



**KANATA
THEATRE**

Tom Stoppard's Comedy Twin Bill

**THE REAL
INSPECTOR
HOUND**

**& AFTER
MAGRITTE**

EARL OF MARCH SCHOOL

**THURS. FRI. & SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 7 & 8**

8.00_{pm}

**TICKETS \$2 ; SEASON \$6
Students, senior citizens \$1**

INFORMATION ... CALL 592:4609



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Now, HUM IT OUT!



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Tom Stoppard's Comedy Twin Bill

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND & AFTER MAGRITTE

seventh **season**
1975 — **1976**

PROGRAMME NOTES

Tom Stoppard is one of the leading contemporary British playwrights. His most recent plays, "Jumpers" and "Travesties", have been major successes, but he is still best known for "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead", a play in the tradition of the absurd, first produced in 1967, in which two main characters from Hamlet are shown as having no existence outside Shakespeare's play. Tonight's plays are the first stage productions in the Ottawa area of any of Tom Stoppard's works.

KANATA THEATRE — SEVENTH SEASON

After Magritte and The Real Inspector Hound, two fiendishly clever comedies by leading British playwright Tom Stoppard in their Ottawa area premiere.
November 6, 7 and 8, 1975.

The Love of Four Colonels, Peter Ustinov's comedy of men, their fantasies, and their differing perceptions of love.
January 16, 16 and 17, 1976.

Antigone, a modern treatment of the Sophocles' tragedy of tyranny and resistance; produced in German occupied Paris in 1942 it confirmed Jean Anouilh as a master of the modern French theatre. Love's the Best Doctor, a short satirical comedy, typical of Moliere ... a mere impromptu.
March 18, 19 and 20, 1976.

Move Over Mrs. Markham, by Ray Cooney and John Chapman, an unabashed farce, replete with errant wives, returning husbands, mistaken identities, frantic reconcocting of plans gone awry, and, of course, girls.
May 13, 14 and 15, 1976.

Our next production — "Cinderella" — a play for children.
December 13 and 14, 1975.

REVIEW 23-10-75



Liane Freedman and Brooke Keneford of Kanata Theatre in rehearsal for After Magritte. This play is the first half of a comedy double bill by Tom Stoppard. The other play is The Real Inspector Hound. The rest of the cast is Rosemarie Lawless, Barrie Kirk, Stephen Jones, Peter Jefferson, Anne Holland, John Gilliland, Ann and Maurice Dubras and Marg Anthony. These plays will be presented at the Earl of March on 6, 7 & 8 November at 8.00 p.m., and tickets can be obtained on the Mall between 10.00 and 3.00 on Saturday November 1st. For more information please phone 592-4609.



Comedy twin bill

Kanata Theatre Group is presenting two comedies by Tom Stoppard as its first production of the new season. After Magritte and The Real Inspector Hound will be produced from Nov. 6 to 8 at 8 p.m. at the Earl of March High School. Directed by Jim Holmes, the casts for the plays include Brooke Keneford, left, and John Gilliland as well as Maurice Dubras, Anne Holland, Rosemarie Lawless, Marg Anthony, Peter Jefferson, Barrie Kirk, Stephen Jones, Ann Dubras and Liane Freedman. Both plays deal with the problem of human identity in the tradition of Theatre for the Absurd.

OTTAWA CITIZEN 1-11-75

KANATA STANDARD 24-10-75



Maurice Dubras and Brooke Keneford as Moon and Birdboot in rehearsal for The Real Inspector Hound. This play and After Magritte are the comedy twin bill by Tom Stoppard to be performed by Kanata Theatre at the Earl of March on November 6, 7 and 8. Curtain time is 8.00 p.m. For ticket information phone 592-4609.

(photo by Giselle Braeuel)



In rehearsal for *After Magritte* are (top to bottom) Marvle Dubras as Harris, Ann Dubras as Thelma, Liane Freedman as Mother and Brooke Keneford as Foot. This play and *The Real Inspector Hound* are the comedy twin bill by Tom Stoppard to be performed by Kanata Theatre at the Earl of March on November 5 & 6. Curtain time is 8:00 p.m. For ticket information phone 592-4609. (Photo by Giselle Braeuel).

Kanata Theatre

Kanata Theatre's productions of the two comedies, *After Magritte* and *The Real Inspector Hound* are the first stage productions in the Ottawa area of works by the successful British Playwright, Tom Stoppard.

Born in 1937, Tom Stoppard became prominent in 1967 with the British National Theatre Company's production of his *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, a play in the tradition of the Theatre of the Absurd, in which two minor characters from *Hamlet* are shown in retrospect in relation to the events in Shakespeare's play. Stoppard's message that human events only have meaning in relation to other human events is also the main theme of the two plays to be performed by Kanata Theatre.

In *The Real Inspector Hound* two drama critics have come to a theatre to review a play resembling an Agatha Christie mystery. At first the mystery unfolds conventionally and the line between audience and players is distinct. Eventually that line blurs and the play affirms the truth that in theatre, as in life, the audience and the players are all participants in one great comic event.

The characters in *After Magritte* have witnessed a seemingly preposterous set of events. How can there be any connection between the blind, one-legged football player seen hopping through the streets with a tortoise under his arm, and the macabre crimes intrepidly investigated by Police Inspector Foot of the Yard and his stalwart assistant?

The play moves quickly to a conclusion which is, at the same time, logical and absurd.

"*Hound*" has been called an object of pur virtuoso craft and display, as tiny, ludicrous and beautiful as an ivory Mickey

Mouse, nearly perfect in its kind. "Magritte" is theatre of surprise, and flamboyant surreal gestures held together by abounding and intricately concocted idiosyncrasies. Both plays will offer the Kanata audience a fresh and different type of theatre.

The productions are directed by Jim Holmes, and appearing in the casts are Marg Anthony, Ann and Maurice Dubras, Liane Freedman, John Gilliland, Anne Holland, Peter Jefferson, Stephen Jones, Brooke Keneford, Barrie Kirk and Rosemarie Lawless.

Tickets will be sold in the Mall on Saturday, November 1st, between the hours of 10 am and 3 pm. The price of a Season Ticket is \$6.00, tickets for individual plays are \$2.00 each or \$1.00 for Students and Senior Citizens.

Comedy double in Kanata

The Kanata Theatre Group will present a comedy double bill Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Earl of March High School.

The plays, *The Real Inspector Hound* and *After Magritte* were written by Tom Stoppard, one of the best known writers of the modern age.

Both plays will be directed by Jim Holmes and will star Maurice Dubras, Brooke Keneford, Anne Holland, Rosemarie Lawless, Marg Anthony, Peter Jefferson, Barrie Kirk, Stephen Jones, John Gilliland, Ann Dubras and Liane Freedman.

Hound has a comic connection with Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*. *Magritte* presents its humor along the lines of theatre of the absurd.

For ticket information telephone 592-4609.

The Citizen, Ottawa, Friday, November 7, 1975, Page 63

Kanata Theatre abandons convention

By Betty Swimmings
Assistant music and drama editor
Kanata Theatre departed from its usual safe, conventional programming to open its seventh season Thursday night with two zany comedies by British playwright Tom Stoppard, *After Magritte* and *The Real Inspector Hound*.

One-act plays with the reality of a trip through Wonderland, showed a refreshing sense of adventure. Although they were not perfect productions, they did have style, appeal and interesting and fitting sets designed by Philip Cople.

After Magritte, a short,

completely absurd work about a bizarre family being interrogated by a confused detective, is so light it seems pointless. It concerns events that happen to the family after they view an exhibition of paintings by Magritte at the Tate Gallery. In the end, the plot, like the surreal paintings, gains meaning.

The play is far from smooth. There are a number of forgotten lines that interrupt the flow of events. Inspector Foot, played by Brooke Keneford, fumbles his words so the timing and attention to dialogue needed to pull off the absurdity of the lines is lost on several occasions.

One of the work's bright spots is Maurice Dubras as Harris. He is solemn and stodgy and

speaks in a lovely, broad north country accent that makes even the most outrageous lines seem plausible. In *The Real Inspector Hound*, Mr. Dubras plays a dissatisfied drama critic, unhappy with his role as second string. He wishes his first-string colleague dead and is apprehensive about his future.

This time Mr. Dubras is affected a languid and pontificating air, and although the characterization was good it was difficult to hear his lines, mainly because of a drawing accent that was not helped by his stage position.

The Real Inspector Hound is a play within a play with two critics viewing a murder mystery that, finally, completely involves them.

The spoof on an Agatha Christie thriller includes all the familiar ingredients — a remote country manor house, a maid who knows all, revolver shots, a corpse and a mysterious stranger. It's a witty and amusing parody, especially in the critics' comments as they view the production and utter their half-formed critiques.

The cast has been well-chosen by director Jim Holmes and he has had more success with third play than with the first. It has a sense of ease that was missing in *Magritte*.

Brooke Keneford plays the critic Birdboot this time, and he appeared more comfortable in the role. His bluster and lechery were convincing and in character.

But it was Anne Hol-

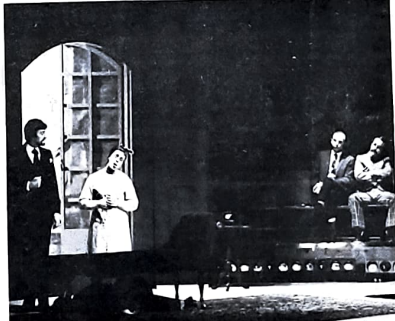
land as Mrs. Drudge who stole the scene. Her timing and delivery were right on and her portrayal was a comic caricature of the mystery-thriller maid.

The double bill was an interesting opening to the season and Kanata Theatre's production is a promising presentation of theatre of the absurd.

After Magritte and *The Real Inspector Hound* continue at Earl of March High School tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m.



Mother (Liane Freedman), Inspector Foot (Brooke Keneford), Harris (Maurice Dubras) and Thelma (Ann Dubras) in a scene from "After Magritte" recently performed by Kanata Theatre.



Simon Gascayne (Stephen Jones), and Mrs. Drudge (Anne Holland) are watched by the two critics Moon (Maurice Dubras) and Birdboot (Brooke Keneford). The body was eloquently played by John Gilliland. A scene from "The Real Inspector Hound" recently performed by Kanata Theatre.

Kanata Theatre announces casts for next two plays

Kanata Theatre has announced the casts for their next two productions. *Cinderella*, a play for children by Ruth Newton, will be presented on December 13 and 14. In the cast are Alanna Knight (in the title role) and Brenda Robinson, Lorna Price, Stan Williams, Jane Marlow, Sheri Knight, Robertson, Anne Hutchison, Linda Hanson, Diana Farjars, Peter Williams, Chris Tucker and Kathy McLeod. The co-directors are Rosemary Scott and Bob Knight.

The Love of Four Colonels, by Peter Ustinov, is directed by Brooke Keneford. This play is a romping comedy and an intellectual charade spiced with the brand of gentle satire of which Ustinov is a master. The four colonels are played by Bob Knight as the American, Laurence Thornton — French, Dewi Williams — English and Pat Carroll — Russian. The cast is completed by Bob Horsey, Ram Maslin, Mary Holmes and Gwen Knight as Beauty, the love of the four Colonels. The dates of this play are 15, 16 & 17 January.

Comedies well received

By Maxine Shedd

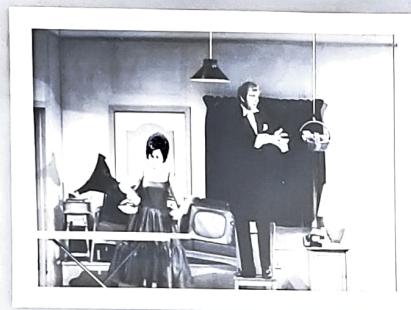
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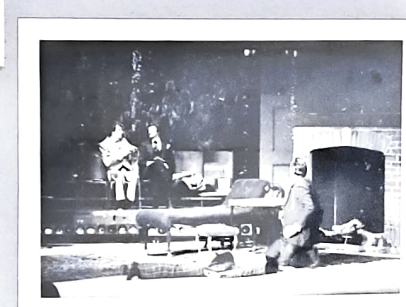
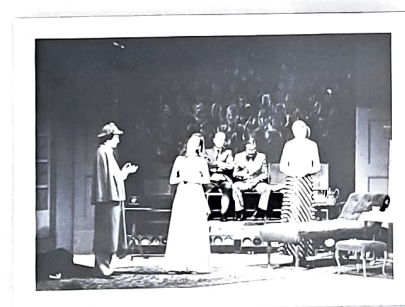
"*After Magritte*", the first presentation is a short absurd work about an odd family and what takes place in their home after they view an exhibition of paintings by Magritte at the Tate Gallery. Maurice and Ann Dubras were both competent in their roles. The comedy was fast paced and most entertaining. It takes the final scene to reveal the full meaning of the play.

"*The Real Inspector Hound*" was more involved, embracing a play within a play. Two critics

soliloquize between scenes of a murder mystery which eventually involves the two of them. The plot was rather complicated and dragged a little towards the middle. Moon played by Maurice Dubras was a dour individual, while his compatriot Birdboot played by Brooke Keneford was convincing in his lecherous characterization. But it was Anne Holland who provided much comic relief as the stodgy Mrs. Drudge; her portrayal was completely in character.

The double-bill production was well received by the first night audience and gives high promise of a successful season for the Kanata Theatre.





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"An incredibly literate, astute, lovely-to-look-at, charming and chilling movie that is guaranteed to open both your eyes and mouth in shocked disbelief. I want to warn that this film isn't for the faint-hearted, nor those given to blushing. A sparkler you won't forget for a long time." —Liz Smith, *Cosmopolitan*

"The perceptive eye that first brought Brigitte Bardot to screen fame, whose first three marriages were Bardot to Stroyberg to Fonda, has lost none of its skill. Roger Vadim has found

TONIGHT HELD
OVER
"THE STEPFOORD WIVES"
KATHARINE ROSS
6:00 — 9:20 P.M.
"EMMANUELLE"
In English
7:50 P.M.