

Play or movie? A rare chance to see both



Bajer (left) as Lee, and Huffman as Bessie in *Marvin's Room*.

By Morley Walker
Entertainment Editor

DO YOU go to the play or the movie? Or both? That's the question Winnipeggers interested in seeing *Marvin's Room* could be asking themselves this weekend.

Prairie Theatre Exchange opens its new production of the 1990 U.S. dramatic comedy tomorrow night. In a rare coincidence, the Oscar-nominated movie version opens in Winnipeg on Friday.

"It's a unique opportunity to compare the live experience with the film experience," says PTE artistic director Allen MacInnis, who chose the play for PTE's season before he discovered a movie was in the pipeline.

Positive spinoffs

When he learned recently that the movie and play would be opening here on the same weekend, MacInnis says he was concerned.

"I was afraid some of our potential customers would go see the movie instead, because it's cheaper."

But then he realized that the coincidence had some positive spinoffs.

"Suddenly, we have a play with name recognition," MacInnis says. "That's something that doesn't always happen at PTE."

Written by U.S. actor Scott MacPherson, who died of AIDS in

Theatre Preview

Marvin's Room

- Prairie Theatre Exchange
- Feb. 28 to March 15
- Tickets \$17 and \$25

1993, *Marvin's Room* is billed as a comedy about a dysfunctional family that discovers healing by facing death.

At the centre are two sisters, Bessie and Lee, who have been estranged for 20 years.

In the PTE production, which features seven actors, Bessie is played by Linda Huffman, Lee by Sharon Bajer. Both are from Winnipeg.

In the movie, these two characters are played by leading Hollywood actresses — Bessie by Diane Keaton, Lee by Meryl Streep.

Keaton, in fact, has received an Oscar nomination for best actress.

Does this change how Huffman will address her role in Winnipeg?

"It doesn't bother me at all," says Huffman, who has no plans to see the movie until after the play's run ends March 15.

"I'm always a little leery of seeing something close to when I'm doing it," she says. "It might affect me, and I'd rather do it on my own."

MacInnis, too, has not sought out

the movie version, which opened in bigger cities before Christmas.

"As a director, you have to trust your own archeological dig through the material."

MacInnis, 41, is in the midst of his first full season at PTE's helm. He has directed three of the productions so far, *Crackpot*, *My Fair Lady* and now *Marvin's Room*.

"It was a commitment I made to the board when I was hired," he says. "They wanted audiences to see a lot of my work in the first year. That way everyone can see what the new guy does."

AN EDMONTON native who has worked across Canada, MacInnis has bought a house on Scotia Street with his partner of 20 years, Arin Murray, a visual artist.

"One of the things I love about Winnipeg is that it's a city of neighbourhoods," MacInnis says. "It seems always to have been this way, and it's something Toronto has discovered only in the last 10 years."

He says Winnipeg audiences know their stuff compared with those in other cities.

"People in Winnipeg are not starved for talent and good work," he says. "They get things on a thematic level. There is a taste for live performance here."

WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
DVORAK NEW WORLD SYMPHONY
Sergiu Comissiona, Conductor • Cecile Ousset, Piano
MERCURE: Kaleidoscope • RAVEL Piano Concerto in G Major
• DVORAK Symphony No. 9 in E minor, Op. 95 "From the New World"

The lure of other lands and different music warms a night of adventure. Dvorak's "New World" Symphony, written by the Czech composer in honour of Columbus' landing in America, contains one of the best loved and most comforting melodies of the Vancouver world-traveling conductor and Music Director of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. It is a guest conductor for a concert that also features Ravel's lovely Piano Concerto performed by acclaimed French pianist, Cecile Ousset.

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Rush first rock band in Order of Canada

By Betsy Powell
Canadian Press

TORONTO — RUSH has been on the music scene for 25 years but today is the rock trio's first gig at Ottawa's stately Rideau Hall.

Rush members are being invested as officers of the Order of Canada alongside mass media moguls, captains of industry, scientists and philanthropists.

Recognition

Not exactly the high school gyms and low-rent bars where Rush got its start in the early '70s.

"It is certainly a different group of people to hang around with," said guitarist Alex Lifeson. He'll join bandmates Geddy Lee and Neil Peart for the ceremony presided over by Gov. Gen. Romeo LeBlanc.

"The recognition is wonderful. It's very flattering. At the same time I don't really know why I'm getting it."

Bryan Adams, Stompin' Tom Connors, Bruce Cockburn, producer David Foster and jazz musician Moe Koffman are all past recipients.

But Rush is the first rock band to be decorated with the Order of Canada since the national honour system was created in 1967 to recognize "significant achievement in important fields of human endeavour."



Rush: officers of Order

Perhaps it's for carrying on as Canada's leading export to the world of pop music and doing so by ignoring pop trends.

And Rush has done that without joining the exodus of Canadian musicians living abroad.

Ottawa's Alanis Morissette calls Los Angeles home. Quebec diva Celine Dion spends most of her time in Florida. Bryan Adams prefers London's damp weather to Vancouver's. Country star Shania Twain may hail from Timmins but her fan mail should go to New York.

Yet, the progressive-rock trio has stayed put.

"Canada has always been our home," says Lifeson, who was

born in British Columbia but moved to Toronto when he was young.

"This is really a good place to live and it's a good place for kids to grow up in, relative to, say, America," said Lifeson.

"I had my kids when I was young and I like the stability and the security of being here, the place where I was accustomed to. I never really saw any place that really attracted me, that made me feel really welcome."

Lee, lead singer and bassist, lives in Toronto while Peart, the band's drummer and lyricist, spends most of his time at his house in Quebec.

The band is currently taking a break from a tour promoting their latest release, *Test for Echo*, which has been certified gold in the United States for selling 500,000 copies. They hit the road again in April with Canadian dates still to be confirmed.

Lifeson, whose side project, Victor, is nominated for a Juno on March 9, plans to proudly display his Order of Canada lapel pin, bearing a stylized snowflake, crown, Maple Leaf and Latin motto.

"Everywhere, in the gym, the golf course — how often do you get to wear a medal?"

The band members also earn the right to use the letters O.C., for officers, after their names.

Wednesday

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
21 [6]CBC	On Road	Health	Life and Times		Black Harbour		National/CBC News	
31 PBS	In the Wild		Championship Ballroom Dancing		Cherille		OneFoot	Served
41 CBS	Grammy Awards						News	Late Show
51 [7]CKY	Grammy Awards						Home Imp.	Roseanne
71 NBC	National Geographic		Dateline		Law & Order		News	Cheers
81 [13]MTN	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Movie: True Lies					MTN News
10 [3]CWFT	Sous un ciel variable		"Les Bâtisseurs d'eau"		Telejournal	Le Point	Ce soir	Virginie
12 [9]CKND	Beverly Hills, 90210		Party of Five		Outer Limits		Married...	CKND
12 [12]MNRR	Beverly Hills, 90210		Party of Five		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Roseanne	Seinfeld
13 ABC	Grace	Coach	Drew Carey	Ellen	Primetime Live		News	Nightline
14 TSN	Bowling: Men's Five Pin		Curling: Tournament of Hearts					
15 CWN	Prime News	Burden	Larry King Live		World Today		Sports Illus.	Moneyline
16 TNN	Life of J. Dean		Prime Time Country		Road		Dallas	
17 W 39E TV5	(Ctd.) Envoyé spécial		Bons baisers d'Amérique		Paris lum.	J'nal Belge	Gabriel	Cercle
19 W 25E LIFE	Canadian	Body Break	Collector	Homes	Craftscapes	Dinner	John Oakley Live	
20 ABE	Biography		American Justice		20th Century		Law & Order	
21 WTN	House	M.T. Moore	Moonlighting		Flare TV	Metro Cafe	Double Duty	Jane Taber
23 W 19E ILC	SeaTek	Science	Down in Flames		Earth's Fury		SeaTek	Science
24 W PBS(Dot)	In the Wild		W.E.B. Du Bois -- A Biography in Four Voices				Served	Keeping Up
25 OSC	Great Parks	Trails	Sea Wings		Power Play	Know Zone	Discovery.ca	
27 BRAVO	Bravonews	Dashan: Funny Bone	Marty		Picture	Monty Py.	Sec. Agent	
28 WUHF	Beverly Hills, 90210		Party of Five		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.
34 W 38E RDI	Grands reportages		Journ. RDI	Maisonneuve à l'écoute	Canada	Telejournal	Canada	Canada
35 W 23E NewsWorld	Lead	Face Off	Pamela Wallin Live		Fifth Estate		National	Sports
36 W 31E MM	MTV Video Music Awards						Classic	Spotlight
37 W 22E YTV	Spider-Man	Alex Mack	Dexter	WhatMess	Reboot	You Afraid?	Beasties	NBA Dunk
38 W 36E Vision TV	Troubles	Boomers	Let's Sing	Men		Highway	100 Huntley Street	
39 W 24E Showcase	Hot Shots		Hitchcock	Hitchhiker	Crocodile Shoes		Movie: Lair of Worm	
39 W 40E CFMT	Beverly H.	Bungalow	Le Retour		Le TVA	Cha Ba Da		TVA & sprts
40 Family	Neverend	Quasimod	Van Dyke	SpaceCase	Flash	Spellbinder	Movie: Zoo in Budapest	
40 Movie Max	Movie: The Brass Bottle		Movie: Chu Chu and the Philly Flash				Movie: A Wedding	
41 SC	(Ctd.) Movie: Secret		Movie: Muriel's Wedding				Sanders	Movie
41 WTSB	NBA Basketball: Seattle SuperSonics at Indiana Pacers				Inside-NBA		Movie: Kinjite Forbid.	
41 WSKR	Sentinel		Star Trek: Voyager		News	Martin	Mad-You	Real TV
42 WGN	Steer. Sis.	Nick Freno	Wayans	Jamie Fox	News		Wiseguy	

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