

Lights Up!

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KWLT President's Address

What a Year

What a year 2008 has been. This was a busy year, with shows from January (the January One Acts) through to December (with *Captain Hook's Revenge*).

We returned to The Registry Theatre in downtown Kitchener for two of our shows this year: *The Importance of Being Earnest* strode to the stage in April and *12 Angry Men* hit the stage in October. Both shows were incredibly well received by audiences.

We also learned that the St. Jacobs Church Theatre stage simply wasn't big enough for us anymore, and to be able to fit the intricate fight scenes required by *The Three Musketeers*, the team put together an elaborate stage extension to give us more room to put on the show we wanted. The stage extension was used again in December to give *Captain Hook's Revenge* some extra room. The stage wasn't the only thing super-sized about these two shows – both shows sold exceedingly well and had to add a seventh show to each of their runs to meet demand.

Our One Act Weekends returned in January and June, introducing a ton of new people to KWLT. We also welcomed playwright David Young to speak about his play, *Two Beers for Three People*, which was performed at the June One Acts. Submissions this year for the 2009 January One Acts were the fiercest they've been in a long time, with the number of submitted shows entering double digits – in the end, we're putting on *five* one acts at the start of 2009.

It's been a good year for the company and a busy year for many of us. I took part in two shows this year – *The Three Musketeers* and *Captain Hook's Revenge*, which means that except for a light break in late summer, I haven't had a break since March. A friend of mine was involved with *The Three Musketeers*, *12 Angry Men*, *Captain Hook's Revenge* and he's going to be in *Henry V* as well.

Outside of just putting on shows, we're continuing to move forward with all of our other plans. In November, we ran our third annual Theatre Workshop series in conjunction with FASS. In October, we had our first annual Fundraising Dinner. And in July, we obtained a Line of Credit that's going to let us finish work on our theatre. Since then, we've added a front walkway, a back shed, heating, wiring, plumbing, and we're wrapping up work on the granddaddy of them all – the sprinkler system. In 2009, the sound of shows and applause will again ring through 9 Princess St. East.

While this past year has been a big year full of tons of activities, get ready for 2009 when Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre returns to its home.

Josh Hoey
President, KWLT

Where to find KWLT



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***Lights Up!* Editor: Tim Jackson (lightsup@kwlt.org)**

Contributions and Thanks to: Melanie Card, Josh Hoey, Chris Rovers, Lynn Scott
Visit KWLT on the web at www.kwlt.org

...From the editor

Welcome to the November Issue of **Lights Up!** - published a little bit later than anticipated, but still here none the less.

As we get into the bustling and busyness of the holiday season, so too we get into a busy time for KWLT productions. At the moment, there is lots on the go. *Captain Hook's Revenge* is about to open and we have both the January One Acts and *Henry V* in rehearsals. Once again, your editor has found himself directing one of the January One Acts - and looking forward to it.

Since I've started into rehearsals as director, I've been reminded how much work goes into a production, even as something as "small" as a one-act. This year's January One Act Play Weekend is no exception. This time we have five plays directed by five different directors. I've also been reminded by the team spirit that's been forged by the cast and crew of my production so far. There's so much that goes into every production - someone finds a costume bit or a prop or what have you - and all of it adds to the success of the production. KWLT has had a pretty good run of successful (and financially successful) productions of late and I would like to say thank you to one and all.

In addition to all the production items going on, KWLT continues to rebuild it's space on 9 Princess St, and at a much faster rate than before. It has taken countless hours of work and dedication from many, many people over the past six plus years since the fire. Thanks to everyone's past and continuing efforts, there should soon be a performance space for KWLT's productions once again.

Tim Jackson
Lights Up! Editor

12 Angry Men Pictures

Tim Jackson



2008-2009 Season Update

Melanie Card

The 2008-2009 Season is off to an exciting start. With the success of this season's first production, the acclaimed *Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose, we launch in to *Captain Hook's Revenge* by Richard Coleman opening December 5th and running until December 13th. This new take on the classic tale of Peter Pan, revolves around Captain Hook plotting his revenge against the young boy with the help of his crew of enthusiastic but inept pirates. With jokes, songs, and audience participation this family friendly show is one you won't want to miss.

Also coming is The January One Act Play Weekend (Jan 29th - 31st) which includes five short plays ranging from locally written to renowned playwright David Ives. This eclectic collection has something for everyone and is sure to prove an entertaining evening.

With lots of opportunities to participate both on and off stage, as well as one more directing opportunity this season, keep an eye on the website for more information kwlt.org.

January One Acts Synopses

Tim Jackson

A Brand New Hell – by David Shute (directed by David Shute)

With the zombie apocalypse at their door two friends choose to do the only logical thing; play video games until the dead go away.

A Dollar – by David Pinski (directed by Tim Jackson)

A Dollar is an allegorical play in which a "troupe of stranded strolling players," tired, destitute and far between towns, end up haggling over a dollar bill they find. The Comedian and the Villain fight for control of the group, for he who controls the dollar is he who has the power. David Pinski wrote *A Dollar* in the summer of 1913, while hard pressed financially, as a comical look at the mighty dollar and the race for it.

Echo – by Joseph T. Shipley (Directed by Sarah Daigen)

Struggling playwright HAROLD's rational and emotional selves compete for control of his latest script, which focuses on his real-life relationship with MARY, and her unresolved feelings for her ex. Will the play resolve HAROLD's insecurity ... or reveal to himself - and the world - that he is nothing more than an echo of someone else's past?

Postcards – by Carol K. Mack (directed by Lynn Scott)

Postcards is a fast paced, dark comedy that takes place on the beach of a Caribbean resort. Under a blazing sun, an earthy veteran of several marriages and an intellectual therapist offer Jane wildly different advice on men and the meaning of life. As they try to "help" her, Jane's story hilariously unfolds, including glimpses of her stage fright as a caterer, how she began her odd career, her adulterous husband and some surprising revelations.

Words, Words, Words – by David Ives (directed by Alana Rozier)

"Three monkeys typing into infinity will sooner or later produce *Hamlet*".

Swift, Kafka and Milton are three such monkeys! In spite of the fact that they don't know what *Hamlet* is and most of the time would rather smoke cigarettes and eat bananas, they type away at their typewriters occasionally hitting on everything from Shakespeare to Milton to plain ol' gibberish. Swift the rebel, Milton the realist, and Kafka the thoughtful lady of the group tackle evolution, philosophy and revenge.

KWLT Calendar

If you have any KWLT related events you would like to add to the calendar, please send the details to the editor at lightsup@kwlt.org.

December

5-6: *Captain Hook's Revenge* Performances
 7: Additional performance of *Captain Hook's Revenge* added
 12-13: *Captain Hook's Revenge* (second week)

January

16 : Proposals for May One Act Play Weekend due
 29-31: January One Act Play Weekend

February

6 : **Lights Up!** submission deadline

March

5-7 : Henry V Performances
 9-11 : Auditions for May One Act Play Weekend
 12-14 : Henry V Performances

Look for the next edition of **Lights Up!** in February.

Visit KWLT on the web at www.kwlt.org for the complete calendar, show listing and other valuable resources!



Fundraising Update

Chris Rovers

I'm pleased to say that we've made good progress at advancing towards our goals in two of our major fundraising projects. We've been concentrating our efforts on building our monthly giving program and on working on encouraging the community to donate time and materials to our rebuild.

Our monthly giving program is just over half way to the five hundred dollars per month goal. I'd like to encourage everyone to consider their finances and consider giving - even five dollars a month makes a tremendous advance towards our monthly target.

This monthly giving program can help us demonstrate the support our theatre has amongst the local community and greatly increases our ability to plan for the future. If you'd like to help us with this critical program, please go to <http://www.kwlt.org/donate>.

We've worked with the rebuild committee to build a list of materials and skills that we need to complete our building project. We are looking to members of the community help us come up with these key items, ranging from drywall to plumbing fixtures. If you can help us out, please contact us. If you'd like a list of what we're looking for, please go to <http://www.kwlt.org> and look on our rebuild menu.

We can always use more help with fundraising projects. If you would like to help out, please email fundraising@kwlt.org.

As a reminder, KWLT Stars! are still available for a personal donation of just \$250. Donors get their names on a chair at the new theatre, an invite to the grand opening gala and more!

KWLT 2008 - 2009 Board of Directors

Josh Hoey	President
Chris Rovers	Vice President & Building Manager
Anita Kilgour	Secretary, Communications Director & Publicity Officer
Paul Woodard	Treasurer
Mike Kearns	Executive Producer
Melanie Card	Artistic Director
Amos Boratto	Technical Manager
Nadia V. Ursacki	Membership Director & Privacy Officer
Dustin Windibank	Webmaster
Lynn Scott	Director at Large & One-Act Producer
Andrew Salter	Director at Large
John Milne	Director at Large

Q & A With A Pantomime

Tim Jackson

Captain Hook's Revenge!

Continuing with the Q&A style articles about KWLT's full-length productions, this time I had the opportunity to ask Josh Hoey, director of *Captain Hook's Revenge*, a few questions.

TJ: Captain Hook's Revenge is an English pantomime. What is an English pantomime?

JH: Most importantly, pantomime is not a "mime". It's actually quite the opposite - loud and boisterous. English Pantomime is a tradition that grew out of low opera in the late nineteenth century, centred around comedy and buffoonery. Over the years, it gathered a series of conventions around it. These include the roles of the Dame (being played by a man) and the Principal Boy (played by a woman), frequent use of animal costumes, and audience participation. English Pantomime is traditionally performed around Christmas and New Years.

TJ: What attracted you to this play? Was there anything in particular (in the script, the style, etc)?

JH: The success of *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge* made me want to put on another family-friendly show at Christmas and a co-worker from England introduced me to the pantomime style of theatre. When I first decided I wanted to do a pantomime, I always had it in the back of my head that I'd be doing *Aladdin*, the staple of the genre. But when I found the script for *Captain Hook's Revenge*, I fell in love with it. It starts with a bang, gives ample opportunity for actors to add their own special touches to each character, and never takes itself too seriously. That it had pirates was just icing on the cake - an exceedingly good cake.

TJ: For those not that familiar with English pantomimes, describe the things in your production that the audience can look forward to.

JH: The audience can look forward to participating! Boo the pirates, cheer for Pan, warn Wendy's mother whenever she's about to get into trouble, and much more! They can also look forward to loud characters, lots of slapstick humour, singing and dancing, sword fights, jokes for all age levels, a man in a dress and two young women playing the romantic leads. In short, they can look forward to an enjoyable, all-nonsense evening out at the theatre.

TJ: An English pantomime is something that hasn't been in KWLT's bill in recent years. What do you hope to bring to KWLT's audience with this production?

JH: The company is no stranger to comedic productions, but *Captain Hook's Revenge* brings a little something special by bringing to us the conventions of a genre almost 150 years old. Now, *Captain Hook's Revenge* probably won't rival the cultural impact that the rest of our season of classics can offer, but it's an entertaining glimpse into something different. This isn't *pure* English pantomime, but more than anything else, this pantomime is here for the whole family to enjoy. We have a stellar cast that has had a blast in putting this show together, and we hope you have as much fun watching the show as we did putting it together.

What: *Captain Hook's Revenge*

Where: St. Jacobs Church Theatre
1376 King St. North, St. Jacobs, ON

When: December 5th and 12th, 8pm
December 6th and 13th, 2pm and 7pm
** Extra show added Dec 7th! **

Tickets are available online through the Centre in the Square box office (www.centre-square.com)
\$10 for members, \$15 for non-members

Rebuild Update

Chris Rovers

Hi, all you rebuild fans out there! We're working hard, with tons of volunteers coming out to help out. The biggest, most obvious change is that we've finished our shed - a 108 square foot storage area behind our building for our flats and risers. This not only makes a huge difference for the rebuild, giving us much more space in which to work, but once our theatre is open will provide a place to put our set pieces when not in use.

We've also had a lot of progress in other areas. We've laid down an interlock brick walkway and patio at the front of our building - this took a huge effort by our dedicated volunteers over a very long weekend. We've had several good productive build days to work on plumbing, to install the gutters on the front canopy and to work on the data wiring of the theatre. Modern theatres are very high-tech and ours is no exception. Our walls are stuffed with cabling - intercom, telephone, speaker, video, internet - making sure our theatre will deal with the changes in technology in the future.

We are looking ahead to drywall, which is the point at which our building starts looking like a theatre instead of a construction site. The work our volunteers will be doing at the next build day, combined with the work our contractors will be doing with plumbing and sprinklers, will help us get there over the next few weeks.

We've announced our up coming build days - all days will happen at 9 Princess St East and start at 10 am.

Saturday, November 22nd - cabling, wiring, plumbing and contractor preparation

Sunday, December 7th - work to be done this day depends on progress and inspections

If you'd like to come out and help, please do! There's always lots to do, whether you consider yourself experienced at building or a complete novice, we have things for everyone to help with. If you'd like more info, please email rebuildinfo@kwlt.org or call 519-886-0660

KWLT

Remaining 2008-2009

CAPTAIN HOOK'S REVENGE — By Richard Coleman

Directed by Josh Hoey

Performances: Dec 5 & 12, 8pm, Dec 6 & 13, 2pm and 7pm
Additional Performance added for Dec 7th!

JANUARY ONE ACT PLAY WEEKEND

Performances: Jan 29-31, 2009

HENRY V — By William Shakespeare

Directed by Amos Boratto

Performances: Mar 5-7, 12-14, 2009 8pm

MAY ONE ACT PLAY WEEKEND

Auditions: Mar 9-11, 2009 (7-10pm)

Performances: May 28-30, 2009

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES — By Christopher Hampton

Directed by Karen B. Grierson

Auditions: Apr 6-8, 2009 (7-10pm)

Performances: Jul 9-11, 16-18, 2009 8pm

Tickets available on-line through the Centre In The Square box office.

KWLT can be reached at 519-886-0660 or info@kwlt.org