

April 10  
1996

Kanata  
Theatre

City of  
Kanata

GALA  
OPENING



Ron Maslin Playhouse

1968-69  
RISE AND SHINE  
LADY KILLERS

1969-70  
HEAVEN ON EARTH  
PRESENT LAUGHTER  
THE REHEARSAL  
CINDERELLA  
THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

1970-71  
THE WALTZ OF THE TREADORS  
OUR TOWN  
THE CRUCIBLE  
JACK AND THE GIANT

1971-72  
RING ROUND THE MOON  
I REMEMBER MAMA  
HALFWAY UP THE TREE  
THE GOLDEN GOOSE  
A WITCH'S FIRST BIRTHDAY  
PUNCH AND JUDY

1972-73  
THE MOUSETRAP  
THE REMARKABLE MR. PENNYPACKER  
SEPARATE TABLES  
MY THREE ANGELS  
THE WAYWARD CLOCKS  
RUMPLESTILTSKIN  
PUNCH AND JUDY

1973-74  
BLITHE SPIRIT  
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST  
HUNTING STUART  
THE TUNNEL OF LOVE  
SNOW WHITE AND ROSE RED  
IGOR AND THE TIME MACHINE  
PINOCCHIO  
THE RELUCTANT DRAGON

1974-75  
DEAR CHARLES  
HEDDA GABLER  
A SHOT IN THE DARK  
LIFE WITH FATHER  
A CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE  
HANSEL AND GRETEL  
SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS



National Anthem

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Opening Remarks: Barrie Kirk

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Opening Remarks: Rick Baker

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Norm Sterling, MPP

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Ian Murray, MP

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Mayor Merle Nicholds

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Project Management Team

\*

Jane Maslin

\*

Dedication of the Playhouse by the Reverend Douglas Heard

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Unveiling of the City of Kanata Plaque

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Unveiling of the Federal/Provincial Infrastructure Program Plaque

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Passing of the Key

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Ribbon Cutting

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Closing Remarks: Barrie Kirk

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Reception

This project was funded by the Canada/Ontario Infrastructure Program,  
the City of Kanata, and Kanata Theatre.



1975-76  
THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND  
AFTER MAGRITTE  
LOVE OF FOUR COLONELS  
ANTIGONE; LOVE'S THE BEST DOCTOR  
MOVE OVER MRS. MARKHAM  
CINDERELLA

1976-77  
THE CHALK GARDEN  
LLOYD GEORGE KNEW MY FATHER  
ANGEL STREET  
YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU  
JACK AND THE GIANT  
MANY MOONS  
THE CLAM MADE A FACE  
WIZARD OF OZ

1977-78  
NOT NOW DARLING  
A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
MURDER ONCE REMOVED  
ARSENIC AND OLD LACE  
THE FATE OF THE RED DRAGON

1978-79  
ENTER A FREE MAN  
EVERYTHING IN THE GARDEN  
DIARY OF A SCOUNDREL  
HOW THE OTHER HALF LIVES  
ALICE IN WONDERLAND  
THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA

1979-80  
FORTY CARATS  
DANDY DICK  
THE COUNTRY GIRL  
TWO AND TWO MAKE SEX  
MOONCHILD  
THE POPCORN MAN  
PUNCH AND JUDY

1980-81  
BEDROOM FARCE  
HARVEY  
BOUSILLE AND THE JUST  
HABEAS CORPUS

## ENTERTAINMENT



—Pat McGrath, Citizen

**SPARK: Ron Maslin Playhouse, which opens Wednesday, has produced higher ticket sales and double the performances per show**

# New playhouse boosts Kanata Theatre

### **The Importance of Being Earnest**

Kanata Theatre

**Where:** Ron Maslin Playhouse, Walter  
Baker Park, Terry Fox Drive, Kanata

**When:** May 8-11 & 15-18; 8 p.m.

**Tickets:** \$12 (adults) \$6 (students and  
seniors). Phone 831-4435

want," says the group's publicist Annmarie Copple. Access to Earl of March High School, Kanata Theatre's home for 26 of its 28 years, was necessarily limited.

"We could only build the set or use the stage the weekend before a show," says Hollowell-Carew. "Everything had to be prepared at the last minute."

time was in 1974, when Ron Maslin, the longtime Kanata Theatre member after whom the playhouse is named, played the part of Jack.

"And Ronnie is in every corner of the theatre," said Hollowell-Carew.

A portrait of Maslin, who died in 1992, is in the foyer. The \$100,000 he



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## Editorial Page

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### This isn't just another opening

...and the show's about to start

It's built.  
The Ron Maslin Playhouse is up and is now a true work-in-progress. Kanata Theatre members are learning the ropes and the lighting intricacies of the new building; one solitary reconditioned plush midnight blue seat sits in the centre of the theatre waiting for its mates from an off-Broadway theatre in New York City; and boxes of sanded and stained arms are waiting, too, for the same shipment.

The building at Walter Baker Park is small (it only seats 350), intimate and spartan. There was only so much money; members had to go back to their wish lists and decide which was absolutely necessary and which they could do without. So that extra space for further expansion on the south side is pencilled-in on the plans but in the meantime the one changing/make-up room — while small — will do. Actors can use the large storage room upstairs as a back-up.

As the official opening draws closer, some items have been crossed off the wish-list while others have been added. Floor to ceiling windows at either end make the large front foyer too bright, almost intrusive. Wish-list item: vertical blinds for the windows.

The foyer floor is bare — clean and polished, but bare. Wish-list item: carpeting.

The large stage — much larger than the Earl of March stage where they've been performing for 25 years — adds a challenge for the directors but all is open to the audiences. There are no curtains. Wish-list item: stage curtains.

Now, anyone who has ever acted in a play or worked behind the scenes knows that pre-show feeling — anticipation overshadowed by anxiety. It's that remembered little frisson of thrill that keeps actors and stagehands coming back.

Every performance is exhilarating but despite all planning, the potential for mishap or the possibility of a never-to-be-forgotten performance is just a minute away. That's what hooks actors and audiences.

In May, after 27 years, the Kanata theatre group is facing that first thrill in their own home. The official ribbon-cutting gala is slated for mid-April with *The Importance of Being Earnest* hitting the boards just four weeks later.

If theatre is a part of our culture and who we are as Canadians, then Kanata has a firm grip on reality.

Break a leg.

NOTE TO KNOW: where to send its patrol officers. TAG OF TAX: A priority list of ongoing traffic problems. Please.

**Invest in high-tech and receive a 40% tax credit**

Some Kourier-Standard's Monday-Sun through Feb. Susan Woodford photo

<http://www.kuoi.se/%7Egriffin/>

reaching

C10 The Ottawa Citizen, Friday, January 19, 1996

## ENTERTAINMENT

### THEATRE REVIEW

## Without menace of misused power, Kanata's Miss Brodie falls short of its prime

**The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**

Kanata Theatre  
When: Jan. 17-20, 8 p.m.  
Where: Earl of March Secondary School, The Parkview, Kanata  
Tickets: \$12; phone: 829-1138

By Iris Winston  
Ottawa correspondent

A charismatic teacher can be inspiring. She can bring books to life and make learning exciting. She can also be dangerous, particularly when she misunderstands the responsibility that charisma carries, blurring the

line between reality and fantasy.

Jean Brodie was such a teacher, a woman who boasted that if a girl came into her charge at an impressionable age, she was hers for life. In her adaptation of Muriel Spark's novel, playwright Jay Presson Allen portrays an

evil, manipulative, deluded woman. It is, therefore, essential to keep the danger of misused power front and centre if a production of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* is to succeed on all levels. Yet the Kanata Theatre production, which opened Wednesday, frequently pushes it to the background, emphasizing instead the romance and

charm of a teacher who was different.

It seems director Jim Holmes has succumbed to Miss Brodie's superficial charms and her clouded view of the world as a romance novel. The result is a gentle slow-moving tale about a teacher at an Edinburgh school in the 1930s. The production has the authentic look of a private school, but rarely communicates the darkness of the times, though Hitler, Mussolini and Franco are mentioned frequently. Neither does it spell out the future danger for girls encouraged to step outside the moral code of the day. On opening night, the drama inspired more laugh-

ter than concern from the audience.

Bev Brooks is effective in presenting Jean Brodie as a charismatic teacher, but less clear in demonstrating the reason for her power. Yet her explosive handling of a key confrontation with school principal Miss MacKay (Margaret Anthony-Lepage) shows the potential is there. Like the Cavaliers and Roundheads of the English Civil War, the battle lines are drawn between the "wrong but romantic" Brodie and the "right but repulsive" MacKay and the play springs to life.

But the electric charge is cut short by frequent set changes, which slow the

already leisurely pace, and by a lack of chemistry between Brooks and Paul LaRose-Edwards as her erstwhile lover, art teacher Teddy Lloyd.

Anthony-Lepage maintains the steady control of the British headmistress. Erika Johnson, Amber Godfrey, Holly Merritt and Meghan Dickinson are believable as Miss Brodie's favored pupils, and David Lavoie has a suitably stolid look as her second lover.

But without a constant overlay of menace, the perspective is skewed to Miss Brodie's view of herself and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* loses much of its punch.

