

**PITCH IN
CANADA**



Arts & Entertainment



FINE ARTS
SOCIETY
of MILTON

The Fine Arts Society of Milton

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, October 21 at 7pm

at the Police Station
on Childs Drive

(Across from Milton Mall)

Guest Speaker: Artist William Band

Everyone is welcome! Free!

For more information, call 905-876-2837

www.fasm.ca



Milton Players performers (from left) Tim Beddoes, Sharon Beddoes and Graham Morley rehearse for the upcoming presentation of *Murder at the Howard Johnson's*. The comedy hits the stage next weekend at the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre.

Photo by
BARRIE
ERSKINE

Players to stage 'clever comedy'

By STEPHANIE THIESSEN

The Champion

Laughing at a string of attempted murders wouldn't usually be socially acceptable.

But later this month, that's exactly what viewers will be doing while watching the Milton Players Theatre Group's latest offering, *Murder at the Howard Johnson's*.

Billed as a clever comedy, director Geoff Ford makes no qualms about the fact that the characters are far from intelligent — and that's what makes it so humorous.

"Some of the stuff is so inane — it's so stupid, it's incredible," Mr. Ford said.

The theatre group will be doing five performances between next Friday and November 1.

One of the unique aspects of the play, written by Americans Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick, is that it has just three characters — a husband and wife played by Sharon Beddoes and her real-life husband, Tim, plus a dentist/lover played by Graham Morley.

The play depicts a love triangle gone wrong. The two acts are set in a hotel room. In the first, the wife, Arlene, and her lover, Mitchell, are plotting to kill Arlene's husband, a used car salesman.

"At one point, there'll be tomatoes flying at the stage from women in the audience."

DIRECTOR GEOFF FORD

The plot twists and turns from there with hilarious results, Mr. Ford said.

"It's light and fluffy," he said of the play.

And there's no attempt at political correctness.

"At one point, there'll be tomatoes flying at the stage from women in the audience (at the two male characters)."

Each of the three actors is a veteran performer, Mr. Ford said, and they work so well together they've been ahead of schedule in their rehearsals.

Although Mr. Ford said he prefers directing larger casts, he's enjoyed being able to concentrate on each individual during rehearsals.

A long-time Milton resident who now lives in Mississauga, Mr. Ford has been with the Milton Players for almost 17 years. He started his involvement moving sets and then began acting.

Directing is what he enjoys most, he said, because of "the sense of power."

This is the eighth Milton Players play he's directed.


Something new the Milton Players will be doing from now on is giving each play a rating. *Murder at the Howard Johnson's* is rated 'parental guidance', Mr. Ford said, because of some sexual innuendoes plus some swearing.

The biggest challenges Mr. Ford said the group has dealt with in getting the play ready stem from space limitations. The stage is fairly small, requiring some creativity. "Because of the limitations of the stage, it's tricky maneuvering sometimes," he said.

The play runs October 24, 25, 30, 31 and November 1 at the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs Dr. The dinner theatre dates have sold out, but tickets still remain for the show-only performances October 24, 30 and 31. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for each of these performances, with an 8 p.m. show time. Refreshments and a cash bar will be available.

Tickets for show-only performances cost \$15 and can be purchased with cash or by cheque at Delacourt's at Main and Martin streets or by calling (905) 875-0629.

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.



Arts Milton presents...


HOW DO YOU SPELL ENTERTAINMENT?

www.artsmilton.com

Visit our events calendar for full details of this year's performances.

<p>Sat, Oct 18, 6:30pm</p> <p>Fri, Oct 24&31, 7:30pm</p> <p>Sat, Oct 25, 6:30pm</p> <p>Thurs, Oct 30, 7:30pm</p> <p>Sat, Nov 1, 6:30pm</p> <p>Sat, Oct 25, 9:00am-6:00pm</p> <p>Sat, Oct 25, 8:00pm</p> <p>Sun, Oct 26, 2:30pm</p> <p>Fri, Nov 14, 8:00pm</p>	<p>I.D.E.A. BURLINGTON Tunes 'n Tales: Milton's Women of Note, and storyteller Marina Lloyd. Appleby United Church, Spruce St, Burlington. 905-632-1392</p> <p>MILTON PLAYERS <i>Murder at the Howard Johnson's</i> Milton Sr's Activity Ctr. Child's Dr. Reservations call 905-875-0629</p> <p>LITERACY NORTH HALTON Free Children's PumpkinFest Long Lane Orchards on 2nd Line S of 15th Sideroad, N of Hwy 401. Campbellville 905-873-2200</p> <p>GEORGETOWN BACH CHORALE Autumn Concert Georgetown Library & Cultural Ctr Bill Shuttleworth 905-877-8321</p> <p>THE CHILDREN'S HOUR (MCP) Fiddlefire, Children's concert Senior's Activity Centre, Milton Child's Drive Craig (905) 878-7541</p> <p>MILTON CONCERT PRESENTATIONS Milton's 3rd Night at the Proms with Toronto Philharmonia (905) 878-4732. St. Paul's United Church, 123 Main St. Milton</p>
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Arts Milton gratefully acknowledges the support of the Town of Milton Community Fund.



Children's book festival set for Nov. 2

If your child's a bookworm, 'I Love to Read — Milton's Book Festival for Children' may be just the thing.

The festival will take place November 2 from noon until 4 p.m. at Milton District High School, 396 Williams Ave.

It'll feature readings, displays, book signings, activities and face painting with Canadian authors, illustrators and story-

tellers such as Ken Opper, Barbara Greenwood, Mary Wallace, Mary-Eileen McClear, Aubrey Davis and Werner Zimmermann.

The festival is organized by the Town of Milton, Milton Public Library, Halton Hills Public Library and the Milton Community Resource Centre. It's designed to promote literacy, encourage Canadian

authors and offer an affordable family event.

Tickets, which cost \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, are available at Milton Public Library, 45 Bruce St., and the Milton Community Resource Centre, 917 Nipissing Rd.

Tickets purchased in advance are eligible for prize draws for signed books.