



I N T E R

Holiday 2001

# ACTRA

The Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists

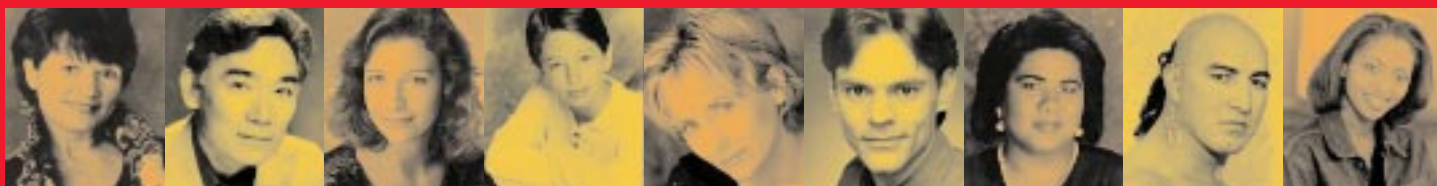


ACTRA's 2001 – a year of accomplishments for our members and our union

- NEW DYNAMIC ACTRA LOGO
- RENEWED IPA AGREEMENT
- 6% INCREASE OVER 2 YEARS FOR ACTRA MEMBERS
- ACTRA EXTRAS
- NEW NATIONAL WEBSITE [WWW.ACTRA.CA](http://WWW.ACTRA.CA)
- ESTABLISHED A TEAM OF NATIONAL ORGANIZERS
- RENEWED CBC AGREEMENT
- LAUNCH OF THE MINOR'S TRUST
- SECURED ACTRA JURISDICTION FOR NEW MEDIA



- REDESIGNED *INTERACTRA*
- PROMOTING CANADIAN PERFORMERS THROUGH FACE TO FACE ONLINE
- FUNDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN OUR BRANCHES: OTTAWA AND WINNIPEG
- NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS
- 100+ ACTRA MEMBERS ARE NOMINATED FOR GEMINI AWARDS AND 25 MEMBERS TAKE HOME A STATUE
- TOWN HALL MEETINGS LEADING UP TO IPA NEGOTIATIONS
- MORE WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTRA MEMBERS



- NEW TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR ACTRA APPRENTICE MEMBERS
- ACTRA SPONSORSHIPS THAT PROMOTE OUR MEMBERS: WOMEN IN THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR, CANADIAN COMEDY AWARDS, ATLANTIC FILM FESTIVAL, WORLDWIDE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, TIDAL WAVE FILM FESTIVAL (FREDERICTON)
- ATLANTIC CANADA NOW FIRMLY FIXED ON THE HOLLYWOOD MAP WITH *THE SHIPPING NEWS*, *K19*, *WISE GIRLS* AND MORE



- ACTRA NEWFOUNDLAND WORKED ON ESTABLISHING NEW PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR FILM INDUSTRY
- BREAKTHROUGH YEAR FOR ACTRA SASKATCHEWAN: NEW SOUNDSTAGE, ACTRA RESOURCE CENTRE, ACTRA AUDITION AND TRAINING CENTRE
- RESTRUCTURE OF ACTRA TORONTO PERFORMERS TO FOCUS ON IMPROVED MEMBER SERVICES
- ACTRA PERFORMERS' RIGHTS SOCIETY COLLECTS AND DELIVERS OVER \$4 MILLION IN PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS

# applause

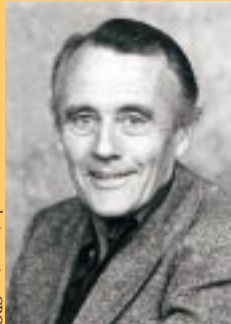
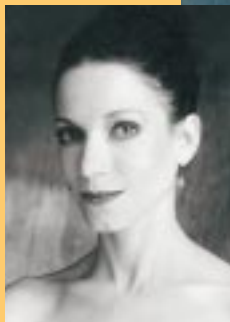


photo courtesy CBC



photo courtesy: MCGJ Joanne Stoeckl, Rideau Hall



ACTRA Member Christopher Plummer receives his award from Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada.

## Congratulations to ACTRA members Max Ferguson, Evelyn Hart and Christopher Plummer, three of this year's recipients of the 2001 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards

ACTRA celebrates these extraordinary Canadians who have received one of Canada's most prestigious artistic honours.

Max Ferguson, broadcaster and author, has been a CBC Radio icon for more than 50 years. Evelyn Hart, prima ballerina with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, is one of Canada's most gifted and innovative dancers. Christopher Plummer's career on stage and screen spanning half-a-century has earned him a reputation as one of the finest actors of his generation.

The awards were presented at Rideau Hall in Ottawa on November 2, 2001.

## SOME KUDOS for [www.actra.ca](http://www.actra.ca)...

"So nice to be in control of what's being presented on our behalf. What a terrific tool for performers."  
– an ACTRA member

"Bye bye Casting Workbook!"  
– an ACTRA member

"I have been viewing your new and improved website, and it is quite extraordinary. All of you at ACTRA are to be congratulated on its launch."  
– Patrick Quinn, President, Actors Equity (U.S.)

# 25 ACTRA MEMBERS ARE GEMINI WINNERS!



The Gemini Award statuette was created by Scott Thornley.

Congratulations to the 25 ACTRA Members who received Geminis at the 16th Annual Gemini Awards, October 27-29, 2001, in Toronto. Congratulations also to the 100+ ACTRA Members nominated this year. Way to go!

### Nicholas Campbell

Best Performance by an Actor in a Guest Role Dramatic Series, *Blue Murder*  
Best Performance by an Actor in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role, *Da Vinci's Inquest*

### Garry Chalk

Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Series, *Cold Squad*

### Babz Chula

Best Performance by an Actress in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role, *These Arms of Mine*

### Suzette Couture

Best Writing in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series, *After the Harvest*

### Sean Cullen

Best Performance or Host in a Variety Program or Series, *Just For Laughs*

### Elisha Cuthbert

Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series, *Lucky Girl*

### Brendan Fletcher

Best Performance in a Childrens' or Youth Program or Series, *Caitlin's Way*

### David Gale

Best Host in a Lifestyle, or Performing Arts Program or Series, *Loving Spoonfuls*

### Emily Hampshire,

**Rick Mercer,**  
**Peter Keleghan,**  
**Dan Lett,**  
**Leah Pinsent**

Best Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Program or Series, *Made In Canada*

### Rex Harrington

Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program or Series, *Four Seasons*

### Kari Matchett

Best Performance by an Actress in a Guest Role Dramatic Series, *Blue Murder*

### Ron MacLean

Best Sports Broadcaster, *NHL All Star Break & NHL All Star Game*

### Sherry Miller

Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series, *Lucky Girl*

### Eric Peterson

Best Performance in a Pre-School Program or Series, *Sesame Park*

### Tamara Craig Thomas

Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Series, *Cold Squad*

### Hugh Thompson

Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series, *Blessed Stranger: After Flight 111*

### Jackie Burroughs

Earle Grey Award

### Roger Abbott,

**Luba Goy,**  
**Don Ferguson,**  
**John Morgan**  
**Royal Canadian Air Farce**  
Royal Canadian Mint's Viewer's Choice Award





Jennine Profeta and Marcel St. Pierre, writers of the 2001 Gemini Awards



Anne Marie Scheffler, Amanda Tapping and Jamie Kastner



Gemini Award nominee Sumela Kay



Colin Mochrie and Debra McGrath

# 16th annual Gemini awards 2001

by Anne Marie Scheffler



Gemini Award winners Dan Lett and Leah Pinsent

The Gemini Award statuette was created by Scott Thornley.

**Monday, October 29th, 2001** Thanks to the time change last night, it's only 6pm and the beautiful harvest moon is already out. I convince myself 'fashionably late' is still acceptable. I am off to The Geminis!

The awards are underway by the time I get there – did I mention 'fashionably late'? MC **Mike Bullard** is trying to hurry the celebrations along. The accomplished **Jackie Burroughs** wins **The Earle Grey Award**, and takes the time to talk about being an actor in this country. "Being a Canadian actor means something – you certainly aren't lured by the money!" **Babz Chula** was so happy and surprised to be accepting a Gemini for the now-cancelled **These Arms of Mine**, she said "I'm having a hot flash." Overall, inspiring.

I leave the theatre and catch a limousine ride with Gemini nominee **Sumela Kay**. We

zip along the Gardiner. Our city looks magical at night.

We pour into The Liberty Grand to a lavish spread of food and well-stocked bars everywhere. The music is live and perfect, the guests are happy, and the talented **Colin Mochrie** is there with his equally talented wife, **Debra McGrath**. I've done pieces she originated when I was at Second City. I take a picture.

I have my fill of the outstanding buffet dinner, and happen upon **Jamie Kastner** by the desserts. He and I go way back – to the 'entertainment department' of Canada's Wonderland (that's all I'll say) and we meet every now and then in the, well, Canadian 'entertainment department.' Jamie is now doing on-air reporting and producing at CBC.

We head for the coffee. Jamie and I

bump into **Stargate's** truly delicious **Amanda Tapping**. She's now a Vancouverite due to the show's success, but we reminisce about Toronto times when she performed live with sweet **Ann-Marie Kerr** in **Random Acts**.

I put down my plate and spy Second City performers **Jennine Profeta** and **Marcel St. Pierre** looking very stylish, sipping wine by the dance floor. Glamorous Jennine and Marcel explain that they were writers on the Geminis tonight. I'm so impressed, I take their picture. Oh, so multi-talented in this country!!

It's almost 11, and what with it being a Monday night, the party goes start to go. Party stayers, read: actors, stay to dance to the wonderful crooning band. That's when hilarious **Dan Lett** and angelic **Leah Pinsent** showed us how its done (dancing and winning Geminis).

## Looking back and looking ahead



Thor Bishopric

The year 2001 has been full of change and progress at ACTRA. Our main focus has been delivering results that make a difference in the working lives of our Members. And as we've achieved the numerous goals outlined in the **ACTRA Plan**, we've been building our union's profile and promoting our Members as never before.

Without a doubt, ACTRA is now recognized as the most powerful and best organized association in the film and television industry here in Canada. On the international stage, our union is studied by sister organizations which seek to develop collective bargaining agreements and Membership services modelled on ACTRA's. Within FIA, the **International Federation of Actors**, our union continues to lead on the issue of solidarity.

The year ahead will be a full and exciting one. In January, we'll welcome new National Councillors to participate in the policy planning that directs our union. Also in the first quarter, ACTRA will be hosting a multi-national

conference on the **Global Protection of Performers** to address international solidarity issues and to make clear ACTRA's position on so-called runaway production. Throughout 2002, we'll continue building the union to serve you, our members, tailoring our services and growth to suit your needs. One exciting project will be the planning for ACTRA's **60th Anniversary** which we'll celebrate in 2003.

Looking forward, we still remember the tragic events of September 11th that have changed our world. All our lives and our industry have been affected by those terrible events and the resulting global uncertainty. Perhaps now more than ever, holiday time with family and loved ones is to be celebrated and cherished.

I hope the holidays are a time of peace and joy for every ACTRA Member, and that 2002 brings an abundance of personal and professional success.




André Leduc

Stephen Waddell

## Season's Greetings

from ACTRA's National Executive Director

As we approach the holiday season in these uncertain times, we seek calm and comfort in familiar circles with family and friends. May you find joy in the occasion, renewed optimism for the coming new year, and security in the knowledge that ACTRA – your union of artists – works for you.



**InterACTRA** Holiday 2001 Volume 7, Issue 3

*InterACTRA* is an official quarterly publication of ACTRA (Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists), a Canadian union of performers affiliated to the Canadian Labour Congress and the International Federation of Actors. *InterACTRA* is free of charge to all ACTRA Members.

**Editorial Advisory Committee:**  
Thor Bishopric, Stephen Waddell, Brian Gromoff, David Macniven, Kim Hume

Design: Joss MacLennan Design; Printed in Canada by: Del Graphics  
All contents are copyright 2001 ACTRA. All rights are reserved and contents, in whole or in part, may not be reprinted without permission. The points of view expressed do not necessarily represent those of ACTRA.

ACTRA  
625 Church St. Suite 300  
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2G1  
(416) 489-1311 or 1-800-387-3516  
national@actra.ca



Publications Mail Agreement #40069134



It has been a turbulent fall and promises to be an uncertain winter and spring. All the more reason to make serenity, solidarity and good health our prime personal and professional objectives. Best wishes from the West to all our colleagues East of the Rockies.

John Juliani  
UBCP President



As we near the end of the first year of this new millennium, I hope we all can find peace and contentment in these troubled times.

Randy Birch  
Calgary President



With the launch of Face to Face Online, the IPA settlement, the new members... the possibilities, we are very optimistic for 2002. Best of the season to all of you from all of us in Edmonton.

Dave Clarke  
Edmonton President







Canadian Labour Congress  
Congrès du travail du Canada

## ACTRA contributes to Canadian Labour Congress funds to help Sept. 11 victims and provide humanitarian aid to Afghanistan

Following the tragedy of September 11th, the **Canadian Labour Congress** established two funds to aid U.S. victims and their families, and to provide humanitarian relief to the people of Afghanistan. The CLC pledged \$25,000, and has collected \$60,000 from other union affiliates for the U.S. funds. ACTRA will be contributing \$35,000 Cdn. to these funds with pledges from ACTRA Toronto Performers, ACTRA Montreal, ACTRA Calgary, ACTRA Fraternal Benefit Society, ACTRA Performers' Rights Society and ACTRA National.

## THE 2002 CANADIAN COMEDY AWARDS



Canadian Comedy Week is a week-long celebration of comedy from April 1 to 7, 2002.

Go online to [www.canadiancomedyawards.com](http://www.canadiancomedyawards.com) to nominate, order tickets, get info and more! Nominations are open until January 15th, 2002. Look for your Canadian Comedy Awards ballot in February.

Don't forget the Pre-Show on Star! Brought to you by ACTRA.



## Saying Farewell to Ernie Coombs – MR. DRESSUP

**E**rne Coombs began pulling costumes out of the Tickle Trunk as **Mr. Dressup** in 1967. Beloved to generations of Canadian children, Ernie Coombs passed away on September 18, 2001 at age 73 following a stroke. Throughout his career Ernie won recognition for his contributions to Canadian television including a **Gemini Award**, and the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television's prestigious **Earle Grey Award**. He was made a **Member of the Order of Canada** in 1996 for bringing quality programming to Canadian children. He was a spokesperson for Canadian Save the Children for many years and was presented with a special **Save the Children Award** in 1997.

The public said farewell to Ernie Coombs at a memorial and celebration of his life on October 15, 2001. He is a Canadian icon proudly loved by many of us. He will be sadly missed.

Season's Greetings from Saskatchewan! The new year will see the completion of an ACTRA Performers Centre and a soundstage that will benefit the community immeasurably... and this is just the beginning! Best wishes to our brother and sister branches across the country!

Chris Scott  
Saskatchewan President



Seasons Greetings from ACTRA Manitoba. The events since September 11th may cause many of us to reflect on our personal values and goals this holiday season, and be grateful for the peaceful communities in which we live. Wishing you all peace, happiness and goodwill.

Wayne Nicklas  
Manitoba President



At this time of year when we reflect on our lives and realize our concerns for others, we as performers need to commit to a peaceful unity and encourage a universal flow of this consciousness. Best New Year's wishes to all.

Richard Hardacre  
Toronto President



On behalf of the members and Branch Council for Ottawa, our best wishes to our colleagues across the country for a safe and happy holiday season, and may the coming year be a rewarding and successful one for us all.

Lorraine Ansell  
Ottawa President

## Visit **Face to Face Online**

at [www.actra.ca](http://www.actra.ca) and update your profile, résumé and credits.

If you haven't submitted your headshot, or wish to update your online photos, visit your ACTRA Branch.



**Face to Face**  
ONLINE TALENT SEARCH

If you have questions or comments email [ftf@actra.ca](mailto:ftf@actra.ca) or call us at 1-800-387-3516 ext. 4023.

## Make [www.actra.ca](http://www.actra.ca) your homepage.

From Internet Explorer 5.0 or later, load the ACTRA website, then under 'tools' select 'internet options.' Click 'use current' in the homepage section, 'OK' and voilà.



## Globe Theatre benefit raises over \$12,000 for ACTRA Member

A benefit performance of **The Wizard of Oz** raised over \$12,000 for ACTRA Member **Ian Black**, who is fighting a serious illness. Ian served as National Treasurer from January to September, 2000. The sold-out performance at the **Globe Theatre** in Regina was a fabulous event for the entire cultural community of Regina and Saskatchewan. Ian was very moved by the tremendous feeling in the room and from the support he's received from others outside Regina.

A very special thank you goes out to Globe Theatre Artistic Director **Ruth Smillie** (whose idea this all was) and the cast (including ACTRA members **Andrea Menard**, **Christine MacInnis**, **Jovanni Sy**, and **Raul Tomé**) and co-director **Michael Kennard**.

Thanks also to **Bob Underwood** and the folks at **ACTRA Fraternal** who made a generous donation to kick off the ticket drive.

Being involved in this event makes me proud to be part of our organization.

*Mike Burns  
National Councillor, Saskatchewan*



All of us at ACTRA Montreal extend Season's Greetings to all members and their families. We wish you a healthy, prosperous and fulfilling New Year as well.

**Matt Holland**  
Montreal President



Happy Holidays from the Maritimes! ACTRA Maritimes had another banner year making us proud working alongside some of Hollywood's A-list performers. Here's to spiritual and professional success to all in all endeavours!

**Andrew MacVicar**  
Maritimes President



Season's Greetings and Happy New Year from ACTRA Newfoundland. We wish you all a safe and joyous holiday season and a prosperous, productive and fruitful new year.

**Amy House**  
Newfoundland/Labrador President