



# Market Hall News

Volume III

Number 1

Winter 1999

## Market Hall Young Players Premier With 'Touched by an Anvil'

The Market Hall Young Players (MHYPC) are a group of thirteen young actors working in Market Hall on a six month HRDC grant to create original works for not-for-profit community groups for educational and fundraising purposes. The artistic director for the project is Toronto's Colin Taylor, (the 1993 winner of the John Hirsh award for most promising director). The group recently produced its first show, *Touched by an Anvil*, about domestic violence for the John Howard Society. MHN recently interviewed Colin about the piece and what lies ahead for the MHYPC. Here are a few brief excerpts.

**MHN:** You were working to develop a play from scratch for the John Howard Society. What was the starting point for creating this piece?

**Colin:** The theme of the show was specifically to be about domestic violence and even more specifically about male abuse against women and children.... This was beyond the life experience of most of the company, the complexity of marriage and so on.... but everybody in the company has the experience of violence, both being perpetrators and also recipients.

So we started with what I call internal research which is before we started dealing with the John Howard model and all that. We started by dealing with the issue as it relates to us, and insisting as much as possible on honesty. Rules of conduct were set up to allow that honest expression to take place, without judgment.

I am immensely proud of this group because they took huge personal risks.

**MHN:** Because one of the interesting things about this project is the collaborative writing could you talk about your approach to that process?

**Colin:** Well, basically, you have twelve or thirteen people trying to function as an author so we had to have profound common ground to start from.

So the process for all our shows is to start with honest dialogue. From there, once we developed the terrain, then I had people pick character types that they're interested in .....then there was a whole battery of exercises and approaches to get people to commit to one of the hardest things in life, which is to put pen to paper and write something creative.....the fact that you couldn't be mocked for what you wrote....couldn't make a creative mistake because that's a contradiction in terms helps....Then sharing their scenes through readings and talking through what was presented without judging... someone else over here who was nursing an idea makes a connection to what that person was talking about and that's how you build it.

**MHN:** One particular image in the show, that of the patriarch who sat in the raised, black armchair like a throne and stared at the audience throughout the entire first act when not involved with dialogue, I found an extremely powerful visualization of that quiet anger which erupts without warning.

**Colin:** I was kind of concerned that might have been a slightly abstract symbol.... You know after a while you

can't see clearly when you're directing something....The chair was used to transmute into all kinds of things (the electric chair etc.), but the idea of being stuck in your rage, like being clamped into a chair with this beast inside of yourself, was very important. I'm not sure given the time we had to work on the piece we played out that symbolism as far as we could, but hopefully there was enough there for people to get the idea.

Coming up for the MHYPC:

Tenement Rhapsodies (youth poverty and hopelessness/ globalization and economic displacement) Peterborough Social Planning Council- February 10, 7:30 p.m. Tickets (\$12) and info call 743-5915

Meet Me at the Market Hall (a celebration of the Hall / the essentiality of houses of culture to a healthy society) Mayor's Committee to Save Market Hall- Features several guest appearances by notable Peterborians.

February 20th 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.- Feb. 21st 7:30 p.m. ~

Tickets \$ 6 adults and \$4 children For tickets and info call 749-1146

Title T.B.A. (Redistribution of wealth)

Kawartha World Issues Centre- First week of March

For tickets and info call 748-1680

This is an energetic group with abundant talent under the tutelage of a talented director. They have demonstrated with their first offering the promise of creating some really moving exciting evenings of theatre, get out and support this project !!

# MARKET HALL COMING EVENTS

## Lots to Do And See This Winter In The Hall!

### **Chris McKhool's Woodwind Wizardry** Closes Milltronics Children's Series ~ January 23rd

1996 ENVIRONMENT CANADA ACTION  
AWARD FINALIST  
1996 PARENT'S CHOICE AUDIO  
APPROVAL

Acclaimed as the "eco-troubadour for the new millennium", Chris McKhool is part musical performer, part environmentalist and 100% fun! Featuring original songs from his appearances on Mr. Dressup, YTV, TV Ontario and the CBC, Chris' concerts are fully interactive, involving the kids' in singing and talking about the environment.

Chris creates a multicultural mosaic from a variety of styles (folk, pop, worldbeat and rap) and instruments (violin, guitar and percussion). Chris teams up with woodwind virtuoso Doug Banwell, to bring flutes, saxophone, piccolo, clarinet, pennywhistle and keyboards into his popular eco-show. Doug provides an overview of each of the instruments

Chris takes the audience beyond the three R's of ecology (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) to a new level of understanding of our relationship with the environment. Everyone leaves knowing that they really can make a difference.

Woodwind Wizardry comes to Market Hall on January 23 Single Tickets are available @ \$10 at Titles Bookstore or by calling Market Hall 749-1146.

### Market Hall Playbill

*The Milltronics Children's Series  
Presents*

**Woodwind Wizardry  
With Chris McKhool**  
2:00pm January 23

*Folk Under the Clock*  
**Garnet Rogers**

Tickets \$16 advance & \$18 door  
8:00 pm January 29

*Market Hall Presents*  
**The Ground Hog Concert**

Tickets \$6  
8:00 pm February 3

*Peterborough Social Planning  
Council Presents:*

Market Hall Young Players  
**Tenement Rhapsodies**  
Tickets \$12 advance & door  
phone 743-5915 for info  
7:30 pm February 10

*Otonabee Conservation Society*

**Silent Art Auction**  
February 12

### **Folk** under the clock

Garnet Rogers

Saturday, January 29th, 2000 - 8 p.m.  
Garnet Rogers' smooth baritone voice will embrace the year 2000 in the Market Hall. His latest recording, his eighth, is Sparrow's Wing (1999) on his own Snow Goose Song label.

The Atlantic provinces figure prominently on several songs on the new recording. Since his work with his late brother Stan, Garnet has become one of the major folk artists, and tours constantly across North America, racking up kilometers on his Volvo.

Jez Lowe

Saturday, February 19, 2000 -  
8 p.m.

As a "live" performer Lowe is one of the busiest people on the British acoustic music circuit, has toured all over Europe and most successfully, North America and Australia. It is as a songwriter that Jez Lowe has found most acclaim. His songs of Northern England are among the most widely sung on the the British scene, and have been covered by artists as far away as California and Australia.

**Karen Savoca with Peter Heitzman**  
Friday, March 10, 2000 8pm.m

The duo's live performances are uplifting and hypnotic, more funk than folk. At the Vancouver Folk Festival '99, as the Sunday sun was setting, half of the 20 thousand in attendance responded to the no-dancing orders of the security crew by taking off their shoes and waving them over their heads.

Tickets to all shows are \$16 advanced and \$18 at the door, tickets are available at Moondance and Titles Bookstore. Or order by e-mail (barkermoj@ptbo.igs.net) or Call Folk under the Clock Info line (705) 743-3372

~MHN

**The Market Hall New  
Year's Gala 2000 was a  
smashing success.  
Thanks to all who  
prepared and took part!**

# GIVE TO SAVE THE MARKET HALL

**FUNDRAISER IN FULL SWING FOR RETURNING HALL  
TO PUBLIC OWNERSHIP! Phone 745-3156**

## Charlie's Corner

**a Message from our President ~  
by Charlie Werger**

I am so impressed with the all the intense activity that has been taking place at Market Hall in the past three months. There have been times when three activities were going on at the same time and there was just no space available!

Creativity abounds in classes, rehearsals, performances and meetings.

Our vision for Market Hall is being realized. It is very gratifying to have this wonderful historic space so well used. January is a bit quieter, but the calendar shows activity picking up again in the latter part of the month.

Of course, effective use of the Hall isn't possible without lots of work and effort by volunteers. I'd like to thank Steve Dolmar for his help in moving the curtain at the back of the stage. With his help, more backstage space was created. This will be particularly helpful for theatrical productions and was necessary for the storage of our tiered seating during the New Year's Eve Gala. Steve worked for two days on this project and has helped in many other ways with clean-up and improvements.

Catherine Chan, a co-op student from Adam Scott, has helped immensely with her artistic eye, sewing skills, and willingness in assisting Andy on a regular part-time basis.

Larry Webster answered the phone and took care of numerous tasks in December. When we desperately needed someone in the office, Larry was there. (continued at bottom of next column)

## Market Hall Playbill

*Peterborough New Dance Presents:*  
**Moonhorse Dance Theatre's  
Three Women**

8:00pm **February 17 & 18**  
For Ticket Info Call 745-1788

*Folk Under the Clock*  
**Jez Lowe**

Tickets \$16 advance & \$18 door  
8:00 pm **February 19**

*Mayor's Committee to Save Market  
Hall presents Market Young Players in*  
**Meet Me at the  
Market Hall**

Tickets \$ 6 adults/ \$4 children  
2:00 & 7:00 p.m **February 20**  
7:30 p.m. **February 21**  
For tickets and info call 749-1146

*Mysterious Ently Theatre  
presents: True West*

by Sam Shepherd  
Tickets \$10 or pay what you can  
8:00 pm **Feb. 29 - Mar. 4**  
For Info Call 745-5460

*Folk Under the Clock*  
**Karen Savoca with Peter  
Heitzman**

Tickets \$16 advance & \$18 door  
8:00 pm **March 10**

*Folk Under the Clock*  
**Brooks Williams**

Tickets \$16 advance & \$18 door  
8:00 pm **April 15**

## TRUE WEST COMING IN FEBRUARY

Mysterious Entity Theatre presents Sam Shepherd's *True West* directed by Emily Glasspool. Shepherd's dynamic 1980 script explores the volatile relationship between two very different brothers, played by 4th Line veterans Matt Gilbert and Jim Gleason, with featured performances by Brad Brackenridge and June Whiteman. *True West* opens at the Market Hall Tuesday February 29th at 8:00 p.m. and runs nightly through Saturday, March 4th. Tickets are \$10 or pay what you can. For information call Martha Cockshut at 745-5460.

(This is perhaps Shepherd's most approachable script, hilarious one minute, darkly threatening the next, an emotional roller coaster by one of America's best living playwrights. Add to that what sounds like a very strong local cast and it should be a highlight of the winter theatre season. Don't miss this one-ed.)

## Charlie's Corner Continued

The New Year's Eve Gala committee put in "tons" of hours (beginning last June). Jane Werger, Elaine Webster, Rob Steinman, June Whiteman, and Joan Punshon were responsible for such a wonderful evening. Special thanks to Joan for her vision and creation of all the decorations and to her husband John for following her instructions. And thanks to Andy Rome for his work that special night.

We are approaching the end of our second full year of operation. Thank you for your support and interest and concern for Market Hall Performing Arts Centre. If you have any ideas for our future, give me a call. We're moving on!

Charlie Werger

## FRIENDS OF MARKET HALL MEMBERSHIP

The Friends of Market Hall organization, formed in 1997 to support and preserve this unique venue in downtown Peterborough, is more important now than ever before. My name is Diane Creeden and I have taken on the job of membership convener. In this newsletter, I will be in touch with several whose membership of one year is due for renewal.

The volunteer work and financial support of Friends of Market Hall has been an important factor in keeping this performance centre viable over the last two years. The Centre continues to be an attractive location for a wide variety of performance, educational and informational programs. People have responded to a clean, warm, friendly, versatile place run by confident, enthusiastic people. As the City of Peterborough "Save the Market Hall" renovation campaign goes into high gear in the new year, they will be inspired by us as solid potential tenants when they assume ownership. Mutual goodwill can only be beneficial.

Please continue your financial and working support of FRIENDS OF MARKET HALL at this critical time. As well, please spread the word that new members are always welcome. A \$10 membership fee will provide you with our quarterly newsletter and voting privileges at our annual general meeting in September. An amount of \$25 makes you a Friend, \$50 a Companion, \$100 and up, a Compatriot. Donations over \$25 ensure a tax receipt sent out quarterly. For further information, call Diane Creeden at 742-9625

Don't Miss Our Third Annual Fundraising:

# Groundhog Folk Concert

Featuring the best of the local folk scene.  
**Thursday, February 3rd**  
**Tickets \$6 at the Door**

## Market Hall News

Rob Steinman -Editor  
 Submissions can be made to:  
 Market Hall News ~ P.O. Box 282,  
 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 6Y8  
 (705) 749-1146

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### Friends of Market Hall ~ MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Yes, I want to join the Friends of Market Hall! Sign me up for a one year membership!**

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)

Mr. Mrs. Ms.(circle one) \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one    New Member        or    Renewal   

send form to: Friends of Market Hall ~ c/o Diane Creeden RR#8, Peterborough ON ~ K9J 6X9  
 If you are already a Friend of Market Hall please pass this form on to a friend