

ITR Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2010

Said the Spider to the Spy

Call 613-860-1291 to reserve your tickets today!

By Andrea Jermacans

Osgoode's amateur theatre troupe is taking the stage with a brand new comedy this spring. Theatre fans can now reserve tickets for Fred Carmichael's two-act play, *Said the Spider to the Spy*.

"This spring's production is a fast-paced case of mistaken identities and characters who may not be who they say they are," says Isle in the River Review's Director and Vice-President, Gaenor Howe. "It's a funny show, never a dull moment."

When a bored librarian borrows her friend's Florida condo - and her romance author identity - she suddenly finds herself in the middle of a chaotic undercover police operation. The set quickly becomes a revolving door of colourful and eclectic characters who all have their eye on a mysterious package.

Before the case is solved the audience finds themselves in the company of a cop, an

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Mother's Day Tea

A special treat for Mother's Day

This year, ITR has decided to try something new for Mother's Day: A special Mother's Day Tea for our Sunday matinee performance. The tea will be catered by the Anglican Church Women from St. Paul's Anglican Church right here in Osgoode, and will include finger sandwiches, dainties and tea and coffee. The tea will be served for an hour before the play starts, offering a chance to chat and visit with your neighbours. The performance has special pricing of \$5 for patrons & \$17 for everyone else, which includes the tea. Come out and share a special afternoon at the theatre with Mom!



amnesiac, a pair of Brooklyn tourists, a member of the Women's Club, and a friendly beach bum. When the real romance author and her husband show up, the cast begins slipping in and out of their supposed identities as quickly as they slip in and out of doors.

"*Spider* is a wild mix of characters who somehow find themselves scrambling all over each other to get to the bottom of a mystery," explains Howe. "Everyone is well-suited to their roles. We've had a riot at our rehearsals."

Howe, who has been a member of the ITR executive since last spring, along with her husband and ITR President, Tracy Howe, says the group is testing out a few new ideas for this spring's production. ITR will be hosting a matinee Mother's Day Tea on Sunday, May 9th in place of the usual dinner theatre.

"There will be finger sandwiches and dainties with tea and coffee, and as always, the bar will be open," explains Howe. "It's the perfect place to bring Mom for Mother's Day – and Grandma, too."

Tickets for the matinee cost \$17 for non-patrons and \$5 for patrons. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. and showtime is 3 p.m.

"We hope that this more modest price might allow even more members of the community to come out to a special performance. We will consider bringing back the dinner theatre for another play, and perhaps keeping the tea as well, if the demand is there."

The play also runs May 7th, 8th, 13th, 14th and 15th at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$12 each.

"The evening shows will be in the usual cabaret-style with eight to ten chairs at a table. And of course munchies, pop, beer and wine are available for purchase," says Howe. "Seating is based on how early you call the hotline and reserve your tickets. The sooner you call, the closer you'll be seated to the action."

Howe says the Mother's Day Tea isn't the only new thing ITR has to offer this season.

"We're also lucky to have several new faces in the cast," she says, adding that there are two real-life couples on stage. "Of course, there are a

few familiar actors, too."

ITR is open to all ages and experience levels and is always looking for new members, adds Howe.

"We just want to remind everyone that we'd love to have you in the audience, on stage, backstage, or doing just about anything you can name," she says. "Young people interested in drama might find it a fun and rewarding way to earn some volunteer hours."

For more information or to subscribe to the newsletter, visit <http://www.itrtheatrecompany.com>

To reserve tickets call **613-860-1291**.

Spring Dinner Theatre Cancelled

It is with regret that we must announce that there will not be a dinner theatre performance this spring. For many years we were very fortunate to have the wonderful support of Joe Micucci, who offered his incredible cooking services at an amazingly low price. This enabled us to provide you with an exquisite gourmet meal and a play for less than you would pay for just a meal elsewhere! Joe has retired now, and we have been unable to locate a caterer who can offer anything even close to the quality of his food at a commensurate price. Subsequently, we have had to cancel. We know how popular the dinner theatre was, and we will continue to look for a caterer so that we may be able to bring it to you again in the future.

**Box Office
860-1291**

Osgoode Medieval Festival

ITR will be presenting a children's theatre version of the Legend of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, and doing guerrilla theatre-style improve at various sites around the Osgoode Medieval Festival. It will be largely improve and should take very little time. We are looking for actors to help us out with this new endeavour. We need kids and adults of all ages. Please contact us if you are interested.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPRING PRODUCTION

OSGOODE COMMUNITY CENTRE 5660 OSGOODE MAIN STREET

MAY 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 8:00 PM

MATINEE MAY 9 TEA AT 2:00 PLAY AT 3:00

Our annual Spring Production, this year *Said the Spider to the Spy*. Prices for evening performances are: \$10 for students and seniors, \$12 other adults. Special Pricing for the Tea is \$5 for Patrons, \$17 for everyone else. Please call our box office message line to reserve your tickets:

613-860-1291

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BBQ

3247 OLD GEORGE STREET

MAY 30 1:30 PM

Come out to our AGM and BBQ. Just bring a potluck dish and \$10 for an annual membership. Call Tracy Howe at 826-1474 to let us know to expect you.

OSGOODE MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL

THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS BESIDE FOODLAND

JULY 9-11

We'll be popping up all over the place with short improve pieces and doing a children's theatre version of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. Keep your eyes open for us!

FALL PRODUCTION

OSGOODE COMMUNITY CENTRE

NOVEMBER

Preparations for our fall production are already underway! Watch for ads in early autumn and keep checking our website for details.

Break-a-Leg Bursary

Lynn Jolicoeur

Every year, ITR offers a bursary to a student from St. Mark High School and one student from Osgoode Township High School, who has enrolled in a post-secondary program in the field of theatrical arts in Canada. Our aim is to encourage the study of the performing arts.

The 2009, I.T.R. Break-a-leg Bursary has been awarded to **Katrina Reimer from St. Marks High School**. She will be pursuing studies in theatre and literature.

The Bursary was presented by Lynn Jolicoeur, from the executive committee of ITR to the recipient, Ms. Reimer at the St Marks High School graduation ceremony which took place on Thursday June 25th at Blessed Sacrament Church located in the Glebe.

*Note: Osgoode High School did not submit a name to ITR.

Use PullQuote to excerpt text from the main text of a story to draw a reader's attention to the page. See page 4 for an example.

BBQ & AGM
May 30th, 2010
1:30 pm
at
3247 Old George Street

Everyone is welcome! We'll be electing a new executive, so this is your chance to get involved!

Just show up with \$10 for an annual membership and a dish for the potluck. Please come and be a part of our fantastic theatre company!

OTHER NEWS

AREA DRAMA

There is a ton of high quality amateur theatre in Eastern Ontario. Here are just a few websites to get you started in your exploration of local live theatre:

Dundas County Players: <http://dcplayers.ca/>

The Greely Players: <http://www.greelyplayers.ca>

Kemptville Players: <http://kemptvilleplayers.ca/>

The Russell Association for the Performing Arts – RAPA:

<http://rapa.ncf.ca/>

WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

OLT continues to offer a number of classes and workshops, for both children AND adults. Upcoming events include and Introduction to Acting workshop on May 8th, 2 workshops with Ken Godmere: *Acting On Impulse* on May 1st and *Just Act Natural* on June 5th. Aspiring dramaturges should not forget to check out the playwrights Circle, starting Monday, May 3rd. Check out the Ottawa Little Theatre website for more details:

<http://ottawalittletheatre.com/index.cfm>

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: I am interested in ITR, but I have no acting experience. Can I still be involved?

A: Yes! Many of our members come to us with little or no experience. Part of the charm of community theatre is that everyone is welcome, and every production is a teaching/learning opportunity. Nothing delights us more than having a hand in launching an amateur theatrical career!

Q: I'd like to find out more, but I feel intimidated about coming to the Annual General Meeting. Is there any other way to get information?

A: Absolutely! Email us anytime. We are always happy to answer questions, chat about the organization, and tell you what we are all about. But don't be intimidated by the AGM, either. It's just a quick meeting and a barbeque with some friendly neighbours.

Q: How many plays does ITR do every year?

Fall Production “Jitters”

Work on our November production has already begun!

ITR is delighted to announce that we have already started working on our fall production. It's a three-act comedy by award-winning Canadian playwright David French, all about the trials and tribulations of a small theatre company trying to stage a new play (a subject near to many of our hearts!) Len Trembley will direct the play. He's a fixture in local amateur theatre and will, of course, be ably assisted by his lovely wife Elaine.

Look for audition information early this fall.

Audition information will be posted on our website in early fall and ads will appear in local papers, so please keep your eyes peeled for audition dates. Don't forget, we are always looking for crew and front-of-house help, so that's a great time to ask us about that, too! ■

Email us:

itrtheatrecompany@yahoo.ca

A: We have one production every spring and another in fall. We also get involve in other events, like being in parades, giving out our 2 bursaries and putting on skits for the Osgoode Medieval Festival.

Q: I'd like to join ITR, but I'm just so busy. Can I be just a bit involved?

A: Of course! Every member is welcome to do as much or as little as they want. For some of us, it is an all-consuming passion and for others it is an interesting little hobby we dabble in. If you want to come sell chocolate bars once a year and see a free play, that's great. If you prefer a little light administrative work, join the executive (we meet a little less than once a month). If you want to try acting, stage managing, technical theatre, directing or producing, come on out! If you are involved in a production, there can be quite a time commitment, depending on what you are doing. We all depend on each other to be reliable, so it is a big decision. But it's also a super fun, sociable and rewarding hobby, and one that will reward you for every ounce of commitment you put into it!



Isle in the River Review
Theatre Company
Presents

Said the Spider to the Spy

Written
by
Fred Carmichael

Directed
by
Gaenor Howe

At the Osgoode Village Community Centre
May 7, 8, 13, 14 & 15 at 8:00 p.m.
May 9 Mother's Day Matinee Tea at 2:00 p.m.

To Reserve Tickets Call 613-860-1291

