

taxdeductible theatre

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demand **bold** theatre

We are dedicated to developing the uniquely theatrical voices of our community of collaborative artists. We choose to celebrate the theatrical event of sharing a physical space with the audience, we honor their impact from as soon as they enter our lobby until after the show is over and the last drink is served.

www.taxdeductibletheatre.org

taxdeductible theatre is a fully recognized 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. All donations to **taxdeductible theatre** are, well...tax deductible.

The **DARE** Project

new ten-minute plays
written on a dare



An Actors' Equity Approved Showcase

The Wings Theatre

The Dare Project began in April 2006 when three members of **taxdeductible theatre** stumbled upon a method of inspiring new work: *dare* the writer.

That night, over shots of tequila, they each dared another to write a ten-minute play. They were free to write whatever they liked, so long as it was true to the dare. Two months later, these three plays were presented as the first Dare Project. Since that time, *The Dare Project* has grown into one of the fundamental ways in which we pursue our mission.

Here's how it works: Each writer is dared to write a ten-minute play. The dare can be anything—a genre, a line of dialogue, a character—as long as it challenges the writer. Once dared, a writer has a month to write, and then a month to rehearse. Then, ready or not, the play is presented in front of a packed house as a one-night-only event.

The Dare Project has become a laboratory for collaborative artists to develop a play from the raw idea all the way through a finished production. We expect everyone to put the play before themselves—to work collectively to pursue the dare.

Working this way is risky, it's bold, it's daring... and it's not always perfect. But it is worth a shot.



As we continue with *The Dare Project*, **taxdeductible theatre** will use the techniques discovered here, and expand our seasons to include new full-length plays developed in collaboration between writer, company and audience. We hope to continue to find new voices. We hope to create memorable experiences for all involved. Most importantly, we hope to challenge ourselves and our community to follow one basic rule:

demand bold theatre

Visit our website for more information on us, and what's next:
<http://www.taxdeductibletheatre.org/>



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, is the labor union that represents more than 45,000 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. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org

taxdeductible theatre wishes to thank



Materials for the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs / NYC Department of Sanitation / NYC Department of Education.

Rebecca Hart (Felicity, *The Merry Way*): Rebecca is an actor and musician based in NYC. NY: *Dead City* (world premiere, New Georges), *Vendetta Chrome* (Clubbed Thumb), *Love Sucks* (NYMF), Anne Washburn's *A Devil at Noon* (Vineyard, New Dramatists), *Crippled Sisters* (NY Stage & Film). Regional: Anne Washburn's *Orestes: A Tragic Romp* (Folger Theatre DC & Two River Theatre NJ), *A Devil at Noon* (O'Neill Conference), *Midsummer* (Stonington Opera House), *Rock & Roll: The Reunion Tour* (Actors Theatre of Louisville), *Prozac & the Platypus* (Hartford Stage). Film: *Young Adult* (Paramount), upcoming.

Ashley Hesse (Front of House): Ashley is very excited to be a part of *The Dare Project* 16. She holds a Masters in Vocal Performance: NYU Steinhardt School, and BFA in Musical Theatre: SUNY Fredonia. She is so thankful to be working with such a talented group of people (who also happen to enjoy tequila as much as she does)!

Alix McEachern Jones (Dagny, *Unattached*): Alix is delighted to be working again with **taxdeductible theatre** and *The Dare Project*. Alix received her M.F.A. from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. She has more in common with this character than she would like to admit.

Kendra Kay (Light Board Operator; Front of House Manager): Kendra is so excited to be involved with **taxdeductible theatre** again... only this time you will find her in the tech booth! She recently finished working as Associate Producer on *I GOT FIRED: A Semi-Autobiographical, Sort-of-True Revenge Musical* and is looking forward to more projects in the future. Cheers!

Aaron Kliner (writer, *Office Thriller*): Aaron is pleased to be collaborating with **taxdeductible theatre** once again... previous collaborations include writer, musician, actor, dead guy and weirdo. Aaron is from West Virginia where he received his BA from Shepherd University; he also holds an MFA from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory.

Robert Larkin (Frank, *The Boob*; *WSJD?*): Robert is originally a native of Boston, MA and was an early member of the Industrial Theatre. He is a former winner of the Irene Ryan Award and received a Special Artistic Achievement Award from the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC for his performance in Bill Donnelly's award winning play *Oswald's Case*. He is thrilled to have been asked back to *The Dare Project*.

Robert W. McMaster (co-writer/director, *Unattached*): Mac is a core collaborator of **taxdeductible theatre**, having been involved in almost every *Dare Project* since #2. He is disproportionately excited to be one of the members working together on the company's first efforts at a full-length script, including tonight's preview.

Mike Mihm (Darin, *The Boob*; Ken, *Unattached*): New York credits include *In God's Hat* with Apothecary, *The Brokenhearteds* with I Mean! Productions, *Mill Fire* with Retro Productions. Regional credits include *Camino Real* at Provincetown Tennessee Williams Festival and *Mister Roberts* and *A Christmas Carol* at Cincinnati Playhouse. Film: *Let It Be War*, *A Box For Rob*, *The Taking of Pelham 123*, *The Dying Western*.

Michael Poignand (Paddy, *The Merry Way*): Mike is thrilled to be back for his 7th Dare. He recently played Capt'n Mike in *Wonder of the World* at the Shell Theatre and served as Associate Producer for Dorothy Lyman's remounting of *'Sight Unseen'* with Inproximity Theatre. Look for him in Lucky Production's web-isodes of Toby. Thanks Rebecca, Scott and Bryn.

THE DARE PROJECT

November 2, 2010

Tonight's first four writers received their dares at a random draw from our online submissions on September 2nd. After their dares were drawn, they had one month to collaborate with the company on their idea and another month to cast and rehearse the piece for production.

Our fifth show tonight is a preview of one of the full length plays currently in development with **taxdeductible theatre**. From a development intensive this summer, our community fostered several ideas which we are currently adapting into full length plays.

Over the rest of this season, you'll get to see more previews of our larger works, and will be able to see the progression of these works into their eventual world premiere productions.

Working collaboratively from the initial idea will help us to create plays that may be *written* by one or two people, but will ultimately be *authored* by **taxdeductible theatre**.

Enjoy the show.

Dare: A happy play about a woman who was a nun in her former life.

The Merry Way

written and directed by Bryn Boice

Paddy: Michael Poignand*
Felicity: Rebecca Hart*

Special thanks to James J. Fenton

Dare: To put one boob on a store front window.

The Boob

written by Christopher Catalano
directed by Jimmie Galaites

Frank: Robert Larkin
Stu: Scott Casper*
Ensemble: Christopher Catalano*, Lesslie Dodge Crane*, Jimmie Galaites*, Alix McEachern Jones*, Mike Mihm, et al.

Dare: To write a thriller with a hero that can't tell time

Office Thriller

written by Aaron Kliner
directed by Scott Casper

Boss: Lesslie Dodge Crane*
Hero: Joseph DiSalle*

Dare: To buy the bar around.

WSJD?

written by Rich Fromm
directed by Scott Casper

Chapman: Madeleine Burns*
Peter: Eric C. Bailey*
Frank: Robert Larkin
Jesus: Jimmie Galaites*

Dare: To write a ten minute preview of one of the full length plays currently in development with taxdeductible theatre.

Unattached

written and directed by Lesslie Dodge Crane and Robert W. McMaster
authored by taxdeductible theatre

Ken: Mike Mihm
Dagny: Alix McEachern Jones*
Doctor: Wendy Bagger

* denotes actor appears courtesy of Actor's Equity Association

Front of House: Ursula Anderman, Ashley Hesse
Light Board Operator: Kendra Kay
Sound Board Operator: Robert W. McMaster

taxdeductible theatre also wishes to thank...

The Church of Immaculate Conception in Astoria

James Beeler Photography: www.jamesbeeler.us

Bob Choinere St. Patrick's Church

Tom Fazio The Wings Theatre



Wendy Bagger (Doctor, *Unattached*): Wendy is making her 4th appearance with taxdeductible theatre. She's worked in regional theatres in Nevada, Ohio, Missouri, and Florida. And since moving to New York she has also become a Voice-Over Artist and Interpersonal Communication Consultant. So don't mess with her; she'll talk the crap out of you.

Eric C. Bailey (Peter, *WSJD?*): Eric was last seen as Harry Fatt in Emerson Theater Collaborative's production of *Waiting for Lefty*. He has toured nationally with *School House Rock Live!* and Shenandoah Shakespeare. Favorite roles include: Lucky in *Waiting for Godot*, The Teacher in *Blood on the Cat's Neck* and Sam et al. in *Fully Committed*. For more information, please visit www.eric-bailey.com.

Bryn Boice (writer/director, *The Merry Way*): Bryn is proud to be one of the original three *Dare Project* creators. Recent acting credits include Grete in *Sight Unseen* (Theater 54) and six different characters in *Wonder of the World* (Shell Theater). She will be devoting Spring to several directing projects, including the New York premiere of John Corwin's 'Navy Pier' at Theatre Row's Studio Theater (www.inproximitytheatre.org). Love to MP.

Madeleine Burns (Chapman, *WSJD?*): Maddy's happy to be taxdeductible again. Tours/Regional: Rachel/Randall in *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* (Theatreworks), Anne Marie in *Strike! An Appalachian Musical* (ARTS/West), Miss Preen in *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (Monomoy Theater). NYC: *The Dare Project 15*, musical premiere of *Goodnight Moon*. She was recently invited to join the pool of singers for the new recordings of work by Tony-nominated composer Elizabeth Swados. Thanks Scott, Mac, and taxdeductible theatre.

Scott Casper (Stu, *The Boob*; director, *Office Thriller/WSJD?*): Scott is the Artistic Director of taxdeductible theatre, and has been involved as an actor, director or writer in every NY installment of *The Dare Project* to date. Thanks to everyone for coming out tonight, and for your continued support.

Christopher Catalano (writer/Sheriff, *The Boob*): Chris was sick much of October. He has not appeared on 'Law & Order'. This is his 5th *Dare Project* as a writer, his 15th as an actor. When he was good, it was thanks to Scott Casper and everyone at taxdeductible theatre. IFLTSOOYEK. When not theatre'ing, he works here: itsasickness.com.

Lesslie Dodge Crane (Boss, *Office Thriller*; co-writer/co-director, *Unattached*): Lesslie is pleased to have gotten the chance to contribute to *The Dare Project* as a playwright, actor and director over the last few years. She holds an MFA from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory and a BFA from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Joseph DiSalle (Hero, *Office Thriller*): A comedian, impersonator, DiSalle portrayed over 14 politicians and celebrities in "Political Idol" which opened in Chicago and ran for over a year in New York. He plays the trumpet and sang the role of Don Jose in Bizet's *Carmen* with the One World Symphony.

Rich Fromm (writer, *WSJD?*): Rich is proud to be a part of *The Dare Project 16*. Thanks to Scott Casper and the rest of the taxdeductible theatre gang for their dedication to this project and their love and support. Break legs tonight!

Jimmie Galaites (director, *The Boob*; Jesus, *WSJD?*): Kindly asks henceforth to be addressed as 'The Captain'. For an explanation please make a reservation at Lady Mendl's Tea Salon. As always thanks to my girls, Lisa and Ella for your general awesomeness.