

Halo

by Josh MacDonald

is produced by special arrangement with
PLAYWRIGHTS GUILD OF CANADA www.playwrightsguild.ca

Producer: Val Lieske
Directed by: Wanda Reinholdt
Asst. Director: John Reinholdt
Costumes: Deborah Lawton
Props: Bev Kovacs
Crew: Doreen Thornton
Make-Up: Dana Delorme

Stage Manager/Asst. Director: Juliana Marko
Set Design: Leigh Wardhaugh
Set Design/Construction: Gerry Thornton
Sound Design/Live Music: Colin Lowe
Asst. Props: Rick Borger
Live Music: Andy Nichols

Cast:

LINDSAY ADAMS - Casey

Lindsay graduated from Redeemer University College in Hamilton, ON with a BA in Theatre Arts and Marketing. She began acting in community theatre at the age of 12, playing Mustard Seed in the Rocky Mountain Shakespeare Company's production of *A Mid-Summer Night's Dream* in Lake Louise. From there she had several roles throughout high school in Pumphouse Theatre productions until moving to Hamilton. Other selected credits include Viola in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and Francesca in Judith Thompson's *Perfect Pie*. This is her first time in a Fire Exit Theatre production and has found working within a faith-based theatre environment a rich and rewarding experience. (Acting in a show that involves donuts has its perks too).

ALIDA ANDERSON - Lizzie

Alida is thrilled to return to the stage in *Halo* after several years behind the scenes. Previous directing credits include *Under a Bridge Along a River* (Assistant Director, FET), *Our Town* (Unnamed Productions), *Morbidman Meets His Maker* (Unnamed Productions), and *Where Have All the Lightning Bugs Gone?* (Rocky Mountain College). Other technical credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank* (stage manager, In Accordance Children's Theatre), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (props, Rocky Mountain College), *Singles* (FET), and various one-act plays and ensemble pieces. Alida holds a BAR in Theatre Arts from Rocky Mountain College and a Certificate in Arts Administration from New York University.

DAVID J. BRONSON - Jansen

After several high school productions, including *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Learning to Swim* with which he toured to DramaFest in 2005. Dave is thrilled to be a part of *Halo*; his first show with Fire Exit Theatre. He would like to extend his appreciation to the cast and crew of *Halo*, especially to Lindsay, for her stellar transportation services and Wanda, for giving him this fantastic opportunity. Special thanks to my family, friends and superb girlfriend Alex, for all of their love and support. "Thanks for coming, enjoy the show!"

- ▶ We are proud to donate a portion of our ticket sales to the Sheriff King Homes.
- ▶ Thank you to Emmaus Art Guild for the beautiful art in our lobby.

PAM CAMERON – Female Swing

Pam is a fun-loving American with an unprecedented love for the Arts and starchy foods. Her favourite past credits include: *The Diseased Vignettes* with Fire Exit Theatre, and recently Directing the Calgary Premiere of *Holy Mo* by Lucia Frangione. She spends her time on writing, graphic design, photography, and acting. Pam is currently working on a new play that will be finished in the New Year and would love to continue her writing career on stage and screen. "A big thanks to my friends and family who stand up and cheer for every victory I have--big or small. This is for you."

JASON CAMERON – Father JJ

Jason is a Calgary native who has earned a Bachelor of Education in Drama. He has had a busy year with a drama troupe that calls Centre Street Church its home. With this group Jason has acted, stage managed and directed a few scenes. *Halo* is his first mainstage play in many years and he hopes that it is not the last. "I am so glad that the Lord has given me the opportunity to play the part of Father J.J. In many ways, his life mirrors my own, and it has given me a chance to really reflect on faith and what that means to me."

BRENT KUHN – Male Swing

This is Brent's second performance with Fire Exit Theatre after being in the award winning production of last season's *Absence*. Along with ten years of character performances with two companies in and around Calgary, he has also performed in the musical, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, four years in the Drumheller Passion Play, and *The Director*, as well performances including children's programs and an extra in the movie *Legends of the Fall*. He is also a musician and singer, working as a drummer, five-string banjo player and trombonist in various groups with musical styles ranging from big band to bluegrass. Brent's most important role is as a single parent to his 12-year-old son, Jarub. "I would like to extend my thanks to all that have come out for their support, and my prayer is that all would allow the Peace of Christ to rule in your hearts and minds."

GERRY SMYLIE – Donald

Gerry has been acting for about 15 years and doing stand up for 10 years prior. Recent plays include *The Grinch*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Table Manor*, *The Mail Order Bride* and *Death Takes a Holiday* (the Movie version was called *Meet Joe Black*, Me and Brad Pitt did the same part, although I think he is shorter). Gerry has been Director of Theatre at Westside Kings Church for four years: acting, directing, producing and writing. "I'm excited to be a part of *Halo*, my first Fire Exit Theatre production."

Very Special Thanks...

Mark Lewandowski, Ilene Denison, Linnea Lawton, Bryson Lawton, Edward Lawton, DelTech Productions, Fran & Mike Reid, Karen Caldwell, Rose Hammerstrom, Influence Salon and Lorraine Cocolicchio and A & W MacLeod Trail.

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DOREEN THORNTON – Costumes/Crew

Doreen has a music major from Prairie Bible College, and is still singing in various roles. She has been involved with Arts @ First as well as Fire Exit Theatre for a number of years both on and off the stage. Doreen often helps to illustrate sermons through every day event drama. She stays young by volunteering for great events like Fire Exit Theatre, Children's Festival and story telling at Heritage Park.

GERRY THORNTON – Set Design/Construction

Gerry often finds himself tagging along with Doreen to help out. He has a singing background and attended Alberta College of Art, Mount Royal College and University of Calgary Gerry has been involved with at least one play with Fire Exit Theatre every season and is constantly learning more about the craft involved in all phases of theater. His creation of The Donut Shop is the center of small town Nova Scotia. Life happens there.

BEV KOVACS – Props

This is Bev's second show with Fire Exit Theatre, after working on *Singles* in their first season. She recently completed a two-year program at New Life Bible College in Cleveland, TN, a bible college associated with Norvel Hayes Ministries. Afterwards Bev spent two years associated with Dave Roberson Ministries in Tulsa, OK where she volunteered in several ministries affiliated with Pastor Dave's Family Prayer Center.

RICK BORGER – Asst. Props/Crew

Rick is a part-time clown, mime, and actor. He has designed and constructed props for his clown performances, including, *Chris the Clown's Gospel Circus* produced in 2005 for the *Canadian Badlands Passion Play Society*. In 2004 he also assisted with props for *The Pilgrim's Progress Adventure*, which he wrote and directed for the *Passion Play Society*.

Director's Notes...

Have you heard that new commercial about...? Did you hear that Tim Horton's has...? You can get these beautiful drapes for only \$20 at...How about those Flames? Are you going to the Skillet concert? There is so much hype around us. Everywhere we turn there is something begging for our attention - our finances, our careers, our relationships. And in amongst that there is pain and sorrow.

What's this life all about anyway?

Through realistic and sometimes all too familiar situations, our play *Halo* asks us to look at what our priorities are - at how we live out our lives. In particular, it asks about how we treat our faith - do we treat it as a commodity or do we truly nurture a relationship with God, the Creator, and humbly serve?

Who or what is wearing the Halo in your life?

Personally, I have gained from *Halo* a fresh realization that hype is NOT the point. It's not about having it good or easy or winning. It is not about having the best or the cheapest or being popular or most in style. It's about our relationship with God and each other. When this is the focus, the rest of this stuff is caramel on the donut!

May you be as blessed by this inspiring and hilarious story and those who tell it for you today as I have been!

Wanda

WANDA REINHOLDT – Director

Wanda has a B.A. in Theatre and Music and is the founder of Reinholdt Productions, a theatrical production company specializing in the systemic design of projects through directing, teaching, writing, and creative problem solving. Wanda has directed a variety of shows in college, high school, community, and semi-professional theatre including *Under A Bridge Along a River*, *Little Women*, *Christmas Presence*, *Grease*, and *The Mrs.*. She has been Assistant Director for shows such as *Last Train to Nibroc*, *The Canadian Badlands Passion Play*, and *Brother Truckers*. She has worked in every facet of theatre including voice and music and for the last six years been the Venture Partner with Entrepreneurial and Executive Coach, Tracey Sisson, of Calgary. As such, she brings a full understanding and knowledge of the arts as well as of teamwork and creative solutions on stage as well as behind the scenes. Wanda looks forward to seeing and telling inspiring story this season at Fire Exit and to directing more in both community and professional theatre.

JOHN REINHOLDT – Asst. Director

John has been having fun in theatre since high school, though it took him ten years to decide to have serious fun with it! He studied theatre at Rocky Mountain College, where he met his wife Wanda, and they have been doing theatre work ever since. His resume includes working for two years as Production Manager at the *Canadian Badlands Passion Play*, and acting in last season's Fire Exit's production of *Under a Bridge Along A River*. John is very excited and inspired to be back with the Fire Exit gang this year, and particularly pleased to be working with *Halo*.

JULIANA MAKRO – Stage Manager/Asst. Director

Juliana is a graduate of Rocky Mountain College with a diploma in Theatre Arts. She dabbled in all art forms throughout high school where she was a competitive dancer, as well as a vocal production student and was a part of various community musicals such as *The Wiz of The West*, *We Were Going To Do Romeo And Juliet* and *Grease*. During her two years at Rocky she performed in a Shakespeare showcase, Musical showcase, as well as *Busybody*, and *Exposed*; her final solo-creation project. After graduation she performed in *Unveiled* with Quenched Pure Performance as a dancer, and most recently *AT RISK under construction*, an original performance creation project in which she wrote, acted in and directed. She is also writing an original play and adapting a short novel into a play. This is her first show working with Fire Exit Theatre, and she is enjoying the opportunity to learn more about her craft.

COLIN LOWE – Sound Design/Live Music

Colin is an Assistant/Junior Video/Film Editor with White Iron Digital in Calgary as well as the director of the Foothills Lutheran Church Choir and freelance camera operator and musical composer/arranger. He also is an artist whose medium is pencil as well as having a joy for writing commercials, screen plays and stage plays as a hobby. This is Colin's second show with Fire Exit Theatre as a sound designer and musical composer/consultant, and it has proven to be a wonderful outlet for his need to create and be part of the theatre experience.