



kanata theatre

presents



Blithe Spirit

by

Noel Coward

Directed by Barry Caiger

THE CAST

TH
TH CONDOMINE
CHARLES CONDOMINE
DR. BRADMAN
MRS. BRADMAN
VIME. ARCATI
ELVIRA

Fiona Rothwell
Andrea Fajrajsl
John Collins
Louis Lemire
Lorraine Gorman
Nedra Nash
Tania Carriere

Setting: The home of Charles and Ruth Condomine.

Time: circa 1940

Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward is produced by special arrangement
with Samuel French Ltd.

There will be one intermission. Coffee, soft drinks and desserts will be available.

Please be considerate: ensure that pagers and cellular phones are turned off.

The use of cameras or tape recorders during the performance is not permitted.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Noel Coward wrote *Blithe Spirit* during air raids on London during WW2. *Blithe Spirit* was written in 6 days, just weeks after German bombs had destroyed his office. He felt that something light and frothy would take Britons out of themselves. Coward said that he wanted to write "a very gay, superficial comedy", and History has proven that he did just that.

Sir Noel Pierce Coward was born in 1889 and died in Jamaica in 1973. He was a prolific writer of words and music, writing 14 Revues, musicals and operettas. One of his least known collaborations was with Ivor Novello which was *The Girl Who Came To Supper* based on Terence Rattigan's *The Sleeping Prince* which was a successful movie with Laurence Olivier and Marilyn Monroe. He also wrote 38 plays and was a screenwriter and actor in 17 movies. His love of Life and Women (as friends) gave him the ability to write in many styles capturing the essence of tragedy & comedy.

BIOGRAPHIES

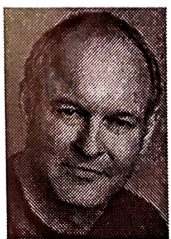
BARRY CAIGER (director) has directed for OLT (*Who's Under Where?* and *No Sex Please, We're British*), Orpheus, Just for Kids Theatre and Dartmouth Players. However, this is his first directing stint for Kanata Theatre. Barry was last seen onstage as Frederick in the farce *Noises Off* which won the Ottawa Critic's Choice Award for 2006. Other KT roles include Stanley in *Caught in the Net*, Cogburn in *Out of Sight-Out of Murder* and Inspector Egan, in *Murder by Misadventure*. He appeared in *How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* for Orpheus and as Scrooge in Community Strictly Musical's production of *Scrooge*.



TANIA CARRIERE (Elvira) "There is that smaller world which is the stage, and that larger stage which is the world" ~ Isaac Goldberg. Tania's previous roles on the Kanata Theatre stage include: Rose Arnot in *Enchanted April*, dominatrix Phoebe/Poupee in *Communicating Doors*, doting daughter Rosalind in *Moon Over Buffalo*, senile woman in *The Babies*, the minister's wife Monica in *Sinners* and 19th Century shopboy Christopher in *On The Razzle*. Thanks to GMG for cheering me on, even during Sens playoffs.



JOHN COLLINS (Charles Condomine) first appeared on Kanata Theatre's stage in *Sylvia* in 2000. John has also won awards for appearing in and directing productions with OLT, and has performed with Tara Players, Orpheus and others in Ottawa. His film and television experience includes several really bad movies, some commercials, a few television shows, and lots of voiceover gigs. When not acting, John works on music projects with his muse and wife, Lucie.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	Mary Holmes
VICE PRESIDENT	Robert Fairbairn
SECRETARY	Christine Feldman
TREASURER	Karl Wagner
DIRECTOR, BOX OFFICE	Sandra Quirt
DIRECTOR, PUBLICITY	Dorothy Beak
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS	Jim Holmes
DIRECTOR, PLAY READING	Susan Monaghan
DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP & TRAINING	Katie Betts
STUDENT MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Natasha Bourk-Wilson
PAST PRESIDENT	Gwen Knight

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Thank you for joining us for *Blithe Spirit*, the final play of Kanata Theatre's 38th season. It is now eleven years since we moved to our new home at the Ron Maslin Playhouse. Those were scary days. Could a group of amateur players and willing volunteers, really run a theatre with no other source of income than the sale of tickets to shows? With your constant support the answer is a resounding YES. Last year we sold 2740 subscriptions out of a possible 3500. The

Sold Out sign has been up for 21 performances so far this year. Already, we have a subscriber waiting list for weekend tickets, since we sell only 90% of those tickets on subscription. (We need a little maneuvering room for exchanges and seats for your friends and relatives who come to town for the weekend.)

Over 38 seasons, Kanata Theatre has performed 162 mainstage plays and 28 plays for children. Many of our members have seen them all. Thank you for being part of our theatre community.

A fond farewell as I end my term as president. It's been a fun time.

See you at the theatre! ~ Mary Holmes

HEARING ASSISTANCE FOR OUR PATRONS

Kanata Theatre is proud to announce the availability of the *PhonicEar OnWave* hearing assistance system. Small clip-on receivers permit control over listening volume levels.

These units are available from the cloak room with regular headsets (or you may use your own headset with 3.5mm jack, if you prefer) or T-Switch hearing aid loops.

INTRODUCING OUR 39TH SEASON FOR 2007 - 2008

The Heiress

by Augustus Goetz and Ruth Goetz, Directed by Eufron and Dewi Williams
In 1850's New York City an heiress, an only child, lives a sheltered life with her father in fashionable Washington Square. The arrival of a handsome and ambitious suitor changes the dynamics of family life and relationships are altered forever. Created from the classic *Washington Square* written by Henry James in 1880: the classic story of a young woman whose fortune taught her to love and hate.

September 18 - 22 and 25 - 29, 2007

The Long Weekend

by Norm Foster, Directed by Alain Chamsi

The truth and lies of a friendship come to the surface when Roger and Abby go to visit Max and Wynn for a "pleasurable" couple of days at their new house in the country. There are plenty of surprises along the way in this biting comedy of manners. Norm Foster's winning comedy of two married couples on a week-end getaway.

November 13 - 17 and 20 - 24, 2007

The Seagull

by Anton Chekhov in a new version by Tom Stoppard, Directed by Jim Holmes
Kanata Theatre marks the 100th anniversary of the first production in English of Chekhov's first hit. A famous actress presides over a household consumed by desperate love, thirst for success, and fear of failure. The wanton killing of a seagull becomes a metaphor for events that follow and a symbol for the stage struck Nina whose inner strength is the key to her survival. Tom Stoppard's translation captures all the humour and drama from the great Russian story teller.

February 5 - 9 and 12 - 16, 2008

Framed!

A Thriller by Martin Sterling, Directed by Brett Kelly

Sam appears to be the perfect man. But a romantic trip to a remote Norfolk cottage gives Judy cause to doubt. Has Sam lied about his past? Was he once involved in a brutal murder? Or is it all in her imagination? A nerve-shredding thriller, a roller coaster ride of twists, turns and double-crosses where no-one is quite who they seem.

March 25 - 29 and April 1 - 5, 2008

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

by Dale Wasserman from the Novel by Ken Kesey, Directed by Shelagh Mills
Kanata Theatre presents the stage version of Ken Kesey's 1960's satiric novel. When R.P. McMurphy cons himself into a mental institution in order to escape prison life, he comes up against the iron will and supreme authority of Nurse Ratched, the ward superintendent.

May 20 - 24 and 27 - 31, 2008

Season subscriptions now available at the Box Office.

PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCTION MANAGER	Michèle Baddoo
STAGE MANAGER	Betty Francis
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	Carol Hussey, Gwendy Tolley
SET DESIGN	Earl McLaughlin
CONSTRUCTION	Earl McLaughlin, Tony Francis
	Jim Fritz, Peter Jefferson, Bill Williams
PAINTING	Lynn Atkins, Michèle Baddoo
	Barbara Kobolak, Keith McDonald, Lucie Roy
COSTUMES	Helen Weeden
assisted by	Mary Holmes, Brenda Parr, Eufron Williams
SOUND DESIGN	Robert Fairbairn
assisted by	Benny Geisler
LIGHTING DESIGN	Bob Carey, Calie McPhee
assisted by	Dave Rothwell, Steven Truelove
SPECIAL EFFECTS	Roy Ballantine, Earl McLaughlin
PROPERTIES	Beth Atwell, Donna Boire
	Elsie Bryant, Joan McLaughlin
FURNISHINGS/SET DECOR	Sheryl Bell, Sandy Wynne
CONTINUITY	Ann Marwood, Anne Mokros
	Barbara Kobolak, Anne-Marie Smith
DRESSERS	Jacquie Blair, Halia Osadca
	Lucie Roy, Christine Walton
MAKE-UP	Bev Brooks
assisted by	Clare Flockton, Joy Forbes
	Anne Mokros, Katie Ryerson
HAIR	Carol Walkey
GREEN ROOM	Michèle Baddoo, Sheryl Bell
	Anne-Marie Smith
PUBLICITY	Dorothy Beak
PROGRAM	Wendy Wagner
BOX OFFICE	Sandra Quirt
REFRESHMENTS	Jane Maslin, Adèle Vickers
HOUSE MANAGER	Jim Ritchie

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the House Manager.

Kanata Theatre acknowledges with special appreciation the following friends who have provided items or services to the production:

Alan Dean Photography
Ron Evans

ANDREA FAJRAJSL (Ruth Condomine) considers herself fortunate to have worked with many great directors, casts, and crew in her 25 years with Kanata Theatre, and this season's *Blithe Spirit* is no exception. Some of her fondest acting memories include roles in *Pygmalion*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Charlie's Aunt*, and last year's *Enchanted April*. When not on stage, she continues to enjoy the whole KT experience by dabbling in make-up, prompting, set painting, and front-of-house. "It's all good."



LARRAINE GORMAN (Mrs. Bradman) most recently appeared with Kanata Theatre as Lotty in last year's *Enchanted April*. In addition to other onstage roles (Emma in *Murder by Misadventure*, Linda in *The Inheritance*), Lorraine has worked backstage for more than ten years in many capacities including stage management and producing. She also co-directed *Rumors* and was the Music Director and Keyboardist for Kanata Theatre's three musicals - *Jacques Brel is Alive & Well & Living in Paris*, *Rock & Roll*, and *You'll Get Used To It! - The War Show*.



LOUIS LEMIRE (Dr. Bradman) is pleased to be making his debut on Kanata Theatre's stage. He has appeared frequently on the OLT stage, most recently as Dr. Chasuble in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Other notable roles at OLT include Bill in *Nurse Jane Goes to Hawaii*, Clayton in *Opening Night!*, and Sheriff Thomas in *The Rainmaker*. Louis was Monty Quillfnger in *Understudying Wilk Scheissenberger* (Planet Productions) and Louis Riel in *David and the Angel* (Tree Theatre).



NEDRA NASH (Mme. Arcati) was last seen as Mrs. Graves in *Enchanted April* and so much wisteria went to her head, that she's now dematerialising "blithe" spirits in the guise of Mme. Arcati, who adores dry martinis. As Vera, in *Auntie Mame* for OLT, she experienced the delish 1920's cocktail, Sidecar. Surely Mme. Arcati will get into these once she's dismounted her bike to celebrate her splendid "Condomine" success. Under such influences, Nedra oft bursts, Wagnerianly, into the German "Lili Marlene" from *You'll Get Used to It! - The War Show*.



FIONA ROTHWELL (Edith) is no stranger to the Ottawa theatre community, although *Blithe Spirit* marks her debut with Kanata Theatre. Over the last 20 years, Fiona has appeared in productions with Nepean Little Theatre, CSM Productions, Third Wall Theatre Company, Lakeside Players and Suzart, among others. She has also acted as musical director for Suzart and Lakeside. Special thanks to Dave, Kirk and Deedee for all the loving support, and for letting me have my turn!

