

Subject: Company Review

Date: Friday, November 19, 2004 12:13 AM

From: Toni Hull

To: mspt@goldfishpublishers.com

Mark-

I have decided to respond to your review on the Theater Works production of Company. I am cast member, and I normally do not allow reviews to bother me. However, your review definitely caught my eye.

In all honesty, it sounded like your review took any anger towards Theater Works administration out on the actors and musicians of this production. Many elements of your review made me cringe, but two things down right made me sick. First, Christie McKibben has been accompanying longer than your petty existence on the face of the earth. She was one of the fourteen families who mortgage their house to get Theater Works up and running. She is NOT one of the art-unconscious. Also, if you felt like her and her orchestra interrupted the flow of the show, then talk to Sondheim. Shame on you for saying such awful things about an area, music, you clearly know nothing about. Oh wait silly me, you probably did have that one music class while you were at Westchester.

Secondly, how dare you say, „David Wo must be wondering how his company has come to this?%” Wo must be wondering how someone who once worked for something as incredible as Theater Works came to be so bitter, mean-spirited, and deranged as you are. You are a third rate (and that is being kind) journalist who writes less than mediocre, ten minute plays about murder, sex, or anything that you can hope will make you a buck. Let me quote one of my favorites from *Visitation Time*: „She cut her friends with the image of her slashed wrists.%” I think I heard that on Dawson,s Creek once or the O.C. I am also glad to see that most of your work as made it as „online.%” I am impressed that you are a member of so many prestigious associations as The American Theater Critics Association and The Dramatist,s Guild. It is amazing what paying a

few dues can „due%o for your resume. Wow, and I don,t even have my MFA in Creative WritingΣ. However, you do teach, which I think is a very noble cause. I bet your syllabus contains three vital sections: How Not to Succeed as a Playwright or Reviewer, Staying Bitter after Years of Not Making It, and How Destructive Criticism Works Wonders on the Soul. Lastly, I am glad you left after the first intermission ^ I think the House Manager got a complaint that your ego was suffocating everyone around you.

Sorry, but I say this all out of anger. See, Wo gave me so many things as a young girl that no teacher had ever given before. I always remember that Wo preferred a white page or a blank canvass because of all the possibilities (like staying for the second act). He touched my life deeply, and I know he would be proud that I came back to Theater Works. And if anything, he would be happy that people are still on a stage performing and entertaining there despite everything ^ no matter how good or bad anyone thinks it is. I will not allow you, or anyone to take Wo,s vision and memory away from myself or the many other lives he touched. David would be proud of what the company did out there for free, for the love of their craft.

- Toni

Toni,

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Thank you very much for your response. I appreciate your taking the time to read through my website.

Sincerely,

Mark S.P. Turvin

Goldfish Publishers, LLC