

PHOENIX SUMMER THEATRE

PRESENTS

NUNSENSE



JUNE 3 - 27, 1998

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Phoenix Summer *Theatre* Company 1998

Phoenix *Phacts*

Summer is a busy time for everyone at the Phoenix, and many of our current students and former students are busy doing what they do best . . . and that's working in "the business". Watch for five Phoenix students, **Cara Dick**, **Sara Topham**, **Adam Sawatsky**, **David Brown** and **Cam Culham**, in and around the Legislature Buildings, playing historical characters from early Victoria. Directing these Parliamentary Players is **Bindon Kinghorn** and former Faculty member **Alan Hughes** has written the dialogue. **Rob Walker** and **Paul Donison** are at Chemainus Theatre this summer. They both have roles in *Robin Hood* and *The Miser*. Paul plays the title role and is fight captain in *Robin Hood* and **Nicholas Harrison** is Fight Director. **Janet Macdonald** is in Halifax at Shakespeare On The Beach playing Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*. At Bard On The Beach in Vancouver, **Jan Wood** is playing several Shakespearean roles. **Heather Libby** is travelling to Prince Rupert to perform in a one woman show, *Postcards and Memories* at the Museum of Northern British Columbia. She will also conduct walking tours of the City of Prince Rupert. **Nicola Schicchi** will begin his Masters in Film Directing (Production) at the University of California. **Kim Pinel** is conducting tours at Craigflower House. **Mike Rinaldi**, **Medina Hahn** and **Lesley O'Connor** will be working for **Pia Wyatt** at Fort Steel in the Kootenays this summer. Besides directing *Nonsense* for Phoenix Summer Theatre, **Leslie D. Bland** is directing **Morgan Collins** in *Charley's Aunt* for Edmonton's Stage Polaris and will direct a production of *Oleanna* featuring **Harvey M. Miller**. This will tour the Saskatoon, Edmonton and Victoria Fringe Festivals. **Giles Hogya**, will design the lights for the summer production of *No Exit* for The Jean Cocteau Repertory Theatre in New York. **Allan Stichbury** will design the set and lights for a brand new play at Blyth this summer entitled *Wilber County Blues*. **Peter Balkwill** will be at the Wisconsin Shakespeare Festival taking roles in three of their productions. And at the newly refurbished theatre at St. Ann's in Victoria, Eclectic Circus' *Much Ado About Nothing*, will feature a large contingent of Phoenix Pholk in several capacities; **Andrew McCaw**, **Louise Anderson**, **Chris Martin**, **Michelle Monteith**, **Jennifer Swan**, **Erin Macklem**, **Tim Sutherland**, **Erin Ormond**, **Paul Terry**, **Geoff Gustafson**, **Heather Shippit**, **Christina Ciko**, **Peter Brown** and **John Krich**. Following *Nonsense*, **Catherine Anderson**, **Andrew Tugwell** and **Connie Beel** will be working at the Belfry Theatre during their summer show, *A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline*.

Sister Mary Schtickmeister - *Director*



Sister Mary Schtickmeister originally hails from Germany where she was an active member of the order of Our Lady of Perpetual Oktoberfest. There she also launched her own television program - *Zing Along Mêt Schtick*.

Since coming to Canada, Sister Mary Schtickmeister a.k.a. **Leslie D. Bland** Co-founded and was the former Executive Producer of Stage Polaris, Edmonton's second largest theatre and the largest family theatre in Western Canada.

Many of Leslie's past productions have won Edmonton's Sterling Awards, including Outstanding Musical *The Secret Garden* 1996 and Outstanding Theatre for Young Audiences *Anne of Green Gables* 1995. Leslie's productions of *West Side Story* and *Into the Woods* were both selected "pick of the fringe" by critics at Edmonton Fringe Festivals in 1996 and 1997.

In addition to his work with Stage Polaris, Leslie is a founding member of five theatrical organizations in Alberta and has performed professionally with a number of organizations including the National Arts Centre, The Citadel Theatre, Theatre Network and The Ottawa Children's Festival.

During the past year at the Phoenix, Leslie has directed three productions including *Glengarry Glen Ross* and *The Tempest*, assistant directed and choreographed the stage fights for *Escape From Happiness* and assistant directed and played Claudius in *Hamlet*.

Later this summer Leslie will be directing *Charley's Aunt* for Stage Polaris and a Fringe Festival tour of David Mamet's *Oleanna*.

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Dan Goggin - *Playwright*

Dan Goggin began his career as a singer in David Merrick's Broadway production of *Luther* starring Albert Finney. He then toured for five years as a member of the folk singing duo *The Saxons*. Dan wrote the music for and appeared in the off Broadway musical *Hark!* after which he began writing both music and lyrics for revues. He composed the score for the Broadway production *Legend* starring Elizabeth Ashley and F. Murray Abraham, and has written the book, music and lyrics for an original musical *A One Way Ticket To Broadway*. *Nunsense* had one of the more unusual beginnings of any play: It began as a series of greeting cards. Dan Goggin created a line of cards featuring Marilyn Farina dressed as a nun. When Farina took to making appearances in costume at card stores and the like to promote the card line, Goggin began writing material for her to use. This evolved into a 15 minute stage act called *The Nunsense Story* which included many nuns, as well as monks. It ran for nearly 40 performances at a Greenwich Village club. From there, Goggin rewrote the piece as a full length musical, eliminating the monks altogether and focusing, instead, on five nuns. *Nunsense* ran for well over 3,300 performances when it opened on December 3, 1985 and spawned sequels, *Nunsense 2: The Second Coming* and *Sister Amnesia's Country Western Nunsense Jamboree*.

Sister Mary Discordia - *Musical Director*



Sister Mary Discordia enjoys the dubious distinction of being the butchiest nun in this or any order. Before taking the veil, Sister Mary Discordia, formerly known as **Robert Holliston**, (a.k.a. Our Sister of Perpetual Facial Hair) operated a brothel in Kenya for big game hunters and became a colorful and popular fixture at W.W.F. After winning first prize in the Hulk Hogan look-alike contest, Sister Mary Discordia made the first of her many vows: never to be seen publicly without the cigar Hemingway gave her in 1958.

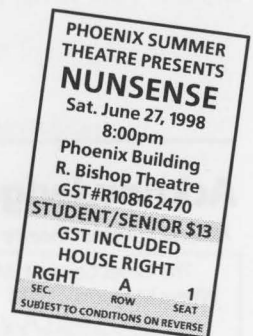
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For your added convenience, the Box Office will be open at intermission. Regular box office hours are Monday through Saturday, 12 noon - 3pm and 5pm - 8pm until Saturday, June 27th.

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NUNS

A Musical
Book, Music & Lyrics

Director	Sister Mary Schtickmeister Leslie D. Bland
Musical Director	Sister Mary Discordia Robert Holliston
Set & Costume Designer	Sister Mary Designerata David Owen Lucas
Lighting Designer	Sister Mary Colorblind Andrew Tugwell
Choreographer	Sister Mary Stepmeister Sara Topham
Stage Manager	Sister Mary Miscue Connie Beel

CAST

Jana Dempsey	Sister Mary Hubert
Cara Dick	Sister Robert Anne
Gwyneth McIntosh	Sister Mary Leo
Marlis Schweitzer	Sister Mary Regina
Sara Topham	Sister Mary Amnesia
Robert Holliston	Sister Mary Discordia

The Time: The Present

The Place: Bishop Rogers School

There will be one 15 minute intermission

*Programme Advertising, Design & Production
Victoria Arts Marketing, division of Monday Productions.*

Acknowledgements

Phoenix Summer Theatre '98 would like to acknowledge the following for their assistance and generosity;

The Times Colonist, Monday Magazine, The Saanich News, The Oak Bay News, The Victoria News, Where Magazine, CHEK Television, Shaw Cablesystems, CBC Radio, The Q, CFAX, CIOC, CAMO, am 900, CKMO and CFUV Radio Stations, The Ring, Matthew Takoski of the Victoria Dining Guide, Richard Balomben, Victoria Arts Marketing.

Special thanks to: Atis for the Juke Box, Kathryn Jamin, Watts & Co. Ltd., Constable Chris Horsley of the Saanich Police Department, Alex Walton.

ENSE

Comedy
Sketches by Dan Goggin

ACT ONE

"Nonsense is Habit Forming"	Full Cast
"A Difficult Transition"	Full Cast
"Benedicite"	Sister Mary Leo (with Sister Mary Hubert)
"The Biggest Ain't the Best"	Sister Mary Hubert and Sister Mary Leo
"Playing Second Fiddle"	Sister Robert Anne (with Sister Mary Regina)
"So You Want to be a Nun"	Sister Mary Amnesia
"Turn Up The Spotlight"	Sister Mary Regina
"Lilacs Bring Back Memories"	Sister Mary Regina, Sister Mary Hubert, Sister Mary Leo and Sister Robert Anne
"Tackle That Temptation with a Time Step"	Sister Mary Hubert with Cast

Intermission

ACT TWO

"Growing Up Catholic"	Sister Robert Anne, Sister Mary Leo, Sister Mary Hubert and Sister Mary Amnesia
'We've Got to Clean Out the Freezer"	Full Cast
"Just a Coupl'a Sisters"	Sister Mary Regina and Sister Mary Hubert
"The Dying Nun Ballet"	Sister Mary Leo (with Sister Robert Anne)
"Playing Second Fiddle (Reprise)"	Sister Robert Anne
"I Just Want to be a Star"	Sister Robert Anne
"The Drive In"	Sister Robert Anne, Sister Mary Amnesia and Sister Mary Leo
"I Could've Gone to Nashville"	Sister Mary Amnesia
"Gloria in Excelsis Deo"	Full Cast
"Holier Than Thou"	Sister Mary Regina with Full Cast
"Nonsense is Habit-Forming (Reprise)"	Full Cast

Special Thanks to
GRANDPA'S ANTIQUE PHOTO STUDIO 1252 Wharf Street
for the part they played in "Nunsmoke"

Sister Mary Designerata - *Set & Costume Designer*



Sister Mary Designerata was delighted to be able to design another show for The Little Sisters of Langford. Formerly known as **David Owen Lucas**, Sister Mary Designerata is a Designer and good friend of the Little Sisters of Langford, having been a past student and benefactor of their goodwill. She has returned to Bishop Rogers School to design the production of *Grease* for the grade eight class and is delighted that the sisters are able to use the set to perform their little benefit tonight. She hopes that everyone goes home with a warm heart and a sweet tooth - but warns to be careful of anything made

by dear Sister Julia. Sister Mary Designerata recently designed *Speak* for the Globe Theatre in Regina and is currently working on the design for *Don Giovanni* at the Waterfront Theatre in Vancouver. She is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.

Sister Mary Colorblind - *Lighting Designer*



Sister Mary Colorblind is an altar person at Bishop Rogers. Although her main experience is in lighting candles, The Reverend Mother feels that "light is light" and therefore requested that she design the lighting for *Nonsense*. In all fairness, we must add that Sister Mary Colorblind's recent Phoenix Theatre credits under her former name, **Andrew Tugwell**, include: Assistant Technical Director for *Hamlet* and Assistant Lighting Designer for *Maupassant! Maupassant!*, Sound Designer for *Escape From Happiness* and both Sound Designer and Assistant Technical Director for *Fallen Angels*

and *7 Stories* for last season's Phoenix Summer Theatre. Outside of the Phoenix, Andrew recently worked as production technician for the Island Repertory Company's production of *Lonely Planet* in the Belfry Studio.

Sister Mary Miscue - *Stage Manager*



Sister Mary Miscue is the assistant principal of Bishop Rogers School. She was originally a nun in the Cistercian Abbey of Our Lady of Dallas, but was asked to leave after shouting, "Places, please!" during Grand Silence. She was given back her real name, **Connie Beel**, and was given the job of supervising *Nonsense* as a penance for past sins committed as stage manager of *This Is For You Anna*, *The Learned Ladies*, *Fallen Angels*, and *Escape From Happiness* at the Phoenix Theatres. Victoria audiences will also remember *The Three Penny Opera* and *Skylight* at The Belfry Theatre where

Connie also served penance as the Assistant to the Stage Manager. Connie has accepted transfer from Mother Superior to serve as Assistant Stage Manager for the next year at The Belfry Theatre.



Sister Mary Hubert

Sister Mary Hubert entered the convent of The Little Sisters of Langford upon graduation from Bishop Rogers School. During one of her recent pilgrimages to see the Pope, Sister Hubert was arrested by the Swiss Guards as she scaled the walls of the Papal Apartments. She would like to ask his Holiness for atonement for her reckless action. Sister Hubert, the former **Jana Dempsey** has previously appeared in *Maupassant! Maupassant!*, *Eleemosynary*, and *The Love of The Nightingale* at the Phoenix Theatres. She has worked around Victoria and for four months she performed a one woman show, *The Skeena River*

Story, in Northern B. C. She has just completed her B.F.A. in Acting and welcomes her family from Nova Scotia and all other visitors in the audience this evening.



Sister Mary Robert Anne

Sister Mary Robert Anne escaped from Surrey, armed with nothing but her will to succeed and her tips from IHOP. She began her professional life in Victoria as a tour guide at the Wax Museum. After an unfortunate incident however, while lighting a cigarette, she managed to melt the entire Royal Family. Robert Anne was forced to give up her smoking habit and she decided to wear one instead. As well as having been a tour guide, you may also recognize Sister Robert Anne, formerly **Cara Dick**, from the Phoenix Theatres' productions of *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Learned Ladies* and *Maupassant! Maupassant!*



Sister Mary Leo

Sister Mary Leo is one of the newest Novices at our Convent, and perhaps the one with the most to learn. Although she may not be the brightest star on the stage, she certainly has a charm that carries her a long way. It is this flare that gets her out of trouble when caught plotting with her sneaky sidekick Sister Robert Anne. Prior to coming to the convent, Sister Leo, formerly known as **Gwyneth McIntosh**, starred in the *Nutcracker* as Clara's Brother's Best Friend's Sister. Prior to this role, you may have seen her at the Phoenix in *Can't Stand Up For Falling Down*, *Orpheus In the Underworld* and most recently in the role which sent her running to the church, *Françoise Duclos*, the prostitute in *Maupassant! Maupassant!*

her running to the church, *Françoise Duclos*, the prostitute in *Maupassant! Maupassant!*



Reverend Mother, Sister Mary Regina

The Reverend Mother is pleased that you have decided to join us for tonight's benefit performance. Although she has previously appeared in other performances at the Bishop Rogers School, you may remember her trying to sing on rollerblades in the operetta, *Orpheus in the Underworld* (a morality tale of sorts) this is Mother's first time performing with a small ensemble. She looks forward to kicking up her heels a little, (although decorum is strictly observed at all times) and hopes that you will sit back and enjoy yourself. Before she became Sister Mary Regina, Reverend Mother's name was **Marlis Schweitzer**.



Sister Mary Amnesia

Sister Mary Amnesia has no idea who she is, and can't remember what she did last week, let alone last year. It has been said that she resembles 1998 Phoenix Graduate **Sara Topham** who last appeared in *Maupassant! Maupassant!*. Favorite Phoenix roles include Ariel in *The Tempest*, Artie in *Eleemosynary*, Primrose the Poodle in *Orpheus in the Underworld* and Jane in *Fallen Angels*; for Pacific Opera, The Muse in *The Italian Girl in Algiers* and for the Shakespeare Festival, Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*. As Choreographer; *Hello Dolly*, *Me and My Girl* and *Pyjama Game* for the Oak Bay Community Theatre

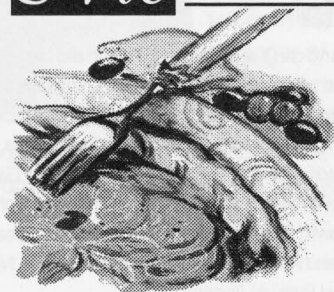
Society, also *Cinderella* and *Dark of the Moon* at Glenlyon-Norfolk School and *Having A Ball* here at The Phoenix. Next: Queen Victoria on the Parliament Buildings lawn. Heads will roll all summer! Farewell Phoenix!

Production *Team*

Production Manager	Sister Mary Callmeeting Bert Timmermans
Technical Director	Sister Mary Elexhang Steve Vrooman
Assistant Stage Manager	Sister Mary Dysfunctional Robina Cook
Technician Lights & Sound Board Operator	Sister Mary I.A.T.S.E. Mike DiMambro
Follow Spot Operator	Sister Mary Myopia Karen Goddard
Head of Scenic Construction	Sister Mary Goodhammer Charles Procure
Scenic Carpentry Crew	The Brothers of the Miraculous Staplegun Andrew Tugwell, Fred Jamin, Lance Woolard, Nicola Schicchi, Justin Boarder, Aaron Thom
Scenic Painter	Sister Mary Designerata David Owen Lucas
Scenic Paint Crew	The Order of Odorata Jeff Henry, Kathryn Jamin, Erin Macklem
Head of Wardrobe/Cutter	Sister Mary Stitchintime Karla D. Stout
Theatre Manager	Sister Mary Paperwork Bindon Kinghorn
Asst. Theatre Manager	Sister Mary of Immaculate Subscription Sandra Guerreiro
Communications/Program	Sister Mary Propaganda Marnie Crowe
Photography	Sister Mary Camerata Don Pierce
Front of House Manager	Sister Mary Concession Catherine Anderson
Box Office Assistant	Sister Mary Phoneorder Kimberly Pinel
The Good Sisters of Latecomers (Ushers)	Jackie Adamthwaite, Jennifer Ault, Fred Jamin, Kathryn Jamin, Shendah Sebel
Opening Night Reception	Sister Mary Cheesestick Catherine Anderson
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