



GREASEPAINT

Volume 33 Issue 3, November 2002

Website: <http://www.kanatatheatre.com> Box Office: 831-4435

From the President's Corner

Some of you missed a wonderful opportunity to view Brett's new movie "The Feral Man" which was presented on our humungous new (to us) movie screen. The showing was part of last Friday's "Do Your Own Thing" festivities in the KT rehearsal hall. The movie was written by Brett Kelly, starred Brett Kelly, was produced by guess who, etc., etc., and so forth. It was a very interesting horror movie with a rating of 14+, according to Brett. There were cameo appearances by a number of KT members whom you would all recognize. It was great fun!

Helen and Martin Weeden came to the DYOT bash as Ghost Busters and walked away with the first prize for best costumes. Thanks to the Gardners, who organized the evening - see p. 3 for more stories from this fun night.

About our new screen: it was cheaper to buy this screen and a rear-projection unit than to rent one for 12 nights for "Experiment with and Air Pump." Gwen is delighted because we now can offer full Theatre services to anyone who wants to rent the Playhouse.

As usual if you look at the KT calendar you will see that this is our busiest time of the year, with 3 plays in rehearsal and several rentals occupying the Playhouse, including the Nutcracker this holiday season. Mark November 12th on your calendar - it's the Preview night for "Experiment With an Air Pump". Come out and give the cast, which includes more than one "first-timer" in a mainstage principal role, our best KT support and encouragement.

We still require front of house helpers for "Air Pump", so if you can lend a hand please call Joan or Jim Ritchie at 592-5775.

Don't forget to get your tickets for Rumpelstiltskin - our KT Children's Holiday Play - early and avoid being disappointed at the door on December 27-29. Watch the December issue of Greasepaint for details on this great family entertainment.

See you at the "Air Pump" Preview!

~ Cheers, Joan

In This Issue

☞ President's Corner	... 1
☞ Coming Events	... 1
☞ On the Verge: Attention Playwrights	... 2
☞ Reserve a Dance for <i>The Snow Ball</i>	... 2, 3
☞ The Red Suit	... 3
☞ <i>I Hate Hamlet</i> Backstage Players call	... 3
☞ DYOT Debrief	... 3
☞ Theatre Etiquette by Paul Rudnick	... 4

Coming Events

Nov. 13-16 and 18-23: "An Experiment with an Air Pump" by Shelagh Stephenson, directed by Bev Brooks. Volunteer for *Front of House* - call Jim or Joan Ritchie at 592-5775.

Friday, Dec. 13, 2002, 3 p.m.: Deadline for submissions to Dec. issue of Greasepaint - email plain text (.txt) to Amy at dc.adams@sympatico.ca, or call 592-6547.

Sat. Dec. 21: Pre-auditions, "The Snow Ball", by A.R. Gurney, directed by Gwen Knight. 1:00 pm, KT Rehearsal Hall @ RMP. See p.2 for details.

Dec. 27-29: "Rumpelstiltskin". KT's annual Holiday production for children. Info: contact Producer Sheryl Bell, 592-1239 or Director Barb Kobolak, 591-1773.

January 2003, Date/time TBA: Ballroom Dancing Workshop. All KT members are welcome to register, and those interested in auditioning for "The Snow Ball" are encouraged to attend. Info: Gwen Knight, 828-2241 or e-mail pjjefferson@igs.net. See p. 3 for details.

Feb. 5-8 and 10-15: "I Hate Hamlet" by Paul Rudnick, directed by Dorothy Gardner. *This production will include benefit fundraising for the Ottawa Heart Institute in memory of Annie Adams, who once directed this play at Oakham House Theatre Society (Ryerson University, Toronto). See p.3 for production call!*

On the Verge... 2003

A Festival of Readings of New Plays From Across Canada

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The National Arts Centre English Theatre invites Canadian playwrights to submit a new play for consideration to *On the Verge... 2003*. *On the Verge...* is our annual new works festival of public readings. The festival is designed to showcase plays "on the verge" of production to producers from across the country. We are looking for scripts that are close to a production draft stage – scripts that would benefit from a short workshop and a public reading.

On the Verge... will take place in Ottawa at the National Arts Centre from June 14-18, 2003. It is timed to coincide with the Magnetic North Theatre Festival, a new national festival of the best of Canadian theatre performed in English.

The final line-up for *On the Verge...* will be selected by the Festival's Artistic Coordinator, Lise Ann Johnson, in consultation with a reading committee. Selected plays will receive a short workshop and public reading in Ottawa. Playwrights will have the option of choosing a dramaturg-director for the workshop process. Out of town playwrights will receive travel expenses and accommodation, and must be available to attend the reading to be eligible.

Canadian playwrights or playwrights living in Canada are invited to submit their script, along with a cover letter and resume/bio, to:

On the Verge Festival

National Arts Centre English Theatre
P.O. Box 1534, Station B
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5W1

Only full-length scripts will be accepted. Only one submission per playwright. Although the festival will focus mainly on scripts that are unproduced, we will also accept submissions of plays that have been produced independently in the current season and would benefit from further promotion.

Deadline for receipt of submissions is **Friday, January 24th, 2003**.

All questions regarding the festival can be addressed to the Festival's Artistic Coordinator, Lise Ann Johnson, at lajohnso@nac-cna.ca

Writers will be notified about the final selection in writing. No scripts will be returned without a SASE.

Reserve a Dance for The Snow Ball!

Calling all would-be Freds and Gingers:
"The Snow Ball" is coming!

As you all know, "The Snow Ball" by A.R. Gurney is the last play in the 2002-03 season. It will be holiday time (without the snow) when it runs May 28 to June 7. The cast of 33 includes actors/dancers, non-dancing actors, and several non-speaking roles. The ages range from the late teens early 20's, to late 40's early 50's, with a few 60+.

The run-up to this play will be a lengthy one and will consist of a **pre-audition** for four roles in December, a **ballroom dance workshop** (open to all K.T. members) in January, and **auditions** in February.

At this time, we are looking for a young couple (late teens, early twenties) with a dance background to play Jack and Kitty, the almost-professional calibre dancers. Don't let that scare you...a professional ballroom dance instructor will be part of our production team!

This pre-audition will be December 21st at 1:00 p.m. in the rehearsal room. It is being held at this time to enable college/university students home for the holidays a chance to attend. If you are a student, you will be home again sometime in April, and you are willing to devote time to catch up with the rest of the cast, please consider auditioning.

In addition to the young Jack and Kitty, we will require an older couple (late 40's early 50's) to portray their mature counterparts. Some dance background might be helpful, but not essential. This couple must resemble the younger one (or be made up to do so), but their dancing skills have suffered over the years. These actors are in one major scene and must learn only one dance, so come out and give it a try.

For further information give me (Gwen) a call at 828-2241. To obtain a script, please call Anne-Marie Davies at 253-2500. Watch this space in next month's Greasepaint for workshop dates and times as well as the dates of general auditions.

~ Gwen Knight, Director

KT Membership Dues

1 yr. individual \$10; 1 yr. family \$20; 1 yr. student \$5;
5 yr. individual \$40; 5 yr. family \$80.

For membership information, contact Helen Weeden at 832-3787. Send cheques to 2856 Old Maple Lane, Dunrobin ON K0A 1T0; or drop it by the RMP, addressed "Attention: Membership and Training".

‘TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY!

The Christmas Season is quickly approaching and Santa's helpers in Kanata Theatre's Wardrobe have finished polishing the black boots, fluffing up the white trim and cleaning the famous red suit that will soon be the most sought-after item from upstairs.

Because of its popularity, please call Paul or Dorothy Gardner at 592-0314 at least 48 hours in advance to reserve the Santa Claus Suit.

COME DANCE WITH US

Dust off your dancing shoes and join us for the BALLROOM DANCE WORKSHOP which will be held in January. Whether you just want to brush up your social dancing skills, or are curious about the dances your parents knew, there is fun to be had in couples' dancing. If you have thoughts of auditioning for "The Snow Ball" this workshop will give you a head start.

Claire (Caple) Mills, a qualified ballroom dance instructor and examiner, will be conducting these workshop classes. At the present time, we are looking for an expression of interest to see how many people wish to attend. There will be a modest fee for these classes and the numbers will be limited to 10 couples per class.

You do not have to register as a couple, but we hope all you ladies will encourage the males in your life to attend. In other words, we need men! The response, both male and female, will determine the number of classes. We may also divide the group into beginners and those with some experience. The exact dates and fees will be announced in the next Greasepaint.

If you think you might like to participate in this workshop which is being held under the auspices of Membership and Training, please contact Gwen at 828-2241 or by e-mail at pjjefferson@igs.net. If you are leaving a message, please indicate whether or not you have had any ballroom dance experience.

REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT REGISTERING OR MAKING A FIRM COMMITMENT AT THIS TIME. You will be contacted at a later date when details are confirmed.

~ Gwen Knight

"I HATE HAMLET" - But I LOVE it Backstage!

Calling all "BACKSTAGE PLAYERS"
NEEDED: CREW FOR "I HATE HAMLET"

Rehearsals for "I Hate Hamlet" have begun and Producer Anne-Marie Davies is waiting to hear from you.

Positions Available:

Props, Assistant Stage Management/Prompting, Make-up, Costume sewing, Green-Room, Stage Crew Chief and Stage Crew.

Please give Anne-Marie a call at 253-2500.

More Opportunities:

If you would like to assist with Set Construction and Set Painting, call Paul Gardner at 592-0314 or send him an email at paul_gardner@sympatico.ca.

~ Dorothy Gardner

DO YOUR OWN THING SPOOK-TACULAR A GIANT HIT!!!!

The Rehearsal Hall at the Playhouse was really swinging last Friday night, November 1.

KT Goblins and Ghouls filled the Hall in order to party down and attend the première of "The Feral Man", the latest hit by KT's film guru, Brett Kelly. The film was great and the audience gave its approval with applause and the usual vocal acknowledgements. Our way of saying, we do love you, even if your nose looks eight feet long! The question everyone wanted answered was "Who was that exhausted jogger who gave the Oscar-moment performance?" It was truly a job well done, Brett. We're looking forward to your next adventure in moviemaking.

Not only was the film a huge hit, but so was the projection screen used to show it. Paul Gardner (alias Indiana Jones) was in his glory playing with the newest addition to KT's high-tech arsenal. You'll be able to see it in action again on stage in "Experiment with an Air Pump".

The prize for the best costume went to KT's own "Ghostbusters", Helen and Martin Weeden. Congratulations!!!

~ Dorothy Gardner

Polite Applause, A Guide To Theater-Going Etiquette

By Paul Rudnick

Thanks to Paul Behncke and Gerry Thomson for forwarding this chuckle. Paul Rudnick is the author of the upcoming KT production "I Hate Hamlet".

1. You should arrive at the theater far too early. This will allow you ample opportunity to complain about finding parking, the punishing cost of the tickets, how uncomfortable the theater seats are, how there's no place to stash your coat and your shins, and how fiendishly tedious the last 12 plays and musicals you've seen have been, particularly those events that the critics proclaimed, "searingly brilliant." But at least you're not late.
2. While waiting for the show to begin, it's fun to read the various bios in Playbill, but please do not keep repeating in a vigorous, braying tone, "Never heard of 'em!"
3. Unwrap all hard candies well before curtain, so that the distracting rustle of this activity will not occur during the performance. For some reason, the crackle of cellophane will rivet an audience more than Sir Ian McKellen in Richard III, or Kathleen Turner in the raw. The only thing more disruptive than unsheathing a lozenge is coughing, because one cough in the orchestra section inspires another in the mezzanine, and so on, until the theater becomes a ward. A hint: if you feel a tickle coming on and fear that it might soon blossom into a catastrophic hack, just imagine what Elaine Stritch would do to you if she found you.
4. There are only three reasons for ever carrying a cell phone into the theater. One: You're awaiting an organ donation. And make that a major organ, not merely a lung or a leg. Two: Your wife is about to give birth to your first child (subsequent children are old news). Three: You're a world leader who could be called upon in a nuclear emergency (and even then, your phone must be set on vibrate). As for everyone else, you are just not important enough for anyone to call you at the theater, even during the 11th year of The Phantom of the Opera. It is permissible, however, for performers onstage in Phantom to receive calls.
5. If your companion is hard of hearing, do not explain the onstage action by shouting a running commentary, such as, "Now King Lear is hugging her! Go figure!" When your favorite star makes an entrance, restrain the urge to howl, "Frank Langella—I love you!" Mr. Langella has undoubtedly heard this phrase countless times before, especially alone at his dressing room mirror.
6. If you are female, do not rush from your seat 15 minutes before intermission. Your predicament, however, is understandable; someday a savvy producer will reap a fortune by cutting the show entirely and advertising, "Thirty spotless, spacious ladies rooms on ground level in Midtown! \$500 a seat!"
7. If the person in the seat next to you begins to snore audibly, nudge him awake. Then whisper, "You missed the nudity."
8. When a latecomer finally appears and, as is always the case, forces an entire row of decent, punctual people to stand up so that she can stumble to her seat, murmur to that criminal: "Everyone hates you. Not just the people in this theater. Everyone."
9. Never arrive at the theater dead drunk, unless you're an English actor starring in the play.
10. You are entitled to the use of only one armrest. The other one belongs to the large, smelly, chatty stranger sitting next to you, the individual with the soggy umbrella, the bursting shopping bags, the dripping burrito, and the swine flu.
11. If you are offended by the show's crude language or overt sexual content, protest by seeing it several more times.
12. Do not leap out of your seat and race up the aisle skipping the curtain call in a calculated attempt to get first dibs on your car or taxi. What if, at the Pearly Gates, you discover that God is an actor?
13. If you bring small children with you to a show, after duct-taping and shackling the adorable toddlers, remind them that, "If you fidget, Simba will die." If your little boy enjoys musicals, this does not necessarily indicate that he's homosexual. If he insists on attending all six productions in the Kennedy Center's Sondheim retrospective, he may just have exceptional taste. If he refers to his kindergarten teacher as, "Very Melissa Errico, but in a good way," remember that Michelangelo was gay.
14. A standing ovation is not automatically mandated by a show's massive budget, or by the entire cast lining up and grinning maniacally while they raise their arms. Rise and cheer only if you are truly moved to do so, or if you love ABBA that much.
15. Is it appropriate to attend a show during previews, and then to go online via your PalmPilot to dish the first act at intermission? Yes, but only if the show's creator's are allowed equal time to discuss your hairpiece.