

The **Phoenix**
Theatres UVic
Department of Theatre

by Henrik Isben

Peer Gynt

March 14-30, 2002

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Director's Notes

Something gnawed at me as I and my collaborators started the creative process you are about to witness in tonight's production of Henrik Ibsen's 19th century poetic masterpiece **Peer Gynt**.

How would Ibsen - who would later become famous as both a great champion of women's rights and as the master architect of naturalism - have created a work so seemingly misogynistic and disunified? True, *Peer* is the product of a younger imagination than that which gave the world such tightly constructed, sympathetic portraits of women as **A Doll's House** and **Hedda Gabler**. This fact alone, however, does not explain the aesthetic and philosophical chasm that separates *Peer* from Ibsen's later plays.

As I write these notes we are in mid-rehearsal and still formulating our response to the stylistic sprawl of the play. Our instinct has been to reject the aesthetic bias that great art needs to be guided by the concept of unity of form. The strength we see in the play is that it was so far-sighted in its anticipation of many of the major dramatic forms of 20th century theatre art. Our search has been to find a balance point that can allow such diverse genres as naturalism, expressionism and absurdism to exist simultaneously. The spirit of this search has been informed by our belief that 19th - century Europe was aflame with discovery and was less concerned than we are with how an idea is packaged.

And our response to the issue of how women are portrayed in the script has been to remember that above all, Ibsen intended **Peer Gynt** to be a satire. The specific targets of this satire may have dimmed with time. What remains clear, however, is that, in constructing an epic story about a single male's life-long struggle with the sources of his own fear and foolishness, Ibsen created for his time a portrait comparable in greatness to Cervantes' **Don Quixote** or Molière's **Misanthrope**.

Problematic to understand and accomplish on the stage? Yes. But what a magnificent problem.

Brian Richmond
Director



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Brian Richmond *Director*

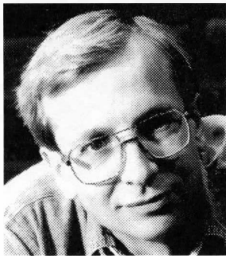


Newly appointed Chair of the Department of Theatre at UVic, Brian was born and raised in Vancouver and trained at Vancouver's Holiday Theatre and Ecole Lecoq in Paris. He obtained his MA in drama from the University of Toronto. He has taught and/or created productions for many leading Canadian universities including McGill, Concordia, Simon Fraser, York, Waterloo and Toronto, as well as the National Theatre School of Canada. Last season he was the Guest Director of the Phoenix production of **Frogs**.

As a professional director, Brian has created numerous productions for several leading theatres throughout Canada and the U.S. He was founding Artistic Director of Saskatoon's Persephone Theatre and served as AD for Montreal's Playwrights Workshop, Thunder Bay's Magnus Theatre and Toronto's Theatre Passe Muraille. A four-time nominee for Outstanding Direction in the Dora Mavor Moore Awards, Brian won this award for his 1988 production of **Fire**. This production (as well as his 1991 **Lilies**) was also chosen as Outstanding Production.

President of the Toronto Theatre Alliance from 1988 – 1991, Brian has also served on a number of juries for the Canada and Ontario Arts Councils as well as receiving a number of their highest grants and awards.

Allan Stichbury *Set Designer*



Allan Stichbury has designed for theatres all across Canada including Stratford and Shaw. For Opera he has designed at the Edmonton, Calgary and Manitoba Operas and The Banff Centre. He has also designed on Broadway, lighting for **Mr. Lincoln** at the Morosco Theatre. Allan has taught at the University of Victoria since 1988. Most recent designs include sets and lighting for The Shaw Festival's **The Mystery of Edwin Drood**, **Three Tall Women** at the Manitoba Theatre Center, and **A Christmas Carol** for Theatre New Brunswick. He is currently designing set and costumes for Alberta Theatre

Project's **The Beauty Queen of Leenane**. For the Phoenix, recent designs were for **Endgame**, **The Seagull** and **Frogs**. He exhibited at the 1995 and 1999 Prague Quadrennial. Allan is past president of Associated Designers of Canada.

Mary Kerr *Costume Designer*



Mary Kerr has designed sets and costumes for the Shaw, Stratford, and Banff festivals and most major Canadian regional Theatres. Her Opera and ballet design includes work with such companies as the Canadian Opera Company and the Paris Opera and National Ballet of Canada. In 1994 Mary Kerr was production designer for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Commonwealth Games in Victoria. Professional acknowledgements include seven Dora Mavor Moores and three Sterling Awards. Ms. Kerr has represented Canada at the Prague Quadrennial Design Competition. A commissioned

Bravo fact Film: **Mary Kerr: The Creative Process** has just been released and shown at the Museum of Modern Art in NYC. **The Toy Castle**, for which Mary is the set and costume designer is going into its third season of filming and was nominated for a Gemini award for best production design. Mary is a Professor of Design in the UVic Theatre Department.

Robert Thomson *Lighting Designer*



Robert Thomson is one of Canada's most versatile and active lighting designers. His work for theatre, opera and dance has won him four Dora Mavor Moore awards. He served as Resident Lighting Designer for The National Ballet of Canada for twelve seasons. His numerous company designs include **Swan Lake**, **Romeo and Juliet** and **Washington Square**. The 2002 season will mark Robert's twenty-fourth season designing for Shaw Festival. Highlights of his Shaw credits include a ten-year term as Head of Lighting Design, **Picnic**, **Six Characters In Search Of An Author**, **St. Joan**, **Cavalcade**, and **Cyrano de**

Bergerac. His recent credits include **Present Laughter** for Citadel Theatre and N.A.C., the Canadian Opera Company's globally acclaimed **Bluebeard's Castle** and **Erwartung** directed by Robert Lepage, **Nabucco** for Pacific Opera, **Anne of Green Gables** and **Emily** for the Charlottetown Festival, **Desir** for Stuttgart Ballet and **The Taming of the Shrew** for ABT at the Metropolitan Opera. He is currently consulting on the creation of the Stratford Festival's new Studio Theatre and will design **High-Gravel-Blind**, **Eternal Hydra**, **The Swanne** and **King Lear** on the Festival Stage. Mr. Thomson is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.

John Mills-Cockell *Composer/Sound Designer*



John Mills-Cockell designed the sound for **All's Well That Ends Well**, **Coronation Voyage**, **An Ideal Husband** and **Hard Times** for the National Arts Centre. He has created over 100 scores for film, television and radio and has a discography of 10 recordings. Recent credits include **Atlantis**, **Skylight** and **Mrs. Warren's Profession** for The Vancouver Playhouse, **Running Dog** and **Paper Tiger** for The Gateway Theatre as well as **The Planet Earth** and **King Lear** produced by John Juliani for CBC Radio. His credits also include work for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and the National Ballet of Canada. Mr. Mills-Cockell won

the SOCAN award for outstanding contribution to Canadian film and the Canadian Film and Television Award for best original score for **The Newcomers**. He has a commission from the Glasgow Gallery of Modern Art for **Music for Heaven** and is currently working on a feature film about labour activist Ginger Goodwin.

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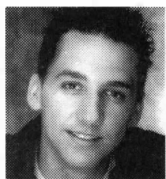
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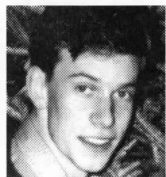
RYAN ARNOLD

Peer Gynt is Ryan's fifth and final main stage at the Phoenix Theatres. He will be graduating in April from the acting program. Memorable roles for Ryan include Clov in *Endgame* and Oxford in *Two Planks and a Passion*. In addition Ryan has been seen in many SATCo and MFA productions over the past four seasons.



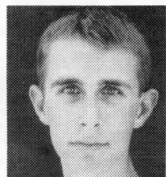
KATE BRAIDWOOD

Kate is currently in her third year of the acting program at UVic. Her previous Phoenix credits include *Turandot* and *Frogs*. She has also appeared in a number of SATCo productions including *E.T. the Musical* and *Alone; a Musical*.



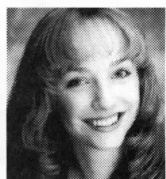
JEFF BRYANT

Jeff is pleased to be making his debut at the Phoenix. You may have seen Jeff in such local productions as *La Cage aux Folles* for the Victoria Operatic Society and *As You Like It* for the Shakespeare Festival. Though his background is in theatre, Jeff has recently developed a keen interest in music. Learn more by checking out his show on CFUV, which he co-hosts with DJ Tanner.



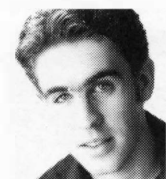
MICHAEL COPLEY

A second year student in the acting program, Michael's last appearance with the Phoenix was as Father Henry Melton in *Two Planks and a Passion*. Mike has been in various community theatre productions. Most recently he played Dr. Neville Craven in the Victoria Operatic Society's production of *The Secret Garden*.



ANNETTE DREESHEN

Annette began acting at the age of eleven playing Marta in a production of *The Sound of Music*. High school plays include *Zastrozzi*, *Foreplay* and *Godspell*. More recently she played Liesl in the Nickelodeon Players' *The Sound of Music* and was a member of the chorus in *Turandot*. Annette is currently in third year acting.



ALEXANDER FERGUSON

In his third year of the acting program, Alexander's credits at the Phoenix include *Turandot*, *Frogs* and *Colours in the Storm*. He also wrote and performed music for *Turandot*. Other favorite credits include *Somewhere in the World...* for the Charlottetown Festival and *Anne of Green Gables* for the Victoria Operatic Society.



LESLIE AIMÉE GOTTLIEB

Leslie is in her graduating year at UVic, majoring in theatre with a primary focus in Directing and Design. Previous roles include: Mule in Aristophanes *Frogs*, Mary in *Fool House* and Love Demon in *Tides*. Upon completing her degree, Leslie has aspirations of continuing her fine arts interests in theatre as well as television.

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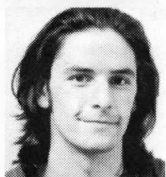


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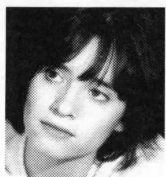
MELISSA HALSTROM

Melissa is thrilled to be a part of **Peer Gynt**. In her first year at UVic, "Mel" feels extremely fortunate to have been given the chance to participate onstage in this play - a far cry from her first experience on stage in her elementary school production of **Clowns!**



JAY HINDLE

Jay Hindle is in his third year of acting at UVic. His Phoenix credits include **Turandot**, **Three Comedies**, **The Seagull**, **E.T the Musical**, **Impetus** and **The Glace Bay Miners' Museum**.



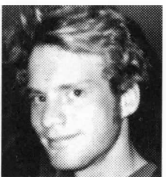
KATIE HOOD

Katie is in her first year at UVic and is thrilled to be involved in her second mainstage production. Before appearing in last semester's **Turandot**, she was involved in high school productions of **A Midsummer's Nights Dream**, **Twelfth Night** and the Canadian play **Catalyst**.



KATE HUMBLE

Kate is a third year acting student. Audiences may remember her from such roles as the lecherous Tartaglia in **Turandot**, the pompous Mayoress in **Two Planks and a Passion**, the chorus leader in **Frogs** and Wild Mary in **Colours in the Storm**. Kate has also acted with SATCo, Victoria Operatic Society and Oak Bay Community Theatre Society.



DAVID KOPP

David Kopp is in his second year at The Department of Theatre. He loves experimental theatre and is an aspiring drama teacher. His most recent work was in the high school guidance video **All Kids Are Our Kids**.



THEODORA LAMB

Theodora is a first year student at the UVic theatre department as well as participating in her first mainstage show. She's honoured with the opportunity to work with such a talented ensemble and theatrical team and looks forward to her future endeavors here at the Phoenix Theatres.



BEN LAWRENCE

Ben is in his fourth and final year of studies. Previous credits include; **This is a Play**, **The Seagull** and **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. In the summer, Ben performed in Intrepid Theatre's **Circus Fire** and Theatre **SKAM's End of the World Romance**. Most recently he performed in Bent Penny Theatre's **Say Something** at the Belfry Theatre.

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INFORMATION & CHARGE BY PHONE

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Peer Gynt

by Henrik Ibsen

Creative Team

Directed and Adapted by	Brian Richmond
Set Designer	Allan Stichbury
Costume Designer	Mary Kerr
Guest Lighting Designer	Robert Thomson
Composer/Sound Designer	John Mills - Cockell
Movement Coach	Peter Balkwill
Assistant Director	Sakalas Uzdavinyas
Assistant Set Designer	Aaron Spooler
Assistant Costume Designers	Tanya Seldenrich, Lindsay Hill
Assistant Lighting Designer	Laura South
Assistant Music Director	Alexander Ferguson
Dramaturge	Monica Prendergast
Clown Director & Consulting	Shannan Calcutt
Stage Manager	Jay Bennett

Setting: The circus of self-indulgence

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

*Jan Wood appears with permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

The Peers in order of appearance

Devon Pipars	Peer 1 & 5, Greenclad, Boyg , Boy with 3 fingers, Sphinx
Zachary Stevenson	Peer 2, Ugly Child, Sphinx , Accordion Player
Jeff Stubbs	Peer 3, Man , Elve , Boyg , Sphinx
Ryan Arnold	Peer 4, Aslak, Pig Courtier , Boyg

The Company in alphabetical order

Kate Braidwood	Solveig's Mother, Troll Child, Bird, Kari, Monkey, Corpse, Whisper
Jeff Bryant	Lad, Elve, Warder, Boy, Monkey, Mourner, Whisper
Mike Copley	Sloveig's Father, Witch, Thin Person, Warder, Horse, Thread
Annette Dreeshen	Girl, Pig Courtier, Bird, Receiver, The Watch, Boy, Warrior, Lunatic, Mourner, Anitra's Dancer
Alexander Ferguson	Mads Moen, Maiden, Overseer, Huhu, Drowning Man, Crew, Mourner, Anitra's Dancer
Leslie Aimée Gottlieb	Woman, Saeter, Child, Ballon, Hussein, Monkey , Lizard, Drowning Man, Whisper
Melissa Halstrom	Fiddler, Dancing Troll, Bird, Boy, Monkey, Snail, Lunatic, Mourner
Jay Hindle	Man, Elve, Anitra, Strange Passenger, Lunatic, Mourner, Dew Drop, Palm Tree
Katie Hood	Helga, Child, Bird, Aase's Cat, Cabin Boy, Monkey, Lunatic, Mourner, Whisper
Kate Humble	Cook, Old King, Bird, Van Eberkopf, Dung Beetle, Monkey, Lunatic, Mourner, Whisper
Dave Kopp	Lad, Goblin, Slave, Boatswain, Youth, Warder, Buddy, Goat, Mourner, Dew Drop
Theodora Lamb	Girl, Courtier, Bird, Monkey, Lunatic, Mourner, Whisper, Anitra's Dancer
Ben Lawrence	A Man, Oldest Troll, Cotton, Fella, Monkey, White Horse, Drowning Man, Mourner, Button Molder, Dew Drop
Tom Middleditch	Old Man, Saeter, Goblin, Trumpstralle, Begriffefeldt, Monkey, Drowning Man, Mourner, Dew Drop
Mitch Pollock	Lad, Child, Steersman, Boy, Buddy, Goat, Lunatic, Mourner, Thread, Anitra's Dancer
Katie Siney	Old Woman, Ingrid, Child, Bird, Thief, Monkey, Lunatic, Mourner, Whisper
Celine Stubel	Sloveig; Troll Maiden, Bird
Allison Ward	Woman, Saeter, Goblin, Bird, Ostrich, Monkey, Lunatic, Mourner, Whisper
Chad Wood	Groom's Father, Witch, Slave, Captain Thread
*Jan Wood	Aase, Dancing Troll, Bird, Old Monkey
Melissa Young	Groom's Mother, Witch, Warder, Bird, Horse, Thread, Anitra's Dancer



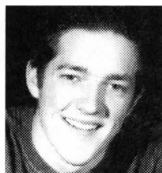
TOM MIDDLEDITCH

Tom is nearing the end of his first year at UVic and has been enjoying it greatly. His most recent role was the outlandish commedia dell'arte character, Truffaldino in last semester's mainstage performance ***Turandot***. Other works include touring an original collection of regional history plays entitled ***History in the Woods***.



DEVON PIPARS

This will be Devon's last show at the Phoenix, as she completes her fourth and final year. Half of her was seen last term popping out of a garbage can in ***Endgame***. Devon has found ***Peer Gynt*** to be the perfect culminating show - because the characters demand total physical, emotional and vocal commitment - playing them requires every learned skill.



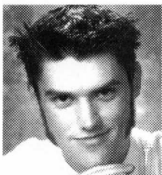
MITCH POLLOCK

Mitch is in his second year of acting with The Department of Theatre. Phoenix credits include ***Turandot***, ***Two Planks and a Passion*** and ***Frogs***. He has performed since a young age and has appeared in television, on stage and has released two albums with his band ***Never Ever More***.



KATIE SINEY

Katie Siney is currently in her third year of the acting program at UVic. Her Phoenix credits include ***Turandot*** and ***Three Comedies***. Other credits include The Narrator in ***The Little Prince*** and Lady Macbeth in ***Macbeth***.



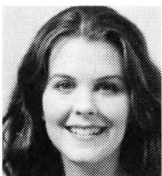
ZACHARY STEVENSON

Zach is in the third quarter of his pursuit of a B.F.A. in Acting. Recent roles at the Phoenix include Nagg in ***Endgame***, Edward in ***Two Planks and a Passion*** and Euripides in ***Frogs***. He has also acted with Bard 2 Broadway Theatre in Qualicum for the past two summers.



JEFF STUBBS

Jeff Stubbs originally hails from Duncan, B. C. He is currently completing his third year of Acting at UVic. Phoenix credits include the role of Ismael in last term's ***Turandot***, and he was Assistant Stage Manager for ***The Frogs*** and Stage Manager for S.A.T.Co's ***Foreplay*** and ***E.T. The Musical***.



CELINE STUBEL

Celine is completing her fourth year in the acting program. Past Phoenix credits include Adelma in ***Turandot***, Nina in ***The Seagull***, Nettie in ***Farther West***, Moth in ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** and a myriad of roles in ***Romeo and Juliet***.



STEWART M. WOOD

Devon Pipars as Peer One and Jan Wood as Aase, Peer's mother



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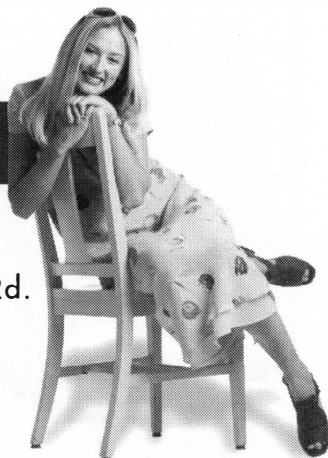
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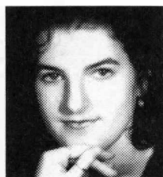
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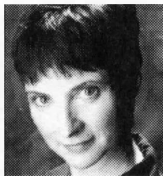
ALLISON WARD

This is Allison's first year and first mainstage show at UVic. Previous credits include two years in the Victoria Shakespeare Festival, most recently ***Much Ado About Nothing*** as well as productions with Theatre Inconnu and Langham Court.



CHAD WOOD

Chad is in his third year of acting at the Department of Theatre. He recently appeared in ***Turandot*** in the role of Barach. Chad has been involved with the S.A.T.Co productions of ***E.T. The Musical*** and ***The Maxx***. This summer he also appeared at the Belfry in ***Menopositive: The Musical***.



JAN WOOD

Jan Wood is a member of the Department of Theatre performance faculty. She has also worked extensively as an actor in theatres across Canada including the Stratford Festival, Blyth Festival, Citadel Theatre, Alberta Theatre Productions and at the Belfry. This is her debut performance at the Phoenix.



MELISSA YOUNG

Melissa is currently in her second year of UVic's Acting Program. Previous credits include ***Turandot*** for the Phoenix and ***Uncle Vanya***, ***Gypsy*** and ***Lysistrata*** for Grant McEwan College, ***As You Like It*** and ***Satin Doll*** for the Plain Janes and ***The Green Heart*** for Leave it to Jane.

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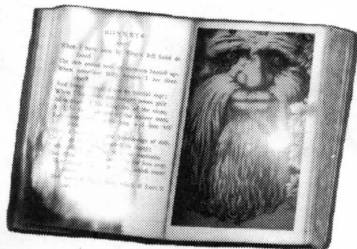
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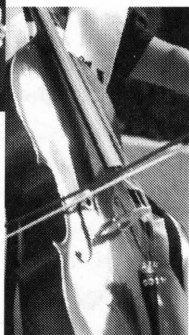


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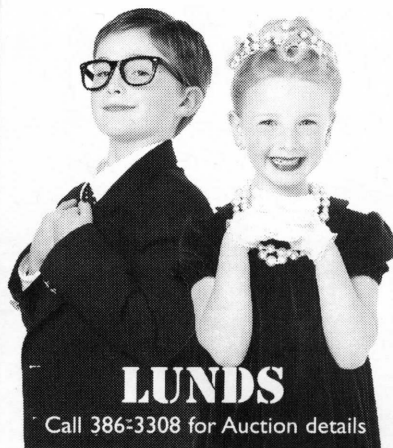


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Technical Director	Steve Vrooman
Assistant Stage Managers	Jen Braem, Deb Easton Sarah Wallin
Electrician	Scott Powell
Lighting Board Operator	Nick Poppell
Sound Board Operator	Brent Burbee
Follow Spot Operators	Scott Powell, Jen Quinn
Elevator Operators	Ian Lake, Mark Hovey
Head of Scenic Construction	Charles Procure
Assistant Scenic Carpenter	David Kopp
Head of Properties	Denise de Montreuil
Properties Coordinator	Marissa Vest
Assistant Props Co ordinator	Megan Griffiths
Senior Props Coordinator	William Wells
Costume Props Co ordinator	Juanita Hufnagel
Prop Shop Assistant	Jeremy Gordaneer
Head of Wardrobe/Cutter	Karla D. Stout
Cutter	Joanne Stichbury
Coordinating Wardrobe Maintenance Supervisor	Naomi Nilsson
Wardrobe Maintenance Supervisor	Jane Duncan
Assistant Wardrobe Supervisors	Katheen Greenfield, Courtney Couch
Millinery Co-ordinator	Naomi Nilsson
Hair & Makeup Coordinator and First Assistant Milliner	Yvonne Yip
Hair & Makeup Assistant/ Second Assistant Milliner	Karen Levis
Head of Millinery Team	Nick Greene
Millinery Team	Justine Shore, Claire Chartrand, Marissa Vest, Melissa Bates, Jill Reiss
Dressers	Tina Rogers, Melissa Bates Natalie Rogers, Stephenie Care, Emma Miller, Ian Lake, Karling Rudling, Odessa Bennett
Theatre Manager	Bindon Kinghorn
Audience Services Manager	Catherine Anderson
Communications	Marnie Crowe
Communications Assistants	205 Communications
Poster Design	Erik Ferguson
Photography	Stewart Wood
Lobby Display	Laura South
Front of House Manager	Keltie Jeakins
Box Office	Meghan Braem, Marisa Smith, Jennifer Dickson, Carli Posner Leah Billas, Marissa Fossum, Katherine Khouri, Florine Lawrance, Andri Norton
Opening Night Reception	Karen Fisher, Robin Collins
Opening Night Bar	University Food Services

Department of *Theatre*

Catherine Anderson,

Audience Services Manager

Peter Balkwill, Acting, Movement

Leslie D. Bland, Introduction to Theatre

Marnie Crowe, Communications Officer

Robina Cook, Administration

Denise deMontreuil, Head of Properties

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

Bindon Kinghorn, Theatre Manager

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

Graduate *Students*

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April 1, 2001 – February 28, 2002

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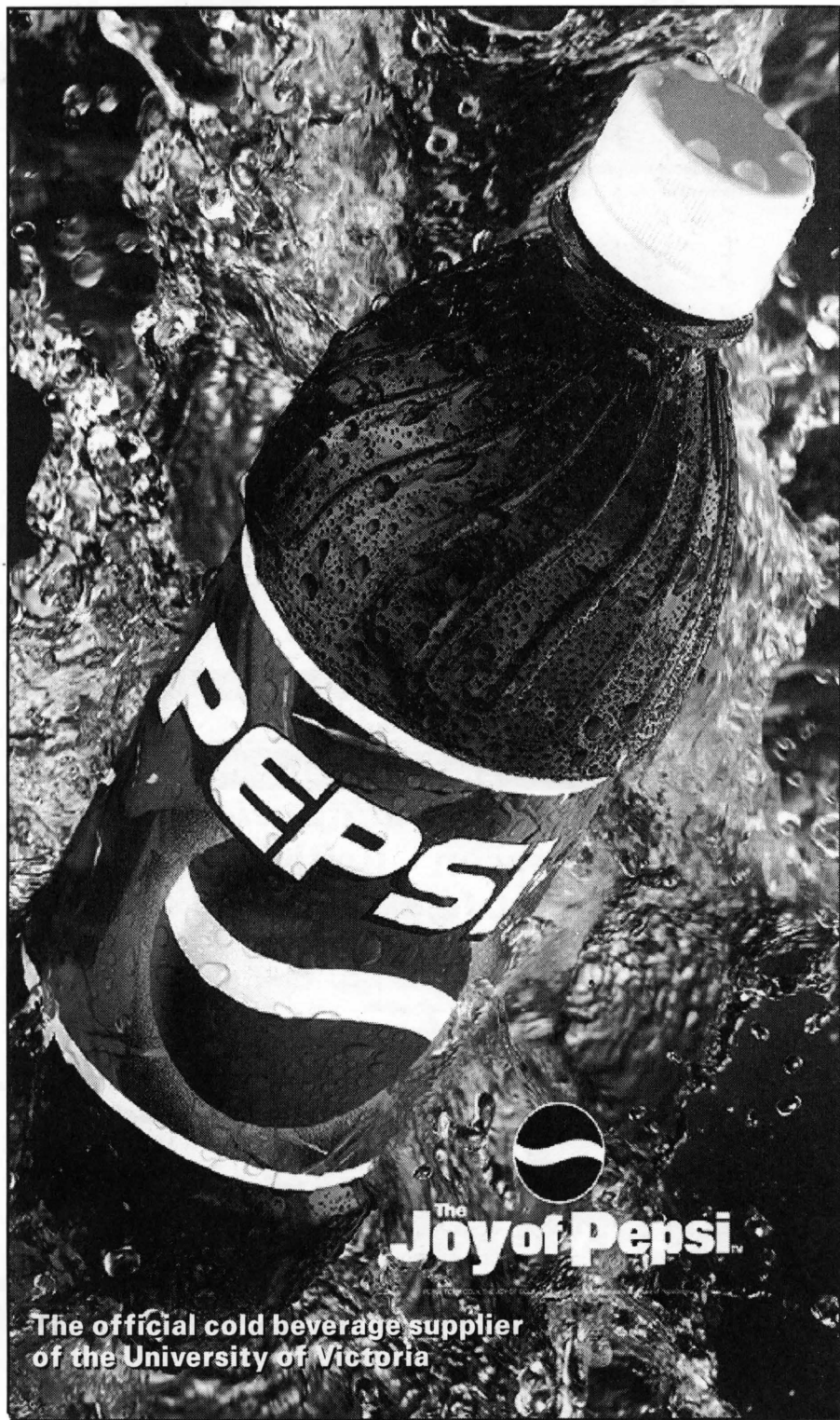
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