

Emily Saves The Orchestra

PROGRAM INFORMATION

(August 2006 – please destroy all previous versions)

Please include the following text in the concert program:

Platypus Theatre's
EMILY SAVES THE ORCHESTRA

Written and Directed by Peter Duschenes
Designed by Cathy Stubington
Choreography by Robert Bergner
Produced by Michael Duschenes

Performed by
Danielle Desormeaux, Peter Duschenes and TBA

Stage Manager:
Wendy Rockburn



(N.B. Logo must be included in program and is available on the Platypus website at
<http://www.platypustheatre.com/presenters/pres-general.html>)

Platypus Theatre would love to hear from you! Please contact them through their website:
www.platypustheatre.com

Repertoire

Includes excerpts from:

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| Tchaikovsky: | Nutcracker (Danse russe Trepak) |
| Beethoven: | Symphonies No. 6 ("Storm" & "Shepherd's Song") |
| Beethoven: | Symphony No. 9 ("Ode to Joy") |
| Duschenes, Mario: | Organized Chaos |
| Kabalevsky: | Comedians Gallop |
| Khatchaturian: | Sabre Dance |
| Grieg: | Peer Gynt Suite (Morning) |
| Dukas: | Fanfare from La Péri |
| Rossini: | William Tell Overture |
| Pachelbel: | Canon |
| Dvorak: | Slavonic Dance No. 1, op. 46 |

Biographies

N.B: Please include photographs of the actors and Stage Manager. High-resolution photographs of the artists are available on the Platypus website at: <http://www.platypustheatre.com/presenters/pres-general.html>

Platypus Theatre

Canada's Platypus Theatre has been garnering rave reviews from critics, educators, musicians, parents and children around the globe for over 15 years. Founded in 1989 the company has performed more than 300 times with over 50 orchestras including the symphonies in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Calgary, Houston, Atlanta, Milwaukee, Seattle, Buffalo and Utah as well as the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Singapore Symphony and the Malaysian Philharmonic.

Combining live actors, masks and puppets the company has been lauded for its immensely creative productions and its unique ability to educate young audiences about classical music in an intelligent, entertaining and interactive way. Last season, in collaboration with the Toronto Symphony and Television Ontario, Platypus shot a television version of "How the Gimquat Found Her Song" which is scheduled to be aired on TVO in December 2006. In Addition to "Gimquat" the company has six other original productions to its credit: **Emily Saves the Orchestra, Rhythm in Your Rubbish, Bach to the Future, Song of the Forest, Charlotte and the Music-Maker** and **A Flicker of Light on a Christmas Night**.

Peter Duschenes, Artistic Director, Writer and Actor

Co-founder and Artistic Director of Platypus Theatre, Peter Duschenes has been widely praised for his innovation in presenting symphonic music to young audiences. His ability to bring the concert stage to life by combining theatre and music has led to numerous commissions with orchestras from coast to coast. An award winning playwright, Peter's writing credits include all seven of Platypus' symphony plays as well as the one-act play, **Lost River**, which was the 1991 winner of the Theatre BC's Canadian National Playwriting competition. As an actor Peter has performed with companies across Canada and the United States appearing most recently as Richard in Shakespeare's **Richard II** at Quantum Theatre in Pittsburgh and as Louis Ironson in **Angels In America** at the Centaur Theatre in Montreal. Peter received his MFA in theatre from the California Institute of the Arts in 1988 and now lives in Ottawa with his wife, Sarah and their two children; Magda and Theo.

Danielle Desormeaux, Actor

Danielle Desormeaux is a Montréal actor who has appeared on stage, in both English and French, in theatres across Canada and abroad. These days her voice can be heard on TV and radio in **The Bellflower Bunnies, The Kids From Room 402, Kitou the Six-Eyed Monster, Arthur** and **Elsie Reford** (Radio Canada).

Recent film and television credits include **René Lévesque, Big Sugar, Stardom** and **Affliction**. Ms. Desormeaux's work in improvisation, collective theatre and clown has led to the creation of several new plays including **Rhythm In Your Rubbish** for Platypus Theatre and **Umloüt** and **MöcShplat** for Clowns Gone Bad. Her French/English adaptation of **The Anger in Ernest and Ernestine** will be produced as a full production in the spring of 2007. Ms Desormeaux has been a member of Platypus Theatre's touring company since 1998 and is thrilled to be back.

TBA, Dancer

Wendy Rockburn, Stage Manager

Wendy Rockburn is an Ottawa-based stage manager with over 16 years in the business. She has worked in theatres mostly in eastern Canada, including The National Arts Centre and Great Canadian Theatre Company in Ottawa, Centaur Theatre in Montreal, Thousand Islands Playhouse in Gananoque, Neptune Theatre in Halifax, and Canadian Stage and Tarragon in Toronto. The tremendous opportunity to work with the world-renowned Platypus Theatre is a wonderful meld of her two loves, stage managing and travelling.