## Victoria Theatre Guild Presents

## The Memory of Water

By Shelagh Stephenson
Directed by Angela Henry

November 17 - December 4, 2010 Langham Court Theatre


My Funny
Christmastime
DECEMBER IO \& II, 8 PM DECEMBER I2, 2 PM ROYAL THEATRE
Brian Jackson, conductor Mary Lou Fallis soprano comedienne

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Tania Miller, conductor Victoria Choral Society and soloists

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Tania Miller, Music Director
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## Director's Notes

Shelagh Stephenson has crafted a feisty, poignant snapshot of three sisters on an uneasy détente while they try to bury their mother. The metaphor of water runs throughout the play from the tears of the sisters as they negotiate their strained relationships with each other and with their men; through their grief and through their geography of the frozen landscape and the sea slowly engulfing the house. Every family has their script and the three sisters and their mother act out their time-forged patterns with each other as they attempt to get beneath their anger, hurt, frozen needs and grief to a place of acceptance, laughter and resolution. I have been blessed with a magnificent cast and crew who honour us all with the thoughtfulness they have brought to the creation of this production.

Angela Henry


November 17 - December 04, 2010
Langham Court Theatre
Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

| Director | ANGELA HENRY |
| ---: | :--- |
| Asst. Director | ERIN HOYT |
| Co-Producer | LUKE KRAYENHOFF |
| Co-Producer | THELMA MIDORI |
| Stage Manager | ELIZABETH WHITMARSH |
| Costume Designer | LISA LEIGHTON |
| Set Designer | DAN THACHUK |
| Set Décor | PEARL ARDEN |
| Properties | SARA LAWSON |
| Lighting Designer | KARRIE WOLFE |
| Sound Designer | JOAN PATRICK |

Cast
ELIZABETH BRIMACOMBE Vi
LORENE CAMMIADE Mary
MELISSA BLANK Teresa
ODILE NELSON Catherine
MUR MEADOWS Mike
ROB CRUSE Frank
Setting: a small coastal village in the winter of 2000

## Scenes:

Act I: Early morning on a wintry day
Act II Scene One: Same
Act II, Scene Two: A little later the same morning
Act II, Scene Three: The next morning

## Production Team

| Assistant Stage Manager | TONY CAIN |
| ---: | :--- |
| Properties Assistant | LINDA THOMPSON |
| Costume Design Assistant | LYNN CADRAIN |
| Costume Sewing Assistant | SYLVIA FARR |
| Costume Runners | KIRBY DELANEY, SYLVIA FARR, |
|  | KAREN HARPER, ANITA WINTERS |
| Make Up Consultant | JAMES CARMMCHAEL |
| Set Painters | ELIZABETH WHITMARSH, GIL HENRY, TONY CAIN, |
|  | LINDA THOMPSON, THELMA MIDORI |
| Stage Crew | LINDA THOMPSON, PEARL ARDEN, SARA LAWSON |
| Lighting Operators | JEN SCHMIDT, CAROL ANNE MOORE |
| Lighting Crew | CRAIG MRACEK, KEVIN CAHILL, ROD HOGG, |
|  | ALAN MACKENZIE, LUKE KRAENHOFF, |
|  | PATRICK SAGEAKTOOK, SONJA OLEJNICZAK, |
|  | MAC BOWES, DAVE BOWES, PERRY BURTON, |
|  | JUSTINE RAFFAELLI, TODD AYOTTE, |
| Sound Advisor | JOY MOORE, HELEN ESTEY |
| Sound Operators MACKENZIE |  |
| Rehearsal Prompt | ANDREA PITE, JAMES CARMICHAEL, JOAN PATRICK |
| Head Carpenter | BILLDA HUMPHREYS |
|  |  |

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## Theatre Team

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## Acknowledgements

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## ANGELA HENRY

Director
This is Angela's 36th year with VTG. She was last seen in History Boys and before in That Summer. Directing credits include Cemetery Club (2008) and Silver Dagger (2010). Angela's theatre career began with director Iona Campagnolo in Prince Rupert in 1973 and has included stage, film, touring dinner theatre and directing, which she fit around a full time teaching career in Psychology and Recreation. Her love of theatre today is eclipsed only by her colorful, loving family.

## Production Biographies

Erin is content to be experimenting off-stage. This is her first assistant director role and she has enjoyed the mental gymnastics of being second in command. In the theatre, Erin's last show was playing the dog in Sylvia; in life, at the time you are reading this, she will finally be a teacher. Life is an exciting thing. She extends her thanks to Angela and the cast and crew for their patience and humour.


## LUKE KRAYENHOF

Co-Producer
This is Luke's first effort as co-producer and he is grateful to Thelma Midori for her patient mentoring and to Angela for putting up with his learning curve. Luke has also performed in Langham Readers' Theatre and encourages those who haven't yet experienced this form of theatre to check it out!

THELMA MIDORI
Co-Producer
Thelma is very happy to be back after a year away. And what a great show to come "home" to. This powerful script touched everyone and it has been a delight to work with this fabulous cast and crew to make the magic happen. Thank You to Ang. Hugs to All. Enjoy!


## ELIZABETH WHITMARSH

## Stage Manager

Under the tutelage of Sylvia Lindstrom, a stage manager of 30 years' experience and one of Langham Court's finest, Elizabeth learned the multitude of skills required for the job and is cutting her teeth in The Memory of Water. She is immensely privileged to be working with the director, Angela Henry, and is very proud to be part of the exceptional production team and strong cast.

DAN THACHUK
Set Designer Dan returns for his 3rd season and 4th production as a Set Designer for Langham Court. He is delighted to be back amongst old friends and as well to have had Anne Popperwell alongside when he needed her 'eyes'. Although set by the sea, Dan believes that the psychological 'place' to which the playwright takes us, could for example, just
as well be (and often was) the living room of a prairie farm home
 or a church hall. It is that 'place' where siblings upon the death and burial of a parent, return after many years, each with his or her bag of memories, regrets, irritations and face their own mortalities. That 'place' is often remembered as rather dated, tired-looking and ordinary. It is that kind of place that Dan hopes you will experience during Langham's production of Memory of Water.


## PEARL ARDEN

Set Décor
Pearl has returned to theatre, an earlier love. Interested in 'all things theatre', she has thrown herself in doing costumes for Jacques Brel, props for Silver Dagger and, in this production, Set Décor. Happy to be helpful on the set or in the theatre Pearl would like to thank all those who contribute to her relearning experience. This time, particular thanks to Dan and Bill for guidance in what can and cannot be done. This has been a wonderful experience with cast and crew extraordinaire.

## KARRIE WOLFE <br> Lighting Designer

The Challenge: suggest the reflective quality of water and memory with light. Add a chance to work with Angela, Dan and a great crew and cast, and Karrie couldn't resist. Selected works: LX design, Silver Dagger, History Boys, That Summer, Midsummer Night's Dream, Under Milkwood; SM - The War Show, A Shot in the Dark. Thanks to Todd, Craig and Carol Anne; to Jen - welcome home.
 And to phil, always reflected in my own memories.


## JOAN PATRICK

Production Biographies
Sound Designer
Joan Patrick
This is Joan's seventh on stage production at Langham and her third as Sound Design. Having previously worked as Producer, Props, and Sound Operator, she is also the Producer and Sound for television broadcasting and thoroughly enjoys being a part of the evolution of a production. She has found the selection of music for Memory of Water to be an intriguing experience - finding just the right touch for the poignant, yet sometimes hilarious tragic-comedy.
 matter how much time she spends at the theatre.


## SARA LAWSON

Properties
Sara is new to both Langham Court Theatre and to her role as Properties Designer. As an avid supporter of the arts in Victoria, she is excited to be working on her first show with the Memory of Water production team. With thanks to Angela and the crew, she is having a wonderful time and looks forward to her continued involvement with the theatre

## About the Playwright



Playwright Shelagh Stephenson was born in Northumberland and read drama at Manchester University. She is the author of several original plays written for both radio and stage, including Darling Peidi, The Anatomical Venus and Five Kinds of Silence (1997), which won the Writer's Guild Award (Best Original Radio Play). Her first stage play, The Memory of Water, opened in London in 1996 and won the Laurence Olivier award for Best Comedy. Her most recent published play is The Long Road (2008).



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## Cast and Crew of The Memory of Water



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## ELIZABETH BRIMACOMBE

Vi
Elizabeth narrowly escaped adding a new memory of water (featuring the Oak Bay Fire Department extinguishing flames) to her life repertoire. Lesson learned: ensure the oven is off before leaving for rehearsal. Most recently seen as Linda Christie in St. Luke's Players' Play it Again Sam, Elizabeth has relished being Vi and discovering so many rich lessons for living inside a dead woman's psyche. Her next role: Friday in St. Luke's Christmas Pantomime, Robinson Crusoe.

## Cast Biographies

When Lorene read this script last fall, it was love at first sight. As a mother, a sister and a daughter in real life, she is very excited to be adding the role of Mary to her repertoire of interesting characters played in past productions including Frances from Racing Demons and Jean from The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie. Lorene hopes that you enjoy the show as much as she enjoys being part of it and would
 like to dedicate this performance to anyone who has ever lost someone in their lives and wished they could have just one more moment.


## MELISSA BLANK

Teresa
Melissa is a graduate of the Mount Royal Theatre program and The Canadian College of Performing Arts. Melissa was last seen at Langham Court Theatre in A Pack of Lies and was seen this summer as Grumio in The Taming of the Shrew. Keep an eye out for Melissa in February 2011 in the Where's Noonan? Production of The Anger in Ernest and Ernestine. Melissa would like to send a big hug to Bonnie, her beautiful Mom.

ODILE NELSON Catherine
Odile is happy to be working with such a talented, fun and supportive cast and crew! Many thanks to all - especially to Angela, Erin and 'Ziz' and of course, to Patrick for taking time out from number crunching to help me 'crunch' my lines!



## MUR MEADOWS

Mike
Mur has been an actor since discovering the stage in high school and performing in Vancouver Island community theatre. After graduation, he went on to attend Concordia University in Montreal to study scriptwriting/playwriting, and spent many years acting in TV and film productions in Hollywood North. His latest stage appearance was in last year's production of Isn't it Romantic, and is proud and honoured to once again walk the boards of Langham Court.

## Cast Biographies

## ROB CRUSE

Frank
A veteran of the Victoria Theatre Community, Rob was last seen at Langham Court as the Stage Manager in Our Town. The past two summers, he could be found travelling up and down Vancouver Island bringing history to life with the Seeds and Salt Theatre and the Bamberton Historical Society...an amazing experience! The Memory of Water marks Rob's return to Langham after a three year
 absence and he's thrilled to be back!


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## FATIMA MCCARTHY

Born in Brazil, Fatima McCarthy travelled much of the world before finding her home in Canada. Fatima is a passionate and spontaneous artist who sees art as a tool for personal empowerment. She applies this belief in both her professional and personal life. Watercolors have been Faty's main medium. Her vivacious personality, which is reflected in her art, is blazed by the transitions of life; people; and the pursuit of happiness. Recently she has developed a curiosity for using acrylics and painting landscapes. She lives in Victoria, BC.

## PAM CAMPBELL

From paintings on silk, personalized watercolour mandalas to curating monthly artshows at the Spiral Café and singing in the award winning ensemble Balkan Babes, Pam Campbell's career reaches across the spectrum of the arts. Her joyful, richly layered works explore the bounds of friendship, family, love and longing, and the exuberant release which music provides. Pam's art experience includes studies at the Alberta College of Art, the illustrations for the children's book Thanks, Crow by Sara Cassidy, and the business Freehand Designs, which landed her painted-glass objects in collections around the world.

## About the Non-Profit

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