

RAPID DEPARTURE

A Right Lines Production

Directed by Mark Saunders. Written by Euan Martin and Dave Smith

Cast

Albert.....James Bryce
Gloria.....Estrid Barton
Flora.....Helen MacKay
Eric.....Ewan Donald
Connal.....Barrie Hunter
Reporter(on screen).....Craig Anderson

Crew and Creative team

Stage Manager.....Mick Andrew
Stage Manager.....Brian Gorman
Administration.....Euan Martin
Administration.....Lucy Conway
Costume.....Kay Smith
Props.....Dave Smith
Aerial filming and editing.....Tim Flood
Computer Graphics.....John McGeoch
Publicity Design.....Trish O' Grady



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Thanks to **TISO** Inverness for supplying the Kayaking Equipment and to Jamie Piper for drone photography research. Additional photography on Eigg by Ben Cormack and on Knoydart by Davie Newton. Also thanks to the community of Eigg for all its support with this production.

ESTRID BARTON



ESTRID was born in Edinburgh of Scottish and Austrian parentage and brought up in the north-east. After studying English and German at Aberdeen University she trained as an actor at the Ecole Jacques Lecoq and at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.

Most of Estrid's professional career has been in Scotland where she has worked for the Royal Lyceum, Comunicado, Prime Productions, Eden Court, Stellar Quines, Wildcat, Brunton Theatre, Mull Theatre and Theatre Workshop, amongst other companies.

Earlier this Spring Estrid toured Scotland with a production of *THE BOY AND THE BUNNET* for Bigsky, narrating in Scots with musical accompaniment provided by professional musicians, and last year she was a member of the Pitlochry Festival Theatre's 2014 Season where she played the Countess of Brocklehurst in *THE ADMIRABLE CRICHTON*, Sadie in *PERFECT DAYS*, numerous roles in *YELLOW ON THE BROOM* and Trish in *WHISKY KISSES*, which was written by Right Lines' Euan Martin and Dave Smith, with music by James Bryce.

Radio includes: *SUNSET SONG* for BBC Radio 4, *CONFESSIONS OF A JUSTIFIED SINNER* for BBC Radio 3, and numerous readings and short stories for BBC Radio Scotland.

Film and television work includes: *DOLLY'S HOUSE* for the Royal Scottish Conservatoire, *BAD BROWN OWL* and *ST MATHURIN'S SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL JOKING* for Tartan Smalls and CBBC, and *TAGGART* for STV.

EWAN DONALD



EWAN trained at Queen Margaret University College Edinburgh. Theatre includes: *Dunsinane* (National Theatre of Scotland, Royal Shakespeare Company) *The Three Sisters* (Tron Theatre) *This is Ceilidh* (PW Productions) *The Baroness* (Dogstar Theatre) *The Satire of the Three Estates* (AandBC Theatre) *Be Silent or Be Killed*, *From These Parts* (Right Lines) *Knight and the Crescent Hare* (Ankur Productions) *King Lear* (Citizens Theatre) *The Prince - The Johnny Thomson Story* (ATG) *Macbeth* (Open Book) *Midsummer* (Traverse Theatre) *Wake Me In The Morning*, *Saint One*, *Saint Catherines Day*, *Baltimore*, *The Seagull* (Oran Mor) *The Not So Fatal*

Death Of Grandpa Fredo (Vox Motus) *An Imagined Sarha*, *An Arab Woman Speaks*, *Ramallah*, (Tron Theatre) *Grumpy Charlie Can't Come out to Play* (Theatre Bo) *Walden* (Magnetic North) *Little Red Riding Hood* (The Arches) *Cinderella*, *Mother Goose*, *The Odd Couple* (Female Version) *Death of a Salesman*, *Proof*, *Sinbad and the Lost Princess*, *The Little Foxes* (Perth Theatre) *Sunshine on Leith*, *Sweet Bird of Youth*, *Midsummer Nights Dream*, *The Talented Mr Ripley*, *The Graduate*, *The Visit*, *Merlin The Magnificent*, *Macbeth* (Dundee Rep Theatre) *Othello*, *Midsummer Nights Dream* (Bard in the Botanics) *Damages* (Rapture Theatre) Film and TV includes: *New Town*, *Whatever It Takes*, *River City* (BBC)

HELEN MACKAY



HELEN is from Thurso and trained at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Previous Right Lines Productions include: *Be Silent or Be Killed*, *From These Parts*, *The Accidental Death of an Accordionist*. Theatre Credits Include: *Outlying Islands* (Firebrand Theatre Company) *3000 Trees* (Grey Coast Productions) *The Misanthrope*, *Fish Wrap*, *Saint One*, *3 Seconds* (Oran Mor - A Play, a Pie and a Pint) *Cinderella*, *Pinocchio* (Perth Theatre) *The Cone Gatherers*, *The Silver Darlings*, *Sunset Song* (Aberdeen Performing Arts) *Para Handy* (Eden Court) *Macbeth* (Open Book) *The Snow Queen* (Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh) *Peer Gynt* (NTS/Dundee REP). Radio credits include: *Big Sky* , *Until Such Times* , *Helen and Aphrodite*, *Calum's Road*, *Gillespie and I*, *A Click Away*, *The Quest of Donal Q*, *Immaculate* (BBC) *999*, *Border Control*, *Morrisons Van* (Right Lines / Hi- wireless) TV Credits : DCI Banks , *Rab C Nesbitt*.

JAMES BRYCE



JAMES BRYCE has two hats. As an actor, he has appeared in over 100 plays all over the UK for such companies as Communicado, the Royal Lyceum, Vanishing Point, and The National. He has recorded almost 300 BBC radio broadcasts, 90 talking books, 30 Television and film productions. In this year's Edinburgh Fringe, he will be playing the older Nijinsky in Company Chordelia's Production, "Nijinsky's Last Jump". As a composer, he has written for numerous theatre companies (Bench Tours, the Young Vic, Perth, The Lyceum, Musselburgh etc), BBC radio and the concert hall, and can be heard strumming his idiosyncratic songs in the Central Belt. He was composer of Right Lines' musical "Whisky Kisses", which was Pitlochry's showcase production in 2014. He has also written scripts for BBC Radio Education, and is badly in need of a secretary.

BARRIE HUNTER



BARRIE trained at RSAMD. Previously with Right Lines: Accidental Death Of An Accordionist (2008 tour), Whisky Kisses (Highland Quest for a New Musical). He has also worked with Mull Theatre, Perth Theatre, Oran Mor Play/Pie/Pint, National Theatre of Scotland, Dundee Rep, Citizen's Theatre, Royal Lyceum, The Tron, The Byre, Theatre Babel, Borderline, Visible Fictions, Bill Bryden's Promenade Productions, and Scottish Opera companies down the years! TV includes The Field of Blood, Rab C Nesbitt, Still Game, Dear Green Place, Stacey Stone, Velvet Soup.

Films include The Angels' Share, Native Son, Fast Romance.

Radio includes Watson's Wind Up, Jonathan Watson's Big Society, Hand in Glove.

Mark Saunders



Graduate of Durham University, (BA. Gen. Arts).

First professional work, with Theatre Workshop in Edinburgh.

1977 – 79, studied at **Ecole Jacques Lecoq**, Paris, and returned to Scotland to resume professional career.

Throughout the 80's worked as freelance teacher, director, deviser and performer, touring widely both in UK and abroad.

Served on the SAC Dance and Mime panel, and received several SAC awards and bursaries.

Devised a variety of work, both solo and with others. These included a two-hander version of Wagner's Ring Cycle, and a one-

man show about the life of Charlie Chaplin.

Performed at many Edinburgh Festivals, and festivals in London, Amsterdam, Germany, Denmark and Hong Kong.

Artist-in-residence at the Glasgow Garden Festival 1988, and resident performer at Glasgow's Glasgow (1990 City of Culture year). Extensive work in the corporate entertainment sector, including Trade Fairs in Europe and the States.

1992 - 2009, full-time Lecturer in Movement at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Glasgow.

During this time, directed many plays, both classical and modern. Productions invited to Warsaw Theatre Academy and to the Essen Student Shakespeare Festival.

Directed RSAMD entries to the Sam Wanamaker Festival at the Globe Theatre.

Directed the award-winning 'The Accidental Death of an Accordionist' for Right Lines Theatre Company.

In 2009, appointed Head of the MA Classical and Contemporary Text Programme, at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RSAMD), a one-year post-graduate programme in acting and directing.

Has been Chair of the Board for several Scottish-based theatre companies, including Benchtours, VoxMotus and Terra Incognita.

CRAIG ANDERSON (on Screen Reporter)



Brought up in Perth, Craig went to Aberdeen University where he studied Law and Scottish History. After graduating he got his first start in journalism with a news agency based in Brussels, where he worked for four years, latterly as the Herald's European Correspondent.

He returned to Scotland to work for what was then BBC Radio Highland, becoming senior producer responsible for the station's English language output. He spent several years as a freelance broadcaster and journalist, setting up his own production company, before re-joining the BBC as their Inverness-based television correspondent.

During his career he has contributed to numerous broadcasting outlets and newspapers, making films for Channel Four, producing documentaries for the BBC World Service, writing for papers as diverse as and the Financial Times, the Economist and the Sun and even coming up with a motoring column for the Inverness Courier. A fluent French speaker, he is a former Scottish TV Journalist of the Year and a trained video journalist capable of filming and editing his own reports.

Craig's interests include cars, travel and music - describing himself as a practising guitarist. He is married with three children and lives on the Black Isle.

MICK ANDREW

MICK has been involved with touring theatre shows, many in the Highlands & Islands providing illumination and other technical services for nearly 30 years. Tours have been with 7:84, Mull Theatre, Highland Festival, Tosg Gaelic Theatre and Communicado amongst others. Previous show with Right Lines was the very successful WhiskyKisses. He also regularly works on numerous festivals including over 20 years at Glastonbury, T-in-the-Park and every Edinburgh's Hogmanay, though due to current UK weather climate these usually mean being covered in mud & diesel, rather than getting a sun tan. Pyromaniac tendencies were developed by running the Edinburgh Beltane Fire Festival during the mid 90s and are continued with his fire sculpture company "Skyefyre" who are regulars at Glastonbury & Edinburgh.

BRIAN GORMAN



Free until the age of five, then captured by the educational system, Brian emerged into the virtual world with a degree in civil engineering. He then worked as a Hollywood rigger before theatre work began to sporadically interrupt his life over the last twenty years. Brian has worked for numerous theatre and dance companies touring all over the UK and internationally. He has toured extensively in the Highlands & Islands with Cartoon Theatre and he has also been Technician/Production Manager on all Right Lines' shows. He likes smiling!

KAY SMITH



Kay graduated in drawing and painting from Edinburgh College of Art in 1983. Since then she has worked in theatre as an artist with companies including Welfare State, Fablevision, Edinburgh Puppets, and Arts in Motion. She has costumed for several Right Lines productions, *The Wedding*, *The Accidental Death of an Accordionist*, *Who Bares Wins*, *From These Parts* and most recently *Be Silent or Be Killed*. She lives in the Highlands and is delighted to be once again working with the company.

JOHN MCGEOCH



John McGeoch is an Artistic Director of Arts in Motion, a multi-arts company based in the Highlands of Scotland, as well as being a busy video artist in his own right. The path to his current work had its beginnings in street performance and from there into touring theatre, creating the Clown Jewels Theatre company and thence via immersion in the newly burgeoning digital and projection technology to creating Arts in Motion and 'the Shed', a performance production space. Current work is very varied and spans from video sets for theatre, stand-alone installations, promotional video, animated films and workshops, VJ and live projections at events, mapped building projections, event walkabouts and other similarly interesting, tangential and challenging things. Recent work includes: Video sets: *Callum's Road* (Communicado /NTS), *Tam 'O Shanter* (Communicado), *Infinite Scotland* (Blue Sky), *The StKilda Opera* (Gaelic Arts), *Marat Sade* (Theatre Workshop), *The Sundowe* (Cameron Mackintosh/Eden Court). Films/Installations: *Loom – Alchemy Festival* (Tabula Rasa), *Boy and the Bunnet* (Blue Sky), *Ronnie Rubbish* animated film (Portree High School), *Singer Industrial Strike* (Hopscotch Films). Projections: *Belladrum late night zone* at the Temple, *Halloween on Ness Islands* (Highland Council), and *Three Virtues* projections Inverness (IOTA). www.artsinmotion.co.uk

EUAN MARTIN and DAVE SMITH **RIGHT LINES PRODUCTIONS**



Dave Smith and Euan Martin first met up in the percussion section of the ground-breaking Aberdeen electric ceilidh band "The Reel Aliens" in the mid-80s. Today, hundreds of bands play for ceilidh dances every weekend across Scotland, but it was "The Reel Aliens" that pioneered the fusion of rock and ceilidh music with the use of electric instruments and drum and bass

rhythm section. The band led the field in popularising the “new wave” ceilidh, bringing the music and dancing to a much wider and younger audience. After the demise of the band, Dave and Euan pursued other interests and their career paths took very different directions, wending through a variety of occupations: social worker, wagon train operative, circus hand, oil worker, ceilidh consultant and theatre designer.

Many years later, when Dave was searching for a follow-up to his successful Highland Festival commission “**Hard Pressed**” a comedy about the aphrodisiac qualities of Islay cheese, Euan dusted down notes for an interactive comedy ceilidh murder mystery show which had been lying in a drawer for 10 years. Their first writing collaboration, commissioned by the **Highland Festival** resulted in “**The Accidental Death of an Accordionist**” which toured the Highlands & Islands to great acclaim in 2001 and re-toured in 2002. A second interactive comedy, “**The Wedding**”, was equally well-received during a tour in 2002. Both shows played to sell-out audiences during a week-long run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The Highland Festival won the “Visionary Sponsorship” award at the Arts and Business Awards 2002 for its production of “The Accidental Death of an Accordionist” in partnership with Diageo.

As a result of these successful collaborations, Dave and Euan decided to form their own company, Right Lines Productions, as a vehicle for their new work. In 2013, they celebrated 10 years of writing, producing and touring new theatre in Scotland.

RIGHT LINES PROJECTS

Miniatures (2004)

The first commission for Right Lines again came from The Highland Festival. “One for the Road” – a short play on the theme of whisky was commissioned as part of a four piece show **Miniatures** which toured during the Highland Festival, June 2004.

Who Bares Wins (2004)

The first major tour organised by the company was “**Who Bares Wins**” – a two-hander theatre show inspired by the Naked Rambler. A 15-date tour of the Highlands & Islands and North-East took place in December 2004, with funding support from Highlands and Islands Producers Fund. Cast: Ron Emslie, Alyth McCormack. Director Mark Saunders, Stage Manager Brian Gorman.

This show garnered great reviews from audiences everywhere and needless to say, the subject matter generated a lot of interest from the media! The show was featured on TV - BBC Scotland’s Reporting Scotland covered it twice – and radio: Good Morning Scotland, Newsdrive, BBC Radio Scotland, MFR, NECR and Broadcasting House, Radio 4 all featured the show. The P&J ran several stories on the production and it appeared in several other local and national papers – and even made it to Page 3 in The Sun! It also attracted some controversy when two Highland schools felt unable to stage a performance!

Watching Bluebottles (2005)

The next production by the company was “**Watching Bluebottles**” – a one-man theatre show.

This project was funded jointly by the Highlands & Islands Producers Fund, Awards For All, MBSE, NEAT and The Moray Council. The show toured to selected venues in the North-East in Spring 2005 and following this “pilot” project, a much wider tour took place in November 2005. **Watching Bluebottles** is a one-man show based on the life of a village hall- keeper. "Heaters, lights, keys... is that me done now?" The old hall keeper recites his daily mantra as he prepares for one last bash - his own retirement party. After years of service behind the scenes, the hall keeper turns the tables and takes us beyond the mundane chair-stacking and sweeping up to reveal a world of passion, pathos and life-changing experiences.

Illicit (2006)

Illicit is a fast-paced comedy show about hard-nosed ambition, illicit whisky and perfume! Scotching the rumour that business start-up is singularly dull, **Illicit** neatly blurs the boundaries between fantasy and reality with a deluxe blend of interactive comedy, mission statements and technical wizardry – 100% proof that the show will be a barrel of laughs! This one-woman show was commissioned by HIE Moray and toured during the Spirit of Speyside festival in 2006.

Whisky Kisses (2005 – 2010)

Right Lines’ production **Whisky Kisses** progressed to the final of “Eden Court’s Highland Quest for a new Musical” competition which began in 2005. The final in Ullapool took place in July 2006 and our production finished a very close second to the winning show “The Sundowe”. Following several development workshops in 2007 and a student production by RSAMD in 2008, a full production of Whisky Kisses was funded by SAC and toured Scotland in May 2010.

The Big Shop (2007)

We were approached by Symon MacIntyre of Puppet Lab, Edinburgh to write two short shows for a new version of his Big Shop project, held in Inverness in October 2007.

Belladrum Festival (2007)

We were commissioned by Joe Gibbs from Belladrum Festival to write a 2 minute advert for the 2007 festival. “Safe Listening” can be viewed on YouTube!

The Accidental Death of an Accordionist (2008)

Collaboration with Mull Theatre led to a nine week SAC-funded Scottish tour of Accidental Death in summer 2008, including a three week fringe run in Edinburgh.

The Great Tartan Haggis of Tooriebrochan! (2009)

Awards For All assisted the funding of this community project which involved a community cast, two professional actors and three Moray primary schools.

Whisky Kisses (2010)

Major Scottish tour in May 2010. Starring Alyth McCormack, George Drennan, Ron Emslie, Paul Harper-Swan, Nathalie Toyne, Masashi Fujimoto, Trevor Allan Davies and Kinny Gardiner. Director – Ian Grieve, Musical Director Karen MacIver.

Hi-Wireless (2011)

Right Lines Productions curated a new writing project for online radio plays. We commissioned five Highland writers to deliver five 10 minute radio plays. These were recorded and released on line on the Northings website – www.northings.com **Morrison's Van**, our contribution to the project – was released on 1st October 2011 in a four-part mini-serial over consecutive days. Starring Ron Emslie, Helen Mackay, Garry Collins and Morna Young.

HI-Wireless was re-launched in 2012 with support from Creative Scotland and Screen HI. There will 10 writing slots available to new writers and two pieces written by Right Lines.

Blood from a Stone (2011)

We were commissioned to write a 45 minute solo piece for the Play Pieces lunchtime theatre season in Inverness. Blood from a Stone starred Elgin actor Garry Collins.

From These Parts (2012)

An Alien Abduction comedy funded by Northern Scottish Touring Fund, this show toured in the North-East, Moray and the Highlands & Islands in June 2012. Starring Ron Emslie, Helen Mackay, Ewan Donald and Vari Sylvester. Director – Ian Grieve.

Hall Tales (2013)

This cross-generational community project will involve the establishment of film-making workshops in association with six Moray Village halls. The young film-makers will interview and record stories about the local village halls with senior members of the community and present the results in an exhibition/event which will coincided with a performance of Watching Bluebottles, a revival of the 2005 show starring Ron Emslie once again as the Hallkeeper. This project ran from November 2012 – end of March 2013. Funder by Moray Leader and Awards for All.

Be Silent or Be Killed (2013)

Following on from an initial workshop funded by National Theatre of Scotland, we adapted Roger Hunt's book Be Silent or Be Killed, for the stage. This is the extraordinary story of a North-East banker who was trapped in his hotel room, fighting for his life during the Mumbai terror attacks in 2008. The project was funded by Creative Scotland and toured in May 2013. Starring James Mackenzie, Ewan Donald and Helen Mackay. Director – Ian Grieve.

Whisky Kisses (2014)

Whisky Kisses was selected as the flagship production of Pitlochry Festival Theatre's 2014 summer season. The script has now been published by StageScripts and is available to amateur and professional companies.

Workshops

Right Lines Productions also presented a number of workshops in connection with the Masters & Champions programme at Moray Art Centre throughout the summer of 2012. This included Comedy sketch-writing, film-making and Cartoon Theatre-style animation workshops. We have also contributed to the Scottish Drama Training Network programme at Eden Court and Dundee Rep.

We took part in the first Culture Day in Forres in September 2013 and will be involved in the inaugural Findhorn Bay Arts festival in 2014.

Further details on all productions are available on – Facebook – RightLinesPro and Twitter – RightLinesPro. And on the website

www.rightlines.net