

PROVINCETOWN THEATRE CO.

Summer 1992

May 21 - June 7

*The Three of Cups* by Sinan Unel

Directed by Sinan Unel

The New England premiere of a bittersweet drama by the author of last summer's hit *Thalassa My Heart* comes to Provincetown from a New York run.

June 25 - July 12

*The Art of Dining* by Tina Howe

Directed by P. J. McKey

A comic gastronomic adventure that will tickle your funnybone and your taste buds, by the award-winning author of *Painting Churches*.

July 23 - August 9

*Crazed Teacups: a New Entertainment*

written, directed, & designed by

Edward Gorey

A collage of short pieces from the noir side of drawing-room comedy, by the Tony-Award-winning master of PBS's "Mystery."

August 20 - Sept. 6

*Melville Slept Here* by Norman R. Allen

Directed by P. J. McKey

An uncommon historic tour mixes New England legend and contemporary drama in this comedy by the author of *Here to Stay*. New from the Playwrights' Workshop.

Sept. 17 - Oct. 4

*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

by Edward Albee

Directed by David Matias

A legendary writer's greatest play: a surreal nightmare in academia, now in 3-D living color.

Shows 8 PM Thu-Sun (except as noted)  
in our waterfront theatre at the  
Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial Street  
Free Parking - All seats \$10 / \$12 opening

RESERVATIONS 508-487-3466

Provincetown Theatre Company



Opening Night \$12.00

Tickets: \$10.00

Curtain: 8 PM

*The  
Art  
of  
Dining*

A comedy by Tina Howe Directed by P. J. McKey

Thursday through Sunday  
June 25 - July 12

Reservations: 487-3466

The Provincetown Inn, One Commercial Street, Provincetown, Free Parking Available

## THE COMPANY

### **Terri Ellis** (Ellen)

A year round resident of Provincetown, Terri has performed in several productions on the Cape. Most recently she was seen at Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theatre in *Tales of the Lost Formicans*.

### **Rich McKey** (Cal)

Normally served with jeans and sneakers, Rich McKey is pleased to be augmented with a tuxedo and a large spoon for *The Art of Dining*. Raised on the Cape, Rich has wine and/or dined in productions of Pinter's *Birthday Party* at UMASS, Constance Congdon's *Tales of the Lost Formicans* at Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theatre, and William Masthosimones's *Shivaree* at ArtisTheatre in Orleans. Rich also performed in a number of productions at 4 C's in the mid-eighties, but he did not get to eat anything in those. Rich is a lousy waiter.

### **Marjorie Conn** (Hannah Galt)

This year on Cape Cod, Marjorie Conn got to stare at moldy green jello in *Tales of the Lost Formicans*; carry her dog in a mink muff in *Babes in Toyland*; drink wine in a country where the grape is grown in *Shirley Valentine*; smear herself in mud in *Our Country's Good*; put on a few pounds and learn to play the bugle to be a sexy stripper in *Gypsy*. She also has a radio show--Magic at Midnight--every Saturday at midnight on WOMR, 91.9 in Provincetown.

### **Mark Baker** (Paul Galt)

Mark has returned for his second season with PTC. Last seen in *The Three of Cups*, Mark was also seen in Sinan Unel's *Thalassa, My Heart*, Edward Gorey's *Flapping Ankles* and as Geoffrey in *The Lion in Winter*. With a B.A. in Theatre and History from Pomona College in L.A., Mark continued his training in the MFA program of The American Conservatory Theatre in S.F. As a year-rounder, he manages Harbor Hill Resort and serves as the President of the PTC Board of Directors. Mark appreciates his partner, Tom, and their dog, Cosmos, for their support of his creative efforts.

### **Wendy Lanxner** (Elizabeth Barrow Colt)

Wendy came to P-town last October but feels, in a good way, like she's been here forever. Both an actor and a musician, she has been lucky to find many performing opportunities here on the Cape, and she is very happy to be working with the Provincetown Theatre Company.

### **Ellen Mulrone** (Herrick Simmons)

An Orleans summer resident, Ellen has been coming to the Cape since she found her way here from Iowa during camp counselor days (and that's some time ago!) She has appeared in a broad range of roles in theatres in Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and Philadelphia and made her Cape debut at the Academy Playhouse in Orleans in *The Octet Bridge Club*. Ellen thanks P.J. for letting her do Herrick and dedicates the performance to Tom at Weight Watchers in Ardmore, PA.

### **Ellen Kane** (Nessa Vox)

Ellen is returning for her second season with PTC. She last appeared as Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and served as the Assistant Director and was also the voice of the mother in *The Lisbon Traviata*. Ellen has performed with the Vokes Players in Wayland, MA, the Boston College Drama Society and the Wellesley Players. Her stage roles have included Auntie Mame, Regan in *King Lear*, Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Sarah in *The Norman Conquests*. This fall she will be seen in Paramount Pictures "School Ties". Ellen summers in Chatham with her family.

### **Susan Culligan** (Tony Stassio)

Drama queen in real life, this is her first fictional play in which she plays a supporting role. Give her a cheer instead of a jeer! It may be her new career.

### **Stuard Derrick** (David Osslow)

Stuard has appeared in PTC productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Theseus & Oberon), *The Lisbon Traviata* (Mendy), *Beirut* (Guard) and *Not About Heroes* (Siegfried Sassoon). For his performance in *The Lisbon Traviata* he received an A.C.T.E. nomination for Best Actor of the 1990-91 Cape Cod Theatre season. Stuard's television appearances have included the PBS American Playhouse production of *André's Mother*, NBC'S *Law and Order* and several national and local commercials. This winter he made his feature film debut in "Thank You and Good Night". Born in Harrisburg, PA, Stuard studied Playwriting and English Literature at Columbia University and Acting at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He is very pleased to be spending his third season with PTC and behind the counter at the Now, Voyager Bookstore.

### **PJ McKey** (Director)

This is PJ's second production as a director with PTC. She recently directed last season's PTC production of *Damnée Manon*, *Sacréé Sandra* and *Tales of the Lost Formicans* at Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theatre. Other directing credits include Samuel Beckett's *Endgame*, Jean Anouilh's *Medea*, William Inge's *Bus Stop* and Michael Tremblay's *Albertine, in Five Times*. In addition to directing PJ had also designed for a number of productions including PTC's productions of *Not About Heroes*, *Here to Stay*, and *The Three of Cups*. She has completed course work for an MFA in Directing from UMASS Amherst and is on the board of directors of PTC. She has two wonderful children, a terrific husband, the world's biggest white cat and loves to eat barbecued spareribs and Hostess cream-filled cupcakes.

### **Céline Perron** (Designer)

A native of Montréal, guest designer Céline Perron has designed over 25 productions in Canada and the United States, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Measure for Measure*, *Orestes*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *American Buffalo*, and last year's PTC production of *Damnée Manon*, *Sacréé Sandra*. She holds an MFA in scenic design from UMASS Amherst and is currently an Assistant Professor at Keene State College in New Hampshire, where she functions as in-house designer. She also designs costumes, masks, and lighting for dance.

### **Chris Giaquinto** (Assistant to Ms. Perron)

Chris has had the good fortune to work with a brilliant set designer and visionary on this production. Merci, Merci Céline.

Billi-Bi  
Mussel Soup  
Serves 8-10

- 5 pounds mussels, washed and cleaned
- 1 clove garlic, crushed with skin on
- 1 medium onion, coarsely chopped (about 1/2 cup)
- 8-10 shallots, coarsely chopped (about 1/2 cup)
- 1 tablespoon sweet butter
- 2 cups dry white wine
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme, crushed (fresh is better)
- 1 crushed bay leaf
- 5-6 sprigs of parsley
- 2 teaspoons salt

Place all ingredients in a large casserole and bring to a rolling boil, shaking the pan to move the mussels and have them open. Boil 1 minute. Bon Appetit!

Special Thanks: Gallerani's Resturant, Beverly Whitbeck, Frank & Char, Sarah & Andy Tone, David Matias, Butch Francis, Lorraine Najar, The Provincetown Inn, WOMR, Ruthies Boutique, Kitchen Appliance Mart-Orleans & Vintage Clothing 152 Commercial St., Provincetown.

PLEASE NOTE: THE EXITS TO THE THEATRE. In addition to the door through which you entered there are two exit doors located on the opposite end of the room. There is no smoking in the theatre.

**Our actors are not paid for their hard work and performance. There is an actor's box at the entrance for you to express your appreciation to them. Thank you.**

**THE ART OF DINING**

BY TINA HOWE

Directed by PJ McKey  
Set & Lighting Design by Céline Perron

**The Cast**

(in order of appearance)

Ellen-----Terri Ellis  
Cal-----Rich McKey  
Hannah Galt-----Marjorie Conn  
Paul Galt-----Mark Baker  
Elizabeth Barrow Colt-----Wendy Lanxner  
Herrick Simmons-----Ellen Mulrone  
Nessa Vox-----Ellen Kane  
Tony Stassio-----Susan Culligan  
David Osslow-----Stuard Derrick

Place: The Golden Carrousel

Time: The present, on an unusually cold November night, a month after the restaurant's grand opening.

There will be a fifteen minute intermission after Act I

**PRODUCTION CREW**

Technical Director.....Céline Perron  
Assistant to Ms. Perron.....Chris Giaquinto  
Set Construction/Props.....Céline Perron, Chris  
Giaquinto, Mary Driscoll,  
Ellen Mulrone  
Publicity/Press.....Carol Verburg, Mark Baker  
House Management.....Bill Clark, Sinan Unel  
Poster Design & Illustration.....F. Ronald Fowler  
Printing.....Women's Printers of  
Provincetown  
Photography.....Marion Roth Photography  
Provincetown, 487-9076  
Ms. Conn's Hair & Makeup.....Larry L. Mattox  
Peter Tompkins Hair Deezines  
Provincetown, 487-3844

TREASURER'S REPORT

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Provincetown**  
*Theater* **Company**  
INC.

Art & Dining  
Play

Performed at  
6/25 7/12  
From To # of Performances 12

P.O. Box 192 ■ Provincetown, MA 02657 ■ A Non-Profit Organization

P. J. Mc Key  
Director

Production Manager

	Budget	Actual expenses	(If considered higher than amount, marked * and use balance form to explain)
Set	\$ 560 -	\$ 806.44	
Costumes	150 -	51.35	
Props		175.28	
Scripts	40 -		
Royalties	400 -	479.60	
Sound/Lights	25 -		
Program Mailing	60 -	96.21	
Make-up		25 -	
Publicity: poster	150 -	136.50	
flyer		131.15	
ads	400 -	570 -	
Tickets & Programs		727.05	
Cast party Misc.	220 -	41.43	
Photography		100 -	
Office - Design	150 -	150 -	
Auditions (Video)	50 -	75 -	
Director	250 -	250 -	
Sub-total			Sub-total
10% overrun			Bar
Bar			
total Budget	\$ 2455	\$ 3015.01	total Spent ✓

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Box Office \$ 5406 - bank - = 5406.00 total Box Office  
 Bar \$ 148.30 - bank - = 148.30 total Bar  
 \$ 5554.30 total Income

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total Income \$ 5554.30  
 total Spent \$ 3015.01  
 Net Profit \$ 2539.29

(Please use back of form for any comments, explanations, etc. Or note any money from Benefits, Fund-raisers, donations in connection with the play.)

*[Signature]*

Treasurer, PTC

1/12

# 'Dining' serves up wacky fun

"THE ART OF DINING," a comedy by Tina Howe; presented by Provincetown Theatre Company at the Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., Provincetown; directed by P.J. McKey; performances at 8 tonight and tomorrow, Thursday through July 5 and July 9-12; tickets: \$10; box office: 487-3466.

By HAMILTON KAHN  
STAFF WRITER

PROVINCETOWN — Theatrical gourmets have every reason to whet their whistles over director P.J. McKey's preparation of Tina Howe's comedy "The Art of Dining."

## REVIEW

This is highly satisfying entertainment, replete with excellent performances, confident pacing and solid technical values.

Ms. McKey, who gave us a taste of her directorial talent with previous productions in Wellfleet and Provincetown, has found a recipe for success with this wacky, ironic play about a co-dependent couple's nearly calamitous operation of the Golden Carousel, a fledgling haute cuisine restaurant.

Terri Ellis and Rich McKey are a fine match as the nouveau restaurateurs Ellen and Cal. She's the chef, he's the waiter, and together they're walking a fine line between triumph and disaster.



Photo by MARIAN ROTH

■ Terri Ellis, as the chef in Provincetown Theatre Company's production of "The Art of Dining," is surrounded by other cast members.

You couldn't ask for much more, either, from Mark Baker and Marjorie Conn as Paul and Hannah Galt, the evening's first customers. They are a high-strung, horny couple whose preoccupation with the particulars of their meal masks an almost total lack of direct communication. As with all this play's characters, we're given a tantalizing taste of their complexities with just the right seasoning of mystery.

This production's outstanding performance, however, is a tour de force by Wendy Lanxner as the

borderline psychotic short-story writer, Elizabeth Barrow Colt. Her blind date with David Osslow, well-played by Stuard Derrick, is a masterpiece of comic acting.

As if all this isn't enough, we also get nearly flawless performances from Ellen Mulrone, Ellen Kane and Susan Culligan as Herrick Simmons, Nessa Vox and Tony Stassio, respectively, three middle-aged matrons who occupy the eatery's third table. They dive into their meaty parts with abandon and delight, but the pleasure is all ours.

The spacious, handsome set and sharp lighting by Celine Perron is a major contribution, as well.

Perhaps the best moment of all comes with this play's delightful, highly unexpected ending, a non-verbal catharsis that provides both actors and audience with a final release. It all makes perfect sense in a perfectly nonsensical way.

"The Art of Dining" enlightens, uplifts and provides emotional escape all at the same time. Reservations, as they say, are strongly suggested.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 1992

CONTACT: P. J. McKey  
896-5845

The Provincetown Theatre Company presents the Cape Cod premiere of Obie Award-winning playwright Tina Howe's delicious comedy, **THE ART OF DINING**.

Set in a chic suburban restaurant, **THE ART OF DINING** gives a new twist to the meaning of "dinner theatre." The play brings together an odd assortment of characters: gourmets and dieters, the elegant and the awkward. Their passions about food reflect their attitudes toward life and each other: As they delve into Billi Bi, striped bass with salmon mousse, and Floating Island, all their senses are unleashed and deeper hungers revealed. Masterminding the fun is the owner and maitre d', shuttling with frantic charm between his customers and his chef extraordinaire, who is also his wife.

Masterminding the play is P.J. McKey, director of last summer's **DAMNEE MANON**, **SACREE SANDRA** at the the Provincetown Theatre Company and **TALES OF THE LOST FORMICANS** at the Wellfleet Harbor Actors' Theatre. A Brewster resident, McKey has also directed in Boston and Western Mass.

**THE ART OF DINING** presents a cast and crew that is not only Cape-wide but international [see p. 2 for brief cast bios]. Designer Celine Perron returns to the PTC from her native Montreal. Perron has designed over 25 productions in Canada and in the U.S., where she is currently in-house designer and assistant professor at Keane State College in New Hampshire. Featured onstage are Mark Baker, Marjorie Conn, Susan Culligan, Terri Ellis, and Wendy Lanxner from Provincetown; Stuard Derrick from Provincetown and New York; Ellen Kane from Wellesley and Chatham; Rich McKey from Brewster; and Ellen Mulrone from Rosemont, PA, and Orleans.

**THE ART OF DINING** runs Thursdays through Sundays from June 25 through July 12. Performances are at 8 PM at the Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial Street. Tickets are \$12 opening night and \$10 for all remaining performances. The opening night audience is invited to a party with the cast following the show. Plenty of free parking is available. For reservations call the Provincetown Theatre Company, 487-3466.

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P.O. BOX 192, PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657