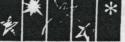
## Provincetown Theatre Company



The PTC Playwrights' Festival is funded in part by:

Cape Cod Economic Development Council THIS ORGANIZATION IS FUNDED IN PART BY



ASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL state agency that supports public programs in the arts, humanities, and sciences Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities

The Schoolman Trust

### THE PROVINCETOWN THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS THE PROVINCETOWN PLAYWRIGHT'S FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> TO OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

Welcome to the Provincetown Playwright's Festival! The Provincetown Theatre Company has had the opportunity to develop and nurture many talented theatre artists over it's 36 year history, many of whom have left Provincetown to enjoy significant careers in professional theatre; as artistic directors, actors, playwrights, technicians, and directors. PTC is taking this time to honor this past work by presenting plays and readings of new scripts by playwrights we have helped develop and by meeting playwrights we hope to work with in the future. PTC was honored to receive a grant from the Cape Cod Economic Development Council which will fund our ongoing work with playwrights over the off-season. PTC is looking for playwrights who want to work with us this winter. We're planning regular meetings to read scripts and work on their development in a workshop situation. If your are interested, please call the theatre at 508-487-8673. PTC will also be teaching classes this fall in acting, movement for the stage, and hands on design courses. Again, call the theatre for more information.

One question always asked by grant giving organizations is: How do you maintain your standards? PTC always answers; we maintain high artistic standards because of the outstanding caliber of artists who are drawn to our community to work and live. They renew our vision and foster the collaboration that is the theatre art. PTC thanks everyone who has worked with us during the past 36 years. We invite all of you to become involved with the company, become a member, get involved, but above all, enjoy the festival!

Margaret Van Sant, Guy Wolf, and The Provincetown Playwright's Festival Company

Fall Arts Festival Coordinator: Michael Hattersley Festival Director PTC: Margaret Van Sant Production Manager PTC: Guy Wolf Mini-Marathon Creator and Coordinator: John Andert Box Office Coordinator: Lucy Bishop

### **UNDERWRITERS OF THE PTC**

The Provincetown Inn Massachusetts's Cultural Council David Schoolman Trust Visitor Service's Board of Provincetown Express Deliveries/Distribution Cape Cod Melody Tent Napi's Restaurant The Evans Family and The Provincetown Inn Cape Cod Economic Development Council Massachusetts's Foundation for the Humanities

### SPONSORS OF THE PTC

Provincetown Banner John E. Medeiros, CPA Women Printers The Mews Far Side of the Wind Utilities, Inc. The Vixen Bob Seay and WOMR April Cabral and the A-House

### UNDERWRITERS OF THE PTC PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL

The Holiday Inn Charlie's Music Provincetown Magazine Cape Air Evan Evans

SPECIAL RECOGINITION FOR THEIR GENEROSITY The Provincetown Repertory Theatre Company Bart J. Murell

### And thanks to all our members and supporters

Special Thanks to: The Banner, Greta Hohlman at WOMR, Jon Arterton and the Unitarian Universalist Church, Michael "Pearlene" DuPlessiss, Rick Hawkins, Sharon Keniston, The Advocate, Harwich Junior Theatre, Wheelock Family Theatre, The Board of Directors of the PTC, Chris Silva, Roger Chauvette and Rick Hines at Provincetown Magazine, Dennis Rhodes, The Community Center, Jack Kitson, Elsa and Michelle at Express Deliveries, and anyone else we may have forgotten but are no less appreciated.

### PROVINCETOWN PLAYWRIGHT'S FESTIVAL EVENTS

Check revised master schedule for times and location of events

### MELVILLE SLEPT HERE BY NORMAN ALLEN

The Provincetown Inn • One Commercial Street September 23<sup>rd</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup> (no show Saturday October 2nd)

8 o'clock PM expect Sunday October 3rd at 2 o'clock PM

Director: Margaret Van Sant Stage Manager: Lucia Huntley Choreographer: Bart J. Murell Set and Lighting Designer: Anthony Jackman Costume Designer: Edward Baker Sound Design: David Maddox Costume Assistant: Bobbie Harris Props: Lucia Huntley Backdrop Artists: Hilda Neily, Pasquale Natale and Michael Casey

Setting—The present: a historical home in Wellfleet There will be a 10 minute intermission between Acts One and Two.

#### Cast

Captain Harcourt: John Lescault Dwayne: Nick Harris Emma: Lynda Sturner Mrs. Biddle: Robin Howard Elise Biddle: Caitlin Gibbon Jack: Keith Amato

### **TEN MINUTE MARATHON**

CREATED BY JOHN ANDERT Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup> : The Schoolhouse Center 494 Commercial Street 1 PM to 4:30 PM

> VIRGIN TERRITORY BY PAYNE RATNER Directed by Guy Wolf

#### Cast

Monty: Brandon Cuicchi Darwin: Jaime Coelho Beautiful Voice: Caitlin Gibbon

### PEAS BY AIDAN PARKINSON Directed by John Andert

### Cast

Old Man: Bob Seaver Young Man: John Andert

QUE SERA SERA BY KATHERINE SNODGRASS Directed by Margaret Van Sant

> <u>Cast</u> Lynda Sturner Alex Juchniewich

### FANTASIA FAIR Written and directed by Sinon Unel

Cast

Judy: Susan Grilli George: John Andert

### **SLEEPING WITH HER EYES OPEN**

BY PRISCILLA SAMPLE A staged reading directed by Sue Bowlin September 26<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 PM: Schoolhouse Center, 494 Commercial Street October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 PM: The Provincetown Inn, One Commercial Street

### Cast in order of appearance

Reader: Tim McCarthy Nurse: Braunwynn Amato Mary Jo Roberts: Vanessa Vartabedian Peter Roberts: Patrick Falco Maggie: Oona Rokicki Mama: Ruth Berch Greenblatt Rosalie: Joanne A. Manuli

### **PLAYWRIGHTS CHAT CONDUCTED BY JAMES D. LUSE, Jr.** September 29<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM: Upstairs at Napi's Restaurant, 7 Freeman Street

A master workshop moderated by Mr. Luse, featuring new work by local playwrights. Call PTC at 508-487-8673 to have your play read.

### THE NOTEBOOK

BY WENDY KESSELMAN A staged reading directed by Nina Schuessler Dramaturg: Chris Burnet October 1, 4:00 PM: The Provincetown Inn, One Commercial Street

> Place: New York City Time: The Present

### Cast

Warren: Michael McKinstry Miss Thorne: Jane Staab Jennie: Julia Wald Mr. Gilman: Ed Peed

### **TOLSTOY'S DEN**

BY SINON UNEL Directed by Steven Williford October 2<sup>nd</sup> 4:00 PM: The Provincetown Inn, One Commercial Street October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:00 PM: Upstairs at Napi's Restaurant, 7 Freeman Street

### THE PROVINCETOWN THEATRE COMPANY'S PLAYWRIGHT'S FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS

### Norman Allen's credits include:

REGIONAL: Signature Theatre: playwright-in-residence, productions include the world premiere of Nijinsky's Last Dance (Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Play). Melville Slept Here (world premiere, Charles MacArthur Award Nomination) and Here To Stay; Moonlight Theatre Company at Church Street Theatre: Waiting in Tobolsk/The Children of the Last Tsar; Provincetown Theatre Company and The Boston Center for the Arts: Here to Stay and Jenny Saint Joan & Larry Queen of Scots; Sierra Rep.: Fool's Gold National Tour/PBS: Cirque Ingeniex (libretto). NEW YORK: Sweet Adeline (concert adaptation) for Encores! At City Center. EDUCATIONAL: co-director, Signature in the Schools (Washington Post Award for Distinguished Community Service); Instructor, Richmond College, England. Journalist: Travel writer for The Boston Globe, Washington Post, Horizon Magazine, Hispanic Traveler, etc.

PBS Documentaries: Van Gogh's Van Gogh; John Singer Sargent; and The Philips Collection.

**Braunwynn Amato's** most recent appearances with PTC include: Hay Fever; The Forest of John the Fox, and the staged reading of My Sister in this House. On screens, she's appeared in the John Morris film, Jailbait Summer. Braunwynn studied acting at Cape Cod Community College. She is a wife and mother and enjoys painting and drawing in her spare time.

Keith Amato is a veteran of the Provincetown Theatre Company's staged reading series. Keith also appeared last summer in the PTC production of *Message to Michael*. Keith is a Leo, and married with children.

John Andert has been acting since 1976. He first appeared with the PTC in *The* Dining Room in 1987. He was the recipient of the A.C.T.E Award for best actor in Lost Gospels of Blankenburg in 1993. In 1996 he created the PTC Playwriting Competition.

Edward Baker is a former resident designer at the Boston Ballet. His recent move to Cape Cod has had him designing for the PTC's: *Three Hotels; Seascape; Picasso at the Lapin Agile; Hay Fever*: and for the Eventide Arts Festival productions of; *Amherst Sabbath; Dear Friends and Gentle Hearts* and *Sassy.* 

Sue Bowlin produced last spring's critically acclaimed production of PTC's Lettice and Lovage. Her directing assignments for PTC include: Hay Fever; The Hot L Baltimore; Something Cloudy, Something Clear and The Dumbwaiter. For Dennis Eventide Festival, Amherst Sabbath; for Chatham Drama Guild, Goodnight Mrs. Puffin; and for Boston's Lyric Stage, Mrs. Warren's Profession, The Philanderer and A Moon for the Misbegotten. She was co-producer of the New World Theatre, based in upstate New York, for over 10 years and studied with Anthony Manino of the Drama Tree in NYC.

Jamie Coelho: In addition to acting, Jamie is an avid stage manager and aspiring producer. He's happy to be returning to his hometown to work with the Provincetown Theatre Company. During the summer of 1998, Jaime was seen in the PTC production of *Message to Michael*, and <u>not seen</u> working on the light crew for PTC's *The Tranny Chase*. Last summer, the versatile Jamie staged managed, *I Hate Hamlet*, and when a female cast member took suddenly ill, Jamie switched the gender and sexuality of the character, went on with only 24 hours notice, and gave audiences two excellent and very funny performances.

**Jinny Cox** is a retired professor of English who moved to P'Town in 1991 to seek her fame and fortune. She is still seeking. Dr. Cox has been acting all her life, beginning in grade school with the role of Snow White and continuing to today with roles as ugly old witches with warts and bad teeth.

Brandon Cuicchi received his BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Dramatic Arts and Communication Studies (film) in 1998. His acting experience includes the Gentleman Caller in *Glass Menagerie*, Claudius in *Rosencrantz* and Guildenstern are Dead, Stu in Talk Radio, Matt in The Fantastiks, and Silvius/ Charles in As You Like It.

**Patrick Falco** was most recently seen in the PTC production of *Hay Fever*. He appeared in last spring's production of *Lettice and Lovage*, and directed *Tone Clusters* during the winter staged reading series. Patrick was also seen in both the Prov-

incetown and Boston productions of PTC's Picasso at the Lapin Agile. Other area acting credits include: Goodnight Mrs. Puffin and Breaking Legs at The Chatham Drama Guild. His Boston acting credits include: Six Degrees of Separation, Tango, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Uncle Vanya and Finding the Sun. He is most proud of his role as Judge Harry Neville in The Song of Jacob Zulu at Boston's Majestic Theatre.

**Caitlin Gibbon** is the co-founder of The Tidal Theatre Company. With Tidal, last summer, she performed in *Orchids in the Moonlight* at the U.U. Meeting House Theatre. She also co-produced *Tsunami Sound Waves*, original radio theatre heard throughout the summer on WOMR. She has worked on 13 W.H.A.T. productions and is presently the fight captain on *Killer Joe*. She as worked extensively in New York City at the Manhattan Theatre Club, Symphony Space, The Walker Street Theatre, The Irish Arts Center, Theatre for the New City, P.C. II, Common Ground Stage and Film Company and at the Playwrights Horizons. She studied in London and received her Masters Degree from Brandeis University. She is a member of The Actors Studio.

Ruth Berch Greenblatt's creative energy includes painting, acting, singing, dancing, and recently, writing. Her writing includes a performance piece, *Potpourri of Schtick*, which she performed at the Provincetown Inn in 1998, and a play *Surfing the Erogenous*. For many years she was active in Community Theater in Natick and Sudbury, MA, where, in addition to acting, she directed *Bald Soprano* and *Spoon River Anthology*. Ruth said, "I've had the privilege to participate in reading original plays by talented local writers, *Mail and Female, Letters from the Sexual Wars* (1997), and *Intimate Enemies* (1997), both by Alan Jasnow. Currently she is writing performance/poems, which she reads at "Slam" poetry competitions.

Susan Grilli happy to be working again with her friends John and Sinon.

Nick Harris recently appeared as the ghost of John Barrymore in the PTC production of *I Hate Hamlet*. In the summer of 1998, Nick portrayed Sagot in PTC's production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, which also had a successful run in Boston. In Boston, Nick has also appeared in Lyric West's presentation of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. Other recent shows include, *Bed and Breakfast* here in Provincetown during the 1997 season and Lanford Wilson's *Balm in Gilead* for the Speakeasy Theatre Company in the fall of 1997.

Robin Howard began her singing career singing folksongs in Paris. She then joined Alan Lomax collecting music for Columbia Records. He wrote a ballad opera *The Stone of Tony* for the BBC in which she starred along with members of The Abbey Theater. She then debuted in N.Y.C. as Rosie in *The Plough In The Stars* at The Cherry Lane Theatre. Afterwards, she returned to London to work opposite Sam Wanamaker in the West Ends' *The Rainmaker*. She has appeared in regional theater all over the country, last playing Ma Joad in Knoxville. She did two seasons at the Provincetown Playhouse in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf, Old Times*, etc. As a founder of The Irish Rebel Theater in N.Y., she's played at least fifteen leading roles, some directed by Jim Sheridan. At the Charles Playhouse in Boston, she played Josie Hogan in *Moon for the Misbegotten*, then again at the Cincinnati Playhouse. At the Dennis Playhouse, she played Myra with Shirley Booth in *Hay Fever*. She introduced John D. Keane's *Big Maggie* in N.Y. at the Douglas Fairbanks Theater. Among several other Broadway plays, she's appeared as Anne Marie in the Tony-Award winning A Doll's House. She has toured the country with Ellen Burstyn and James Garner in John Loves Mary, with Shelley Berman and with Jack Langstaff in Voyages. She is a member of the Actor's Studio.

Lucia Huntley is pleased to be working with PTC again, where she has stage managed many productions in the past, including, *The Dresser* directed by Frank Cullen. Lucia also worked with the Provincetown Playhouse as stage manager for *Painting Churches*. Lucia was the resident stage manager at W.H.A.T. for 8 seasons. She has worked at the Cape Playhouse for the past 6 seasons as the Props Master. During the off-season, Lucia also stage manages for the Academy and Harwich Junior Theatre.

Anthony Jackman has been a member of the Provincetown Theatre Company since 1984. He's directed *Beirut, The Lion in Winter, A Christmas Carol, and Lettice and Lovage* for the PTC. He's also been the Technical Director for the past two seasons.

Alex Juchniewich is a member of the PTC Board of Directors and an accomplished actor. He's appeared in the very successful PTC productions of *Hot L Baltimore* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, (in both the Provincetown and Boston companies). Out of town, he's appeared in *Survival of the Fittest I and II* at the Producers Club in New York City. Other credits include George in *All My Sons, Luv, Crimes of the Heart* and *The Only Game in Town*.

Wendy Kesselman's new adaptation of The Diary of Anne Frank received a Tony Award Nomination and was produced on Broadway during the 1997/98 season. Her plays, My Sister in This House, I Love You, I Love You Not; The Juniper Tree: A Tragic Household Tale; Maggie Magalita; Becca, A Musical; Merry-Go-Round and her musical adaptation of Dicken's A Tale of Two Cities have been widely produced in the United States. She received the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and the first annual Playbill Award, and is a seven-time winner of the ASCAP Popular Award in Musical Theatre. She is the recipient of a Guggenheim, McKnight, two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, and a 1995/96 Playwriting Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. A member of the Dramatists Guild, ASCAP, and PEN, she has published a novel and eleven children's books, among them, Emma and Sand In My Shoes. Her newest musical theatre piece, The Black Monk, was commissioned by New York's Music-Theatre Group, and is scheduled for a workshop at New York's Soho Rep in 1999. The Executioner's Daughter, commissioned by Ubu Repertory Theatre, has won the Roger L. Stevens Award, the Jane Chambers Playwrighting Award, the 1993 Lecomte du Nouy Annual Award and was selected for the AT&T New Plays for the Nineties Project. Ms. Kesselman wrote the screenplay for Sister My Sister (adapted from My Sister In This House), directed by Nancy Meckler and produced by Norman Heyman and Channel Four/London. 1 Love You, I Love You Not, a film directed by Billy Hopkins and produced by Mark Tarlov/Polar Entertainment, for which Ms. Kesselman wrote the screenplay (adapted from her play of the same name), was released in 1998 and starred Jeanne Moreau and Claire Danes. She recently completed an original screenplay for Fox 2000, Mad or In Love, and a new play, The Notebook, which Second Stage Theatre in New York commissioned. She was awarded the 1997 New England Theatre Conference Major Award for outstanding creative achievement in the American Theatre. She is presently at work on an adaptation of James Fenimore Cooper's The Spy, to be produced by Showtime, Granada and Thompson Street Entertainment.

John Lescault last appeared in Provincetown in Keith Boyce's Constancy and Su-

san Glaspell's *Suppressed Desires*. A resident of the Washinton DC area he just finished *Angels in America* at the Signature Theatre. He has also performed with: Arena Stage, Olney Theatre, Potomac Theatre Project, Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Studio Theatre, Source Theatre, Horizons Theatre, Theatre of the First Amendment, Round House Theatre, Washington Stage Guild, Everyman Theatre, Maryland Stage Company, Center Stage, and New Playwright's Theatre. He is also a narrator for the Talking Books Program for The Library of Congress.

James D. Luse, Jr. is an accomplished actor and playwright. Currently he's a Lecturer in Theater Studies at Yale University and teaches many courses including: Advanced Acting; Director/Playwriting Laboratory; The Director and the Text and many more. He's also an Instructor in the Graduate Liberal Studies Program at Wesleyan University and teaches such courses as, the Actor as Interpreter and The Actor Directs. He is also a playwright with the Open-End Theater at Yale University.

**David Maddox** is a composer and sound designer based in Washinton, DC, where he had the pleasure of working on the Signature Theatres' production of *Melville*. During the 1980's, David played and toured in an Irish band called "Wicky Sears", from which some of the "Melville" music is drawn. David now composes primarily for dance and theatre. Current projects include a dance with sculpture for orchestra and sitar (commissioned by the Kennedy Center), a musical of the book *Reviving Ophelia*, to premiere in Minneapolis in February, and a new musical play for family audiences based on Appalachian folk tales, to premiere at Theatre of the First Amendment in Washington in March.

**Joanne A. Manuli** joined the PTC this past fall when she played "Eugene" in the staged reading/Channel 8 broadcast of *I Paint Your Face Louise*. A professional video director/camera-operator/editor, as well as performer, she has appeared in MTV promotional spots, musical dinner theatre, children's theatre, 15 assorted character roles, improvisational comedy skits, and several independent films and commercials in the Hollywood and New York markets. She was last seen as Felicia in the PTC production of *I Hate Hamlet*. In addition to acting, Joanne is a photojournalist and writer for Provincetown Magazine and is the owner of OCDM: Outer Cape Digital Media.

**Tim McCarthy** is a Provincetown resident and has been in such PTC productions as *Something Cloudy, Something Clear,* directed by Sue Bowlin and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* directed by Margaret Van Sant. Tim is first and foremost a gay video historian; recording today, as the past, for tomorrow.

Michael McKinstry has performed at the Harwich Junior Theatre in Oliver!, Mame, Godspell, Aurand Harris' Rags to Riches and Peter Rabbit and ME, and as Jonathon in Wendy Kesselman's Becca. He is a freshman at Barnstable Middle School. He also played Warren in the initial readings of The Notebook at New York's Second Stage.

Brian McManamon is thrilled to be working on another play by Sinan Unel. Last fall, he played Eric in the premiere of Sinon's play *Single Lives* at the Boston Playwright's Theatre. In addition to the Boston Playwright's Theatre, he has worked at the New Repertory Theater for two seasons in *Skylight* and *American Buffalo*. In 1997 Brian received a BFA in acting from Boston University's School for the Arts and then moved to New York City. In NYC, he has worked with SourceWorks Theatre, The Oasis, NADA 45, Young Playwright's Theatre, and MCC. Brian is originally from Waseca, Minnesota and a proud graduate of The Minnesota Center for Arts Education, a high school for the arts.

**Bart J. Murell** has 22 years experience as a dancer, teacher, choreographer with the EBA Dance Theater Company of Albany, N.Y. Since 1969 he has been acting, directing and choreographing plays, including; *Fools Talk Radio* for the Albany Civic Theater and *The Fantastiks* for the S.O.S Players of Albany, New York. He is a long time member of The Provincetown Theatre Company, and has collaborated on numerous productions including, *Seascape* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. This past summer he co-directed and choreographed *Orchids in the Moonlight* for The Tidal Theater Company. "I'm very proud to be a member of the Provincetown Theatre Company".

Aidan Parkinson is a Dublin playwright and actor who lives in Boston. His five *Bar Plays* have been performed in bars and prisons in Boston and Ireland over the last few years. He is the Artistic Director of The Poets' Theatre in Cambridge, and his own theatre company, Cool Root. The first in his *Bathroom Series, Rasmus in Chains,* will be produced this fall—"in some oversized toilet somewhere". His full-length play, *Queen of Swords,* (about the assassination of the journalist, Veronica Guerlin) has been optioned by the Andrew's Lane Theatre in Dublin.

**Payne Ratner's** Virgin Territory, first produced in the Boston Theater Marathon this past April, is only the most current production of his work. A full length play, *Repossession* was staged last July at The Mad Horse Theatre in Portland, Maine. His work in progress, *Infestation*, was recently read at the Playwright's Theater in Boston as part of a series of staged readings of new works. His radio play, *Fish Out of Water* was produced by the public radio station San Francisco, CA. Other plays have been produced in Kansas and Maine. Payne attended the Boston University Graduate Playwriting Program. He works as producer at WCSH Channel 6 television in Portland.

**Oona Rokicki** appeared in the Provincetown Repertory Theatres' 1998 production of Lillian Hellman's *The Children's Hour* and in *Rock Around the Block* last spring sponsored by the Community Center and PTC under a grant from the Kelley Foundation. Oona plays soccer and attends school in Provincetown. By the way, she is not the only thespian in the family, as her brother, Alex, was in last summer's PTC production of *The Bad Children*.

Michael Sabatino is a native of Santa Monica, California. Michael has performed in numerous Hollywood-LA theatre productions including, *First Couple* at the Tiffany Theatre, and *The Strange Case of the Tenacious Suitcase*, for which he won a Drama-Logue Critics Award. Switching coasts, he has also appeared in the NYC off-off productions of *Heartbreak* and *Gods Creatures* at The Lark Theatre, and *Down the Road* at Alice's Walk Up. Television credits include regular (and irregular) characters on *Knots Landing, Days of our Lives*, and *All My Children*.

**Patricia Sample:** After several summers of cross-country commuting from Texas to Waterford for the National Playwrights and National Music Theater Conferences, last fall Ms. Sample was convinced to devote her attention full-time to the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. In past lives, she has worked as a theater producer and manager, documentary film maker, directorial assistant, and writer for both stage

and screen. Her short works include: See America; Tropical Paradise; Love in a Suitcase; I'll Always Remember. In 1997 her play Cultured Pearls, written in Spanish and English, (originally commissioned by Third Planet Theater) was workshopped as part of Dallas' New Theater for New Audiences at Teatro Dallas. In 1995 her first full length play Delta, was workshopped at the Dallas Theater Center by the Playwrights' Project and received finalist awards from the Texas Playwrights Festival, the South Carolina Playwrights Festival and the Shenandoah International Playwrights. As a screenwriter, Ms. Sample has written Ann & David & Alex and Blue Monday. She also worked as a paid hack on Calhoun County ( a direct to cable embarrassment). Prior to returning to Connecticut, Ms. Sample was an active part of the Playwrights' Project, a Dallas based organization committed to developing new playwrights. She holds a BA in Film with a Theater emphasis from Yale University.

Nina K. Schuessler is the Artistic Director of the Harwich Junior Theatre, a year round family theatre on Cape Cod, founded by Betty Bebp. HJT produces 10 mainstage plays a year and offers a year-round creative drama, technical theatre and performing arts curriculum. Nina's directing credits include Wendy Kesselman's *The Executioners Daughter* at the Academy Playhouse, *Becca* and *A Tale of Two Cities* at HJT, as well as, productions of *Gypsy, Oliver!, Lettice and Lovage, The Me Nobody Knows, French Gray, Gertrude Stein...Gertrude Stein,* and a benefit reading of *The Normal Heart* starring Julie Harris.

**Bob Seaver** did quite a lot of theater in high school and college, then laid off to make a living and raise a family, until his retirement a few years ago. Since then he has appeared in PTC productions of *Hot L Baltimore*, and the staged reading of *Kafka's Dick*. He currently serves as chair of the PTC board of directors.

Katherine Snodgrass is an accomplished author, actor, and teacher. Ms. Snodgrass is Producing Director of the Derek Walcott's Boston Playwrights Theatre in Boston and the author of the Actors' Theatre of Louisville's Heideman Award-winning play Haiku; (her film adaptation premiered at the 1995 Boston Film Festival). A former member of the Circle Repertory Theatre, she is a founding member of The Lab in NYC. As an actor, she studied at Kansas State University, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, and in NYC. She's appeared at Lincoln Center, in regional theatres, and on national television. Her teaching credits include Boston University, Wellesley College, Brandeis University, Trinity College in Dublin, among many others. She is also a member of A.E.A., A.F.T.R.A., and the Dramatists' Guild. Kate's one-act play, L'Air Des Alpes, was performed last February at Centerstage/Underground Theatre Company's "Women on Top" Festival, and Que Sera Sera, was performed at the First Annual Boston Theater Marathon last April. Her play Observatory, winner of the 1998 Provincetown Theatre Company's Playwrighting Competition, runs from September 16-October 3 at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre.

Jane Staab is a co-founder and resident equity actress at the Wheelock Family Theatre. She has worked at the Harwich Junior Theatre on and off for 37 years as an actress, director, producer and teacher. New York credits include the Broadway production of: *The Prince of Hamburg* starring Frank Langella; major roles in plays at the Chelsea Theater; Playwrights Horizons; The Spectrum Theatre; as well as, the Hartford Stage Company; the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, and the Fort Wayne Repertory Company. Lynda Sturner most recently directed Robert Reich and Clare Dalton in A.R. Gurney's Love letters. As an actress, she appeared on Broadway in Oliver and Off-Broadway in The Effects of Gamma Rays in Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds. Other acting credits include: What I Did Last Summer at The Wellfleet Library; Later at the Club at The Outer Cape Performance Co., (where she sang Vesti La Juba). Lynda worked as an adjunct professor at Boston University teaching acting to writers, a class which she also teaches at Castle Hill in Truro. She wrote The Death of Huey Newton which was produced in Los Angeles and Tokyo, and published by Broadway Play Publishing. She is past president of The League of Professional Theatre Women in New York City.

Sinon H. Unel was born to a Turkish father and an American mother in the United States. He grew up in Turkey, but moved back to the US in the late 70's to attend college. He's lived and written in Provincetown for the last 15 years. Last summer, The Lark Theater production of his play *Pera Palas* became an unexpected success of the Off-Broadway season. Written in 1995 and developed at Boston University and The Lark Theater workshop, the play received the 1997 John Gassner Memorial Award and is scheduled for productions in several European cities including London, Vienna and Istanbul. Another play, *Single Lives* will be produced in Los Angeles. *Tolstoy's Den* will go into further development this spring with Sinan's collaborators at The Lark, Director Steven Williford and Artistic Director John Eisner. Sinan has shared the great adventure with his partner in life, John, for the past 17 years.

Margaret Van Sant has worked in theatre for over 20 years. Last summer/fall, she directed both the Provincetown and Boston runs of the hit play, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. For the PTC in previous seasons, she's directed Edward Albee's *Seascape* and John Robin Baitz' *Three Hotels*. She was on the staff of the Long Wharf Theatre for six years where she managed the development of new scripts. She's directed at Long Wharf, the Virginia Stage Company, Berkshire Theatre Festival, and the Yale Cabaret. On the Cape, Margaret's directed at the Academy of Performing Arts and Hyannis Center Theatre Company. This past summer she co-directed, with Bart J. Murell, *Orchids in Moonlight* for Tidal Theatre Company.

Vanessa Vartabedian is co-founder of Tidal Theatre Company and most recently performed in Carlos Fuentes' Orchids in the Moonlight at the Meeting House Theatre, and Tidal's production of Tsunami Sound Waves, a series of plays recorded for radio airing on WOMR every Wednesday from 8-9 PM. In the summer of 1997, she appeared as Claire in Tidal's premiere production of, Faulkner's Bicycle at the Provincelands Amphitheater. Her Cape and Boston experience includes work at W.H.A.T, Provincetown Theatre Company, Academy of Performing Arts, The Stand Theater and Boston Center for the Arts. She has taught acting for teens at The Actor's Workshop in Boston and workshops for high school students while touring with Waiting for Godot, (in which she played Vladmir). In New York she reads for In-Touch Networks, radio programming for the blind, and works as a mentor at The 52<sup>nd</sup> Street Project, a renowned community based theater for the kids of Hell's Kitchen. Vanessa recently directed two one-act, off-Broadway plays, for the Lovelace Production Company. She's studied at the Lee Strasberg Theater Institute in New York and at the NYU Tisch School of the Arts, where she received a degree in acting.

**Julia Wald** is 15 years old and a sophomore at Falmouth Academy. She studied acting at HJT with Nina Schuessler. She has performed in *Ralph Roister Doister*, *The Way We Live Now, Cheaper by the Dozen* and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves.* Julia also enjoys writing.

Guy Wolf has worked as a free-lance writer/producer/content developer in theatre, television and advertising for a number of years. He's worked for VH-1, MTV, Viacom, John Ryan, and Royal Bank of Canada, writing and producing live and taped television broadcasts. He is a published non-fiction writer and has performed his dramatic and literary work in New York City, Minneapolis, MN and Provincetown, MA. His acting experience began at age 17, and since then he's performed a number of leading roles in both university and semi-professional theatre productions. He has directed both experimental and conventional plays and worked on production crews in both theatre and television.

**PROVINCETOWN BANNER** 

**SEPTEMBER 16, 1999** 

12

# Hidden dramatists

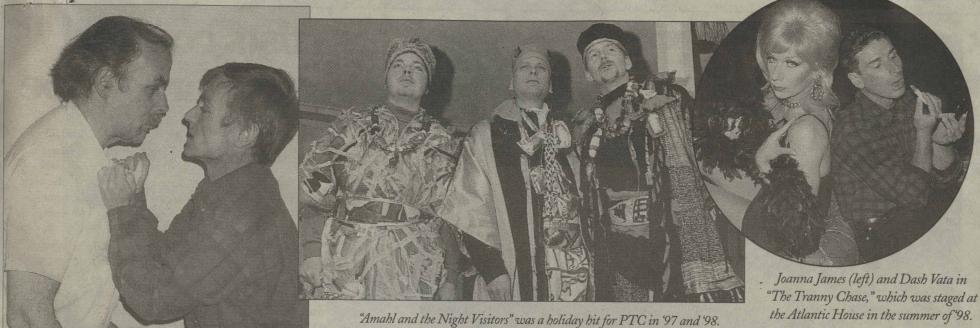
Theater Company has long brought out the best in community

> By Hamilton Kahn BANNER STAFF

Through all the talk over the years about disappearance and return of legitimate theater in Provincetown over the past two decades, the Provincetown Theater Company has been here, quietly striving to put on productions of a professional caliber. And while the 36-year-old community organization has certainly had its ups and downs — and what theater hasn't? — its track record of bringing out the best hidden talent in a talented community is **continued on next page** 

Photos courtesy Provincetown Theatre Company

Bill Meves and Judith Israel in Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire" (1982). (Inset) John Andert (standing), Mark Baker and Suki Kuss in Sinan Unel's "The Lost Gospels of Blankenburg" (1993).



Jeff Spencer and Anthony Jackman in Harold Pinter's "The Dumb Waiter" (1997).

continued from previous page

strong, and there is every indication that its future could be as exciting as its past.

The long-awaited revival of the Fall Arts Festival is providing an mportant showcase for a number of arts organizations, and PTC is playing its part with the Provincetown Playwright's Festival, a schedule of shows, readings and workshops, among them "Melville Slept Here," by Norman Allen, at the Antro; "Ten Minute Marathon," a collection of mini-plays at the Schoolhouse Cener; and "The Notebook," by Wendy Kesselman; and "Tolstoy's Den," by Sinan Unel, both at the Antro (see schedule on page 8).

PTC was first established in

1963 as the Provincetown Theatre Workshop. The troupe - with Jim Forsberg, Horace and Norma Snow, Barbara Dennis, Ray Martan and Nicky Wells, Carl and Connie Black, Ciro and Patti Cozzi, Grace Rizk, and Reeve and Frances Euler among its early members ----sailed through the '60s with an array of 20 intriguing and often original shows, first produced at St. Mary of the Harbor Church and then moving in its second year to the Provincetown Art Association.

A transformation came in the winter of 1971-'72, with a name change to PTC and a riveting production of "Martat/Sade" at Town Hall that enlisted members of the community who had never been

near a stage before (and who, as characters in an insane asylum, were required to pretty much play themselves). Over the next decade, the company regularly staged three or four off-season productions of contemporary plays such as "The Killing of Sister George, "A Thousand Clowns" and "Cabaret," steadily raising its dramatic and technical standards.

At the height of its creative powers in the early and mid-'80s, PTC was nothing short of being the best community theater on Cape Cod, staging first-rate versions of "Streetcar Named Desire," "The Shadow Box," "Thurber Carnival" and "The Dining Room," among many others. The company also received a gift of two acres from Ray Martan and Nicky Wells and forged a larger vision for itself as the Provincetown Academy of the Performing Arts ---a vision that,. unfortunately, had to be put on hold due to financial considerations and other complications.

With the loss of its performance space at the Art Association in 1988, the company relocated to the Provincetown Inn, hired its first full-time artistic director (the late Michael Prevulsky), and increased its activities, scoring memorably with shows such as "Noises Off" (1989), "Beirut" (1990), Edward Gorey's "Useful Urns" (1990) and "Crazed Teacups" (1992), and local playwright Sinan Unel's "Thalassa My Heart" (1991) "Three of Clubs" (1992) and "The Lost Gospels of Blankenburg" (1993).

After hitting bottom organizationally in 1993-'94 (when only one

production "A Christmas Carol," was mounted), PTC has been slowly rebuilding in recent years, with recent productions of "Picasso at the Papin Agile," "Lettice and Lovage" and "I Hate Hamlet" showing signs that it is again approaching the level of its mid-80s glory days. A recently forged alliance with the professional Provincetown Repertory Theatre, which is planning to purchase or build its own theater, holds the promise of a permanent home for PTC, as well, along with a renewed interest in staging mid-winter productions. That may not be when the summer audiences are here, but it's the often the best time for local residents to show their hidden theatrical talents — and that's a lot of what the Provincetown Theater Company has been about for the past 36 years.  $\Box$ 

# **Provincetown Centennial Fall Arts Festival**

### SEPTEMBER Thursday 23

Fine Arts Work Center (FAWC): Outer Cape and Artists' Residency Exhibition, FAWC, 9:30-5 p.m., 24 Pearl St. Residents from Dune Shack residencies exhibit recent work, Hudson D. Walker Gallery. Show runs through Sept. 29.

**Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM):** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. — Installation of local artists' sculpture on the Provincetown Post Office steps.

Festival Opening Party at the Pilgrim Monument & Provincetown Museum (PM&PM) and opening for the exhibition "The Art Colony: Selected Works," 5-7 p.m., celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the artist colony in Provincetown. Paintings, prints, and drawings chosen from the collections of PM&PM and the Provincetown Heritage Museum will be displayed with a photograph of each artist as well as bibliographic information. The exhibit continues through November.

Provincetown Theatre Company (PTC) inaugurates the Provincetown Playwrights' Festival coordinated by Margaret Van Sant with Norman Allen's "Melville Slept Here," (Thurs-Sun each of the two weeks), 8 p.m., at the Antro (next to Town Hall) directed by Margaret Van Sant. Tickets (\$15/\$25) available through Provincetown Reservations at 487-2400.

### Friday 24

Provincetown Community Compact (Compact): C-Scape Dune Shack Exhibition Opening Reception, 5-7 p.m., at the National Seashore's Province Lands Visitors Center, with Jessica Hopkins and Paul Gebhardt. Show runs through Oct. 11, 9-5 p.m. daily. For more information, call 487-3684.

Provincetown Arts Press (PAP): 6 p.m., Provincetown Art Association: "Provincetown Arts Live!" The pages of Provincetown Arts, Provincetown's annual art and literary magazine, come to life as writers for the 1999 issue read from and perform their recent work.

PAAM: Opening Reception for "Charles Hawthorne: Local Oils and Watercolors," 8-10 p.m. Final Preview: Consignment Auction of early Provincetown art.

### Saturday 25

**Compact: Puppet Parade** with Dianna Morton and public school students. Open to participants of all ages. Meet at East End Playground (corner of Bradford and Howland streets) at 3:30 p.m. Parade begins at 4:30 p.m. and runs down Commercial Street to the West End Playground (corner of Bradford and Nickerson streets). For more information, call Dianna at 487-0401.

**PTC** begins Open Theatre Workshops: **"Ten Minute Marathon,"** four short plays coordinated by John Andert. Schoolhouse Center, 494 Commercial St., 1-2, 2:15-3:15, 3:30-4:30 p.m. A series of four original plays by emerging Provincetown and New England playwrights. \$5 at the door.

**PAAM Consignment Auction**, 7 p.m.—This annual auction offers over 200 art works from the early years of the colony. illustrated catalog available by mail or on the web at www.capecodaccess.com/gallery/paam.

### Sunday 26

**3rd Annual Benchmark Performance Series:** 2 p.m., 6 Dyer St. Free outdoor concert of new musical and creative works featuring composers John Thomas, Mark Bailey, and others. Donations will benefit the Fine Arts Work Center. For information, call 487-7440. **PTC: "Sleeping With Her Eyes Open,"** by Priscilla Sample, 4:30 p.m., Schoolhouse Center, staged reading. A sudden addition to a Southern minister's home results in humor, frustration and a reevaluation of family. \$5 at the door.

### **Tuesday 28**

PAAM: Slide Lecture, "Provincetown as an Arts Colony," 7 p.m. Tony Vevers talks on Charles Hawthorne and his influence.

### Wednesday 29

**PTC: Playwrights Chat,** 4 p.m. Are you writing a play? Bring a five-minute scene to read with Provincetown playwrights. For information call 487-8673.

### Thursday 30

"An Evening with Emily Dickinson," presented by the Provincetown Poetry Festival, 7 p.m., St. Mary of the Harbor Church, 519 Commercial St. PTC: "Melville Slept Here," 8 p.m., Antro (see previous listing). FAWC: "The Dinette Set," 10 p.m., The Jungle at Tropical Joe's. Blues and

songs from the Big Band era to benefit FAWC, featuring Pat Hartzell, Julie Maykowski and Jeffry Cismoski. Call PRS at 487-2400 for tickets.

### OCTOBER Friday 1

FAWC: Visual Arts Committee Exhibition, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., 24 Pearl St. Recent work by members of the Visual Arts Committee of FAWC. Hudson D. Walker Gallery. Runs through Oct. 30.

PTC: "The Notebook," by Tony nominee Wendy Kesselman, 4 p.m., Antro. A beautiful Russian immigrant and her teacher as seen through the eyes of a young boy. \$5 at the door. Directed by Nina Schuessler.

Compact: C-Scape Dune Shack Mapping Project, Opening Reception 6-9 p.m., Schoolhouse Center, 494 Commercial St. With Traven Pelletier, Mark Adams, Mary Behrens, Jennifer Bradley, Melanie Braverman, Jacob Bricca, Michael Carroll, Jay Critchley, Eve Giselle, Iren Handschuh, Kathe Izzo, Mary Alice Johnston, Jennifer Liese, Dee Portnoy, Laine Quinn, and Doug Ritter. Gallery open Thursday to Monday from noon; show runs through Oct. 19. 487- 4800.

**Compact: "Alternative Orchestra,"** 5-8 p.m. Performance in front of Town Hall with percussionist Laurel Brooke and students from Provincetown High School. 487-3684.

**Compact: "Spiral of Home,**" 6-9 p.m., Schoolhouse Center. Opening reception 6-9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2 and 3, noon to 6 p.m. Kathe Izzo's new installation piece in collaboration with 33 women of all ages, all born and raised in Provincetown. For information call 487-0916.

**PAAM: Exhibition Opening:** Recent Gifts to the Collection, 8-10 p.m.

FAWC: "The Dinette Set," 10 p.m., The Jungle at Tropical Joe's. (See previous listing.)

### Saturday 2

**PTC: "Sleeping With Her Eyes Open,"** 2 p.m., Antro, \$5. (See previous listing.)

PM&PM: "The Provincetown Print — The History of a Unique Tradition," 2 p.m., with William Evaul. This 45-minute slide presentation and lecture is an overview of the art and artists who work in the unique medium of the Provincetown Print or "whiteline woodcut." Named the Provincetown Print because it was invented here in 1915, the process is a synthesis of techniques which produces a full-color image from a single block.

**PTC:** Sinan Unel's **"Tolstoy's Den,"** 3 p.m. at Antro, staged reading, \$5 at the door. Directed by Steven Williford.

**Compact: Theater in the Ground at Septic Space**, 5 p.m., 7 Carnes Lane (off Pleasant Street). "Voices from the Kiva," with poets Nick Flynn, Eileen Myles, Kerry Doyle, Frances Richard, and a sound construction by Kelly Taxter. For more information, call 487-3684.

Provincetown Repertory Theatre (PRT): Playwright Symposium, 8 p.m., Town Hall. Including Terrance McNally, A.R. Gurney, August Wilson, John Guare, Christopher Durang, Jon Robin Baitz, Paula Vogel, Wendy Kesselman and Lanford Wilson. Tickets available through Provincetown Reservations, 487-2400.

FAWC: "The Dinette Set," 10 p.m., The Jungle at Tropical Joe's. (See previous listing)

### Sunday 3

**PTC: "Melville Slept Here,"** 2 p.m., Antro. (See previous listing.)

**PTC:** Sinan Unel's **"Tolstoy's Den,"** 4:15 p.m., Antro, staged reading, \$5 at the door. (See previous listing )

Music in Progress: 5 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Meeting House, 236 Commercial St. New sonic delights by composers including John Thomas, Jon Arterton, Laurel Brooke, James Coleman, Diane Fisher, Mary Jo Parazino.

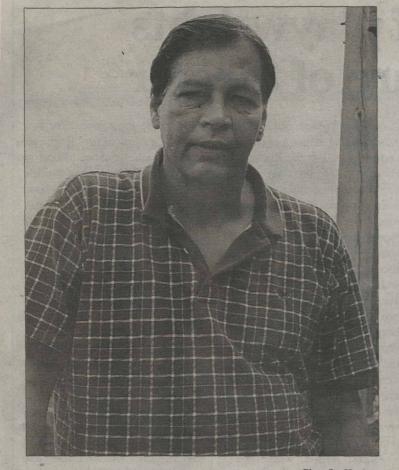


Photo Sue Harrison Michael Hattersley is coordinator of this year's Fall Arts Festival.

# **Arts Festival** finds new life

### By Sue Harrison BANNER STAFF

As current organizers continue to work to reinvigorate the September tradition of the Fall Arts Festival. they have a lot of past events to work from and a batch of new offerings to add.

Behind the new thrust is the recent alliance of eight nonprofit organizations in town (the Provincetown Art Association and Museum, Fine Arts Work Center, Pilgrim Monument and Museum, Provincetown Arts Press, Provincetown Community Compact, Provincetown Repertory Theatre, Provincetown Theater Company, and community radio station WOMR-FM). They hired a coordinator, Michael Hattersley, to

**100 YEARS** 

oversee this year's Fall Arts Festival effort and the result is impressive.

"For the last two years, the eight nonprofits have been working together and that has not historically been the case," Hattersley says. "We first met two years ago and did not want to create a new arts entity, but we realized there was a lot of possibility for synergy. We looked for grants and have been meeting once a month since we found common ground."

It was this consortium that set out to revive the Fall Arts Festival. which had a 20-year history of ups and downs.

"It was a great thing in the late '70s and early '80s and it seemed a good opportunity to put our resources together," he says. "So far we have gotten a \$20,000 grant

from the Visitor Services Board and another \$5,000 from Barnstable County."

The county money is earmarked for publicity up-Cape.

"Historically, the Fall Arts Festival was heavily galleries with a small amount of theater," he says, and acknowledges that the scope of the festival has diminished in recent years. "It has remained in existence, but not so you'd notice. There was a real organization back in '83. I don't know what happened."

Hattersley says there will be a return this year to a broader-based schedule of events. Galleries will still play a prominent part, but theater, music, dance and return of the sand car creator Jay Critchley with a series of community/conceptual art projects, will also have a presence.

The Festival kicks off on Thursday, Sept. 23, with a party from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Pilgrim Monument on High Pole Hill, where an art exhibit of selected works from the Provincetown Museum's collection will be shown along with artist photos and bios.

Other special exhibits include a sculpture installation on the Post Office steps (see story on page 15), three dune shack exhibitions, a major Charles Hawthorne show and special shows or meet the artists events at most galleries. Organizers are still putting together the final list and map for the open studios and will have that information available at the beginning of the festival.

On Friday, Sept. 24, the Provincetown Arts Press will bring its annual magazine to life with readings from all the writers featured in this year's issue. A parade will take place on Saturday, Sept. 25, featuring giant puppets made by local grade school children. There will be auctions, slide lectures, demonstrations, readings and various concerts and performances.

Also playing a big part this year will be the Playwrights Festival sponsored by the Provincetown Theater Company (see story on page 12). PTC is presenting six fulllength plays and a 10-minute marathon comprised of four short plays presented together in an hour. The marathon will be run three times on Saturday. In conjunction with the Playwrights Festival, the Provincetown Repertory Theatre will host a symposium in Town Hall with playwrights Terence McNally, A.R. Gurney, August Wilson, John Guare, Christopher Durang, Jon Robin Baitz, Paula Vogel and Lanford Wilson (see story on page 10).

Hattersley is clear about drawing the parallel between the health of the arts and the economic health of the town.

"The town has two industries, tourism and the arts, and they are closely interrelated," he says. "Next year we will begin to draw in the businesses. It's just one more opportunity in a diverse and contentious town to work together. My goal is to

continued on next page

### **PROVINCETOWN BANNER**

### **SEPTEMBER 30, 1999**

## 10-minute plays packed with power

### By Sue Harrison BANNER STAFF

Sometimes there are defining moments in life, bursts of time when important changes are made or realizations reached. Those moments are part of the premise of the 10minute play, because each of the four presented last Saturday at the Schoolhouse Center certainly crammed in much more than one would expect in so little time.

Organized by John Andert who also starred in two plays and directed one — the afternoon of short plays was presented as part of the Playwrights Festival sponsored by the Provincetown Theater Company during the Fall Arts Festival. All four of the works staged had been part of a 10-hour marathon of short plays formerly held in Boston.

The Provincetown productions included "Virgin Territory," by Payne Radner, "Peas," by Aidan Parker, "Que Sera Sera," by Katherine Snodgrass and "Fantasia Fair," by Sinan Unel.

In the first, a young man, Monty

### Theater review

(Brandon Cuicchi) seeks to lose his virginity with the ugliest girl in town. The audience never sees her: she's showering behind a screen. As the boy starts to talk about what women like, it's clear all he knows is a stack of misinformation from his older brother. Then a pal, Darwin (Jaime Coelho), pops out from under the bed, camera in hand, ready to record the deed. The girl (Caitlin Gibbon) never appears but takes the stage intermittently as she fades in and out singing Joni Mitchell's "I Wish I Had a River." Ultimately, Monty must face his feelings about being adopted and the rumor that he is a homosexual.

In "Peas," Andert (directing and playing the young man) is convincing as the frustrated and angry Irish lad taking care of an older man (Bob Seaver) who is on the verge of death. Seaver, eating his peas, is touching as the man whose body no longer obeys him, causing him to soil himself. In "Que Sera Sera," an older woman (Lynda Sturner) is dating a younger man (Alex Juchniewich), and they try to sort out what their relationship means, where it might go and what common ground, if any, they share. Directed by Margaret Van Sant, this play looks at power structure within society and aging as both characters slowly take off their psychic masks to reveal what each really wants.

In "Fantasia Fair," Andert reappears as George, a crossdresser in town for the annual convention. Initially, before that comes out, he seems like Joe Average on vacation with his wife, Judy (Susan Grilli). While they get ready for the ball and he changes from George to Ginger, the underlying tensions in their marriage surface and threaten to end the somewhat uneasy truce they've come to over the years.

The actors all did a good job of creating characters with depth despite the brevity of the plays, but special praise is due Andert for his quick emotional shifts in the two very different plays.

### + + THEATER + +

"Ain't Misbehavin'," musical by Fats Waller, directed by Paula Pittman Carpenter. Shows at 8 pm Oct. 7-31, (Thurs.-Sun.) with matinees at 2 pm Oct. 17, 24, at The Academy Playhouse, 120 Main St., Orleans. Tickets \$12, \$14. Call (508) 255-1963.

**"Eleanor: A Celebration,**" written and directed by Gordon Davis, starring Toni Gillman. Benefit performances 7:30 pm Fri.-Sat. at The Academy Playhouse, 120 Main St., Orleans. Tickets \$35. (508) 255-1963. **"Killer Joe,"** by Tracy Letts, directed by Jeff Zinn. Shows run 8 pm Wed.-Sun. through Oct. 10 at the Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater. Tickets are \$15, call 349-6835 for reservations. WHAT is located next to the town pier in Wellfleet.

**"Melville Slept Here,"** by Norman Allen, directed by Margaret Van Sant, 8 pm Thurs.-Fri., 2 pm Sun. at the Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., \$15. For tickets call PRS at 487-2400.

"Nine," musical based on Fellini film; music and lyrics by Maury Yeston; directed by Dafydd Rees. Shows 8 pm Thurs.-Sat., 4 pm Sun. Oct. 7-24 at Cape Cod Repertory Theatre Company, Rt. 6A, Brewster. Tickets \$16, \$14, \$8 (21 and under), (508) 896-1888.

**"The Notebook,"** by Wendy Kesselman, directed by Nina Schuessler. A Russian immigrant and her teacher as seen through the eyes of a boy, 4 pm Fri. at the Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., \$5.

**"Sleeping with Her Eyes Open,"** a staged reading by Priscilla Sample. A sudden addition to a Southern minister's home results in humor, frustration and a re-evaluation of family, 2 pm Sat. at the Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., \$5 at the door.

**"Tolstoy's Den,"** by Sinan Unel, staged reading directed by Steven Williford. A woman struggles with survival, mortality and life after death, 4 pm Sat., Provincetown Inn; 2 pm Sun. at Napi's, 7 Freeman St., \$5.