



CONTACT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE THEATRE ARTS GUILD



THE POND PLAYHOUSE
6 PARKHILL RD. HALIFAX NS
INFO@TAGTHEATRE.COM

Next at TAG: Captain Hook's Revenge by Richard Coleman



Don't miss the fun, the laughs and the adventure as Theatre Arts Guild presents *Captain Hook's Revenge* by Richard Coleman (adapted from Peter Pan by J. M. Barrie).

Come along as we watch Captain Hook and his band of misfit pirates plan and scheme revenge against Peter Pan on a quest to take over Neverland. But Peter has other ideas as he and his group of colorful friends take us on a magical ride to our imaginations... just beyond the stars and carry on for quite a bit...then turn left.

A pantomime full of music, laughter and fun. You won't want to miss the singing rats and the dancing crocodile; just to name a few of the characters you'll see on this family friendly adventure.

....rediscover your spirit of adventure
...let your imagination run free

The show runs December 1st to 17th with five 2PM matinees on December 3rd, 4th, 10th, 11th and 17th.

Tickets on Sale Now
Ticket Atlantic

Buy Your Tickets

- * At the 23 participating Atlantic Superstore outlets
- * Charge by Phone at (902) 451-1221
- * At the door (subject to availability)
- * Online at www.ticketatlantic.com (\$2 fee per online session)
- * Ticket Atlantic Box Office

TAG TICKET PRICES

\$13 - Members/Seniors/Students
\$16 - Non-members

Note: TAG prices include all Ticket Atlantic service fees except where tickets are purchased online (\$2 per online session)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my first message as your new President. I am very pleased to have this honour. Having served on the board the past three years as Vice-President, I thought I would step it up this year. It was a great privilege to work along side such a talented group and I am looking forward to working with our new incoming board as we move into our 81st season. I would like to offer a special thank you to Nick Jupp, our outgoing president and Bill VanGorder, our outgoing Publicity Director. They both contributed and continue to contribute a great deal to the Theatre Arts Guild. No worries, we will still be seeing them around at TAG.

We are just on the heels of *Present Laughter's* final show. What a way to kick off the season. It was great to see some new faces on stage and backstage too. It is always nice to see new volunteers at the theatre. This is what makes us strong.

Meet the 2011-12 TAG Board



Meet TAG's 2011-12 Board of Directors: Front Row: Kelly Doney Morrison, Phillip Joy, Darrel O'Neil and Valerie Dubois. Back Row: Helen Goodwin, Angela Butler, Nick Jupp, Carolyn Boyer, J Carruth and Renée Hartleib. Missing: Austin Reade, Judy Reade and Cathy McAuley.

November/December 2011 CONTACT

As we widen our volunteer base for the stage it is also good to remember that volunteers are needed in other areas of the theatre as well. The best way to be a volunteer is just come out and join. Feel free to call the Theatre Arts Guild phone line 477-2663 or send an email to volunteer@tagtheatre.com

Our next production at the Pond Playhouse is our annual pantomime. This year we are performing *Captain Hook's Revenge* by Richard Coleman. This is a pantomime based on the *Peter Pan* story line.

It will prove to follow the Panto tradition by making you laugh out loud, sing along with the music and forget you are in a theatre. This is a family event that you will not want to miss!

I have the privilege to say that I am one of the directors of the show, along with the super talented Lorne Abramson. We have been blessed

No Scents Make Good Sense

Theatre Arts Guild is committed to ensuring the enjoyment and safety of cast, crew and patrons, including air quality. Patrons are requested, therefore, to refrain from wearing scented personal care products to the theatre. Thank you for your cooperation.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

Are you looking for a new creative outlet? Then, Theatre Arts Guild has the answer for you. We are looking for a new volunteer newsletter editor. If you are interested, please contact Valerie at newsletter@tagtheatre.com.

again by some amazingly talented people on stage and behind the scenes. You will see some familiar faces along with many new ones.

Going into our 81st season the Theatre Arts Guild continues to grow and it is because of you, our patrons. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to meeting some of you throughout the season.

~ Angela Butler, President

CALL FOR PLAY SUBMISSIONS

The Artistic Committee is looking for play submissions for the 2012-2013 TAG season. TAG presents five plays each season, running from September to July.

If there is a play that you would like TAG to consider, please send us the title and author, genre (comedy, drama, thriller, mystery, classic, musical), and the reasons why you think this play should be on TAG's stage.

We are also looking for new directors. If you're interested and you'd like to find out more, please let us know.

Play submissions can be made online at www.tagtheatre.com or email your submission to Renée Hartleib at artistic-director@tagtheatre.com.

The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2011.



AUDITION CALL *CORKER*

In *Corker*, award winning playwright, Wendy Lill, dares to offer a candid glimpse into how society chooses to deal with those individuals who hover on the periphery of our social system – the imperfect, the challenged, those who are different. Directed by Lorraine Cantwell, *Corker* will run Feb. 16 - March 3, 2012.

Audition Dates & Times:

Sun. Nov. 20, 2011, 7-9 p.m.
Mon. Nov. 21, 2011, 7-9 p.m.

Location:

Pond Playhouse, 6 Parkhill Rd.
(off the Purcell's Cove Rd.)

Cast of Characters Required:

- Merit: 40+ female
- Florence: 65+ female
- Leonard: 40+ male
- Gal: 35+ male
- Glenny: 35+ male
- Corker: younger male, indeterminate age

Visit tagtheatre.com for more complete character descriptions.

No appointments or prepared monologues are necessary. You will be asked to read scenes from the play. For additional information please email Lorraine Cantwell at lcantwell99@hotmail.com.

Community Notes

Dartmouth Players: Mix a Hitchcock masterpiece with a juicy spy novel, add a dash of Monty Python and you have *The 39 Steps*, a fast-paced whodunit for anyone who loves the magic of theatre! Directed by Nick Jupp, the show is scheduled for February 1-18, 2012. Visit www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca or call 465-PLAY or for more information.

Grey Squirrel Award



Amal Bhattacharyya (right) is awarded the coveted Grey Squirrel Award by TAG President Nick Jupp (left) during the Annual General Meeting. The award was presented in recognition of Amal's outstanding contribution to the theatre.

Present Laughter



Audiences enjoyed a good laugh at TAG's season opener, Noel Coward's *Present Laughter*. Pictured above (left to right) Helen Goodwin, Terry Coolen, Rayna Smith-Camp.

A BIG Thank You!

A BIG thank you goes out to all of the volunteers who came out to help with the October 8th clean up around the outside of the Pond Playhouse. They scrubbed, swept, trimmed, raked, chatted, and drank coffee while giving the Pond Playhouse a bit of a spruce up.

Mark Your Calendars!

Captain Hook's Revenge (Dec. 1 - 17, 2011) A British Pantomime with slapstick, silliness, and a fairy. Oh, and don't forget the neurotic crocodile! Written by Richard Coleman and co-directed by Angela Butler and Lorne Abramson.

Corker (Feb. 16 - March 3, 2012) A family drama by Governor General-nominated local playwright Wendy Lill, which explores how society treats those on the fringes. Directed by Lorraine Cantwell.

The Reluctant Resurrection of Sherlock Holmes (Apr. 19 - May 5, 2012) The ghost of Sherlock Holmes helps solve a mysterious death, whether or not author Arthur Conan Doyle wants his help! This comedy/mystery is written by Canadian playwright David Belke and co-directed by Renée Hartleib and Bill VanGorder.

The Drowsy Chaperone (June 21 - July 7, 2012) The internationally acclaimed and award-winning Canadian musical comes to Halifax. Hold onto your hats and get your seats now! Written by Bob Martin and Don McKellar and directed by Jacqui Good.

The Theatre Arts Guild is a registered Canadian charity and is operated entirely by volunteers. Support your community theatre today. All donations are tax deductible.

THE BOY WHO WOULDN'T GROW UP - J.M. BARRIE AND PETER PAN

Expanding Your Theatre Vocabulary - the 39th in a continuing series...

Have you ever wondered what it is that motivates a dramatist to put pen to paper, or create a particular situation or character? Is it simply a desire to make money? (Shakespeare, for example, was a part-owner of the theatre where many of his plays were performed. No new piece from W.S. – no extra ducats at the end of the week!) Is it the desire to advance a particular philosophy or spread an opinion; a hope of changing the world through dramatic presentation? Or is it, as in James Matthew Barrie's case, a certain event which made such an impact on him that it later took literary shape and influenced his life thereafter?

Barrie was born in Kirriemuir, Scotland, in 1860, the ninth out of a family of ten children. His mother's favourite in the family was Barrie's next-older brother, David. In an unfortunate skating accident, David died, just before his fourteenth birthday. Mrs. Barrie was grief-stricken and in his childish way (he was six at the time), James tried to fill the place of his older sibling, even to the point of wearing his clothes. His mother's 'coping strategy' as we would call it today, was to comfort herself with the knowledge that David would never grow up, would retain the quality of innocence and would be

shielded from all the harm and evil which surrounded adults.

Although his family wished him to pursue a professional career (as had been planned for David), Barrie (who loved reading, particularly adventure stories) went to Edinburgh University to study literature. He worked as a journalist for a short time and then began writing stories with a Scottish background, which appeared in the London newspapers. From stories he progressed to novels and then plays. He had great success in 1901 and 1902 with *Quality Street* and *The Admirable Crichton*. (I can remember – these were still staples of amateur dramatic groups in England when I was growing up). Then in December of 1904 came the piece which would cement his fame – *Peter Pan, or The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, a play first, but subsequently a book with various sequels. Although Barrie kept on writing into the 1930s, the success of *Peter Pan* overshadowed any subsequent work. (There's a parallel here with A.A. Milne, who was a highly successful playwright prior to turning to the writing of children's books and poems and is now only remembered as the creator of Winnie-the-Pooh).

In 1897, Barrie had become

acquainted with the family of Arthur and Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, five boys – George, John, Peter, Michael and Nicholas. The boys and their nurse walked in Kensington Gardens in London, which was where Barrie took his Saint Bernard dog, Porthos. The friendship with the family grew and Barrie became a regular visitor at the Davies' home, entertaining the children with stories and providing financial support after the death of Arthur. It was George and Jack who first heard the name "Peter Pan," with Barrie referring to the baby Peter, who, he pretended, was able to fly. (This brings to mind another literary parallel – of a boating party on the river at Oxford in 1862, when the Reverend Charles Dodgson told Alice Liddell and her sisters Lorina and Edith an incredible story about Alice, who saw a white rabbit scurrying down a hole and followed him underground).

Peter, John, Wendy, Nana – We have lots to thank James Matthew Barrie for – Oh, and did I mention there are pirates!!

~ Judy Reade

TAKE YOUR SEAT!

Dedicate a Seat for \$500 and take a permanent place in the history of the Pond Playhouse. Your contribution is tax deductible. Visit tagtheatre.com or email seatsale@tagtheatre.com for more information about this exciting fundraiser.!

Want to Volunteer?
volunteer@tagtheatre.com
for more information

Join TAG on
Facebook/Twitter
Today!

Renew Your TAG Membership!

\$15	Regular
\$25	Family
\$10	Senior (60+)
\$10	Student

Membership benefits include:
\$3 discount off admission,
newsletters and invitations
to special members-only events.
Visit www.tagtheatre.com
for more information.