



**The 2nd Annual
Dry Cold Brrrr-unch**

November 22, 2009 12:30 p.m.
The Inn at the Forks

Enjoy a fabulous brunch prepared by The Inn at the Forks, wonderful entertainment by some of the Dry Cold artistic family and a spectacular offering of silent auction items.

Who can forget last year's entertainment - Mariam Bernstein's 'Top Ten Reasons to Love Dry Cold' and the performances by Kevin Aichele, Carson Natrass, Laura Olafson, Kimberley Rampersad and Melanie Whyte.

**Tickets: \$50
(with a tax receipt for a portion of the cost.)**

- by phone: 228-3431 or 489-9095
- by email - info@drycoldproductions.ca
- from any Dry Cold board member



Monsieur Darque (Reid Harrison) & Mrs. Potts (Donna Fletcher) - Rainbow Stage's *Beauty & the Beast*

THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA

Book by Craig Lucas
Music & Lyrics by Adam Guettel

Director Donna Fletcher
Music Director Reid Harrison

May 14 - 16, 2010
CanWest Performing Arts Centre

Tickets on Sale March 1

Based on a novella by Elizabeth Spencer, *The Light in the Piazza* is set in Florence and Rome in the summer of 1953. A young American tourist, Clara Johnson, meets and falls for young Italian, Fabrizio Naccarelli. When Clara's mother Margaret learns of the affair, she opposes it for reasons that only gradually become known to the audience. It seems that Clara is more than a child but less than an adult, old enough to fall in love but perhaps too young to understand its complexities and obligations. Margaret is torn between her protective instincts and the dream of seeing her daughter happy and fulfilled. Her dilemma is the focus of the fairy tale romance that is this musical.

The score breaks from the traditional Broadway sound by veering into the territory of neo-romantic classical music and opera, with a lush score including unexpected harmonic shifts and extended melodic structures. The lyrics are unique in that many of them are in Italian and broken English, as many of the characters are fluent only in Italian.

The Light in the Piazza was developed as a musical at the Intiman Playhouse in Seattle and then at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago. The Broadway production opened on April 18, 2005 at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre in Lincoln Center, where it ran for 504 performances and closed on July 2, 2006. It was nominated for 12 Tony awards, winning for Best Original Score, Best Actress, Best Orchestrations and for Best Scenic, Lighting and Costume Design.

Dry Cold Productions - Board of Directors

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Marriage musical, local cast a match made in heaven

by Alison Mayes
(Winnipeg Free Press May23, 2009)



Kimberley Rampersad, Dorothy Carroll, Chelsea Rankin

it shouldn't be missed.

Kevin Aichele is terrific as Bobby, the likeable but shallow New York single guy whose 35th birthday is the anchoring event around which the show muses about relationships. The tall, handsome Aichele is perfectly cast as a guy to whom everything comes easily. His social circle consists of five married couples who dote on him, the wives feeding off his laidback sexual energy and the husbands finding him a non-threatening pal.



Donna Fletcher,
Graham Ashmore

Though it's shown with humor, each of the five marriages has cracks and tensions. The song *Side by Side* smartly expresses how a third wheel like Bobby can help take the antagonistic edge off coupledom. The show unfolds in almost cinematic style as scenes dissolve into one another. Sondheim's lyrics are brilliantly, bitingly honest, admitting, for instance, that spouses go on feeling ambivalent long after the wedding vows (*Sorry-Grateful*). Then there's the terror of the actual ceremony, hilariously conveyed by Sharon Bajer as a panicked bride in the frantic *Getting Married Today*.

Jan Skene is another standout as the wealthy, sharp-tongued, many-times-married Joanne. She puts her own poignant stamp on *The Ladies Who Lunch*, the famous boozy solo that unmask the despair behind the roles women play. Young Dorothy Carroll proves herself a talented triple threat as April, the dumb-blond flight attendant who is one of Bobby's trio of girlfriends. Her duet with Aichele, *Barcelona*, is another gem, tapping into the awkward, melancholy dynamic between sexual partners.



Laura Lussier
Derek Leenhouts

Grant Guy's effective, if stark, set hides the musicians behind a semi-sheer curtain that doubles as a tall screen for the projected slides, evoking the all-important New York settings. Like the damaged butterfly in the story told by the dumb-yet-wise April, a Winnipeg version of *Company* may not attain perfection. But as Sondheim reminds us about marriage, perfection is an illusion. Just breaking out of your risk-averse cocoon makes you more fully alive.



Sharon Bajer, Tim Bandfield,
Kevin Aichele



Company



Jan Skene, James Durham, Kevin Aichele

All 'Company' photos courtesy of the photographer, Gary Barringer

The Dry Cold Artistic Family – a busy one indeed. Many spent the summer in Rainbow Stage's *Beauty and the Beast*: **Kevin Aichele**, **Donna Fletcher**, **Brenda Gorlick**, **Reid Harrison**, **Samantha Hill**, **Jeff Kohut**, **Stan Lesk**, **Tim Magas**, **Debbie Maslowsky**, **Chris Sigurdson** and **Andrew Stelmack** not to mention **Robb Paterson**, **Scott Henderson**, **Cary Denby**, **Georgette Nairn**, **Marlene Meaden** and **Nik Dethmers** on the artistic and stage management sides of things.

Kevin Aichele - in *Sweeney Todd* at The Citadel in Edmonton come January and continues to appear around Winnipeg as a jazz vocalist. **Joseph Aragon**'s murderous musical, *Bloodless: The Trial of Burke and Hare*, packed them in at the Fringe, directed by **Sharon Bajer** and featuring **Dorothy Carroll**, **Derek Leenhouts** and **Heather Jordan**. **Graham Ashmore** - in The Winnipegger Ensemble's *To the Country* (directed by **Sharon Bajer** and **Carson Natrass**), the Fringe hit *Ginger's Walk* and WJT's *Cherry Docs*. **Tim Bandfield** - the zombie professor in the winning play at the MAP/Scirocco contest, *Dirty, Rotten Unloved Zombie: The Musical*. Also in *Gorilla* at the Fringe and *Galileo Live!* at the Manitoba Planetarium. **Mariam Bernstein** is doing a staged reading for Femfest, directing *Betrayal* in January (WJT) and directing the PTE Adult Company. **Danny Carroll** will be ON STAGE (!) in *It's a Wonderful Life* (MTC). **Dorothy Carroll** - gold medalist in honours theatre at U. of W. and then Fringed in *Bloodless; The Trial of Burke and Hare*. Soon to be in PTE's *Munsch Mia*. **Lara Ciekiewicz** - 11 weeks this summer in the Merola Opera Program at the San Francisco Opera. This fall she will be performing with L'Atelier de Opera de Montreal and the Toronto Operetta Theatre. Last year **Lisa Durupt** did *Jitters* at MTC, then the second season of *Less Than Kind* (City TV). This year she will join Danny on stage in *It's a Wonderful Life*. **Donna Fletcher** was assistant director of *Madama Butterfly* (MOA) and will be assistant director of *Top Girls* (MTC). **Naomi Forman** is writing *Clara, Clara*, a 2-woman play about Clara Schumann set to premiere at the 2010 Winnipeg Fringe Festival. **Alexandra Frohlinger** is in her final year at The Boston Conservatory; currently in rehearsal for *Sweet Charity*. She will return home in December to be in *The Drowsy Chaperone* at MTC. Recently **Tim Gledhill** was Comferre in *Les Miserables* at The Arts Club Theatre in Vancouver. Currently touring to The Citadel Theatre and the NAC with last year's Arts Club production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* before heading to Winnipeg to play George in MTC's/Theatre Calgary's production of *Drowsy*. **Donnalynn Grills** will be Berta in MOA's upcoming production of *The Barber of Seville*. **Reid Harrison** directed *The Pirates of Penzance* for the G&S Society and was inducted into the Rainbow Stage Wall of Fame. **Samantha Hill** is in her second year in the BFA Acting Program at the University of Alberta. She took part in a reading of Cory Wojcik's *LondonTown* during the PTE Carol Shields Festival. Last year **Ann Hodges** directed *Encore* (Theatre Projects), *Jitters* (MTC), *Moonlight and Magnolias* (PTE), and *Madama Butterfly* (MOA). Over the summer she was teaching young opera singers at the Contemporary Opera Lab, then directing *Strike!* at the Forks. Recently she's been in Ottawa - Opera Lyra's production of *The Magic Flute* and *The Musicians of Bremen*. Later this season



Jan Skene



she's directing *Top Girls* at MTC Warehouse. **Kevin Klassen** acted in *Stripped-Down Romeo and Juliet* and *Othello* (SIR), *Death of a Salesman* (WJT) and *Bleeding Hearts* (MTC), which he also wrote. Coming soon - *It's A Wonderful Life* (MTC), *The Skriker* (Echo Beach), and directing *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (SIR). **Jeffrey Kohut** competed with the Canadian National Tap Team at Riesa, Germany, winning a bronze. He produced *Bloodless* (Fringe) and *Neighbours Sampler* (Kids Fringe) and co-ordinated a workshop of *LondonTown*. He will be directing *Finian's Rainbow* at Balmoral Hall and *So You Think You Can Be a Music Theatre Idol Season 3: Apocalypse*. **Heidi Maledrewich** recently moved to Calgary to start work on her MFA in directing. **Celoris Miller** accompanied 70-some entries in the Music Festival, sang in the opera chorus for *Il Trovatore* and *Candide* and played for G & S in May. **Carson Natrass** and **Laura Olafson** performed in MTC's *The Boys in the Photograph* and are currently in Toronto performing in that show once again. **Stacey Natrass** had a son Max this past year and sung on a recording of Sid Robinovitch's 'Sefarad' which was nominated for a Juno and a Western Canadian Music Award. This year she will be performing this Robinovitch solo set with the Winnipeg Singers and for Music 'n Mavens at the Berney Theatre. **Kimberley Rampersad** performed in *Scattering Jake* at Sarasvati's FemFest and will be Assistant Director and Choreographer for *It's a Wonderful Life* (MTC). She continues as Associate Choreographer for the *Hairspray* North American Tour. **Jaz Sealey** closed *Dirty Dancing* after 592 shows, then went on to *High School Musical* for Drayton and a production of *Guys and Dolls*. This Christmas will be playing Little John in

High School Musical for Drayton and a production of *Guys and Dolls*. This Christmas will be playing Little John in

(Continued from page 3)

the Ross Petty Panto of Robin Hood. **Miriam Smith** – last year was in *How It Works* and *Moonlight & Magnolias* for PTE, as well as being involved in MusicFest Vancouver. This year - *Strong Poison* and *Steel Magnolias* at MTC. Shortly after performing in *Strike!*, **Tom Soares** has moved to Toronto to attend York University's MFA in Acting program and their concurrent Graduate Diploma in Voice Teaching. **Andrew Stelmack** will be in Toronto performing as a soloist for the *Sondheim in September Concert* and in the world premiere of Leslie Arden's *The Princess and the Handmaiden*. He then will be playing Tobias in *Sweeney Todd* and Lefou in *Beauty and the Beast* for The Citadel in 2010. He had two solo art shows in the spring of 2009 in Toronto and currently has an on-going art show at Hair Fx in Winnipeg.

One More Reminder...

Many of you have received this newsletter by email and we'd like to thank you for that. If you aren't taking advantage of this method of saving trees (and getting the photos in color) but would like to, please email us - info@drycoldproductions.ca - and let us know.



Sharon Bajer

THE GAIL ASPER
FAMILY FOUNDATION INC.

**Now's the time to give!
Help build the Dry Cold Snowbank!**

The cold winds and snow of winter are on their way. Help us rebuild our Snowbank so it lasts until our spring production. Over 50% of our budget goes to the artists - the actors, directors, designers, musicians and stage managers - and a little goes a long way. Help us to continue to mount wonderful contemporary music theatre.

The **Dry Cold Snowbank** categories:

- Wind-Chill** \$15 to \$49
- Blizzard** \$50 to \$99
- Sun Dog** \$100 to \$149
- Snow Angel** \$150 to \$199
- Northern Lights** \$200 or more

Cheques payable to '**Dry Cold Productions**' can be sent to: 39 Exbury Place Winnipeg MB R3Y 2C3.

If you prefer donating by credit card, visit our website - www.drycoldproductions.ca - and give through CanadaHelps.org.

Dry Cold is a registered charity.
Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.



Kevin Aichele, Wayne Buss,
Melanie Whyte

The Free Press
We're there for you

Inn at the Forks
Norwood Hotel



A reminder of upcoming, not-to-be-missed musical theatre and opera.

The Barber of Seville - Manitoba Opera Association

November 21, 24, 27 Centennial Concert Hall

The Drowsy Chaperone - Manitoba Theatre Centre

January 7 - 30 John Hirsch Theatre

Patience: Bunthorne's Bride? - Gilbert & Sullivan Society

April 28 - May 1 Pantages Playhouse Theatre



Graham Ashmore. Tim Bandfield

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