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BROADWAY BOUND

by Neil Simon

May 14th – June 9th, 1991

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Kate Jerome	Miriam Newhouse
Ben Epstein	Aron Tager
Eugene Morris Jerome	Howard Bilerman
Stanley Jerome	Harry Standjofski
Blanche Morton	Diana Belshaw
Jack Jerome	Walter Massey

Directed by	Elsa Bolam
Set and Costume Design by	Barbra Matis
Lighting Design by	Freddie Grimwood
Choreographer	Annemarie Peters
Stage Manager	John Raymond
Assistant Stage Manager	Krista Hansen
Assistant to the Director	Ted Ewing

ACT ONE:

February 1949, The Jerome household in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, New York

ACT TWO:

One month later

There will be one twenty minute intermission

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ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

NEIL SIMON

Neil Simon is one of North America's most popular and celebrated contemporary playwrights. Since 1960, a Broadway season without a Simon comedy or musical has been a rare one. Born on July 4th, 1927, he graduated from De Witt Clinton High School in Bronx, New York, then entered the army airforce reserve training program at New York University and was discharged in 1946.

He began his writing career for television's *Phil Silvers Show* and Sid Caesar's *Your Show of Shows*. His first play was *Come Blow Your Horn* in 1961, followed by, in that decade, *Little Me*; *Barefoot in the Park*; *The Odd Couple*; *The Star-Spangled Girl*; *Sweet Charity*; *Promises, Promises*; *Plaza Suite* and *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*. His success continued throughout the seventies with *The Gingerbread Lady*; *the Prisoner of 2nd Avenue*; *The Sunshine Boys*; *The Good Doctor*; *God's Favorite*; *California Suite* and *Chapter Two*.

Recipient of the Outer Critics' Circle Award and the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* is the first in a trilogy of semi-autobiographical pieces. The second, *Biloxi Blues*, played on Broadway and the third, *Broadway Bound*, has recently opened. Many of Mr. Simon's plays have been adapted for the screen and he has written several original screenplays including *The Heartbreak Kid*, *Seems Like Old Times* and *Only When I Laugh*.





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DIANA BELSHAW — *Blanche Morton*

Diana Belshaw returns to Centaur to play Blanche Morton for the second time, having previously played the same character in BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS. Miss Belshaw has also appeared in Montreal at Centaur in THE TOMORROW BOX and MOVING and at Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui in "Les Maudits Anglais", a production of Theatre Passe Muraille. She has most recently been at the University of Windsor where she created and directed a production, "There's No Life Like It", to showcase the graduating students of the Department of Dramatic Arts. She has appeared at most of the major theatres across Canada; recent performances include roles in "Macbeth" (Manitoba Theatre Centre), "You Can't Take It With You" (Theatre Aquarius), "D Street and Broadway" (Factory Theatre), "The Dreamland" (Blyth Festival), "Albertine In Five Times" (Tarragon Theatre), and "De Beaux Gestes Et Beautiful Deeds" (Théâtre du P'tit Bonheur). Her film and television credits include "Stella", "The Last Best Year Of Your Life", "Top Cops", "Street Legal", "Bambinger", and a continuing role on the CBC series "Backstretch". Her favourite production is her daughter, Eleanor.

HOWARD BILERMAN — *Eugene Jerome*

This is Howard's first appearance at Centaur. He has just completed an eight month tour with Geordie Productions, which brought him all across Quebec; from Blanc Sablon to Abitibi-Temiscamenge to Great Whale River, and hundreds of other communities in between. On the tour, he played everything from a spunky five year old named Neil in "Andrew's Tree" to a puddle of mud in "The Paper Bag Princess". He was trained at The Dome Theatre in Montreal, where he brought to life such characters as Benedict Hough in Alan Ayckbourn's "A Small Family Business", and the dual role of Chandebise/Poche in George Feydeau's "A Flea In Her Ear". In June of 1986, at the age of 15, he was the youngest student ever to attend the Yale School of Drama's summer program. His first steps on stage occurred way back in 1984, when he was given the part of Pinocchio in a St. George's High School production. Since then, he has kicked the habit of compulsive lying, and is quite content with the size of his nose. Howard would like to dedicate his performance to the late Sam Kalmanovitch, his grandfather; a man who will be eternally remembered for showing that there is honour in hard work.

ELSA BOLAM — *Director*

Elsa Bolam has had a long and varied career, which began in England where she worked with the Royal Shakespeare Company, directed plays in repertory theatres and did a stint as a TV director at the BBC. In Canada she taught and directed at The National Theatre School where she was head of the English Technical Section for five years. A founding member of the Centaur team, she has also freelanced across the country working at theatres such as Theatre Calgary, Sudbury Theatre Centre, the Magnus, and Theatre Plus. Her short



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film "Vicky", in the National Film Board's "Wednesday's Children" series, won an award at the American Film and Video Festival in New York City in May, 1989. Elsa is currently Artistic Director of Geordie Productions, a local touring company which performs in schools and community centres throughout Quebec. Her most recent productions have been "Blithe Spirit" for the Globe Theatre in Regina, and "Billy Bishop Goes to War" for Geordie. "Billy Bishop" will be seen shortly in the Montreal Fringe Festival at the end of June, and following that at Lac Brome Summer Theatre. Elsa has directed a number of shows for Centaur, including BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS, the first of the Neil Simon trilogy, and most recently Season 21's FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON.

FREDDIE GRIMWOOD — *Lighting Designer*

A Centaur regular, Freddie Grimwood, has designed lighting for WAITING FOR THE PARADE, THE TOMORROW BOX, SWEET LIKE SUGA, TRANSLATIONS, 84 CHARING CROSS ROAD, SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES, PRAGUE, THE REAL THING, VASSA, THE GIGLI CONCERT and FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON. He began his career at Oxford Playhouse, moving to London a few years later to become Production Stage Manager for Western Theatre Ballet, a company which worked in association with Sadlers Wells Opera. Since moving to Canada, he has been Technical Director and Theatre Manager of the National Theatre School. He has represented Canada at international theatre gatherings in East Germany and the People's Republic of China. Over the past few seasons, Freddie has designed lights for several Opera de Montréal productions including last spring's production of Verdi's "Un Ballo In Maschera".

9

KRISTA HANSEN — *Assistant Stage Manager*

A native of Stratford, Ontario, Krista came to Montreal four years ago where she attended the National Theatre School, graduating in Technical Production. While at the NTS, she stage-managed "Figaro Gets a Divorce" and "The Idiot" and was Production Manager for "A Lie of the Mind" and "The Melville Boys". Since graduation, Krista has been Assistant Technical Director at the Saidye Bronfman Centre for a season and has been Assistant Stage Manager on two operas staged at the National Arts Centre — "Don Giovanni" and "Cosi fan tutte". In 1988 she was Production Assistant at the Stratford Festival. Season 22 marks Krista's first stint with Centaur Theatre Company, where, in addition to BROADWAY BOUND, she has Assistant Stage-Managed THE WOMAN IN BLACK and CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF. This summer Krista will Stage-Manage "Dead Serious" at the Piggery Theatre in North Hatley.

WALTER MASSEY — *Jack Jerome*

Walter Massey, who is enjoying his 43rd year in the entertainment business, was last seen at Centaur in the highly successful production of CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF. Other roles at Centaur include BLOOD RELATIONS, BETHUNE,

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and THE COMEDIANS. Mr. Massey has worked extensively throughout North America and developed his career in New York as an active member of Sanford Meisner and Harold Clurman's professional Broadway workshops. He played Brutus in "Julius Caesar" in Joseph Papp's inaugural production of his New York Summer Shakespearean Festival, performed on Broadway in the revival of "Mr. Roberts" with Charleton Heston and, in Canada, at the Stratford Festival, Citadel Theatre, Manitoba Theatre Centre, and National Arts Centre, and was Resident Director and leading man of Montreal's Mountain Playhouse during its heyday. Recently, at Theatre London, he played Aaronow in "Glengarry Glen Ross". His favourite television role was that of Teddy Roosevelt in the CBS movie-of-the-week "Cooke & Peary: A Race to the Pole" with Rod Steiger and Richard Chamberlain. An elected representative of Canadian Actors' Equity Association for the past 29 years, Mr. Massey was awarded the Larry McCance Award for a lifetime of outstanding service to the association and its members.

BARBRA MATIS — Set and Costume Designer

Since graduating from the National Theatre School Ms. Matis has created numerous designs for Centaur Theatre including BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS, MASTER CLASS, 84 CHARING CROSS ROAD, QUIET IN THE LAND, NOTHING TO LOSE and BALCONVILLE, for which she received the 1981 Dora Mavor Moore Award. She has designed for the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble, Manitoba Theatre Centre, Stratford Third Stage, Theatre Plus, Theatre New Brunswick and the Saidye Bronfman Centre, among others. Film credits include Art Direction for "Children Of A Lesser God", "Moonstruck", "New Jack City", and Production Design for "Shadow Dancing", directed by Lewis Furey. Ms. Matis is currently Art Director on "This Is My Life", a feature film Nora Ephron is directing for Twentieth Century Fox. She thanks her higher power and her mother Zenia for everything.

11

MIRIAM NEWHOUSE — Kate Jerome

Miriam Newhouse returns to the Centaur to pick up the threads of Kate Jerome, the part she played in the Centaur production of BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS. She has worked in theatres across Canada as well as in England and the United States, playing parts as varied as Madame Arcati in "Blithe Spirit", Vivien Bliss in "Nurse Jane Goes to Hawaii" and a mass-murderess in the one-woman play, "Our Kid". After BROADWAY BOUND, Miriam goes to the Gryphon Theatre to play Daisy Werthan in "Driving Miss Daisy", a part she originally performed in Toronto. She has played principal roles on television and in feature films, including the award-winning film, "Dead Ringers". Besides acting, Miriam teaches Acting as a Business in universities and community colleges across the country. She and husband Peter Messaline co-wrote "The Actor's Survival Kit" and "The Canadian Performers' Tax Kit". With Margaret Bard, they co-edited "And what are you going to do for us?", the first collection of Canadian audition speeches. The sequel, "And do you have anything else?" is due out in the spring.



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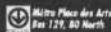
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JOHN RAYMOND — Stage Manager

John is completing his sixth season with Centaur, and has recently returned from a four month / four city tour of the Centaur production of Athol Fugard's MY CHILDREN! MY AFRICA! for which he was Company / Stage Manager. The tour, which took cast and crew to Edmonton's Citadel Theatre, Theatre Calgary, London's Grand Theatre, and Winnipeg's Manitoba Theatre Centre, was highly-acclaimed, and Centaur welcomes John back with aplomb. Past Centaur credits include FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON, FIRE-SALE, MOTHER OF ALL THE BEHANS, THE MURDER OF SUSAN PARR, THE GIGLI CONCERT, BILOXI BLUES, OBSERVE THE SONS OF ULSTER MARCHING TOWARDS THE SOMME, VASSA, GUYS AND DOLLS, BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS, THE REAL THING, and FIRE. John has also Stage-Managed at Theatre Calgary, Stage West Dinner Theatre in Mississauga, Kawartha Summer Theatre, and has enjoyed directing several musicals for Montreal area youth groups.

HARRY STANDJOFSKI — Stan Jerome

Harry Standjofski has just completed a hugely successful run of "Divided We Stand" at Toronto's Canadian Stage, the reprise version of the Season 20 Centaur production of FROM THE MAIN TO MAINSTREET, the collective creation of which he was also a part. Other theatre credits include The Piggery production of "Run For Your Wife", which played both at The Piggery last summer and at Centaur last fall, "A Map Of The World" at The National Arts Centre, and "King Lear" at Player's Theatre: other Centaur productions to his credit are THE CHAIN, GUYS AND DOLLS, and THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE. For television, Harry currently plays the role of Ralph Smith on the series "Tandem" for Radio Québec. Harry's versatility in the arts is demonstrated by his credit as Centaur's Playwright-in-Residence during the 1986-87 season. He has penned "No Cycle", "Dick", and "To The Moon", all produced by various theatres in Montreal, and their success should have audiences looking out for "Anton", which will be produced in the city next season. Harry's directorial credits include Chekhov's "The Sneeze", produced at Theatre Lac Brome last summer.

13

ARON TAGER — Ben Epstein

Aron Tager recently essayed the role of Mississippi planter, Big Daddy Pollit, in Centaur's production of Tennessee William's CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF, and now comes home to his native Brooklyn in our current production. He is looking forward to many more interesting and exciting experiences as a multi-disciplined artist in Montreal and other corners of Canada and Planet Earth. No hobbies.

A Question Of Pride



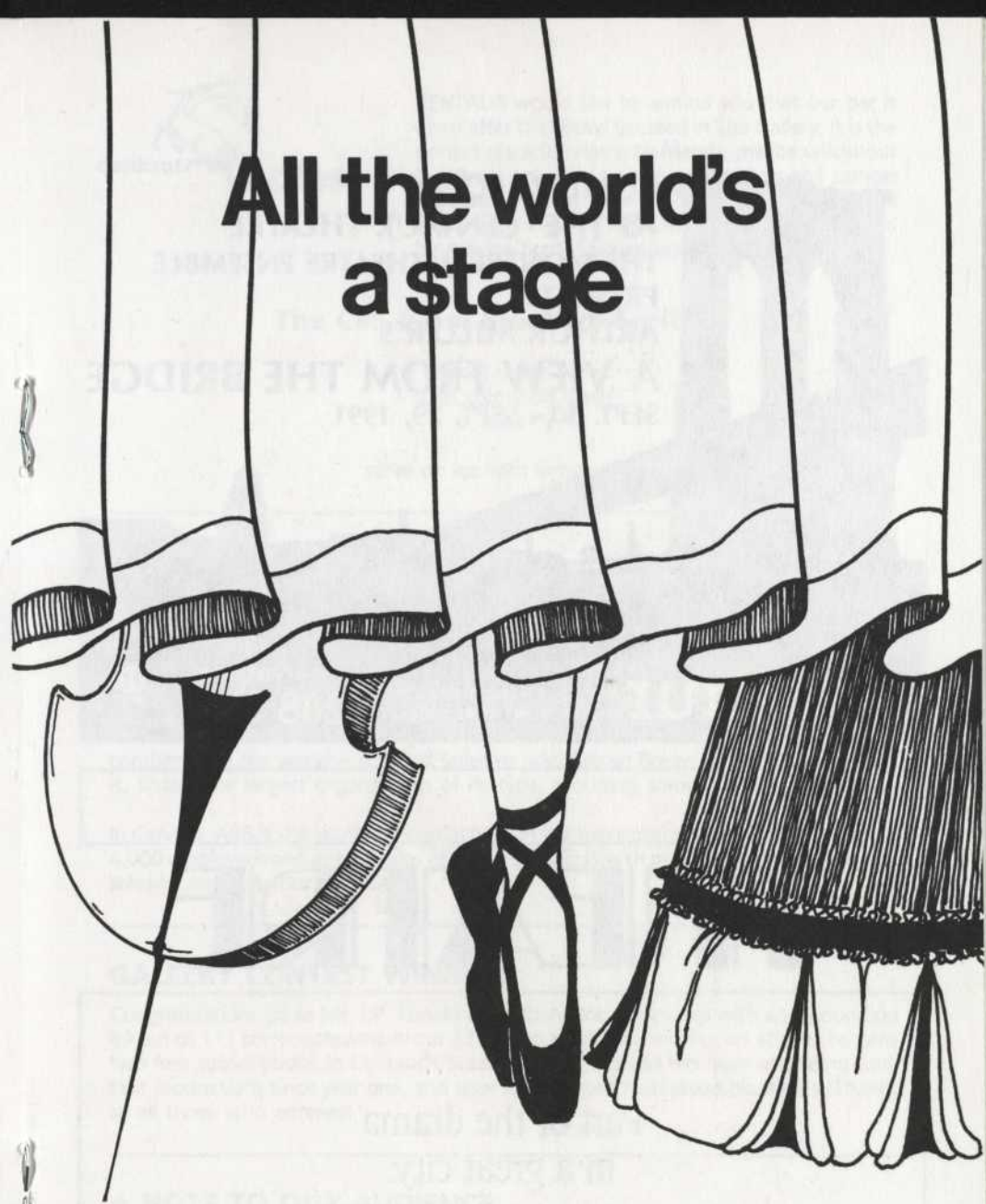
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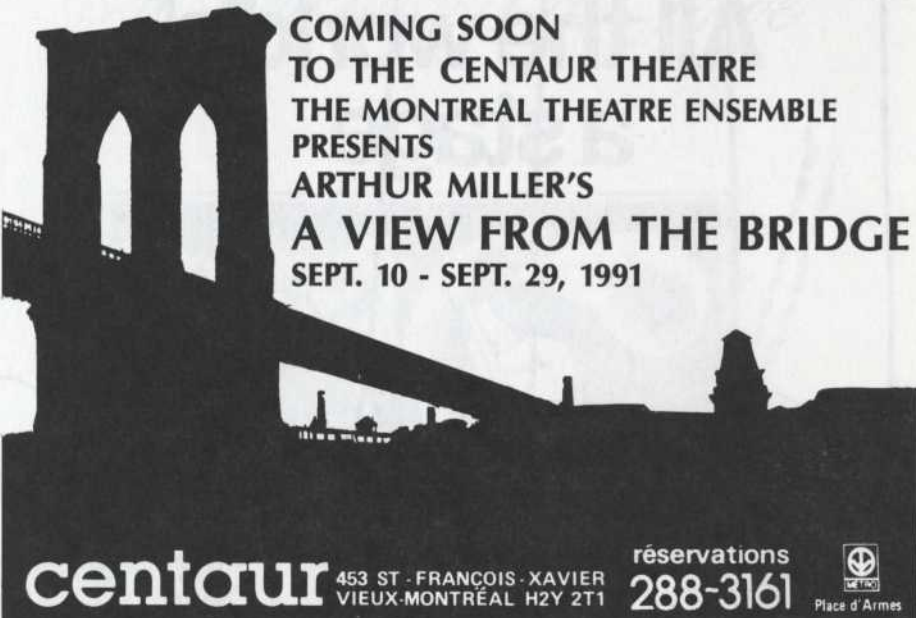
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The Gazette



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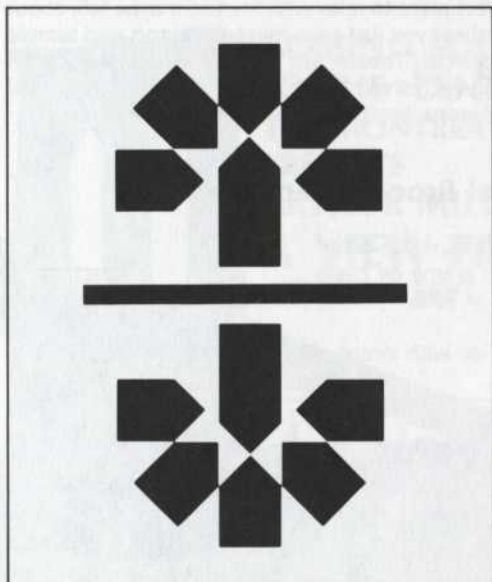
GALLERY CONTEST WINNER!

Congratulations go to Mr. J.P. Ronald of Roxboro for coming up with an astounding 89 out of 111 correct answers in our 22 Season photo contest. For his efforts, he wins two free subscriptions to Centaur's Season 23. Mr. Ronald has been attending Centaur productions since year one, and now it is our turn to applaud his efforts. Thanks to all those who entered!

A NOTE TO OUR AUDIENCE

As you may have noticed, a number of seats in the last rows of the theatre are often reserved for latecomers. When a sold-out show is running, our ushers often have no option but to seat you in single seats, despite the fact that those back row seats are available. We do request your co-operation in taking the single seats offered to you, as we cannot seat latecomers anywhere else but in those reserved rows without disturbing the performance. Thanks for understanding!

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BROADWAY BOUND: the final show in what has been an exciting and entertaining season. It also marks the final countdown to balance the year's budget – a challenge in these days of recession and fiscal restraint. Fund-raising covers only 10% of the total budget. Without it, though, Centaur's future is ultimately threatened.

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Judy Cutler
Director of Development

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This has been a very special year – if one can trust the compliments, one of our best! So to all, a big thank you for your support and enthusiasm. Have a fun summer and we look forward to sharing the stage with you next season.

Maurice Podbrey
Artistic Director

Season 23 -

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Artistic & Executive Director – Maurice Podbrey

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26

PRODUCTION

Griffith Brewer	Properties Master
Charles Childs	Production Manager
Cathy Cochrane	Wardrobe Mistress
Mike D'Amato	Technical Director
Francis LePage	Head Carpenter
Steve Marullo	Assistant Carpenter
Lynn McQueen	Stage Manager C1
Howard Mendelsohn	Head Technician C1
Elaine Normandeau	Apprentice Stage Manager C1
Steve Schön	Head Technician C2
Mary Thomas	Wardrobe Supervisor
Valérie Viertel	Properties Assistant
Tim Whyte	Technician C2

FOR THIS PRODUCTION

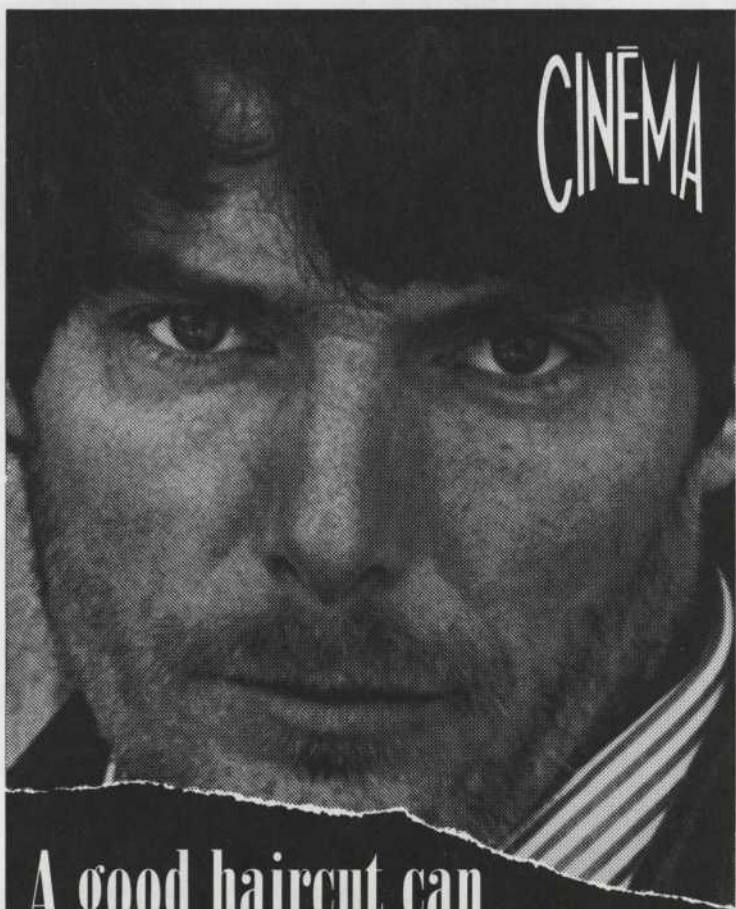
Art Appliqué	Scenic Artist
Cinéma Coiffure	Hair
Joan Desrosiers	1st Hand Seamstress
Mary-Judith Dowe	Seamstress
Paul Elliot	Wigs
Nicole Marquis	Seamstress

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Centaur Theatre Company is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional Artists, who are members of Canadian Actor's 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.

Centaur Foundation gratefully acknowledges grants from the Canada Council, le ministère des Affaires culturelles in Québec, le Conseil des Arts de la Communauté urbaine de Montréal and all corporation and individual donors.



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