



Peter Huck

# DRY COLD PRODUCTIONS

Music Theatre Done the Prairie Way

April 2012

## LITTLE WOMEN

*the musical*



'Nine'

Music by Jason Howland  
Lyrics by Mindi Dickstein  
Book by Allan Knee  
Based on the novel  
by Louisa May Alcott

September 19th - 23rd, 2012  
Shaw Performing Arts Centre  
(at The Forks)

Director - Rob Herriot  
Music Director - Cary Denby  
Set Design - Brian Perchaluk

Ticket purchasing information available June 1st through our website -  
[www.drycoldproductions.ca](http://www.drycoldproductions.ca) - or by phoning 414-2680 or 489-9095.

Based on Louisa May Alcott's own family experiences (and novel), *Little Women the musical* follows the adventures of Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March as they grow up in Civil War America. The beloved story of the March sisters is timeless and deals with issues as relevant today as when they were written - the eternal search for balance between career, family and love. Now, this wonderful narrative has been brought to life as an exhilarating new musical - a witty and clever script with soaring and engaging melodies that set a new standard for modern musical theatre.

Not your grandmother's *Little Women*, this modern exploration of a classic tale embodies the complete theatrical experience, guaranteeing a night filled with laughter, tears and a lifting of the spirit. This powerful score soars with the sounds of personal discovery, heartache and hope.

### A FEW CONGRATULATIONS to.....

- ◆ **Dry Cold artists taking over the helm at Rainbow Stage this summer: Carson Nattrass** directing *Footloose*. **Donna Fletcher** and **Kimberley Rampersad** directing and choreographing *Annie*.
- ◆ **Joseph Aragon** whose musical *Bloodless: the Trial of Burke and Hare* will be produced by Toronto's Theatre 20 in the fall, directed by Colm Wilkinson (the original Jean Valjean in *Les Misérables*.)
- ◆ **Jaz Sealey** recently opening on Broadway in the Stratford Festival production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*.
- ◆ **Alex Frohlinger** continuing to tour in *West Side Story* down south, with Japan (!) on the horizon.
- ◆ **Sam Plett** showing his age (!) as Old Deuteronomy in *Cats* at Theatre Calgary.



Carson Nattrass

◆ The company of MTC's *August: Osage County* - directed by **Ann Hodges**, designed by **Brian Perchaluk** and featuring the stellar work of **Sharon Bajer**, **Sam Hill**, **Steven Ratzlaff**, **Miriam Smith**, **Cory Wojcik** and stage manager **Chris Pearce**.

◆ **Matthew Fletcher** mentioned prominently in the Wikipedia entry for *Spring Awakening* as a member of the original Chicago cast.

◆ **Kevin Aichele** swinging his razor high as Sweeney Todd at Vertigo Theatre (Calgary).

◆ And a Special Welcome to **Dry Cold's Honorary Patron** - the original Sweeney Todd, **Len Cariou**.



Donna Fletcher



Kimberley Rampersad

## Broadway icon Cariou comes home to reprise his triumphs

By: Holly Harris

Tony-award-winning singer, actor and former Winnipegger Len Cariou received a hero's welcome Friday night with a program celebrating the music of Broadway legend Stephen Sondheim.



Donna Fletcher, Len Cariou, Naomi Forman, Lara Ciekiewicz, Aaron Hutton, Peter Huck, Reid Harrison

The three weekend shows, *Send in the Clowns: The Music of Stephen Sondheim*, is the latest instalment in the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's Pops seven-show series. The evening, led by WSO resident conductor Richard Lee, also featured a five-piece vocal ensemble including: Lara Ciekiewicz, Donna Fletcher, Naomi Forman, Peter Huck and Aaron Hutton from Winnipeg's Dry Cold Productions (Reid Harrison and Fletcher, co-artistic directors), backed by 32 singers from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Music's musical theatre program. Two emerging younger talents also made an appearance: Miranda Baran and Melodie Langevin.

Cariou, as Broadway royalty himself, scarcely needs any introduction. Raised in St. Boniface, the critically acclaimed artist cut his musical teeth as a boy soprano in the city before eventually establishing an acting and singing career in New York City during the 1970s. His lengthy list of productions includes the premiere of Sondheim's iconic musical, *A Little Night Music*, as well as originating the title role of a notorious bloody barber in *Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. The WSO, in partnership with Dry Cold, scored a significant artistic coup by presenting Cariou's first hometown singing gig in nearly four decades since appearing with Rainbow Stage's *My Fair Lady* in 1975.

The show kicked off with the boisterous *Comedy Tonight (A Funny thing Happened on the Way to the Forum)* that gave the first taste of Cariou's renowned showmanship. Although his voice has lost some of its former power, his stage instincts still proved razor sharp.

The first showstopper invariably belonged not to the evening's star, but to Fletcher. In what could only be described as a career highlight, the Winnipeg soprano performed *Send in the Clowns (A Little Night Music)* with heartfelt sincerity and bittersweet resolve. She accomplished the near-impossible by making this classic her own, singing in duet with Cariou as the original Frederik. Not to be outdone, Ciekiewicz also filled her solo, *Losing My Mind (Follies)* with dramatic intensity, shading every phrase while making it ring with emotional resonance.

The program also included a set from *Sweeney Todd*, including *Ballad of Sweeney Todd, There was a Barber and his Wife*, poignant ballads *Johanna* and *Not While I'm Around*, before closing with *A Little Priest*.

It seems au courant these days to hear the old guard -- think octogenarian Tony Bennett -- still performing and recording these days. Despite the fact that his own solos in the show were relatively scant, the 72-years- young Cariou proved he still has a song in his heart, showing 'em how it's done as native son the city can be proud of.

*Reprinted from the Winnipeg Free Press print edition November 5, 2011*



Peter Huck, Brenda Gorlick

All Dry Cold show photos courtesy of Gary Barringer.

# FOLLIES

Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Book by James Goldman

January 30th - February 3rd, 2013  
The Berney Theatre

In the MTC press release announcing Sondheim Fest 2013, Artistic Director Steven Schipper suggested that without Sondheim’s musical theatre innovations, Len Cariou might still be MTC’s Artistic Director, having left the position in 1976 when offered *Sweeney Todd*. He went on to say that “Donna Fletcher and Reid Harrison might never have been inspired to create Dry Cold Productions” were it not for Sondheim. We can’t be certain about the former but the latter is certainly true. Half of Dry Cold’s productions to date have been works by Sondheim. His musicals are why Dry Cold exists.

**Follies** will be directed by Reid Harrison with musical direction by Joseph Tritt. Aside from “Send in the Clowns” Sondheim isn’t known for writing ‘standards’. However, *Follies* has contributed no fewer than five songs to the standard repertoire: “Losing My Mind”, “Broadway Baby”, “I’m Still Here”, “Too Many Mornings” and “Could I Leave You”.

**Follies** is a play about memory – whom we hoped to become and whom we have become. And of course the two are not always the same. In a letter to Hal Prince, James Goldman wrote that “when the past stays alive in harmful or damaging ways, it means we have unfinished business with it.” For the main characters, **Follies** is about dealing with that unfinished business. Ben Brantley, in a 2007 review for *The New York Times*, wrote: "I have never felt the splendid sadness of 'Follies' as acutely as I did watching the emotionally transparent concert production...At almost any moment, to look at the faces of any of the principal performers...is to be aware of people both bewitched and wounded by the contemplation of who they used to be. When they sing, in voices layered with ambivalence and anger and longing, it is clear that it is their past selves whom they are serenading.”

Dry Cold is extremely grateful to Michael Nathanson and the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre for support in this production. While **Follies** is a Dry Cold Production, WJT is contributing rehearsal and performance space at the Berney Theatre

## Help Keep the Dry Cold Snowbank High!

It’s been a Winnipeg winter with little snow. Help build the Dry Cold snowbank. Musical theatre is the most expensive form of live theatre. While Dry Cold is rightfully proud of what we produce and of how little of our budget goes into administration, costs are always increasing. Over 80% of our budget goes into production costs: the artists - the actors, directors, designers, musicians and stage managers; the set and lighting; the costumes. A little goes a long way. Help us to continue to mount wonderful contemporary musical theatre as we enter our second decade.

The **Dry Cold Snowbank** categories:

<b>Wind-Chill</b>	\$15 to \$49	<b>Blizzard</b>	\$50 to \$99
<b>Sun Dog</b>	\$100 to \$149	<b>Snow Angel</b>	\$150 to \$199
<b>Northern Lights</b>	\$200 or more		



Samantha Hill, Aaron Hutton

### Dry Cold Productions

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Mariam Bernstein, Peter Huck

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### HARLEQUIN COSTUMES



Steven Ratzlaff, Aaron Hutton, Tim Bandfield, Naomi Forman

### Upcoming Local Musical Theatre and Opera

*Next to Normal* - RMTC  
April 19 - May 12 RMTC

*The Daughter of the Regiment* - Manitoba Opera  
April 21, 24, 27 - Centennial Concert Hall

*My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding* - WST  
May 10 - 20 Tom Hendry Warehouse Theatre

*Footloose* - Rainbow Stage  
June 18 - July 8 Rainbow Stage

*Annie* - Rainbow Stage  
Aug 9 - Aug 31 Rainbow Stage

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[info@drycoldproductions.ca](mailto:info@drycoldproductions.ca)  
[www.drycoldproductions.ca](http://www.drycoldproductions.ca)



Kevin Aichele, Jan Skene

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