Theatre New York, inc.



HARDEDGE

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Ice Theatre of New York would like to thank Mr. Guy Robinson and the Midtown Skating Corporation for support of its activities.

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Show Crew

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Patrick Dean

House Manager Assistant to Mr. McBrien

Susan Podd

Ice Theatre of New York is the nation's first not for profit ice skating company; all donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. For further information please write 155 Chambers St., New York, NY 10007 or call 212/349-6232.

#### FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR. ROB McBRIEN

The edge is the basic building block in skating's movement vocabulary. The forward outer edge, the forward inner. the backward outer and back inner, all movement we see on ice is the result of a combination of these few edges. That sounds so simple, doesn't it? All the glides. accelerations, jumps, spins, slides and skids, all are built on just four edges.

An edge is not a static position or a pose. An edge involves constant regeneration and adjustment of the body's relation to centrifugal force. To skate an edge the body forges into space with the intention to create a curve. establishing a strong relation to the centrifugal force inherent in that curve, riding the force, using it to advance to the next edge. So it is finally this centrifugal force that really holds us up on ice, allowing us to lean into space as we do. We have our bodies, the blade and centrifugal force. The greatness of a skater lies in his masterful and courageous use of this force. Tonight you will see great skating.

Plans for this program began last fall with Ice Theatre's commitment to present Gary Beacom's Hard Edge here in New York. Mr. Beacom created Hard Edge in two years of work and has skated it for enthusiastic audiences throughout Canada. We are pleased to present the U.S. premiere of his innovative entertainment. When faced with the delightful challenge of filling the program between Mr. Beacom's four major pieces we were very fortunate to secure the participation of several of the greatest skaters working today. Tonight you will see some of the most masterful edge skating of our time. Strong, lush, delicate, witty--a rainbow of performance possibilities on ice--pure movement, dramatic situations -- all these things skaters do using just four edges. Four edges and years of commitment. practice and imagination. I estimate that the total number of years of practice accumulated by the ten skaters you will see tonight is about 220 years.

I am very proud to be involved in helping to create an Ice Theatre of New York, a company dedicated to presenting skaters of the caliber you will see tonight, a home for performers and audiences who thrill as I do to see skaters soar on a Hard Edge.

#### HARD EDGE

Saturday, May 21, 1988

### BETWEEN STEEL AND ICE

Skater: Gary Beacom

Concept & Choreography: Gary Beacom

Music: Darcy Guddat Costume: Marg Sandor

#### INK

Skater: Nathan Birch

Choreography: Nathan Birch

Music: James Galway

## THERE'S A SOMEBODY

Skaters: Ken Moir, Nina Newby, Michael Tokar

Choreography: Rob McBrien Music: George Gershwin Costumes: Al Kohout

## DON QUIXOTE

Skaters: Gary Beacom, Gia Guddat

Choreography: Frank Nowosad, Gary Beacom, Gia Guddat

Music: Leon Minkus Costumes: Marg Sandor

15-minute intermission

The performance will last approximately one hour and 20 minutes.

Patrons are advised that the taking of photographs or video recording during the performance is strictly prohibited.

## ALBERTA BIOGRAPHY

Skater: Gary Beacom

Concept & Choreography: Frank Nowosad

Sound: Roger Tory Peterson

#### DUSK

Skaters: Nina Newby, Moira North, Rob McBrien

Choreography: Matthew Nash

Directed for the ice by Rob McBrien

Music: Astor Piazzola

## LET IT GO

Skater: Gia Guddat

Choreography: Gia Guddat

Music: Luba

# ADAGIO FOR STRINGS

Skaters: Judy Blumberg, Michael Seibert

Choreography: Judy Blumberg, Michael Seibert,

Rob McBrien

Music: Samuel Barber

Costumes: Michael Seibert

# PLEASE CLARIFY: A FOUR PART SUITE

PLEASE CLARIFY Skater: Gary Beacom

Choreography: Frank Nowosad, Gary Beacom

THE FISHMAN Skaters: Gia Guddat, Gary Beacom

Choreography: Frank Nowosad

JOHNNY WAS Skaters: Gia Guddat, Gary Beacom

THERE Choreography: Gary Beacom

SONG OF SONGS Skater: Gary Beacom

Choreography: Gary Beacom

All music from album <u>Soprano</u> <u>Summit</u>, Bob Wilbur & Kenny Davern.

GARY BEACOM: After a distinguished amateur competitive career which included three Canadian men's championship gold medals, Mr. Beacom made his professional debut as a principal soloist with Torvill and Dean's acclaimed World Tour Company. He appeared in the television special Fire and Ice. His one man show Hard Edge has toured Canada since 1987 and he has appeared with Ice Theatre of New York at Rockefeller Center repertory concerts, in Performance '87, and at local venues. He is a coach and resident choreographer during the summer months at the Sun Valley summer skating program.

JUDY BLUMBERG and MICHAEL SEIBERT: Five times U.S. National Dance Champions, Ms. Blumberg and Mr. Seibert represented this country at two olympic competitions. In 1986 they were gold medalists in the U.S. Professional Championships and have twice been awarded silver medals at the World Professional Competitions in Landover, Maryland. They are familiar to television audiences for their appearance this year in The Dorothy Hamill Tribute broadcast on HBO.

NATHAN BIRCH: Mr. Birch made his professional skating debut as a member of The John Curry Skaters and was a principal soloist at Washington's Kennedy Center with that company. Last year he was seen in PBS' production of The Sleeping Beauty, choreographed by Lar Lubovitch. Currently he teaches skating in Baltimore and has appeared with Ice Theatre of New York in repertory concerts at the Rockefeller Center and Wollman ice rinks.

JOHN CURRY: Mr. Curry's amateur skating career culminated in 1976 when he won the gold medal at the British, the European, the World and Olympic Championships. He went on to create a professional career which ranks him among the great talents in the history of skating. In 1977 The Theatre of Skating opened to enthusiastic audiences in London's West End and played for two years in the U.K. In 1980 his Ice Dancing opened in New York and played for two years on Broadway. In 1981 he appeared as Harry Beaton in the Broadway revival of Brigadoon. Mr. Curry created two television skating specials, Peter and the Wolf and the Emmy-nominated program The Snow Queen. As Artistic Director of The John Curry Skaters Mr. Curry revolutionized ice performance with his sold out appearances at

The Metropolitan Opera House, The Kennedy Center, London's Royal Albert Hall and other theatres worldwide. He has recently returned to the stage with acclaimed performances in  $\underline{\text{Hard Times}}$ ,  $\underline{\text{Twelfth Night}}$  and  $\underline{\text{She Stoops To Conquer}}$  in London and throughout the  $\underline{\text{U.K.}}$ 

GIA GUDDAT: Ms. Guddat appeared as a member of Torvill and Dean's <u>World Tour</u> and in the television special <u>Fire and Ice</u>. She was a competitor at this year's World Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. Ms. Guddat participated in the creation of and has skated the <u>Hard Edge</u> with Gary Beacom in performances throughout Canada.

ROB McBRIEN: Ice Theatre's Artistic Director Rob McBrien served as Ensemble Director with The John Curry Skaters, assisting throughout that company's acclaimed world Tour. A B.S. from Northwestern University, Mr. McBrien was a founding member and principal performer with The Shared Forms Theatre, winning with partner Wendy Wasdahl two Villager Theatre awards for excellence. He served as assistant director to Obie Award winner Meredith Monk on her 1986 revival of Quarry and on the recently completed film Book of Days in which he will also appear as a performer when it is broadcast on PBS in October 1988. Mr. McBrien currently coaches, choreographs and conducts Ice Theatre Plié Power Workshops in New York and across the country.

KEN MOIR: A Canadian Gold Medalist and former National Competitor, Mr. Moir skated principal roles with Hollywood on Ice and, as a dancer, performed with the City Ballet of Toronto. Mr. Moir has appeared with Ice Theatre in Performance '87 and at engagements in New York, across the U.S. and Canada.

MATTHEW NASH choreographs in a wide variety of media including theater, television, the concert stage, and live industrial productions. The Hartford Ballet has commissioned him to create a new work which will premiere in October. His own company, MATTHEW NASH MUSIC & DANCE, will present four of his latest dances at Manhattan's CSC Repertory this June.

NINA NEWBY: A USFSA Gold Medalist, Ms. Newby and her partner Rick Berg were Gold Medalists at the 1986 U.S. Professional Championships and Bronze Medalists in the 1986 Challenge Cup. She has appeared with Ice Theatre in Performance '87, at Rockefeller Center, and this month will perform with the company at the opening of the new sports arena in Andorra.

MOIRA NORTH: Gold Medalist from Canada, Ms. North and her partner Patrick Dean were medalists at the 1984 U.S. Professional Championships and winners of the free dance portion of the World Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. Along with teaching, Ms. North, as a founder of Ice Theatre, plays an active part in assisting the company to establish a school and workshop program.

FRANK NOWOSAD: A distinguished Canadian figure skating coach, Mr. Nowosad in the founder of the Canada Ice Dance Theatre, a pioneer in not for profit skating performance ensembles. He collaborated with Gary Beacom on much of the material in <u>Hard Edge</u> and serves as consultant to ABC on its broadcasts of World and Olympic championships. During the summer months he choreographs and conducts workshops at the Sun Valley Skating School.

MICHAEL TOKAR: U.S. Professional Silver Medalist and former National Italian Men's Champion and World Competitor, Mr. Tokar skated principal roles with Ice Capades and, as a choreographer, has participated in productions televised both nationally and internationally.

RICHARD SCANLON directed in regional theatre, summer stock and off-off Broadway. Since leaving the Stella Adler Conservatory, Mr. Scanlon has produced and directed commercials for television and currently coaches for film and television.

CATHERINE ROONEY and JEFF PEACH have recently joined forces using their extensive backgrounds in lighting and sound to form a corporate and entertainment production company. Native Bostonians, they are delighted to be producing shows in New York City.