

THEATRE COLUMBUS IN ASSOCIATION
WITH FACTORY THEATRE PRESENTS

LONELY NIGHTS *and Other stories*



a New Comedy

Created by Leah Cherniak, Oliver Dennis, Maggie Huculak,
Martha Ross, Michael Simpson & Ker Wells

FACTORY THEATRE
JUNE 3 to JULY 1, 2001

Lonely Nights

and Other Stories

CAST and CREW

OLIVER DENNIS

Bloom, Ronald,
Alf,
Mr. Rutherford,
Harry, dog

MAGGIE HUCULAK

Eileen Hammer,
Francis Fullerton,
Flora,
teenage boy, dog

MARTHA ROSS

Ramblin' Rose,
Judy Tuesday,
Rachel,
Louisa Menshion

MICHAEL SIMPSON

Marty van Dummer,
Jay Ulcerman,
Pandemic, dog

KER WELLS

Carl Quinn,
Vince Cardo,
Bruise, dog

DIRECTOR - - - - - Leah Cherniak
SETS & COSTUMES - - - - - Sue LePage
SOUND DESIGN - - - - - John Millard
LIGHTING - - - - - Bonnie Beecher
SCRIPT CONSULTANT & DRAMATURGE - - - - - Simon Heath
STAGE MANAGER - - - - - Shauna Janssen
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER - - - - - Isaac Thomas
PRODUCTION MANAGER - - - - - Kevin Ryan
CARPENTERS - - - - - Nathaniel Kennedy, Drew Aaslepp, Craig Smith
SCENIC ARTIST - - - - - David Rayfield
PROP CONSTRUCTION - - - - - Lisa Nighswander, Greg Chambers
PROPS BUYER - - - - - Tanya Hart
WARDROBE - - - - - Erin Hanowsky
HEAD TECHNICIAN - - - - - Chris Prideaux
FOLLOWSPOT OPERATOR - - - - - Liz Kesten
CREW - - - - - J. Louis Berengler, Allan Day, Shanna Miller,
Taylor Price, Jonathan Rooke, Bill Zeilstra
GRAPHIC DESIGN - - - - - Messenger
PHOTOGRAPHY - - - - - John Lauener

The running time of *Lonely Nights & Other Stories* is approximately 2 hours
with a 15 minute intermission.

Opening night reception donated by Starcraft Services Inc.
Catering for Passholder night by The Paddock

With Special Thanks to: Amanda Baumgarten, Mary-Jo Carter-Dodd, Matt Farrell,
George Brown Theatre School, Francie Maroosis, Lilly Martin, Lillian Ross Millard
for her costume assistance, Don Rider, Young People's Theatre, Mae Fullerton,
Jesse Gilmour, Ed Douglas at Thillaye Productions for the excellent effects and
Cathy Nosaty for the fire sound.

Theatre Columbus and Factory Theatre are active members of the Professional
Association of Canadian Theatres and Canadian Actors' Equity Association and
engage under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, The Toronto Theatre
Alliance and Theatre Ontario.

FROM THE COMPANY

Have you ever stared into other people's living rooms
as you walk down the street?

Have you ever flipped through your address book,
looking for someone to call?

Have you ever read through the personals?

Have you ever stared at the stars and wondered
if you are alone in the universe?

Have you ever needed the sound of a television or a radio
or even a vacuum cleaner when you're alone?

Have you ever lost someone?

Have you ever been lost?

Have you ever wondered if you're the only person
who thinks the way you do?

Have you ever wished people could be more like dogs?

Have you ever been so lonely you could die?

We have.

Lonely Nights & Other Stories was created collectively by the actors and director through a process that combines improvisation and writing.

BIOGRAPHIES (in alphabetical order)

BONNIE BEECHER (LIGHTING DESIGNER)

This is Bonnie's first production with Theatre Columbus. Bonnie has designed over 100 productions in Canada for Theatre, Opera, and Dance. Recent credits include *Outrageous* for Canadian stage, *The Hobbit* for Young Peoples Theatre, *The Invisible Life of Joseph Finch* for Dancemakers, *This is Heaven to Me* for Danny Grossman, *An Inspector Calls* for Theatre Aquarius, *Iron Road* for Tapestry Theatre, and *Henry V* for The Stratford Festival. Upcoming productions include *The Tempest* for Canadian Stage, and *The Lesson* and *The Bald Soprano* for Soulpepper Theatre. Bonnie is a member of Associated Designers of Canada.

LEAH CHERNIAK (DIRECTOR & CO-WRITER)

Leah Cherniak is Co-founder and Co-artistic Director with Martha Ross of Theatre Columbus. For the Company she has directed *Doubt*, by Michael Redhill, the Chalmers' Award winning *The Betrayal*, *The Barber of Seville* and *The Cherry Orchard* (co-director) among others. Leah directed and co-wrote *The Anger In Ernest and Ernestine*, which was published in 1990 and has been performed in theatres across the country and internationally. She has worked with a variety of theatres across Canada and in 1992 she received the Pauline McGibbon Award for Directing. In 1997 she played Jelly in *The Attic*, *The Pearls & 3 Fine Girls* and later directed it for the Thousand Islands Playhouse in Gananoque. More recently she directed *The Crimson Veil*, a musical by Allen Cole, Tomson Highway's play *Rose* at the University of Toronto and his play *The Trickster Tale* for Theatre Direct. She has taught clown at the National Theatre School for 14 years.

BIOGRAPHIES (continued)

OLIVER DENNIS (CO-WRITER & BLOOM, RONALD, ALF, MR. RUTHERFORD, HARRY, DOG)

Past Theatre Columbus credits include: *Porch People*, *Dr. Dapertutto*, *Aguecheek* in *Twelfth Night*, 1492, *Knee Plays II*, *The Cherry Orchard* and *The Betrayal* as well as various workshops. Other theatre credits include *Malvolio* in *Twelfth Night*, *Mitch* in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Dr. Gibbs* in *Our Town*, *Don Carlos*, *The Misanthrope* and *The Mill on the Floss* (Soulpepper Theatre Company); *Ratty* in *The Wind in the Willows*, *Bob Cratchit* in *A Christmas Carol*, *Great Expectations*, *Dracula* (Grand Theatre, London); *Kemp* in *Vigil* (NAC/Grand); *Touchstone* in *As You Like It* (Royal Bank Festival of Classics, Oakville); *Jack Worthington* in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Theatre New Brunswick). Other stages; Young People's Theatre, Factory Theatre, Theatre Passe Muraille, Canadian Stage, Solar Stage, Crow's Theatre and the Stratford Festival. Upcoming: *The Tempest* (Canadian Stage); *Art* (Theatre Aquarius).

SIMON HEATH (SCRIPT CONSULTANT & DRAMATURGE)

Simon recently directed and dramaturged Linda Griffith's *Alien Creature: A Visitation from Gwendolyn MacEwen* (Chalmers Award, Dora Awards for New Play and Lighting, Governor General nomination). Last year he had the opportunity to travel to Prague to direct SoundImage Theatre's *Stiny Snu (Shadows of Dreams)*. He was extremely honoured to have been awarded the Ken MacDougall Director's Fund Award. Simon is currently developing one of his own scripts for the Shed Co., of which he is a founding member, for the fall of 2001. Best of all, he is getting married in July and is pretty excited about that.

MAGGIE HUCULAK (CO-WRITER & EILEEN HAMMER, FRANCIS FULLERTON, FLORA, TEENAGE BOY, DOG)

For Theatre Columbus; *Twelfth Night*, *The Knee Plays*, *Dr. Dapertutto*, and *The Betrayal*, (co-author) which won a Chalmers Award in 1999; Necessary Angel Company member: most recently, *Seven Lears*, *Edmund* in *King Lear*, *Beating Heart Cadaver* and *Hysterica* (co-author). Premiere productions include *Lion in the Streets*, *Body and Soul*, *The Little Years*, *Play Murder* and *Escape from Happiness*. Other theatre credits include *Faust* (Tarragon), *Julia* in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Stratford Festival), *Jennifer Dubedat* in *The Doctor's Dilemma* (Shaw Festival) and *Three Tall Women* (Grand Theatre, London). TV/film includes *Blue Murder*, *The Adventures of Shirley Holmes*, *Wind at my Back*, *Dear America*, *Justice*, *Eric's World*, *The Newsroom*, *Side Effects*, *Kids in the Hall*, *Street Legal* and *E.N.G.*, *Charms for an Easy Life*, *The Last Debate*, *Desire*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *For Those Who Hunt the Wounded Down*, *Claud Monet: Shadow and Light* and *The Shoemaker*. Ms. Huculak narrated the dramatization of Michael Ondaatje's *In the Skin of the Lion* and *The English Patient*. She is the narrator of CBC's documentary series *Canada: A People's History*.

SHAUNA JANSSEN (STAGE MANAGER)

Since meeting the Theatre Columbus girls over four years ago, Shauna has since worked with the company on many occasions: *Doubt*, *Mayhem & the Naked Muse*, *The Attic*, *The Pearls & Three Fine Girls* and *The Betrayal*. Other credits include *I, Claudia* (Tarragon Theatre), *The Doll House* (DVXT), for *Buddies in Bad Times*; *When We Were Singing*, *Shaking the Foundations*, *Rhubarb*, *Howl*; co-pro with Threshold Theatre and *The Crimson Veil* (Factory Theatre). She has also ASM'd and toured the opera *Beatrice Chancy* for Queen of Puddings. Upcoming: ASM for *Uncle Vanya*, *The Lesson* and *The Bald Soprano* with Soulpepper.

BIOGRAPHIES (continued)

SUE LEPAGE (SETS & COSTUMES DESIGNER)

For Theatre Columbus Sue has designed the set and costumes for *The Betrayal* and the environment for *Mayhem & the Naked Muse*. Sue's designs for *Peter Pan* are currently onstage at the Shaw Festival, where previous projects include *The Doctor's Dilemma*, *Uncle Vanya* and *You Can't Take it with You*. In Toronto, her credits include the *Tarragon* (*Liquor Guns Karate* and *The Four Lives of Marie*, among many others), YPT (*Anne*, *Treasure Island*, costumes for *The Nutmeg Princess*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged*) and Canadian Stage (*Billy Bishop* national tour, *Thirteen Hands*, *The Glorious 12th*, among others). She designs for theatres across the country, most recently *Emily* for the Charlottetown Festival. Her designs for *Zadie's Shoes* at the Factory last season will be adapted for presentation next spring by the Mirvishes at the Wintergarden Theatre.

JOHN MILLARD (SOUND DESIGN)

Mostly self taught, interesting periods of work include working with English agit-prop theatre Welfare State International as musician and visiting artist, research and composition in central Mexico (particularly brass bass and local choral ensembles) for the twelve piece marching band The Five Star Parade Orchestra, touring western Canada and the U.S. with a horse drawn theatre company, surviving in Toronto as a composer for theatre and film, studies with Freddie Stone, composition of the musicals *Ratbag* with Martha Ross and *The Ballad of Weedy Peetstraw* (a blue grass opera) with Peter Anderson, and the formation of The Polka Dogs. In their three year life span, John Millard's Polka Dogs released two international recordings and managed to tour successfully in both Canada and Europe. John's latest project is the seven piece band John Millard and Happy Day. "...ocean cowboy exotica...", Happy Day has just released its first cd through Festival Records and is looking forward to touring Canada this summer.

MARTHA ROSS (CO-WRITER & RAMBLIN' ROSE, JUDY TUESDAY, RACHEL, LOUISA MENSION)

Martha Ross is Co-artistic Director and co-founder of Theatre Columbus with Leah Cherniak. Since 1983 she has been performing and writing for the company; her most recent Theatre Columbus performance was in *Doubt* in 2000, and prior to that as Liubov Andreyevna in the Theatre Columbus/Theatre Smith-Gilmour production of *The Cherry Orchard* in May 1998. She also performed in and co-wrote *The Betrayal*, which won the prestigious Floyd S. Chalmers Canadian Play Award in May 1999. Her writing credits include *Ratbag* (with music by John Millard), the award winning *Paranoia* (written in collaboration with the company) and *Dr. Dapertutto*. Both *The Anger in Ernest and Ernestine*, written collectively with Leah Cherniak and Robert Morgan, and *The Attic*, *The Pearls & Three Fine Girls*, also written collectively, have been published. Both plays have been performed nationally and internationally. Most recently she wrote *The Dog and the Angel* for the Caravan Farm Theatre (1999) and is currently on the collective team for Alex Fallis' *The Power of a Smile*.

KEVIN RYAN (PRODUCTION MANAGER)

Kevin is the production manager for Young People's Theatre. After first working with Theatre Columbus last season on *Doubt*, he is pleased to be with the company again. Past companies with which he has worked include the National Arts Centre, the Blyth Festival and Memorial University of Newfoundland. Kevin is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada.

BIOGRAPHIES (continued)

MICHAEL SIMPSON (CO-WRITER & MARTY VAN DUMMER, JAY ULCERMAN, PANDEMIC, DOG)

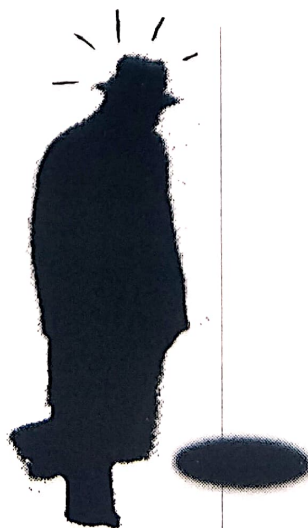
Michael Simpson has appeared in many Theatre Columbus shows including *Melancholia*, *Paranoia*, *Dr. Dapertutto*, *Twelfth Night* and *The Betrayal*. He played Jacques in Albert Schultz's *As You Like It*; at Montreal's Centaur Theatre he starred in *Vigil*. He was a Stratford member for three years where he performed Launce in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* and Snout in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Michael received a Dora Award for his work in *Paranoia* and received a Best Actor's nomination for his Tusenbach in *Three Sisters*. He was also nominated for a Dora for The Inquisitor in Souleppper's *Don Carlos*. In August he will be playing Telegin in Souleppper's *Uncle Vanya*.

ISAAC THOMAS (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

Isaac has stage managed *Hamlet* (A Cry of Players), *Night Noises* and *A Turn of the Screw* (Theatre Kingston). His ASM credits include two seasons at the Thousand Islands Playhouse, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and *The Rimers of Eldritch* (George Brown Theatre). He has been General Manager for Theatre Kingston for their 1999 season. Recent directing credits include *Pigs* for the Thousand Islands Playhouse Young Company and *Pinocchio 3.5* for Theatre Kingston. Isaac received his MFA in Acting from Ohio University. Upcoming: stage manager for *Flight Path* (Welcome Wood Productions).

KER WELLS (CO-WRITER & CARL QUINN, VINCE CARDO, BRUISE, DOG)

Ker is an actor, director, and teacher. A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada, he was a co-founder and member for eight years of Primus Theatre, with whom he trained, performed and taught across Canada, in the U.S. and Europe, creating numerous performances, including *Dog Day*, *Alkoremme* and *The Night Room*. Since leaving Primus, he has continued to act, in film, television and theatre; and to teach and to direct. In 1998 he directed the creation of *Terminal* with Vancouver's Boca del lupo theatre, and *Icaria* with Number Eleven Theatre, a company he co-founded in Nova Scotia. In 1999-2000 he created, with his sister Jane, a one-woman show called *Brightness Falls*, which premiered in Toronto in March 2000. In early 2001 he re-mounted *Icaria* in Toronto with Number Eleven Theatre. *Icaria* has subsequently toured to the On the Waterfront Festival in Dartmouth, NS, and in July it will tour to the Catskill Festival of New Theatre In Highland Lake, New York.



FOR THEATRE COLUMBUS

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS: Leah Cherniak & Martha Ross

GENERAL MANAGER: Deirdre Newman

ADMINISTRATOR: Shelley Davidson, on leave

BOOK KEEPER: Young Associates

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Susan Alger, Nicole Arends, Lois Charters, Leah Cherniak, Janice Copeland, Amanda George, Shauna Janssen, Heather Morton, Martha Ross, Angela Zehr

**THEATRE COLUMBUS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF
THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, FOUNDATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS
WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE, 2000/01;**

The Canada Council, the Ontario Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Council, the Norman and Margaret Jewison Charitable Foundation, the du Maurier Arts Council, Intrinsic Management Inc., The Casual Way

Amanda George, Angela Zehr, Anna Stratton, Averie Wells, Barry & Judy Hayward, Burle Yolles, Douglas Heighington, Heather Morton, Jane Czarny, Jerry Doiron, Janice Copeland, Jon Kaplan, Lois Charters, Maria Maksymiw, Michele Kesten, Nicole Arends, Nigel Richardson, Norman Armour, Stephen Ranger, Susan Alger, Teresa Przybylski, Terry Farmer, Urjo Kareda, Mrs. Rosario Farro

and through The Creative Trust; Alcan Aluminium, Council for Business & the Arts, DuPont Canada Inc., the Fidelity Foundation, the K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation, the Peter Munk Charitable Foundation, James B. Pitblado, Vincor International,

And particular thanks to our volunteers who have contributed to much to our Girlie Burlesque Auction: Emily Bradbury, Nina Gilmour, Casey Hudecki, Elizabeth Kesten, Madeline Lye, Amy Marshall, Lauren Piech, Marlise Schweitzer, Eva Taché-Green

**DONATE TO THEATRE COLUMBUS,
THE COMPANY THAT MAKES SERIOUS COMEDY**

For each \$25 of your donation, your chance to win a colour television set or tickets to Souleppper's summer shows: Present Laughter, Uncle Vanya, La Ronde, The Bald Soprano and The Lesson. Draw to be held July 1st, 2001

**THEATRE COLUMBUS' ANNUAL
CABBAGETOWN GARAGE SALE**

SATURDAY JUNE 23, 8am - 4pm

327 Carlton Street, behind Spruce Court School

A most unusual garage sale that includes fantastic designer clothing at a flat rate of \$5.00 each, along with quirky books, clothing, furniture, kitchen stuff... and if you have anything you want to get rid of that's in good shape, we'll pick it up. Call 416-504-0019

FOR FACTORY THEATRE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Ken Gass
MANAGING DIRECTOR: Nancy Webster
STUDIO TECHNICIAN: Shanna Miller
ADMINISTRATOR: Steven Moore
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Doug Morum
DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY & MARKETING: Sally Szuster
HOUSE MANAGER: Jill Ward

DRAMATURGE: Brian Quirt
ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Jim Warren**

PLAYWRIGHT IN RESIDENCE: Claudia Dey*
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR: Sarah Stanley

FACTORY PLAYWRIGHT'S LAB:
Sue Balint, Tony Berto, Anna Chatterton, Sean Dixon, Michael MacLennan,
Michael Miller, Adam Pettie, Colleen Wagner.

FRONT OF HOUSE AND BOX OFFICE:
Aviva Armour-Ostroff, Andy Bunker, Simon Heath, Ann Luedeke, Barbara Lindenberg,
Bridget MacIntosh, Kelly Montgomery, Faradee Rudy, Greg Thomas.

CO-OP STUDENTS:
Kellen Unruh (Northern Secondary School), Minh Ly (Oakwood Collegiate), Jon
Javanshir (Earl Haig Secondary School), Angela Morra (Lorne Park Secondary School).

FACTORY THEATRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Brian Arnott (Chair), Janina Barrett, Margaret Genovese, Nora Gillespie,
Gerd Hauck, Sam Marinucci (Treasurer).

LEGAL COUNSEL: Heenan, Blaikie
LANDSCAPE CONSULTANT & SERVICES: Lawrence Stern

*Courtesy of The Ontario Arts Council Playwright-in-Residency
Program and The Canada Council.
**Courtesy of the Canada Council.

THEATRE COLUMBUS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
OF THE CANADA COUNCIL, THE ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL & THE TORONTO ARTS
COUNCIL. THEATRE COLUMBUS IS A MEMBER OF go7, THE GROUP OF 7 THEATRES.

eye

CBC  radiONE
99.1 NEWS AND MORE

go7

 du Maurier ARTS