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# Where Are They Now?

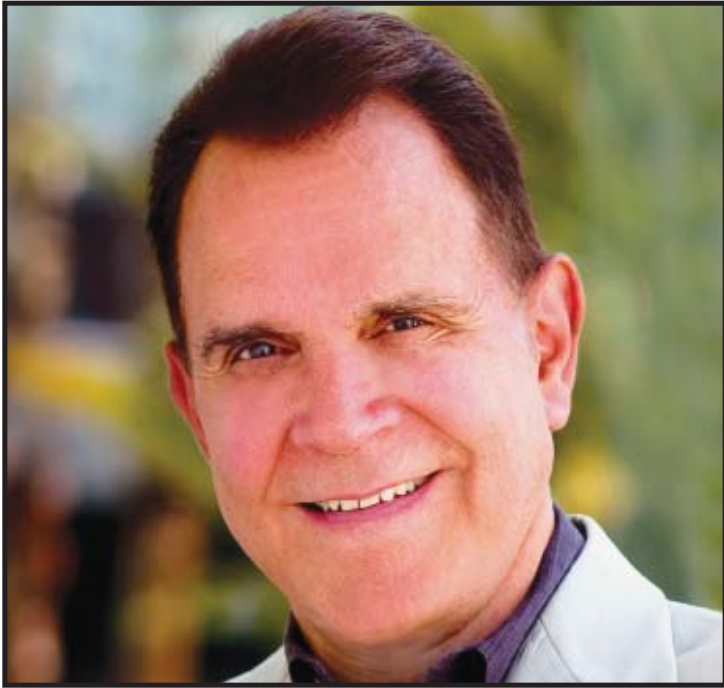
*This is the sixth of ten exhibits  
to be displayed during the  
100th Anniversary Season.*

*It will be on display in the  
Besserer Street lobby from  
March 19 – April 6  
during the run of “Deathtrap”*

**A**fter 100 years, hundreds of actors, playwrights, directors, stage managers and others have worked their magic on this stage, behind the scenes, or in the booth. Some have kept their talents local, and others have found their fame nationally and around the world. Join us for a brief look at some of the Ottawa Little Theatre’s alumni, and see who got their start right here.



## ACTORS



**Rich Little**

**R**ich Little was a teenager when he first trod the stage at OLT as an actor. He appeared in plays during this period like *Father of the Bride* before moving on. Known for his countless impersonations of golden age actors and politicians, he also narrated Canadian programs like *The Raccoons*. Rich's current show, *Jimmy Stewart & Friends*, is being shown in Las Vegas where he takes on dozens of voices – including his own.



**Saul Rubinek**

**T**he son of Jewish refugees, Saul Rubinek participated in OLT's children's theatre, encouraged to do so by his father – who also had a theatrical background. Among the roles he played was Ptolemy in *Caesar & Cleopatra*. A veteran of stage, television and film on both sides of the border, Saul can currently be seen in *Warehouse 13*. He is also a playwright; *Terrible Advice*, his first play was produced in London's West End in 2011.

## ACTORS



### Ann-Marie MacDonald

**A**nn-Marie MacDonald began her acting career at OLT for one season in 1976/77. While playing Princess Alais in *The Lion in Winter*, her cast mates coached her for her audition at the National Theatre School. In 1988, Ann-Marie received the Governor General's Literary Award for her play *Good Night Desdemona*, *Good Morning Juliet*, and more recently, her novel *The Way the Crow Flies*, was recognized by the Libris Awards. She currently lives in Toronto and works as a broadcast journalist for CBC as the host of their documentary program *Doc Zone*.



### Luba Goy

**B**efore joining Montreal's National Theatre School, Luba Goy was active in the theatre scene in Ottawa. Among her performances at OLT was *Alice in Wonderland* during the 1964/65 season. Now famous for her part in the Royal Canadian Air Farce on radio and television, and her thousands of impressions, Luba premiered her one-woman show *Luba, Simply Luba*, in May 2012.

You can see her at OLT's 100th Birthday Gala on May 9, 2013.

## ACTORS



### Holly Larocque

Performing at OLT in the 1970s gave a young Holly Larocque the opportunity to play Dulcinea in *Man of La Mancha*. It was, she says, “a chance to reach outside myself and perform a role that no-one would have expected of me.” Her many experiences at OLT, including the Theatre for Children program, prepared her for a career on stage and on television. Known for her role in CBC’s *Under the Umbrella Tree*, she now tours internationally with a swing orchestra.



### Teri Loretto-Valentik

Teri Loretto-Valentik was cast in *Separate Tables* at OLT in 2000. While already active in the Ottawa theatre community, it was during this performance that she met the woman who would become her mentor, Carol MacKay; the two would collaborate on many projects. In February 2013, Teri directed *Billy Bishop Goes to War* at the Gladstone Theatre and she is perhaps more familiar to Ottawa residents as the weekend weather specialist on CBC TV.

## ACTOR / WRITER



### Raoul Bhaneja

**A** backstage visit at OLT to see a favoured teacher introduced Raoul Bhaneja to the magic of theatre: “From that moment on I thought it would be really cool to work there.” Raoul was cast in *The Day They Kidnapped the Pope* in 1988/89, and a few years later saw his future wife perform in *Steel Magnolias*. He lives in Los Angeles now and has appeared on television programs in both Canada and the United States. He can be seen internationally performing in his band, **Raoul and the Big Time**, or in his one-man show *Hamlet (solo)*.



### Erika Ritter

**P**laywright and novelist Erika Ritter’s early career received a boost when she won OLT’s One-Act Play Writing competition in 1975. For her, “to have my play – a comedy, with female characters – singled out for that honour was helpful and significant.” Her list of plays includes *Automatic Pilot* and *A Visitor from Charleston*. Her recent book, *The Dog by the Cradle, The Serpent Beneath*, has been nominated for awards, and she looks forward to having her next play produced in Toronto sometime in the coming year.



## — STAGE MANAGER/MUSICAL DIRECTOR —



**Wendy Rockburn**

**I**nspired by actor Karl Malden to volunteer in the theatre, OLT became Wendy Rockburn's second home between 1978 and 1988. She worked primarily backstage, making props, prompting actors, and assisting directors. She moved on as apprentice stage manager at the Great Canadian Theatre Company, a position she won only because of her work at OLT. In addition to her current work as lighting designer and stage manager with Ottawa's Platypus Theatre, she is a travel photographer, and is in the process of organizing an Ottawa film festival featuring Hindi films.



**Bert Carriere**

**M**usical since he was a child, Bert Carriere returned to his home town when he became OLT's musical director in 1974. He worked at other theatre companies in Ontario, though his work as music director with the Stratford Festival proved to be the most prolific (1976-83 and 1985-2007); he composed and arranged music for over 80 shows for Stratford before he retired in 2007. He was named to the Order of Canada (in 2001) for "his expertise as a teacher at numerous arts education institutions and with theatre companies throughout Canada and abroad."

## WRITER / DIRECTOR



**John Murrell**

Canadian playwright John Murrell's entry into OLT's One-Act Play Writing competition, *Metamorphosis*, came in fourth in 1971. He has since written a body of plays that have been translated into fifteen different languages; he has also translated Chekov, Ibsen, Sophocles and other playwrights into English. His most well-known play is arguably *Waiting for the Parade*. In 2008, he received the Governor-General of Canada's Performing Arts Award for lifetime artistic achievement for a career that has taken him from Alberta to Stratford.



**Tim Bond**

The acting bug bit Tim Bond after his parents enrolled him in OLT's programming to help overcome his shyness. "It was a real home for me," he says of his nightly attendance during high school. A love of directing and the support of mentor and OLT alum Bill Glenn helped Tim move onto a directorial career in Hollywood. With many television and movie credits to his name, Tim also directed his friend Saul Rubinek in an episode of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Tim now divides his time between Toronto and France, and actively freelances as a director.

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## Did You Know?

**A**t the beginning of his acting career, Saulteaux actor Adam Beach performed in plays such as *Witness for the Prosecution* in OLT's 1995/96 season. You can see him now on CBC's *Arctic Air* as well as several Hollywood blockbusters such as *Windtalkers*, *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Cowboys and Aliens*.

Although now more likely to interview stars on *etalk* and to find him on *Canadian Idol*, Ben Mulroney took drama classes at OLT.

Since his first play was produced in 1983, Norm Foster is considered to be Canada's most produced playwright. OLT has produced twelve of his plays since 2003.

According to the *Globe and Mail*, Michael Healey's *The Drawer Boy* (which will be produced here at OLT between August 6 and 25) is the fourth most produced play in the United States during the last decade.

## Conclusion

**T**his is only a small sampling of the individuals whose careers have been touched in some way by the Ottawa Little Theatre. When you watch tonight's performance, remember the names and faces of the men and women who created this show; one day, you might find yourself saying...

*"Where do I know them from?"*

The answer: OLT