



# BOX 94

## NEWSLETTER OF SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP

### Sault Theatre Workshop

Community Theatre Since 1948  
PO Box 94 Sault Ste Marie On P6A 5L2

Our Young Company is

## Stage1



Studio Theatre 121 Pittsburgh Ave. Sault Ste Marie On P6C 5A9

Member of:

THEATRE ONTARIO

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### The Marquee

Sir Terry Pratchett's Discworld is on its way to a theatre near you!



## Prepare For Discworld

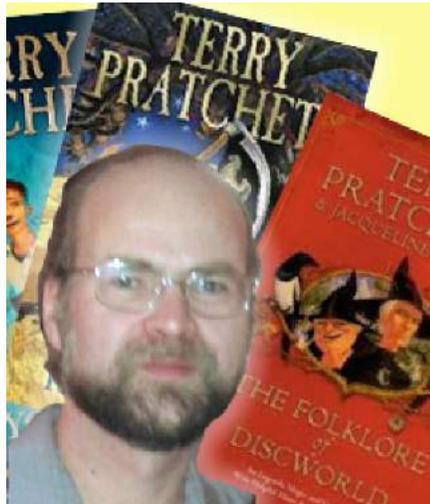
Director **Richard Karhu** has been a very long time fan of author **Terry Pratchett**, best known for his Discworld series of 41 novels.

Pratchett, with more than 85 million books sold worldwide in 37 languages, was the UK's best-selling author of the 1990s.

The Discworld series is a continuous history of a world not totally unlike our own, except that it is a flat disc carried on the backs of four elephants astride a giant turtle floating through space, and that it is peopled by, among others, wizards, dwarfs, policemen, thieves, beggars, vampires and witches.

Of the 41 Discworld novels, it was **Wyrd Sisters**, the 6th novel that **Stephen Briggs** chose to adapt for the stage first and it was an instant success. Since then several of Terry's novels, both Discworld and others have been adapted.

One challenge **Stephen Briggs** had with adapting the novel was trimming down the huge list of characters to make it feasible for



theatre companies while maintaining the basic plot and keeping the flow.

This also is the challenge for Richard, the director.

The script calls for 13 named characters plus robbers, players, guests, guards and peasants. With a lot of planning, reading, re-reading and plotting, a final cast of 13 was the minimum possible, with many actors playing several roles. Can this character play the guard on this page and still have time to change costume for another character three pages later?

But wait, it's more complex than that! There are scenes in the castle throne room, the dungeon, the witches house, the theatre, back stage at the theatre, a street in Ankh-Morpork etc. So now we're in to scene changes and in our intimate little theatre, we don't have room for a stage crew, so... Actors also change scenery and furniture.

Re-read to see who is available to change set from scene one to two etc. Twenty-three scenes with planning for costume changes and set changes and all worked out before auditions! Those actors better be fit! You can see that Mr. Karhu has a tremendous challenge to bring this work together.

The set itself is a wonder in planning. It primarily consists of three units made with flats forming a triangle sitting on wheels. When spun around they can each display a scene or part of a scene and they can be opened up to present different scenes.

Designed by the director, these units were built by the amazing **Fred McKey** and painted and decorated by **Richard Karhu**, and **Douglas Ewen**. Oh, by the way, did I mention Fred is also running the sound?

With thirteen characters, and some playing several parts, we're talking a lot of costumes. Good thing



we called in an expert! Our marvelous **Val Wilson** started early, knowing that some costumes were not just off the rack and there were some very large size difficulties as well.

You can imagine with the size of the cast and all the other complications that you would need a dozen stage managers and we have... all rolled into one! **Jessica Mooney**. She has the task of filling in for missing cast at rehearsals, calling out lines, opening and closing the curtain and much much more. Jessica is assisted by **Aubrey Kelly**.

So, the cast... Wow! We have some oldies and newcomers as you would expect with a cast this size, but how old? We have **Ron Bird**, who hasn't been on a Workshop stage since **The Business Of Murder** back in 1995 when we were at St. Mary's Theatre. We also have **Pirie Kaufman** who was in that production with Ron but also joined us for **Caesar, Death of a Dictator** in 2005, his last Workshop appearance.

Pictured here: Pirie and Ron in a scene from **The Business of Murder**.

**Susanne Bugyra, Diana James** and **Calista Jones** portray the three witches of the title. Others include **Arron Bird, Ron Bird, Taylor Emlaw, Michael Hagerty, Harry Houston, Sherry Longo, CJ Morton, Sonya Ostrowski-Masotti** and **Craig Rooney**.

**Terry Pratchett** suffered from early onset alzheimers, so we have donated our Preview performance Oct. 24 to Alzheimer Society of Sault Ste Marie and Algoma District.

**Show Dates: Oct. 25 to 28 8PM curtain - Oct.29<sup>th</sup> 2PM**



## A G M and Member Appreciation Supper Party A Big Hit

### First ACTA's Given Out.

The Annual Crazy Theatre Awards, were presented for the first time at a lavish pasta supper party following our Annual General Meeting. President **Randi Mraud** came up with the idea and the Workshop executive took on the hosting. When the business of the

AGM concluded, we opened up a cash bar and the socializing began. At 6:30 we had a delightful pasta and meatball meal buffet style with lots of salads and veggie trays and plenty of desserts. The much anticipated awards ceremony took place next. After the awards our musician friends took over the stage and we enjoyed some great jammin'.



Following is a list of awards and winners:

- Bent Nail Award** - Set Construction
  - **Fred McKey**
- Burnt Plug Award** - Lighting Set-Up
  - **Phil Jones**
- Golden Bulb Award** - Lighting Up The Stage
  - **Lorne Jones**
- Golden Ear Award**- Sound Design
  - **Rick Mooney**
- Penny Pincher Award** - Producing
  - **Susana Herranz**
- Baby Ham Award** - Stage debut
  - **Aaron Bird**
- Getting The Word Out Award** - Publicity
  - **Sherry Longo**
- Work Horse Award** - Carrying the biggest load
  - **Sandra Beckett**
- Golden Needle & Thread Award** - Costume Creation
  - **Val Wilson**
- Getting Your Goat Award** - Stage Manager
  - **Jessica Mooney**
- Leading The Sheep Award** - Director Award
  - **Amanda Benoit**
- 5 Star Photo Award** — Show Photos
  - **Ron Wilson**
- Long Time Season Ticket Champion**
  - **Neil Carter and Monica Murphy**
- Best Dressed Audience Award**
  - **Jacquie and Doug Lawson**

**Show Awards**

**Over The River and Through The Woods** -  
**Golden Noodle -Penny Martin** -for becoming  
Italian

**Dear Santa -Santa's Angel Award**  
- **Diana James** - for romantic highlight

**Lucy -Life Saver Award -Marc Beaudette** -  
for jumping in and taking on role

**Habit of Murder -Skull Duggery Award** -  
— **Lisa Consaul** - for villainy and skeleton  
painting

**One Act Festival -Melon Lover Award** —  
**Reese Jones** for simulated relations with a  
melon

Finally – **The Golden Ham Award**  
Nomination 1 **Harry Houston** For his  
outrageous Italian accent in **Over The  
River And Through The Woods**

Nomination 2 **Ken Jones** for non stop  
yackety-yack as Lou Flapdoodle in **Dear  
Santa**

Nomination 3 **Catharina Warren** for  
suppressed rage as Vivian in **Lucy**

Nomination 4 **Megan Reid** for her spirit  
incantation scene as Sunny in **The Habit  
Of Murder**

Nomination 5 **Diana James** for bag lady  
story telling as Betty in **Betty (One Act  
Festival)**

And the winner of the coveted Golden Ham...  
**Catharina Warren!**

Thanks to all the Executive Board,  
members, supporters, Patrons and Season  
Ticket holders for a great Season 68!

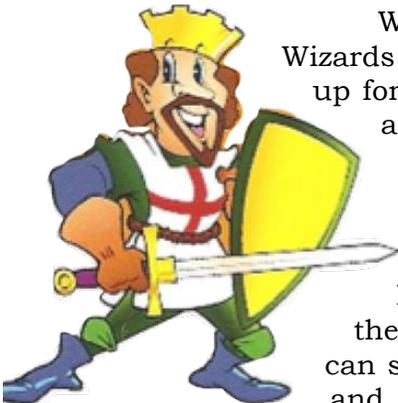
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## King Arthur Panto Can You Pull The Sword From The Stone?

We have Knights,  
Wizards and Dragons signed  
up for a lot of laughs, music  
and fun, but the role of  
jolly old Arthur is not  
yet settled. If you  
missed out on  
auditions, don't fret.

In this production  
there's lots of room! We  
can set up a private session  
and give you a chance to

show your stuff. There's singing and dancing  
too!



As with all our holiday plays, we'll  
have a two week run, **December 6 to 17**  
with two matinees and an earlier start time  
(**7:30 PM curtain**). We've added children  
prices and a Family Rate to ensure family  
holiday fare.

At the helm of this  
delightful venture is  
director **Lisa Consaul**. If  
you would like to be part of  
this great adventure, and  
help us create magic on  
the stage, contact Harry (705 946-  
4081).



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## QUONTA Show Update

Our QUONTA Drama Festival entry  
**Norm Foster's** delightful **Hilda's Yard** is a  
very recent **Norm Foster** play (he has a new  
one every year) and it is set in the 1950s.



Empty nest syndrome for  
Hilda and Sam? They only  
wish!

**George Houston** is  
directing this six character  
comedy that opens February  
28<sup>th</sup> and runs to March 4,  
2018. The Auditions are  
tentatively scheduled for

December 14, 15 and 16 with times and  
location to be announced soon on Facebook,  
our website and in the next Box 94. If you  
have any questions about this production  
contact George at 705 777-2968 or Harry at  
705 946-4081. Harry can provide you with  
an eversion of the script for perusal if you are  
interested.

Play synopsis: One ordinary family.  
One extraordinary day. Set in 1956, Sam and  
Hilda Fluck are finally on their own after  
their children Gary and Janey leave the nest.  
Then, on a September morning, their world  
changes when Gary loses his job and Janey  
leaves her husband. A heart-warming and  
hilarious look back in time. 3 male and 3  
female characters.



The  
QUONTA Festival  
will be held in  
Elliot Lake during  
the March spring  
break. There are  
five entries this year. Elliot Lake's ELATE will  
open followed by Espanola Little Theatre,

Sault Theatre Workshop, Gore Bay Theatre and Timmins' Take Two Theatre.

Show titles and festival ticket and accommodation information will be in the next newsletter.

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## MEMBER NEWS



**Cameron Aitken**, a former Stage 1 actor is a new board member of the Lambda Scholarship Foundation. The group, based in Montreal, supports undergraduate and graduate students doing research in lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender and intersex issues.

Cameron earned an honours degree in communication studies and sociology from Carleton University and a masters of arts degree in gender studies at Central European University.



**Courtney Pyke** is currently Production Manager for Roseneath Theatre in Toronto. Roseneath has been touring world class plays for young people to schools and theatres since 1983.

Courtney has been touring mainly out of Toronto for over 6 years with companies such as Motus O Dance Theatre, Gadfly Dance, Ballet Jorgen, Mixed Company Theatre, mtospace, Tottering Biped Theatre, Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada and Kenny Wax & Nick Brook Productions.



**Matt Connors** has been busy making movies.

A recent premiere was held in New York for **Abnormal Attraction** starring **Malcolm McDowell, Bruce Davison, Gilbert**

**Gottfried, Tyler Mane, Leslie Easterbrook, Ron Jeremy, Jim Hanks, Nathan Reid, Nicole Balsam, Eileen Dietz, Michael Buscemi** with **Melanie Iglesias** and **Craig Loydgren** as **Purple Pete** and, of course, **Matt Connors**. In this photo **Michael Buscemi** as Adam and **Matt Connors** as Clover hang out between takes.

## Archive Photo: The always popular melodrama from May 2001



R.J. FROST - SAULT STAR  
**DIRTY WORK** players include: Kevin Collar, as Mookie McGuggins, Hilary Connell, as Flourette, Mary L. Adams, as Mrs. Asterbilt, and Kristen Luszka, at Leonie Asterbilt.

## Audience loves *Dirty Work* at The Crossroads, STW's season finale

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All you have to do is send an email to [hehouston@shaw.ca](mailto:hehouston@shaw.ca) with **Box 94** as the subject and give us your name and address so we can remove

**you from our snail mail list.**

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## BOX 94 Volume 69 (Our 69th season)

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Contact Membership Chair Val Wilson (705) 759 4572

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(Also will be available on our web site)