

Dalhousie Theatre Department Productions  
presents

# TONIGHT WE IMPROVISE

by Luigi Pirandello

Translation by J. Douglas Campbell and Leonard G. Sbrocci

DIRECTOR	Patrick Christopher
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Kim Collins
SCENOGRAPHER	Graeme Morphy
COSTUMES*	Walter Doyle
LIGHTING	Bruce MacLennan/Ruth Leggett

## THE ACTING COMPANY Graduating Class (in alphabetical order)

STAGE MANAGER	Karen Bassett
DR. HINKFUSS	Mike Ferguson
NENE	Mary Fleur Hanlon
THE SECRETARY, NIGHTCLUB SINGER	Michelle MacDonald
TOTINA	Julia Moore
CHARACTER ACTRESS - SIGNORA IGNAZIA	Jean Morpurgo
DORINA	Danielle Pentland
LEADING ACTRESS - MOMMINA	Genevieve Steele
LEADING ACTOR - RICO VERRI	Jason Sweeney

## Second Year (in alphabetical order)

POMARICI	Stephen Calder
NARDI	Jason Charters
MANGINI	James Fowler
POMETTI	Neil Hicks
CHARACTER ACTOR - SAMPOGNETTA	Ryan Rogerson
SARELLI	Jeffery Simlett

IN THE AUDIENCE: Jonathan Church, Shannon Cunningham,  
Lisa Griffin, Amanda Parsons, Jennie Raymond,  
Kersti Tacreiter, Erika Vye, Patricia Zentilli

STAGE MANAGER	Judy Joe
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	Stephen Finney, Michael Hart
STUDENT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Michael R. Cowie
* 3rd Year Costumes Studies Student	

~ There will be one intermission ~  
Cameras and tape recorders are not permitted in the theatre.  
No smoking, please.

### Message from the Director

TONIGHT WE IMPROVISE. What is it about? It is about an onion or rather, it is layered like an onion and I hope that we have uncovered some of its mysteries. Like Dr. Hinkfuss, the director of this evening's entertainment, I have found myself questioning both the meaning of art and the magic of the living theatre. I hope you will also revel in the dilemma presented in this fascinating piece of work.

At the time of these notes I have been lucky enough not to have been expelled by the acting company and I am continually thankful that I have had the opportunity to work with the dedicated students of the Department of Theatre. As you will witness, this is a large show in all areas and the wonder is that while we have spent the last six weeks in intensive rehearsal these student actors are also busy with electives, graduation photos and the continuing challenge of determining how to enter, with a healthy and realistic attitude, this demanding profession.

I have great admiration for the graduating class and shall miss them enormously. I am deeply indebted to the stage management team on this show, especially Judy Joe, Michael and Stephen. I look forward to the wonderful possibilities ahead for the second year acting students, and I thank the assistant director, Kim Collins and the student assistant director, Michael Cowie, who has been a positive influence from the beginning.

We are delighted that you have come to experience this show with us and to conclude, let me share some T-shirt philosophy which seems particularly pertinent to this evening prepared by your director, Dr. Hinkfuss:

REALITY IS FOR THOSE WHO LACK IMAGINATION.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Show of Costume**  
Sir James Dunn Theatre  
April 13th at 8 pm  
Tickets \$15/\$10  
Arts Centre Box Office

**Little Shop of Horrors**  
Neptune Theatre  
April 16th - May 16th

## For this production

Prop Chief	Jamie Jordan
Prop Crew	Dylan MacDonald, Adam Pettle, Lisa Ross; Michael Hogan
Electrics Chief	Carolyn Adams
Electrics Crew	Nobu Adilman; Leigh McConnell
Lighting Board Operator	Ruth Leggett
Construction/Crew Chief	Leigh Ann Vardy
Construction Crew	Torin Buzek, Holly Robinson, Nick Woolsey; Kirsti Bruce, Susan MacKay, Gilbert Parker, Claire Smith, Allison Spearin
Sound/Electrics	Herb Theriault
Costumes by	Nancy Bell, Cathy Cochrane, Deborah Day, Tanis Delaney, Sylvie Griessen, Kelly Grant, Sarah Jenkins, Cynthia Mather, Renata McCarthy, Natasha Pothier, Jennifer Purcell, Cindy Russell, Amy Sampson, Elaine Sanford, Joanne Temchuk, Tanya White
Dressers	Danielle Boudreau, Carolyn Maybee, Patrick Vallee
House Manager	Shirley Warnell
Photographer	Kerry Doubleday
SPECIAL THANKS	Arts Centre Box Office; Bob Reinholdt; Jim Michieli; Dalhousie Printing Centre; George Brandys and Associates; Karl Knox & Physical Plant; Nova Scotia Tattoo; CBC; Neptune Theatre; Kathy Sadoway; Alain and Johanne Groven
Special Acknowledgement	Elizabeth Murphy

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Italian Studies.

## ANNOUNCING

DTDP's 1993-94 season of four productions will be chosen from the  
following, subject to change:

### **THE SUICIDE**, by Nicolai Erdman

Stalin's Russia: Semyon can't find a job and suicide seems as logical a  
solution to his problem as any other. But word gets out, the community  
wants input, and before he knows what happens his life is out of his  
hands...banned by Stalin in 1930, this provocative farce takes a swipe  
at all bureaucratic pretension: no one escapes!

### **THE ART OF SUCCESS**, by Nick Dear

A dark, satirical portrait of William Hogarth's England, and of the great  
artist himself, which contains disturbing tones of our own world.  
Through poverty, corruption of all kinds, censorship and coercion,  
Hogarth struggles to be a businesslike artist without losing his integrity.  
On the leading edge of the new wave of British playwrights, Nick Dear  
has received international acclaim for this fantastical collision of artistic,  
sexual and political bodies.

### **RUNAWAYS**, by Elizabeth Swados

Kids who run away from home often become invisible and voiceless,  
caught in a crippling cycle of emotional economic poverty. This  
musical, written by Swados in collaboration with homeless kids, gives  
their perspective on the city, and gives them a voice which is  
surprisingly wise about tragedy.

### **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**, by William Shakespeare

Courtship, that strange and palpitating ritual which occurs among faeries  
and mortals alike, often meets with impediments, but none so strange as  
those devised by William Shakespeare in his most popular and delightful  
comedy.

### **THE LOVE OF THE NIGHTINGALE**, by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Love has many faces which, sometimes incredibly, share the same  
name. Two sisters of ancient Greece are separated when the elder is  
placed in a political marriage a great distance away. Her husband is  
afflicted by Venus with a terrible obsessive love, and the sisters' bond is  
threatened by an ideological hostility more permanent than marriage,  
distance, or death itself. Timberlake Wertenbaker is the highly  
acclaimed author of OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD.

### **RED NOSES, BLACK PLAGUE**, by Peter Barnes

How would you react in the face of imminent death? In an all too  
familiar parable about a chaotic medieval world devastated by epidemic,  
Barnes suggests that laughter is the only remaining act of individual  
freedom. A rich, intelligent play that forces us to re-evaluate our own  
prejudices and yet never ceases to entertain.

### **JACQUES BREL IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN PARIS**,

adaptation by Eric Blau and Mort Shuman

The timeless review of Brel's music has captured the effectiveness of a  
whole new generation. A journey through all the stages of life with a  
haunting melody and biting lyrics, JACQUES BREL is a classic of the  
musical stage.

### **AN EVENING OF ONE-ACT PLAYS**, by Arthur Kopit