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Department of Theatre

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by Carlo Gozzi

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Artistic Director, Jeremy Tow



Photo by David Cooper



Director's Notes

Many people know Puccini's 1926 opera, **Turandot**, but few are familiar with Carlo Gozzi's play by the same title, written in 1762, from which the composer took his libretto. We in the University of Victoria's Department of Theatre are delighted to have had the chance to tackle this rarely seen play and we hope you will share in the enjoyment we have found in exploring the rich, theatrical world of 18th Century Italy. Gozzi referred to all his plays as "fairy tales" and it is by no means difficult to see how **Turandot** went on to make the leap into Grand Opera.

This is excellent territory for drama students to explore as it demands truth and precision in the performance of a story that is not told in psychological intimacy but rather in large, sweeping strokes. While few of us today would espouse Gozzi's social philosophy, which encouraged the subjugation of women to the superior qualities of men, and discouraged the rise of the unwashed masses when the inherent virtues of the blue-bloods were sufficient to make us all happy, we definitely do admire his mix of styles and his astonishing verve. Such is the stuff of fairy tales, which have a special kind of power. As it turns out, of course, neither women nor the common folk could be held back and Gozzi himself was largely relegated to the dusty shelves of dramatic history, until the 20th Century theatre sought to free itself from the chains of psychological realism. Puccini wasn't the only one to revive Gozzi's work: Prokofiev, Brecht, even Julie Taymor of **Lion King** fame have all made good use of his plays and professional productions of his plays appear regularly on stages in Europe.

We hope you will enjoy this discovery no less than we have. **Buon spettacolo.**

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John Van Burek *Guest Director*



Toronto native, John Van Burek, has worked in theatre as a director, teacher and translator for thirty years. In 1971 he founded Théâtre français de Toronto and since then, has played an integral part in the evolution of Canadian theatre, in English and French. He has taught at the National Theatre School/École Nationale de Théâtre, Nottingham Theatre School (U.K.), Ryerson Theatre School and York University. He has translated the plays of Michel Tremblay, in addition to three plays by the great 18th Century playwright, Marivaux, which he has produced through his own company The Pleiades Theatre. He recently completed a new version of Beaumarchais' *The Marriage of Figaro*, to be included in an upcoming anthology of world theatre, edited by Professor Jennifer Wise of The Department of Theatre, UVic.

Ritirong Jiwakanon *Set and Costume Designer*



Ritirong Jiwakanon is delighted to be designing in Canada for the first time. He received his M.F.A. in theatre design from Yale School of Drama and spent several years after school professionally designing for theatre in NYC. His design credit includes *Peer Gynt*, *Macbeth*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Twelfth Night* at Yale Repertory Theatre and Yale University Theatre; in NYC *Knoxville 1915* at Chelsea Repertory Company, *Lemuel* at La Mama Theatre, *Lucia de Lammermoor* at Pace Downtown Theatre, *Hazy Crazy Lazy Play* at Vineyard Theatre. He also was the cultural consultant for the 1996 Broadway production of *The King and I* and in 1994 he was an artist member of the project of The Green Neighborhoods Program of Park Council, NYC. Later he decided to move back to Thailand and started working for theatre as a designer and academic scholar in Southeast Asian Performing Arts. Design credits include; in Bangkok, *Sylvia*, *Arts*, *Rashomon*, *Waiting For Godot*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Way of The World*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Black Comedy*, *Amahl and The Night Visitor*, and *Pink Elephant* (the Butoh Dance Performance) and *Mixed Signals* at Victory Theatre in Singapore. In 1998 he was a costume designer for *Sound and Light Extravaganza - The Golden Heritage of The Rattanakosin Era*, to celebrate The 72nd Royal Birthday Anniversary of His Majesty the King of Thailand. Ritirong is a Professor of Design at The Department of Dramatic Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok,Thailand.



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Carlo Gozzi Playwright

1720 - 1806

One of Venice's leading 18th Century playwrights, Carlo Gozzi frequently wrote satirical fairy tales for *comedia* troupes. He emphasized fantasy, magic and spectacular effects. Gozzi worked hard at trying to preserve the dying tradition of *commedia dell'arte* in Italy. This style of improvised comedy - as opposed to scripted plays, which were becoming standard all over Europe, was truly indigenous to Italy. Admired in Italy and elsewhere in Europe, Gozzi's dramas have become the basis of subsequent theatrical works; *Turandot* is the play that inspired Puccini's opera, *Turandot*. *The Beautiful Little Green Bird* became *The Green Bird*, Julie Taymor's recent Broadway reinterpretation of his fable. Gozzi's *Fiaba dell'amore delle tre melarance* was set to music by Prokofiev as *The Love for Three Oranges*. And, *La Donna Serpente*, which was first produced in Venice in 1762 - two hundred and thirty- eight years later, *The Serpent Woman* found itself being performed in Manhattan this past Spring.

Acknowledgements

The Phoenix Theatres would like to acknowledge the following for their assistance and generosity:

The Times Colonist, Monday Magazine, The News Group, Where Magazine, CH Television, The New VI, The Daily, Shaw Television, CBC Victoria, CFUV Radio, The Ring, The Martlet, The Nexus, Arts and Entertainment Magazine, Richard Balomben, Matthew Takoski of the Victoria Dining Guide.

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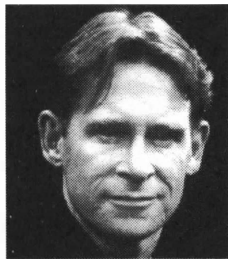
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Paul Mathiesen *Lighting Designer*



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Elicia Cronin *Turandot*



In her fourth year in the acting specialization, Elicia is thrilled to play the role of Turandot. Her previous Phoenix appearances include: Mariana in the MFA project, **Measure for Measure**, Lise in **Gloria Star**, and Arkadina in **The Seagull**. Elicia feels privileged to have worked under the guidance of Guest Director, John Van Burek as she has absorbed so much about acting, theatre and the beauty of language.

Ben Lawrence *Altoum*



Ben is in his fourth year of studies. Previous credits include Daniel McIvor's **This is a Play**, **The Seagull** and **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. Most recently he performed in Intrepid Theatre's **Circus Fire** for the Victoria Fringe Festival and **The End of the World Romance** for Theatre Skam's Summer Kamp. Ben looks forward to Graduation this Spring and the theatrical endeavors to follow. Thanks to family and friends for their ongoing support.

Celine Stubel *Adelma*



A Victoria native, in her fourth year of the acting program, Celine, carries on the Stubel tradition. Past Phoenix productions include **The Seagull**, **Farther West**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream** and **Romeo and Juliet**. A princess at heart, Celine is thrilled to be playing Adelma in **Turandot**.

Katie Siney *Zelima*



Katie is currently taking third year acting at UVic. Her credits include Gigi in **Three Comedies**, Lady Macbeth in **Macbeth**, and The Aviator in **The Little Prince**. Katie thanks everyone for her unforgettable time at the Phoenix and looks forward to future memories here.

Adrienne Dunsmore *Schirina*



In her first year at the Phoenix, Adrienne's recent acting credits include *Into the Woods*, *City of Angels* and *Cinderella*. She thanks the wonderful cast, crew and director for being so supportive, and making this such an amazing experience.

Chad Wood *Barach*



This is Chad's first mainstage production at the Phoenix Theatres. Chad has also recently appeared in The Belfry Theatre's production of *Menopositive: The Musical*. Other Phoenix productions include *E.T. The Musical* and *The Maxx*.

Jay Hindle *Calaf*



Jay Hindle is in his third year of acting at UVic. His Phoenix credits include *Three Comedies*, *The Seagull*, *E.T. The Musical*, *Impetus* and *The Glace Bay Miners' Museum*. Jay hails from Kamloops and is proud to bring his cowboy spirit to Victoria stages. Thanks go to his extended family.



The Chorus

TURANDOT

by *Carlo Gozzi*

Edited and Translated by
Albert Bermel and Ted Emery

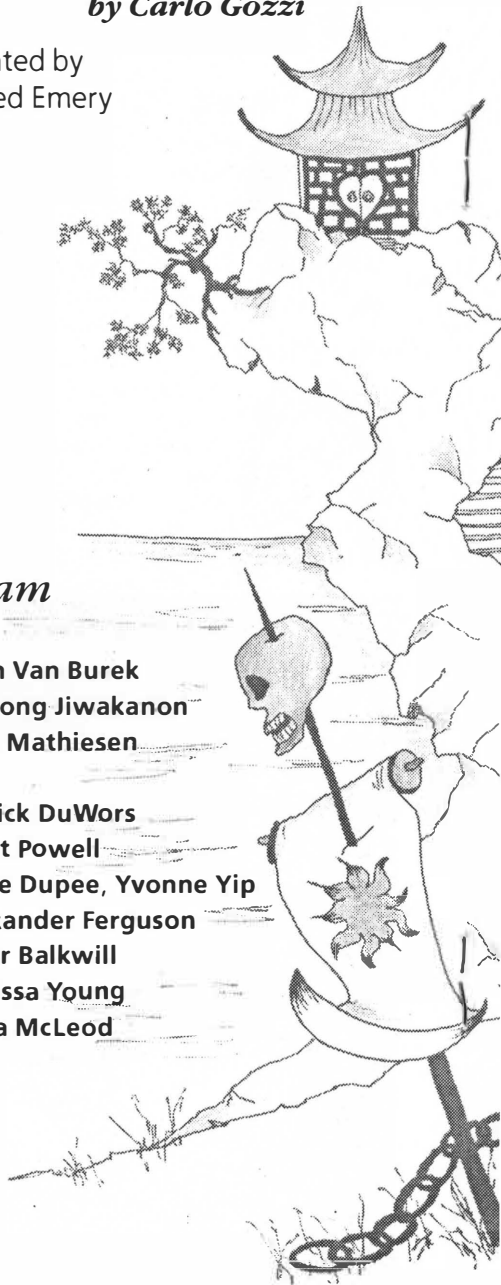
Creative Team

Guest Director
Guest Set and Costume Designer
Guest Lighting Designer

Assistant to the Set Designer
Assistant to the Lighting Designer
Costume Assistants
Composer and Music Director
Movement Coach
Choreographer
Stage Manager

John Van Burek
Ritirong Jiwakanon
Paul Mathiesen

Patrick DuWors
Scott Powell
Anne Dupee, Yvonne Yip
Alexander Ferguson
Peter Balkwill
Melissa Young
Rena McLeod



There will be one

Acting Company

Turandot
Altoum
Adelma
Zelima
Schirina
Barach
Calaf
Timur
Ishmael
Pantalone
Tartaglia
Brighella
Truffaldino

Elicia Cronin
Ben Lawrence
Celine Stubel
Katie Siney
Adrienne Dunsmore
Chad Wood
Jay Hindle
Alexander Ferguson
Jeff Stubbs
Kate Braidwood
Kate Humble
Nathan Whims
Tom Middleditch

Priest

Mitch Pollock

Sage

Monica McGarry

Sage

Karen Taylor

Soldier

Erin Hoyt

Soldier

Emma Miller

Soldier

Tina Rogers

Slave Woman

Silena-Ann Ewen

Slave Woman

Katie Hood

Eunuch

Annette Dreesen

Eunuch

Melissa Young

Musicians

Alexander Ferguson,

Mitch Pollock,

Jeff Stubbs

Chad Wood



one intermission.

Alexander Ferguson

Timur, Composer, Music Director, Keyboards



In third year acting, Alexander's credits at the Phoenix include **Colours in the Storm** (Mark Robinson), and **Frogs** (Pluto) for which he also played keyboards and wrote additional music. Other favorite credits include **Somewhere in the World** . . . for the Charlottetown Festival, and **Anne of Green Gables** (Gilbert) for the Victoria Operatic Society.

Jeff Stubbs *Ishmael*



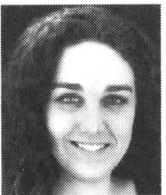
Jeff Stubbs is celebrating his third year of Acting at UVic. **Turandot** marks his debut on stage at the Phoenix. Backstage credits include Assistant Stage Manager for **Frogs**, Stage Manager for S.A.T.Co's **Foreplay** and **E.T. The Musical**. Jeff thanks Duncan, B. C. for hosting his childhood. JEFF (aside, passionately) Please Support Student Theatre!

Kate Braidwood *Pantalone*



This is Kate's third year in the acting program at UVic. Her previous Phoenix shows include **Frogs** as Charon, and S.A.T.Co's **E.T.The Musical** and **Alone - a Musical**. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to play an outlandish old man in **Turandot** (an exciting, if unflattering challenge)!

Kate Humble *Tartaglia*



Kate is in the middle of her third year of an acting major at UVic. Phoenix audience members may remember her as Mayoress Alice Selby in **Two Planks and a Passion**, Chorus Leader in **Frogs**, and Wild Mary in **Colours in the Storm** plus many roles with the Oak Bay Community Theatre, Victoria Operatic Society and S.A.T.Co. Great thanks go to Gunter, Father B. and the Bears!

Nathan Whims *Brighella*



It has taken Nathan many years to figure out that he was meant to be an actor. Nathan loves live theatre and started his acting career in his Junior High production of **You Can't Take It With You**. His main love is improvised and sketch comedy and he hopes to pursue it in the future.

Tom Middleditch *Truffaldino*



This is Tom's first year at UVic and he is delighted, honored, and extremely humbled to be taking part in **Turandot**, especially as the flamboyant dandy, Truffaldino. His most recent work was touring an original collection of regional history plays entitled **History in the Woods**.

Production *Team*

Production Manager	Bert Timmermans*
Assistant Production Manager	Robina Cook*
Technical Director	Steve Vrooman*
Technical Assistant	Jay Bennett
Assistant Stage Managers	Wes Ambeau, Kimberley DeLude
	Shannon Rosso
	Drew Williams
Electrician	Mika Taiji
Lighting Board Operator	Justine Shore, Sarah Wallin
Running Crew	Charles Procure*
Head of Scenic Construction	Debra Easton
Assistant Scenic Carpenter	Denise de Montreuil*
Properties Supervisor	Catriana VanRijn
Properties Coordinator	Ashley Adamson
Props Assistant	Karla D. Stout*
Head of Wardrobe/Cutter	Joanne Stichbury
Cutter	Karen Levis
Wardrobe Assistant	
Coordinating Wardrobe	Naomi Nilsson
Maintenance Supervisor	Courtney Couch, Kathleen Greenfield
Wardrobe Maintenance Supervisors	Jane Duncan
Makeup/Hair Coordinator	Ritirong Jiwakanon, Anne Dupee,
Millinery	Yvonne Yip, Jane Duncan
Dressers	Joy Welland, Nick Green, Doug Bates,
	Karling Rudling, Asheley Dryburgh
Acting Theatre Manager	Bert Timmermans*
Audience Services Manager	Catherine Anderson*
Communications	Marnie Crowe*
Communications Assistants	Stephanie Morris, Mitch Pollock
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Poster Design	Erik Ferguson
Photography	Stewart Wood
Lobby Display	Laura South
Front of House Manager	Meghan Braem, Marisa Smith
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	Andri Norton, Karen Fisher
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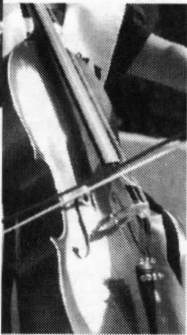
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Assistant Production Manager
Denise deMontreuil, Head of Properties
Celeste Derksen, Theatre History
Barbara Dillon, Department Secretary
Sandra Guerreiro (on leave)
Linda Hardy, Acting, Voice
Giles Hogya, Dean of Fine Arts, Lighting
Alan Hughes, Professor Emeritus
Mary Kerr, Design
Ritirong Jiwakanon, Visiting Orion Scholar
Bindon Kinghorn, Theatre Manager
(on leave)

John Krich, Acting

Jim Leard, Public Speaking, Story Telling

Libby Mason, Acting

Harvey Miller (on leave)

Peter McGuire, Acting, Directing

Charles Procure, Head Carpenter

Brian Richmond, Chair, Acting, Directing

Juliana Saxton, Professor Emeritus

Allan Stichbury, Design

Karla D. Stout, Head of Wardrobe

Bert Timmermans, Production Manager

Steve Vrooman, Technical Director

Jennifer Wise, Theatre History

Jan Wood, Acting

For the *Department of Theatre*

Robert Holliston, Music Consultant

Graduate Students

Mark Anderson

Colleen Carpenter

Cam Culham

David Everard

Kate Jamin

Monica Prendergast

Sakalas Uzdavinyus

Phoenix Phacts

Two Department of Theatre students are currently working for two separate television stations in Victoria, **Jenny Matechuk** is with Go Magazine on CH Television she joins CH's **Stacy (Epp) Ross** who is the sports anchor. **Adam Sawatsky** is with the New VI Television Station. Still with the media, **Heather Libby** is the Promotions Manager for Victoria's Hot 103 radio station. Over at The Belfry Theatre, **Salimah Kassam** is Administrative Assistant, **Nathan Medd** is the Front of House Manager, and **Jen Swan** is Assistant Stage Manager. **Jay Bennett**, **William Wells** and **Elicia Cronin** are working as Belfry Interns. **Rebecca Johnson** is the assistant Lighting Designer for The Belfry's production of *The Weir*. **Tim Sutherland** is teaching in the Writing Department of UVic. **Kelly Lunn** was the Assistant Stage Manager for Theatre Calgary's *Cabaret* and will be the same on their forthcoming *Christmas Carol*. **Adele Sacks** was production assistant for this summer's Fringe Festival and **Andrew McCaw**, back from The Stratford Festival, was a Lighting Technician. This summer also saw **Robina Cook**, **Laura South**, **Kelly Lunn**, **Fiona Deacon**, **Lindsay Walker** and **Christina Cicko** at the Banff Centre for the Arts. **Karen Goddard** was Temporary Head of Sound for Theatre Calgary. **Paul Fauteux** has just opened in *Tillsonburg* at Canadian Stage. Paul was also directed by *Turandot's* Director **John Van Burek** in *The Triumph of Love* at Artword Theatre for Pleiades Theatre Company in Toronto. The movie *The Falling* marked a significant directorial debut for **Raul Sanchez Inglis**. Nominated at the 1999 Genies for the Claude Jutra award (best first time director), *The Falling* also found itself nominated for the City TV award at the Toronto film festival and for the Best 1st and 2nd film award at the Chicago film festival. **Lani Milstein** was production assistant in Victoria for the touring production of *The Vagina Monologues*. **Sandra McLellan** was wardrobe co ordinator for Pacific Opera's recent production of *La Traviata*.

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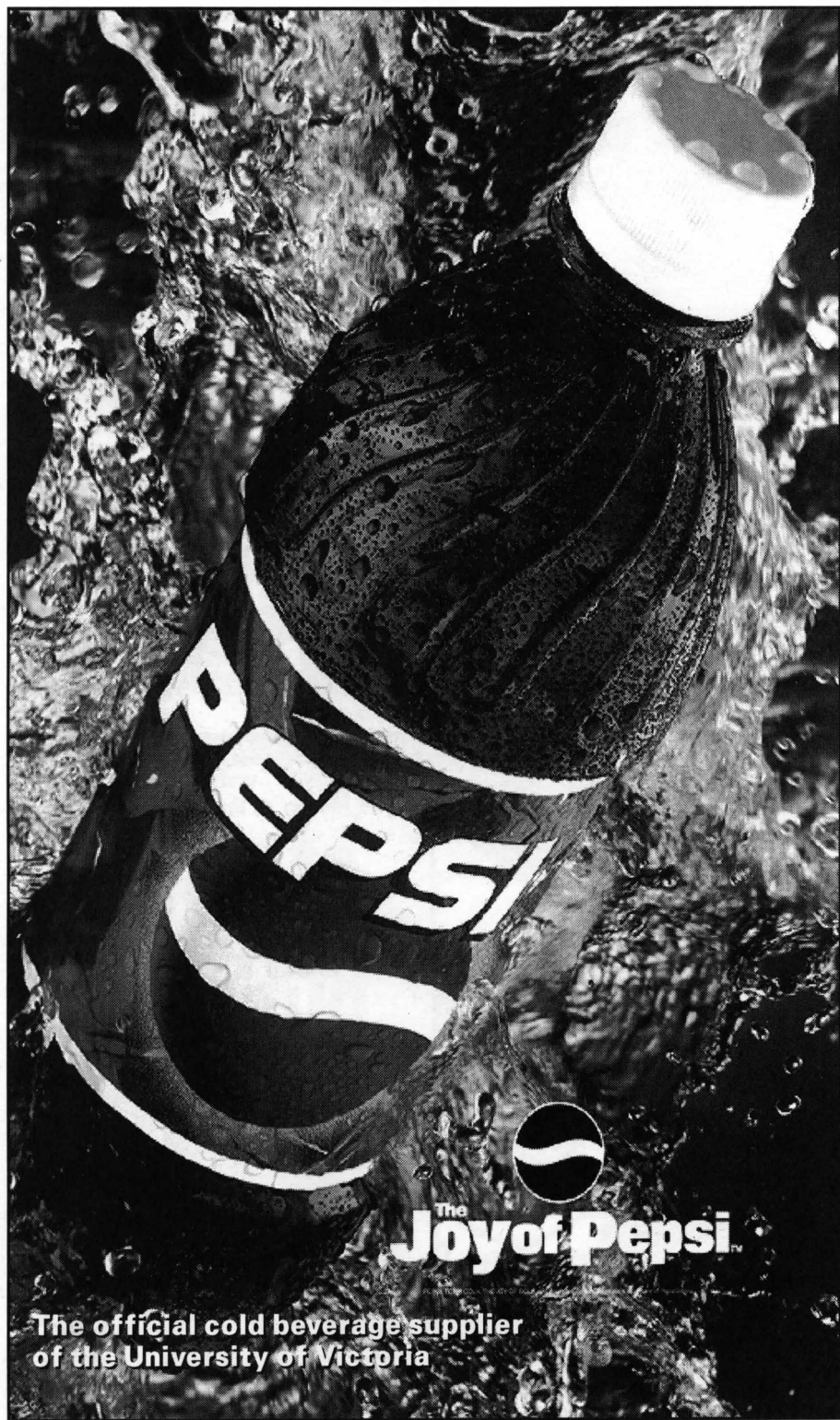
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