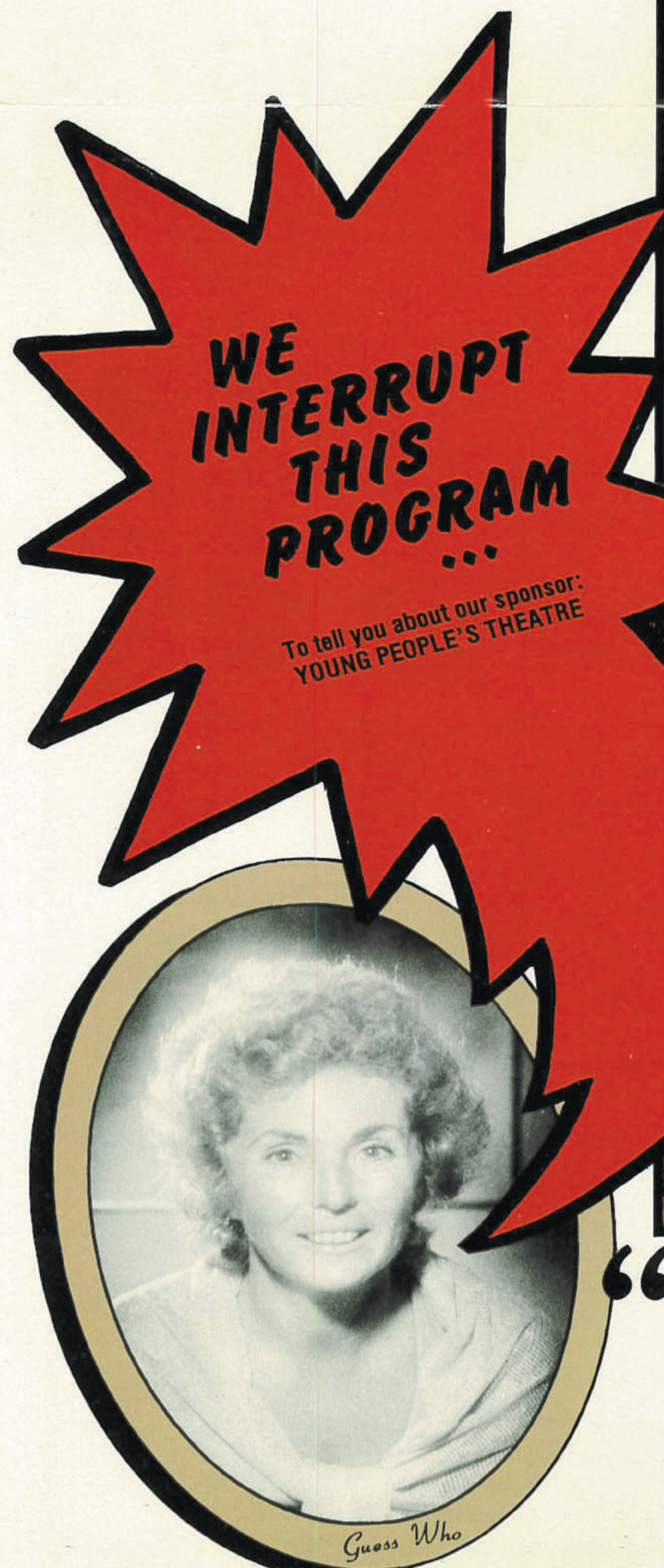


Young People's Theatre  
Susan Douglas Rubes, Producer

Still  
young  
after  
all  
these  
years!



## This isn't New York; it's Old York

York is what they called Toronto before they called it Toronto. That was almost two hundred years ago, when the city was 10 blocks long and 6 blocks wide.

Right now you are in the middle of what used to be York. But since it seems so old to us today, we add the word "Old" to keep from confusing it with East York, North York, Royal York, New York and just plain York. You can tell because outside there are special street signs on each corner that say "Old York". If they don't say it, you're not in it.

Some pretty amazing things are going to be happening to this part of town in the next few years. You may have noticed that a lot of buildings in the neighbourhood are old and made of brick. Some of them are very run down. Others, like this one, have already been made new again. Well, very soon, something called The St. Lawrence Development Project is going to restore those beautiful and historic buildings, and build terrific new places for people to live; and put in parks with lots of green grass so we can all have more fun.



“Young People's Theatre was founded in 1966 by Susan Douglas Rubes to give young people all over Ontario the chance to be entertained by seeing live theatre.

Back then, YPT had three or four actors all jammed in a station wagon with their props and scenery heading off to classrooms full of young people. Calamities and miracles alike happened. But as time

went on, hundreds of adults and young people began committing themselves to the growth of a thriving young people's theatre in Ontario.

Since those delightful days, YPT has grown considerably. It's programs — both in schools and here at the theatre — now reach close to half a million young people every year in hundreds of schools and communities throughout the province.”

## Fabulous fun for you and your young people!

### The Lost Fairy Tale

New and different for the holidays! Take the wonderful adventure of a young girl and her grandfather. Add a dash of magic and dance. Set in a world of film and black-light theatre. And presto! The world-renowned Laterna Magika of Czechoslovakia comes to North America for the first time since its sensational debut at Expo '67 in Montreal. The entire family will laugh, cry and gasp in awe at this remarkable blend of dramatic elements. Performed entirely in English, and starring JAN RUBES and GRANT COWAN. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22 TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 26. MARCH SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: MONDAY, MARCH 20 TO THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

Enjoy our special late afternoon performances of Laterna Magika's THE LOST FAIRY TALE Jan. 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday matinee Jan. 11, 18, 25 at 2 p.m. After school timing your kids and you. Dad downtown for a show. Adm. TICKETS \$5.

### The Diary of Anne Frank

The tragic, touching memory of a young Jewish girl hiding in her Amsterdam home during World War II. This classic of the modern theatre will star two of Broadway's most respected stars: ELI WALLACH and ANNE JACKSON. And as an added bonus the part of Anne Frank will be played by their daughter ROBERTA WALLACH also starring KATE REID. Don't miss this true story of courage, love and terror. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17 TO SATURDAY, MARCH 18.

### The Count of Monte Cristo

Alexander Dumas' great classic tale of life in Napoleon's France becomes a swash-buckling musical crackling with action and intrigue. Bring your young people to this wonderful story of love and adventure set to music in a special adaptation for our opening season. FRIDAY, APRIL 7 TO SATURDAY, MAY 6.

### Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

A fabulous rock opera, written by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, the authors of JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR, this is adapted from the biblical story of Jacob's gift of a many-coloured coat to his brother Joseph. For sheer musical imagination, "Joseph" is a unique entertainment that everyone in the family will want to see first-hand. FRIDAY, MAY 19 TO SATURDAY, JUNE 11.

### LAMPOON PUPPET THEATRE

Last year, Toronto's favourite puppet theatre shared top prize at the International Festival of Puppetry in Prague. This Christmas, they'll be coming to the Centre with a delightful holiday show for your young children.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 TO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31. ALL TICKETS \$1. (In the Nathan Cohen Studio Theatre of the YPT Centre).

### KAZOOPHONY

It's exactly what the name implies: a unique quartet of riotous kazoo players whose musical spoofs will turn your favourite classical music into a symphony of laughter. Fantastic fun for

### CANADIAN DRASS

The five gentlemen who have revolutionized the meaning of musical performance in North America, Europe and even the People's Republic of China will arrive as our resident ensemble this year at the YPT Centre. Their late evening performances will provide wonderful entertainment. Don't miss these Canadians who have taken the world of music by storm! FRIDAY, MAY 5, FRIDAY, MAY 12, 11 P.M.

### MICHAEL HENNESSY MIME AND MUSIC THEATRE

Shhh! You are about to see a very different name artist. Michael Hennessy is from the United States and he has a style all his own — juggling, masks, audience participation, music and of course, the classic mime in the great European tradition. MARCH SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: MARCH 24 TO MARCH 26.

### BLACK BOX THEATRE

Starting in January, thousands of school children will be visiting the Centre with their teachers to see the Black Box Theatre's production of "Seven Dreams". You can join in the fun with your own children by bringing them along too. ALL TICKETS \$2. MUST PHONE BOX OFFICE FOR RESERVATIONS.

If you're a teacher and would like to bring your students as a group to this or any other show at the Centre, we'd be happy to accommodate you. Please call 864-9732 for details.

### FROG PRINT PUPPET THEATRE

Frog Print Puppet Theatre is a highly-entertaining troupe of puppeteers, musicians and dancers who will be staging a new children's drama, "How Much Wood Would A Woodchuck Chuck...?" Your young children will be delighted with the playful antics of Pamela the Sheep Dog, Felicia Squirrel, Jay Bluejay and of course, Chuck Groundling. Bring the neighbourhood. Bring your kids to see Frog Print Theatre!!

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS, JANUARY 22 TO MARCH 19. (Nathan Cohen Studio Theatre).

ALL TICKETS \$1. PHONE BOX OFFICE FOR RESERVATIONS.

### MOVIES FOR A MARCH BREAK JUST \$1. MARCH 19 TO MARCH 27

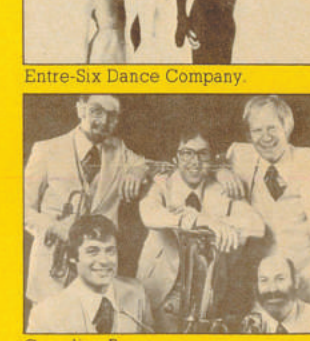
Everyone's favourite movie from Robert Redford in Douglas Fairbanks Sr. to Buster Keaton and the Keystone Kops. Holiday thrills and chills. PHONE BOX OFFICE FOR RESERVATIONS. FILMS START AT 11 A.M.

### FANTASTIC FREE FILMS!

Fine international and Canadian feature films your children are sure to enjoy. Comedy, adventure and suspense all meet in these beautiful films about young people from around the world. For the perfect weekend treat, bring your kids to these fantastic free films. No reservations. Seals on first come basis only. PHONE BOX OFFICE FOR TITLES OF FILMS. EVERY SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21 TO MARCH 25, 11 A.M.

### ART IN THE ROUND

In a series of 12 weekly sessions, one each Saturday, children from 8 to 10, and 11 to 15 will



## CHILDREN'S THEATRE GROWS UP



Centre Stage Magazine, April 1979, Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang review.



Children's Theatre has become a valuable member of the Canadian theatrical milieu. From being the neglected child of the Canadian cultural scene a few short years ago, children's theatre has come of age.

The first act of Montreal's Kishinev Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang at the Young People's Theatre Centre, has just ended. The sold-out crowd, aged between four and twelve with just a sprinkling of adults, is ecstatic. Once the applause dies down, the children begin mingling and chatting. Three youngsters up their apple and critically analyse the first act, discuss with utter sophistication former productions they've seen, and talk excitedly about upcoming shows. Another day, this time at the Ryerson Theatre, a three-year-old starts to cry at the end of *Peter and the Wolf*. Her concerned father asks her why, and she walks through her tears. "I didn't want it to stop. Will it come on again?"

The next day at Theatre Glendon in North York, not even a severe snowstorm can dampen the spirits of hordes of tykes who've just been entertained by veteran children performing in *Three Little Pigs*. Eagerly, they respond to an invitation to take part in an improvised play themselves.

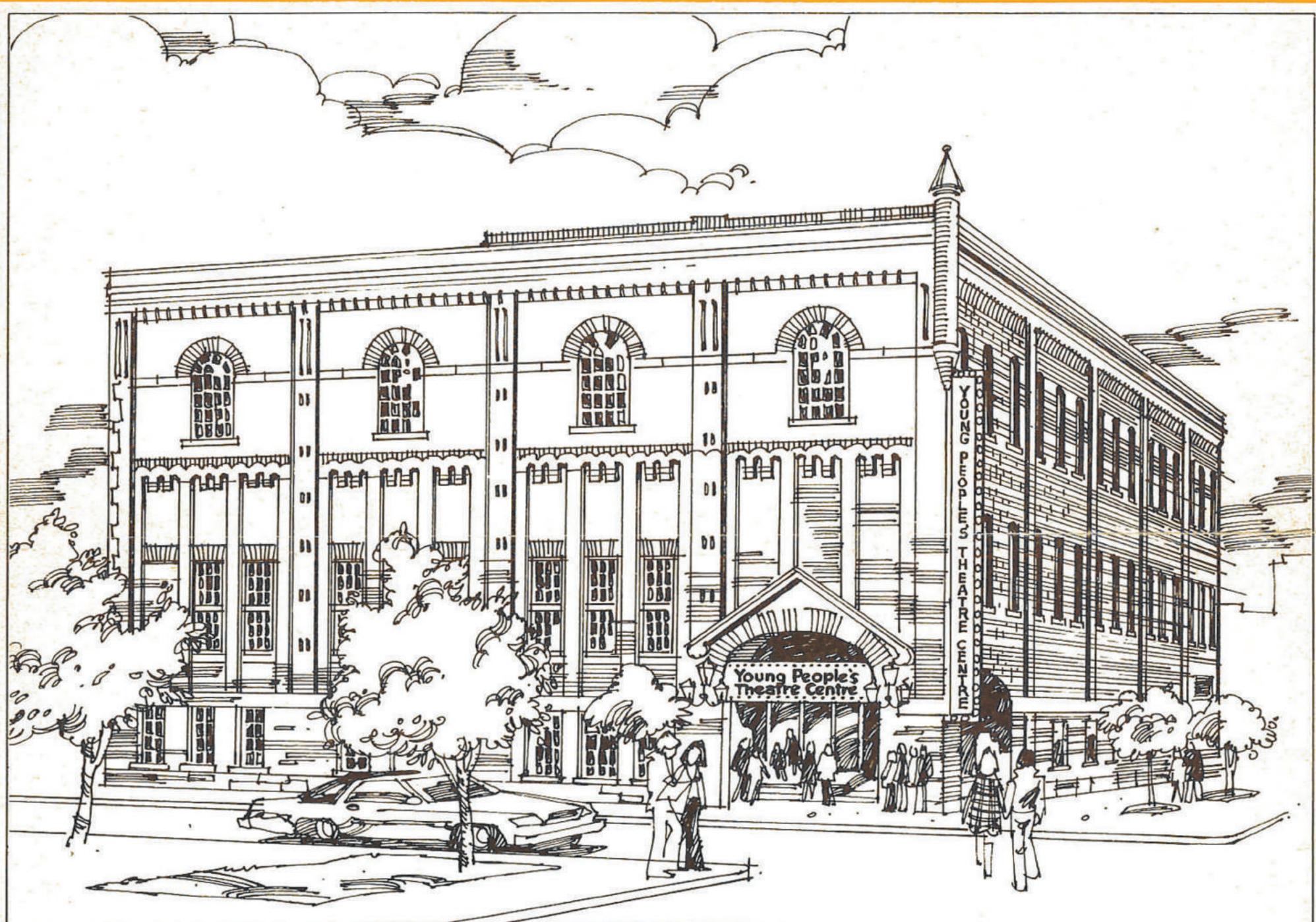
Similar scenes are being enacted throughout theatre in the Toronto area this year. Why all of a sudden is there such a booming interest in theatre aimed at the burgeoning art?

The bright, precocious and enthusiastic children found in theatres these days are the result of a way of increased interest in entertainment for the very young which was set in motion, at least partially, 15 years ago by Young People's Theatre head, Susan Rubes.

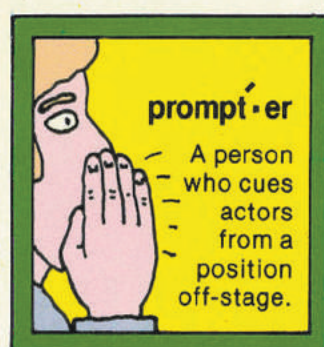
Rubes, the outspoken advocate of children's theatre in Toronto declares emphatically, "We're having a boom now which took 15 years in the making. In 1964 when we first brought live theatre into the schools, there was nothing being offered culturally for children. But that was during a time when the whole structure of education was booming and the government was becoming more supportive of the arts."

Through dedication and many years of hard work, Young People's Theatre has become the country's top professional children's theatre. Its visually appealing theatre centre which opened late in 1977 on Front Street East, was designed specifically for young people and is the only one of its kind in existence in Canada.

In addition to a full season of exciting shows, YPT tours schools in Ontario, has a bustling programme that brings school children to the centre and runs its own theatre school.



MOTHERS, FATHERS, YOUNG PEOPLE.



## PROMPTER

YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE CENTRE

YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE CENTRE  
165 Front St., East  
Toronto, Ontario  
864-9732

## This used to be a home for sleepy streetcars

Back in 1861, public transit was a street-car 18 feet long and a team of very strong horses that travelled at 6 miles per hour. They carried people between the St. Lawrence Hall (on King and Jarvis) up to Yorkville, a suburb at Yonge and Bloor.

When the transit company's one thousand horses weren't working, they rested at home in stables all over downtown Toronto. One of these stables was where you are right now.

This stable at Front and Frederick Street was built in 1881. A decade later, however, electricity was able to pull streetcars much faster than horses. And besides, you didn't have to feed electricity and keep it warm at night. So the horses were put out to pasture and their stables were turned into electrical generating plants.

Then in 1906 someone started bringing in electricity from Niagara Falls at very low prices. This made the generating station as outmoded as the horses were 20 years earlier. So the building closed once again. There it sat from 1929 to 1975 waiting patiently and quietly for some nice people to come along and open its doors, clean up its dust, shore up its walls and give it a new lease on life.

Well, you know the rest: in 1975, the home for sleepy streetcars and transformed electricity began taking shape as the Young People's Theatre Centre — the only such centre in all of Canada, and one of the very few in the whole world.

On stage, you see the actors. But in every show, there are a lot of people who never appear on stage. Here are three of the most important:

### THE DIRECTOR DIRECTS

The Director is in charge of everything you see happening on stage. He (or she) helps the actors interpret the lines. But the lines aren't everything. The director is responsible for choosing the actors, rehearsing the play and making it better every day until it's ready to be performed on stage. Every director, like every writer, has a different style. This means that the *Hamlet* you see at one theatre can be much different from the same play with the same words at another theatre.

### THE PRODUCER PRODUCES

This is the boss — choosing which play to put on. Maybe asking a playwright to write a new play. Finding the right theatre to stage the play. Finding the money to pay everyone. And generally making sure that the thousand and one things that go into any play actually go into it.

### THE DESIGNER DESIGNS

He fills an empty stage. He (or she) can turn it into a living room, a medieval palace, even a football field. Some stage designs are called realistic because they look a lot like real life. Other designs are abstract or symbolic, which means they stand for important things that the playwright and director are trying to tell the audience. For example, the only scenery for one play might be a tiny treeplunk in the middle of the stage. But that tree stands for something, just like a flag and a uniform stand for something. A really good designer can multiply the meanings of a play by letting the props, the scenery and the actors' clothing perform as a code that you can figure out without a word being spoken. That's why a designer is so important to a play. He says it all without opening his mouth — or yours.

Write your own play

A play is a story that's acted out on stage.

The most important thing to do when you write

6 YPT's  
7 YPT's