



Public Energy

THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE

Public Energy is Peterborough's animator of contemporary dance, theatre, performance and interdisciplinary work. Since 1994 we have presented a mainstage series of artists drawn from across Canada, commissioned new work in concert with other Canadian presenters on the CanDance Network, and supported the development of the local dance, theatre & performance community by presenting area artists and arranging specialized classes and workshops.

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BECOME A PUBLIC ENERGY SUPPORTER

Your donation helps us keep ticket prices accessible and our programming electrifying. It's easy to do on line: Monthly tax-deductible donations can be made at canadahelps.org.

CONTACT

email: admin@publicenergy.ca
mail: PO Box 2319 Peterborough, ON K9J 7Y8
phone: (705) 745-1788

Photo: Wayne Earley



PUBLIC ENERGY AND FLESHY THUD PRESENT

Myrmidon

BY **BERNIE MARTIN**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
A CERTAIN PLACE:
THE BERNIE MARTIN FESTIVAL

November 30-December 4, 2016
The Theatre on King,
Peterborough, ON

PublicEnergy.ca

THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE

Myrmidon

Written by **Bernie Martin**
Direction and lighting design by **Ryan Kerr**
Performed by **Kate Story and Curtis Driedger**
Design by **Martha Cockshutt**

Special thanks: Brad Brackenridge, Bernie Martin, Mary Clare Preston, Susan Spicer, Mary Lofthouse, Brian Sanderson, Theatre Trent, Market Hall, the Ontario Arts Council, and Colin MacAdam for the bright blue Newfoundland dory.

In the 1970s and 1980s, a terrifically prolific and influential artist named Bernie Martin lived and worked in and around Peterborough. Bernie was multidisciplinary: musician, writer, painter, filmmaker. He was also a curmudgeon, a complicated man, and beloved by many peers. As time went on, he became a mentor to many younger artists. Today those artists are still performing his work and passing it on to the next generation. It is in that spirit – of recognizing Bernie’s best work while encouraging new creations from emerging artists – that A Certain Place: The Bernie Martin Festival was created.

After Bernie’s untimely death from cancer in 1995, his theatre texts saw some performances, notably *Myrmidon* at the Union Theatre in 1995, directed by Susan Spicer and performed by Mary Clare Preston (along with Curtis Driedger, with design by Martha Cockshutt); and *Monologue for a Woman With No Hair* by Kate Story, produced at the Gordon Best Theatre in Peterborough, and at the RHUBARB! Festival in Toronto in 2001. This production of *Myrmidon* builds on the success of a 2015 workshop production by Fleahy Thud, presented by Public Energy for its Emergency #21 festival of Peterborough-area performance.

This presentation is part of Public Energy’s efforts, in the 2016-17 season, to give ongoing life to successful works coming out of Peterborough’s independent professional theatre community, as too often their best work goes unnoticed when the work is first performed. After *Myrmidon* we will have the opportunity to see another work first presented at the Theatre On King, *damned be this transmigration*, but this time it will be in the Market Hall Performing Arts Centre where its choreography and music can be seen to full advantage. The season finishes with a ribald and touching solo work, *Mel Malarkey Gets The Bum’s Rush*, first seen briefly at TTKO earlier this year. Its presentation at the end of this season will mark its return to Peterborough after a string of successful performances at festivals across the country. We hope you will come back for more accomplished theatre created by our very own artists.

A CERTAIN PLACE: THE BERNIE MARTIN FESTIVAL

IS PRESENTED BY FLESHY THUD, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PUBLIC ENERGY, AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF PETERBOROUGH THEATRE USERS GROUP, THE CITY OF PETERBOROUGH, THE ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL, THEATRE TRENT, SADLEIR HOUSE, ELECTRIC{+/-}CITY.



ELECTRIC{+/-}CITY



Proud to support Public Energy.

TD proudly invests in initiatives across Canada that provide youth exposure to music, bring families together to enjoy the performing arts, and create access to vibrant cultural offerings.



Bill Shepherd

INVESTMENT ADVISOR AND
PORTFOLIO MANAGER



BIOGRAPHIES

Martha Cockshutt is a Peterborough-based theatre artist. She has been creating costumes for theatre, dance, and performance for over 30 years. Martha has designed and built costumes (and sets too) for Magic Circus Theatre, 4th Line Theatre, Writers' Workshop Theatre, Mysterious Entity, and scores of independent artists and projects. She has also executed sewn elements for larger works by visual artists, participated in numerous script development workshops and produced several larger works. Greatest hits include *The Cure for Sexual Jealousy* (Cure Collective), *Skirting the Edge* and *Macbeth for Six* (Mysterious Entity), some very sexy drag for performance artist David Bateman, *Stria* (Chartier danse), *The (Post)mistress* (O'Kaadenigan Wiingashk/Public Energy), and *Canticles*, *Atlas Moves Watching*, and *How to Wrestle an Angel* (David Earle, Bill James, and Marie-Josée Chartier) for Old Men Dancing, and most recently *petites danses* for Chartier danse. Martha can often be found at Fabricland, where she will assist you with sets and costumes for real life.

Curtis Driedger is a prolific gardener, composer and multi-instrumentalist who has collaborated with numerous dance and theatre artists in Peterborough. He is pleased to performing in *Myrmidon* once again, with his favourite theater people.

Ryan Kerr is a performer and the artistic director of Fleshy Thud and The Theatre on King. Recent productions include: *The Bald Soprano*, *Voices*, *Insurrection*, *The Makers of Madness*, *Beckettfest*, and *Dazzle Ships*. With Kate Story (and with the assistance of Public Energy) he has produced and presented *A Certain Place: The Bernie Martin Festival* throughout the month of November 2016 at his theatre. He is excited to work with performers Kate Story and Curtis Driedger in the final production of the festival, *Myrmidon*. Ryan would like to thank all the performers, directors, technicians, poets, filmmakers, musicians, workshop leaders, panel members, event hosts, festival sponsors/funders, and all the fantastic audience members and workshop participants who have made this festival so successful.

Kate Story a writer and performer. A Newfoundlander living in Peterborough, Ontario, she is the 2015 recipient of the Ontario Arts Foundation's K.M. Hunter Award for her work in theatre. Her first novel *Blasted* (Killick Press) received the Sunburst Award for Canadian Literature of the Fantastic's honourable mention, and recent publications include inclusion in ChiZine Publication's *Imaginarium: Best Canadian Speculative Writing 2015*. Along with Ryan Kerr/Fleshy Thud and Public Energy, she conceived and produced *A Certain Place: The Bernie Martin Festival*, a month-long multi-arts festival including theatre, music, visual art, spoken word, film, workshops for emerging artists, and artistic mentorships; the festival operated as an extended investigation into "regional" artmaking. *Myrmidon* is the culmination of *A Certain Place*, and Kate is honoured to be a part of this production. Many thanks to the numerous artists who took part in the festival, to the family of Bernie Martin who supported the work - especially Mary - and of course, to Bernie Martin.

MANY THANKS TO NIGHT KITCHEN FOR PROVIDING DELICIOUS FOOD FOR OUR ARTISTS



UPCOMING FROM PUBLIC ENERGY



FEB 11 2017

February 11, 2017 at 8pm
Market Hall Performing Arts Centre,
140 Charlotte Street, Peterborough
TICKETS: markethall.org or 705.749.1146
PRE-SHOW CHAT with choreographer
Crazy Smooth at 7pm in the lobby.

Show Sponsor
MG&J MONKMAN GRACE & JOHNSTON
INSURANCE BROKERS

BBOYIZM (Gatineau/Ottawa)
Music Creates Opportunity



MAR 3-4 2017

March 3-4, 2017 at 8pm
Market Hall Performing Arts Centre,
140 Charlotte Street, Peterborough
TICKETS: markethall.org or 705.749.1146

WORLD PREMIERE
*damned be this
transmigration* by Kate Story

UPCOMING FROM PUBLIC ENERGY



MAR 29-APR 1 2017

March 29-April 1, 2017 at 8pm
April 2 at 2pm
The Theatre on King
159 King Street, Peterborough
TICKETS: March 29, pay-what-you-can
at the door. March 30-April 2, \$15
*March 30-April 2 tickets available in advance from the
Market Hall box office. Service charge applies.*

*Mel Malarkey Gets
The Bum's Rush*
Written and Performed by Cathy Charlie Petch

MANY THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS AND SEASON SPONSORS



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CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
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Bill Shepherd

INVESTMENT ADVISOR AND
PORTFOLIO MANAGER

