

The Vagabond Player

BERNIE LEGGE THEATRE, QUEENS PARK, NEW WESTMINSTER
PRESIDENT: ISABEL MENDENHALL
RESERVATIONS: 604-521-0412

68TH SEASON

Next General Meeting is Monday, April 17th, 7:30 pm at the Bernie Legge Theatre

It's always nice to see the faces of our members, so if you aren't doing anything special on Monday the 17th of April, please join us at the theatre! Meetings are the third Monday of each month. **PLEASE NOTE: We really need you at this meeting because we will be choosing the plays for next season.**

Greater Vancouver Zone Festival April 25 - 29, 2006



Westminster Savings

Bernie Legge Theatre
Queens Park,
New Westminster
Adjudicator: **Stephen Drover**

**Vagabond
Players**
Tuesday, April 25

**White Rock
Players**
Wednesday, April 26

**Stray Cats
Acting Troupe**
Thursday, April 27

**On The Fence
Players**
Friday, April 28

**Reservations:
604-521-0412**
Curtain 8:00 pm

Rebecca

by Daphne du Maurier
Directed by David Lloyd Austin

The Gin Game

by D. L. Coburn
Directed by Marlet Magnusson

A Night at the Theatre

Featuring: Mrs. Sorken and The Actor's Nightmare
by Christopher Durang
Late Sunday Afternoon, Early Sunday Evening
by Jean Lenox Toddie
Directed by Jacquolyne Keath

This is a Play

by Daniel MacIvor
Directed by Ken Fynn

Saturday, April 29
GALA AWARDS NIGHT

Ticket prices are \$12 per night or Weekly pass \$40.00 (includes Gala)
Participant's pass \$30.00 (includes Gala)

Playreading Committee Recommendations for 2006/2007



These will be voted on by the membership at the general meeting on April 17th.

(Fall) **Who Saw Him Die** – a thriller by Tudor Gates. 2 acts, Samuel French / Director, Dale Kelly

Former Police Superintendent Pratt is driven by a desire to track down the criminal John Rawlings who has eluded him for so long. So when Pratt is summoned to Dr. Adcock's surgery and is ostensibly presented with Rawling's body, he is totally defeated. But things are not what they seem and Pratt soon finds himself engaged in a duel of wits in this fast moving psychological thriller with a shocking twist. 1F, 3M

(Spring) **Night of The Foolish Moon** – a romantic comedy by Luigi Jannuzzi. 2 acts, Samuel French / Director, George Kopf

Roger, a man obsessed with Don Quixote, falls in love with a witness in a murder trial. She is running for her life and seeks refuge at the beach house belonging to the District Attorney, Roger's brother. Meanwhile, Sancho Panza breaks through a time warp to bring Roger the quest he has longed for. Coincidentally, Roger's mother is trying to cast Man of La Mancha for the local theatre. Pancho comes to her aid and romance blossoms. 2F, 4M

(Summer) **Moon Over Buffalo** – comedy by Ken Ludwig set in 1953. 2 acts, Samuel French / Director, David Lloyd Austin

George and Charlotte Hay are a husband and wife acting team in

Playreading Cont'd on page 2...

Zone Festival Adjudicator

Each evening's performance includes a public adjudication. Adjudicator for the week will be **Stephen Drover**.

Stephen was trained as an actor at Memorial University's Sir Wilfred Grenfell College where he received a BFA in Acting. For two years he was an Associate Director for Theatre Newfoundland Labrador (*Romeo & Juliet*, *Of the Fields Lately*, *East O' the Sun & West O' the Moon*) and later taught at the Neptune Theatre School in Halifax.

He attended UBC's Theatre Program and received an MFA in Directing (*The Creation* – thesis production). Since then he regularly returns to Memorial as a visiting assistant professor/director (*The Taming of the Shrew*, *Sam's Shorts*, *Picnic*), has assistant directed at the Stratford Festival (*King John*) and conducted several new play development workshops at Playwright's Theatre Centre.

Adjudicator Cont'd on page 2...

Playreading Cont'd from page 1...

the Lunt/Fontaine tradition. Somewhat past their prime, they continue to eke out an existence playing repertory on the regional theatre circuit. Just as Charlotte walks out on George for reportedly getting the company ingénue pregnant, a call comes that Ronald Coleman has broken both legs during the filming of "The Twilight Of The Scarlet Pimpernel" and that leading lady Greer Garson has left the production. It seems that director Frank Capra is considering casting George in the Coleman role and George is sure he can get Charlotte into the Garson role, but Charlotte has already disappeared. The disappointment leads George to "tie one on" as the company desperately tries to find him and attempts to sober him up in time for the matinee performance of "Private Lives" which Capra is to attend before finalizing the contract. George thinking that the matinee is supposed to be "Cyrano de Bergerac," shows up on stage dressed as Cyrano, while everyone else is attempting "Private Lives." With the pregnant ingénue's brother reportedly in the theatre intending to kill George, and Frank Capra in the audience, a farcical disaster ensues. 4F, 4M

(Fall Alternate) Proof – drama by David Auburn
2 acts, Dramatist's / Director, Sean Sorenson

The play begins just after the death of Robert, a brilliant mathematician. Daughter Catherine sacrificed her own education to care for him through his incapacitating mental illness. It appears that Catherine may have inherited her father's talent for mathematics, and perhaps as her sister Claire fears, some of his mental instability. Found in Robert's desk by Hal, a worshipful disciple of Robert's, is the proof of an important theorem in number theory, which raises the question of "proof" of authorship. 2F, 2M

(Spring Alternate) The Odd Couple – Female Version comedy by Neil Simon. 2 acts, Samuel French / Director, TBA

Takes place in the apartment of Olive Madison and roommate Florence Unger, where their friends gather for weekly games of Trivial Pursuit. 6F, 2M

(Fall Alternate) Chapter Two - comedy by Neil Simon. 2 acts, Samuel French / Director, TBA

George Schneider, a writer and recent widower, returns to a lonely apartment. His brother Leo tries to snap Leo out of his emotional tailspin by providing unwanted and unsuccessful dates. Then Leo comes up with Jennie Malone and she's a winner. George struggles with trying to embrace a new life while remaining faithful to the old. In a subplot Leo has a fling with Faye, Jennie's dizzy and neurotic friend. 2F, 2M

Adjudicator Cont'd from page 1...

He is co-founder and Artistic Director of Pound of Flesh Theatre in Vancouver whose mandate is to produce alternative productions of classical plays. Projects include *The Bond* (an adaptation of *The Merchant of Venice*, to be remounted in association with the Gateway Theatre in March 2007) and *Macbeth*.

Other favourite directing credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Acting Up Entertainment), *The Anger in Ernest and Ernestine*, *See Bob Run*, *Wild Abandon* (Bare Boards Theatre), *Woody* (No Strings Theatre), *Oedipus Rex* (Douglas College).

Theatre BC: Stephen served as a dramaturge for the New Play Festival 2003 in Kamloops, and as instructor for Shakespeare Performance Techniques and Textual Analysis at Mainstage 2004 in Kamloops, Mainstage 2005 in Nanaimo, and at the Backstage AGM Conference in Richmond, Nov, 2004.



We've Got Emails.....

Dear Isabel, Mari, Cornell and everyone at Vagabond Players,

As you are no doubt aware as members of the local arts community, the City of New Westminster has decided not to renew The Burr Society's lease on the former Columbia Theatre and, although we have access to the building until April 30th, that is only to facilitate the end of our tenancy. After years of supporting the Burr, the City will take the next few months to decide on a new direction.

Recently the Society enjoyed a resurgence of support for the re-birth of what we know could be a great live performance and arts space. That may still happen if the people of New Westminster wish it, but it appears that, despite our renewed will, it will not be The Burr Society leading the charge.

The Raymond Burr Performing Arts Society's purposes are:

- a) To acquire, renovate, fund and operate a centre for performing arts in Downtown New Westminster, British Columbia;
- b) To encourage the development of performing arts in the community;
- c) To raise funds to carry out the purposes of the Society.

We remain committed to b and c, even though a is now impossible. Therefore, the funds raised from the liquidation of the Society's assets, which include the entire contents of the facility, will be used to support the arts in New Westminster and continue the good name of Raymond Burr.

Although time is short and we are entertaining offers to sell everything at once, we would like to give you the opportunity to express interest in items which are more valuable to a theatre company than to "normal people". Particularly flats, costumes, props, furniture, lighting equipment, etc. At this time there is no "garage sale" planned.

On behalf of our President, Ted Syverson, and the rest of the Board of Directors of The Burr Society, Robert French, Leanne Koehn, Norm Elmore, Chris Jodoin, Leanne Clerihue, Tina Overbury, David C. Jones and myself, I would like to thank you for your support throughout our time in the theatre. You have made a difference.

James Rowley, Vice-President
The Raymond Burr Performing Arts Society

Hello everyone,

Some of you may have already heard the news but here it is again... Tim, Benjamin and I are heading south to the prairie province of Saskatchewan where we will be taking up residence in Saskatoon. If you're thinking "Wow that was fast!" you'd be right on track as we talked about moving on March 19, Tim sent out resumes on March 21, went through a series of phone interviews (4 for Saskatoon), was offered (and obviously accepted) the job on Mar 31 and the movers are coming April 7... yep, that would be this Friday!

We were planning on making the prairies our next stop after our northern adventure but we were thinking that would happen in a year or two but this job became available so Tim figured he'd give it a shot and voila... I guess it was just meant to be! He will be working at an "all news" station called CKOM 650 (www.CKOM.com). The movers are coming on Friday and we'll be driving down either Saturday or Sunday. The reason for the rush is that about 3 hours out of town, we have to drive over the river on the ice road which starts to break up around mid-April and the river is not crossable (it that a word?) again until the water is flowing and the ferry is operating which can take anywhere between 2-3 weeks during which time the only way in or out of

Yellowknife is via plane!

We'll be staying in temporary accommodations until we can find an apartment, hopefully for May 1 and once we get our computer set up, etc..., we'll let you all know our new contact info.

Take care,
Barbara, Tim and Benjamin Blom

PS Ben is very excited about moving as you can see from the pics attached



Building Expansion Update

The building project is going forward. The government has given us the first part of our funding for the renovation project, which we have opened a separate checking account for. The first cheque is for \$30,000, with another \$20,000 coming soon after.

The Construction Industry Training Institute (CITI) will be starting their recruiting next week and hopefully, the project will get started in May. Schedules are a bit behind but CITI is working within a specific time frame, it will be done on time. So, things are in motion!

What's Happening Around Town?



The Metro Theatre presents **Promises, Promises**
by Neil Simon.

April 1 - 29, 2006. Phone 604 266-7191.

Surrey Little Theatre presents **Anniversary**
by Carol Shields & Dave Williamson

April 20 - May 13, 2006. Phone 604 576-8451.

Langley Players present **Footprints on the Moon**
by Maureen Hunter

April 20 - May 13, 2006. Phone 604 534-7469.

White Rock Players present **The Gin Game**
by D.L. Coburn

April 13-15, 20-21, 27-28, 2006. Matinee April 29 @ 2.30 pm. Phone 604 536-7535.

Wishing
Everyone
a Very
Happy Easter!

