant

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Mike Brunet	Electrician
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Graham Frampton	Production Manager
Shauna Japp	Apprentice Stage Manager
Katherine Lilley	Properties Head
Lynn McQueen	Stage Manager
Howard Mendelsohn	Technical Director
Michelle Nelson	Assistant Carpenter
David Retzleff	Head Carpenter
David Surette	Head Technician C2
Mary Thomas	Wardrobe Supervisor

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Sheida Shojai

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Claudia Morelli  
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Flora Planchat  
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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Louis Ariano, B.I. Cohen, Bruce Henry, Cover Graphic Design by Marie-France Laurier,  
Photography by Lydia Pawelak, Primavera Catering, Promat - Publishers of Theatre Programme

Centaur Theatre Company is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatre 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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