

"AAAA"

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

book and lyrics by **Howard Ashman**

music by **Alan Menken**

Based on the film by Roger Corman. Screenplay by Charles Griffith



centaur
theatre
company
20th season



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LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



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**Book and lyrics by
HOWARD ASHMAN**

**Music by
ALAN MENKEN**

Based on the film by **Roger Corman**. Screenplay by **Charles Griffith**.

January 3 - 29, 1988

THE CAST

Seymour	TED DYKSTRA
Mr. Mushnik	LES CARLSON
Audrey	SYLVIE PERRON
Orin, Bernstein, Mrs. Luce,	
Agent, Martin, Wino, Customer	JACK LANGEDIJK
Chiffon	DEBRA BENJAMIN
Crystal	LORENA GALE
Ronnette	KIM RICHARDSON
The Plant (Audrey Two)	DORIAN JOE CLARK

THE MUSICIANS

Saxophone	CHARLES PAPASOFF
Drummer	JEFF SIMONS
Guitarist	FRED TORAK
Pianist	NORMAN ZUBIS

directed by ALLEN MACINNIS
musical direction by CHARLES PAPASOFF
choreography by CYNTHIA HENDRICKSON
designed by MICHAEL EAGAN
lighting by ALEXANDER GAZALE
sound by DIANE LEBOEUF

manipulator DAVID FRANCIS
vocal arrangement by ROBERT BILLIG
orchestrations by ROBBY MERKIN
puppets designed by MARTIN P. ROBINSON
stage manager NICOLETTE THEROUX
assistant stage manager JENNIFER O'CONNOR

The Setting

Mushnik's Skid Row Florist Shop

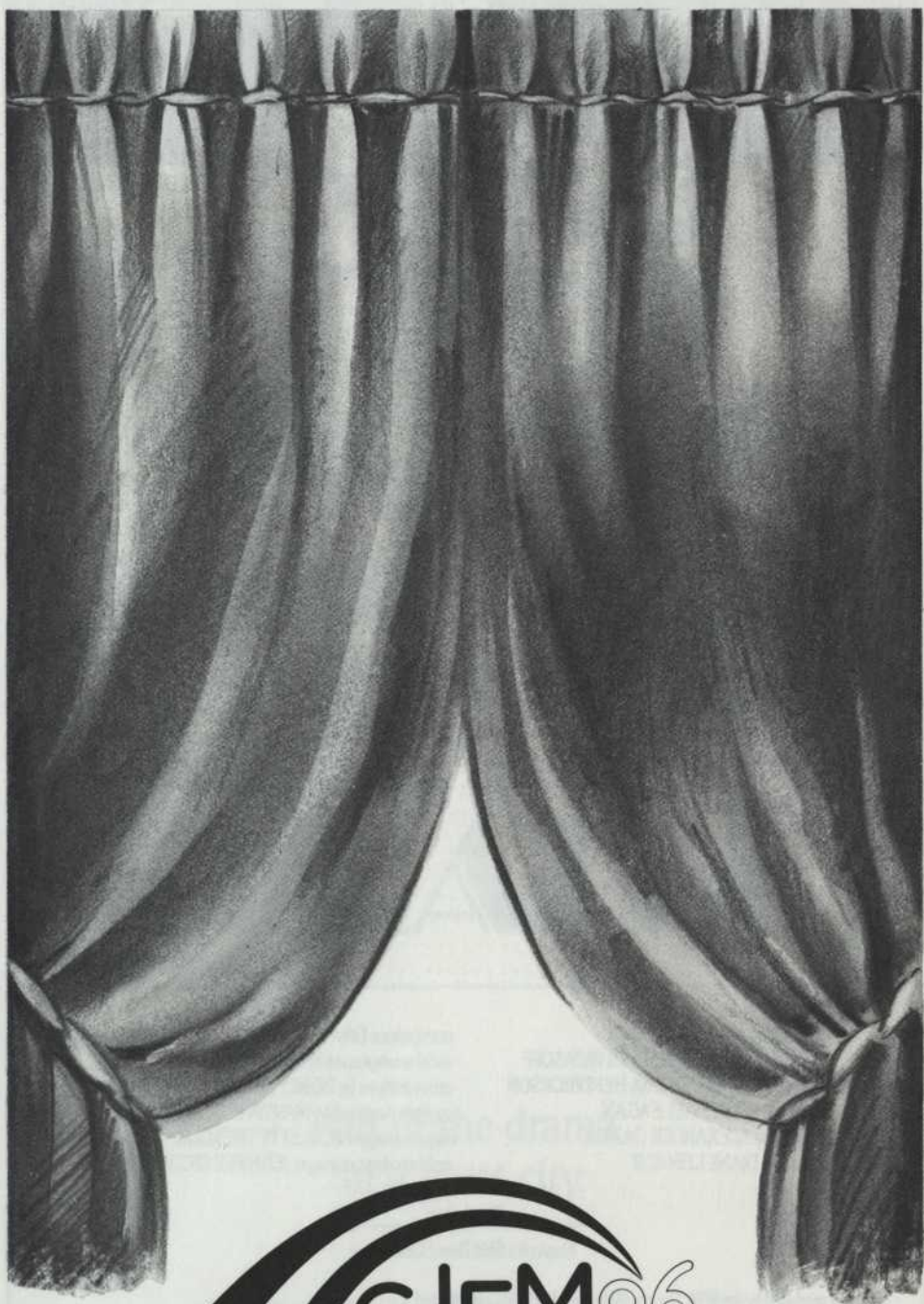
Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director)

Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre, New York City by the WPA Theatre, David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert Organization.

There will be one intermission.

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Tape recorders and cameras are not allowed in the theatre. Please turn off all wristwatch alarms and beepers during the performance.



CJFM96

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Little Shop of Horrors | Crystal, Ronnette, Chiffon |
| 2. Downtown (Skid Row) | Company |
| 3. Da-Doo | Seymour, Girls |
| 4. Grow For Me | Seymour |
| 5. Don't It Go To Show Ya Never Know | Mushnik, Seymour, Girls |
| 6. Somewhere That's Green | Audrey |
| 7. Closed For Renovation | Mushnik, Seymour, Audrey |
| 8. Dentist! | Orin, Girls |
| 9. Mushnik and Son | Mushnik, Seymour |
| 10. Git It | Seymour and The Plant |
| 11. Now (It's Just The Gas) | Orin, Seymour |

ACT II

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 12. Call Back In The Morning | Audrey, Seymour |
| 13. Suddenly Seymour | Seymour, Audrey, Girls |
| 14. Suppertime | The Plant |
| 15. The Meek Shall Inherit | Seymour, Orin, Girls |
| 16. Suppertime (reprise) | The Plant |
| 17. Somewhere That's Green (reprise) | Audrey |
| 18. Finale (Don't Feed The Plants) | Company |



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DEBRA BENJAMIN (Chiffon)

comes to Centaur directly from Calgary's Stage West's production of *Hair*. She appeared in Centaur's *Guys and Dolls* last season. Stage credits also include *Sophisticated Ladies* at Toronto's Limelight Dinner Theatre and Crest Theatre's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. If Debra were a plant, she'd be a bear grass.

LES CARLSON (Mr. Mushnik)

Les Carlson, one of Canada's best-known performers of stage and film, appeared in the Centaur shows *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Leaving Home*, *Summer*, and *That Championship Season*. His most recent stage appearances were *Lie of the Mind* at Vancouver Playhouse, *The Tempest* at Toronto Free Theatre and *The Little Foxes* at Theatre New Brunswick. Recent film and television credits include *Two Men*, *Anne of Green Gables/Part 2*, *Murphy's Law*, *MacGyver* and *Echoes in the Darkness*. Among his critically-acclaimed work is his television role as Steve in *Raku Fire* for which he won an ACTRA award in 1978. He has also been nominated for a Genie for his role as Barry Convex in *Videodrome*. If Les were a plant, he'd be an anemone because he can't pronounce its name.

DORIAN JOE CLARK (The Plant)

Well-known singer, actor, dancer, choreographer in Canada and the U.S., Dorian Joe will be remembered by Centaur audiences as Nicely-Nicely Johnson in last season's hit musical *Guys and Dolls*. During the run of *Little Shop*, Dorian Joe will be commuting between Montreal and Toronto, where he is a regular on a syndicated cartoon series, due for release this spring. As well, he will be working on two feature films. Following *Little Shop*, he will complete writing on his first full-length

ballet entitled *The Lost Cave* which Dorian Joe will also produce, choreograph and design. If Dorian Joe were a plant... hmmm... reality has set in.

TED DYKSTRA (Seymour)

Ted Dykstra will be remembered by Centaur audiences for his appearances in *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* and as Cale in the smash hit musical *Fire*. He recently recreated the role of Cale to further acclaim at the Vancouver Playhouse and Toronto's Theatre Passe Muraille. Since graduating from the National Theatre School in 1984, he has appeared in numerous theatres across the country including *Midsummer Night's Dream* for Toronto Free Theatre; *Criminals in Love* and *Souvenirs* for Factory Theatre in Toronto; *Beaux Stratagèmes* and *Antigone* for the Stratford Festival Young Company and *Breaking the Silence*, a Shaw Festival Toronto project. Ted has been a member of the Shaw Festival Company for the past three seasons. Credits also include television and film. An avid composer/musician, Ted has written and recorded original music for *B:Movie: The Play* (Manitoba Theatre Centre); *Scapino!* (Theatre New Brunswick); *Christmas Carol* (Young People's Theatre) and *Holiday* (Shaw Festival) and is currently working on a musical version of *Dorian Grey*. If Ted could be a plant, he would.

MICHAEL EAGAN (Set and Costumes Designer)

Michael Eagan is one of Canada's foremost designers and a 'regular' at Centaur since its inception with over twenty shows to his credit including *Eve*, *Back to Beulah*, *Night and Day*, *Travesties*, *The Seagull*, *Glorious Mud*, and last season's *Guys and Dolls*. An alumnus of the National Theatre School, he is currently Head of the Design Section. Recent credits include *The School for Scandal* and *Not About Heroes* for Stratford's 1987 season; *The*



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Diary of Anne Frank and *The Haunting of Elijah Bones* for Young People's Theatre in Toronto; *Brighton Beach Memoirs* at Theatre Calgary; and *Les Femmes Savantes* for Théâtre du Bois de Coulonge in Quebec. For the opera stage, Michael has designed *Un Ballo in Maschera* (Verdi) for Opera Hamilton; *L'Oca del Cairo* (Mozart) for University of Toronto Opera School; and for Guelph Spring Festival and Expo '86, *The Lighthouse* (Peter Maxwell Davies). Last summer, he designed *Damn Yankees* at Toronto's Royal Alex. If Michael Eagan were a plant, he would be a snap dragon.

DAVID FRANCIS (Manipulator)

David Francis, a Montrealer and McGill graduate, trained as an actor at LAMDA in England on a scholarship from the Province of Quebec and subsequently worked throughout the U.K. and Europe, in the U.S. and across Canada. Centaur audiences have seen him in *Guys and Dolls*, *Comedians*, *Prague*, *Paper Wheat*, *Anatol* and *On the Job*. Other local credits include *Scrooge* in Geordie Production's *Christmas Carol*; *Artichoke*, *I'll Be Back Before Midnight* and *Social Security* for the Piggery Theatre; *Lac Brome Theatre's What the Butler Saw*; *The Idiot* and *Summerfolk* for the National Theatre School; and numerous readings and workshops at Playwrights' Workshop Montreal. Recent film credits include *Bethune*. David recently toured India. If David were a plant, he'd be a non-carnivorous pre-glacial Himalayan blue poppy.

LORENA GALE (Crystal)

Lorena Gale is a former Montrealer now living in Vancouver. Her recent stage work on the west coast include *Zaydok* for Western Canada Theatre Company and Tamahnous Theatre's *Cocaine: The Board Game*. She has also appeared at The Shaw Festival Season '84

and Theatre New Brunswick. Lorena has worked with numerous local theatre companies including Geordie Productions, Youththeatre, Encore Theatre, Playwrights' Workshop and Les Masques Dinner Theatre. She was Artistic Director of Black Theatre Workshop in 1984/85, at which time she directed their hit production of *For Colored Girls*. In 1986, she was awarded Best Director for *Irene and Lillian Forever* at the Quebec Drama Festival. Film and television credits include *God Bless the Child* for ABC and the role of Joyce Heth in CBS' *Barnum*. This is her first appearance in a Centaur production. If Lorena were a plant, she'd be a gardenia in Billy Holiday's hair.

ALEXANDER GAZALE (Lighting Designer)

Going into his eleventh season at Centaur, Alexander Gazale is currently Technical Director and Resident Lighting Designer. His first lighting design for Centaur was *Jitters* in Season 11 (1979/80) and over the years he has lit over twenty productions. Designs include *Playing the Fool*, *K2*, *Glorious Mud*, *Master Harold... and the Boys*, *Albertine in Five Times*, *Somebody Somebody's Returning*, *La Sagouine*, *The Road to Mecca*, *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme*, and this season's *The Chain*. Alex has also taken several Centaur productions to other theatres across Canada. A Montrealer, Alex has been involved in theatre since his high school days at Loyola. While attending John Abbott College, he worked with many of Montreal's amateur and semi-professional companies; Thé-Arts, Phoenix Theatre, Group of Four and others. He has also spent a summer at La Poudrière. Alex is Quebec representative and board member of The Associated Designers of Canada. If Alex were a plant, he'd be an aloe ferrox.



Behind the Scenes at Centaur

Centaur is pleased to add a new regular feature to its house program. Each show, the *Behind the Scenes* page will highlight tidbits, goings-on and points of interest

about Centaur and its people. The lead item will be a personal profile on one of the company's staff members; this month beginning with:

MARY THOMAS

Wardrobe Supervisor

Mary is in her tenth season at Centaur. She is a native of Port Colborne, Ontario.

Q: What are the responsibilities of a Wardrobe Supervisor?

A: Basically, to make, buy or otherwise find all costumes we use in our shows. I also hire and supervise the wardrobe staff. I am responsible for translating the design sketches into real costumes. The designer and I consult together about fabrics and color. We shop together. The designer and I attend all the fittings.

Q: Theatre is a difficult profession. What draws you to it?

A: The variety. Within the theatre you use a variety of skills and you meet new people. It's always a different group dynamic.

Q: If you had a second choice of career what would it be?

A: A researcher or historian.

Q: What are some of your outside activities?

A: When do you think I have *time* for outside activities?

Q: What is your fantasy goal?

A: I'd like to be the first costumer to work on a show in an O'Neill Colony or space station.

The Chain by Vittorio Rossi which opened Centaur's 20th anniversary season will be produced by Ottawa's National Arts Centre from April 6 - 22. Harry Standjofski who played Tullio Testa will be appearing in Centaur's *From the Main to Mainstreet* at that time, and will be replaced by Montreal actor Corrado Mastropasqua.

January 4th, 1989 marks the 10th anniversary of the original opening of Centaur's première of David Fennario's landmark play *Balconville*. Time flies! Audiences can look forward to another Centaur première of a Fennario piece — *The Murder of Susan Parr* — coming next.

The third Centaur/980CKGM Celebrity Auction raised \$35,000 towards the Centaur's fundraising goal for 88/89. Special events such as the auction as well as corporate and individual donations contribute towards Centaur's \$300,000 fundraising goal for this season. Centaur's second event this season will be the 20th Anniversary Gala to be hosted by Don McGowan and televised by CFCF-TV. Watch for details.

Centaur now has a facsimile machine: Our fax number is: 288-8575.





CYNTHIA HENDRICKSON (Choreographer)

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Cynthia Hendrickson began her show business career at an early age appearing as a child model and entertainer. After attending Brooklyn College, she began her professional career, in earnest, studying with such theatre and dance personalities as Martha Graham, Katherine Dunham, Irene Hawthorne and Margaret Webster. She performed extensively in summer stock as an actress and dancer before joining Arleigh Peterson and together they brought their company to Canada. Once in Canada, she performed and choreographed for CBC-TV, CFCE-TV and others. She has worked extensively in the local French theatre scene including shows at Théâtre Denise Pelletier, Le Rideau Vert, Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui, Théâtre Marjolaine Hébert and, most notably, at Théâtre du Nouveau Monde where she choreographed and performed her own piece in their highly-acclaimed production of *Equus*. Cynthia was founding co-director and lead actress at Montreal's Revue Theatre for ten years, appearing in such shows as *No Place To Be Somebody*, *The Beard*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* — and many others. She was last seen in *Romantic Comedy* at North Hatley's Piggery Theatre. Included in her long list of choreography credits is Centaur's production *The Leonard Cohen Show*. Cynthia is currently on faculty at the Dawson College Professional Theatre Program and associated with the National Theatre School. Cynthia has previously been a Venus Flytrap.

JACK LANGEDIJK (Orin)

Jack Langedijk is Founding Artistic Director of Montreal's APA (Association of Producing Artists). He has directed many productions for them in the recent past including *Agnes of God*, *The Threepenny Opera* and *Pericles*. The latter was remounted for Montreal's Theatre Festival of the Americas and at Edmonton's Citadel Theatre. Last summer, he directed *Godspell* for Knowlton/co-produced with APA. Jack's acting credits with APA include Roy in *Lone Star*, Teach in *American Buffalo*, Eddie in *Fool for Love* and, most recently, Valentin in their highly-acclaimed production of *Kiss of the Spider Woman* which toured to Edmonton and last summer's Edinburgh Festival. Jack appeared in Centaur's production of *Glengarry Glen Ross* and directed *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, a collaboration with APA. If Jack were a plant he'd be a tumbleweed in the stage version of *Silverado*.

DIANE LEBOEUF (Sound Designer)

Diane Leboeuf has established herself as one of Montreal's top sound designers working on such shows as Michel Lemieux at Le Spectrum, Fats Domino and Jerry Lee Lewis at Place des Arts, Geneviève Paris, Robert Charlebois and many Montreal Festival de Jazz shows. She has been sound engineer on over 200 commercial recordings as well as Jean Lapointe's album *C'est beau le monde*. She is also responsible for the sound for such dance companies as O'Vertigo and Montréal Danse. Theatre credits include sound design for *La Tempête* and *La Déposition* for Espace Go, and *Le Théâtre de Quat'Sous' Elvire Jouvet 40*. If Diane were a plant, she'd be a magnolia.



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ALLEN MACINNIS (Director)

Allen MacInnis, actor and director, was Artistic Associate of Calgary's Alberta Theatre Projects from 1984-88. While there, he directed numerous productions including David French's *Jitters*, *The Rise and Fall of Avro Arrow*, *Penumbra* and *We Won't Pay*. Other recent directing credits include *Salt-Water Moon* for Magnus Theatre and *Hit the Deck* and *Night of January 16th* for Shaw Festival. As an actor, he has performed at numerous Canadian theatre companies including Western Canada Theatre Company, White Rock Summer Theatre, National Arts Centre, Persephone Theatre, Vancouver Playhouse and Alberta Theatre Projects. Allen has been a dramaturge on various plays, taught both acting and directing and is the creator of *Theatreblitz!*, a program for young playwrights and actors. If Allen were a plant he'd be an Ashoka Palm in a Noel Coward play.

JENNIFER O'CONNOR (Assistant Stage Manager)

Jennifer O'Connor began her stint as Assistant Stage Manager in Centaur 2 working on *The Chain* earlier this season. A native Pennsylvanian, she comes to Centaur having recently completed a tour as Stage Manager for Regina's Globe Theatre. While at the Globe, she also worked on various Mainstage productions including *The Norman Conquests* and *King Lear*. Since completing her theatre training at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, Jennifer worked as a theatre technician at the University of Waterloo, assistant director at Huron Country Playhouse (Grand Bend, Ontario) and at Summerfun Summer Theatre in New Jersey. She will work on *The Rez Sisters* and *Juno and the Paycock* later this season. If Jennifer were a plant she would be a Mexican Firebush.

CHARLES PAPASOFF (Musical Director)

Charles Papasoff played saxophone for last season's hit musical *Guys and Dolls*. An accomplished composer and musician, he has performed at the International Jazz Festival in Montreal with his own groups. His work has taken him across several international boundaries including USA, Brazil, France and England where he has taken part in concerts, experimental and improvisational workshops, multi-media performances, festivals and an impressive number of television, radio and recording sessions. He is currently a member of Robert Charlebois' new ensemble: The Tropical Rock Band. If Charles were a plant, he would be a cactus in a Lucky Luke Cartoon.

SYLVIE PERRON (Audrey)

Sylvie Perron, one of Montreal's brightest singing talents, is making her musical theatre debut. No stranger to local jazz enthusiasts, Sylvie performs in the nightclub circuit regularly working with such musicians as Oliver Jones, Vic Vogel and Geneviève Paris — to name a few. She has performed at every Montreal Festival de Jazz since its inception. Last summer, she appeared in the revue *Hollywood: 100 ans à merveilles* at Le Jardin Des Etoiles. With a range from jazz to Latin to pop and three performing languages — French, English and Spanish — Sylvie is active in studio work including commercial jingles, film and radio. If Sylvie were a plant, she'd be a bonsai, because it's rare, exotic and beautiful!

KIM RICHARDSON (Ronnette)

Award-winning singer/actress, Kim Richardson, is making her first appearance at Centaur. She is the 1986 recipient of the Juno Award for Most Promising Female



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Vocalist and the 1987 recipient for Best R&B/Soul recording — "Peek-A-Boo". Recent stage credits include *Leader of the Pack* for Stage West Calgary, *Beehive* at the Royal York Imperial Room in Toronto and Toronto's Crest Theatre production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Kim is a member of the gospel group The Richardsons who have performed with the Montreal Jubilation Gospel Choir and Toronto's Harbourfront Theatre's Freedom Fest '88 — to name a few. Career highlights include appearing with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra featuring David Foster and the 1987 Black Music Association of Canada Awards for Best Single and Top Female Artist. If Kim were a plant, she'd be a lei on Rossano Brazzi's neck in *South Pacific*.

JEFF SIMONS (Drummer)

Jeff Simons played drums and bass for Centaur's production of *Guys and Dolls* last season. Drummer, Bass Player and Singer, Jeff has been a professional musician for over ten years. He has worked with numerous jazz and blues artists including Herb Ellis, Barney Kessel, Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson and "Big Mama" Thornton. Jeff has been the house drummer at Biddles Jazz and Supper Club for the past year. Prior to that he toured with the Montreal production of *Ain't Misbehaving*. If Jeff Simons were a plant, he would be a mint plant.

NICOLETTE THEROUX (Stage Manager)

Little Shop of Horrors marks the beginning of Nicolette's third season with Centaur as Stage Manager. She has previously worked on such shows as *Faith Healer*, *La Sagouine*, *The Road to Mecca* and *Bordertown Café*. Most recently, she spent three months in the Maritimes stage managing Theatre New Brunswick and the Neptune Theatre's co-production of *Blood Relations*. A native of Edmonton, Nicolette completed her Stage Management apprenticeship at the Citadel Theatre and has since worked for various theatres across the country including Magnus Theatre in Thunder Bay, Manitoba Theatre

Centre and Workshop West in Edmonton. She previously worked with Allen MacInnis on the play *Zeke and the Indoor Plants*. If Nicolette were a plant, she'd be a crocus, first up in spring.

FRED TORAK (Guitarist)

Fred Torak's career spans three decades and includes every style of music from the classics to mainstream pop. He has accompanied a large variety of international stars including Patti Page, Al Martino, Trini Lopez, Charles Aznavour, Roger Whittaker and Frank Mills. He has also produced and arranged recordings for some of Quebec's most successful performers including Stephanie Venne, Renée Claude, Isabelle Pierre and the pop group Harmonium. In addition to his work as guitarist he has also taught Music Composition and Recording Technology at Dawson College and Concordia University. He currently makes his home in Montreal, where he manages a multi-track recording facility and continues to compose music for film, television and the commercial music market. This is his first appearance at Centaur. If Fred Torak were a plant he would be an aloé vera.

NORMAN ZUBIS (Pianist-Organist)

Norman Zubis, a regular on the local music scene, has been with the house trio at Biddles Jazz and Supper Club for the past year. He has performed at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel as solo pianist opposite Oliver Jones, at Hotel de la Montagne and Upstairs. From 1981-83, he appeared at the Laurentian's Manoir Pinoteau. He has worked with numerous artists in recording, television and radio studios including Charles Aznavour, Tony Bennett, Claude Dubois, Robert Charlebois and Patsy Gallant. Previous theatre productions have included *West Side Story* and *Annie Get Your Gun* at the O'Keefe Centre. If Norman were a plant, he'd be an euglena wading through the ocean of life.



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Tom Butler and Michael Rudder in

the murder of susan parr

by

David Fennario

with:

Stan
Coles

Teddy-Lee
Dillon

Ali
Giron

Michel
Perron

Jeannie
Walker

directed by

Simon Malbogot

designed by

Andrew
Lue Shue




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Charles Childs Production Manager
Mike D'Amato Head Technician C2
Mary Dowe Properties Assistant
Alexander Gazale Technical Director
Francis LePage Head Carpenter
Stewart Markham Assistant Carpenter
Brenda McLeese Wardrobe Mistress
Steve Schön Head Technician C1
Mary Thomas Wardrobe Supervisor

Acknowledgements

Bob Pot, puppet consultant
Stephanie Colvey, photographer
Carl Keitner, program art director
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Little Shop of Horrors
was originally
Directed by Howard Ashman
with
Musical Staging by Edie Cowan

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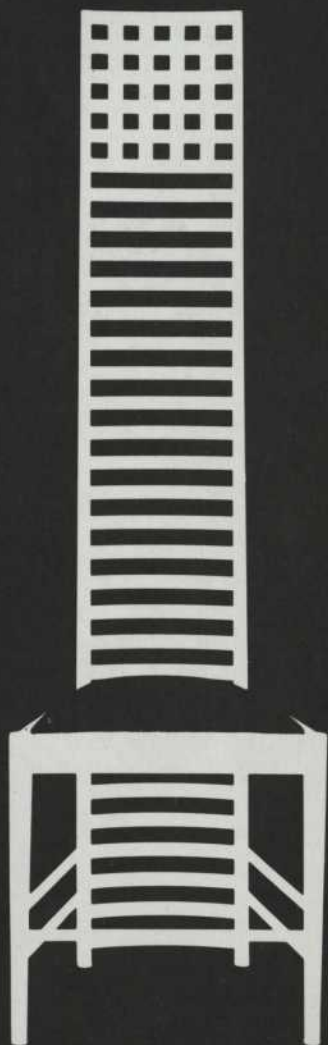
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For This Production

Scene Painting Art Appliqué
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Sewer Sandra Harris
Sewer Robert Laflamme

Centaur Theatre Company is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional 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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*In the art of design,
color is to form what
verse is to prose, a
more harmonious
and luminous vehicle
of thought.*

— Anna Murphy Jameson —
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