

The PROMPTER

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HALO

As you read this, the production of *Halo* will be well underway. Director, Jean Brighthouse, and the cast and crew have done a wonderful job of bringing this humorous but touching play to life. If you haven't already done so, be sure to bring your friends to see this memorable production. Cast members include Katie Boutilier, Justin Janzen, Willy Gaw, Kate Hunter, Marcus Smith, Jaci Metivier and Peter Blacklock.

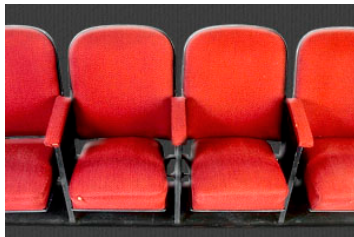


Once again we would like to sincerely thank the Shuswap Community Foundation for a grant, this time for \$1000. This money will be used to paint the outside of the building.

Visit us at <http://www.shuswaptheatre.com>

NEW SEATS!

If you have been to HALO, you will have noticed the solid, wider seats. Thanks to the eleven Katimavik students who helped remove the old seats, which proved to be the easier part of the operation. However, installing the new ones was a mammoth and extremely time consuming task. A huge thanks must go to Cilla Budda for not only organizing everything, but being part of the work crew. Jake Jacobson, as always, was Cilla's right hand in the organization. Others who helped with this huge undertaking were James and Sherry Bowlby, John MacVicar, Frank Manning, Tom Birch, Peter Budda, Randy Brogdan and Rob Borthwick. We also have new house lights in the centre rows for reading your programmes.



Now the task is to find a home for the old seats as well as the extra new ones which were not needed. If you are interested in any of these, please leave a message for Jake or Cilla at the Theatre (832-9283). At the moment, Jake is checking into some online sales sites.



Theatre Around the Valley

Asparagus Theatre

Maggie's Getting Married March 28 - April 7
Autobahn April 25 - 28

Kelowna Actors Studio

Godspell March 29 - April 15
Man of La Mancha May 10 - 27

Powerhouse Theatre, Vernon

You Can't Take It With You April 25 - May 5

Revelstoke Theatre Company

Jasper Station April 12-14, 19-21

Theatre Kelowna Society

The Memory of Water April 27 - May 5

Western Canada Theatre

Having Hope at Home March 22 - 31

Website

Our website continues to develop, under the direction of Tracy Stacer. It is proving to be a very valuable resource, to members and prospective members alike. We have heard from an number of past members, now living in various parts of the world, telling us how much they enjoy being able to keep in touch by reading the Prompter and the meeting minutes online.

If you would like to have your name added to the growing number of members who receive an "e-Prompter" (Jake's term!) it's never too late. Simply email our Membership Secretary Patrick Benson at membership@shuswaptheatre.com.

Marion Bridge

Hot on the heels of *Halo* is the Second Stage production of *Marion Bridge*, directed by Gayle Heinrich. This play, written by Canadian playwright and actor Daniel MacIvor, explores the emotions of three women returning home to Cape Breton to tend their dying mother. It is funny, real and entertaining. This production runs two nights, March 23 and 24, with tickets being sold only at the door.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN

Arthur Channer, director of the final production of our 30th season, is still in the process of casting the play, *Death and the Maiden*. He requires two male characters and asks anyone who is interested in auditioning to contact him. Rehearsals will begin on March 25, with the run from May 4 - 12. Arthur suggests that this would be an excellent show for a younger member of our company to participate as an assistant director. He also needs crew members in all departments and well as a proficient violinist. If you can help in any way, please email Arthur at achanner@cablelan.net or contact him by phone at 517-0393.

REPORT FROM THE BUILDING WORKING GROUP

As our beloved theatre building approaches its 50th birthday, the question has arisen - "What is the future for the facility?" The executive has formed a building committee to look into what the options are for the society.

The working group consists of Tracy Stacer, James Bowlby, Cilla Budda, Arthur Channer, John MacVicar and myself, Jake as chair. We have two non-theatre members who have agreed to take an active role in the group - Doug Leatherdale and Patty Munro. We are very excited to have their expertise and long standing community involvement as part of the group.

The initial objective of the group was to come up with a viable list of options for the society. At our initial meeting last month, we came up with nine options and proceeded to prioritize them in order of biggest and best first, then working down to the last option, which was basically, "Do nothin' - it ain't broke."

We will pursue option number one until such a time that we run into an insurmountable obstacle. At that time, we automatically pursue option number two, until we have a working plan.

At this time, due to some preliminary negotiation, I am not at liberty to say what option one is, other than, it's big, exciting and involves a new structure. We will publicize the option as soon as we can. We hope to have more news in a few weeks.



Submitted by Jake Jacobson

O-ZONE and THEATRE BC EVENTS

Tennyson wrote, "In the Spring, a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." In our case, spring brings thoughts of festivals! Both the O-Zone Festival and Mainstage are happening very close to us this year, the former at Powerhouse Theatre in Vernon, the latter at Sagebrush Theatre in Kamloops. The **Okanagan Zone Festival** is entitled "A Touch of Class" and runs from May 12 - 19, with Jeff Hyslop as adjudicator. (Yes, it's the Jeff Hyslop of *Phantom of the Opera*. He played the role of the "Phantom" over 900 times in two and a half years in the travelling production of the musical.) Tickets for the festival will only be for sale through Powerhouse Theatre and not Ticketmaster. For information on packages or any other aspect of the Festival, visit the website at www.ozone2007.com/, send an e-mail to pwhs@uniserve.com or call Nancy Silver at 250-542-6194.

Mainstage 2007, from June 29 - July 7, will not only feature nine days of plays but will also be a celebration of the 75th anniversary of Theatre BC. Early-Bird registration is available until June 15. However, EARLY Early-Birds get an even better deal - they will save the price of the Final Night

Awards Banquet. Please check the website for details: www.theatrebc.org/M2007/

Theatre BC's **New Play Festival** will take place at the Pavilion Theatre in Kamloops from April 5 - 8. You might like to consider applying to be an actor/reader for this year's event. There are plenty of roles for all ages and registration fees have once again been reduced. Complete information on this event can be found at www.theatrebc.org/NPF/index.php. To be considered for a role, send your photo and bio to npf@theatrebc.org.

Submissions for the **19th Canadian National Playwriting Competition** will be accepted from April 15 till July 23. For a copy of the "How to Enter" brochure, go to the website at www.theatrebc.org/playcomp/index.php.

As part of the 75th Anniversary celebration, Theatre Kelowna Society will be hosting Theatre BC's first annual provincial one-act festival, **Actoberfest 2007**, October 12 - 14. Information about this new venture can be found at www.theatrebc.org/actoberfest/index.php



LOOKING FORWARD

The Artistic Committee of Julia Body, James Bowlby and Gayle Heinrich are working to organize our next season, including a summer production, plays for next year, workshops and play readings. They ask that anyone considering being a director please contact them with names or copies of plays you would like them to consider. Their goal is to have the season ready for our year-end party in late June. James can be reached at 832-8383 or jbowlby@sunwave.net.

FAREWELL, FRIEND

It is with great sadness that we have just learned of the sudden death of Steve Heal on March 9th. He died unexpectedly in his sleep. Steve was a charter member of Shuswap Theatre and a giant in the theatre world of the Shuswap. Besides making huge contributions to Shuswap Theatre in directing, acting, set design and many other things, Steve was well loved by the drama students he taught over the years. Watch for a more detailed story of Steve's life and achievements in the next Prompter.