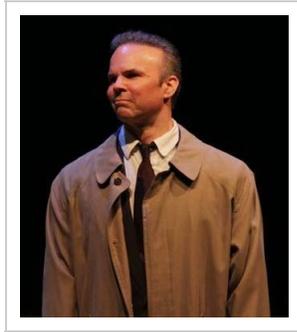


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The Stillborn Lover



Until May 10, the Theatre Arts Guild in Halifax presents *The Stillborn Lover*, Timothy Findley's dramatic exploration of political power, sexuality, personal conflict, and emotional turmoil. Recently, AE spoke with actor Stuart Hiseler about the production.

How did you get involved with this production?

Gisela O'Brien, the director, had asked me quite some time ago to read a script she was thinking of directing. In the past, Gisela has given me the opportunity to work on wonderful roles and I know her to have a clear, insightful and personal connection to the pieces she directs. I was very happy that my schedule was open and that I had the opportunity to audition and ultimately work on *The Stillborn Lover* with Gisela and the wonderful cast and crew she assembled.

Tell us about your character.

Harry Raymond is a foreign Ambassador for Canada. At the top of the play he had been recalled from his last posting in Moscow for reasons that are unclear. Harry personifies a diplomat, putting his duty and work ahead of his personal satisfaction. We (and Harry) discover the price, to himself and those around him as his carefully constructed world unravels.

What are the challenges of the role?

It's an emotional journey. At the top of the first act it feels like quite a mountain to climb.

What do you like about the role?

I like the complexity of the man. He is multidimensional and has figured out how to survive in a world that would not accept him. The intricate relationship between Harry and his wife Marion has been great to explore with Angela Butler. And, of course, I love Timothy Findley's lovely and economical use of language.

What can audiences expect during the run?

A great evening of mystery and murder twisted up with love and loyalty.

What's next on your own creative agenda?

I have a few projects that are just in developmental stages. I've been jumping from one thing to the next so I'm looking forward to taking a little break and enjoying the spring....when it arrives.

After thirty years of teaching, Heather Stemp retired and wrote *Amelia and Me* so her grandchildren would know their roots and the rich history of Harbour Grace, Newfoundland. Late last year, AE spoke with the scribe about her debut *Young Adult* novel.

ART FOR EVERYONE

Halifax's Veith Street Gallery Studio Association is an organization that fosters artists with disabilities and advocates "art for everyone".

Having Hope at Home Too ~ Katie

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Holiday Perspectives ~ Eliot Wright



Having Hope at Home ~ Sta

Starting tonight, theatre lovers in Halifax can beat the winter blahs with Neptune Theatre's production of the hilarious hit comedy *Having Hope at Home*, the side-splitting story of one pregnant woman's determination to make a positive domestic impression on her parents over family dinner.

January 13-19, 2014: This Week

Call for Submissions

Taboo Theatre is accepting submissions for its annual Grang Guignol show. This year's theme is envy. Chosen plays will be workshopped late spring-early summer and then final working drafts will be incorporated into the Festival of Fear later this year.

Raymond Fraser's Bliss

Chatham, New Brunswick-born Raymond Fraser is the author of more than 20 books of fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

Linda Abbott's The Hull Home Fire

In October, Newfoundland author Linda Abbott released her sophomore effort, *The Hull Home Fire* (Flanker Press), the gripping account of the deadly 1948 inferno at a private hospital for the aged and infirm in her hometown of St. John's.

Holiday Perspectives ~ Anna Quon

Our next guest writer is author and poet Anna Quon. Now a practicing Baha'i, she describes some of her Faith's holy days observed this time of year, and how she continues to be "spellbound" by Christmas.