

With the world at war, it may be time for a fresh idea...

A NEW LIFE

by Elmer Rice
A Theatre Erindale production
directed by Scot Denton



October 23-25, 28 - Nov. 1
Tickets \$9 and \$14

More information: Box Office 905.569.4369
www.theatreerindale.com

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

From the Dean and Vice Principal Academic, University of Toronto Mississauga ...

*Me and my wife got married
Me and my wife settled down
Me and my wife were parted
I think I'll take a walk around town*

– From "Irene Goodnight" by Huddie Ledbetter ("Lead-belly")

It is not accidental that the start of almost any theatrical production involves the dimming of the house lights and the plunge of the audience into near-darkness. As the lights rise on the stage, it is the rest of the world that is shut out by darkness. This technique allows us to focus our attention and our empathetic capacity towards the characters and situations that arise from the imagination of the playwright. But drama is most effective when it reflects back to audience members the issues, concerns, and events that are closest to them, that speak to their most profound experiences. Theatre Erindale's 2008-09 season goes straight to the heart of that most personal of entanglements: the committed partnership.

Zoologists know that it is only the rare species that partners for life, and even among those that do, genetic evidence is revealing that there is more intrigue and more deception than meets the eye. And with divorce rates in North America nearing 50%, we humans would seem to be having a difficult time of it as well. So I invite you to join me in attending Theatre Erindale throughout the entire season as we attempt to shed light on the human capacity for partnering and on the quest for a bond that is eternal and unbreakable.

I know that you'll find your time at these productions this season well spent. My heartiest congratulations, as always, to the students, staff, and faculty of the Theatre and Drama Studies Program for their dramatic achievements.

– Gage Averill

From the Artistic Director ...

The evocative tag line for Theatre Erindale's sixteenth season is, of course, drawn from the traditional wedding ceremony: "*What God hath joined ...*". As always, we're presenting a combination of comedies and dramas from world premières to famous classics and lost jewels of the past. But this year the special link is that all five plays have to do with the trials and tribulations of creating – or in some cases destroying! – a committed partnership.

We are particularly proud to be the first company in Canada presenting one of Shakespeare's greatest hits and its sequel – two plays with opposing viewpoints on the marital relationship – one after the other on a single stage.

Two of our shows (*New Life* and *Tamer*) portray a pair of newlyweds who are vigorously negotiating the terms of their future lives together. Two more (*Shrew* and *Murderous*) deal with couples employing extreme means to work their way into a marriage – or out of one! And in the middle play (*Bonjour*), the lovers are not spouses at all but siblings, who are nevertheless feeling their way through many obstacles towards a lifetime commitment.

Once again, we invite you to join us on the voyage from New York in wartime to Quebec in the '70s to London and Italy in the Renaissance. It's going to be an exciting trip. But we can't reach our destination without you. Thank you for being here. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

Sincerely,



From the Director ...

"Enjoy it while you can"

If you had heard of Elmer Rice before you became aware of this production of *A New Life*, there's a good chance you have taken a course in Theatre History. Yet in his prime, Rice was a revered and popular playwright. Rice's grandfather had fought with rebel forces in political revolutions in Europe in the mid 1800s and was living with Rice's family when he was growing up. This idealistic veteran of political conflict, who fled to America to avoid arrest, would surely have had an influence on Rice – who was encouraged by his family to pursue his interest in acting and the theatre. Rice was to become especially passionate about exposing social problems and threats to personal freedom. And, as Anthony Palmieri notes in his 1980 biography, he had the ability "to navigate the commercialism of Broadway and yet maintain his artistic integrity".

Americans in 1943 were feeling good. They had struggled to survive a difficult economic depression and the war was giving them reasons to look ahead, both financial and political. Everyone was working to make the right things happen – young people enlisted and were prepared to be sent to God knows where to fight the 'enemy'. Life was happening at a remarkable pace. We can hear it in the music they created and danced to – it is powerful, hopeful and seductive. When we listen to it now we think of it as the music of older people, our parents or grandparents but in 1943 it was their equivalent of our Rock music. And while listening to that music, Bob and Edie meet in a night-club. They fall in love, marry, and begin a new life all in two weeks. And then he is gone.

To win the war, Americans like Robert Cleghorne travel great distances with little or no contact with home and many of them do not return. If Bob returns, will he and Edie know each other? And what will they think of the world that has brought them where they are? Mr. Rice asks if the two weeks that they started in the night-club might have been the easy part.

I need to say what a rewarding experience it is working with this cast of fourth year students from the Theatre and Drama Studies Program. They are smart, brave, funny, inquisitive, supportive of each other, and very talented. And they are so much like Bob and Edie!

– Scot Denton



About the Author ...



ELMER LEOPOLD RICE (1892-1967) is considered one of the great American dramatists from the first half of the twentieth century. He was born in 1892 in New York City and educated in law at New York University. However, instead of practicing law, he began his career as a playwright and used his experience in his works.

His plays experimented with dramatic form and reflected the social and political issues of their day. His first courtroom drama, *On Trial* (1914), was the first American play to use the flashback technique, important also in literature and motion pictures. *The Adding Machine*, his expressionistic fantasy satirizing the dehumanizing effects of machines, was produced in 1923 and is still in the active repertoire. The hit musical adaptation by Jason Loewith and Joshua Schmidt – hailed as "the best musical of 2008!" (*Time Out New York*) – is now

eagerly anticipated on Broadway.

Rice strongly identified with the underprivileged both on and off the stage, and served populist protest causes from Marxism in the 1930s to the American Civil Liberties Union. During the Depression, he became New York Regional Director of the historic Federal Theatre Project – a post he resigned in outrage when threatened with government censorship. Responding to the high-handed methods of the Theatre Guild, he co-founded the Playwrights' Company with four other leading author-producers in 1938. And he was to become a vigorous opponent of the McCarthy witch-hunts in the 1950s.

His *Street Scene* (1929), an innovative hyper-realistic drama that depicted the New York City slums, received the 1929 Pulitzer Prize in drama. It became a movie in 1931, and in 1947 was adapted into an effective opera with lyrics by Langston Hughes and music by Kurt Weill. Included among Rice's other better-known plays are: *Counselor-at-Law* (1931); *We, the People* (1933); *Between Two Worlds* (1934); and *Dream Girl* (1945). In *Judgment Day* (1934) he excoriated Nazi fascism. He also wrote novels, essays and the autobiographical *The Living Theatre* (1959) and *Minority Report* (1963).

A New Life, Rice's 24th Broadway play, opened the season for the Playwrights' Company in 1943. It was written for and dedicated to his second wife, the actress Betty Field, who starred in the initial run. Though admitting what the *New York World Telegram* called "a few rhetorical pomposities", critics wrote that *A New Life* "brings the stir of a maternity hospital and the realism of childbirth to the New York stage" (*New York Sun*), and described the play as "a typical Ricean comedy, with dialogue, characterizations and situations worthy of its distinguished author" (*New York Journal-American*).

– Patrick Young



Elmer Rice's

A NEW LIFE

Directed by Scot Denton*
 Set by Patrick Young and Peter Urbanek
 Costumes by Joanne Massingham
 Lighting by James W. Smagata
 Stage Management by Kevin Bowers*

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

THEODORE EMERY	Ryan Fisher
MISS HANSON, etc.	Jess Szymko
MISS DEVORE	Jess Phelan
MISS MURPHY, etc.	Danielle Ayow
MISS WEATHERBY	Jessica Séguin
GEORGE SHERIDAN	Paolo Santalucia
LILLIAN SHERIDAN.....	Kate Conway
ESTHER ZUCKERMAN	Jenn Sartor
MOLLIE KLEINBERGER, etc.	Tamara Zdravkovic
EDITH CHARLES CLEGHORNE	Laura MacDonald
OLIVE RAPALLO	Devon Healey
GUSTAVE JENSEN	Ray Cameron
DR. LYMAN ACTON.....	Bryn Dewar
MISS KINGSLEY	Megan Poole
SAMUEL CLEGHORNE.....	Andy Ingram
ISABELLE CLEGHORNE	Lisa Justine
MILLCENT PRINCE.....	Bridget Mantha
GROVER C. CHARLES	Ryan Fisher
MISS SWIFT	Samara Stern
CAPTAIN ROBERT CLEGHORNE	Nathan Bitton
ANAESTHETIST	Jenn Sartor
MISS THORNDIKE.....	Kate Conway
RUTH EMERY	Jessica Séguin
MISS WOOLLEY	Jess Phelan
HENRIETTA DUNSTAN	Samara Stern
HERBERT DUNSTAN	Ryan Fisher

Assistant Stage Managers Nora Williams, Laura Jabalee, Tasha Potter

The action takes place in 1943 on the fifth floor of the East River Hospital, New York City.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

FOR A NEW LIFE

Lighting Operator	Andrew Soutter
Sound Operator	Julian Munds
Set Crew.....	Sarah Williams-Jackson, Tiffany Feler, Phil Stonhouse Alison Blair, Charlotte Cattell, Adam Cresswell, Heather Dennis, Hannah Drew, Tanya Filipopoulos
Properties & Paint Crew	Brittany Adams, Olivia Lloyd, Jake Maric Kathryn Alexandre, Nicholas Marinelli, Brenden Mernagh Alison Hunt, Adam Mogyororodi, Jack Morton
Wardrobe Crew.....	Hallie Seline, Sheelagh Daly, Kristen Zaza, Michelle Nash, Julio Ospina, Amanda Piron, Eitan Shalmon
FOH Crew Chief.....	Stacey Arseneau
Running Crew	Paolo Santalucia
Make-up and Hair Consultant.....	Samantha Miller-Vidal
Poster Design	Jim Smagata
Babies.....	MacPherson Arts & Crafts, St. Mary's

FOR THEATRE ERINDALE

Artistic Director	Patrick Young
Executive Producer	Nancy Copeland
Production Manager.....	Peter Urbanek
Technical Director	James W. Smagata
Assistants (Work Study).....	Kylah Thomson, Julio Ospina
Head of Wardrobe.....	Joanne Massingham
Assistant to the Head of Wardrobe.....	Sania Lewis
Assistants (Work Study).....	Katherine Luczynski
Head of Properties and Scenic Art.....	Vaughn Davis
Business Manager	Rob Eberts
Box Office Manager	Chantal Panning
Box Office Assistants (Work Study).....	Julian Munds, Nicolas Roach, Ariana Wardak
Public Relations	Olena Wawryshyn
Program.....	Lorenda Williams
Company Photographs	Alison Dias
Brochure, Season Poster and Program Cover Design	Alison Dias

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* Courtesy of Canadian Actors' Equity Association
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Please turn cell phones, pagers and watch alarms completely off.

Photographs and recordings are strictly prohibited.

*We regret that, out of consideration for both the audience and the performers,
latecomers and re-entries cannot be permitted.*

The Cast . . .

DANIELLE AYOW, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Scarborough **Other Training:** Randolph Academy Triple Threat Youth Program- Musical Theatre Singing-Yoriko Tanno-Kimmons Dance (Ballet/Jazz) – Metro Movement **For Theatre Erindale:** Miss Murphy - *A New Life*; Chorus - *Trojan Women*; Athenian Chorus Leader - *Lysistrata*; Belinda Mulrooney/ Co-Creator - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Didi - *All These Things*; Amanda - *Me and My Asian Mother*; **For Theatre Sheridan:** Assistant Stage Manager - *Waiting for the Parade*; **For Other Companies:** Principal - *Outside the Box* (Toronto Urban Film Festival); Woman #1 - *Vagina Monologue* (Uof T V-Day 2007); Bird - *Buck* (Young Public Theatre); Chiffon - *Little Shop of Horror s* (Brushstroke Entertainment); **Favourite Saying:** “Acting Experience... When I play pool and I make a shot, I act like I'm not surprised” - Mitch Hedberg

NATHAN BITTON, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Listowel **Other Training:** FDC Certified in Intermediate Combat for Stage and Screen at Rapier Wit **For Theatre Erindale:** Captain Robert Cleghorn - *A New Life*; Mr. Vigeland - *Pillars of Society*; Charley Hill - *Women of the Klondike*; Wardrobe Crew Chief - *Canadian Kings of Repertoire*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Victor Grieves - *Skull and Crossbones*; **For Other Companies:** Sordito - *Cousins of Corsica* (U of T Drama Festival); Rodney/Marshall - *7 Stories* (Theatre Three Eleven); Tom Kent - *Jitters* (Theatre Three Eleven); **Favourite Saying:** "No regrets, that's my motto, that... and Everybody Wang-Chung Tonight!"

RAY CAMERON, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Scarborough **Other Training:** Second City, Canadian Improv Olympics. He has attended and won regional competitions in the Canadian Improv Olympics **For Theatre Erindale:** Gus - *A New Life*; Soldier - *Trojan Women*; Geezer - *1 Lysistrata*; Will Purdy/ Com Rutledge - *Women of the Klondike*; Waterman/Servant - *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Shmitty - *Skulls and Crossbones*; Patriclus - *Cousins of Cori sca*; **For Other Companies:** Founder OCEDYD (Salvation Army Youth Drama); Director(Christians In Action); **Favourite Saying:** “ My friend asked me if I wanted a frozen banana, I said 'No, but I'll have a regular one later, so –yeah” . - Mitch Hedberg

KATE CONWAY, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Mississauga **For Theatre Erindale:** Mary Hitchcock - *Women of the Klondike*; Mrs. Lynge - *Pillars of Society*; Lillian Sheridan/ Mrs. Thorndike - *A New Life*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Sound - *The Real Inspector Hound*; Sound - *Tape*; Sound - *Papertrails*; **For Other Companies:** Munchkin - *The Wizard of Oz* (Etobicoke Musical Productions); Mary - *The Children's Hour* (Mississauga Players); Vicky - *Caught in the Net*; (Mississauga Players); **Favourite Saying:** “CENTIPEDE! Always running, always hiding. CENTIPEDE”!!!

BRYN DEWAR, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Mississauga **Other Training:** Regional Arts Program- Drama (Cawthra Park S.S.); **For Theatre Erindale:** Dr. Acton - *A New Life*; Krap - *Pillars of Society*; Sol Schuldenfrei - *Women of the Klondike*; Parson - *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*; **For**

Erindale Fringe: Inspector Hound - *The Real Inspector Hound*; **For Other Companies:** Jack - *Into the Woods* (Meadowvale Music Theatre); Rolf - *The Sound of Music* (Cawthra Park S.S.); Director - *Goodnight Desdemona...* (Act For Hope); **Favourite Saying:** "You want the moon, Mary? Just say the word and I'll throw a lasso around it and pull it down for you." – *It's a wonderful Life*

RYAN FISHER, 4TH Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Sarnia **For Theatre Erindale:** Grover C. Charles - *A New Life*; Schoolmaster Rorlund - *Pillars of Society*; Narrator - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Simon Gascoyne - *The Real Inspector Hound*; **For Other Companies:** ONE - *Better Living* (Fly By Night); Felix Unger - *The Odd Couple* (Barn Theatre); Miles - *The Drawer Boy* (Theatre Sarnia); Lysander - *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (S.T.A.G.E.); **Favourite Saying:** "Never speak unless it improves on silence; never move unless it improves on stillness." - William Hutt

DEVON HEALEY, 4th Year – Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Oakville **Other Training:** Cawthra Park Secondary School for the Performing Arts Ontario Drama Certificate, Pro-Voice Studios **For Theatre Erindale:** Maria - *The Taming of the Tamer*; Olive Rapallo - *A New Life*; ACL 2 and Chorus - *The Trojan Women and Lysistrata*; Nellie Cashma - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Cynthia Dallas - *Cocktails at Pam's*; **For Other Companies:** B-Girl - *Bitter Girl*(Act for Hope Productions); Amaryliss - *The Music Man* (Blacklock S.S.); Gracie Allen - *George and Gracie*(Misfitsaudio.com) **Favourite Saying:** Don't let's ask for the moon, when we already have the stars! - Bette Davis

LISA, JUSTINE 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Goderich **For Theatre Erindale:** Martha Bernick - *Pillars of Society*; Kitty Stroup - *Women of the Klondike*; Isabelle Cleghorne - *A New Life*; Props Crew Chief - *Canadian Kings of Repertoire*; **For Other Companies:** Celia - *Cousins of Corsica (What You Will)* (U of T Drama Festival); Mary Myers - *Pillar to Post Walk-About* (Gairbraid Theatre Company); Fiona - *The Great Storm* (Gairbraid Theatre Company); Lisa - *Sustain-A-What Now?* (The Town of Goderich); **Favourite Saying:** "To meet you in the space that lies between a joke and a smile." - Prayer Before a Voyage, interference Ireland

ANDY INGRAM, 4TH Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Mississauga **Other Training:** FDC Certified for Intermediate Actor Combatant at Rupier-Wit **For Theatre Erindale:** Samuel Cleghorne - *A New Life*; Magistrate - *Lysistrata*; Carrington / Mr. Russle - *Women of the Klondike*; Porter - *A Chastemaid in Cheapside*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Gibson - *Skull and Crossbones*; Alex - *All These Things*; **For Other Companies:** Jean Valjean - *Les Misérables* (Notre Dame S.S.); Nencio - *The Cousins of Corsica* (U of T Drama Festival); Ruben / Chorus - *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*; (Theatricality Plus Players); Andrew - *For Liam*(Notre Dame Players); **Favourite Saying:** "Sometimes you're ahead, sometimes you're behind. The race is long and in the end, it's only with yourself..." -Baz Lurhmann

LAURA MACDONALD, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Antigonish, NS **Other Training:** Senior Multi-Discipline Dance accreditation with Antigonish Creative Dance Association **For Theatre Erindale:** Edith

Charles Cleghorne - *A New Life*; Cassandra/Chorus - *Trojan Woman*; Klondike Kate - *Women of the Klondike*; Lady/East Wind - *A Maid's Tragedy*; **For Other Companies:** Mary Warren - *The Crucible* (Theatre Antigonish); Peggy - *Godspell* - (Festival Antigonish Summer Theatre); Lady MacDuff - *MacBeth* (The Harbour Players); Kitty Verdun - *Charley's Aunt* (Theatre Antigonish); **Favourite Saying:**" This too will pass"

BRIDGET MANTHA, 4TH Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Huntsville **Other Training:** Grade 8 Piano, Grade 8 Vocal, Royal Conservatory of Music **For Theatre Erindale:** Millicent Prince - *A New Life*; Chorus/Old Woman - *Trojan Women*; Alice Rollins Crane - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** GOD - *Outta Here*; Sally - *Colours of the Storm*; **For Other Companies:** Princess Amneris - *Aida* (North Muskoka Players); Irene - *Crazy for You* (Gravenhurst Opera House);Chiffon - *Little Shop of Horrors* (Bracebridge Dinner Theatre); Narrator - *Joseph and the...* (Trinity Theatre Group); **Favourite Saying:** "Ham. Cheese. Ham and cheese. Ham and cheese sandwiches". - Ryan Fisher

JESS PHELAN, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: St. Catharines **For Theatre Erindale:** Miss Woolley & Miss Devore - *A New Life*; Chorus & Calonike - *The Trojan Women*; Edith Van Buren - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Other Companies:** Anna Mary Go Round (W. I. P. Theatre); Ensemble - *The Vagina Monologues*(U.T.M. S.E.C.); Doldomia - *The Cousins of Corsica* (U of T Drama Festival); **Favourite Saying:** "may my mind stroll about hungry and fearless and thirsty and supple and even if it's sunday may I be wrong" – e.e. Cummings

MEGAN POOLE, 4TH Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Markham **Other Training:** Musical Theatre Performance Workshop Main Street Dance Academy (Sand Strokes Studio); **For Theatre Erindale:** Miss Kingsley - *A New Life*; Mrs. Bernick- *Pillars of Society*; Co-Creator - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Director - *Me and My Asian Mother*; **For Other Companies:** Jesus - *Jesus Christ Superstar (in concert)* (Markham Youth Theatre); Janet Weiss - *Rocky Horror Show* (Markham Youth Theatre); Girl One - *Of Enigmatic Things* (Toronto Fringe Festival); Assistant Director - *Grease* (Markham Youth Theatre); **Ambition:** To rock the free world.



PAOLO SANTALUCIA, 2nd Year – Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Toronto **Other Training:** Movement Sarah Jane Burton; Improv Mike Goran; Voice Ron Cameron Lewis; Scene and Film Study Charles Roy **For Theatre Erindale:** Set Crew - *That Summer*; Wardrobe Crew - *The Trojan Women/Lysistrata*; Running Crew - *A New Life*; George Sheridan - *A New Life*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Man - *The Virtuous Burglar*; Andrew - *Ad 460 Pilot*; Nathan - *Me and My Asian Mother*; **For Other Companies:** Sheriff - *A Musical Called*

Robin Hood (Toronto Youth Theatre); Bottom - *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Toronto Youth Theatre); Frank - *Never Swim Alone* (Etobicoke School of the Arts); John F - *Insomnia*; (Etobicoke School of the Arts); **Ambition:** To master the art of teleportation.

JENN SARTOR, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Kettleby **Other Training:** Kimberly Sartor, Irene Ilic; Puppetry – Clay & Paper Theatre Co., (Resurgence Theatre Co); Basic Combat at Rapier Wit in Progress

For Theatre Erindale: Miss. Zuckerman - *A New Life*; Chorus/Old Woman 3 *Trojan Women and Lysistrata*; Becci Schuldenfrei - *Women of the Klondike*; Assistant Stage Manager - *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Katie - *Me and My Asian Mother*; Stage Manager - *All These Things*; **For Other Companies:** Singer - *WE NEED HELP!* ; (Clay & Paper Theatre); multiple roles/co-creator - *The Emperor's New Clothes and Other Stories*(Resurgence Theatre Co.) ; Blythe - *Butterfly* (Paprika Festival); **Favourite Saying:** "Your mother was a hamster, and your father smelt of elderberries...Now go away, or I shall taunt you a second time"! - (French Soldier) - *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*

JESSICA SEGUIN, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies
Home Town: Stratford **Other Training:** BATD, Royal Academy of Dancing, Royal Conservatory of Music **For Theatre Erindale:** Miss Weatherby/Ruth Emery - *A New Life*; Mrs. Rummel - *Pillars of Society*; Faith Fenton/Ensemble - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Stage Manager - *Skull and Crossbones*; Burglar's Wife - *The Virtuous Burglar*; Director - *The Real Inspector Hound*; Stage Manager - *Jekyll & Hyde*; **For Other Companies:** Director/Writer - *The Cousins of Corsica*(U of T Drama Festival/Toronto Fringe); Festival Coordinator (U of T Drama Festival); Stage Manager - *In the Skin of Sleep*(U of T Drama Festival); Sound Operator - *Paper Trails* (U of T Drama Festival); **Favourite Saying:** "If you're having a hard time ending a scene, eat someone, blow something up, or throw penguins in the air." –Jim Henson

SAMARA STERN, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies
Home Town: Thornhill **Other Training:** Armstrong Acting Studios, Bayview School of Ballet; Souleppper Theatre, Westmount Collegiate Institute: **For Theatre Erindale:** Miss Swift, Mrs. Dunstan- *A New Life*; Chorus, Ismenia - *Lysistrata*; Martha Purdy - *Women of the Klondike*; Props - *The Maid's Tragedy*; **For Other Companies:** Officer Williams - *A Cut of Money* (Ario Films); Susan Johnson - *Do Not Open* (T² Productions); Jane - *In The Morning*(Ario Films); Sarah - *Idiot* (Jason Jeffrey); **Favourite Saying:** "The bed is kind of narrow but my arms are open wide" -Leonard Cohen

JESS SZYMKO, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies
Home Town: Thornhill **Other Training:** Armstrong Studios, Second City **For Theatre Erindale:** Joseph, Servant, Taylor - *Taming of the Shrew*; Miss Hanson - *A New Life*; Mrs. Holt - *Pillars of Society*; Frances Dorely - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Felicity - *The Real Inspector Hound*; **For Other Companies:** Innkeeper - *Fiddler on the Roof* (Westmount Productions); Carrie/Pat - *Afternoon in the Park* (Tribal Productions); Philostrate - *A Midsummer Night's Dream*(Westmount Productions); Velma Kelly - *Chicago* (New Moon Productions); **Favourite Saying:** "Whoever says Friendship is easy has obviously never had a true friend!" - Bronwyn Polson

TAMARA ZDRAVKOVIC, 4th Year - Theatre and Drama Studies
Home Town: Skopje, Macedonia **Other Training:** 4 years of singing –(classical, pop) for 4 years – Lynn Himmelmann and Kathy Thompson, dance –(jazz, latin for 3 years – Monique Bardot **For Theatre Erindale:** Mollie Kleinberger - *A New Life*; Dina Dorf - *Pillars of Society*; Gussie Lamore - *Women of the Klondike*; **For Other Companies:** Peaseblossom - *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Miss Hannigan - *Annie*; Gertrude Stein-

Chamber Music; Female Butler -*Clue*; **Favourite Saying:** "We moonwalk the foxtrot, then polka the salsa" - the Spice Girls

Stage Management...



KEVIN BOWERS (Stage Manager)

Kevin Bowers is pleased to be back at UTM with *A New Life*, having previously Stage Managed *Trojan Women & Lysistrata*, *David Copperfield*, *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside* and *The Canadian Kings of Repertoire*. Mr. Bowers' 30-year career has taken him across Canada and USA (too often), as well as to London, Barcelona, Geneva and the USSR (not often enough) – credits include *Madame Butterfly*, *The Magic Flute*, *La Boheme*, *Aida*, *Tosca*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Eugene Onegin*, the Cameron MacIntosh production of *Oliver!*, *Racing Demon*, *Crazy For You*, *Les Miserables* and *The Good Times Are Killing Me* all at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, as well as the original Toronto productions of *Forever Plaid*, *Suburban Motel*, *Democracy*, *Seven Stories*, and *Nigredo Hotel*. Most recently Mr. Bowers stage managed *Bowfire* for PBS, as well as Sky Gilbert's *Happy* and *Will the Real J. T. LeRoy Please Stand Up?* Concerts at Roy Thomson Hall include Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Tony Bennett, Diana Krall, Debra Voigt, Aretha Franklin, George Carlin and the Canadian Brass. His directing credits at Red Barn Theatre include *Bedside Manners*, *Move Over Mrs. Markham*, *Annie* and *Forever Plaid*, as well as *Carmen* for Opera Mississauga and the Canadian premiere of the new Broadway production of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* at Toronto's New Yorker Theatre. For the 2008 Toronto Fringe he directed the first Toronto production of Sky Gilbert's *Ladylike* - he also directed the 2005 Aboriginal Achievement Awards for CBC. A native Torontonian, Mr. Bowers holds a MA in Theatre from Essex University in England.



LAURA JABALEE (Assistant Stage Manager)

2nd Year -Theatre & Drama Studies
Home Town: London **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe Crew - *Women of the Klondike*; Props Crew - *That Summer*; **For Theatre Erindale:** Ensemble - *Scull and Cross Bones*; **For Other Companies:** *Romeo and Juliet*, *Swing*, *Anne Frank and Me* (Original Kids); **Favourite Saying:** "Love all, trust few, do wrong to none." - W. Shakespeare



TASHA POTTER (Assistant Stage Manager)

2ndYear – Theatre & Drama Studies **Home Town:** Caledon **Other Training:** Theatre Art School **For Theatre Erindale:** Set Crew – *David Copperfield*; Wardrobe Crew – *Pillars of Society*



NORA WILLIAMS (Assistant Stage Manager)
2ndYear - Theatre & Drama Studies
Home Town: Buffalo, New York **Other Training:** New York State Summer School for the Arts; Nichols School; New York State Theatre Education Association **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe Crew – *Pillars of Society*; Props Crew - *David Copperfield*; Assistant Stage Manager - *A New Life*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Assistant Stage Manager - *All These Things*; **For Other Companies:** Actor/Dancer - *Wading for*

Answers(ALT Theatre, Buffalo); Director - *The Cmplt Wrks of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged* (Thespians, Eh?); **Favourite Saying:** “We’ll never survive? Nonsense! You’re only saying that because no one ever has.” - *The Princess Bride*

Direction and Design. . .



SCOT DENTON (Director) Mr. Denton’s professional career began at the Charlottetown Festival in 1972. Since then he has appeared in film, television and at most major theatres across Canada, including the Manitoba Theatre Centre, Theatre New Brunswick, Young People’s Theatre, Canadian Stage and The Stratford Festival. Scot’s versatility as an actor has allowed him to perform such diverse roles as Raymond Brock in *Plenty*, Alligator in *Really Rosie*, Allmers in *Little Eyolf*, Ross Hamilton (Marjorie) in *Legend of the Dumbbells* and Heathcliff in

Wuthering Heights. His film credits include *The Gate*, *Murder in Space* and *The Virgin Suicides*. Mr. Denton is the current Artistic Producer of the Highlands Summer Festival in Haliburton. Scot attended the University of Toronto and the National Theatre School and brings training from many disciplines to his directing. For HSF: *The Fantasticks*, *Miracle Worker*, *Trying*, and *Perilous Pirates Daughter*. Elsewhere: *Gondoliers*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *She Loves Me*, *The Heiress*, *Sinners*, *A Bedful of Foreigners*. Scot is an acting teacher at the Toronto Actors Studio and at Sheridan College in Oakville.

PATRICK YOUNG (Artistic Director) graduated in English from Victoria College, University of Toronto, trained in Theatre on a graduate scholarship at Indiana University, and was soon a well-known actor across Canada. His Toronto credits included the record-breaking hits *Flicks*, *The Relapse*, and the original production of *Automatic Pilot*, as well as *Chinchilla* and the last national tour of *Spring Thaw*. Elsewhere the range included *Misalliance* in Boston, *Uncle Vanya* and *Tobacco Road* in Indiana, *Windsor* in Charlottetown, *Dames at Sea* in Winnipeg, *Hay Fever* across BC and *Scapin* across Ontario, plus guest starring on such TV series as *The Great Detective* and *Night Heat*. During the 1980s, he branched into playwriting, directing, and teaching. He is the author of the award-winning biographical plays “*Winnie*” (also filmed for television), *Aimee!* and *Abigail, or The Gold Medal*, plus numerous industrial shows. He has held the posts of Artistic Director of Dalhousie Theatre Productions in Halifax, Director/Dramaturge of the Music Theatre Writers’ Colony at the Muskoka Festival, and Associate Director/Playwright in Residence at the Lighthouse Festival Theatre. Teaching includes Waterloo, Dalhousie, George Brown, Humber, and Gaya College in Malaysia. He is the founding Artistic Director of Theatre Erindale and the founding Sheridan Coordinator of the Theatre and Drama Studies Program (which is now in its eighteenth year). For

Theatre Erindale he has directed thirteen shows; for Theatre Sheridan two, and elsewhere more than he can count.

PETER URBANEK, Production Manager

This is Peter’s eighth season as Production Manager at Theatre Erindale. For the past thirty years he has worked in theatres across the country. His past credits include Production Manager for: Magnus Theatre, The University of Western Ontario, Markham Theatre and the Globe Theatre. Peter has over four hundred lighting and set design credits. He has worked with such companies as Mountain Dance Troupe, Vancouver Playhouse, National Ballet, Canadian Opera Company, Taffelmusik, Les Grande Ballets Canadien, Stageright Productions, Fanshawe College, Alberta Ballet Company, and Jabberwocky Theatre for Children. He was production manager, instructor and set/lighting designer for eight years at the University of Western Ontario. For Theatre Safety Consultants he inspected and consulted on over four hundred theatre projects and was theatre consultant for Fanshawe College’s new Live Performance Industry facility. Peter’s movie and television work includes, *The Bridge to Silence* with Lee Remick and Marlee Matlin, *The Super Dave Show*, *Raffi In Concert*, *Diamonds*, and *X-Men: The Movie*.

JAMES W. SMAGATA, Technical Director, Lighting Design

Jim’s passion for theatre began in Grade 7 when he was cast as Major-General Stanley in *The Pirates of Penzance* and title role in *The Sorcerer*. In high school, he performed lead roles in *Our Town*, *The Death and Life of Sneaky Fitch* and *Bus Stop*. For all of these shows he was also set designer and crew. At Brock University he acted in James Reaney’s *Listen to the Wind*, Ionesco’s *The Killing Game*, *Prometheus Bound* and *Tartuffe*. Jim concentrated on being a technician and landed roles as Technical Director/writer/actor/musician in Rainbow Troupe, Technical Coordinator at Brock, Technical Manager at Grande Prairie Regional College in Alberta, Chief of Production Services at Nepean Centrepointe Theatre, and now as Technical Director at UTM. He has also directed *The Gin Game*, *Portrait in Black*, *The Creature Creeps!*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and acted and sung as Gandalf in *The Hobbit* and Mike in Jim Betts’ *Thin Ice*. He directed the Drama Club’s production of *Pump Boys and Dinettes*. He was Technical Director and Lighting Designer for the 2001 Mississauga Arts Council Awards. Jim has been the “Lunchtime” sound operator at the Shaw Festival for five seasons, and presently spends his “spare time” as a post-production engineer for a web-based audio drama based on *Star Trek*, and a parody concerning James Bond’s sister, Lara.

JOANNE MASSINGHAM, Head of Wardrobe, Costumer

Joanne is pleased to be returning for her fourteenth season at Theatre Erindale. Unlike the people she is surrounded by, she has never set foot on a stage when there are audience members in attendance and is happy living in the wings. She is however, always in awe of those who have the courage to step into the lights. Some costume design credits for Theatre Erindale include *The Hypochondriac*, *Lovers in Dangerous Times*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Hot L Baltimore*, *The Revenger’s Tragedy*, *Gut Girls*, *7 Stories*, *Les Belles-Soeurs* and *The Relapse*. She has also designed costumes for *My Fair Lady* and *The Buddy Holly Story* (Stage West), and set and costumes for Artemis Theatre’s acclaimed 1998 production of Charles Dickens reading from *A Christmas Carol* (Theatre Passe Muraille). She has been Head of Wardrobe for numerous Theatre Companies including Theatre Sheridan, *Le Théâtre Français de Toronto*, Young Peoples’ Theatre, U

of T Opera School, York University, Theatre Passe Muraille and Skylight Theatre.

VAUGHN DAVIS, Head of Properties and Scenic Art

This is Vaughn's first year here at Theatre Erindale. He has been working professionally all over Ontario for the past ten years doing carpentry, props, stage management, design and scenic art. Special thanks to his amazing props crew!! Enjoy the show!



Widowed radio singer Edith Charles arrives at the hospital in labour with her two best friends: Ray Cameron, Laura MacDonald, Devon Healey.



Edie does not see eye to eye with her husband's millionaire parents: Laura Macdonald, Andy Ingram, Lisa Justine.



Theatre and Drama Studies
FACULTY & STAFF
2008/2009



Bruce Barton	Drama Studies
Suzanne Bennett	Tutorials
Kevin Bowers, Allan Teichman, David Vanderlip.....	Stage Managers
Sarah Jane Burton.....	Movement, Dance; Choreographer
Ron Cameron-Lewis.....	Voice and Text, Styles
Nancy Copeland (Executive Producer, UTM Coordinator)	Drama Studies
Natalie Corbett.....	Drama Studies
Vaughn Davis (Head of Properties & Scenic Art).....	Production
Scot Denton	Guest Director
Teodoro Dragonieri	Character Mask
Christopher Dawes	Composer, Music Director
Laurence Follows	Acting Technique, Styles
Michael Goran	Improvisation
Pil Hansen.....	Drama Studies
Dennis Hayes.....	Tutorials, Styles, Stagecraft
Diane Janzen.....	Program Support Officer, Sheridan
John Karr	Singing
Jennifer Lenoir-Moyer (MiST Technical Director).....	Production
Daniel Levinson.....	Stage Combat, Fight Director
Joanne Massingham (Head of Wardrobe).....	Production; Costumer
Debra McKay	Theatre Organization, Stage Management
Catherine McNally	Tutorials
Mimi Mekler.....	Mask, Clown; Director
Jane Moffat	Styles
Denise Norman.....	Voice and Text, Tutorials
Chantal Panning.....	Box Office
Linda Phillips, Bonita Ubell.....	Wardrobe Staff
Heinar Piller.....	Guest Director
Martin Revermann.....	Drama Studies
Marc Richard	Guest Director
Dianne Robertson.....	UTM Undergraduate Advisor, English & Drama
Barbara Rowe	Guest Costumer
Jim Smagata (Technical Director)	Production; Lighting Designer
Ralph Small	Tutorials, Styles
Sam Stedman	Drama Studies
Holger Syme	Drama Studies
Terry Tweed	Guest Director
Peter Urbanek (Production Manager)	Production
Lorenda Williams	Assistant to the Chair, UTM English and Drama
Graham Wolfe	Drama Studies
Patrick Young (Artistic Director, Sheridan Coordinator).....	Scene Study, Prof. Practice

*

Roger Beck, Daniel Donaldson (<i>Chair</i>), Tracey Geobey, Paula Gonsalves, Katherine Kaszas, Catherine Knights, Heinar Piller, Zaib Shaikh, Neil Silcox, Lawrence Stern, Kelly Straughan	Program Advisory Committee
Ronni Rosenberg	Associate Dean, Joint & Performance Programs, Sheridan
Leslie Thomson	Chair, Department of English and Drama, UTM
Michael Collins	Dean, School of Animation, Arts and Design, Sheridan
Gage Averill	Dean and Vice Principal Academic, UTM

Theatre Erindale Production History

Year	Title	Author	Director			
1993/1994	<i>The Farm Show</i> <i>Pericles, Prince of Tyre</i>	Theatre Passe Muraille William Shakespeare	Patrick Young Mimi Mekler	2003/2004	<i>'Tis Pity She's a Whore</i> <i>The Libation Bearers</i> <i>The Golden Ass</i> <i>The Vic</i> <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> <i>Jane Eyre</i>	John Ford Greg Peterson Aeschylus / Tony Harrison Apuleius Company Leanna Brodie Jane Austen/Christina Calvit Charlotte Brontë / Johanson
1994/1995	<i>1837: The Farmers' Revolt</i> <i>Lion in the Streets</i> <i>The Scams of Scapin</i> <i>The Relapse</i>	Theatre Passe Muraille Judith Thompson Molière John Vanbrugh	Terry Tweed Katherine Kaszas Mimi Mekler Patrick Young	2004/2005	<i>Opening Night</i> <i>The Actor's Nightmare</i> <i>Audience</i> <i>Alarum Within: theatre poems</i> <i>Unity (1918)</i> <i>Women Beware Women</i> <i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	Cornelia Otis Skinner Christopher Durang Michael Frayn Kimmy Beach / Company Kevin Kerr Thomas Middleton William Shakespeare
1995/1996	<i>Six War Years</i> <i>The Rimers of Eldritch</i> <i>Les Belles-Soeurs</i> <i>The Revenger's Tragedy</i>	Barry Broadfoot / Company Lanford Wilson Michel Tremblay Cyril Tournear	Cameron & Frid Jim Millan Mimi Mekler Patrick Young	2005/2006	<i>Picnic at Hanging Rock</i> <i>The Immigrant Years</i> <i>Thirteen Hands</i> <i>Constant Players & The Dispute</i> <i>The Country Wife</i>	Lady Lindsay / Shamas Barry Broadfoot / Company Carol Shields/Chris Dawes Marivaux / Watson & Lester William Wycherley
1996/1997	<i>Story Theatre</i> <i>The Gut Girls</i> <i>7 Stories</i> <i>Mycenae (from The Greeks)</i>	Paul Sills / Grimm Brothers Sarah Daniels Morris Panych John Barton, et al	Mimi Mekler KatherineKaszas Patrick Young Simon Johnston	2006/2007	<i>Radium Girls</i> <i>Canadian Kings of Repertoire</i> <i>Waiting for the Parade</i> <i>The Maid's Tragedy</i> <i>A Chaste Maid in Cheapside</i>	D. W. Gregory Michael V. Taylor/Company John Murrell Beaumont & Fletcher Thomas Middleton
1997/1998	<i>A Harvest Yet to Reap</i> <i>The Hot L Baltimore</i> <i>Vital Signs</i> <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Savage & Wheeler / Company Lanford Wilson Jane Martin William Shakespeare	Mimi Mekler David Ferry Patrick Young Greg Peterson	2006/2007	<i>David Copperfield</i> <i>Women of the Klondike</i> <i>That Summer</i> <i>Pillars of Society</i> <i>The Trojan Women & Lysistrata</i>	Dickens / Thomas Hischak Frances Backhouse / Company David French Henrik Ibsen Ellen McLaughlin
1998/1999	<i>Lovers in Dangerous Times</i> <i>Fen</i> <i>The Women</i> <i>The Hypochondriac</i>	Shakespeare & Friends Caryl Churchill Clare Boothe Luce Molière / Alan Drury	Ron Cameron Brian Richmond Patricia Hamilton Patrick Young			
1999/2000	<i>The Millennium Project</i> <i>Pride's Crossing</i> <i>Lysistrata</i> <i>Hard Times</i>	Dennis Hayes & Company Tina Howe Aristophanes / Rudall Charles Dickens / Jeffreys	Dennis Hayes Brian Richmond Vinetta Strombergs Christina James			
2000/2001	<i>Love's Fire</i> <i>Once Upon Our Time</i> <i>The Comedy of Errors</i> <i>En Pièces Détachées</i> <i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>	Bogosian, Finn, Guare, Kushner, Norman, Shange ,Wasserstein Dennis Hayes & Company William Shakespeare Michel Tremblay William Shakespeare	Ralph Small Dennis Hayes Ron Cameron Duncan McIntosh Mimi Mekler			
2001/2002	<i>Glengarry Glen Ross</i> <i>and Top Girls</i> <i>The Loyalist Project</i> <i>The Children's Hour</i> <i>The Beaux' Stratagem</i> <i>The Man of Mode</i>	David Mamet Caryl Churchill Ron Cameron & Company Lillian Hellman George Farquhar George Etherege	Duncan McIntosh and Zaib Shaikh Ron Cameron Jane Carnwath Mimi Mekler Patrick Young			
2002/2003	<i>The Aberhart Summer</i> <i>Brass Buttons and Silver Horseshoes</i> <i>Les Liaisons Dangereuses</i> <i>Les Belles-Soeurs</i>	Conni Massing /Alan Powe Linda Granfield/Company Christopher Hampton Michel Tremblay	Katherine Kaszas Mimi Mekler Patrick Young Vinetta Strombergs			



A young couple ready for discharge with their infant: Jessica Seguin, Paolo Santalucia, Kate Conway, Danielle Ayow.



Donors:

Ron Cameron-Lewis
Denise Norman
Leslie Thomson
Patrick Young

Patrons:

Nathan Basiliko
Roger and Janet Beck
Barbara Michasiw
Catherine Rubincam
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