



William Shakespeare's
THE Taming of the Shrew
*"The ever-popular comedy
 in a gender-switched production"*
 presented by Theatre Erindale
 directed by Mimi Mekler

February 26-28, March 3-7, 2009
 Tues-Thurs 7:30, Fri-Sat 8:00
 Matinee March 7 2:00
 \$9 - \$14

Erindale Studio Theatre
 (Mississauga Road North 3 lights above Dundas)
www.theatreerindale.com
 905-569-4369



***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

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 ...

The Taming of the Shrew is one of Shakespeare's most frequently produced plays, but it presents many problems for today's audiences. How can we reconcile our more egalitarian views with the Elizabethan knock-about comedy, and the antiquated view of the world order (ruler/subject, father/child, husband/wife), expressed so eloquently by Kate in what is usually called the "submission" speech?

The idea of producing *Shrew* with men as women and women as men came up a few years ago, when we were looking for an Elizabethan vehicle with lots of women's roles. Gender swapping has a long history, dating back to Ancient Greece's use of all-male casts and, of course, boys playing women in Shakespeare's day. But more recently, it was also done by companies at the beginning of the twentieth century to make a point: the necessity and justice of women gaining the vote. The demand for universal suffrage was articulated through pageants and in specially written plays sponsored by the Women's Social and Political Union, Women Writers' Suffrage League, and the Actresses' Franchise League. There were over 400 active women playwrights in England between 1908 - 1914. Sheila Stowell writes that "the drama composed and performed by the WWSL and the AFL manipulates existing genres and styles, sometimes into obvious arguments for female enfranchisement, but also into more generalized portrayals of women's experience.... (including) marriage as a trade."

In *How the Vote was Won* (1909), by Cicely Hamilton, the women take their cue from *Lysistrata*, and withhold their labour until society comes to a crashing halt and the men demand universal suffrage so their world can continue to function. In *The Better Half* (1913) by Alison Garland, the women govern, and men are valued for their brawn but denied the vote. A husband & wife exchange jobs in *Jim's Leg* by L.S. Phipps (1911), and based on his new experiences, he becomes a suffragist. Need we say more than the title of Joan Dugdale's *10 Clowning Street?* G.B. Shaw wrote suffrage plays, including *Press Cuttings* (1909), which was banned by the Censor for similarities to actual politicians. Our own Nellie McClung and other Canadian pioneers used theatrical performances to promote women's rights, as longtime Theatre Erindale patrons will recall from our production of *A Harvest Yet to Reap*. All these plays were tremendously popular, and provided employment and wonderful roles for women on- and off-stage, as well as advancing political progress.

By following in this rich tradition and reversing men and women in our production, we have been able to see the play in a new light, still enjoying the comedy and the multi-faceted characters, but with a clear conscience. We hope that you will have as much fun as we have.

— Mimi Mekler

About the Author...



William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* was first performed sometime between 1589 and 1594. It was published in the Folio of 1623 (the collection of his plays produced 7 years after his death). This play is not to be confused with *A Pleasant Conceited Historie called the Taming of a Shrew*, by an unknown writer, first printed in 1594.

Many books have been written and many reputations have been challenged as scholars try to determine which was the first performed, which was the source for the other, or if both came from a common source. Undoubtedly, there are many folk tales about wives who need to be tamed that were readily available to Shakespeare. Not surprisingly, the playwright that we credit with "the invention of the human"

(a phrase coined by Harold Bloom) finds a way to transform these and make both husband and wife fully rounded, powerful, and likeable characters.

We know little about Shakespeare's own life. He was born April 23, 1564 (we think), married in 1582, and died April 23, 1616, all in Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire (the home county of Christopher Sly). He was a poet, playwright, sometime actor and shareholder in a very successful theatre company in London. His marriage to Anne Hathaway, eight years his senior, and pregnant when they wed, is often portrayed as somehow beneath him. New studies, notably *Shakespeare's Wife*, by Germaine Greer, shed a different light on the possibilities of that relationship. Perhaps they were lovers who contrived a pregnancy, to coerce their parents into allowing them to marry and set up their own household. Anne seems to have been a canny businesswoman, who managed a farm and a brewery as well as her household, while her absentee husband consorted with "rogues and vagabonds," as all theatrefolk were considered under law. Perhaps it is she who is largely responsible for the accumulation of wealth that allowed the Shakespeares to buy the best house in town. And perhaps it is she who looked after him when he retired to Stratford, died leaving her "the second best bed", and perhaps even the scripts which formed the basis of the Folio.

Whatever the truth of his life, we know that Shakespeare created some of the greatest women and men in dramatic literature, showing an incredible sensitivity not just for his time, but for ours. His works continue to be performed everywhere, in translations and adaptations, as well as in productions that seek to duplicate the conditions of his own theatre. Nearly four hundred years after his death, he is the most studied, performed, and celebrated playwright in the world.

- Mimi Mekler

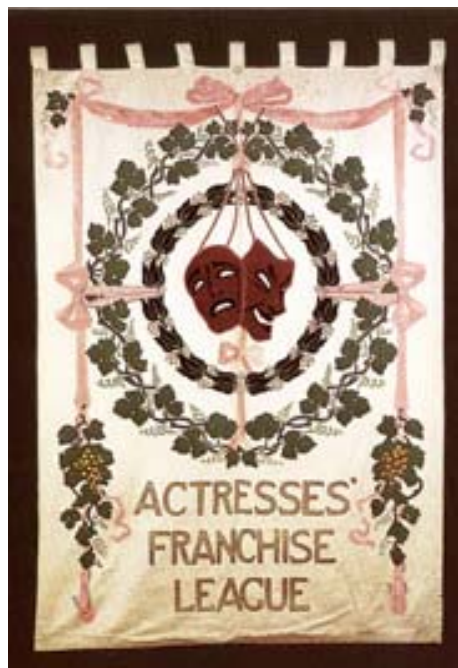
Lobby Art Display

Artwork on view in the Theatre Erindale Lobby has been created by the fourth-year painting class in the joint University of Toronto Mississauga and Sheridan Art and Art History Program. Students in the class develop a body of thematically linked paintings. The exhibition includes the following student artists: Myra-Anne Boyle, Tricia Chui, Soo Jung Kim, Ashley Regimbal-Kung, Ellisha Marcoretta, Ricardo Conte Oro, Nishanthi Savanandanayagam, Gurpreet Sehra, Nina Sewchuk, and Nicole Villeda.

Art and Art History graduates receive both a Diploma in Art and Art History from Sheridan and an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto. Hands-on studio training at Sheridan and illustrated lectures in the history of art at the University of Toronto Mississauga provide students with the practical training and academic background needed for art careers.

For further information on the artwork in this exhibition or on the Art and Art History Program, please contact Professor John Armstrong at (905) 815-4040, extension 2580.

To purchase any of the artwork in this exhibition, please see the Box Office Staff.



William Shakespeare's

The Taming of the Shrew

Directed by Mimi Mekler
 Music Direction by John Karr
 Fight Direction by Daniel Levinson
 Choreography by Sarah Jane Burton
 Set by Patrick Young
 Costumes by Joanne Massingham
 Lighting by James W. Smagata
 Stage Management by Kevin Bowers*

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

At Burton Heath:

CHRISTOPHER SLY, *a tinker* Ryan Fisher
 MARIAN HACKET, *tavern keeper* Kelsey Goldberg
 CICELY HACKET, *barmaid* Jess Szymko
 LORD Paolo Santalucia
 HIS FIANCÉE Sara Mitich
 MAIDS Clare Blackwood, Victoria Halper
 BARTHOLOMEW, *a page* Kevin Owen

The Players:

LUCENTIO Sydney Dunitz
 TRANIO, *his servant* Megan Poole
 BAPTISTA MINOLA Jessica Séguin
 GREMIO, *a pantaloone* Melanie Hrymak
 HORTENSIO, *a young suitor* Samara Stern
 KATHERINE MINOLA Ryan Fisher
 BIANCA MINOLA Kevin Owen
 BIONDELLO, *Lucentio's servant* Juel Hughes
 PETRUCHIO Lisa Justine Hood
 GRUMIO, *his servant* Jenny Rockman
 A WIDOW Paolo Santalucia
 CURTIS, *Petruchio's servant* Kelsey Goldberg
 TAILOR Jess Szymko
 HABERDASHER Melanie Hrymak
 PEDANT Victoria Halper
 VINCENTIO, *Lucentio's father* Clare Blackwood
 SERVANTS, TOWNSFOLK, etc Clare Blackwood, Kelsey Goldberg,
 Victoria Halper, Sara Mitich, Jess Szymko

Assistant Stage Managers Chrissi Chau, Matthew Gin
 Fight Captains Kelsey Goldberg, Megan Poole
 Dance Captain Sara Mitich
 Voice Captains Juel Hughes, Megan Poole

The play is set on Burton Heath in 1910. There will be one 15-minute intermission.

FOR TAMING OF THE SHREW

Poster Design.....	Patrick Young
Lighting Operator.....	Julian Munds
Sound Operator.....	Hallie Seline
Set Crew.....	Paolo Santalucia, Nora Williams, Brenna Stewart Kylah Thomson, Jessica Allen, Nicholas Marinelli Brenden Mernagh, Christopher White Jack Morton, Adam Mogyorodi
Properties & Paint Crew.....	Stacey Gawrylash, Amelia Kurtz, Tiffany Feler Michelle Nash, Julio Ospina, Phil Stonhouse Amanda Piron, Eitan Shalmon
Wardrobe Crew.....	Brittany Adams, Tasha Potter, Hannah Drew Tanya Filipopoulos, Olivia Lloyd, Jake Maric Alison Blair, Adam Cresswell
FOH Crew Chief.....	Sheelagh Daly
Running Crew.....	Charlotte Cattell

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 Head of Wardrobe.....	Rose MarieThomas
Assistant Head of Wardrobe.....	Barbara Rowe
Assistant (Work Study).....	Katherine Luczynski
Cutter/Stitcher.....	Tatjana Hutinec
Head of Properties and Scenic Art.....	Vaughn Davis
Scenic Artist.....	Candice Jeromkin
Make-up and Hair Consultant.....	Samantha Miller-Vidal
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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Please turn cell phones, text messaging 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.

* Courtesy of Canadian Actors' Equity Association

The Cast . . .

CLARE BLACKWOOD, 3rd Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Simcoe **For Theatre Erindale:** Front of House – *That Summer*; Wardrobe Crew – *Women of the Klondike*; Props Crew – *The Maid's Tragedy*; Set Crew – *Radium Girls*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Woman – *The Virtuous Burglar*; Mrs. Drudge – *The Real Inspector Hound*; Stage Manager – *Therac 25*; **For Other Companies:** Olivia – *Twelfth Night*; Emily Webb – *Our Town*; Joan – *Seven Stories* (Young Theatre Players); Young Lucy – *Sweeney Todd* (Theatre Aquarius); **Favourite Saying:** “Lord, what fools these mortals be!” – *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

SYDNEY DUNITZ, 3rd Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Napanee **Other Training:** Voice – *Tim Stiff*; **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe – *The Trojan Women/Lysistrata*; Props – *Women of the Klondike*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Playwright - *Stolen Sneakers*; **For Other Companies:** Cinderella – *Cinderella* (Avabanana); Lucy – *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, Pam/Sharon – *Office Hours*, Dorothy Brock – *42nd Street* (Lennox Theatre); **Favourite Saying:** “I'm gonna live forever, I'm gonna learn how to fly!” - *Fame*

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

KELSEY GOLDBERG, 3rd Year – Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Los Angeles, California **Other Training:** Sanford Meisner Center, The Children's Theatre Group of Southern California, Young Actors Space **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe – *David Copperfield*; ASM – *Trojan Women/Lysistrata*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Bar Wench – *Skull and Crossbones*; **For Other Companies:** Judas – *Godspell* (Children's Theatre Group of Southern California); Chief Bromden – *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Young Actors Space Theatre) **Favourite Saying:** “I'm sick of following my dreams. I'm just going to ask them where they're goin', and hook up with them later. – Mitch Hedberg

VICTORIA HALPER, 3rd Year – Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Brampton **Other Training:** International Thespian Festival 2005, – Brampton Music Theatre Youth Troupe **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe Crew – *Radium Girls and Klondike Women*; Props Crew – *Waiting for the Parade*; Running Crew – *Trojan Women/Lysistrata*; “The Media” – *Murderous Women*; **For Other Companies:** “Stepmother” – *Cinderella*; “Maria Merelli” – *Lend Me A Tenor* (St. Thomas Aquinas); “Wedding Guest” – *Twelfth Night* (Gussinger Kultur Sommer, Austria); “Lady Capulet” – *Romeo and Juliet* (St. Thomas Aquinas); **Favourite Saying:** “To infinity and beyond” – Buzz Lightyear

LISA, JUSTINE HOOD, 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

MELANIE HRYMAK, 3rd Year - Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Hamilton **Other Training:** Theatre Aquarius Performing Arts Programme, 2003-2005 **For Theatre Erindale:** Caitlin – *That Summer*; Running Crew – *That Summer*; Set Crew – *David Copperfield*, *Women of the Klondike*, *Waiting for the Parade*, *The Maid's Tragedy*, *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*; Wardrobe – *Radium Girls*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Blessed – *Outta Here*; Stage Manager – *The Eros Trilogy*; Running Crew – *Therac 25*, *Stolen Sneakers*; **For Other Companies:** Titania – *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hamilton Urban Theatre); Mrs. Pringle – *Fourteen* (Sears Drama Festival); Chorus – *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Theatre Aquarius Performing Arts Programme); Belle/Choir – *A Christmas Carol* (St. Mary's High School); **Favourite Saying:** “Actors should be frightened for their lives, that's when they do their best work.” – Slings and Arrows

JUEL HUGHES, 3rd Year – Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Brampton **For Theatre Erindale:** Lights – *David Copperfield*; Wardrobe Chief – *Trojan Women and Lysistrata*; Wardrobe – *Waiting for the Parade*; Set – *Radium Girls*; **For Theatre Erindale:** Stage Manager – *Stolen Sneakers*; Lights – *Tape*; **For Other Companies:** Stage Manager – *Da Kink in my Hair*, Stage Manager – *I am not a Dinnermint*, Stage Manager – *Secrets of a Black Boy* (Kinky Dinner Productions); “You can't be smart all the time, you have to share the dumbness” - JR

SARA MITICH, 3rd Year, Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Hamilton **Other Training:** The National Ballet School of Canada/National Ballet of Canada, Peggy Baker, Delta Secondary School, Second City **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe Crew Chief – *The Pillars of Society*; Set Crew Chief – *David Copperfield*, *Women of the Klondike*; **For Other Companies:** Brittney – *May I Have Your Attention Please?* (Studio 12); Emily – *Ha-Ha-House*, Viola - *Twelfth Night*, (Delta Theatre); **Favourite Saying:** “It is better to die standing than live on your knees.”

KEVIN OWEN, 3rd Year, Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Brockville **Other Training:** Sheridan College – Performing Arts Preparation – **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe – *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*; Properties – *Canadian Kings of Repertoire*; Assistant Stage Manager – *David Copperfield*; Lighting Operator – *Trojan Women/Lysistrata*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Moon – *The Real Inspector Hound*; Director – *Together/coloured (instant)*; **Ambition:** The soul desires to dwell with the body because without the members of the body it can neither act nor feel. – Leonardo DaVinci

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.

JENNY ROCKMAN, 3rd Year – Theatre and Drama Studies

Home Town: Thornhill **Other Training:** Jazz Be Nimble, Thornlea Secondary **For Theatre Erindale:** FOH Manager – *Women of the Klondike*; Wardrobe Crew – *That Summer*; **For Other Companies:** Alcyone/Aphrodite – *Metamorphoses* (Thornlea Theatre); Evelyn – *Nevermind What Happened, How Did it End?*; Policeman – *Good Woman of Szechuan*; **Favourite Saying:** “Laughter is a medicine with no side effects, besides peeing yourself”.

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.

JESSICA SÉGUIN, 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; Soulpepper 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

Stage Management...



KEVIN BOWERS, Stage Manager

Kevin Bowers is pleased to be back at UTM with *The Taming of the Shrew*, having previously Stage Managed *A New Life*, *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* and *Les Miserables* all at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, as well as the original Toronto productions of *Forever Plaid*, *Suburban Motel*, *Democracy*, *Seven Stories*, and *Nigredo Hotel*. 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?* Over the years he has had the pleasure of working with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Richard Kline, Tony Bennett, Al Waxman, Diana Krall, Lighthouse, Graham Green, Rita Coolidge, Dinah Christie, Russ Abbott, Dan Ackroyd, Colm Wilkinson, Jackie Mason, Barbara Hamilton, Debra Voigt, Aretha Franklin, Ronnie Hawkins, Robbie Robertson, George Carlin, Gowan, L. L. Cool J, John McDermott, Kim Catrall, Mickey Rooney, Lorena McKennitt, Kreskin, Jayne Eastwood, the Canadian Brass – and next month Liza Minelli. A native Torontonian, Mr. Bowers holds a MA in Theatre from Essex University in England.



CHRISSI CHAU, Assistant Stage Manager

2nd Year – UTM/Sheridan Theatre & Drama Studies

Home Town: Toronto **Other Training:** Soulpepper ASTC, Tarragon Young Playwrights Unit, Toronto Youth Theatre **For Theatre Erindale:** Stage Properties – *David Copperfield*; Wardrobe – *That Summer*; Wardrobe – *Murderous Women*; **For Other Companies:** Natasha – *Forever* (DCTI Theatre Co.); Maria – *Colourflux* (Soulpepper); Amelia – *Cups* (Tarragon Theatre); Princess Daisy Hop – *Us & Them* (Alumnae Theatre); Egeus, Fairy – *A Midsummer's Night Dream* (Toronto Youth Theatre); **Favourite Saying:** "Mmm..pickles"



MATTHEW GIN, Assistant Stage Manager

2nd Year – UTM/Sheridan Theatre & Drama Studies

Home Town: Mississauga **For Theatre Erindale:** Wardrobe Crew – *David Copperfield*; Set Crew – *That Summer*, *Pillars of Society*, *The Trojan Women & Lysistrata*; Deputy Assistant Stage Manager – *Bonjour, Là, Bonjour*; **For Erindale Fringe:** Brody Swiftknife – *Skull and Crossbones*; **For Other Companies:** Assistant Stage Manager – *The People's Studio*, Louis – *Louis & Dave*, Peter Neptune – *The Leader of the Pack*, Rudyard – *The Valentine Fairy* (The Woodlands S.S.); **Ambition:** To conquer the moon.

Direction and Design...



MIMI MEKLER, Director

Mimi Mekler's work as actor, director, dramaturge, writer and adjudicator has taken her from California to Czechoslovakia and Italy to Israel. She can be currently seen across Canada starring in the children's TV series *Crazy Quilt*. Other acting highlights include playing a crazed nun in the hit play *Bella Donna*, portraying both Portia and Calpurnia in *Julius Caesar*, touring children's shows and interactive plays, dubbing films in Prague, and co-creating a clown-dance piece. Her directing has been praised for its "dramatic edge" (NOW Magazine) and was given a Thea Award for "Unique Creativity, Imagination, Inventiveness and Originality." Most recently, she directed *On Golden Pond* for the Highlands Summer Festival. Since Theatre Erindale's inaugural season, she has been a frequent director, including last year's *David Copperfield*. She has been dramaturge for over 60 productions, specializing in developing new plays and revitalizing classics. Mimi has adjudicated in Manitoba, the United States, and throughout Ontario. Mimi is Head of Sheridan College's Acting Discipline in the Music Theatre Department. She teaches Mask and Clown for Theatre and Drama Studies at University of Toronto at Mississauga. In addition, she has created courses in Acting for Animators in Sheridan's Classical and Digital Character programmes. Other teaching accomplishments include her work with the Canadian Opera Company, writing and staging new versions of classical operas with children, co-founding the Charlottetown Festival's theatre camp, and extensive work through the Ontario Arts Council's Artists in Education programme and Theatre Ontario's Talent Bank. Mimi holds her B.A. and M.F.A. in Theatre from York University.



DANIEL LEVINSON, Flight Director

Like most Canadian artists, Daniel Levinson wears many hats. He is a Toronto-based actor, writer, director, and the artistic director of Rapier Wit, Canada's oldest stage combat school and production company and a founding member of the stunt team Riot A.C.T. Daniel is the past president of Fight Directors Canada, Canada's only nation-wide internationally recognized stage combat association, and is a certified Fight Master with FDC. Daniel is the resident fight director and instructor for the University of Toronto Mississauga's Theatre Erindale, Sheridan College's Musical Theatre Performance and Performing Arts Preparation Programs, and the theatre programs at Canadore College, Seneca College, and the University of Waterloo. Daniel's fight direction credits include theatre, film and TV projects from Ontario to Scotland and he has taught classes and conducted workshops across Canada, in various U.S. cities, at the International Scuola Brancaloneoni Stage Combat Workshop in Italy, and most recently the Paddy Crean workshop for the International Order of the Sword and Pen at the Banff Centre for the Performing Arts. For more information about Daniel, Rapier Wit or stage combat, please visit his website at www.rapierwit.com or contact him at daniel@rapierwit.com. More information on FDC can be found at www.fdc.ca.

Stage Set Fact - For those audience members that like Trivial Pursuit. The set for *Taming of the Shrew* weighs over one metric ton and uses over 1000 bolts. It was installed by Theatre and Drama Studies students and staff.



SARAH JANE BURTON, Choreographer & Movement Coach

Sarah Jane Burton, a Dora Award nominee for Outstanding Choreography for a Play, recently directed *The Magic Flute* and coached actors on weightlessness in space for an L.A. television series. Her choreography has appeared in over fifty productions for the Canadian Opera Company, Harbourfront Series, dance festivals, CBC television specials, and theatres across Ontario, in upstate N.Y.,

France and West Africa. Performing experience includes the Chicago Opera Ballet Company, the International Ballet Company, and as principal actor and dancer on Broadway in shows such as *Oklahoma!*, *Brigadoon*, *South Pacific* and *West Side Story*. Ms. Burton received her B.A. in Dance, Butler University, an M.A. degree from Wesleyan University, and Laban Movement Analyst Certification, NYC. Currently a professor of dance and movement, she enjoys coaching and choreographing Erindale productions such as *David Copperfield*, *That Summer*, *Women of the Klondike*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Libation Bearers*, *Love's Labour's Lost* and *The Maid's Tragedy*.

JOHN KARR, Musical Director

Since 1985 John Karr has been Music Director for over 100 musical theatre productions across Canada. He was Music Director for 15 seasons at the Huron Country Playhouse. Other credits include Persephone Theatre, Muskoka Festival, Smile Company, Solar Stage, Expo 86 Ontario Pavillion, Gilbert and Sullivan Societies of Kitchener/Waterloo and Toronto, Shaw Festival, Leah Posluns Theatre, Theatre Collingwood, Drayton Festival Theatre and Rainbow Theatre. He began teaching in 1981 and is currently a faculty member at Sheridan College (Music Theatre Performance); University of Toronto (Theatre and Drama Studies, Erindale); and St. Clair College (Music Theatre Performance). Other teaching credits include the Royal Conservatory of Music, Humber College, York University, Equity Showcase, Leah Posluns Theatre School and the Third Street Music School Settlement in New York City. Formal training began in 1972 at the University of Western Ontario (Bachelor of Music, Choral Conducting). Post graduate studies (Cours de Perfectionnement et Interpretation with Denise Riviere) in Paris, France and also at the Manhattan School of Music, (Masters of Music, Vocal and Instrumental Accompaniment). Specialized studies at the Banff Centre and the Blossom Festival in the opera/art song divisions.

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*, 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.

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 Centrepointhe 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!





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 (Chair), 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
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
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 Tourneur	Cameron & Frid Jim Millan Mimi Mekler Patrick Young
1996/1997	<i>Story Theatre</i> <i>The Gut Girls</i> <i>7 Stories</i> <i>Mycenae</i> (from <i>The Greeks</i>)	Paul Sills / Grimm Brothers Sarah Daniels Morris Panych John Barton, <i>et al</i>	Mimi Mekler Katherine Kaszas Patrick Young Simon Johnston
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
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> <i>'Tis Pity She's a Whore</i>	Conni Massing / Alan Powe Linda Granfield/Company Christopher Hampton Michel Tremblay John Ford	Katherine Kaszas Mimi Mekler Patrick Young Vinetta Strombergs Greg Peterson

2003/2004	<i>The Libation Bearers</i> <i>The Golden Ass</i> <i>The Vic</i> <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> <i>Jane Eyre</i>	Aeschylus / Tony Harrison Apuleius Company Leanna Brodie Jane Austen/Christina Calvit Charlotte Brontë / Johanson	Heinar Piller Cameron-Lewis & Frid Rebecca Brown Patrick Young Ralph Small
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	Paul Brown Paul Brown Paul Brown Ralph Small Patrick Young Sue Miner Heinar Piller
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	Laurence Follows Alex Fallis Ron Cameron-Lewis Mimi Mekler Patrick Young
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	Ralph Small Ron Cameron-Lewis Lezlie Wade Patrick Young Rod Ceballos
2007/2008	<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	Mimi Mekler Marc Richard Patrick Young Heinar Piller Catherine McNally

Stage Lighting Fact – The Erindale Studio Theatre lighting system has 144 dimmers and is capable of controlling 345,000 watts of lighting equipment. The average Theatre Erindale show uses 75,000 watts of equipment. New L.E.D. equipment is now coming on the market that will cut down electrical consumption by 80%.



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