
Previews cancelled over actor confusion; [FIN Edition]

Toronto Star. Toronto, Ont.: Feb 23, 1989. pg. C.1

A bizarre set of circumstances has forced Theatre Passe Muraille to cancel previews for its next show, West Memphis Mojo.

Actor Charles Gray came to rehearsal Monday with the news that he had to quit because he'd landed a better paying job. He'd been cast to appear in the movie sequel, Eddie And The Cruisers, Part II, being filmed in Montreal by Toronto's Alliance Entertainment.

After a Monday night audition, Passe Muraille hired Anthony Sherwood to replace Gray. While rehearsing Tuesday morning, Sherwood received an urgent call from his agent saying a mistake had been made: it wasn't Gray that Alliance wanted for the movie, but Sherwood.

Needing a black actor familiar with the script who could take the job on short notice, Passe Muraille cast Chicago actor Jeff Coopwood. Under the circumstances there was no objection from Canadian Actor's Equity.

Equity recently refused a permit to allow British actress Margaret Tyzack to play the role of Lady Bracknell in a planned Harbourfront summer production of The Importance Of Being Earnest, which has since been scrapped.

Previews for West Memphis Mojo have been cancelled to give Coopwood more rehearsal time. The show will open March 3 as planned.

Copyright 1989 Toronto Star, All Rights Reserved.