

BARBARA ANN SCOTT 1996 MASTERS HONOREE

On May 22 Ice Theatre of New York will host the fourth evening in its Masters Series at The Players Club. These popular events celebrate the achievements of some of skating's greats: Belita (1992), Ludmila and Oleg Protopopov (1993) and Dick Button (1994). This year we pay tribute to **Barbara Ann Scott**, one of Canada's greatest sports celebrities. The event will be chaired by Sally Brayley Bliss, the Executive Director of Dance St. Louis, and Kenneth D. Taylor, Chairman of Government Business Consulting Group and former Canadian Ambassador to Iran. The Honorary Chair is George Haynal, Consul General for Canada in New York.

The May 22nd celebration will begin with a cocktail reception and light supper. Attendees will be treated to film footage of Barbara Ann's performances as well as reminiscences of Mrs. King and those close to her career. Dessert and coffee will follow. ITNY's Masters Series is a benefit for the company's Rehearsal Fund and tickets are partially tax deductible. These Masters Series evenings are popular and tickets sell fast, due to limited availability. Invitations are by request only. Those interested should call the office at 212-929-5811.



TIME Magazine Cover

February 2, 1948

Barbara Ann's promise as a skater was evident early on. At 10 years old she was the youngest athlete to pass the Gold Medal test. From 1944 - 1948 she was the Canadian Ladies Champion and in 1948 Barbara Ann became the first North American to capture the European, World and Olympic Gold Medals. As a professional, she was the star of Hollywood Ice Revue until 1954 when she married her husband, Thomas V. King. In 1991 Mrs. King was inducted into the Canadian Figure Skating Association Hall of Fame and received the Order of Canada.

1995-96 CALENDAR

1995 NOVEMBER

- 5 Dishes on Ice
Sky Rink Chelsea Piers
- 23 CBS All American Thanksgiving
Day at Wollman Rink

DECEMBER

- 16 Treelighting
Riverbank State Park, NYC
- 30-31 First Night Annapolis
Naval Academy, MD

1996 JANUARY

- 22 Montreal Fashions on Ice
Rockefeller Plaza, NYC
- 31 Repertory Concert #1
Rockefeller Plaza, NYC

FEBRUARY

- 6 NJ Special Olympics
Mennen Arena, NJ
- 28 Repertory Concert #2
Rockefeller Plaza, NYC
- 29 Open Rehearsal #1
Riverbank State Park, NYC

MARCH

- 15 Open Rehearsal #2
Riverbank State Park, NYC
- 27 Lunch Time Concert
Rockefeller Plaza, NYC

APRIL

- 26 Apprentice Performance
Sky Rink Chelsea Piers Show

MAY

- 22 Masters Series:
HONORING: BARBARA ANN
SCOTT
Players Club, NYC
- 23-26 PSA Conference
Chicago, IL
- 31 ITNY Performance
Sky Rink, NYC
GUEST: DOROTHY HAMILL

JULY

- 11 Performance: Sullivan County
Community College, NY

JULY-AUGUST

Workshop Series
Bridgewater Skating Club, NJ

Director's Report

Early in 1986, I wrote to Carole Shulman, President of the Professional Skaters Guild of America, to inform her and other members of the Guild about an exciting new project I had started—The Ice Theatre of New York, a fledgling not-for-profit arts project filled with good intentions, an abundance of creativity, and little money. This year, Carol has invited me to chair a section on the development of ice theatre companies throughout the country at this year's World Conference in Chicago. What a wonderful way to start our second decade!

As a prototype of an arts organization for these new companies, I feel particularly proud of the following accomplishments: with a seed grant of \$10,000 given to us by the Lila Acheson Wallace Theatre Fund, we were able to create our first presentations, which then led to our recognition and funding by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the Department of Cultural Affairs. With these grant awards along with critical acclaim from dance reviewers, we have gained acceptance within the dance community, one of our mandated goals.

Besides our ongoing performances and workshops given throughout the country by our professional ensemble, we have developed a number of educational programs here in New York City. These include, a series of free concerts at Rockefeller Center, open rehearsals for public school children, ongoing classes through the Sky Rink Skating School for both children and adults (Performance Club), the first public school program where high school children can major in ice skating (Professional Performing Arts School), and the establishment of the Masters Historical Series, where we recognize notable skaters from the past who have paved a path for our continued exploration of artistic skating.

Through all these developments one of the most satisfying accomplishments for me personally has been the al-most imperceptible evolution of several Ice Theatre students through apprenticeships into the professional company and, in several cases, their further growth as choreographers. I hope that all of these new companies have the good fortune and the perseverance to experience this aspect of their growth. That will be a true indicator of their success.

—MOIRA NORTH

VOLUNTEERS

Ice Theatre is looking for people who are able to volunteer a few hours a week to help in the office. Some of the jobs we would like help with are data base maintenance, making press kits, mailings, answering phones and general office tasks.

If you are interested and able to give a few hours a week, please call Betsy Hauck at 212 929-5811 or complete the section below and send it to us at:

Ice Theatre of New York
Pier 62 Suite 322
23rd Street and the Hudson River
New York, New York 10011

Yes, I would like to volunteer! Please contact me at the following:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Company Activities

Ice Theatre Performs With Special Guest Dorothy Hamill



Photo: Greg Gorman

On May 31 at Sky Rink, Ice Theatre will present its home season performance with special guest Dorothy Hamill. Ice Theatre is very proud to host Ms. Hamill's return to New York. Dorothy is among the nation's most popular sports celebrities, and has consistently represented the finest aspects of the sport and art of figure skating since her Olympic and World victories in 1976. Ms. Hamill's appearance with Ice Theatre will be the first time she has skated in New York City since 1992.

The company will premiere three works: *Red*, by ensemble member Beth Woronoff, set to the music of Villa Lobos; *Remolino*, by ensemble member Mimi Wacholder; and a new piece set to the Gounod's waltz from "Faust" by Associate Director Rob McBrien. The performance will also feature ensemble works from Ice Theatre's acclaimed repertory including *Reflections* by Laura Dean and *Choose/Lose* by David Dorfman.

Tickets are \$20 for center seats, \$15 for side seats, and a special \$10 rate for groups of 20 or more.

Lisa McGraw Webster Honored at Halloween Benefit '95

Ice Theatre Celebrates 10th Anniversary

On October 28, 1995, Ice Theatre celebrated its tenth anniversary by honoring Lisa McGraw Webster with what Mindy Aloff, *The Village Voice* dance critic, described as "New York's ice skating event of the fall." The event also marked the opening of Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers. The performers included four great competitors—Steven Cousins, Nancy Kerrigan, David Liu, and Paul Wylie—who skated in appreciation of the help and guidance that Lisa has given to them in their careers. The Ensemble was joined by Gary Beacom, Gia Guddat, Ari and Akop, Marina Koulbitskaya and Alexander Esman.



Halloween Benefit: L to R. Steven Cousins, David Liu, Paul Wylie, Nancy Kerrigan, Dick Button, Moira North, Honoree Lisa Webster and Herb Kaplan. Photo: Nan Melville

A SPECIAL THANKS

The Halloween Benefit honoring Lisa McGraw Webster was a tremendous success. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those responsible for assisting us with this massive event. A very special thanks goes to Herb Kaplan for his marketing expertise and enthusiasm in making this benefit a success, and to Richard Lambert for his lighting talent and

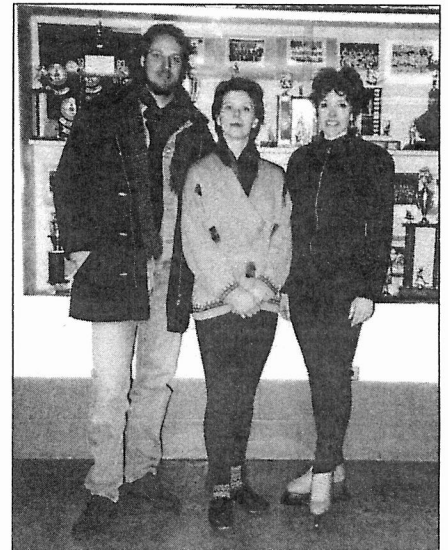
professionalism. We also would like to recognize Priscilla and Ruby Andrade, Palmer Baker, Allison Billingsby, Dennie Brosens, Bill Candee, Rebecca Clifford, Mary Gaillard, Betsy Hauck, Randy Lane, Kate McBride, Caroline Moore, and Valerie Simmons.

Education Programs

Plie Power In Canada

Deborah Page-Hickey, Director of Glidefar Consultants, Inc., presents the Plie PowerWorkshop with Movement in Dance to skaters throughout Canada. This specially designed program teaches the direct relationship of dance movement and ice performance. The Plie Power Workshop is taught by former Ice Theatre Company Member and performer with John Curry's Ice Dancing Company, Deborah Page-Hickey. The Movement In Dance class is taught by Toronto's leading Contemporary Dance Company instructors/performers. Musical accompaniment is provided by Toronto-based Dance Company musicians.

"We have experienced very positive feedback from skaters, coaches and officials. We have just concluded a two-day presentation to the Manitoba Provincial Skating Team. They found our approach unique and exciting and were challenged to not practice their triples for a weekend! The Canadian Figure Skating Association is preparing to implement a new test structure involving skating skills. Our presentation compliments these efforts to improve the quality of skating," states Deborah. This season's itinerary included: Ottawa, Coburg, Lindsay, Hamilton, Petawaw, Mississauga and Winnipeg. Future dates are being confirmed with all sections of the Canadian Figure Skating Association.



(Above) L to R: Geoffrey Bennett, Musician; Hope Terry, Instructor and Performer with Dancemakers of Toronto; and Deborah Page-Hickey, Plie Power Instructor.



(Above) Moira North on location for "The Preacher's Wife" with Joy Thomas and Sean Edwards as doubles for Whitney Houston and Denzel Washington. Photo by: David Lee



(Above) Robin Wagner leads Ice Theatre Apprentices for the Quebec Fashions on Ice Show at Rockefeller Center, January 22. Photo by: Jay Colton

(Right) ITNY finishes its 10th anniversary season at Rockefeller Center. L to R: Joan Scribner, Jonathan Stine, Mimi Wacholder, James Schilling, Dmitri Gromov, Julia Speiser, Katya Semoukikhna, Beth Woronoff, John Wright, Marina Koulbitskaya, Alex Esman, Akop Manoukian, Jirina Ribbens, Ari Zakarian, Rob McBrien, Chris Colton, and Moira North. Photo by: Jay Colton





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Message from the Associate Director

At the heart of Ice Theatre's mission statement is its mandate to develop an ensemble of professional skaters to interpret the works of theatrical dance and skating choreographers. Since 1984, over fifty ice dancers, free skaters, pair specialists and coaches have made huge contributions to the Ice Theatre project through their participation in the company, sometimes rehearsing at 3 am, never overpaid. Thanks to these athlete/artists, the Ensemble today is an entity/identity that continues to develop as individuals leave or join. In the last year the Ice Theatre Ensemble performed for over 10,000,000 people worldwide and received continued critical acclaim for its interpretations of repertory work and for its uniquely refined presence as a company.

Each skater comes to our process with their own training in a speciality, their own tastes dreams for artistic skating. In a very real sense, they must give up the values carefully instilled in competitive training and work to shine *with* and not *over* other skaters in order to realize their own promise in the context of a group. Theatrical dancers are trained to ensemble values from day one in class structures that emphasize shared vocabulary, attitude and taste. These values are new to all skaters unless they have studied dance on the floor. Some cannot adjust to this difference from competitive life. Those that do become part of an historical exploration into the art of theatrical skating, an art, as Christopher Dean has said, "in its infancy."

As long as skating is limited to solo and duet formats it can never reveal its full potential as expressive dance, but remains a gymnastic form oriented towards virtuosity for its own sake. However, the pure expressive power of ice dance is perfectly revealed when one sees a group of skaters complete synchronized patterns of phrases...the difference between a stream and an ocean.

As a choreographer I am deeply grateful to the Ice Theatre skaters who have taught me so much, been such generous interpreters and helped me to see some of my own visions realized. The work has lead to deep friendships and a family atmosphere that is a real richness in my life. To all the athlete/artists who have been members of The Ice Theatre Ensemble—Thank you for your energy, spirit and heart. You have helped all of us glimpse the glory of dance on ice.

-ROB MCBRIEN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Ice Theatre of New York wishes to thank the contributions of all its supporters. We especially wish to acknowledge the continuing support of the following:

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