

Featured performer: J Howard Boyd

J Howard Boyd has been with Breeders Theater almost from the very start — in a staged reading of *Malpygion/Piglet* at Highline College in 2000.

Since then, he has appeared in *Waiting for Merlot*; *Murder in the Newsroom*; *Piglet*; *Arctic Jack Klondike*; both episodes of *Justin Time*, *Space Commander*; *Love's Painful Itch*; *Truffles Chantrelle and the Curse of the Singing Mummy*; *Viva Zavada!*; *Soap Bubble*; *Grape Expectations*; *Out of the Nest*; *Crazy/Naked*; and *Prairie Heart*.

In addition, he directed *Justin Time 2.0*; *Truffles Chantrelle*; *Rescues, Inc.*; *Viva Zavada!*; and *Grape Expectations*.

Boyd first met BT founder T.M. Sell in playwriting class at Western Washington University.

"Howard was the guy everybody wanted to read their work," Sell recalls. "He had game."

Some years later, they reconnected through a mutual friend, and when BT was founded, TMS thought of Howard immediately.

"I'm a fourth generation entertainer. I first set foot on stage at the tender



J Howard Boyd

age of 5 years as Astyanax in *The Trojan Women* (and I've been dying on stage ever since)," Boyd says.

"God gave me talent and blessed me with a family that nurtured it. It is my duty to use that talent in service to God and community. Art, in all its many variations, is an essential component to human existence. I am not very good at creating art from nothing, but I hope

I can play a small part in bringing art into the world as an interpreter through acting, directing and singing."

Favorite roles over his long career include Allan in *Play it Again, Sam*; Otto von Bruno in *Bullshot Crummond*; Doc in *Come Back, Little Sheba*; Rev. Cannon Chasuble in *The Importance of Being Ernest*; and Maj. Gen. Stanley in *Pirates of Penzance*.

Favorite parts for BT have included the other Carbuncle from the *Justin Time* saga; Scottie the Pressman in *Murder in the Newsroom*; "the many roles I played in *Crazy/Naked*;" and Cacciatore in *Out of the Nest*.

"And most recently, I am really having fun with Silly Sylvanus in *The*

Last Magician," Boyd says.

Boyd says the positive experience of working with BT keeps him coming back.

"I like TM and Nancy a lot. They are good people, and I like working with them. I am very impressed that they have been able to make a go of this crazy business we call 'Show' without losing their house, day jobs or marriage," Boyd says.

"Nine years ago they decided to see if they could find a way to showcase TM's plays, and nearly a decade later they, with the generous assistance of Sherrill at EB Foote Winery, have established a well-loved community event in beautiful Burien."

Reminder: We don't take credit cards

To keep our ticket prices at an affordable \$20, Breeders Theater has not accepted credit cards. You can reserve tickets with a credit card, but you will need to pay by cash or check at the door. **If we have to charge your credit card, there is a \$5 fee per ticket. Otherwise, we do not take credit cards at the door.**

If you would like to be on our e-mail list, send an e-mail to

breederstheater@aol.com.

If you no longer wish to receive Breeders Theater mailings, please send us an e-mail at breederstheater@aol.com or mark "return to sender" on this mailing and place in the US mail.

Remember, E.B. Foote is a working winery. In winter, that means dress warmly, but in summer, it means

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Saving the world in 'The Last Magician'

What would you give up to save the world?

Breeder's Theater asks that question in its new production, *The Last Magician*, running July 10-26 at E.B. Foote Winery in Burien.

This will be the company's 16th production at the winery, following on the heels of its critically acclaimed winter show, *Prairie Heart*.

"*Prairie Heart* was reality, and this is fantasy," says playwright T.M. Sell. "It's a parable, and it will be interesting to see what people take away from it."

"It's an idea I've had for a long time, but I couldn't write it until I really knew what it was about," Sell says. "I hope it works in multiple levels."

The show is directed and choreographed by Teresa Widner, with music by Nancy Warren and costumes by Melissa Sell. The cast features Adrienne Grieco, Eric Hartley, J Howard Boyd, Steve Scheide, Nathan Hicks, Laura Smith, Brenan Grant, Doug Knoop, Kelly Johnson, Michael Brunk



and Pamela Mohn.

Show dates are July 10, 11, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 24, 26. Doors open 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Sunday shows start at 2 p.m. and the doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Performances will be at E.B. Foote Winery, 127B SW 153rd St., Burien. The show includes tasting of E.B. Foote's award-winning wines and hors d'oeuvres, still for only \$20. Tickets are available at the winery, 206-242-3852 and at Corky Cellars, 22511 Marine View Drive, Des Moines 206-824-9462.

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Breeder's Theater 

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think layers. It can get pretty warm in the winery, as we have to turn the air conditioning off during the show (or you wouldn't be able to hear the actors).

We're always thinking ahead, and we're already thinking about the winter 2010 show. Tentatively, we'll be doing *Snowbound*, a mystery set at a snowed-in inn in the Cascade Mountains. We've already had one read-through, and the cast had a lot of suggestions, so there's some more work to be done.

After we choose a show, and choose a director, then we set out about nailing down a cast.

We first look to the regular members of the company. If we still have openings, we may have an audition.

We've only ever had a handful of auditions, and most often we choose people who somebody in the company is familiar with. We have the luxury of working with people we enjoy spending time with. That being said, we're very happy to have Brenan, Michael, Laura and Pamela joining us, and to have so many regular company members back. -- TMS.