



MAY 5-6 12

Coleman Lemieux & Co.
From the House of Mirth
avant-première
Market Hall



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From The House of Mirth

Director and Choreographer **James Kudelka**

Composer **Rodney Sharman**

Elegie by Franz Liszt and
Waltz by Franz Grothe (arr. By Rodney Sharman)

Librettist **Alex Poch Goldin**

Musical Director **John O. Hess**

Set Design **David Gaucher**

Costume Design **Jim Searle and Chris Tyrell**
for Hoax Couture

Costume Construction **Angela Arana**

Wardrobe Advisor **Barbara de Kat**

Hair **Brian Phillips for worldSALON**

Lighting Design **Simon Rossiter**

Stage Manager **Gillian Lewis**

Set Construction **Production Canada**

“For David Banks, with thanks, and with Jim in mind.”

Cast

Singers

Selden	Scott Belluz <i>Countertenor</i>
Trenor	Graham Thomson <i>Tenor</i>
Rosedale	Alex Dobson <i>Baritone</i>
Dorset	Geoffrey Sirett <i>Bass Baritone</i>

Dancers

Lily Bart	Laurence Lemieux
Judy Treynor	Claudia Moore
Grace/Gertie Farish	Christianne Ullmark
Aunt Peniston	Vicky Bertram

Musicians

Violin	Parmela Attariwala
Cello	Carina Reeves
Harp	Sanya Eng
Harmonium	Kathryn Tremills
Piano	John Hess

SPECIAL THANKS

Joan and Jerry Lozinski, Jamie Crotin, Robin Vaile

Synopsis: *The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton (1905)

This is the story of Lily Bart, a woman caught between her desire for love and her need of money. In early 19th century New York City, Lily, an exquisite woman is part of the elite social scene. She moves from estate to estate of wealthy socialites, meeting prospective husbands, but never committing to any. The cost of travel, dress and gambling at bridge begins to erode her finances and create friction with her friends who firmly believe she should settle into marriage as soon as possible. When her finances become unstable, she borrows money from her friend Judy's husband, Gus Trenor. Gus expects some personal attention in return for his investing money on Lily's behalf, although Lily seems oblivious to this. The problem with the one man Lily has feelings for, Lawrence Selden, a sympathetic and spiritual man who loves her, is that he is not wealthy and could never hope to support the lavish lifestyle Lily has grown accustomed to.

Lily continues an empty pursuit of adulation, which reaches its height when at an estate soiree, she performs a dance that wins the admiration of all the men present. They are smitten. Due to the success of the evening, Lily is invited on a European cruise with many in her social set and during the vacation she is falsely accused of carrying on an affair with the wealthy husband of an acquaintance on the cruise.

While Lily is innocent, the rumors spread quickly and she is quickly disowned by her friends and disinherited by her aunt. Lily's cousin receives the aunt's fortune instead. Simon Rosedale, a rising entrepreneur, and George Dorset, the married man Lily has been accused of carousing with, both offer to support Lily financially and Dorset proposes marriage, but again too proud, she refuses their advances. When Gus Trenor demands some physical satisfaction for his investments on Lily's behalf, Lily refuses. Lily falls into a cycle of fear and despair. She is now living on a very small allowance and in dire circumstances. To calm her nerves and gain some rest, Lily begins taking a Chloral compound to assist her to sleep. One evening, whether purposely or not, Lily takes too much Chloral and dies in her sleep. When Selden arrives to declare his love for her, he finds her body and laments the loss of his beloved.

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James Kudelka

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304 Parliament Street, Toronto, ON, M5A 3A4

info@colemanlemieux.com colemanlemieux.com

Biographies

Parmela Attariwala, violin

Described as "one of Canada's most original and compelling artists," violinist Parmela Attariwala has been active in genre-defying music and performance since moving to Toronto in 1994. She has toured and recorded with an array of musicians including Carla Bley, Ravi Nairpally, James Campbell, Anthony Braxton and John Taylor. She has also collaborated extensively – as composer, musician and movement artist – with a diverse range of choreographers from Bharata-natyam to butoh to contact. An ardent improviser and proponent of improvisational pedagogy as a tool for cross-genre musical communication, Parmela performs regularly at AIMToronto events and has been on the jazz faculty at the University of Toronto. In addition to traditional orchestral work, Parmela works with some of Toronto's most progressive contemporary music ensembles and has released three recordings of her own Attar Project, an avant-garde take on east meets west. Parmela is currently in the final stages of writing her Ph.D. thesis in Ethnomusicology at the University of Toronto.

Scott Belluz, singer

Praised for his 'warm, rich voice and impeccable coloratura,' (La Marseillaise) Scott brings his committed artistry to repertoire ranging from 17th century to newly composed works. Performances this season reflect his artistic versatility and include: Handel's Messiah with Aradia, a recital with the trio Music in Common as part of the Stratford Summer Music Festival and a staged performance of Handel's cantata Cor Fedele at the Gladstone Hotel with Volcano Theatre/ Underground Opera. Scott has received great acclaim for his performances in the world premieres of numerous Canadian operatic works including: the title role in Omar Daniel's *The Shadow* with Tapestry New Opera, *L'Oiseau* in Gilles Tremblay's *Opera Feerie* with Chants Libres, *Damien* in R. Murray Schafer's *The Children's Crusade* with Soundstreams Canada, as well as *Opera Briefs* and *Opera To Go* with Tapestry New Opera. On the concert stage, Scott performed in *Salsa Baroque: Music of Latin America and Spain* of the 17th and 18th century with Ensemble Caprice, a program which has also been released on CD by the Analekta label.

Victoria Bertram, dancer

A native of Toronto, Ontario, Victoria Bertram first studied dance with Betty Oliphant and then entered the National Ballet School when Miss Oliphant opened it in 1959. Upon graduating in 1963, Ms. Bertram joined The National Ballet of Canada. She was promoted to Soloist in 1970, to the rank of Principal Dancer in 1980, and to Principal Character Artist in 1985. Her Repertoire includes virtually all the female character roles in the company's repertoire. Ms. Bertram has created roles in many ballets. For James Kudelka she has created the roles of

Chief of Police and The Butler in *An Italian Straw Hat* (2005), Stepmother in *Cinderella* (2004), a Senior in *The Contract* (The Pied Piper) (2002), The Queen in *Swan Lake* (1996), Winter in *The Four Seasons* (1997) Babe in *The Nutcracker* (1995), and many other roles. Ms. Bertram has also created roles in David Parsons' *The Need* (1990), David Allan's *Masada* (1987) and Brian Macdonald's *Newcomers* (1980). Ms. Bertram's film credits include the Rhombus Media production of *The Four Seasons*, CBC-TV productions of *La Syphide*, *Giselle*, *Onegin*, *Swan Lake* and the CBC-TV/Primedia production of *The Merry Widow*.

Alexander Dobson, singer

British-Canadian baritone Alexander Dobson has been praised for his musicality and dramatic awareness in a range of repertoire on both opera and concert stages. Opera highlights include his riveting portrayals of *Wozzek* and *Don Giovanni*, both conducted by Yannick Nezet-Seguin, *Papageno* in *Die Zauberflöte* with Opera Hamilton, *Mercutio* in *Roméo et Juliette* for l'Opéra de Montréal, *Silvio* in *Opera Quebec's Pagliacci*, *Marcello* in *La Bohème* for Saskatoon Opera and Pacific Opera Victoria, *De Retz* in *Bard Summerscape's* production of *Les Huguenots* and his Royal Opera Covent Garden debut with *The Midnight Court*. Upcoming engagements include a recital with the Aldeburgh Connection, the B Minor Mass at the Carmel Bach Festival and *Messiah* with the National Arts Centre Orchestra.

Sanya Eng, harp

Sanya Eng is one of Canada's most sought-after harpists. As a dynamic soloist, she has performed around the world; she has appeared as a guest soloist with distinguished ensembles such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, *Les Violons du Roy*, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, and has been a featured soloist in many festivals and concert series at home and abroad. As an active orchestral and chamber musician, she performs regularly with ensembles such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Canadian Opera Company, The National Arts Centre Orchestra, The Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, The Esprit Orchestra, The Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, New Music Concerts, Soundstreams Canada, the Talisker Payers, and Continuum. She has also worked extensively with the St. Michael's Boys' Choir, the Toronto Children's Chorus, and the Canadian Children Opera's Chorus, and has recorded for CBC Records, hatART, ClassXdiscs, and NAXOS labels.

John Hess, musical director and pianist

John Hess is the recognized authority on contemporary opera and song in Canada and is Co-Artistic Director of Toronto's renowned Queen of Puddings Music Theatre. He has been involved with the creation of many new productions for the Canadian Opera Company and has collaborated with virtually every contemporary opera company in Canada. At the Banff

Centre for the Arts, he served as Associate Artistic Director of the 20th Century Opera and Song program. John is equally in demand as a vocal coach and pianist. He works regularly with Ben Heppner in Canada and other recent performances of note include recitals with Measha Brueggengosman, Jane Archibald and Wendy Nielsen. John is heard regularly on CBC Radio and has recorded numerous CDs, including the complete vocal works of Canadian composer Harry Somers. As a member of the music faculty at the University of Western Ontario, John directs the original Masters program in Collaborative Piano in Canada.

Hoax Couture, costume design

Hoax Couture was founded in 1985 by lawyer Chris Tyrell and architect Jim Searle. Without formal fashion training, the Hoax duo began by selling T-shirts on the streets and within a year their first fashion collection was available exclusively through Holt Renfrew. They currently run a bespoke tailoring and fashion design business in Toronto. Hoax has collaborated with Coleman Lemieux and Compagnie and James Kudelka on several projects, including: February 2011 AllOneWord at the Enwave theatre; October 2010, LIVING DANCES at the Fleck Dance Theatre. For Coleman Lemieux, they designed Hymn to the Universe which premiered in 2011 at Place Des Arts in Montréal featuring the legendary Sun Ra Arkestra. In June 2010, they collaborated on Coleman Lemieux's massive (200 performers) site specific project for LuminaTO, and in June 2009, they collaborated in the creation of Breaking Ground, another site specific work in Regent Park. In collaboration with James Kudelka they recently completed The Man In Black, based on the music of Johnny Cash (soon coming to The National Ballet of Canada in Toronto), and in 2008, they designed The Ruins proclaim That the Building was Beautiful for the San Francisco Ballet's 75th anniversary. Their fashions have been popular for years with their private clients and many celebrities. In addition to their fashion business, in 2009 the designers founded Dare to Wear Love – an annual blockbuster charitable fashion event in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

James Kudelka, director and choreographer

James Kudelka is widely acknowledged as one of North America's most innovative choreographers. His mastery of both classical ballet and modern/contemporary dance has earned him commissions from companies as stylistically diverse as American Ballet Theatre, Chicago's Hubbard Street Dance and Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal. Kudelka's work covers an impressive range, from virtuoso pas de deux, through large-scale and always arresting adaptations of such classics as Swan Lake, The Nutcracker and Cinderella, to boldly innovative creative collaborations with dancers, designers and musicians. After nine distinguished years as artistic director of the National Ballet of Canada (1996-2005), James Kudelka continues to undertake collaborative projects that engage and challenge him as a choreographer. In 2008, Kudelka became CLC's Resident Choreographer.

Laurence Lemieux, dancer

Laurence Lemieux was born in Québec City and received her training at l'École Supérieure de danse du Québec and later at the School of the Toronto Dance Theatre, joining TDT in 1986 and dancing in works by David Earle, Peter Randazzo, Patricia Beatty and Christopher House, as well as teaching in the School's professional program. She has also danced for such choreographers as James Kudelka, Tere O'Connor, Margie Gillis, William Douglas, Jean-Pierre Perreault and Benoit Lachambre. In 1998, she performed a solo created by Christopher House, Cryptoversa, winning a Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Performance in Dance. She presented her first choreography in 1983, and has since created more than 25 works, including: Varenka, Varenka!, Les Paradis Perdus, a collaboration with Canadian composer Christopher Butterfield, and most recently, Interiors.

Gillian Lewis, stage manager

Gillian makes her living as a Production Manager and Stage Manager in theatre and dance. Gillian has production managed for many Toronto based companies, including: Ambitious Enterprises, Cart/Horse Theatre, Eldritch Theatre, Fallen Rock Productions, inDANCE and Shrimpy Magnet Theatre Company. Gillian has stage managed for many companies, including: CanAsian Dance Festival, Dancemakers, The National Ballet of Canada, tiger princess dance projects, ProArteDanza and Public Recordings. She would like to thank Laurence and James for including her in this amazing production!

Claudia Moore, dancer

Claudia Moore, artistic director of MOonhORsE dance theatre, has been creating and performing movement for theatre, film, multi-disciplinary collaboration and her own dance theatre productions since the late 1970s. She curates the company's Older and Reckless series, featuring dance artists over 45. Currently, Claudia has returned to her first passion, as a dancer. In November 2009, the Young Centre for the Performing Arts, where Moore was a resident artist from 2008 - 2010, presented Claudia and Dan Wild in an evening of new work choreographed by James Kudelka and Tedd Robinson called Dances in a Small Room. The work toured to Guelph, St. John's, Ottawa, Kitchener and Halifax. Claudia is honoured to work again with Mr. Kudelka and the entire From the House of Mirth team on this inspired project.

Alex Poch-Goldin, librettist

Alex is an award-winning playwright whose work has been produced in Canada, Germany and the United States. Originally from Montreal, he has written for the theatre, radio and television. His last play, The Right Road To Pontypool received rave reviews and ran at the 4th Line Theatre for two sold out seasons. Alex's play Yahrzeit, was recipient of the Toronto Jewish Playwriting Award and completed two national tours of Germany with the prestigious Theatre Gastspiele-Kempf. He

also created an original Chasidic folk tale called The Death of Simon Pinchuk, which was commissioned by and broadcast nationally on CBC Radio. Alex's other playwriting credits include Cringeworthy and This Hotel at Theatre Passe, both nominated for Dora Awards for Outstanding New Play. Alex's first full-length opera, The Shadow, was produced in Toronto in 2009 to great acclaim by Tapestry New Opera. Other plays include: Louie's Dilemma (Winnipeg Jewish Theatre), Jim and Shorty (Factory Theatre), The Life of Jude, and Internazionale. Alex was a nominee for the 2008 Siminovich Prize for playwriting. Alex is also an acclaimed actor who has worked extensively in theatre, film and television, including award winning productions of Angels in America, Our Class, Intimate Apparel (Canadian Stage) and Scorched (Tarragon Theatre).

Carina Reeves, cello

Carina Reeves was educated at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston studying with Colin Carr, Carter Brey, and Benjamin Zander. Originally, from Vancouver she has played at music festivals all over Canada, the US, and Europe, and her love of contemporary music has seen her perform in the Prague Summer Festival and premiere string quartets at the Enchanted Circle Series in Boston. She has performed with contemporary ensembles Soundstreams, Continuum, Numus, and Esprit, and theatre productions with the Art of Time Ensemble, Patria Music Theatre Projects and the Shurum Burum Jazz Circus. Carina can frequently be heard on the CBC for such programs as Music Around Us, and also with jazz musicians such as Phil Dwyer, Kenny Wheeler and Juno Award winning Guido Basso. Bitten by the early music bug many years ago, Carina has trained at the Tafelmusik Summer Institute and with Christina Mahler. Relishing the use of her baroque bow and gut strings has rewarded her with concerts with Furiosi Baroque Ensemble, Toronto's Bach Consort and countertenor Daniel Taylor. In addition to being the cellist of the popular Kirby String Quartet, Carina is part of a revolutionary string trio called "Coyote". Working in a self-titled style affectionately called "improvised Zen classical", the group was recently chosen to be a part of ARCfest, Toronto's Social Justice Arts Festival, and has also performed in the Toronto Jazz Festival and venues around Toronto.

Rodney Sharman, composer

Rodney Sharman lives in Vancouver, BC. He has been Composer-in-Residence with the Victoria Symphony, the National Youth Orchestra of Canada and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. In addition to concert music, Mr. Sharman writes music for cabaret, opera and dance. He works regularly with choreographer James Kudelka, for whom he has written scores for Oregon Ballet Theatre and San Francisco Ballet. Recent premieres include Notes on "Beautiful", a transformation of music by Stephen Sondheim for New York pianist Anthony de Mare, and Violin Concerto, for Jonathan Crow and the Victoria Symphony. Sharman was awarded First

Prize in the 1984 CBC Competition for Young Composers and the 1990 Kranichsteiner Prize in Music, Darmstadt, Germany. His chamber opera, Elsewhereless, with libretto and direction by Atom Egoyan, was performed in concert in Amsterdam, and staged thirty-five times since its 1998 premiere in Toronto, Ottawa and Vancouver.

Geoffrey Sirett, singer

Baritone Geoffrey Sirett is a recent graduate of the University of Toronto where he completed a Master of Music degree in Opera under the tutelage of Lorna MacDonald. On stage he has performed leading roles in Mozart's Don Giovanni and Così fan tutte, Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel, Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor, Bernstein's Candide, Haydn's Il Mondo della Luna, Leoncavallo's Pagliacci, Lehar's The Merry Widow, Ullmann's Der Kaiser von Atlantis, Puccini's Gianni Schicchi, and Britten's Albert Herring. Geoffrey was a winner in the Canadian Conservatory Vocal Competition, the Czech and Slovak International Voice Competition, and district winner and regional finalist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in 2010, 2011 and 2012. Geoffrey's debut album, Vagabond, with pianist Stephen Ralls, was released in December 2011.

Graham Thomson, singer

A Prince Edward Island native, Graham Thomson is quickly making a name for himself on the operatic stage as a sensitive and intelligent performer with a pure tenor voice noted for its beauty, warmth and flexibility: "half-velour, half-brass, gifted with a beautiful roundness". His singing has been called "engaging, expressive effortless, and perfectly pitched. He is enjoying a busy spring, singing in Weill's Seven Deadly Sins with Against The Grain Theatre; Pedrillo In Die Entführung Aus Dem Serail with Opera Nova Scotia, and a Schubertiad with the Aldeburgh Connection. Other highlights from Mr. Thomson's 2010/11 season include Messiahs with The Confederation Singers, Elmer Iseler Singers, Haliburton Festival Singers and the Pax Christi Chorale; Carmina Burana with the Indian River Festival; Fenton in Verdi's Falstaff with Highland Opera; as soloist in the Bayfield Festival of Song; and Normanno in Lucia Di Lammermoor for Opera Lyra Ottawa, which was broadcast on CBC's Saturday Afternoon at the Opera.

Kathy Tremills, piano

Pianist Kathryn Tremills, has appeared at the Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, on the Roy Thomson Hall stage in Toronto, and has been broadcast by 97.7 the Beach, 560 CFOS AM, CBC Radio Canada and Classical 96.3 FM. In 2010, she was chosen alongside her husband bass-baritone Giles Tomkins as the Critics' Choice by John Terauds for their University of Toronto Faculty Noon Series recital. A soloist with many North American orchestras, Kathryn was a finalist for the International Grace Welsh Prize for Piano. Formerly a Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio member, coach

and répétiteur, Kathryn was also on part-time faculty at the University of Toronto before leaving to pursue the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Collaborative Piano at the University of Michigan where she is currently studying with Martin Katz. Kathryn maintains performances as a member of Trio d'Argento in Toronto, and holds a position as coach and assistant conductor for the Centre for Opera in Sulmona, Italy (COSI). She is an alumna of the Universities of Toronto and Colorado and the Eastman School of Music.

Christianne Ullmark, dancer

Christianne Ullmark began dancing at the age of five in her hometown of Edmonton, Alberta. In 2007, while still a student, she joined Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie on a tour to Beijing and Mongolia as an apprentice, and has been working with the company ever since. After graduating from Ryerson University in 2009 Ms. Ullmark continued to dance with CLC as well as with independent choreographers in Toronto. Ms. Ullmark has had the opportunity to interpret masterworks by James Kudelka, such as 15 Heterosexual Duets and In Paradisum, as well as works by Laurence Lemieux, Bill Coleman, Guillaume Cote and Valerie Calam. Recent projects: From The House of Mirth (2012), Children of the Triangle (2012), Living Dances (2011) and AllOneWord (2011).

Simon Rossiter, lighting designer

Simon Rossiter is a freelance lighting designer based in Toronto, Ontario. He has had the pleasure of working on more than eighty productions with a variety of companies, including recent collaborations with Toronto Dance Theatre, tiger princess dance projects, and Dancemakers. Other collaborations include works with adelheid dance projects, D.A. Hoskins and the dietrich group, Darryl Tracy, Peggy Baker Dance Projects, ProArteDanza, Ruth Cansfield Dance Company, and urban ink. He has been previously nominated for the Pauline McGibbon award, and is a graduate of the Ryerson Theatre School, where he lit more than a dozen dance and drama productions, and was honoured with the Sandy Black Award for dedication to the craft of live theatre.

Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie

Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie (CLC), led by husband and wife Bill Coleman and Laurence Lemieux, is a professional dance organization that creates, produces and presents works on a local, national and international scale. The company is recognized as one of the most dynamic forces in Canadian dance, thanks to the scope of its social and artistic vision and the accomplishments of its founders. Coleman and Lemieux have not only been hailed among the country's finest dancers and choreographers (Lemieux is a recipient of the Dora Mavor Moore Award and Coleman of the Jacqueline Lemieux Prize), they are also producers of groundbreaking community activities and events that bring together dancers, composers, musicians and visual artists at the forefront of their fields with diverse communities that are "off the beaten track".

Artistic highlights have included: Convoy PQ. 17 (2001), a work choreographed by Coleman, inspired by the tragic WWII experiences of Bill's father aboard a Merchant Marine convoy to the USSR, performed in Canada as well as premiering in Russia; Varenka, Varenka!, a duet choreographed by Lemieux with live original music by Vladimir Sidorov, also performed in Canada and in Russia, and selected as one of the Top Ten Dances of 2003 by the Globe & Mail and by Toronto's Now Magazine; and The Kudelka/Taylor Project, an evening devoted to the work of James Kudelka, featuring eleven of Canada's finest dancers along with celebrated countertenor Daniel Taylor and The Theatre of Early Music, which was hailed as one of the most important events of 2006 by the Globe and Mail.

In 2007, CLC presented their work at the New York City Center's Fall For Dance Festival, and appeared as headliners at the 75th Anniversary Season of the Jacob's Pillow Festival in Becket, Massachusetts, where they performed three pieces by James Kudelka plus a revival of Ted Shawn's The Dome, originally created for Shawn's Men Dancers and performed in CLC's version by seven children, including Jimmy and Juliette. Their performance of Kudelka's Soudain, l'hiver dernier in August 2007 at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival garnered them The Bank of Scotland Herald Angels Award. CLC also produced The Manitoba Project: From Pointe Shoes to Powwow, a free community dance event presented in Winnipeg and at the nearby Long Plain First Nation Annual Competition Powwow, featuring some of North America's oldest dance traditions side by side with works by some of the 20th Century's greatest choreographers, including Cunningham, Balanchine, Limón, Kudelka and David Earle. Coleman's recent work Hymn To The Universe, featuring music by The Sun Ra Arkestra, was included in The Toronto Star's Top Ten dance events of 2008, and Eye Magazines top ten music events of 2008.



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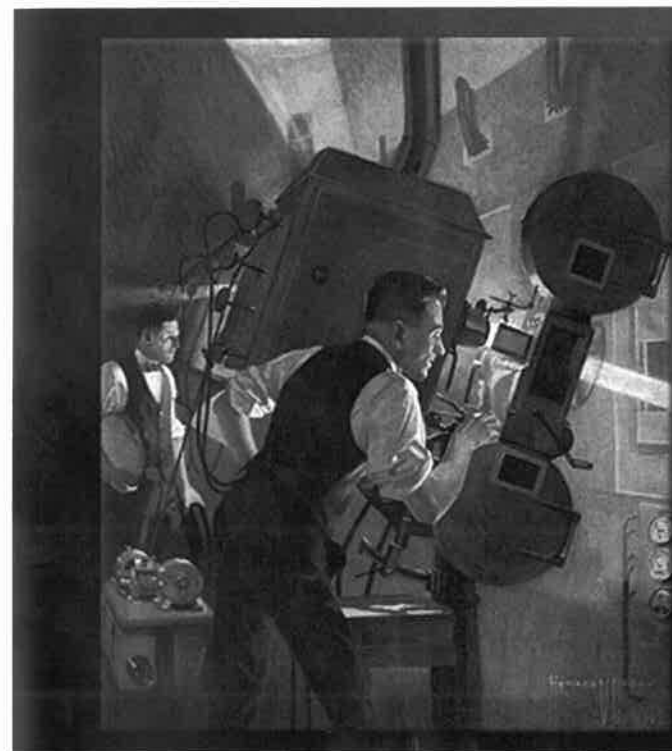


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