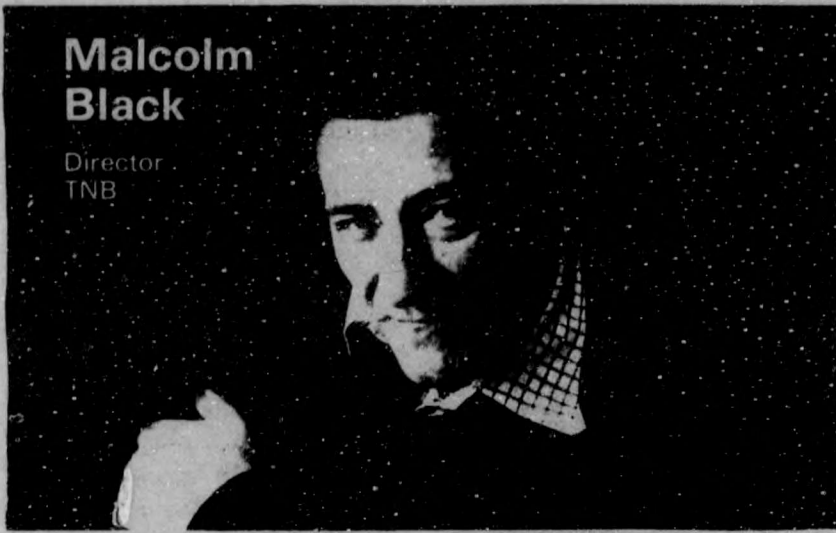


TNB plans new season



Malcolm Black

Director
TNB

By MARILYN BAGLEY
Brunswickan Staff

Last year was extremely successful for Theatre New Brunswick. In one season alone they performed for 65,000 people, about 2,000 more than the previous season. Productions which caused this increase in the audience size were *Murder Game*, *Wuthering Heights*, which was produced in con-

junction with the New Brunswick School Curriculum, and *Talley's Folly*, which depicted love and understanding - two rare commodities in today's society.

Malcolm Black, Theatre New Brunswick's director, is partially responsible for the theatre's success. He strives to provide New Brunswick residents with music of superior value and family entertainment of professional quality. For this

reason only professionally trained actors and actresses are employed by Theatre New Brunswick but, Mr. Black also feels a commitment to the opportunity to young people to turn professional.

Theatre New Brunswick's Young Company has just come from a successful summer with *Punch and Judy* which was performed in both official languages. TNB's Young Company is currently involved with preparations for two plays which will be produced in three hundred New Brunswick schools. *The Wheel*, written by Weidon Matthews of Florenceville, New Brunswick, will be performed in English, while *Saturday Morning Special* written by Michael Boucher will also be performed in French. Both plays are presented in a way which should be understood and enjoyed by any school age child.

TNB holds the distinction of being the only Canadian theatre which tours all productions regularly. Each production is on the road for approximately two weeks. TNB finds it difficult to meet the demands of the province due to the expense involved. Already they operate with minimum staff and props. Forty-seven percent

of the money which ends up in TNB funds goes directly to production of plays, mainstage and on tour. That is rather expensive when it is considered that Theatre New Brunswick operates on a budget slightly above the million dollar mark.

As one walks by the Playhouse box office during the lunch hour it becomes apparent that subscriptions to TNB productions are very popular. And so it should be; at \$16 (lowest student rate) the student is entitled to enjoy four plays. The Christmas special is not included in the package, but discounts are given to subscription holders.

Memoirs, by John Murrell, is the season opener and is particularly exciting - as it stars Viola Leger. Ms. Leger is an Acadian who is known for her one woman plays. This is the first time which Theatre New Brunswick welcomes her to its stages.

Following on the heels of the season opener is the Christmas special, *Life With Father*. It is described as being a heart warming, family comedy; not to be missed!

Mass Appeal a 1981-82 Broadway hit will be presented toward the end of January. *Time Magazine* described it as

"a luminous play, - a glowing evening, that bubbles with laughter." The play deals with three main certainties of life, God, human folly and laughter. It should be a truly delightful way to escape the drudgeries of a long mid-winter evening.

The musical this year is still not finalized. Negotiations are underway to obtain rights for a play featuring the music of Mozart. But the demise of the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra has also created problems which Mr. Black anticipates as being resolved shortly.

The final play in the collection is by the master playwright, George Bernard Shaw. *Arms and the Man* is a comedy based on false heroics, romantic love and emerging nationalism.

For students, the subscription plan is something that is worth considering - as the full price of an individual ticket is \$8. The subscription guarantees you are not left standing in the cold. You are able to choose your seat, decide which night you prefer to attend and can receive your tickets in advance.

I join with Malcolm Black in anticipating a great season of fine entertainment.

Red n' Black Revue
General meeting
Tuesday, September 28
7:00 p.m. in Tilley 102.

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