



Local 4400

1482 Bathurst Street, Suite 200 ♦ Toronto, ON M5P 3H1

Canadian Union of Public Employees

TEL (416) 393-0440 FAX (416) 393-0456

February 23, 2005

Blue Man Group Productions
599 Broadway, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10012

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Toronto Blue Man Group Casting

We understand that Blue Man Group is currently casting in Toronto for a June, 2005 production at the New Yorker Theatre. It appears to be an exciting and stimulating theatrical event. However, we note with disappointment, that Blue Man Group has refused to bargain contracts with the theatrical associations and unions who represent professional performers, directors, technicians, etc. in Toronto.

We are writing to express our concern about your unwillingness to respect the hard-won rights of Canadian artists to establish fair compensation and working conditions. We are advised by Equity, IATSE and TMA that Blue Man Productions refuses to negotiate fair wages and working conditions with Toronto theatrical unions and associations. We urge you to reconsider this decision.

Local 4400 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, is comprised of more than 12,000 members, representing all employees of the public school system in Toronto other than teachers. We are only too aware, as public employees, of the unjust and often hazardous working conditions under which many non-union employees must work. We urge you to deal fairly with our community's artists and technicians.

If Blue Man Group fails to enter into the appropriate agreements with the Toronto community, Local 4400 will be forced to advise our members to boycott your production in June, 2005, and encourage other CUPE members and labour unions in the Toronto area to also boycott your production.

This will be most unfortunate, since it sounds like a very exciting theatrical event.

Sincerely,

John Weatherup
President

cc: IATSE
AFM CANADA
TMA

Ontario Teachers' Federation
Toronto Labour Council
Ontario Federation of Labour

/rb
Ref: Blue Man Group Feb 23-05

