



*Ice
Theatre
of
New York*

**16th
Annual
Home
Show**

Three evenings
dedicated to
bold, innovative
ice skating
performance

**October 20, 22
& 23, 1999**

Live at Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers • West 23rd St. & the Hudson River

Ice Theatre of New York

16TH ANNUAL HOME SHOW

FOUNDER/DIRECTOR
Moira North

ENSEMBLE DIRECTORS
Judy Blumberg/Doug Webster

THE ENSEMBLE

✓ Lisa Bell
Stephanee Grosscup
David Liu
Kim Navarro
Chris Nolan

Susan Pereira
✓ Jessica Randall
✓ Collin Sullivan
Douglas Webster
Tian Yi Zhang

GUEST ARTISTS

✓ Rory Flack Burghart
✓ Susanna Rahkamo & Petri Kokko
Elena Leonova & Andrei Khvalko

CHOREOGRAPHERS

Peter di Falco
David Liu

Moira North
JoAnna Mendl Shaw

Doug Webster

LIGHTING DESIGN
David Lander

October 20, 22 & 23, 1999

Ice Theatre New York

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Tonight marks the 16th year of Home Season performances by Ice Theatre of New York at Sky Rink. You will see the diversity of skating as dance explored in our repertory by both ice and theatrical dance choreographers. It is thrilling to see that almost all of our work showcases the ensemble; this was the dream I shared with the original cast of skaters. Our ensemble is the "star."

With all its continued challenges I still strongly believe in Patrick Hourcade's prediction that "artistic ensemble skating will doubtless be among the most delightful discoveries of the 21st Century." On the edge of the millennium I look back on all the talented skaters, choreographers, board members, volunteers, students, teachers, and staff who have contributed to the continuation and growth of our wonderful Ice Theatre company and I thank each and every one of you. We have accomplished so much because it has been a collective and collaborative process.

To see young, talented skaters like Kim Navarro and Jessica Randall, the student of my late partner Patrick Dean, make their debut with the company; to see the growth of long time company members, Judy Blumberg and Doug Webster, as Ensemble Directors; to acknowledge the continued support of former company members, including Johnathan Stine, who still feel a commitment to the Ice Theatre movement...

this is what makes all the hard work worthwhile.

I hope that you will follow us into the next century.

Moir North
Founder/Director

The Program

MAGIC FOREST

choreography Doug Webster
music Brian Keane
performers Lisa Bell, Stephanie Grosscup,
Kim Navarro, Chris Nolan,
Susan Pereira, Jessica Randall
Collin Sullivan, Doug Webster,
Tian Yi Zhang

DEFLECTING DEMONS

choreography David Liu
music Richard Einhorn
costume Yoshiyuki Miyamae
performer David Liu

SUMMERTIME

choreography Brian Wright
music George Geshwin
performer Rory Flack

TRANSITIONS

- I. CHAOS
- II. DROWNING
- III. UNDERSTANDING
- IV. FREEDOM

choreography Doug Webster
music Philip Glass
costumes Leonardo Iturregui
performers Lisa Bell, Stephanie Grosscup,
Chris Nolan, Susan Pereira,
Collin Sullivan, Doug Webster

PAUSE

(Please remain in your seats)

HEART

choreography JoAnna Mendl Shaw
music Mouth Music
performers David Liu, Kim Navarro,
Chris Nolan, Tian Yi Zhang

Heart has been made possible, in part, with commissioning funds from the New York State Council on the Arts.

CABARET

choreography Rahkamo & Kokko
music Kander & Ebb
performers Susanna Rahkamo & Petri Kokko

CABARET MANANA

- I. OVERTURE: Ensemble
- II. NIGHT AND DAY: Collin Sullivan, Stephanie Grosscup
- III. MINISKIRT: Lisa Bell, Susan Pereira, and Doug Webster
- IV. REVERIE: Tian Yi Zhang
- V. FINALE: Ensemble

choreography Doug Webster
music Juan Garcia Esquivel
costumes Leonardo Iturregui
performers Lisa Bell, Stephanie Grosscup,
Chris Nolan, Susan Pereira,
Collin Sullivan, Doug Webster,
Tian Yi Zhang

PAUSE

CATHEDRAL PINES

choreography David Liu
music David Friesen
performer David Liu

I BELIEVE

choreography Rory Flack
music as sung by Cher
performer Rory Flack

TANGO IMAGES

choreography Peter di Falco
music from the film 'The Tango Lesson'
costumes J'Ordy Designs - Chris Stephenson
performers Lisa Bell, Stephanie Grosscup,
Chris Nolan, Susan Pereira,
Jessica Randall, Doug Webster,
Tian Yi Zhang

Tango Images has been made possible with funding from Jirina Ribbens, the Ida and William Rosenthal Foundation, Mrs. Mary Ross, and Richard Stafford

**program subject to change*

About the Artists

LISA BELL has been skating with Ice Theatre of New York since 1998. Previously, she toured with Feld Entertainment in Starlight Express; directed and choreographed by Robin Cousins. As a senior competitor she was the Gold Medalist in the 1997 Midwesterners and Southwesterners, and as a junior competitor was a medalist in 1994 Nationals.

JUDY BLUMBERG (Co-Ensemble Director) has been a presence in the figure skating world for the past 18 years, in a variety of roles: gliding effortlessly along the ice, coaching, providing commentary at skating events, and offering motivational workshops for youths. Judy, along with former partner Michael Seibert, are recognized world-wide, have been five-time US Dance Champions, three-time World Bronze medalists, two-time Olympians, as well as US National and World Professional Champions. Judy and Michael have been inducted into the US Figure Skating Hall of Fame. After Michael's retirement in 1992, Judy skated with James Yorke, and she is now creating new magic with friend and colleague, Doug Webster. Many enjoyed their breathtaking debut in June, 1997, in Appalachia Waltz. Together they direct the Ice Theatre of New York Ensemble. Judy holds a Bachelor of Science Degree, with a concentration in Human Movement Studies, from Hunter College in New York City, and is an inductee to the USFSA Hall of Fame and the Jewish Hall of Fame.

PETER DI FALCO (Choreographer) is recognized as a master teacher of the tango and other ballroom dances whose rich and varied career as a dancer, choreographer, and dance company director spans more than 40 years. Di Falco started out as an ethnic dancer working with La Meri at Jacob's Pillow. At Ted Shawn's invitation he became a member of the Pillow's faculty from 1946-53, teaching and performing. From 1956-59, di Falco directed his own di Falco Dance Theater which traveled throughout the USA and appeared frequently on television. Tiring of the gypsy life, he settled down in New York and began a career in ballroom dance. He is in great demand as coach, choreographer, and instructor for some of the world's best known competition and exhibition couples.

RORY FLACK BURGHART characterizes herself as 'born to skate'. For all who relish the art and beauty of ice skating, Rory's emergence as a world-class competitor and performer is among the truly great developments of the 1990's. One of her earliest accolades was in December of 1994, when Rory ascended to the top of the medals podium at the US Open in Worcester, Mass. This accomplishment sprung Rory into the lead role in 'Nutcracker on Ice', no small feat for an African-American skater. 'It's a big step... a black Sugar Plum Fairy'. Rory was wed in 1992 to Ralph Burghart, a seven-time Austrian men's skating champion. Rory and Ralph and their two sons have settled in Wasilla, Alaska, a community near Anchorage where skating students far outnumber experienced instructors. In the mid-nineties Rory found time to win 3 US Open medals, place 2nd in the '97 Ladies Pro Championship, and become a finalist in the '95 Riders' Women's Triple Crown Championship. Her more recent exploits include a last minute entry in the '98 Great Skate Debate where she placed a surprising second to Olympic Champion

Kristi Yamaguchi. This season has already brought many opportunities for Rory's competitive and artistic flair to shine, including a featured role in Brian Boitano's Skate Against Hate. Rory is also featured in Winter Solstice on Ice, filmed in Finland earlier this year, with Brian Boitano and the Ice Theatre of New York, skating outdoors in a winter wonderland. The event airs this December 5th on A&E.

STEPHANE GROSSCUP celebrates the tenth anniversary of her first performance with ITNY this year. To say Stephanie has done it all would not be far off the mark. She has choreographed both competitive and exhibition pieces for skaters such as Elizabeth Manley, Surya Bonaly, Steven Cousins and Olympic Champions Oksana Grishchuk and Evgeny Platov. She has performed with numerous international skating companies, serving as both a talented skater and a prolific choreographer. She performed for twenty-two seasons with the Sun Valley Ice Shows and has performed in such special events as the Nancy Kerrigan Christmas on Ice, Carmen on Ice and the Alice Through the Looking Glass video. In addition to her on ice endeavors, Stephanie has performed in commercials, modeled and most recently served as technical director for the hit TV show, Touched by an Angel.

DAVID LANDER (Lighting Designer) David's achievements in the theatre include David Henry Hwang's production of Golden Child, directed by James Lapine, on Broadway and regionally; The Cherry Orchard, directed by Louis Zorich and conceived by Olympia Dukakis; MythologyJAZZ at the New Victory Theater; and Chen and Dancers since 1994. He has designed various architectural lighting projects, including Wild Arctic for Sea World, a walk through environment of a ship wreck frozen in a glacier, and Desert Passage in Las Vegas, a large-scale permanent theatrical attraction. David has lighted parties and gala events in New York City in places such as the Harvard Club, National Arts Club, Union League Club and the University Club's New Year's Eve Gala since 1995. This is David's third season collaborating with Ice Theatre of New York.

DAVID LIU is looking forward to beginning a new chapter in his accomplished figure skating career, as a professional performer and competitor, having completed his amateur career at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano. David was also an Olympic competitor in 1988 and 1992. A bilingual citizen of both the United States and Chinese Taipei, David came to the US at age six with his parents. Artistry has always been David's strong point, and at the Winter games in Albertville, commentator Scott Hamilton remarked, "David . . . is one of the best artistic skaters in the entire field. . ." David's artistry stems from extensive dance training. George Balanchine took notice of his talent and placed him in a prestigious and accelerated class at the School of American Ballet on full scholarship. He has performed at Lincoln Center with the New York City Ballet, and in the School of American Ballet's Annual Workshop. His recent choreographic works include dance sequences in Yangtze Repertory Theatre's off-off-Broadway production of The Life and Times of Ng Chung-Yin; and Reflexions I which will be performed in an upcoming evening of new works at Pace Auditorium, May 28, 29, and 30. He performed Not Home Yet in Hong Kong's Fringe Club, In the City of Swans at Tokyo's Japan Foundation Theatre; and in H.T. Chen's Moon at New York's Joyce Theater. David also continues to study acting and singing in NYC.

KIM NAVARRO first performed in a professional ice show at the age of nine. She has qualified as a gold medalist in Freestyle and Dance and is a national competitor in Ice Dance. Besides ice dancing, she has also performed throughout the world in the on-line skating shows Extreme Wheees Live. Kim has been featured in seven national commercials and has recently returned from performing at Euro Disney in France. Kim is thrilled to make her debut with the ITNY at the Gala Performance of their 16th season.

CHRIS NOLAN turned professional after competing as an amateur and successfully making the Canadian International Figure Skating Team. He discovered he excelled when put to the test of entertaining skating fans, and created a skating image for himself: athletic strength and smooth, classic lines. Chris has toured and competed around North America and the world for the last ten years. Lauded in more than a few skating publications as one of "the great unknowns," he was recently honored by being asked by Olympic Bronze Medalist and skating legend Toller Cranston to appear in Toller's tribute show.

MOIRA NORTH (Founder/Director), named one of the 25 Most Influential Names in Figure Skating by International Figure Skating Magazine in 1998, has been a driving force in the development of figure skating as a performing art. Since founding ITNY in 1984, she has been a catalyst in the development of other artistic ice skating companies in both Canada and the US. Moira and partner Patrick Dean skated ITNY's first work, a collaboration with dance choreographer Marc Bogaerts which won them first place in the 1984 Professional Championships in Jaca, Spain. In her subsequent work as ITNY Director, Moira has continued to integrate contemporary dance into the repertoire of ice choreography. She has studied several dance forms, including the Martha Graham technique, Japanese Butoh with Sankai Juku and Haitian and African dance. Moira is a member of the Professional Teaching Staff at Sky Rink/Chelsea Piers, and previously served as co-director of the Sky Rink Skating School. Moira's artistic credits include teaching actress Ileana Douglas to skate for her role in the film To Die For; teaching and choreographing a skating scene in the film The Preacher's Wife with Whitney Houston and Denzel Washington; choreographing ^{the five} productions of Montreal Fashions On Ice for the Quebec Delegation at Rockefeller Plaza; and choreographing the opening ceremonies for both the National Hockey League All Stars Game and World Cup Hockey. ~~Most recently, Moira served as creative consultant for Arts & Entertainment's Winter Solstice on Ice, a television special to be aired this holiday season. Moira loves all kinds of skating and looks forward to producing innovative ice performances in the millennium ahead!~~ ^{during the 1999}

SUSAN PEREIRA is enjoying her second of many years skating with ITNY. She has been skating professionally since age 15, performing in ice shows around the world including Ice Capades and the world-renowned Sun Valley Ice Show, held each summer in Sun Valley, Idaho, which is her home ice. She is happy to have glided into New York City where she is attending Columbia University, and doing what she loves most, skating. Even though she is now living it up in Paris during her junior year abroad, Susan has happily returned to New York for these Ice Theatre shows.

SUSANNA RAHKAMO & PETRI KOKKO have always been pioneers in their industry. Without a doubt, their ice dancing career is remarkably different from that of other pairs, but assuredly, if it wasn't for the odds against them, they would not be where they are today. With their unique style, extraordinary talent and unprecedented vision, Susanna and Petri have achieved one of the most successful careers of all time in the sport of figure skating. Since they turned professional in 1995, Susanna and Petri have become two of the most sought after tour and exhibition skaters in the world, and they are always working to expand to a wider audience and a higher level of skating. In 1996, they starred in Julian Temple's music video of the international hit *Beyond The Invisible* by the renowned band Enigma. This was the first collaboration of its kind between rock band and ice dancers, and led to a series of co-productions with famous musical artists. Over the last two years they have choreographed and performed with one of the world's top opera singers, Montserrat Caballé, with musical comedy star Sarah Brightman, and with Adiemus, who created the global theme song for Delta Airlines television commercial. The young Finns were challenged once again when Sony Music asked them to create a program for *My Heart Will Go On*, sung by Celine Dion, from the soundtrack of the most successful film of all time, *Titanic*. This program was premiered with ITNY in New York City in March 1998. Tonight they will perform a new piece, "Cabaret" which they have just competed with at "Legends on Ice."

JESSICA RANDALL is skating her first season with ITNY. Born into a family of figure skaters in Albany, NY, Jessica has been skating since the age of two. She was inspired to become a member of the company ever since she had ice-dance lessons with Patrick Dean, one of the founding members of ITNY. She had further studies with the late Gus Lussi. Jessica skated with Walt Disney's national tour of *Beauty and the Beast* and the Japanese tour of *Magical Fantasy on Ice*. A member of the Sky Rink Skating School coaching staff, she also continues to study Modern, African, and Afro-Cuban dance and would like to finish her degree in the History and Anthropology of Dance. Jessica loves the artistic possibilities afforded her by ITNY, as she has always preferred the creative and spiritual aspects of skating over the competitive mind-set.

JOANNA MENDEL SHAW (Choreographer) is a choreographer, teacher and movement coach, working with dancers, gymnasts, ice skaters, and equestrians. JoAnna's work has been presented in New York at Dance Theatre Workshop, Dancespace at St. Mark's, DIA Center for the Arts, and the 92nd Street Y. In 1997, JoAnna and Doug Webster created *Appalachia Waltz* for ITNY. JoAnna has received two NEA Choreographic Fellowships. She is known for her large site specific works, including a month-long festival for downtown Seattle, a commission for the Neuberger Museum at SUNY Purchase, and a recent commission for Mount Holyoke College for dancers and equestrians. JoAnna has taught at the Laban Institute and the Limon Institute, served on the faculty of the University of Washington, Cornish College, and New York University/Tisch, and is currently on the faculty at Dancespace in New York City. Her work abroad includes coaching for the Swiss Gymnastics Federation and choreographing and teaching in Scotland, Wales, Yugoslavia, and Hungary.

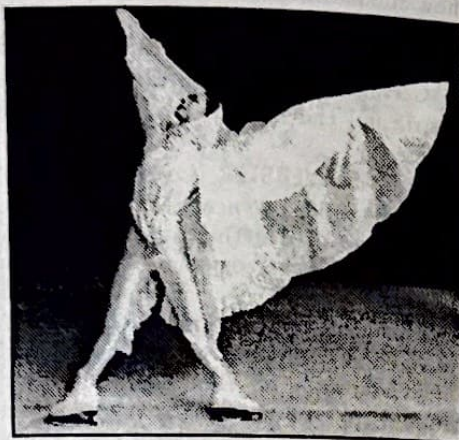
COLLIN VAIL SULLIVAN is skating his first season with ITNY. As a professional skater, he has toured with Dorothy Hamill as a principal in *Ice Capades* and appeared in the video production of "Alice Through the Looking Glass" with Nancy Kerrigan. Also with Nancy Kerrigan, Collin has performed in the 1998 televised *Halloween on Ice* and choreographed a duet which they performed for a TV special, *Romance Classics* and at Rockefeller Center. On a televised national tour of *Nutcracker on Ice*, Collin skated the role of the Prince and partnered the Sugar Plum Fairy, Peggy Fleming. He has also skated in the Sun Valley, Idaho Summer show and partnered Oksana Baiul in *Nutcracker on Ice*. In addition to performing, Collin is also a former senior level National Ice Dance Competitor and a 3 time International team member. He has competed in *Skate America Coup de Alped* in St. Gervais, France, *The Melbelhorn Trophy* in Germany, *The Vienna Cup* in Austria and *The World University Games* where he placed fifth.

DOUGLAS WEBSTER (Co-Ensemble Director) has had an exciting year that included creating two new pieces for ITNY for an Arts & Entertainment Television special to be aired at Thanksgiving and Christmas this year. Other highlights from the year include choreographing "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing" for Elena Leonova and Andrei Khvalko which helped them win the Jefferson Pilot Figure Skating Championship, *Signs of Life* for Lisa Marie Allen, and *Tango* for National Novice Champion Elizabeth Kwon and most recently a piece for Chen Lu. He has also enjoyed directing Ice Theatre's ensemble with Judy Blumberg, a partnership that continues to grow, teaching at Sky Rink, and being home in his free time. Excited to premiere his new piece, *Transitions*, Doug would like to offer gratitude to Leo, Lola, and Sasha for being there always. Thank you.

TIAN YI ZHANG was born in Harbin, China, where she began skating at age seven. Tian Yi was three time National Ice Dance Champion of China in 1995, '96 and '97, as well as the Silver Medalist in the Asia Championships in 1996. This is Tian Yi's second year performing with Ice Theatre where she has become an integral member of the ensemble. She has also been a featured model for Capezio skatewear. In addition to her love of skating and performing with ITNY, she continues to study dance in New York and is taking ballet, swing and ballroom classes. Tian Yi is currently on the teaching staff of the Sky Rink Skating School at Chelsea Piers.

About Ice Theatre of New York

The mission of Ice Theatre is to develop ice skating as a performing art through its performances and educational outreach programs. Ice Theatre has created an environment in which professional skaters from various backgrounds can collaborate with choreographers, musicians, writers, and visual artists to create and perform new works. It is the nation's first not-for-profit ice dancing ensemble to be awarded grants by The National Endowment for the Arts and The New York State Council on The Arts as a dance company. Since its inception, the company has created a repertoire of over sixty works that includes choreography by major modern dance choreographers Ann Carlson, Laura Dean, Donlin Foreman, David Dorfman, Lar Lubovitch, JoAnna Mendl Shaw, and Elisa Monte, as well as works by ice choreographers. The repertoire ranges from 12-skater ensemble dances to solos, duets, and trios, with music from classical to contemporary.



Ice Theatre has produced programs with such renowned skaters as John Curry, Toller Cranston, Paul Wylie, Nancy Kerrigan, Maia Usova and Alexander Zhulin, Judy Blumberg and Michael Siebert, Gary Beacom and Katherine Healy. Ice Theatre of New York is currently The Ice Dance Company in Residence at Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers.

Ice Theatre has participated and developed the New Works and Young Artists Series at Riverbank State Park in Harlem. This program is dedicated to giving emerging choreographers and young performers an opportunity to present new works to audiences of school children from the area. Ice Theatre also conducts "Learn to Ice Dance Classes" for New York City public school children. The students are taught the basics of skating and dance, with an emphasis placed on full body awareness, musicality, proper stretching and strengthening techniques, and performance skills, working toward creating physically aware and interesting young artist/athletes.

The company has also performed and conducted master classes throughout the United States and Canada and has also been produced by major dance presenters including Boston's Dance Umbrella, Vermont's Flynn Theatre, Dancing in the Streets, Creative Time, First Night Annapolis, and in Europe.

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Justin Cartey
Pete Dimas
Debbie Fowlkes
Kris Keeley
Karl Lawrence
Rodger Siegel

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Scott Addison Clay

LIGHTING EQUIPMENT
Four Star Stage Lighting, Inc.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Moon Public Relations/
Nancy Moon

VIDEOGRAPHY
Tony Seva