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Bill W and Dr Bob

by Samuel Shem

& Janet Surrey

February 22nd -

March 31st 2013

Directed by Robert Holden



BILL W. and Dr. BOB

In 1929, famous New York stockbroker Bill Wilson crashes with the stock market and becomes a hopeless drunk. Dr. Bob Smith, a surgeon from Ohio, has also been an alcoholic for thirty years, often going into the operating room with a hangover. Through an astonishing series of events, Bill W. and Dr. Bob meet and form a relationship, each helping to keep the other sober. This is the amazing and often humorous story of the two men who pioneered Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as the story of their wives, who founded Al Anon.

The Publication of this work does not imply affiliation with nor approval or endorsement from Alcoholics Anonymous



Crooked

by Catherine Trieschmann

Directed by Philip Cuomo, featuring Maureen Porter, Kayla Lian & Meghan Chambers

May 17 - June 8, 2013

The London Times calls Crooked "gorgeous almost beyond belief," and The Daily Telegraph says, "This is a wonderfully neat play, at once simple and complex, grappling with big issues - matters of faith, fantasy and the flesh."



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2257 NW Raleigh St
Portland, OR 97210
(503) 715-1114
www.cohoproductions.org



INTERNATIONAL FALLS

JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 16

WORLD PREMIERE

BY
THOMAS WARD

DIRECTED BY
BRANDON WOOLLEY

FEATURING
ISAAC LAMB
LAURA FAYE
SMITH





A Word from the Playwright Thomas Ward

This play came fast and furious, which is unusual for me. Typically I wrestle with plays for a year or more before the first draft is finished, but International Falls poured out in a month or two and I'm not sure why. The only thing autobiographical about it is the setting and the world of stand up. I worked as a stand up comic from 2002-2004, ending up as a feature act opening for headliners no one has ever heard of in various bars in the south and midwest. One of those gigs took me to International Falls, MN for two nights. I don't remember much about the gig except that I ended up in a shouting match with a heckler from Canada. I was struck by the snow and the desolation of the place. Cut to eight years later, and I'd become hooked on podcasts, with stand up as a distant, albeit vivid, memory in my career. Pretty much every comedian has a podcast these days and I listen to a lot of them. One of my favorites is called WTF with comedian Marc Maron. It's candid conversation with funny people. What strikes me is the sadness that many professional funny people carry, and from what harsh backgrounds their comedy often springs. The cliché is that comedy comes from pain, and ultimately International Falls is an exploration and test of that idea.



Thomas Ward is a writer and actor based in Minneapolis. His play *Keeping Watch* was premiered by Theatrical Outfit (Atlanta, GA) and named "Best All Around Play" of the 2006 season by Creative Loafing magazine. His play *Binge* won the Texas Playwriting Competition by Stage West Theatre (Fort Worth) before receiving its New York premiere by SLANT Theatre Project. He co-wrote the play *Going with Jenny* with his wife Sherry Jo Ward, which was performed in Atlanta, GA and Austin, TX. A workshop production of *International Falls* was named "Best of Fest" at the Out of the Loop Fringe Festival in Dallas, TX. Also a screenwriter, Thomas co-wrote the screenplay of the independent feature film *Sironia* which premiered at the Austin Film Festival and took home an audience award. He wrote and directed the short film "In the Middle" that was screened at numerous film festivals across the country and can be found online. He is currently adapting *International Falls* for the screen and has completed a new full length play entitled *Slide By*, an exploration of school violence. Learn more at thomaswardonline.com and follow Thomas on twitter @wardtho.

Additional Live performances in Portland concurrent with International Falls:

<u>The Lost Boy</u> Artists Repertory Theatre Jan. 8 – Feb. 10	<u>The Cemetery Club</u> Magenta Theater Feb. 15 – Mar. 2	<u>Anansi the Spider</u> Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre Feb. 8 – Feb. 10
<u>I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change</u> Broadway Rose Theatre Company Jan. 31 – Feb. 24	<u>La Celestina</u> Miracle Theatre Feb. 7 – Mar. 2	<u>Grand Hotel</u> Lakewood Theatre Company Jan. 11- Feb. 17
<u>Bullshot Crummond</u> Columbia Arts Stage Troupe Feb. 7 – Feb. 16	<u>Seussical</u> Northwest Children's Theatre Feb. 2 – Mar. 3	<u>The Road to Mecca</u> Profile Theatre Jan. 9 – Feb. 3
<u>Bye Bye Birdie</u> Corbett Children's Theater Jan. 18 – Jan. 29	<u>Antony & Cleopatra</u> Northwest Classical Theatre Company Feb. 1 – Mar. 10	<u>The Velvet Sky</u> Theatre Vertigo Feb. 15 – Mar. 16
<u>Three Days of Rain</u> defunkt theatre Feb. 15 – Mar. 23	<u>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</u> Oregon Children's Theatre Jan. 19 – Feb. 17	<u>A Noble Failure</u> Third Rail Repertory Theatre Jan. 11 – Feb. 3
<u>The 39 Steps</u> Gallery Theatre Jan. 18 – Feb. 9	<u>Venus in Fur</u> Portland Center Stage Jan. 29 – Mar. 10	<u>25 Questions for a Jewish Mother</u> Triangle Productions Feb. 7 – Feb. 24
<u>Something's Got Ahold of My Heart</u> Hand2Mouth Jan. 31 – Feb. 17	<u>The Huntsmen</u> Portland Playhouse Jan. 17 – Feb. 17	

The History of CoHo Productions

CoHo's first show, *Bodyhold*, took place in the basement of the Benson Hotel in 1995. Penned by Gary Cole and directed by Robert Holden, the company's co-founders, *Bodyhold* enjoyed a colorful and successful run, in part fueled by solid beverage sales and the arrival of the Portland police one evening in response to a hotel guest's worry over hearing gun shots (the play was set in the middle of a Third World revolution!). It was quite the auspicious beginning for a theater company whose first production literally opened "on Broadway".

Two Pearl District storefronts, one empty warehouse, one art gallery, a business office and one NW storefront later, you sit tonight in a former bookbindery that became CoHo's permanent home in 2000. Partial credit for the search for a real home must be given to the poor actress who was forced to quit the last storefront production halfway through the show's run due to an asthmatic reaction to dust and grime.

Now in our 17th season, CoHo can boast 48 productions, 13 world premieres (including *International Falls* which you are seeing tonight), and 23 Drammy awards. Our productions have represented well-established playwrights like David Mamet and Eugene O'Neill but have also provided a forum for local Portland luminaries like William S. Gregory and Ebbe Roe Smith to bring their work to life. Our stage has been the early stomping grounds for once fledgling companies like Third Rail Rep who have gone on to their own tremendous successes in the world of Portland theater. And finally, our NEW X NW new play competition, now in its fifth year, has celebrated the writings of home grown playwrights by providing professionally directed staged readings during the annual Fertile Ground festival. We are very proud to say that our 2011 NEW X NW winner, Susan Mach's *A Noble Failure*, is now receiving a full production as part of Third Rail Rep's main stage season.

CoHo Productions – truly an adventure in COLaborative HOMe-grown theater! Our sincere thanks for joining us on this journey as you, our audience members and supporters, have always been a critical part of that collaborative process.

Support CoHo Productions

Ticket Sales cover approximately 30% of expenses at CoHo. Our unique co-production model allows Portland-area theatre artists to submit their projects to us. In turn, CoHo provides the funding, theatre, marketing, administration, house management and volunteers for each of its mainstage productions; our co-producers are then free to focus on hiring the designers, actors and director to put on their show, and direct all their passion and commitment to the performances. No other theatre company operates in this manner. Please consider making a donation to CoHo to support this unique resource for the theatre community. We are a theatre company incubator; some that got their start here include – Profile Theatre, Portland Story Theatre, Third Rail Repertory Theatre, and now Playwrights West. CoHo Productions is a 501 c3 organization; your donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed.

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International Falls

By Thomas Ward
- World Premiere -
Directed and Co-Produced by
Brandon Woolley

Tim
Dee

Cast

Isaac Lamb*
Laura Faye Smith*



Creative Team

Scenic Designer Cameron McFee
Lighting Designer Jennifer Lin
Sound Designer Em Gustason
Technical Director Demetri Pavlatos
Stage Manager Amber Peoples
Assistant Stage Manager Natalie Gullo

Floral Arrangements graciously provided by
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*Member of Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under an Umbrella Contract.

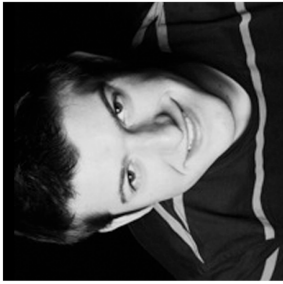


Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, is the labor union representing more than 49,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans, for its members. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions." www.actorsequity.org

Setting: A Holiday Inn hotel room in International Falls, Minnesota and the comedy club within the hotel.

Time: Present

Synopsis: In the depths of winter, Tim and Dee find themselves together in a small motel room after Tim's side-splitting stand-up comedy performance. A philosophical discussion of comic theory, marriage, parenthood, and a few bodily function jokes blurs the line between comedy and tragedy as both are forced to ask, "Now what?"



Brandon Woolley is a director and actor in Portland, Oregon. He has directed shows with Live on Stage (4X4=8 Musicals) and Portland Center Stage (JAW: Made in Oregon Festival). International Falls marks his official directorial debut in Portland and he could not be more proud. Brandon has worked with Rose Riordan on multiple shows at PCS as an assistant director (A Christmas Story *twice*, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Red, and upcoming: The Whipping Man). He also served as assistant director/dance captain/and portrayed the role of Hanschen in Spring Awakening (Live on Stage) and assistant director for Hairspray/Broadway Rose). New work is a love of with this world premiere production. Brandon is also the Company Manager at Portland Center Stage. Much love and thanks to Mom, Britney, Sean, and Rose.

Isaac Lamb is a proud Core Company Member of Third Rail Repertory Theatre. For several years Isaac starred in the national tour of Defending the Caveman, Broadway's longest running one-person show. Locally, Isaac has performed with Third Rail in The Lying Kind, Kiss Me Like You Mean It, The Wonderful World of Dissocia, and That Hopsy Changey Thing, Portland Center Stage in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Artists Repertory Theatre in Assassins and Vitriol & Violets (2009 Fertile Ground), Broadway Rose in Sound of Music, Ripper, PDX-Mas, and Forbidden Broadway, Portland Playhouse in Famished, Northwest Children's Theatre in Beauty and the Beast (Drammy Award, Best Supporting Actor), and many others.



Laura Faye Smith has previously appeared at CoHo in Day of the Docent, The Receptionist, Boy Gets Girl and Spinning Into Butter. Other credits include God of Carnage (Gulfshore Playhouse), Anna Karenina, The Thugs, The Receptionist, and JAW 2008-2012 (Portland Center Stage), The Scene (Portland Playhouse), Last of the Boys (Third Rail Repertory), Mr. Marmalade (Artists Repertory Theatre), The Heiress (Triangle! Productions, 2005 Drammy), and The Trip to Bountiful (Profile Theatre, 2010 Drammy). Her television credits include TNT's Leverage, and her voice over work includes voices for commercials, video games, and audio books available on Audible.com, iTunes, and Amazon.com.

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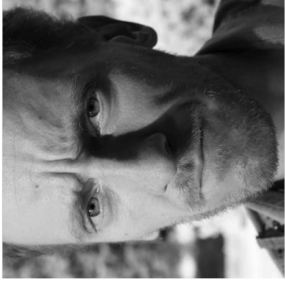
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Cameron McFee is a freelance carpenter, designer, and technician about town. Always thrilled to be working with the array of talented artists that come through CoHo, Cameron's work can also be seen at Third Rail Rep (Company Member), Quick and Dirty Art Project (Company Member), Oregon Children's Theatre, Shaking the Tree, and many, many others. Cameron entreats you to support live theatre in all its diverse forms!

Jennifer Lin is a freelance lighting designer, stage technician, and founding company member of the Quick and Dirty Art Project. Recent design projects include QDART's "24 Hour Project" at CoHo, and Sue Mach's "A Noble Failure" with Third Rail Repertory Theater.



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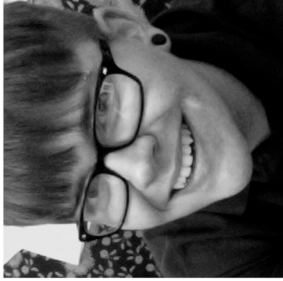
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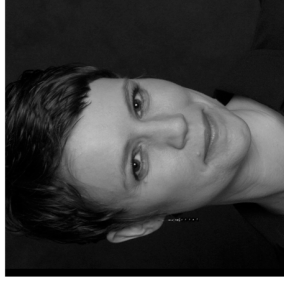
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Em Gustason is a Portland transplant who is honored to be working with CoHo Productions again. Prior to Portland, Em worked at several East-coast theatres including the Hangar Theatre (Ithaca NY), Florida Stage (West Palm Beach, FL), and Dramaworks (West Palm Beach, FL). A graduate of The Evergreen State College, his most recent work includes CoHo Productions/Playwright West's Continuum, Portland Center Stage's JAW: A Playwrights Festival and Theatre Vertigo's American Pilot, for which he won a Drammy Award for Outstanding Sound Design. He would like to thank CoHo and this production team for being fabulous to work with and a great group of artists.

This is **Demetri Pavlatos'** second project at CoHo, having designed the set and lights for the 2008 production of *Nine Parts of Desire*. He is also the technical director for Third Rail Repertory Theatre and Bag & Baggage Productions, builds sets for Profile Theatre Company, and works with the theatre students at St. Mary's Academy. He is the owner of Lunar Theatrical, a set construction and technical services company, and has recently worked with Broadway Rose, Pixie Dust Productions, and Live Onstage.



Natalie Gullo is a high school student at The Northwest Academy in downtown Portland. She enjoys music, theatre, and dance. Natalie was the main stage manager in the theatre program at Northwest Academy for three years. Credits include "The Actor's Nightmare", "Romeo and Juliet", "Neverwhere", "The Penguins of Ithaca" (through Fertile Ground Festival 2012), and various one act plays. Natalie is also a teacher's assistant in the dance program at Northwest Academy.

Amber Peoples is thrilled to work with CoHo for the first time on this intimate production. Stage management credits include *Beloved Presents' Inspire Truth* and *Unio Mystica*, Theatre Vertigo's *Mother Courage* and *The American Pilot*, and *Miracle Theatre's Baktun 13*. In addition, she worked as ASM for *OCT's If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, and Production Assistant for *PCS's JAW: Promising Playwrights*. As an Oregon state licensed theater teacher with an MA in Theatre Production, Amber has produced over 15 shows, including a collaboration with CWU through a GEAR-UP grant. Amber also coordinates events for diverse groups such as NW Permaculture Convergence and Camp Fire USA.



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A Note from the President of the Board

"Suck, Maribeth, suck; blow is just an expression!"

Humor is where you find it, and often comes unexpectedly, if not prematurely. Finding humor, or fun, in a season of ups and downs can be a challenge. "CoHo's Solo Summer," "Continuum" by Patrick Wohlmut with Playwrights West, and "Body Awareness" by Annie Baker are all highlights. But in theater, as in so much of life, you're only as good as your next show. Fortunately, we're taking you to Thomas Ward's "International Falls" where we hope you'll laugh until tears run down your face. We'll assume that's what they are in any case.

We've recently confirmed the sponsored production of "Bill W. and Dr. Bob," by Samuel Shem & Janet Surrey which follows immediately on the heels of our "IFalls" roadtrip. We're pleased to have co-founder Robert Holden at the directorial reins for this show and fellow co-founder Gary Cole in the role of "the-lap-this-opportunity-fell-into". Audiences will then see "The Aliens" in our space - another Annie Baker play as presented by Third Rail Rep. Finally, we close our own 2012-13 season with Catherine Trieschmann's "Crooked", a co-production with Third Rail Rep members Maureen Porter and Philip Cuomo.

Behind the scenes, we're taking small steps to improve our appearance and your enjoyment of the CoHo experience. Our more spacious seating area is just one such enhancement ("you're soaking in it"), along with the artwork in the lobby and the flowers at the box office. But our most important partners going forward are you, our patrons, who are here to see solid, professional theater. Please remember that the projects we bring to you cannot be done at other theaters as they are here. We provide our co-producers with an intimate venue, an operating budget, and dedicated volunteers and staff to market and house manage their shows. In turn, our co-producers deliver passionate productions populated by actors and designers who have come together to collaborate on a single, heartfelt project. This model is unique in Portland and (we think) the country. We hope you will continue to support our model of COllaborative, HOnegrown theater.

And, just for a laugh, come to our comics' roundtable on Sunday, February 10th, moderated by Isaac Lamb, following the mainstage performance of "International Falls". *"In the morning, I will be sober; you, however, will still be (fill in the blank)."* Find the fun.

Scott Stephens
 President, Board of Directors