

The PROMPTER



EMILY



Shuswap Theatre is proud to present the world premier of an original musical play by our own Peter Blacklock. Directed by Marcus Smith, *Emily* is a moving portrayal of the tortured soul of the artist, Emily Carr, whose work was so far ahead of her time that only later in life did she receive recognition. Through a series of vignettes punctuated by engaging musical numbers and projected images of her art, the audience is treated to the struggles of this Canadian Icon as she doggedly pursues her vision in her solitary way. You don't

need to know anything about art to appreciate this play. You'll have a greater appreciation of the *soul* of art by the the time it's over. This is a beautifully written and moving experience.

The play runs from May 1 to 9, with a matinee only on Sunday and no show on Monday. As always, curtain time is 8:00 pm (Sunday Matinee 1:30 pm), and tickets are available at Wearabouts.

This is also our Ozone Festival entry. Full details about the Festival can be found on page 3.



BUILDING COMMITTEE NEWS

Excitement is building over plans for a new theatre building. On April 18th the Building Committee conducted a "floor plan" workshop organized by Jake Jacobson. Thirteen from Shuswap Theatre and nine people from other organizations gathered information and pooled their creative ideas on how the new facility should function and what size and configuration of rooms would be best for our particular needs. It was an excellent opportunity to design a theatre that will really work for those who will use it.

If you could not make it to the workshop and would like to add your thoughts, please send them to jake@simfx.com as soon as possible as he is starting to draw up floor plans now.

The committee's next phase will be to let the community know of our plans. In part this will mean finding people in the community who can lead the fund raising activities. Jake will be creating a PowerPoint presentation to help with this, and he would appreciate photographs of the early days of Shuswap Theatre, from the time we performed in Jackson gym and in Tappen. These photos can be in any form. Please contact Jake if you have any photographs.



GRANTS

Shuswap Theatre has been the grateful recipient of two grants this year. In January we received \$1000.00 from the city of Salmon Arm towards maintenance and general repairs of our aging theatre building. With well-worn carpets and seat cushions, four cranky furnaces, cracking walls, and a "to do" list as long as Cilla's arm we are confident that the money will be well spent. In March the Shuswap Arts Council granted us \$500.00 to assist with the production of *Emily*. The amazing and beautiful art of Emily Carr is brought to life in *Emily* through the use of projection. We are grateful to the Arts Council for the grant as it helps us offset the additional cost of using this technique.

We are extremely grateful to Cathy Lake who has done a tremendous job applying for these grants. (It's always more complicated than it seems!) Cathy is looking into other avenues for grant applications. Good luck, Cathy.



Yes, it's that time of year again! If you haven't had your fill of plays for this season, there are two wonderful opportunities in the next few months to take in some great theatre. Firstly, the **Okanagan Zone Festival** takes place in Summerland from May 17 to 24. The lineup is as follows, with an 8:00 PM curtain time each evening:

Sunday, May 17	Act 3 of <i>Our Town</i> <i>This is a Play</i>	Princess Margaret High School, Penticton Summerland Singers and Players
Monday, May 18	<i>Good Night Desdemona</i> <i>(Good Morning Juliet)</i>	Theatre Kelowna
Tuesday, May 19	<i>The Loves of Cass McGuire</i>	Powerhouse Theatre, Vernon
Wednesday, May 20	<i>Spoon River Anthology</i>	Asparagus Community Theatre
Thursday, May 21	<i>Emily</i>	Shuswap Theatre
Friday, May 22	<i>Over the River & Through the Woods</i>	Kamloops Players
Saturday, May 23	Awards Banquet at 6:00 PM, Hockey Arena Banquet Hall	

Coffee Critiques of each play take place the morning after the performance from 10:00 - 12:00 noon.

Full information about the Festival, including how to purchase tickets, can be found online at:
www.theatrebc.org/ozone09/

From each Zone Festival in the province, one play is chosen to go **Mainstage**. This year, the Theatre BC provincial festival takes place in Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows from July 3 - 11. Information about the Festival can be found on the Theatre BC website at: www.theatrebc.org/M2009/index.php

LOOKING AHEAD

Our Artistic Committee, Peter Blacklock, James Bowlby and Ellen Gonella, are busy putting the final touches to the program for next season, to be presented to the Board for its approval. At the moment, the plan is to mount two one-act plays early in the Fall, followed by a variety show in November. Diana Wright will use the Theatre in December to present *The Nutcracker*. Our winter production could well be a Shakespearean play, the first in a very long time. Rumour has it that the Artistic Committee is recommending a unique Canadian play as our final production of the year, which would also be our Festival entry.

Ozone 2010 will take place right here in Salmon Arm, with Cilla Budda as the Chairperson. This is a huge undertaking and Cilla will require the assistance of many of our members. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, or to find out more about what will be needed, please call Cilla at 250-832-6805.

Theatre Around the Valley

Kings Christian School

Don't Drink the Water May. 17 - 30

Kelowna Actors Studio

Lend Me a Tenor May 14-June 7

Powerhouse Theatre, Vernon

The Loves of Cass McGuire Apr. 22-May 2

SAS Jackson

Impersonations - a Revue May 21 - 22

The Brothers Grimm- Out of Order June 2 - 5

Theatre Kelowna

Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet) May 7 - 16

For information on productions around the province by other Theatre BC groups, see the current Theatre BC newsletter at www.theatrebc.org/press/newsletr/Winter09.pdf

SHUSWAP

THEATRE

SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE

President: **Julia Body**
 Vice President: **Tracy Stacer**
 Treasurer: **Marion Huysmans**
 Secretary: **Ellen Gonella**

Directors:
Patrick Allwood
Evelyn Birch
Hollie Friesen
Cathy Lake
Denise Reimer

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