

AVCON₂₀₀₇

JULY 27-29; TORONTO

OFFICIAL BROCHURE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 27, 2007 - Various Locations

- 9:00 AM ~ Meet in the parking lot at Black Creek Pioneer Village.
- 9:15 AM ~ Leave for Sullivan Entertainment backlot
- 10:00 AM ~ Tour of Sullivan backlot
- 12:00 PM ~ Lunch break
- 1:00 PM ~ Tour of Distillery District and harbourfront
- 3:00 PM ~ Tour of Spadina House
- 5:00 PM ~ End of Day

Saturday, July 28 ~ Black Creek Pioneer Village

- 9:30 AM ~ Doors open
 - 10:00 AM ~ Guest speaker: TBA
 - 11:00 AM ~ Guest speaker: Kevin McCabe
 - 12:00 PM ~ Lunch break
 - 1:00 PM ~ Guest speaker: John Welsman
 - 2:00 PM ~ Guest speaker: James O'Regan/Ian Clark
 - 3:00 PM ~ Guest speaker: James O'Regan/Ian Clark
 - 4:00 PM ~ Guest speaker: Michael Mahonen
 - 5:00 PM ~ End of Day. Please clear out of theatre promptly.
- (Door prizes available. Dance DVD will be screened throughout the day.)

Sunday, July 29 ~ Royal Ontario Museum

- 10:30 AM ~ Charity auction benefitting the Museum
- 12:30 PM ~ Auction ends
- 2:00 PM ~ Reunion hosted by Mag Ruffman and Kevin Sullivan

Please be sure to bring money for lunch on both Friday and Saturday.

ABOUT OUR CHARITY

First opened in 1914, the Royal Ontario Museum was originally a branch of the University of Toronto, housing five museums of Archaeology, Paleontology, Mineralogy, Zoology, and Geology. Over the years, it has undergone several expansions (its largest one in the 1970s) and the merging of the five museums into one, as well as ROM's disassociation with the University in 1968. In June of this year, the museum opened the Michael Lee-Chin Crystal, deemed as "one of the most important architectural projects of our time and a distinctive new symbol of Toronto for the 21st century."

You may visit them online at www.rom.on.ca

ABOUT AVCON, INC.

AvCon Inc. was designed as a grass roots volunteer effort for the purpose of uniting fans and former participants of the Canadian television series *Road to Avonlea* in a cultural, educational and social event. Our profits, after clearing operating expenses, will be donated to charity. AvCon is self-supporting and relies on funds collected from registration fees and donations. It is run by an international committee of unpaid volunteers. It is our hope that with the success of AvCon, we can hold a conference annually or biannually with one or two different charity organizations benefitting each time from our efforts. We are a registered non-profit in the State of Michigan (incorporated 2004), and an external non-profit in the Province of Ontario.

You may visit us online at www.avonleaconvention.org

GUEST SPEAKERS

Ian Clark (Simon Tremayne)

No stranger to big and small screens or the stage, Ian's credit list is an impressive one. His resume includes a three-season stint at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake; movies like *Thirty-Two Short Films about Glenn Gould*, *Man-Eater*, *Paradise Falls*, and *Little Men*; and stints on other television series like *Wind at My Back*, *Twice in a Lifetime*, and *Doc*. He lives in Kingston with his family. (Making AvCon debut.)

Michael Mahonen (Gus Pike)

This Gemini Award-winner has been a fan favourite since he joined *Road to Avonlea's* cast as Gus Pike in its second season, and he continues to wow people to this day in front of the camera as well as behind it. On-screen credits include *Conspiracy of Silence* (for which he won his Gemini), *By Way of the Stars*, *Viper*, *Giant Steps*, and a guest appearance on the Lifetime TV series *Strong Medicine*. Behind the camera, he wrote and directed the much-acclaimed *Sandstorm*. He makes his home in Toronto. You may visit him online at www.myspace.com/mahonen (First appeared at AvCon 2004.)

Kevin McCabe (Author, *The L. M. Montgomery Album*)

Kevin McCabe has been an aficionado of Lucy Maud Montgomery since he first visited Prince Edward Island in 1978. Since then, the graduate of Brock and McMaster Universities has contributed to two Maud-related books (*The Poetry of Lucy Maud Montgomery*, 1987, with John Ferns; and *The L. M. Montgomery Album*, 1999, with AvCon 2005 guest Alexandra Heilbron). Much of the source material for the latter was obtained as he was attending the L. M. Montgomery Institute Conference in 1996. He is a part-time professor at Brock University and lives in the Niagara valley with his wife and two daughters. (Making AvCon debut.)

James O'Regan (Constable Abner Jeffries)

James O'Regan dons many hats—actor, writer, producer, director. Aside from *Road to Avonlea*, acting credits include *Lantern Hill*, *Top Cops*, *ENG*, *Anne of Green Gables: The Sequel*/*Anne of Avonlea*, and *The Stork Derby*. He has written for film, television, theatre, radio, and print media, and has produced for film, theatre, television, and radio. James also acts as a public relations consultant for arts and business and offers communications training for various organizations. You may check out his official website at www.jamesoregan.com (First appeared at AvCon 2005.)

John Welsman (Composer)

An 11-time Gemini Award nominee for his work, John Welsman was awarded four Geminis for his work on *Road to Avonlea*, as well as a fifth one for composing *The Bellringer*. Other composing credit highlights include the television movies *Stolen Miracle*, *Murder Most Likely*, *Borrowed Hearts*, and *In His Father's Shoes*. He has also scored documentaries like *David Suzuki's The Sacred Balance*, *Raising The Kursk*, *Moby Dick – The True Story* and the miniseries *Medical Mysteries*. Other television series scored include *My Life As A Dog*, *The Twilight Zone*, *My Pet Monster* and *Comics*. John also composed the opening theme for the late Peter Gzowski's series *Gzowski In Conversation*. You may visit his official website at www.welsmanmusic.com (First appeared at AvCon 2005.)

DANCING IN AVONLEA

Throughout Saturday, we will be screening a DVD featuring various dance sequences from the series. Below is a list of the scenes on the DVD.

- 1 Hetty waltzes with Romney Penhallow (“Old Quarrels, Old Love”)
- 2 Hetty and Simon tango (“Lonely Hearts”)
- 3 Booth Elliot teaches Sara how to cake-walk (“Enter Prince Charming”)
- 4 Alec and Janet King cake-walk (“Enter Prince Charming”)
- 5 Sara and Booth at an Acadian Barn Dance, presented in two parts (“Enter Prince Charming”)
- 6 The Kings’ barn dance (“May the Best Man Win”)
- 7 The Harvest Fair barn dance (“Felicity’s Challenge”)
- 8 Sara and Felicity practice in the King barn, with Gus’s fiddle accompanying them (“How Kissing Was Discovered”)
- 9 A wedding dance (“What a Tangled Web We Weave”)
- 10 Gus and Felicity at the Valentine’s Dance (“Hearts and Flowers”)

AUCTION INFORMATION

We will be having an auction of Avonlea-, Anne-, and AvCon-related memorabilia on Sunday morning at 10 AM. As with our past auctions, Mike Matthews is returning to act as our auctioneer. He has also portrayed an auctioneer on two *Road to Avonlea* episodes—"Aunt Abigail's Beau" and "Friends and Relations"—as well as the premiere episode of *Wind at My Back*, "Four Walls and a Roof."

Proceeds from the auction benefit the Royal Ontario Museum. You may pay with cash, check (made payable to the Museum), or credit card.

Important Note: Due to changes in the Canada Revenue Agency's regulations, neither AvCon nor the Museum are able to issue official Canadian tax receipts for your auction purchases. If you would like a letter of receipt for an auction item, you must either:

- 1) Write the Museum a personal check for the full purchase price of your item(s); or
- 2) Provide a member of the AvCon committee with your name, address, the date, and the amount you're contributing on a donor list which we will, in turn, give to the ROM, who will then mail you a thank-you letter referencing the amount of your donation, which you may then show to a tax preparer. However, please understand that this doesn't guarantee you will receive a tax refund or credit by any tax agency.

If you're not intending to purchase anything at the auction, and would rather make a donation to the ROM on your own, you may. Canadians who donate are eligible for an official tax receipt if this is the case; please make your check out to the Royal Ontario Museum, and we will take your information separately, then turn it over to the ROM. Donators from outside of Canada are eligible for only a letter of receipt. Once again, this will not necessarily qualify you for a tax credit in your country of residence.

Auction Items

- ◆ Jasper Dale's long coat, slightly worn
- ◆ Hardcover version of *The Avonlea Album* (North American), autographed by several cast members
- ◆ Road to Avonlea crew jacket from the first season
- ◆ Autographed copy of the novel *Rogues and Vagabonds* by Marilyn Lightstone
- ◆ All seven seasons of *Road to Avonlea* on DVD
- ◆ Two tickets to see Peter Donaldson (Reverend Leonard) in *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Stratford Festival, on August 30 at 8 PM
- ◆ Autographed copies of hardcover versions of the *Road to Avonlea* books
- ◆ Complete set of the 29 *Road to Avonlea* books in paperback
- ◆ Various costume items
- ◆ A unique Disney photograph from their *Tales from Avonlea* DVDs
- ◆ *Road to Avonlea* baseball cap, worn by crew members
- ◆ *Road to Avonlea* season seven on DVD with Hetty's scrapbook
- ◆ *Tales from Avonlea* VHS: "Felicity's First Date", autographed by Michael Mahonen and R.H. Thomson

Please note that auction items are subject to be dropped from or added to the above list at any time.

OTHER THINGS TO SEE

Top Girls

Featuring: Megan Follows as Marlene and Cara Pifko (Mavis Pritchard) as Patient Griselda

Suggested dates: July 23-31, August 1-4 all at 7:30 PM (matinee August 1 at 1:30 PM) at the Young Centre for Performing Arts, 55 Mill St. Part of current Soulpepper season (www.soulpepper.ca).

Please be advised the play contains mature content and coarse language.

A Delicate Balance

Featuring: David Fox as Tobias

Suggested dates: July 31 (8 PM), August 3 (2 PM matinee), August 5 (8 PM) at the Tom Patterson theatre, as part of the Stratford Festival in Ontario (www.stratfordfestival.ca). Please note that all dates are preview dates; the play formally opens on August 9.

To Kill a Mockingbird

Featuring: Peter Donaldson (Reverend Leonard) as Atticus Finch

Suggested dates: July 22 (2 PM matinee), July 25 (2 PM matinee), July 31 (2 PM matinee), August 2 (8 PM), and August 4 (2 PM matinee) at the Avon Theatre, as part of the Stratford Festival in Ontario (www.stratfordfestival.ca).

Away from Her

Written and directed by Sarah Polley

Please check Toronto publications for cinemas playing it, as well as show-times. Also note that as of this publication, a few Toronto cinemas were still showing the film. Rated PG.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to recognize the following people and organizations for their assistance this year:

- ◆ Sullivan Entertainment (Kevin Sullivan, Dan Matthews)
- ◆ Spadina House (Doug Fyfe)
- ◆ Black Creek Pioneer Village (John Richardson)
- ◆ Royal Ontario Museum (Conrad Biernacki)
- ◆ The Stratford Festival of Canada (Corinne Thornhill)
- ◆ Mike Matthews
- ◆ Our guests (Ian Clark, Michael Mahonen, Kevin McCabe, James O'Regan, and John Welsman)
- ◆ You for attending!