

## 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

**D**O 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."

**A**N 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  
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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.

8 pm Thursday and Saturday  
February 27 & March 1  
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Pre-concert talks at 2:15pm both evenings  
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## Rush first rock band in Order of Canada

By Betsy Powell  
Canadian Press

**T**ORONTO — 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]CWFMT        | 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 CBN             | 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 Foxx             | News                    |             | Wiseguy                |             |

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