



Market Hall News

Volume 1

Number 3

Fall 1998

Brad Chat

BY BRAD FORWELL
General Manager of Market Hall

COME FEEL THE DIFFERENCE!

Let me begin by personally welcoming our two latest additions to the MARKET HALL Management Team, Mary Helen Moes - Program Development and Andrew Rome - Facility Manager. Both have already proven to be a valuable resource to our organization and I look forward to working with them.

Without an aggressive marketing and sales campaign in place, many great opportunities have already been created for MARKET HALL. The calendar has been filling with a diverse selection of performances and events including some great fundraisers.

One event to definitely mark on your calendar is the CORNERSTONE CELEBRATION on Friday, September 25th starting at 4 p.m. We are planning a re-enactment of the same event of some 109 years ago, followed by speeches and a lot of local entertainment throughout the evening.

To ensure that we continue to have solid bookings throughout the year, we have been carefully redefining and understanding our facility and its niche in the marketplace and have developed a marketing strategy that we will begin implementing this month. As a result of this exercise, our primary focus has been the facility. We have spent a considerable amount of time and energy improving the aesthetics of the space as well as the level of comfort we offer our clients and patrons.

(cont'd on p3)

PETERBOROUGH FRINGE FESTIVAL RETURNS TO THE MARKET HALL

For those of you theatre lovers who missed last year's FRINGE FESTIVAL set aside some time the week of September 9-14 to immerse yourself in some cutting edge performances. The FRINGE offers a wide variety of shows from family entertainment to thought provoking adult drama. It allows a real opportunity for fledgling writers and actors as well as accomplished old hands a chance to strut their stuff. Last years FRINGE contained some wonderful moments of humour and pathos and this year's line up looks even better. Following are excerpts from the FRINGE press release:

The FRINGE Phenomenon

The FRINGE is a festival phenomenon with a 50 year history that has taken the world by storm. This is an artist-driven event (all ticket sales go directly to the artists; more than half of the 15 shows are original pieces) where theatre artists are free to explore and take any risks they want to provide some of the most exciting, innovative, and entertaining theatre anywhere.

This year's lineup includes comedy, drama, improv, and dance. Over the four nights and some noons, 15 shows will be put on in the three main downtown venues: Gordon Best Theatre, Peterborough Public Library, and Market Hall; a special slate of shows for young family audiences is scheduled for Sept 12 and 13 afternoons at a fourth venue, Boomerangs.

How to Fringe

A Fringe button (\$3) is required for entry to all venues. Buttons are available at all venues during the festival. You'll receive a program with the button which includes a map, show schedule, and information about the shows and artists.

Show admission is set by the artists (to a maximum of \$5) with all monies going to them. We have, however, made arrangements with them for a Fringer pass: 5 shows for \$20. These passes are available at all venues during the festival. They will also be available from August 21st at our ticket outlets: Moondance and The Wine Factory, both on George St.

For more info and a listing of the shows visit the FRINGE's excellent website at www.geocities.com/Broadway/9599/ptbofringe.htm ~MHN

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MARKET HALL COMING EVENTS

More Than Just Another Venue It's the Hall With a Heart!

Treasure Island

Set Sail on the Hispaniola for Treasure Island in November

After the resounding success of Robin Hood, produced last spring, Friends of Market Hall will present Treasure Island by Joseph George Caruso, from the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson and directed by Jane Werger.

This theatrical delight will be held at Market Hall on Nov. 26, 27, 28, at 7:00 p.m. with a 2:00 matinee on Nov. 28, as well. It's sure to please children and the young-at-heart with its swash-buckling charm. Mark your calendar today and don't miss young Jim Hawkins' adventure with the likes of Capt. Billy Bones and Long John Silver.

Tickets will be available in late October. General admission is \$5. (Tickets for groups of 6 or more children are \$4 each.) The cast will be available after the show for pictures with children celebrating their birthdays and will lead the audience in wishing them Happy Birthday.

~Jane Werger

Folk under the clock

A Market Hall mainstay announces this season's lineup

The Tannahill Weavers (From Scotland)
Tuesday, October 6th. @ 8pm

For over 20 years The Tannahill Weavers, one of Scotland's premier traditional bands have turned their acoustic excitement loose on audiences with an electric effect. Named for the town of Paisley's historic weaving industry and local poet laureate Robert Tannahill, the band became the first professional Scottish folk group to add the highland bagpipes to on stage presentations. Get your tickets early for this legendary Scottish band.

Market Hall Playbill

PETERBOROUGH FRINGE '98

Wed - Fri Shows starting at 6:30
Sat. at 1:00 **September 9-12**

Kawartha Jazz Society

Gary Bartz & Peter Lynch
Tickets \$16 in advance
7.30 **September 20**

Market Hall presents
Cornerstone Celebration
4:00 - ? **September 25**

Beach Party Youth Dance
Beach Waves
September 26

Peterborough Writers
Susan Musgrave
Live Music by Old Pussy
Tickets \$7 **October 1**

An Evening With
Al Purdy
With Live Funky Music
Tickets \$7 **October 2**

Beach Party Youth Dance
Beach Waves
October 3

Folk Under the Clock
Tannahill Weavers
Tickets \$16 advance \$18 door
8:00 pm **October 6**

Folk continued

Stephen Fearing
Saturday, October 24th. @ 8pm

Four critically acclaimed records and four JUNO nominations ... the glowing reviews from his concerts..... all add up to a truly stunning singer-songwriter, guitarist who has really found his stride. His songwriting draws from many musical influences and it's not hard to fathom why Stephen Fearing has established himself as one of Canada's most important singer/songwriters. Opening this concert is a set from Ottawa guitarist ALEX HOUGHTON

Jez Lowe (From England)
Friday, November 13th. @ 8pm

A rare visit and treat from across the pond. The best songwriter to come out of England in a long time. Jez has the ultimate songwriter's gift of bringing his characters and scenes to vivid life. Expect a night of incredible songs with that delightful Geordie accent shining throughout. **Coming December 12th ~ Colin Linden With Richard Bell.** More on this concert in the December Newsletter

For your pleasure, convenience and to save a few bucks a 1998 AUTUMN SEASON PASS is available for \$60 for all Four concerts !! Students only \$50 !! **ONLY UNTIL OCTOBER 6th.** Regular tickets are \$16 advance, \$ 18 door Tickets are available again at MOONDANCE (425 George St North), MUSIC WORLD (Lansdowne Mall) and TITLES CHILDREN'S BOOKSTORE (182 Charlotte St.). Out of town fans can order tickets by email : barkermojo@ptbo.igs.net or by calling or fax at (705) 743 3372 - Info as always from Mike Barker. Also check out t www.quidnovis.com our official and folksy website~MHN

Volunteers are our Backbone

JOIN ONE OF OUR WORKING COMMITTEES

CITY BID UPDATE

The city is making progress in its consideration to assume control of the Market Hall. After some preliminary discussions with the Halls's current owners, an official inspection tour of the facility was undertaken by: Mayor Sutherland; Peterborough's Chief Building Inspector, Jeff Chalmers; City Solicitor, John Hart; as well as members of PACAC the city's heritage building organization and others.

The next phase will consist of determining the potential costs of the renovations to the building and whether the funding for such improvements is feasible. If the city should then decide that a realistic proposal can be brought forward at that time, negotiations with the Hall's current owners will begin in earnest. ~MHN

BRAD CHAT, continued

To date we have: 1) renovated and painted the Charlotte Street entrance and the south east tower stairwell, 2) reclaimed valuable storage space on the 3rd floor, 3) secured and rehung the house lighting system, 4) repaired the house audio system, 5) scrubbed and polished the floor and 6) disassembled the stage and returned it to a more multi-use component of our facility. The next phase of our efforts will be one of education, delivering our message throughout the Kawarthas and beyond.

We always welcome your feedback, so if you have any questions, insights or would like to volunteer for any events please contact the office at 749 - 1146. We hope to see or hear from you soon.

~Brad Forwell

Market Hall Playbill

Selwyn Outreach Centre **SoulShaker in concert**

8:00 pm **October 16**

Beach Party Youth Dance *Beach Waves*

October 17

Folk Under the Clock **Stephen Fearing**

Tickets \$16 advance \$18 door
8:00 pm **October 24**

Folk Under the Clock **Jeze Lowe**

Tickets \$16 advance \$18 door
8:00 pm **November 13**

Youth Dance More info TBA

November 14

Peterborough New Dance **Dogs In Space**

From Toronto. Don't miss this one!
8:00 P.M. further info 745-1788
November 19-21

Friends of Market Hall **Treasure Island**

Tickets \$5 Sat. matinee 2:00pm
7:00 pm **November 26-28**

Charlie's Corner a Message from our President

It was a year ago that we began our efforts to preserve the versatile and historic Market Hall as a venue for the performing arts and cultural activities in the Peterborough community. We were a small group, but as Friends of Market Hall grew and The Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, Inc. developed, a wealth of amazing people shared in the process. I am astounded at how much has been put into a year in support of Market Hall. Against tough odds Market Hall is operating, receiving improvements regularly, and is revealing more of its great potential and importance.

I think we can be amazed and surprised even more in the future than we have been in the last seven months of operation. This coming year is crucial for Market Hall. We've had dedicated help to bring us here, but now we have to press forward. Of course, money is needed. Winter means huge cost until someday insulating can get done. And so we cannot let up. More than ever we need volunteers, admirers, monetary donations, lovers, visionaries, practical thinkers, labourers, materials, sponsors, members, performers, audiences, and friends. We are young and growing, and with everyone's touch we can flourish.

Encourage everyone to step inside the doors of Market Hall! Share and enjoy what's here at the centre of Peterborough. Call and voice your interest and get others to do the same.

Someone said that "this place breathes." Yes, there is a kind of soul to Market Hall and its nourishment is important. ~ Charlie Werger

This Fall watch for our
Up the Back Stairs Sale
a sale of new-to-you vintage
clothing and props at Market Hall

MARKET HALL MEMORIES ~ Badminton Anyone?

If you have a memory of a particular event in the hall that you would like to share, please send it to the address in the News Box. Many thanks to Lionel Ownsworth and Jim Pritchard for their memories this time.

As you may, or may not know, Market Hall was for many years the home of the Peterborough Badminton Club. Taking up residence in Market Hall in the late 1940's, it was the Hall's sole occupant until the purchase of the Hall in the early 1970's by Marathon Realty. Entrance to the Badminton club was off a Water Street parking lot up two large, curving stairways now gone. Until the 1960's, when electric heat was installed, the winter months found these stairways stacked with firewood on one side. The wood, donated by the city's public works tree trimming program, was used to fire the three large wood stoves which heated the Hall.

Badminton was played on four courts laid out east-west across the Hall. A busy schedule saw the courts in use throughout the week with adults of various levels playing on weekdays, and Friday nights and Saturdays being reserved for the Junior Club. The Juniors under the coaching of Burt Bowen and John Rose, produced many excellent players with several girls going on to play for the Canadian National Junior Team. Romance even blossomed on the courts, as one senior I questioned about her memories of it, told me she had met her first husband through the club!

The club moved to the Armories when the Hall became a part of Peterborough Square and now resides at Trent (Monday nights) and Crestwood S.S. (Wednesdays). For more information or to join up contact president Harold Briggs at 742-2746, or attend their open house at Trent's Gym on Monday Sept. 18th at 8pm ~MHN

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for all our working (and I do mean working) committees: marketing, publicity, fund raising, properties and yes, even the volunteer committee.

We are especially in need of a very capable and handy person to take over as Chair of our Properties Committee. Terry Ethridge is passing on the torch as our properties head. Terry has been an incredible asset to Market Hall. He will be missed by all involved with the space. If you would like to become a Friend of Market Hall, send in the form below. If you would like to become a volunteer, please call Market Hall at (705) 749-1146

~MHN

Market Hall News

Rob Steinman - Editor

Submissions can be made to:

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(705) 749-1146

or by email to - robstein@ptbo.igs.net

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Friends of Market Hall ~ MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I want to join the Friends of Market Hall! Sign me up for 1998-1999 membership year!

Membership/ Newsletter~ \$10 a year

Friend of Market Hall~ \$25 a year

Companion of Market Hall~ \$50 a year

Compatriot of Market Hall~ \$100 and up Fill in amount _____

(Friend, Companion and Compatriot will receive a Tax Receipt for their donation less the \$10 Membership Fee)

Mr. Mrs. Ms.(circle one) _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____

Please cheque one New Member or Renewal

send form to: Friends of Market Hall ~ 168 Douro Street, Peterborough ON ~ K9H 1H6