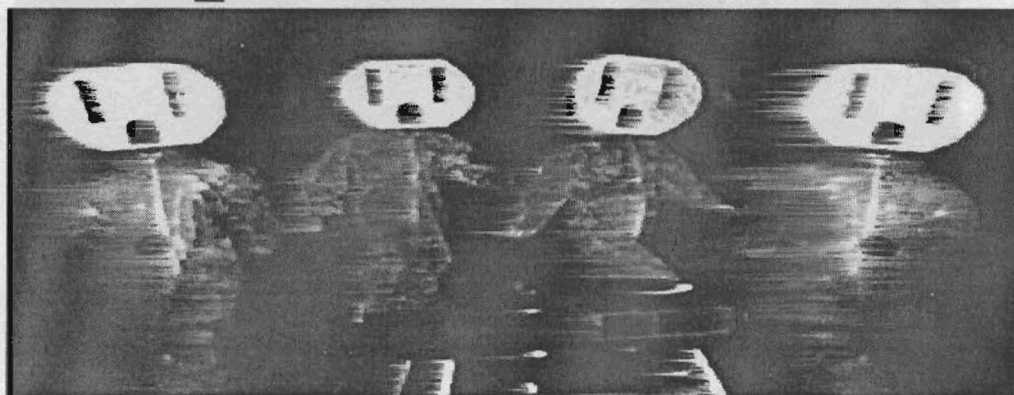


electro scope

electric company theatre society news

november 99 > vol 3 > issue 1



We Swing the Body Electric: "The Emotional Outlets" at last year's fundraiser, **THE BIG PLUG**.

The Human Genome Project

We're back! After briefly pondering a "sabbatical" year this summer, the Electric Company bounced back into full production with an exciting new project! Commissioned by Vancouver's Centre for Molecular Medicine, **ICELAND** explores the story of the most ambitious scientific adventure of our time.

The identification of all human genes is accelerating at a rate that not even the molecular geneticists themselves would have predicted five years ago. The Human Genome Project, an organized international effort funded by the governments and corporations in industrialized nations, will be completed in April 2000. By gradually identifying the human genome—the blueprint for life—scientists are closing in on the ability to effectively treat and prevent nearly every hereditary disease that strikes humankind.

At the same time, this technology raises profound ethical questions that have tremendous implications: Can insurance companies demand genetic tests to determine who poses a health risk? Should parents be able to choose their baby's sex or eye color? ✎

"Iceland"

April 7-16, 2000

"Playing God? Who's playing? I *am* God." After Billions of years a living organism is finally able to understand and manipulate it's own destiny. At what point in genetic experimentation do we become something other than human? **ICELAND** portrays the race to discover and claim ownership to what is arguably our most personal and prized possession — our biological architecture. The central characters are fascinated by this mad spiral inward. Invasion of privacy takes on a whole new meaning. ✎

How to Play House with Glynnis

It was a beautiful relationship! Passionate. Filled with mutual adoration. We'll never forget you.

The VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE was critical to our success of the last twelve months. You took us in and gave us shelter from the storm of production frenzy for "The Wake".

Glynnis Leyshon, your commitment to the Electric Company and the theatre community at large is an inspirational contribution. Thanks for your vision!

"The Wake" Stirs Up the Sediment:

Some favourable reviews from the local media:

Colin Thomas,
Georgia Straight

'The Wake' is the kind of pivotal production that people will talk about for years, and one that may help to define a distinctive aesthetic for this city.

Endlessly innovative, the play contains more searing visuals than the rest of this season combined, and it is, bar none, the best outdoor theatrical spectacle I've witnessed.

Jo Ledingham,
The Courier

Terrific performances, stunning outdoor lighting by Adrian Muir, and a full moon made 'The Wake' pure magic.



The Audience is Listening... and participating using our patented Spie-Toobs® during THE WAKE.

In the Wake of The Wake

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. **THE WAKE** was the ship that launched a thousand faces — faces that braved wind, weather, and the uneven terrain of Granville Island.

With its non-traditional nature, the production was rife with hurdles and unexpected pitfalls, but the collective spirit of the actors, designers, technicians, volunteers, and stage management ensured the piece kept afloat. Everyone was fuelled by the continuous challenges and the very improbability of mounting such a show.

We feel the show to be very successful in terms of its aesthetic, and as a unique audience experience that emphasizes the community nature of a theatre event. These are both primary focuses of the Electric Company. //

Theatre Under the Gun

Nov 26 + 27, 1999
Van East Cultural Centre

Around this time last year, the electricians embarked on possibly the most meaningful 24 hours of their career. What appeared once it was over was our favorite 15-minute play we ever wrote. **THE MAMMOTH** was a tale of epic proportions, weaving together the tragic events surrounding a fading rock legend and a doomed arctic expedition. The **Theatre Under the Gun** 24-hour play writing festival returns to the Cultch on November 26 and 27th and it is just what our theatre scene needs: a smorgasbord of fresh ideas, theatrical combustion, and morale boosting fun where you can take part in Vancouver's rowdiest theatre crowd... //

Cell Mates

The Electric Company has made its first foray into film with a commissioned screenplay for an exciting new project. Filmmaker Rob McDonnaugh and Rumble Theatre commissioned twelve short scripts from

twelve different writers across Canada for a film set in a hotel. The Electric Company collective came up with **CELL MATES**, a glimpse at four identical men alone together with nothing but the sound of their own voice. The project is being designed for airing on the Bravo!

Membership Form

Yes, I would like to become a:

☐ Member of the Electric Company

Enclosed is my \$5 membership fee

☐ Donor of the Electric Company

I am enclosing the following amount : \$ _____)

(All Donations will receive an Official Receipt for Tax Purposes)



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

e-mail: _____

ELECTRIC COMPANY THEATRE SOCIETY 2616 ST. CATHERINES STREET VANCOUVER, BC. V5T 3Y4
TEL 875-6528 (now) TEL 253-4222 (after Dec 6) FAX 251-1730 EMAIL kimandjon@idmail.com

Praise the Donors!

We thank all the wonderful people who contributed this year. Particular thanks go to the following individuals and organizations for their selfless contributions:

Jim Creegan
 Touchstone Theatre
 False Creek Community Centre
 Robin Richardson
 Jennifer Patterson
 Scott Fee

**DANKESHÖNI
 DARLING, DANKESHÖNI**



The genetically enhanced Electric Co. dance their praises.

Donor Categories

candle power

\$25-40

a spot on the mailing list, advanced notice of special events, readings, and future productions

volt

\$41-99

above plus we kiss your feet

spark

\$100-149

above plus we send you autographed pictures of the Electric Company

forked lightning

\$150-250

above plus we call you periodically and make small talk

killer watt

\$251-499

above plus we do a little dance around you and chant, "thank you, thank you, thank you"

thor:

god of thunder

\$500+

above plus we climb grouse mountain and proclaim you and your family's names to the gods and the heavens above

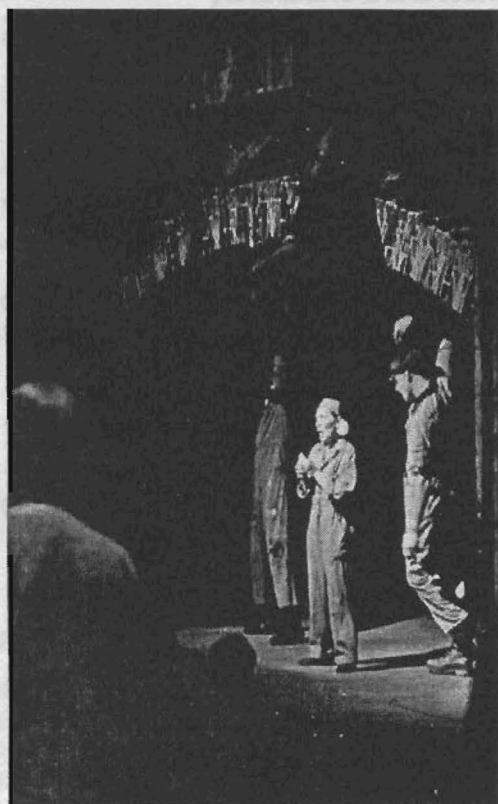


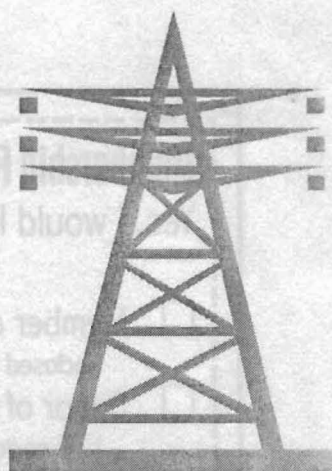
photo: Sonia Norris, Todd Ingram in **THE WAKE**.

What's Up?

⚡ **UNITY 1918** by Kevin Kerr, a new play in development under Touchstone Theatre's playwright-in-residence program. Watch for an upcoming production.

⚡ ElectricCompany, Rumble Theatre Productions and Pink Ink theatre are exploring the possibilities of an ambitious international co-production with Notzar Theatre company from Israel.

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



Electric Company members Kim Collier, Kevin Kerr, and Jonathon Young battling for space while grant writing at 3 am.

Our Board...

Karen Berkhout..... PRESIDENT
Pat Armstrong..... VICE PRESIDENT
Mitch Anderson..... TREASURER
Tim Howard..... SECRETARY
Cindy Reid..... AT LARGE
Rory Gylander..... AT LARGE
Anthony F. Ingram ... AT LARGE



SPACE!!!

The **Vancouver East Cultural Centre** provided the Electric Co. with another step in our developing long term vision with their incredible offer of including us as a resident company. This will culminate with the Cultch presenting an original Electric Company production in 2001. Not only that, but they have offered us an office space for our continuing operations. The prospect of moving out of Azra's bedroom shouldn't be astounding but it is. IT IS!! Watch for the Electric Company dancing their praise on the Cultch front lawn nightly. ⚡

Electric Company Theatre

Society is a not-for-profit, producing 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 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. ⚡

ElectroScope written and produced by the Electric Company: Kim Collier, David Hudgins, Kevin Kerr, and Jonathon Young.