

## Appendix A



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Photos and Press Release attached

### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Breaking Ground at 4th Line Theatre

**Millbrook, ON...** 4th Line Theatre is proud to announce the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Breaking Ground featuring a public reading of excerpts from Shirley Barrie's *Queen Marie* based on the life of Marie Dressler, a self described "ugly duckling" from Cobourg Ontario who became one of the greatest and best loved stars of Broadway and Hollywood, winning the Academy Award for Best Actress in 1931. Peterborough Museum and Archives will host this event on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 p.m. Breaking Ground is part of 4th Line Theatre's New Play Development program, designed to support, nurture and encourage the creation of environmentally-staged historical plays. This ongoing process of dramaturgical support, workshops and public readings is vital to 4th Line Theatre's commitment to provide audiences with the highest quality Canadian drama.

"Public readings are an important part of the creation of plays," says Robert Winslow, Artistic Director of 4th Line Theatre. "This forum gives the writer the opportunity to figure out what works. The audience's feedback during the discussion afterward may be the most valuable lesson learned."

Joining Winslow and Barrie in the reading of *Queen Marie* are 4th Line Theatre Artistic Producer Kim Blackwell as director and Maya Ardal as Marie Dressler.

The reading begins at 2 p.m. Admission is free, though seating is limited. Complimentary tickets are available from the Museum's Reception. There is plenty of free parking available and the museum is fully accessible. For more information contact the Museum at 705-743-5180, 4th Line Theatre at 705-932-4448 or visit [www.4thlinetheatre.on.ca](http://www.4thlinetheatre.on.ca). Tickets are also available at the Museum for 4th Line Theatre's 2010 performances of *Eldorado Town – The Port Hope Play* and *The Right Road to Pontypool*.

**Shirley Barrie**, the playwright of 4th Line Theatre's 2007 production of *Beautiful Lady, Tell Me...*, has written and produced plays for young, family and adult audiences. She is the co-founder of the Tricycle Theatre in London, England and Straight Stitching Productions in Toronto. She has received two Chalmers Awards and a Dora Award for her work with Straight Stitching.

**Kim Blackwell**, in her 16<sup>th</sup> year at 4th Line Theatre, has directed *The Right Road to Pontypool*, *Schoolhouse*, *The Art of Silent Killing*, *That Summer*, *Crow Hill*, *The Cavan Blazers*, *Attrition*, and *Gimme That Primetime Religion*. She also directed a sold-out run of *Freedom 85!* in the 2008 Toronto Fringe Festival and at the 2009 New York City Frigid Festival where it received excellent critical attention, the Audience Choice Award and the See It Twice Award.

**Maja Ardal** is an actor, playwright and director and was the Artistic Director of Young People's Theatre (now the Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People). She is the writer and performer of *You Fancy Yourself* which was nominated for three Dora awards and won the award for Outstanding Performance by a Female. Her production of *Whale* at YPT received the 1992 Dora Award for Outstanding Production. Ardal also played Mrs. Clara Potts on "The Road to Avonlea" for seven seasons.

**Robert Winslow** is the Founding Artistic Director of 4th Line Theatre and has written or co-written: *The Cavan Blazers*, *Gimme That Prime Time Religion*, *Cavan Casanova*, *Two Rounds and a Square*, *Fair Play*, *The Bell of Batoche*, *The Orchard*, *Crow Hill: The Telephone Play*, *The Winslows of Derryvore*, *Doctor Barnardo's Children*, *The Last Green Hill* and *Welcome Death*.

4th Line Theatre's 2010 season is generously sponsored by the **Nexicom Group**.

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4th Line Theatre is committed to preserving and promoting our Canadian cultural heritage through the development and presentation of regionally-based, environmentally-staged historical drama.

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