



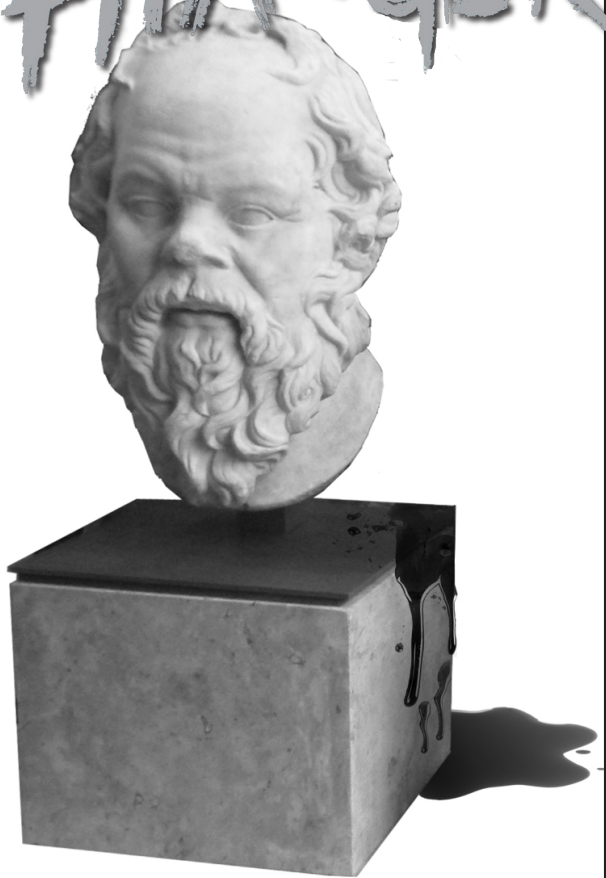
**ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS**

*presents a comedy/thriller*

# CLIFFHANGER

**by  
James  
Yaffe**

*directed  
by*  
**Penelope  
Harwood**



EVENING Performances at 7:30 p.m.  
on March 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18 & 19  
MATINEE Performances at 2:00 p.m.  
on March 12, 13, 19 & 20

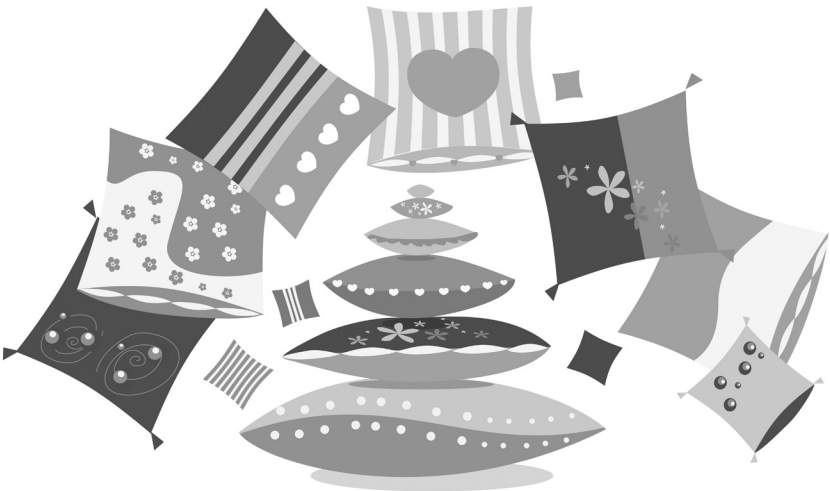
## SYNOPSIS

Mingling suspense and humour, this ingeniously plotted thriller follows unexpected twists and turns resulting in a mild-mannered professor of philosophy driven to apparent murder to protect his reputation and career. Thereafter, as the professor and his wife plot a foolproof way to dispose of the body, complications arise in the form of a rather sinister young student who happened to witness the professor's disposal of the body. Add in a suspicious police lieutenant and you have all the ingredients for a series of suspenseful, unexpected and frequently funny developments leading to a denouement which will catch everyone by surprise.

## CUSHIONS ARE AVAILABLE DURING THE SHOW

Please help yourself to seat cushions  
and return them to the containers when you leave. Thank you.

*We hope this makes your evening more comfortable.*



## CAST

Jordan Bell . . . . .Melvin McMullan

Wendy Cornock . . . .Polly Lowenthal

Natalie Munro . . . . .Edith Wilshire

Randy Parker . . . . .Henry Lowenthal

Bill Tolson . . . . .Dave DeVito

*“Cliffhanger” is presented by special arrangement  
with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Professor Henry Lowenthal and his wife, Polly, are looking forward to Henry assuming the exalted Voorhees Chair after many years of teaching and leading the philosophy department at Copeland University. Henry is a life-long student of Socrates and has always believed in doing the right thing, both ethically and morally. So it is a profound shock when he finds himself compromised on this position, arguing with Edith Wilshire, a much younger woman who has taken over the department and is changing its focus completely. Edith tells Henry he is not going to get the Voorhees Chair, and Henry loses his whole life's philosophy with one blow.

What follows is a slightly farcical plot, involving a seen-it-all policeman, Lt. Dave DeVito, and a rich self-involved slightly manic university student, Melvin McMullen. The older characters are committed to ethical behavior and the greater good while the younger ones seek opportunism and self-gratification.

Which side wins and how it is played out tests the character of both Henry and Polly and a surprising denouement brings a real twist to the climax of this questioning and entertaining play.

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Co-Producers:	Bronwyn Taylor & Mike Chadwick	
Stage Manager:	Kathy Macovichuk	
Assistant Stage Manager:	Quinn MacTavish	
Prompter:	Quinn MacTavish	
Set Design:	Dallas Ashby	
Set Décor:	Ann Harris	
Set Construction:	Simon Guthrie	Paul Hawkes-Frost
	Dave Hitchcock	Don Lambton
	James Lambton	Jerry McIntosh
	Martha McNeely	Alan Ormerod
	Neville Owen	Jon Scheer
	Meghan Selbee	John Lockyer
	Carmon Salomonsson	
Set Painting:	Elaine Lewis, Judy Bell, Merry Hallsor, Carmon Salomonsson, Anne Swannell, Deb Taylor, Dallas Ashby	
Props:	Rosalind Coleman, Natalie Munro, Susan Nicholl	
Lighting Design:	Carol-Anne Moore	
Light Crew:	Max Terpstra, Colin Hopcraft, Jennifer Illingworth	
Sound Design:	James Penner	
Sound Operator:	Rosalind Coleman	
Costumes:	Madeleine Mills, Jane Kreiger	
Dressers:	Sheila McKenzie, Tamara Malczewska	
Photos/Lobby Display:	Kathy Macovichuk	
Program:	Beverly van Druten-Blais	
Publicity:	Janine Longy	
Concession Manager:	Susan Nicholl	
Front of House Manager:	Bronwyn Taylor	

A special thanks to: Langham Court Theatre, St. Aidan's Thrift Shop, Rev. Daniel Fournier and Bonnie Watson's contributions and support from St. Luke's Church; the Times Colonist; Victoria Theatre Guild; Philomena Hanson of Victoria Arts Marketing and all those wonderful people who volunteer in concession, front of house and elsewhere. The show couldn't go on without you!

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## **Penelope Harwood** – Director

Cliffhanger is Penelope's third show for St. Luke's Players and she is thrilled to be working on this script. She has also directed plays for Langham Court Theatre, ten years of Shakespeare for Glenlyon Norfolk School and other companies, including a memorable run of *An Inspector Calls* at Neptune Theatre in Halifax. Penelope is the recipient of the William Wylie Arts Award from the Stratford Festival. Many thanks to a great cast and a superlative crew.



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## **YOU'VE GOT TALENT!**

Join the St. Luke's Players' team and put your skills and talents to good use! On stage or behind the scenes, our gang of volunteers enjoys a myriad of activities while supporting the community and has lots of fun doing it!

**[www.stlukesplayers.org](http://www.stlukesplayers.org)**



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## **Jordan Bell** – *Melvin McMullan*

Jordan grew up right here in Victoria and performed in several productions with St. Luke's Players (including *A Woman of No Importance* and *Tiptoe Through the Tombstones*) before moving to the Mainland and then Japan. Jordan is thrilled to be back in Victoria and to return to the St. Luke's Players stage for the first time this decade... but hopefully not the last!



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## **Wendy Cornock** – *Polly Lowenthal*

What a treat to get to work with such an amazing group of people. Wendy was last on stage as Mrs. Sycamore in *You Can't Take it With You* at Langham. Polly is just a little different wife but just as much fun. Wendy has been performing in Victoria with various groups over the past 20 years along the way there have been many favorites: *Constant Wife*, *Chalk Garden*, *An Act of the Imagination*, *Welfarwell*, *Cakewalk*, *Laramie Project* and more.



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## **Natalie Munro** – *Edith Wilshire*

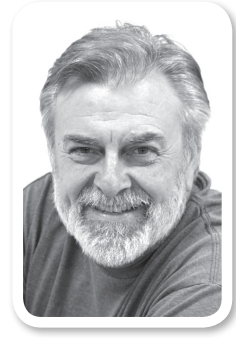
Natalie is delighted to be performing once again with the St. Luke's Players, having previously appeared in *Barely Heirs*, *Cakewalk*, and *Nana's Naughty Knickers*. Though raised and schooled in Ontario, Natalie now identifies as an Islander. In her spare time she most enjoys exploring west coast wonders, either on foot or by paddle. She is always careful to avoid hemlock. She would like to thank Penelope for her inspired direction, and the cast and crew for their dedication to their craft and to community theatre.



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**Randy Parker** – *Henry Lowenthal*

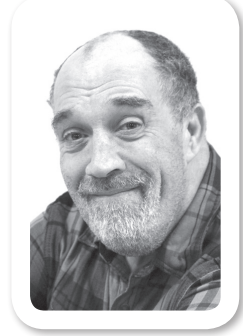
Randy was last on the St. Luke's Players' stage in 2006 when he portrayed Arthur Putnam in *An Act of the Imagination*. Prior to that he was seen in St. Luke's Players' *Tomb with a View* and *Hound of the Baskervilles*. Since then he has acted in Langham Court's *A Shot in the Dark*, *Picnic*, *Silver Dagger* and *A Month in the Country*. He also recently had lead roles in two independent movies, *Unsound Innocence* and *Dimension Folders*. Randy is very excited to be back performing with the St. Luke's Players crew and hopes the audience enjoys the show.



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**Bill Tolson** – *Dave DeVito*

Newly retired, Bill has been eager to join the theatre scene in Victoria. He has performed two seasons with Shakespeare by the Sea, and also in the production of *The Mousetrap* with Peninsula Players in Sydney. The opportunity to work with St. Luke's Players is a godsend. He's met many great people to work with since he's decided to enter the Victoria theatre community. The experiences have been wild. This should keep him out of trouble (maybe) during the next part of his life.



Proud To Support Local Theatre

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# ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

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## Bull in a China Shop

mystery/comedy

By C.B. Gilford

Directed by Michael King

May 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27 and 28  
at 7:30 p.m.

Matinees: 21, 22, 28 and 29 at 2 p.m.

### SINGLE TICKET INFORMATION

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Tickets available at the door. Cash or Cheque

[www.stlukesplayers.org](http://www.stlukesplayers.org)

email: [stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca](mailto:stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca)

Performances are held at St. Luke's Hall • 3821 Cedar Hill X Road at Cedar Hill Road

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