

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Some time ago, I was bemoaning my difficulties in finding shows to direct that had a lot of female characters (as one does), and Chris offered to write me one. It's been fascinating to watch the script develop from an initial premise, through several drafts, and finally to do the director's usual job of helping a group of actors bring the text to life on the stage.

Directing and acting is interpretive work, which involves, on the one hand, trying to figure out what the playwright wanted to communicate, and on the other hand, using the text as a starting point to create one's own work of transformative art. In community theatre, we don't often have a chance to do that with the playwright in the room, available to answer questions. Even more rarely to we have a chance to let the playwright see how people are likely to interpret the words they have written, and how certain authorial choices make the performers' jobs easier, harder, more interesting, or more frustrating. This workshop has allowed us the opportunity to do just that, and I believe that both the script and the performances have been strengthened by this collaboration.

Actor: "I've never understood why [my character] carries an overnight bag and a box of groceries into the study to look at his mail."

Director: "I don't know — I don't think the author knows.... All right, I'll give you a reason....You've had a great fright when she mentions income tax, and you feel very insecure and exposed, and you want something familiar to hold on to."

- *NOISES OFF*, Michael Frayn

Theatre@First is Somerville's largest community theatre and part of the Massachusetts Community Theatre Corporation, a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.

Our mission is to work together to provide a fun, friendly, and creative theater experience for cast, crew, and audience alike. We welcome volunteers at all levels of experience, without regard to race, color, religion, ethnicity, ancestry, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, national origin, body type, age or disability. We encourage a supportive environment in which to work, play, grow, and explore new areas of the theatre arts. We offer affordable and eclectic performances to the community, aiming to surprise, delight, entertain, and educate our audiences.



That Night in the Field

by Chris Lockheart

January 29, 2015



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by Chris Lockheartd

MomGilly Rosenthol
Dad Brian Edgar
Mary Kamela Dolinova
Erin Jen Giordano
KayKatharine Braun-Levine
ShelleyShira Cahn-Lipman
Elliot Zach McQueary

CHRISTOPHER LOCKHEARDT (Playwright) has had 24 of his short plays produced more than 150 times by over 70 different theaters in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Hong Kong, and Australia. His work has been included in eight short play anthologies, including the last three volumes of Smith & Kraus’s Best Ten-Minute Plays of the Year.

ANDREA HUMEZ (Director) has directed *The Rimers of Eldritch*, *Arms and the Man*, and several smaller shows for T@F; *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Arlington Friends of the Drama); *Spike Heels*, *The Lion In Winter*, *Hapgood*, and *Arcadia* (The Occasional Players). She applauds Chris for not including any bananas in his script.

KATHARINE BRAUN-LEVINE (Kay) is thrilled to have the opportunity to get a first work up on its feet with T@F! Most recently, Katharine performed in the Open Theater Project’s SLAM. She is especially grateful that projects (and JRH) find her even when she is too busy to audition.

SHIRA CAHN-LIPMAN (Shelley) is super excited to make her “theatrically presenting well-written words out loud with awesome people” debut at T@F! It has been a great deal of fun to be part of this process and she is grateful for the opportunity.

KAMELA DOLINOVA (Mary) acts, directs, and does mind/body healing. She is grateful to be helping developing a new play. Shows with T@F include *Trojan Women*, *As You Like It*, *The Winter’s Tale*, and *The Baltimore Waltz*, and she will next appear in February in *Terra Nova* with Flat Earth Theatre.

BRIAN EDGAR (Dad) returns to the stage as yet another father figure, proving that you don’t have to act what you know. He thanks Andrea and Chris for this opportunity to do something different with the FirstWorks program and hopes you enjoy the fruits of our labors.

JEN GIORDANO (Erin) said in her bio from T@F’s 2009 production of *The Winter’s Tale*, that she was “excited to reprise her role as Brian’s son, though she does hope to actually play a girl someday.” She’s pleasantly surprised that she’s getting her wish by playing Brian’s daughter instead.

ZACH MCQUEARY (Elliot) is delighted to join for his fourth performance with T@F (*Henry IV*, *Twelfth Night*, *Bent*). His Boston theatrical adventures include Arlington Friends of the Drama’s *39 Steps* and stints with Boston Playwrights’ Theatre. Also includes Peterborough and Concord Players of NH, and awarded a presidential performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. He owes his unquenchable passion for acting to his family and fiance Jessi who support him, hell or high water!

GILLY ROSENTHOL (Mom) is thrilled to return to the T@F stage after a two-year hiatus. She is pleased to be reunited in marriage with Brian, as long as he doesn’t sing It’s a Small World. Thanks to Andrea and Chris for this incredible opportunity, and thanks always to Aaron for keeping the angry squids at bay.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Betty Walker and Unity Church for sharing their space with us and to our friends, family and audience members—without your support of the arts, we wouldn’t be here.

The play will be presented with one 15-minute intermission.
The audience is invited to stay for a conversation with the director and cast after the performance.
Unity Church is a non-smoking facility.
Restrooms are back up the stairs toward the entrance.