

FEATURES

SKATING PARTY LEADS FALL EVENTS • PLIE POWER SWEEPS ACROSS U.S. AND CANADA •
ACTIVITIES REVIEWED AND PREVIEWED • MAJOR FUNDRAISING DRIVE LAUNCHED

HALLOWEEN SKATING PARTY HERALDS 1989-90 SEASON

Letter from the President

Moira North

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that Ice Theatre of New York presents you with the first edition of the company newsletter. This not only gives an overview of what we have so far undertaken, what we are currently doing, and what we seek to accomplish; but, more importantly, it reflects how your support has fueled the company's phenomenal strides since its inception in 1984.

Our newsletter will give you a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the theatre company we would like to build and strengthen for you. Future issues, which will be released on a quarterly basis, will introduce, among other articles, production announcements, performance reviews, rehearsal reports, profiles of colleagues and supporters in business and the arts, updates on fundraising activities, and pieces and commentaries that note the limitless artistic possibilities of ice performance. Developments within our young company are as enjoyable and educational to join as they are to observe, and we invite you to participate in our activities as they progress.

We thank you for your confidence in Ice Theatre. We have come very far in the past few years, but we have an even longer way to go. Your interest and enthusiasm for our endeavors greatly encourages us and with your continued support, we look forward to creating the kinds of groundbreaking works that have established Ice Theatre of New York as a pioneering enterprise in the development of artistic skating.

For many people, the approach of fall marks a time of closings and endings - closing the beach house, putting the boat in dry dock, putting away dreams of the home team making it to the World Series, returning the gas grill to the garage or basement, packing away the shorts and swimsuits.

For those of us in the skating community - and those who support skating everywhere, the gold and ambers of autumn, the appearance of pumpkins on doorsteps, the paper cutouts of ghosts and witches on doors signify the beginning of a new season.

Ice Theatre of New York is celebrating the beginning of our 1989-90 season with a Halloween Benefit and Skating Party. This exciting kickoff to another thrilling year will be held on Saturday, October 28, 1989, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Skyrink, 450 West 33rd Street, New York City. Tickets are \$35.00.

The party offers something for everyone, skaters and spectators - special performances by some of the most prominent names in professional skating today: John Curry, JoJo Starbuck and Gia Guddat, a demonstration of Ice Theatre's unique Plie Power Workshops featuring company members, dance music, hot and cold buffet, and a chance to talk with other skaters and supporters of the skating community.

Skyrink is two blocks from New York City's Pennsylvania Station, and is easily accessible via train, subway, and bus lines. Numerous parking lots are located nearby.

If you have not yet reserved your tickets, please call (212) 349-6232 to have them held for you at the door. Tickets will be sold at the entrance, so feel free to come on over and join us that evening. Help Ice Theatre make 1989-90 its best season ever!



CICELY MURROW, MOIRA NORTH, VALERY LEVINE-THOMAS
"THE CAULDRON SCENT" FROM CHILLS AND THRILLS
PHOTO: MORGAN KANT

WORKSHOP REPORT

Ice Theatre of New York's unique Plie Power Workshops are accomplishing their most successful year yet, with workshops held across the U.S. and Canada.

The Workshops provide effective training for amateur competitive and recreational skaters in edge and turn combinations designed to develop depth in the basics of skating. Each workshop contains one hour of on-ice training, followed by a 30-minute off-ice Plie Power Conditioning class. Plie Power may also serve as a vehicle to fill possible gaps in systemized training that may arise from the elimination of school figures from competition, as the Workshops emphasize what may be thought of as the technical aspects of artistic skating.

Directed by Rob McBrien, Plie Power Workshops have boasted an impressive roster of instructors during 1989, including John Curry, JoJo Starbuck, Moira North, Gia Guddat and others. In an effort to maintain an outreach program of workshops ancillary to the currently ongoing series at Skyrink, Plie Power classes have been held throughout the U.S., including Philadelphia, Boston, Stamford, Morristown, Sun Valley, and Beaver Dam. In addition, Plie Power Workshops were introduced last year at the Palau de Gel in Canillo, Andorra, where they met with tremendous success and invitations to return.

"Plie Power may serve as a vehicle to fill possible gaps in systemized training that may arise from the elimination of school figures from competition, as the Workshops emphasize what may be thought of as the technical aspects of artistic skating."

Plie Power classes were introduced in Toronto earlier this year and given recently at the National Junior Elite Training Camp in Calgary, Ontario under the auspices of the Canadian Figure Skating Association. Seventy-five children had an hour of class on ice and an hour of class off-ice everyday. The Technical Committee of CFSA was very pleased with the results and has invited the group to return again next summer.

Plie Power Workshops continue at their home-base at Skyrink on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:15-11:00 a.m. They will be given this season at the Mennen Ice Arena in Morristown, NJ on November 16, 21 and 25; and at the Hamden Figure Skating Club in Hamden, CT on December 28. Arrangements for more workshops to be held along the northeast region are currently being made.

We anticipate that as interest in competitive and recreational skating continues to grow, the Plie Power concept will become an increasingly prominent force in developing tomorrow's champions.

For further information and booking arrangements, please call Moira North at (212) 349-6232.



ROB MCBRIEN & MOIRA NORTH
PHOTO: PHILIPPE H. ALEXANDRE

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Your agent called! You got the part!! As an early patron of Ice Theatre you are playing a central role in a completely original production: the creation of our nation's first not-for-profit skating company. As you can see, ITNY activities are fairly bursting with vitality. Our 1988 fiscal budget was more than triple 1987's and the new season promises yet more growth and excitement. It is your interest in Ice Theatre that has made this growth possible. As artistic director and as a skater myself, I want to thank you for your vital support, especially in these pioneering years of an enterprise that promises to bring so much delight and education.

Our dream is to create an Ice Theatre for those who thrill to the magic of ice, who

wonder at the possibilities yet to be explored on skates, and for those who remain in awe of the tremendous achievements of the artists of our era. Our Plie Power workshops bring to amateur and professional skaters a firm technical basis from which artistry can grow. Our performances present the world's finest professional skaters in works that both celebrate and challenge the classical and avante garde traditions of ice performance.

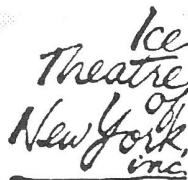
The Ice Theatre of New York is playing a key role in the evolution of artistic skating. And we thank you, our members, for your participation in this process.

Rob McBrien



"Ice Theatre is playing a key role in the evolution of artistic skating..."

WORKSHOPS WITH ROB MCBRIEN AND JOHN CURRY
PHOTOS: LOIS ELFMAN



EVENTS Calendar

1989

AUGUST

21-29. *Plie Power Workshops at the National JuniorElite Training Camp in Calgary, Ontario . Conducted under the auspices of the Canadian Figure Skating Association*

SEPTEMBER

26. *Company performance rehearsals begin. Regular schedule: 3:00-5:00 AM, Tuesdays & Thursdays at Skyrink. Rehearsal period continues through season.*

Plie Power Workshops begin series. Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:15-11:00 AM at Skyrink. Series continues through season.

OCTOBER

28. *Halloween Skating Party at Skyrink. 6:00-8:00 p.m. Tickets at \$35.*

NOVEMBER

16. *Plie Power Workshop at Mennen Sports Arena, a facility of the Morris County Park Commission , Morristown, NJ. Coordinated in association with Debbie Wychulis.*

20. *Performance for "Doing Art Together" at Wollman Rink. For tickets and further information, please call Muriel Silberstein-Storfer at (212) 685-5206.*

21. *Plie Power Workshop , Mennen Sports Arena*

26. *Plie Power Workshop, Mennen Sports Arena*

DECEMBER

6. *Performance at the American Cancer Society Benefit. The Rink at Rockefeller Center. 6:00-9:00 p.m. Performance open to the public. For further information and invitations to Benefit Party, please call Betsy Lindberg at (212) 586-8700.*

8. *Performance in Philadelphia. Details to be announced.*

28. *Plie Power Workshop at the Hamden Figure Skating Club, Hamden, CT. 7:00-10:00 AM. Coordinated by Debbie Hickey.*

1990

JANUARY

24. *1st in a series of Repertory Concerts at the Rink at Rockefeller Center. 1:00 p.m. Free .*

FEBRUARY

21. *2nd in a Series of Repertory Concerts at the Rink at Rockefeller Center. 1:00 p.m. Free .*

MARCH

28. *3rd in a Series of Repertory Concerts at the Rink at Rockefeller Center. 1:00 p.m. Free.*

APRIL

MAY

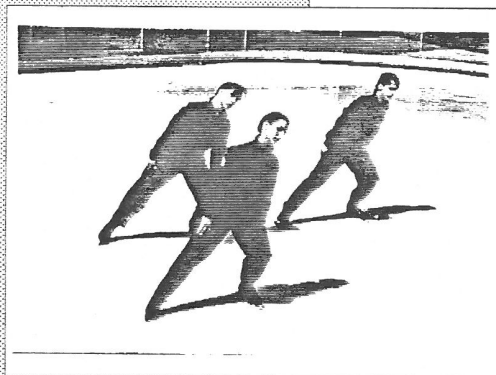
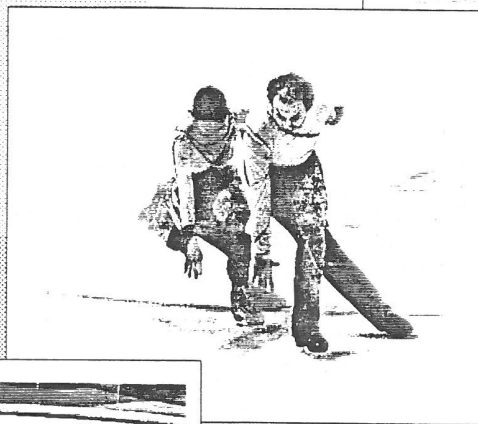
19. *Annual Spring Production. Details to be announced.*

Calendar of Events reflects scheduled activities as of press time.
Notice of additional activities will be forthcoming.

1984-1985 • Development of repertoire of numbers through regular rehearsals involving late night ice • Studio 54 Preview Benefit • Members of Ice Theatre participate in World Professional Championships • Presentation Show "Breaking the Ice" a huge success • 1985-1986 • Season opens with costumed performance "Chills and Thrills" • First Lila Wallace Foundation grant received • 1986-1987 • Pilot Program of Plie Power Workshops conducted at Skyrink a great success • Successful demonstration of Plie Power Concept at National Convention of the Professional Skaters Guild of America in Boston • Article on Ice Theatre of New York appears in the PSGA Magazine • Performances at 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Rink at Rockefeller Plaza • Skating Club of New York Reception • American Cancer Society Skating Party • The Winter Show at the Rink at Rockefeller Plaza • Just One Break Skating Party • Ice Dance Festival at Hickory Hill Rink in Katonah • Cantiaque Skating Club • Carnival McGraw Hill Benefit Reception • 1987-1988 • Season opens with "Performance '87", a benefit for Ice Theatre of New York • Performances at the American Cancer Society Benefit • "Yellow Pages '88: A NYNEX Promotional" • Cantiaque Skating Club Carnival • The 7th Tina Furlong Memorial Exhibition. The 4th Annual Ice Dance Weekend in Boston • Presentation of Hard Edge • Performance at the Inauguration of the Sports Complex of Andorra • Participation of Ice Theatre skaters at the World Professional Championships at Jaca, Spain and Landover, Md. • First annual series of Repertory Concerts at the Rink at Rockefeller Plaza • Outreach program of Plie Power Workshops are underway with classes introduced in Boston, Philadelphia, Morristown, Sun Valley, Stamford, Andorra

1988-1989. Performances at American Cancer Society Benefit • Conde Nast Christmas Party • Nadal '88; Christmas in Andorra • NYNEX Series of Workshops in Boston • Winterskol Festival '89 in Aspen • NJ Special Olympics • 2nd Annual Repertory Concerts at The Rink at Rockefeller Plaza, promoted on National Public Radio and featured on "Live at Five." • Plie Power Workshop continues Skyrink Series and Outreach Program • Ice Theatre invited to introduce the Plie Power Workshop in Toronto to the Canadian Figure Skating Association

IN REVIEW
SEASONS
IN REVIEW
SEASONS
IN REVIEW
SEASONS



LOWER LEFT: THE NEXT ICE AGE, "MACHINE".
PHOTO: LOIS ELFMAN

CENTER: MODRA NORTH &
PATRICK DEAN, "HEAVEN & HELL"
PHOTO: COURTESY OF WORLD
PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, JACA

UPPER RIGHT: GIA GUDDAT,
"EL AMOR BRUJO"
PHOTO: ANNABEL A. ALAFRIZ

"The creative edge...points to the direction in which Ice Theatre can play a unique role. This is not commercial skating, and yet it has a ready audience..."

Anna Kisselgoff, The New York Times
May 22, 1988

"Thank you for the absolutely wonderful experience you led us through at the Artistic Program Workshop. ... I know that the participants will grow in their artistry as a result of the contact with you."

Letter from
Joan Stevens, Chairman, Skater Development Committee
Canadian Figure Skating Association
April 18, 1989

"You are adding a whole new facet to our diamond sport."

Letter from
Carole Shulman, Executive Director
Professional Skaters Guild

"...audiences know little of any forum wherein the cultivation of artistic expression overrides the sole concentration on technical prowess as the raison d'être of ice performance..."

THE MAKING OF THEATRE

About
ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK

Immediately following an Ice Theatre Benefit Performance staged a few years ago, a member of the audience came up to me and exclaimed, "This is the city's best kept secret! Why haven't we heard about Ice Theatre of New York before?"

I have since thought about that encouraging praise. I have marvelled at how our production—planned barely as a theatrical spectacle than a fundraising activity generated by enthusiastic voluntary efforts—could make enough of an impression on one to leave enraptured. And I have noted how we—who have staged such a production without adequate lighting or sound equipment—must not content ourselves with meeting audience's expectations but must challenge ourselves to define new performance levels for them to relish.

The year of that Benefit Performance was 1987 and it was clear that a new awareness had rippled through the crowd: there was instant recognition that an artistically-inspired performance left much more to savor beyond the display of technical virtuosity. Earlier that year, attention had been focused on the figure skating performances at the Winter Olympics in Calgary. Excitement was generated and audience expectations were heightened by the American team's victories in various events. Through several interpretations of "Carmen," the artistic possibilities in figure skating were revealed. David White, Director of the Dance Theatre Workshop, once observed, "Audiences, like artists, are trapped into categories not out of their own making." And it seemed to us then, as it does now, that audiences of ice skating are not only open to, but are expecting, new formats of ice performance.

The impact left by manifestations of the dance and theatrical aspects of skating bring spectators throughout the world to now expect eloquence and lyricism in any performance where they might have been previously content with the sheer acrobatics and technical feats characteristic of activities in the world of sports. Outside of the competitive arena of the Olympic games or regional championships, however, audiences worldwide have known little of any forum in which the cultivation of artistic expression overrides the sole concentration on technical prowess as the *raison d'être* of ice performance. It is in recognition of this need that Ice Theatre of New York was founded. And it is New York City's—and our country's—fortune to serve as the homebase for such an artistic enterprise.

Formed in 1984, Ice Theatre of New York is the nation's first not-for-profit skating performance ensemble. Modeled on the structure of contemporary dance and theatre companies, Ice Theatre of New York has three primary aims: the creation of an eclectic repertory of groundbreaking skating performance pieces, the training of an ensemble of skilled professional skaters and the formation of a broader educational arm which reaches out to competitive, professional, and recreational skaters of all ages. With ongoing presentations at local and international venues, including Manhattan's Skyrink and The Rink at Rockefeller Plaza, Ice Theatre brings together a wealth of artistic talents from musicians, artists and designers to skaters, dancers and choreographers.

Clearly, the receptivity to ice performance—be this on the part of an enthusiastic audience, or on the part of the talented individuals who create the theatrical environment for this collaborative enterprise—is as immeasurable as it is timeless. Though the fascination with skating endures, however, the making of the theatre where this innovativeness can grow and come to fruition is not an overnight phenomenon. The creation of repertory—consisting of longer formats and ensemble works complementing existing solo, duet, and trio pieces—is reliant on the rental of ice time as well as on paid salaries of skaters, choreographers, and other guest artists; the management of the company depends heavily on services that must be provided with viable remuneration; the expansion of the company's goals to include the production of broadcast quality videotape work for private distribution or public television requires monies for equipment and labor; the development of a touring circuit in conjunction with a travelling school is substantially conditional on the availability of funds. The making of this theatre is dependent on your support if it were to succeed.

Foundations like Lila Wallace, Nutrasweet and Curtis McGraw have appreciated the quality of the company's efforts with nominal grants since its inception. The New York Times and other publications have also favorably reviewed the company's artistic output. In no more fertile a climate could your support guarantee the breakthroughs in ice performance which Ice Theatre aims as its goal to accomplish. At no more crucial time could your help sustain the momentum that will allow us to move toward performance levels yet unexplored.

MOIRA NORTH

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Ice Theatre of New York wishes to thank friends and donors for their generous contributions. We especially wish to acknowledge the continuing support of the following individuals and organizations:

CURTIS MCGRAW
LILA WALLACE FUNDS
NUTRASWEET
MIDTOWN SKATING CORPORATION
GUY ROBINSON

ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK
INVITES YOU TO JOIN
OUR GROWING NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS

We welcome...

...tax-deductible contributions in any amount

☐ Enclosed please find my contribution of \$ _____ in support of Ice Theatre of New York.

☐ I would like to be noted as a special contributor:

- ☐ Friend (\$50)
- ☐ Sponsor (\$100)
- ☐ Benefactor (\$500)
- ☐ Sponsor (\$1,000)
- ☐ Corporate Contributor (\$2,500 up)

...more friends

☐ Enclosed please find a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers to add to your mailing list.

...volunteers

☐ Yes, I would like to be placed on your Volunteer List. Please inform me of activities where I can be of some help.

NAME _____

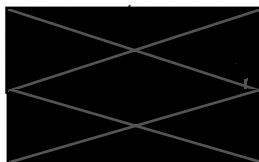
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*Ice
Theatre
of
New York
Inc.*



**JOIN OUR PARTY
THIS SATURDAY, OCT. 28
TICKETS ARE ON SALE AT
THE DOOR!**