

SUMMARIES and PLAYWRIGHTS



8-MINUTE MURDER MYSTERY

STARRING: Zach Bauman as Mr. White; Jessica Scott as Mrs. White;
Rose Johnson as Mrs. Brown; T. James Belich as Mr. Brown;
AND Christopher J. DeVaan as Inspector Mustard

A small group of friends are invited over for a Pampered Chef® Party, but when the host turns up dead, the remaining guests must figure out who could have murdered the beloved husband. This fast-paced murder mystery will keep you guessing and laughing.

WRITTEN and DIRECTED by D.W. Surine of Inver Grove Heights, MN

DW has been involved in more than 25 theatrical productions as both a director and an actor. He graduated from the U of M with a degree in theater arts with an emphasis on playwriting and directing. Three years ago, his 10 minute play, "Double Dribble," was featured at Lakeshore Players 10 Minute Play festival in White Bear Lake. In addition to theater, DW also works as a standup comedian and has performed at various comedy clubs in the Twin Cities, including House of Comedy, ACME, Joke Joint Comedy Club, and Goonies. Last year, he was a semi-finalist in the "Absolut Funniest Comedian Contest."



MISFORTUNE

STARRING: Ben Stasny as Barry, Ceara Dowell as Stephanie;
AND Amanda Forman as Cindy
DIRECTED BY: Paul J. Hustoles

A man receives some disturbing news from an unlikely source.

WRITTEN by MARK HARVEY LEVINE of Pasadena, CA

Mark has more than 800 productions of his short works all over the world from New York to Seoul to Cairo. His work has been translated into Portuguese, French, Arabic and American Sign Language. Evenings of his short plays have been produced in Amsterdam, Los Angeles, Boston and other cities. His plays, "Surprise" and "Superhero" were seen in previous Minnesota Shorts Festivals. He lives online at www.MarkHarveyLevine.com, and offline in Pasadena with his lovely wife and son. And he really likes Chinese food.

Minnesota Shorts Play Festival



7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7

Ragnarok

by Daniel Munson

Captain Corporate Personhood

by Adam Sharp

An Honest Arrangement

by David Weiner

The Latest News from the Primordial Ooze

by Rich Orloff

Vultures

by Greg Abbott

Status Update

by Jamie Pachino

8-Minute Murder Mystery

by D.W. Surine

Misfortune

by Mark Harvey Levine

OUR SPONSORS:



**THANKS TO HY-VEE FOR
TICKETING AND COOKIE SALES**



Don't miss the 4Playwrights/Merely Players production of "Helen's Inner Circle," a comedy that takes you back to a time when hair was short and skirts were long.

HELEN'S INNER

CIRCLE

**SEPT 28-30
& OCT 5-7**

**Lincoln Community
Theater**



SUMMARIES and PLAYWRIGHTS



RAGNAROK

STARRING: Skot J. Rieffer as Thor; Rob Thomas as Frey
AND Jessica Clarke as Gudrun
DIRECTED BY: Rob W. Thomas

Three Norse gods come together to prepare for the final battle, but not all want to fight.

WRITTEN by DANIEL MUNSON of Rushford, MN

Daniel Munson is a published playwright, his work has been translated and has been performed throughout the United States, in Europe and in Russia. Daniel is currently the Artistic Director of Theatre du Mississippi in Winona, MN, and he is also the Production Manager for the Great River Shakespeare Festival, also in Winona, MN. As a writer, Daniel has written for stage, film, television, and theme-parks -- yes... theme-parks! He currently lives with his wife, three children, two cats, and a dog in Rushford, MN.



CAPTAIN CORPORATE PERSONHOOD

STARRING: Adam Sharp as Captain Corporate Personhood;
Cody Stewart as Man 1; John McConville as Man 2;
Bethany Simmons as Woman; AND Milo Weils as Foley Artist

"Super-hero" Captain Corporate Personhood fights for the little guys, the "1 %" and does everything in his power to defeat his arch nemeses, Mr. Conscience

WRITTEN and DIRECTED by ADAM SHARP of Minneapolis, MN

Adam graduated from Southwestern College with his B.A. in English and a Theatre minor in 2007. He then moved to Minneapolis and co-founded the Twin Cities theatre company, Box Wine Theatre in 2008 with Bethany Simmons. In that time, five of his original scripts have been produced, including, "10.10.Post 9/11: Laughter in the Aftermath," "Miniature Horses Don't Go to Heaven and Other Plays Inspired by Real News Headlines," "Tom and Kelly Adopt an Asian Baby" as well as numerous 10-minute plays. He also co-wrote "Uptown: the Musical" and "WTF in the Garden of Eden" with Bethany Simmons. In 2009 his play "The Wrathful and the Sullen" was voted Audience Favorite in Commedia Beauregard's play festival Masterworks: the Rembrandt Plays. In 2010 Adam was commissioned by Southwestern College to write "The Pillars Stand: Richardson Fire Project" which was one of 16 nominees for the David Mark Cohen Playwrighting Award through the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Most recently, in March of this year, "Captain Corporate Personhood" was produced at the Occupy the Empty Space Play Festival in New York City.



AN HONEST ARRANGEMENT

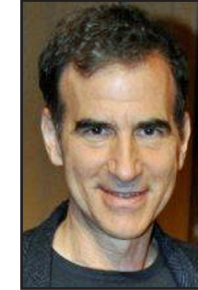
STARRING: Christopher Scruggs as Willie; AND Arriane Bealey as Nara
DIRECTED BY: Leslie DuPree-Cady

At a busy airport lounge, Willie, a lonely widower, nervously awaits the arrival of Nara, his email-order foreign bride. Both have been through tough times and are taking a leap of faith, hoping to find a better life with someone to love. And both of them get considerably more - and less - than they bargained for.

WRITTEN by DAVID WIENER of La Jolla, CA

David Wiener's plays have been produced in the U.S. and as far away as India. He has also been published three times in the Smith & Kraus "Best Plays" one-act anthology series. He is the writer for the San Diego Shakespeare Society and has created education/outreach productions for audiences ranging from students to seniors. He is the Performing Arts Consultant to the Akwatia Communications Center project, helping this organization conceptualize Theatre Arts projects and programs. In 2006 and 2009, he won Best Play at the New York City 15 Minute Play Festival (Turnip Theatre Company/American Globe); the 2009 winner, "Feeding Time at the Human House," was also a Heideman Finalist. He has written for several magazines and is author of "Burns, Falls, and Crashes," about stunt performers.

SUMMARIES and PLAYWRIGHTS



THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE PRIMORDIAL OOZE

STARRING: Carter Allen as Barry; AND Morgan LeClaire as Marjorie
DIRECTED BY: Paul J. Hustoles

The Latest News from the Primordial Ooze finds a young couple in crisis when one of them is evolving more quickly than the other. Literally!

WRITTEN by RICH ORLOFF of New York, NY

Rich Orloff is the author of a dozen award-winning full-length comedies and also about 70 short plays which have had over 900 productions on six of the seven continents (and a staged reading in Antarctica). Currently his comedy "Tropical Heat" is having its premiere in Portland, Oregon, and "Romantic Fools" (which has had 40 productions) is in its second year in Madrid. 2013 productions will include "Big Boys" at English Theatre of Hamburg and "Oy!" at Jewish Theatre of Grand Rapids. For more about Rich, go to www.richorloff.com.



VULTURES

STARRING: Grant Ertl as Kevin Carter; Drew Huston as Joao Silva;
Charla Marie Bailey as Woman; and Malayah Rhone as Child
DIRECTED BY: RACHEL PALASHEWSKI

Kevin Carter won the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for his photo of a starving child with a vulture in wait. However, it brings nothing but controversy as to when a photographer should step in to help as a human being and when to stay uninvolved to report history.

WRITTEN by GREG ABBOTT of North Mankato, MN

Greg is a member of Mankato Mosaic Theatre Company and the Four Playwrights Project in town. During the past year his plays "Scars," "Red Shirt," "Til Death Do We Part," "A Merry Frugal Christmas" and "Amendments in my Pants" have been performed. "Vultures" was first performed in 2010 by Rising Sun Theatre in New York, NY. Since writing a play about a photographer, Greg's own photography skills have nosedived from relying on an iPhone for pictures.



STATUS UPDATE

STARRING: Sam Gustine as Bobby; AND Samantha Johnson as Liz
DIRECTED BY: Susan V. Hansen

A man, a woman, and the social media site that comes between them.

WRITTEN by JAMIE PACHINO of Los Angeles, CA

Jamie is an award-winning playwright and screenwriter with national and international credits. Her plays have been produced in four countries, commissioned, published and named the winner of the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays production grant, the Laurie Foundation's Visionary Award and Chicago's Joseph Jefferson ("Jeff") Award for Best New Work among many others. Her plays have been developed and produced by such companies as Steppenwolf, American Conservatory Theatre, Hartford Stage, Long Wharf, Northlight, San Jose Rep, Pasadena Playhouse, ACT, Geva, Florida Stage, and the Women Playwrights Festival in Athens, Greece. Jamie's film work includes features for Disney, Dream-Works, Vanguard Films and Walden Media, and television work for the Hallmark Hall of Fame and Lifetime Television. She currently writes for the television show "Fairly Legal" on USA Network. More at www.jamiepachino.com.