

12.0 APPENDIX E – Sample Program



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Theatre Arts Guild presents

Corker

written by Wendy Lill

Feb. 16-Mar. 3, 2012

directed by Lorraine Cantwell


A dysfunctional family dealing with a dysfunctional world

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Find Playhouse - 6 Parkhill Road, Halifax NS, B3P 1R2
www.tagtheatre.com

Corker by Wendy Lill is produced by special arrangement with PLAYWRIGHTS GUILD OF CANADA
www.playwrightsguild.ca



Director's Notes

Wendy Lill's *Corker* provides a unique opportunity for the audience. In this play lies an opportunity for us to consider where we, as individuals, stand on issues and conundrums within our social system while also taking note of the awkwardness and inconvenience some relationships can bring to our lives; relationships we are unwittingly born into as well as those which are thrust upon us. On the outside, looking in, we may see ourselves: we may see each other. On the inside, looking out, we may realize our truth; we may reach an understanding - in who we are - and what we are - and what we could be for each other.

This very important and candid look at our very real world is brilliantly brought to life by the extremely talented cast and crew of *Corker*. The subtle quirks in relationships between the characters are played both honestly and realistically with resulting great impact. The players keep the focus on the story and its message; a message which has not lost its significance since this play was originally created around a Halifax locale in 1995. Unfortunately, perhaps this in itself, the continuing need to address the same issues sixteen years later, underscores most evidently the importance of seeing this play for ourselves right now.

It can be a captivating journey and a chance to know ourselves.

~ Lorraine Cantwell, Director

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Community Notes

Dartmouth Players presents *Inherit the Wind*. It's the trial of the century! A young school teacher introduces his students to the theory of evolution in defiance of his small town's laws, setting off a legal confrontation that pits science against faith and shakes the quiet southern community to its core. The show is scheduled to run April 9 to 28, 2012. Visit www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca or call 465-PLAY for more information.

Bedford Players presents *It's Murder in the Wings* written by Pat Cook and directed by Kim Shaw. The editor and staff of the Wings Publishing Company valiantly try to pull off a critical contract-signing party in spite of the fact that the boss has just been murdered. The party, and particularly the as-yet-unsigned contract, are crucial to saving the company and cannot be derailed by a little thing like murder! The show is scheduled for April 19 to May 5. Visit www.bedfordplayers.ns.ca or call 832-3300 to make a reservation.



Jollimore Funell's Cove Herring Cove Bear Cove

Michèle Raymond, MLA
Halifax Atlantic

47 Williams Lake Road
Halifax, NS, B3P 1S9
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Hamelsfield Spryfield Dartmouth/Cove Bald Rock

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About the Playwright

Wendy Lill received a B.A. in political science from York University in 1970. She remained in Toronto after graduation, continuing to pursue her interest in writing before moving to Winnipeg in 1979 to work as a journalist for the CBC. She now lives in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, with her husband and two children.

Lill has been the president of Integration Action Group - a provincial advocacy group for children with special needs; vice president (Eastern) of the Playwrights Union of Canada; a co-founder of the Eastern Front Theatre Company; a member of the NS Writers' Federation; and a past member of the Board of the Dartmouth Day Care Centre. Between June 1997 and June 2004, Lill was an MP from the Dartmouth Riding in Nova Scotia for the New Democratic Party.



Wendy Lill has not only written extensively for radio, magazines, film, television and the stage, but has also been active in national politics. In 1979, while with CBC Radio in Winnipeg, Lill wrote her first play, *On the Line*, to dramatize the plight of striking Winnipeg garment industry workers. Since then, her plays have gone on to examine the Canadian women's suffrage movement (*The Fighting Days*); aboriginal-white relations (*The Occupation of Heather Rose, Sisters*); pedophilia and mass hysteria (*All Fall Down*); the slashing of social programs (*Corker*); and the dangerous lives of coal miners in her adopted province of Nova Scotia (*The Glace Bay Miners' Museum*)

Her skill at turning the potentially deadly "issue play" into compelling, emotionally charged theatre has resulted in four nominations for the Governor General's Drama Award.

Source: Talon Books

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CAST

Merit MacPhee..... Chantelle Dooley
 Leonard Mills.....Mike Taylor
 Gal MacPhee..... Rick Brien
 Florence MacPhee.....Sheila Morrison
 Corker Will Brewer
 Albert Glenny..... Frank MacLean

Voice of the Priest John Darrell
 Pianist..... Carolyn Boyer

Setting

Corker takes place in Halifax in 1995. Merit and Leonard live in an impressive, modern home in the South End.

There will be one 15 minute intermission.



Please, no food or drink and no flash photography or other forms of picture capture in the auditorium. Please turn off cell phones and other mobile devices. Thank you.

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Production Team

Director Lorraine Cantwell
 Producer Michele Gaudet
 Stage Manager Cathy McAuley
 Assistant Stage Manager Darrel O'Neil
 Lighting Design/Operator Barry Marvel
 Sound Design/Operator..... Austin Reade
 Light Hang Crew Austin Reade, Barry Marvel,
 Darrel O'Neil, Stuart Martin,
 Joe O'Brien, Duncan Miller,
 Gayle Hughson, Frank MacLean, Cathy McAuley
 Set Design..... Nick Jupp
 Construction Team Nick Jupp, Austin Reade,
 Barry Marvel, Hugh Vincent,
 David Seager, Joe O'Brien, Bill VanGorder
 Set Painters..... Vivien Marvel, Brenda Tyedmers,
 Simon Couper, Gillian Brereton, Adam Tyedmers
 Set Dresser Vivien Marvel
 Costumer Designer..... Diane Plumridge-Reid
 Costume Team..... Diane Plumridge-Reid, Virginia Insua
 Props Stuart Martin
 Publicity..... Kelly Doney-Morrison
 Poster Design..... Gayle Hughson
 Photography Bruce Goodick
 Videographer..... Stan Salsman
 Program Valerie Dubois
 Outdoor Signage..... Dave Reid

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TAG Board of Directors 2011-12

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 Past President Nick Jupp
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 Executive Producer Helen Goodwin
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 Props/Costume Mistress/Archivist..... Judy Reade
 Volunteer Coordinator Chantelle Dooley
 Newsletter/Web/Capital Campaign Valerie Dubois
 Bar Manager Darrel O'Neil
 Membership..... Cathy McAuley

Location:
 Pond Playhouse
 6 Parkhill Road
 Halifax, NS

Mailing Address:
 287 Laceywood Drive
 Unit 103-Suite 412
 Halifax, NS B3M 3Y7

Telephone: (902) 477-2663
 Website: www.tagtheatre.com
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Support TAG

The Theatre Arts Guild is a registered Canadian charity and is operated entirely by volunteers. Show your support for the arts and your local community theatre by making a tax deductible donation. Credit cards are accepted for donations made online (www.tagtheatre.com). If you prefer, make your cheque payable to Theatre Arts Guild and mail to:

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Proud to support the Arts
The Theatre Arts Guild, Canada's oldest continuously running community theatre, greatly enriches the culture in District 17 and the HRM

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Cast

Will Brewer (Corker) Will's acting career began when he was a child as a regular performer with Theatre Fredericton's Christmas Pantomime. He later developed and starred in a piece he produced for the Fredericton Shelter fundraiser *Big Hearts for the Homeless* at the Fredericton Playhouse. Will wrote and performed a monologue for a Youth Project production at the Bus Stop Theatre, during Halifax Pride Week 2009. In December, he danced with Team Possibles Dancers and played the part of the town crier in *The Christmas Story*. He was also a dancer with Team Troupe in performances at the Law Courts Building on Nocturne.

Frank MacLean (Albert Glenny) Frank has been involved in community theatre for well over three decades but still tends to gravitate towards TAG. Having been involved in a multitude of productions at the Pond Playhouse and in a variety of capacities, Frank has become attached to the family atmosphere that TAG seems to emit. He has been asked many times which he prefers; directing or acting. Hmm... still can't answer that one. However he can say with great confidence that this experience with the cast and crew of *Corker* has been extremely enjoyable. Frank's last experience on the boards at TAG was the angry Juror # 10 in *Twelve Angry Men* and his last directing venture was *The Odd Couple Female Version*. He has also been lucky enough to be involved with Neptune Theatre in two of their productions and last year really got to expand his craft under the direction of Stephanie Kincaide in Taboo Theatre's production of Charles Crosby's last play, *A Box, a Bag, and a Bottle*.

Chantelle Dooley (Merit MacPhee) Chantelle has been volunteering with TAG for five years and playing Merit is a challenge she is very excited/scared/happy about – thank you Lorraine for this opportunity! Last year, Chantelle starred in TAG's production of *The Odd Couple Female Version*, with a few of her fellow *Corkers* (Lorraine and Michele, with Frank directing). It's great to be working with them again and meeting some new folk

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Cast Continued

- that's what it's all about! She would like to thank Ray, her sister Kim and her parents for their support the past year as she went on her crazy adventures, attempting to "love life, live everyday. Find the joy, chase it down" - great advice!

Mike Taylor (Leonard Mills) Being cast to perform with TAG for the first time in such a brilliantly written show is a real rush for Mike, who was last on stage with Bedford Players in Noel Coward's *Private Lives* this past November. However, he is hoping that being cast as yet another character who definitely does not give you the "warm and fuzzies" is not type casting. "I'm not a bad person!" he protests...perhaps too loudly. Mike wishes to thank all the folks at TAG, who have made him feel welcome. Enjoy the show everyone!

Rick Brien (Gal MacPhee) Rick is excited to be returning for his second show with TAG after appearing in *Enemy of the People* during the 2010-2011 season. Prior to moving to Halifax, Rick was active in the theatre community in Calgary working with the Garry Theatre (*One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *St. Joan*), The Shakespeare Company (*Much Ado About Nothing*) and Waiters On Stage (*Caffeinated*, *A Soldier Dreams*) which he co-founded with a number of fellow actors and writers. Rick has been lucky through the years to balance his daily working life with his acting and writing and thanks all those around him that have made that possible and supported both aspects of his life.

Sheila Morrison (Florence MacPhee) After a long hiatus from being frequently on stage at TAG and Dartmouth Players, Sheila is overjoyed to be back. She is even more happy that a part for an "older woman" came along in a cast of new and old friends. Working as an advocate herself on social justice issues has made her involvement in this particular play even more meaningful. She too aspires to write a play that will "change the world!"



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Special Thanks

A BIG thank you goes out to the following organizations and individuals for their vital help: Spryfield Shoppers Drug Mart, Valerie Pace, Wendy Lill, the Halifax International Airport Authority, Halifax West High School, and the many enthusiastic volunteers and members who have helped us make this production a success.

Mark your Calendars!

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 well reviewed 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 mark your calendars today! Written by Bob Martin and Don McKellar and directed by Jacqui Good.

*Subject to rights application

Scent Free Policy

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.



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Ladies and Gentleman, Please Take Your Seats!

TAG invites you to leave a permanent mark at the Pond Playhouse! Dedicate a seat with a \$500 tax deductible donation. Your seat will be identified with an **engraved plaque on your chosen seat**, plus:

- ✓ Acknowledgment of your support on a plaque permanently mounted in the theatre lobby
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Theatre Arts Guild – Seat Sale Fundraiser
410-76 Fairfax Drive, Halifax NS B3S 1M8

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Production Crew

Lorraine Cantwell (Director) Lorraine first began working in Halifax theatre in 1996 and has had the opportunity since that time to experience a variety of roles including acting, ensemble work, chorus, stage managing, youth workshops, set crew and technical assistant. At the same time, she has also been a theatre/drama teacher with the Halifax Regional School Board for sixteen years producing, directing and stage managing a vast number of student productions – comedies, dramas, musicals, farces - you name it! *Corker* is Lorraine's first foray into "adult" theatre and she could not be happier with the whole experience. Coming on board at TAG, her first contact was Michele Gaudet who agreed to become producer and who, in short order, assembled the best production team in the business under the guidance of Cathy McAuley! Kudos and a multitude of thanks to everyone who has stepped up for this novice community theatre director. It has been a blessing and an education to see this team in action and reinforces the adage put forth by Henry Ford himself, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." Enjoy the show!

Michele Gaudet (Producer) Michele produced TAG's *Laundry and Bourbon* and *Lone Star* last summer but her real love is for performing. Michele's most recent role at TAG was as Renee in last season's *The Odd Couple Female Version*. She has also been on stage in dozens of productions with G&S and most recently in Bedford Players' restoration comedy *Marplot* playing Everywhere. Michele's real life role is performing medical laboratory tests at the IWK, but she finds that dealing with drama on stage (and perhaps backstage???) is much more to her liking. And she wants everyone to know she never lets a stray cat go hungry and does call her mother at least once a week. Thanks to the cast and crew for making *Corker* such a wonderful experience.

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Production Crew Continued

Cathy McAuley (Stage Manager) Cathy is happy to, once again, be hiding up in the booth at TAG. Past shows here at our lovely theatre include *Lone Star*, *Belles*, *Dial M for Murder*, and *Office Hours*, to name a few. When not working as a Medical Laboratory Technologist at the IWK, Cathy can be found helping with the musicals at Sir John A MacDonald High School. Cathy has met lots of new people in the cast and crew during this show and has enjoyed working with each and every one of them. Thanks to Lorraine for asking me to be a part of this show and thanks to Peter for picking up the slack at home!

Darrel O'Neil (Assistant Stage Manager) After having the opportunity to play some wonderful roles at TAG over the last couple of seasons, Darrel thought that it was time to give back by playing a supporting role back stage. Being an assistant stage manager has its own challenges, though if you mess up - no one in the audience knows it was you. *Corker* has a wonderful cast and it was fun for Darrel to get to know new people and reminisce with the members of the cast that he has shared this theatre space with before.

Nick Jupp (Set Design) Nick has provided set designs and directed many plays for Theatre Arts Guild; *Marie Antoinette: the Color of Flesh*, *A Night in the Theatre*, *Scotland Road*, *The Melville Boys*, *Deathtrap* and *Sylvia* were a few of his favourites. Nick also wrote the one act play *Alone* for the Liverpool International Theatre Festival in 2010 and *Choices* for the Festival in 2002. Nick has designed and directed at Dartmouth Players including *Sinners* in 2000, *En Suite* in 2006 and *The 39 Steps* in 2012. The *Corker* set was a special design challenge to accommodate a multitude of physical locations on a very small stage. A talented construction team and set artists completed the task beautifully for which Nick is very thankful.

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Production Crew Continued

Austin Reade (Sound Design) Austin has been involved with lighting and sound design and technical theatre with TAG and other theatre groups for many (too many?) years and is currently TAG's Technical Director. Recent design credits for TAG include sound and lights for *Deathtrap* and lights for *Enemy of the People* and *Lone Star/Laundry & Bourbon*. As usual it has been great fun working with a diverse and talented group of old and new friends creating the illusion that is theatre; enjoy the show.

Diane Plumridge-Reid (Costumes Design) Diane has been involved in amateur theatre for over forty years and a member of the Maritime Life Drama Club for twenty of them, both on stage and in the costume room. She has been a member of TAG for simply ages as an audience member. Her first hands-on production here was the *80th Anniversary Musical Revue* last spring assisting with costumes. She was ASM backstage for *Present Laughter*, our season opener. She is pleased to be head costumer for *Corker* and would like to thank Judy Reade for her inspiration and guidance.

Stuart Martin (Props) Stuart spends most of his time on stage rather than behind but says that there is more to theatre than acting. Doing props and helping out back stage can be as challenging but in a different way. Putting up a show is all about teamwork and being part of this team is a real pleasure.



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