

electro scope

electric company theatre society news

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"Brilliant!" Nominated for Five Jessies!



Still reeling from writing, acting and producing a major spectacle, we were pleased as punch to be nominated for 5 **Jessie Richardson Awards**, this year. (Please see listings on this page.) The Awards are sponsored each year by the Vancouver Professional Theatre Association. Nominees are chosen from a special nominating committee. The winners are elected in a ballot-style vote by all members of the VPTA. Winners will be announced at 6:30 on June 14 at the Vogue Theatre. Anyone wishing to attend may purchase tickets from Ticketmaster. See you there! ⚡

Welcome to **ElectroScope**, brought to you by the Electric Company Theatre Society. The Electric Company is a non-profit theatre company dedicated to the development of new Canadian theatre with an emphasis on physical and visual imagery. We strive to create theatre that is life-affirming, inspiring and provocative, and to promote theatre as an educative and cultural experience to

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the general public and the larger community through productions, workshops, tours and other related means. We believe in theatre that is accessible: financially and thematically. We wish to challenge the conventions of theatre while preserving a strong sense of story ⚡



**The Future
is Bright**

1998 Jessie Richardson Award Nominations for *Brilliant!* -- Small Theatre category:

**Outstanding
Production of a Play**

**Outstanding Play or
Musical (Script)**

**Best Lighting Design
Adrian Muir**

**Best Sound Design
Atila Cleman**

**Best Set Design
Craig Hall**



Congratulations to the fantastic team of intensely dedicated "Electrolytes". This nomination recognizes all of you for your outstanding work! Cheers!

1998 -99 Founding Membership

Conrad Alexandrowicz
Mitch Anderson
Norman Armour
Pat Armstrong
Susan Bartsch
Karen Berkhout
Attila Clemann
Judi Closkey
Joy Coghill
Sheila Collier
Todd & Leslie Collier
Stuart & Elaine Collier
Bernard Cuffling
Glenn Deverteuil
Lynn Deverteuil
Deborah Dunn
David Epp
Jillian Fargey
Mara Gottler
Dale Genge
Craig Hall
Bob Heddle
Jane Heyman
Tim Howard
Elizabeth Hudgins
Robert & Carol Hudgins
Anthony F. Ingram
Marvin Kaye
George & Carol Kerr
Charlie & Ann Kingston
Gabrielle LeForestier
Dick & Su Lonsdale
Timmie Marr
Robert McDonagh
Terry & Joan McQuillan
Robert Moloney
Paul Moniz de Sá
Adrian Muir
Christopher Newton
Kelly O
Gerry Plunkett
Michelle Porter
Ian Raffel
Cindy Reid
Cindy Shaw
Katherine Shaw
Ron & Wendy Stuart
Andy Thompson
Geoff Vanderkooy
Samara Van Nostrand
Nicole Vieira
Lew Wetherell
George & Joanne Young
Allan Zinyk

The Vancouver Playhouse - our new mentor!

We are off to a roaring start with this year's announcement by Glynis Leyshon, Artistic Director of the Vancouver Playhouse, that the Playhouse will be mentoring our small but mighty theatre company!!

We are all overjoyed at this gracious offer! Besides helping us dramaturge future works, the Playhouse will be supplying some much needed

Who's manipulating whom? How much time is left? Is there a solution?

resources, including rehearsal space (which is worth its weight in gold in Vancouver!)

Glynis announced the sponsorship at the recent launch of the 1998-99 Playhouse season. She had seen this year's production of *Brilliant!* at the Roundhouse. Thank you, Playhouse! ✓

Patent Pending

Agora

July 1999 The Electric company goes outside. Our next full-length production is set to "air" under the firmament at one of Vancouver's most surprising unusual locations. An exciting original work, designed to drive a hole through

the fourth wall and into the outer regions of theatricality. Come and feast your senses!

Boom

Our *Spring 2000* production is a stylish multi-media theatre piece that digs at the roots BC's logging industry. No issue has so divided communities in BC as forestry has. So polarized has the issue become that little real dialogue exists between loggers and environmentalists — only the well-scripted dogma of professional representatives from both sides. Who's manipulating whom? How much time is left? Is there a solution? With Boom, a fast-paced, high-suspense drama, the Electric Company holds up a Hitchcock-like world in sharp relief to the tranquility and equilibrium of nature.

Electric Laboratory

Beginning this year, the Electric Co. will host intimate demonstrations of their latest experiments in style and form. ✓

Charitable Work

In 1998 the Electric Company gave over 250 free tickets to community groups, senior groups, and the unemployed. Over 400 others received discount tickets, including three schools.

ElectroScope will provide details of upcoming workshops, productions and charitable events. (See back page for web site.) ✓

Past, Present, ...

Four people working for two years on one play! Why?

That's the question we ask regularly, when we think back on the little show that blossomed into a full-length epic.

"Brilliant!" began its life in the summer of '97 and reached critical success as a "held-over" Fringe production. In March of 1998 the play re-emerged from its cocoon, wherein four busy writers went practically mad from pre-writes, re-writes, and edits. Vancouver welcomed the new show, set in the gorgeous Roundhouse Theatre on Pacific Boulevard.

Though not as gushing about the full-length version, Colin Thomas wrote the following praise: "The new version of *Brilliant!*, the Electric Company's play about Nikola Tesla, is a beautiful jumble of wires. ... the show is so winningly staged that I think special Jessies should be invented for most theatrical production and best use of space."

... and Future

*You want to see more? (maybe *Brilliant!* should have been longer...)*

Don't despair! Although the Electric Company's '98-'99 season is mostly

engineered for development, writing, and bizarre experimentation, we have scheduled a couple of shorter plays to keep you appetite whetted until the next extravaganza is unleashed on Vancouver. Look for short works by members of the collective at the new **24-Hour Playwriting Festival** in December 1998, and at the **Kiss Projects** in February 1999.

Also... *Brilliant!* was recently invited to attend Calgary's High Performance Rodeo Theatre Festival in January. We are considering a tour that would include Calgary on our way to.... who knows? T.O.? N.Y.?.... Stay tuned.

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Audience Response

"Complex, yet well-orchestrated. All the elements combine to create an enlightening whole."

"Terrific! Many deep insights (on many levels) presented with freshness and tied right into our modern dilemmas."

"I meant to go to the movies tonight — I'm glad I came here! Very complex and thought-provoking!"

"Brilliant! was!"

Member News

⚡ Our **Annual General Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, June 14th, 1998 at 2616 St. Catherines Street (near Fraser and 11th) at 2:00 pm. All members are invited to attend to wrap up last fiscal year and welcome in the new one with a bang!

⚡ Special Thanks to Rumble Theatre for supporting our company along the way. They helped us get our sea legs as an emerging company, featuring The Electric Company us in their stunning *Transmissions* magazine. Don't miss their upcoming show, **The Terrible But Incomplete Journals of John D.**

⚡ Watch for news of the Electric Company's annual fundraiser **The Big Plug**, in October.

⚡ **ElectroScope** will provide details of upcoming workshops, productions, and charitable events. Or visit our web site at:
<http://electric-company.home.ml.org/>

⚡ **Video Projector Rental!**
(Model: SONY CPJ-100) Best rates in town! Call 875-6528 for price quotes.

Yes, I would like to become a: **Membership Form**

- ☐ Member of the Electric Company
☐ Donor of the Electric Company*

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Province: _____
Postal Code: _____
Telephone: _____

*Please note: Our charitable receipt number is still pending. We will issue receipts for donations when it arrives.



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