



GREASEPAINT

Volume 33 Issue 11, July/August 2003

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

President's Message

Sunday's General Meeting (attended by 45 members) marked the official kick-off to our 35th Season. Those of us who have been around since the early days look back fondly and nostalgically to those "good old days": producing plays on Leacock's postage-stamp size stage and moving to the almost-finished Earl of March.

At Earl of March, erecting sets 4 days before opening; getting 3 rehearsals on the set (if we were lucky) with painting and finishing touches going on behind the action on dress rehearsal; lights going out when the lighting designer sat on the lighting board; a set coming down when a wheel-chair-bound actor was catapulted onstage etc. etc.

All those memories were near disasters at the time but in retrospect were what pulled us together to get the show on the boards! The 40 of so members who worked tirelessly on every show, whether they directed, had the lead, or just swept the stage after tear-down, worked as a cohesive group in a hobby they found rewarding because it was done for the love of "theatre" for which they had a "passion". It was their idea of "fun".

The audience, too, reacted to the excellent and challenging plays that were presented. The members' joy in presenting the plays came across the footlights and was transmitted to an appreciative audience, many of whom are still our faithful subscribers.

The move to the Ron Maslin Playhouse, and our pride in a place of our own, heralded a new era which brought with it a major influx of new members to our group. Many of them brought fresh and innovative ideas, as well as experience which enriched and expanded our talent base, both on and off stage.

Our membership list now numbers over 300 names. That means that 50 different people could be expected to work on each of our six plays each season. Unfortunately, this is not the case. There are still about 40-50 core members heavily involved in the productions. Many of these people are members from the original group supplemented by younger members who are now considered "old-timers" (This term does not refer to age, although some of us are getting very "long in the tooth"!). Without the newer and younger members who share the "passion" of the originals, we would be in major trouble indeed.

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Coming Events

Sept. 16-20 & 23-27: The Drawer Boy by Michael Healey, directed by Dorothy Gardner. 8:00 p.m. @ RMP. **Members' preview** Monday Sept. 15, 8:00 p.m. Join the crew: contact Tracey Gardner, 726-0626 or email tracey.gardner@alcatel.com. Volunteer for Front of House: contact Wendy Wagner, 599-4476 or wwagner@rogers.com.

Wed. Sept. 24: Alex Munter Roast featuring Kanata Theatre players. @ Brookstreet Hotel, Kanata. Benefit event for the Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre. See page 5 for details. Tickets: Chris at the Western Ottawa Resource Centre - 591-3686.

Sept. 28 & 29: Auditions - Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp. 7:00 p.m. sharp @ RMP. Enter by front door and wait in lobby. Come prepared to give us a song (unaccompanied) and a relevant talent of your choice. See page 5-6 for details. Info: contact Helen and Martin Weeden, 832-3787.

Friday, Oct. 3, 2003, 3 p.m.: Deadline for submissions to the October issue of Greasepaint - email plain text (.txt) to Amy at dc.adams@sympatico.ca, or call 592-6547.

Announcements/Thank You

The premiere of Brett Kelly's new feature-length horror film *THE BONESETTER* is scheduled for Sept. 19th at 7:15 pm and 8:30 pm at the Ottawa Public Library main branch at Laurier and Metcalfe St. Admission is by donation. KT people who appear in the film are Brett, Rob Fairbairn, Shann McGrail, Paul, Vanessa and Sean Behncke, Alain Chamsi, Beverley Brooks and Anne-Marie Frigon. Brett invites all KT folk to attend!

We are saddened to hear of the recent death of Helen Hunter. Long-time members will remember Helen from the early days of Kanata Theatre. She acted in "Present Laughter", our first full-length play as well as many others during the 1970s. She also produced and worked back stage on many productions. A memorial for Helen will be held at Holy Redeemer Church at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 20th.

Congratulations to Kelly Fuoco on the birth of her daughter! KT's best wishes to mom and welcome to the newest KT "member in waiting"!

Rob Mitchell, musician and composer of *Act One* will be performing with his part-time band at Villa Lucia on Carling Ave in Crystal Beach, Sept 28th. Tickets are \$40, which includes dinner and a show. Dinner is scheduled for 5pm and the show is scheduled for 7pm. The band, "Memphis Mafia" is one of Ottawa's largest showbands performing a revival of 70's music along with some Elvis. For ticket sales please call Rob at 592-8711 or call Villa Lucia at 596-1346 or 596-2812 or email info@memphismafia.ca. Hope to see you there!

~ Rob Mitchell

A note of thanks to all those who came out to see "Accidental Death of an Anarchist" by Dario Fo at the Bronson Centre Theatre. It was a great learning experience for me, and I had a fun time working on the show. I really appreciate your support! Thanks again,

~ Paul Welch

We have decided to expand our opportunities with a move to Toronto at the end of October. The decision was a difficult one, especially when you consider the friends and associations we've made in Ottawa and at Kanata Theatre. You can be sure that we'll be thinking of everybody and will be returning to see some of the great performances. See you at the ball in October!

~ Steve Duncan & Shann McGrail

Webmaster wanted: In the short term I will be able to manage Kanatatheatre.com from Toronto, but it would make sense that a local talent steps up to take over the duties. The new webmaster will have to be able to use Microsoft Frontpage, the software in which the website is written. Should someone be interested, I'd be happy to train him/her! Contact steve_duncan@sympatico.ca

~ Steve Duncan

Report - Front of House

I wrote in the summer issue of Greasepaint that FOH would continue to run as it has in the past with the curb-side greeters, ticket takers, program distributors and cloak room personnel all dressed in the traditional black and white attire. I introduced the idea of having an assistant manager at FOH for each production, as I am unable to oversee every performance. I am lucky to have Julie Clayton as assistant manager for "The Drawer Boy". Anyone interested in assisting me for the other four shows of the season can contact me by phone 599-4476 or e-mail wwagner@rogers.com

Some of you are aware of the special service we will be providing during the run of "The Drawer Boy". (Is there anyone who hasn't received the recent e-mails?) For those who haven't heard:

Front of House Personnel Required

As you all know we are celebrating 35 wonderful, theatrical years. A lot of effort has gone into making each year an enjoyable one for many. Let us not forget the continued effort and patronage of our audience members. They have stuck with us through thick and thin!

As such, we have decided to give them special focus and to thank them for their kind applause and we need your help. It is our wish to, dressed in our best black tie, gleaming silver trays in hand, serve them a little chocolate treat and personally thank them for coming.

This is where you come in! We are looking for Front of House personnel to cover the run of 10 performance nights of "The Drawer Boy". The dates are September 16 - 20 and 23 - 27. The time requirement (if you are able to do both FOH and the intermission "thank you") is 7:15 pm until after intermission (about 9:30). I will need a couple of people to stay until the end of the show to help open doors.

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"What is this, an audience or an oil painting?"

~ Milton Berle

A special call to those who have recently been on stage in “The Snow Ball”. Our audience really does get a kick meeting those that they recognize so please consider coming out to volunteer at Front of House for at least one or two evenings during this show.

If you can help, please call Wendy Wagner at 599-4476 or e-mail wwagner@rogers.com

I am still looking for help during the run of “The Drawer Boy”. You may choose one of three options: 1) to work the entire evening; 2) to work from 7:15 until the end of intermission; and 3) to work only the intermission “thank you” from approximately 8:45 until 9:30.

I need 4 or 5 people for the **first** Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday. I also need 5+ people on the **second** Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and at least 4 people for the second Thursday. One or two extra people per night specifically for the intermission “thank you” would be ideal. To volunteer, please see the contact information above.

~ Wendy Wagner, House Manager

Publicity Notes

I am so excited to have the opportunity to contribute, as Director of Publicity, to such an amazing group as Kanata Theatre. Having been a member since high school, I have taken great pleasure over the years in enjoying the people who form this group, the art which is my passion and the productions which exemplify such community effort.

This year I have a task that is second to none - to increase our audience. At the time that I write this our season’s sales have dropped by about 15%. Needless to say, this is causing some alarm bells to ring rather loudly in some of our ears! This is where KT needs your help. Your active participation in getting the word out is crucial, so that we can increase our season tickets sales. We are feeling the same pinch as OLT and GCTC, amongst others, so we are going to be going head to head with our competitors as we try to build strong audiences.

Low audiences affect all KT members. They influence how we are perceived as a theatre, since low audiences cause current ticket holders to reconsider their commitment to us. They jeopardize the enjoyment of our patrons and they strain our financial ability to mount shows. As you know from experience, there is nothing greater than the feeling of putting your best effort forward and knowing that a full house of patrons have shared your enjoyment of the theatre.

Here are three simple ways that Publicity could use your help this month:

1. Please print and post the flyer (last page of this and future issues of Greasepaint) in a location of your choice - work, community centres, stores etc. (Be sure to check if you need permission) If we each do this we will have posted over 300 flyers! That's got to get someone's attention!
2. Help us celebrate the 35th season by thanking our audience members. Volunteers are needed to don white gloves and proffer chocolates on silver trays at the intermission parties planned for each performance of the Drawer Boy. Please see Wendy Wagner’s Front of House report (page 2) for details.
3. Email me at taniacarriere@totemhill.ca if you have any time (even 1-2 hours!) over the upcoming season to help out. A dynamic team of individuals is needed, and no time commitment is too small. I respect that many members can only give small chunks of time. Please don't worry about being wrangled into a huge commitment.

Last but not least, challenge yourself to introduce someone new to the theatre. You’d be surprised how many people are just waiting to be invited into our little world. Thanks everyone in advance for your help. By the way, did I mention that a couple of theatre tickets make great birthday presents?

~ Tania Carrière, Director of Publicity

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Kanata Theatre exists “for its members to have entertainment, enjoyment and experience in all aspects of the theatre”. Those of you who have been hesitant to come forward, please consider doing so. Join those of us whose “passion” has proved to be so rewarding over the past 35 years. Come out, get involved, create your own “good old days”, and have fun doing so.

I hope to see many of you at the Members’ Preview of “The Drawer Boy”, as well as onstage, backstage, or at Front of House in this, our special season. Let’s explore ways of making our hobby an even more enjoyable experience.

Taking part in some way in a successful production is a reward in itself. Remember, there are no “volunteers” at Kanata Theatre. You, the members, are the theatre. We are all in this wonderful “show business” together.

~ Gwen Knight, President

Crew Invited for *The Uninvited*

Bernice Neal and I are looking for people to complete the backstage crew for *The Uninvited*. We have openings for assistants with Set construction, Lights, Sound, Furnishings, and Makeup, but anyone else who would like to be involved is welcome.

We also need someone to lead the Wardrobe team; we have lots of helpers but need a leader.

If you can help, call Ann Williams at 592 2399, email annw@magma.ca or Bernice Neal, 254-5638, email bernicemn@rogers.com.

~Ann Williams

EODL 2004: Report

Our EODL committee has been hard at work for the last several months. We have completed accommodation arrangements for the Festival participants and patrons. Our Festival hotels will be the Holiday Inn Select West (Centrum) and the Comfort Inn (Hearst Way). I would like to thank Amy Adams for her dedication and contract-negotiating skills! *[Editor's note: You're most welcome!]*

Yesterday at the EODL General Meeting I presented to the EODL executive and members a little "goody bag" containing a playhouse schematic, our accommodation arrangements, and many pamphlets about Ottawa and its attractions. I would like to thank Barry Caiger for driving all over the city to pick up the information, and Dorothy Shaw for putting together the bags. They were well received.

There will be two related Festival events occurring during the Festival run. The first event will be a tour of the NAC and it will likely take place the afternoon of Thursday April 15th. The second event will be a "Director's workshop" offered by Festival Adjudicator Allan Stratton. This will probably take place in our rehearsal hall sometime during the day on Saturday April 17th. Kanata Theatre members will be able to participate in both events once we determine group size. You will be hearing more information about these events as April approaches.

I would like to encourage our members to attend the One Act Festival in Brighton on November 7, 8 and 9. Their venue only holds 110 patrons and they are well supported by their community. If you are interested in tickets you should contact Tom Rittwage by e-mail at rittwaget@hotmail.com or by phone at (613) 475-9592.

I will be sending out the Preliminary Entry Forms to all EODL member groups at the end of this month and we should know by early to mid-November how many companies are interested in participating in the Festival.

Keep reading your Greasepaint to find out further Festival details!

~ Wendy Wagner, EODL Festival Chair 2004

Membership Booklet Update

I am in the process of collecting and editing a number of different documents to form a Membership Handbook. Included in the booklet will be a group history, a history of the Playhouse and Ron Maslin, the Kanata Theatre By-law, a listing of Board positions and their requirements and a listing of the various production roles and accompanying job descriptions.

If anyone has anecdotes, photos or other historical information to share, please contact me at the usual co-ordinates.

~ Wendy Wagner

Kanata Theatre's 35th Anniversary

Please mark
October 18th 2003
on your calendars!

On this date our fourth Celebration Ball will be held at Loch March to mark yet another five years in the passage of time!

At the Ball, dinner will be followed by dancing to live music by "The Mick Armitage Band".

Tickets are \$40 each, and can be obtained from Dorothy Beak or Wendy Wagner. They will be available during the run of *The Drawer Boy* in September.

This will be a wonderful get together for all our members far and near. You may of course bring a partner who is not a member. It should be an evening to enjoy - with no production worries! I hope to see a great turnout.

~ Dorothy Beak

Roasting Alex Munter

The Alex Munter Roast - namely "Alex Munter - Uncut, Unplugged and Uncensored", is an upcoming event which is being held as farewell to Alex who is shortly retiring after 12 hard working and successful years in municipal politics. In addition it is a fundraiser for the Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre which is located on Castlefrank Road in Kanata and is a special place that is close to Alex's heart.

I am the Producer for the event and have asked Kanata Theatre to participate. The celebration is to be held at the new Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata on Wednesday, September 24th. The entertainment for the night consists of Alex being royally roasted by 4 celebrities, a silent and live auction, Stuntman Stu (of The Bear) and Max Keeping (of CJOH) acting as the two M.C's and last but by no means least, Kanata Theatre performing four original and hilarious skits. All entertainment will all take place throughout the dinner.

The KT players involved are the most honourable and talented Dewi and Eufon Williams, Don Bell, Bob Lackey, Rob Johnstone, Andrea Fajrajsl, Liane Freedman, Betty Francis and Kareen Lively. Dewi, Eufon, Don and Andrea have scripted the skits and all involved are adding their two cents worth along the way. Mary Holmes has been commissioned to accompany Merv Beckstead, one of Alex's roasters, on the keyboard and is, apparently, rehearsing like crazy. Gwen Knight and Tania Carriere will be present throughout the evening in order to "talk up" Kanata Theatre's 35th Anniversary season and Dorothy Beak will be working hard throughout the night on registration and auction duties along with the WOCRC volunteers.

We are anticipating media participation to be high profile as this is going to be, undoubtedly, one of the most outstanding premier events being held in the nation's capital this year. I am so proud that Kanata Theatre will be "front

and centre" throughout the night and I am also completely confident that all involved will do a memorable and awesome job.

For KT members interested in attending the event, Tickets are \$125 each with a tax receipt available for a portion of this amount. Corporate packages are also available. Tickets can be purchased by calling Chris at the Western Ottawa Resource Centre - 591-3686.

Hope to see any of you KT people who can make it - you are assured of an amazing night.

~ Jenny Haynes, 832-3023

Aladdin and His Wonderful, Magical Lamp: Part Two

Martin: It's been three months since we've spoke to you last.

Helen: Boy oh boy the summer flew by so fast

Martin: We'd like to acknowledge people who have rallied indeed.

Helen: But we still have some tasks of very great need.

Martin: We have Gerry.

Helen: He's sound!

Martin:: And Doug.

Helen: Oh! He's a bright light

Martin: The children, every girl and boy.

Helen: Will be delighted as the actors "sing for Joy"

Martin: Aspiring soft shoes will get their chance.

Helen: With our very own Murray school of dance
Thanks Melissa!

Martin:: The Gardners are designing and building the set
We wish them GREAT success with "The Drawer Boy".

Helen: And we won't bug them just yet.

Martin: Katie will not be "Uninvited" although she'll be a bit late.

Helen: As our stage manager, with Michelle's help, she'll do just great.

KT Membership Dues

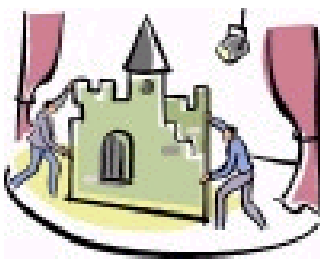
1 yr. individual \$10; 1 yr. family \$20; 1 yr. student \$5;
5 yr. individual \$40; 5 yr. family \$80.

For membership information, contact Tom Kobolak at 591-1773 or tkobolak@magma.ca. Send cheques to 5 Riding Way, Kanata ON K2M 1C3; or drop it by the RMP, addressed "Attention: Membership and Training".

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- Martin: Helen has drafted some ideas for the costume design.
- Helen: Now Liz and Mary will take charge of the production line.
- Martin: Heather and Gordon as a team are tops.
- Helen: I wonder, how much of their household contents will end up as props?
- Martin: Chris Pilsworth has provided his professional infusion.
- Helen: We'll need some backstage help for the magical illusion.
- Martin: As you can see we have a great start.
- BOTH: But here again is another plea from our collective heart.
- Helen: We're afraid the sets may look rather bare.
- Martin: Can we please have someone who will dress them with flare?
- Helen: And yes, it'll be Christmas and you'll all be busy or traveling. We know.
- Martin: But you could still help with set construction, painting or prompting before you go.
- Helen: To have a **PRODUCER** on board would be a thrill.
- Martin: We feel like we're pushing a grand piano up a very big hill!
- Helen: A very big hill!
- Martin: Auditions are set for the 28th and 29th of September
- Helen: Be prepared to sing and dance to become a cast member.
- Martin: Note: please enter at 7:00 via the LOBBY DOOR!!
- Helen: If we like what you've got we'll call you back on the 30th for more.



Aladdin and His Wonderful, Magical Lamp

The characters:

An evil magician and his wicked sister, three genies, a storyteller, Aladdin's mother and sister, a merchant woman, a neighbor, the executioner, a Princess and her two maids, the Sultan, his Queen and his blockhead aide and, of course, a very active Aladdin and his pet monkey Alakazam!

The story:

The magician tricks Aladdin into stealing the lamp from the Cave of the Jewels. In turn, Aladdin tricks the magician and with the Genie of the Lamp doing all of the work, Aladdin builds a vast palace. He now has wealth enough enable him to ask the Sultan for the Princess's hand in marriage. But, the magician knows of Aladdin's plan and so steals the palace, and the Princess, and takes it all to Morocco. Aladdin turns up just in time to steal it all back. They return home and marry and live happily ever after.

Performance dates:

Twice each afternoon of December 27, 28, & 29th.

For more information and to join Aladdin's magical crew, contact Helen and Martin Weeden, 832-3787, helen.martin.weeden@sympatico.ca

You Know You Work in Non-Profit Theatre When...

- ... you've ever appeared on stage with people you're related to.
- ... you've ever heard the head of the set construction crew say "Just paint it black—no one will ever see it."
- ... you've ever played the father of someone your father's age.
- ... your kids know your rehearsal schedule better than you do.
- ... your kids know your lines better than you do.
- ... your kids deliver your lines better than you do.
- ... you get home from rehearsal and have to go back to the theatre because you forgot your kids.
- ...you've ever menaced/threatend anyone with a gun held together with electrical tape.
- ...you start buying your work clothes at Goodwill so you can buy your costumes at the mall.



*Celebrating
Our 35th Year!*

kanata theatre



The Drawer Boy

A play by

Michael Healey

Director

Dorothy Gardner

September 16 - 27, 2003 ♦ Curtain 8 p.m.

Winner of Governor General's Award for Drama for 1999

RON MASLIN PLAYHOUSE

All tickets are \$15

Box Office 831-4435

www.kanatatheatre.com