TWILIGHT THEATRE COMPANY
& SMOKESCREEN PRODUCTIONS

PRESENT

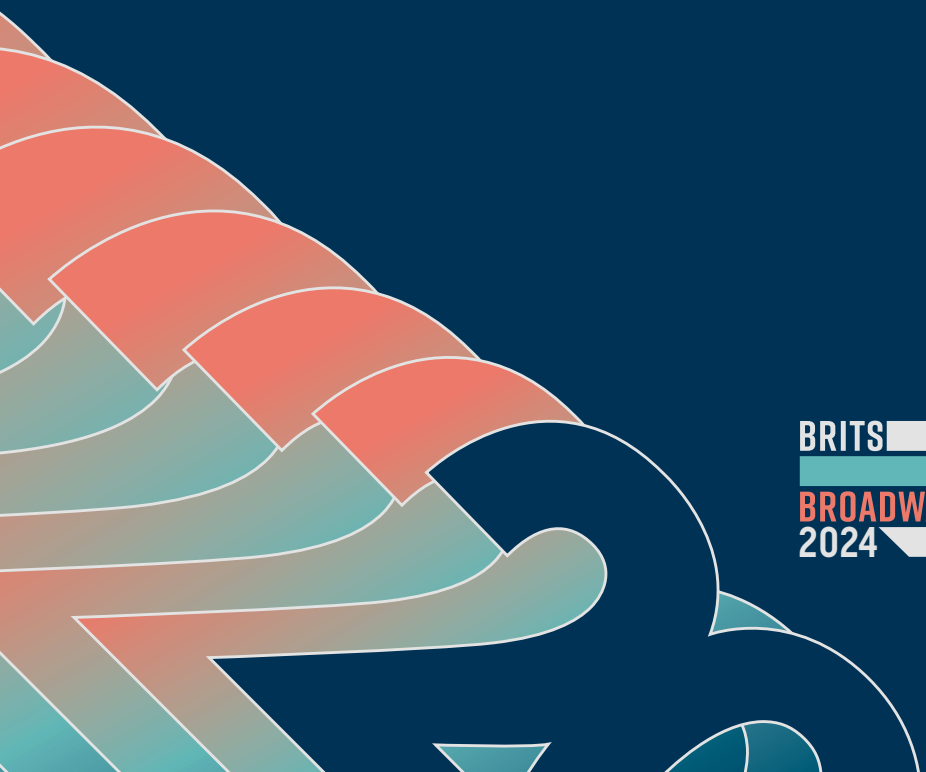
WATSON

THE FINAL PROBLEM

BY BERT COULES & TIM MARRIOTT

BASED ON THE WORKS OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

DIRECTED BY
BERT COULES



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PRESENT

WATSON
THE FINAL PROBLEM

BY
BERT COULES & TIM MARRIOTT
BASED ON THE WORKS OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

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BERT COULES

— CAST —

John H. Watson ..... TIM MARRIOTT

— CREATIVE TEAM —

Playwrights ..... BERT COULES & TIM MARRIOTT
Director/Sound Design ..... BERT COULES
Original Music ..... CLIVE WHITBURN
Lighting Design ..... ANNA LeCLAIR
Production Stage Manager ..... MADELEINE BLOSSOM *

— PRODUCTION TEAM —

Producer ..... MARGARETT PERRY
Associate Producer NY ..... NATALIE TELL
Associate Producer UK ..... ALISTAIR FILA
Photography ..... PETER MOULD

Run time: 60 minutes with no intermission

ACTORS' EQUITY

*Member of Actors' Equity Association,
the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

TIM MARRIOTT

(Writer and Performer)



Tim Marriott is best known in the UK for seven seasons of BBC TV's leisure center situation comedy *The Brittas Empire*, appearing in every episode as deputy manager, Gavin. Other TV credits include British Airman Tigger Thompson in *Allo Allo*, *Doctors*, *The Bill*, *An Actor's Life for Me*, *The Main Event*, *Luv*, and film credits include the forthcoming features *The Real Thing*, *Revelation*, and recently released comedy, *Love Type D*. He returned to the stage in 2018 after a seventeen year "career break" working in education. In 2018 Tim toured Australia supporting the Invictus Games with his award-winning mental health themed solo show ***Shell Shock***, which was also performed at Edinburgh and Adelaide Festivals where it won the Sunday Mail award, Best Solo Show, and won a Fringe Encore at SoHo Playhouse. Tim also wrote and produced an acclaimed play on a Holocaust theme, ***Mengele***, selling out at three successive Edinburgh Festival Fringe seasons. ***Watson: The Final Problem*** sold out shows at Edinburgh Festival Fringe, where Tim won a Best Performance Award (Dark Chat). In 2023 he won an Edinburgh Festival Best Actor Award with his new play ***Appraisal***, which also won a Best Theatre Award at Adelaide Fringe. Besides producing and appearing in new theater work around the world, Tim is also an experienced educator, voiceover artist, public speaker, and event host. He delivers workshops on devising theater and framing stories as well as keynote talks following performances, offering strategies for coping with anxiety and stress in partnership with Annabel Fen Marriott, an Anxiety UK practitioner and author of *Toolkit for Anxiety*. Tim is a keen supporter of veterans' charities having run the London Marathon for Combat Stress and being an Ambassador for The Blue Van Drop-in.

BERT COULES

(Writer, Director, Sound Designer)

Bert Coules wandered through a succession of jobs including librarian, fringe opera company manager, sound engineer, and BBC producer-director before becoming a full-time writer. His work includes comedy, science fiction, horror, historical drama, romance, and biographies, but he is especially associated with crime and detective stories: he was the head writer on the BBC's unique project to dramatize the entire Sherlock Holmes canon, the first time it had ever been done with the same two actors in the leads throughout. The shows were a success with both the public and the critics and Bert was commissioned by the BBC to script four more series of brand new mysteries for the detective and the doctor. Beyond Baker Street, Bert has penned dramatizations of several of Ellis Peters' medieval Brother Cadfael mysteries, and of books by Ursula Le Guin, Isaac Asimov, Ian Rankin, Robert Heinlein, Val McDermid, and many others. He is proud to have put words into the mouths of actors including Dame Judi Dench, Tom Baker, Mark Gatiss, Oliver Reed, and Roger Daltrey. Stage works include an acclaimed version of JB Priestley's coming-of-age novel about the decline of the music halls, ***Lost Empires***, as well as a full-length Holmes and Watson drama for two actors and a third who walks through a door, speaks one line, and promptly falls down dead. ***Watson: The Final Problem*** is the first collaboration between Bert Coules and Tim Marriott and is receiving its US premiere at this theater.

www.bertcoules.co.uk

CLIVE WHITBURN

(Original Music)

A classical composer living in Sussex, England, Clive writes music in a wide range of styles and genres. His compositions tell unusual and fascinating stories, such as "Messages from the Sea," or exploring themes which he believes important, such as "In The Time Of Pandemic," "To Those Who Pass Through My City," "Who is My Neighbour?," and "The Furies/Soft Rains." His music is often, but not exclusively, tonal and melodic. Influences are very wide flung - Clive references classical and baroque traditions as well as 20th and 21st century "new music," minimalism,

traditional folk, prog rock, and jazz.

www.clivewhitburn.com

ANNA LeCLAIR

(Lighting Designer)

Anna LeClair is a Lighting Designer and multi-departmental theatre technician currently employed at The Other Palace. She designed the lighting for ***Watson: The Final Problem*** at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2022 and 2023. Her recent lighting work includes: ***Natalie Sin Live Concert 2024*** (The Other Palace), ***New Stuff*** (The Other Palace Studio), ***Overture Showcase 2023*** (The Other Palace), ***Stiles + Drewe Best New Song Prize 2023*** (The Other Palace), ***With Blood In Mind*** (The Other Palace Studio), ***Fantasies Come True: the queermusicals.com concert*** (The Other Palace), ***Watson: The Final Problem*** (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2023, 2022), ***Adults Only Magic Show*** (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2023, 2022), ***The Beatbox Collective: What's Your Sound*** (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2023), ***La Petite Gerda*** (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2023), Grease (University of Bath), ***In The Name of The Son*** (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2022), ***The Adventures of Little Bo Peep*** (Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2022).

MARGARETT PERRY

(Producer)

Margarett is an award-winning director of new plays and the artistic director of Twilight Theatre Company. She has directed and developed new work Off Broadway and in regional theaters across the country as well as in Scotland and London. Her previous productions at 59E59 Theaters include three world premieres by Brian Dykstra: ***Clean Alternatives*** (Fringe First Award/ Edinburgh), ***A Play on Words***, and ***Education***. She also produced and directed the world premiere of ***Body Politic*** by Richard Abrons as well as the East to Edinburgh shows: ***Shortlist***, ***The Golfer***, ***Clean Alternatives***, and ***No Parole***. Margarett directed the world premiere of John Jiler's ***The Rosenberg/ Strange Fruit Project*** at New Jersey Repertory Company last spring that went on to perform at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh and will be coming to 59E59 Theaters in July. She is taking 2 world premieres to Edinburgh this year and they both will be performing in the East to Edinburgh Festival in July—***Polishing Shakespeare*** by Brian Dykstra and ***Plotters*** by Brian Parks. Other recent world premieres include: the critically-acclaimed world premieres of ***Born in East Berlin*** by Rogelio Martinez and ***Seared*** by Theresa Rebeck both at San Francisco Playhouse, ***The House*** by Brian Parks (US, London, & Scotland), and ***Banned from Baseball*** by Patricia O'Hara (Human Race). Margarett was the resident director at the Kitchen Theatre in Ithaca where she has directed over 25 productions. During the shutdown, Margarett and Twilight ventured into the short film and music video world for passion projects such as *#Hashtag That-Say Their Name* (from the musical ***Crazy Make Crazy***) and *This Doesn't Work* written & performed by Darian Dauchan and Brian Dykstra.

www.margarettperry.com

NATALIE TELL

(Associate Producer)

For the past couple of years Natalie has been working with Twilight Theatre Company as both a director and producer. She was the associate director and producer on ***The Golfer*** by Brian Parks (59E59 East to Edinburgh & Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2022) and the world premiere of ***Shortlist*** by Brian Parks (59E59 East to Edinburgh & Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh 2023). This season, she is working with Twilight on five shows. In addition to ***Watson***, she will be the associate producer on ***Appraisal*** by Tim Marriott and the associate director on both ***The Rosenberg/Strange Fruit Project*** by John Jiler (59E59 Theaters) and the world premiere of ***Polishing Shakespeare*** by Brian Dykstra (59E59 East to Edinburgh and Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2024). Alongside Margarett Perry, Natalie will co-direct the world premiere of ***Plotters*** by Brian Parks. Natalie is studying directing at the University of Michigan where she directed ***Horse Girls*** by Jenny Rachel Weiner and was the assistant director on ***The Heart of Robin Hood*** and ***Clean House*** by Sarah Ruhl. She would like to thank her support system,

mom and dad, Margarett, and her friends for their guidance and helping her pursue her passion.

MADELEINE BLOSSOM

(Production Stage Manager)

Madeleine Blossom is a New York-based AEA stage manager and actor originally from California. She holds a BA in Theatre Arts from Drew University and a certificate of Mental Health First Aid from The National Council. Madeleine also studied with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators through their Stage Managing Intimacy course, along with similar workshops relating to safety and well-being while making art. She is excited to be back for another season of Brits Off Broadway at 59E59 Theaters! Off Broadway: ***The Greatest Hits Down Route 66*** (New Light Theater Project), ***War Words*** (NewYorkRep), ***Cecil Beaton's Diaries*** (Evergreen Theatrical), ***Being Mr. Wickham*** (Original Theatre), ***Cassie and the Lights*** (Patch of Blue), ***According to the Chorus*** (NLTP). Regional: ***Sweeney Todd***, ***Kings***, and ***The Velveteen Rabbit*** (South Coast Repertory.)

www.MadeleineBlossom.com
@StageStruck13

SMOKESCREEN PRODUCTIONS

Smokescreen Productions was set up by producer, writer, director, and performer Tim Marriott with a mission to create contemporary issue-based theater, developing new work into professional performance in association with national and international charities. Smokescreen seeks to create powerfully engaging drama, provoking conversations, and encouraging audiences to consider issues from a different perspective, to change attitudes, and create a lasting effect. We undertake meticulous research, working alongside charities and including residencies and site visits. We seek to raise awareness and illuminate issues, which some may find challenging or difficult, framed in a theatrical setting that aims to be richly entertaining.

www.smokescreenprods.com

TWILIGHT THEATRE COMPANY

Twilight Theatre Company is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization located in New York City. Founded by Sturgis Warner in 1998 and now under the artistic leadership of Margarett Perry, Twilight continues its mission to support new work through readings, workshops, and productions. Last season, Twilight produced two new plays at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland: the UK premiere of John Jiler's ***The Rosenberg/Strange Fruit Project*** and the world premiere of ***Shortlist*** by Brian Parks (in collaboration with the Welsh theater company, Flying Bridge). This season, Twilight is working with UK artists to bring their work to the United States as well as producing the Off Broadway run of ***The Rosenberg/Strange Fruit Project*** at 59E59 Theaters in July. Twilight will be returning to Scotland this summer with two more world premieres, ***Polishing Shakespeare*** by Brian Dykstra and ***Plotters*** by Brian Parks. Twilight's mission is to develop, workshop, and produce new work by theater artists and to tell stories that deepen awareness, encourage compassion, and ignite conversation.

www.twilighttheatrecompany.org

WATSON: THE FINAL PROBLEM

The play grew out of a holiday visit by Tim Marriott to the famous Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland, the spectacular setting chosen by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as a fitting resting place for the character he'd grown weary of writing. It was developed with Holmes and Watson specialist Bert Coules during the COVID lockdowns and first existed as an audio drama, produced, recorded, and edited with all the participants working in isolation. Subsequently it has enjoyed a successful life touring across the UK and as far afield as Australia before making its proud US debut here as part of the Brits Off Broadway season.

SPECIAL THANKS

Mountain Hare Productions, Little Bird Creative, Angela Bull, Nicholas Collett, and Stefani Rossi.

CURATOR'S NOTE

Twilight Theatre Company has brought several shows to our East to Edinburgh festival and, under Artistic Director Margarett Perry, has continued its mission of supporting theater artists in the creation of new work, something we at 59E59 ferociously endorse! Smokescreen Productions was founded by the star of tonight's show, Tim Marriott, to tell powerful, cinematic stories while also supporting a range of charities. I saw this show in Scotland last summer during its sold-out run in Edinburgh. It's a fun one!



Val

VAL DAY
Artistic Director,
59E59 Theaters

59E59 THEATERS STAFF

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ELYSABETH KLEINHANS

Artistic Director
VAL DAY

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MICIAH WALLACE

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JOEY PITTORINO

Ushers
ALANIS MOLINA-GARNELO
ANNA BONGARDINO
ANNE RUTTER
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BRANDON BAUTISTA
CHRISTIAN MIRANDA
ERIC BERKELEY
HANS MUEH
ISRAEL ORENGO
ITAI ADAM VAGNER
KAIA PARNELL
KAYLA GRANT
MICIAH WALLACE
NIA BLIZZARD
OLIVE CHAMPAGNIE
SANTIAGO AGUILAR

Bartenders
JULIA MELLONI
KEVIN MOLICA
RYAN PANGRACS

Theater Technicians
KAITLYN CHEN
JOHN D. IVY
KAT KHELLBLAU
JAMIE JOHNSON

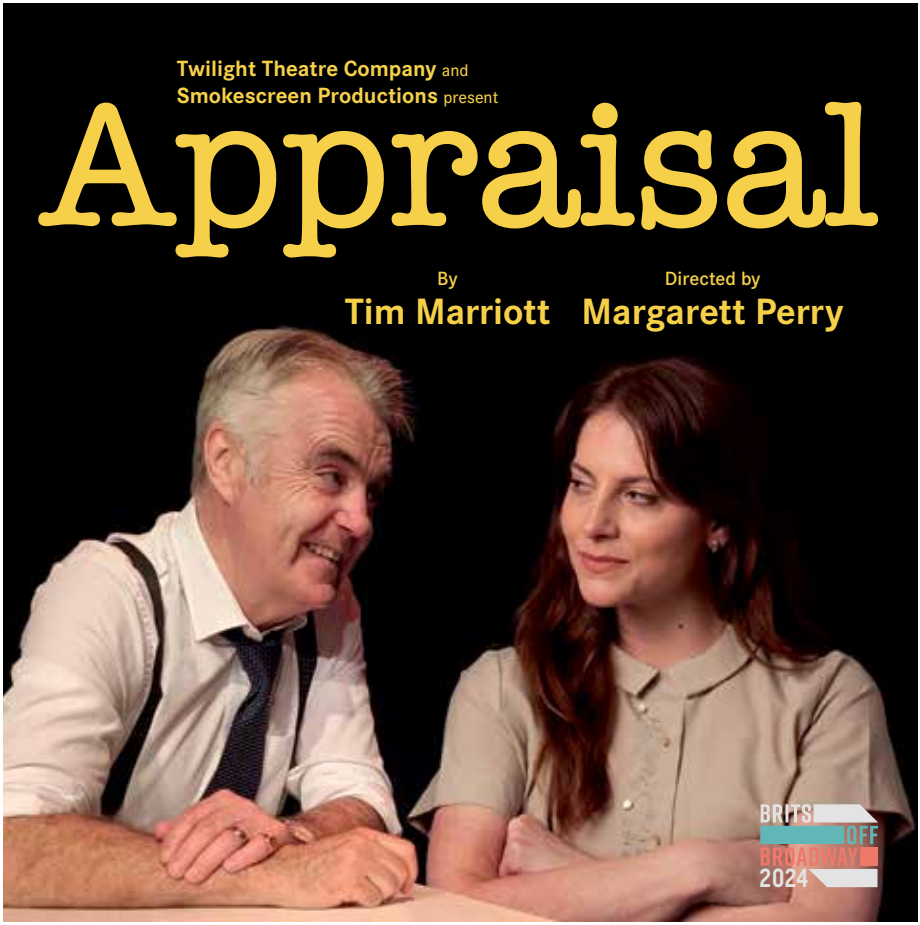
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OUR MISSION

59E59 Theaters was established by the Elysabeth Kleinhans Theatrical Foundation in 2004 to grant professional space and expertise to non-profit theater companies premiering their work in New York City. Under the leadership of Val Day, Artistic Director, and Brian Beirne, Managing Director, 59E59 Theaters presents a year-round curated program of Off Broadway plays and musicals that are nurtured and supported through rent-free spaces, as well as production, ticketing, FOH, marketing, and press support.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59E59 Theaters reside on the traditional homelands of the Lenni-Lenape People on the Lenape Island of Mannahatta. We acknowledge the Lenni-Lenape as the original people of the land who were forcefully removed during colonization resulting in erased and excluded peoples and culture. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on the land and honor their elders, past and present alongside future generations for their stewardship and continuing relationship with their territory.

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