

Dave Porter - Producer
Ph.D. Counter-Terrorism & Online
Counter-Violent Extremism

Previous Experience -

Producing: A Voice Without Words (NNT)

Directing: The Comedy of Errors, All My Sons (NNT)

Acting: The Accrington Pals, King Lear,

Kiss Me Like You Mean It, Titus Andronicus,

A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Laramie Project (NNT)



I first picked up a copy of *W;t* this time last year, and within two pages I was hooked. To be able to not only see but produce it with an even more marvellous set of human beings feels like the realisation of a lifelong dream, and I want to thank everyone who has been a part of making it happen.

To Will Berrington, I can only extend my deep admiration, not only for taking up this play with the same love I found for it, but for your ceaseless dedication and care. You've been the lifeblood of this process from the get-go; I hope I've at least calmed some of your worries over the last few months. Here's to you buddy.

To our techies and stage managers, thank you for putting up with our crazy antics and learning what I can only describe as the weirdest stage organization plan in the history of student theatre. Your professionalism gives us the freedom and support to push this show as far as it could go.

To Roderick Cable, the Queen's Medical Centre Equipment Library, and our medical skills consultants, I extend the most heartfelt thanks for going above and beyond to help out us theatre kiddies. Without your generosity, this process would have been nowhere near as smooth or enjoyable.

Finally, to our cast. I just want to say what an absolute privilege it has been to have such a kind-spirited, fun, and caring group of people come on this journey with us. Not content to simply rest on your obvious talent, you have applied yourself with precision, dedication and craft. I couldn't be more grateful. I wish you all long, happy and enjoyable acting careers at the Nottingham New Theatre and beyond.

We hope you enjoy the show.

Will Berrington - Director
LLM International Criminal Justice & Armed
Conflict Law (4th Year)

Previous Experience -
Directing: Someone Who'll Watch Over Me, Sex Cells (NNT)
Acting: Yours and Mine, The Glass Menagerie,
Infirmity, Punk Rock, The Final Act,
A Servant To Two Masters, The Rehearsal, Habeas Corpus



W;t is not a play about cancer. W;t is a play about somebody who happens to have cancer, and that person's relationship with that which we shall all inevitably face - our own death. This play is not sentimental, nor does it extort sadness out of you. It is, instead, about 'the insuperable barrier between life and death,' and what it really means to come to terms with our own passing.

Firstly, to all my cast, you have been an absolute pleasure to work with, and have consistently provided me with your best. Each of you has given this production your all, and I know that it's going to pay off. I must single out a couple of you however. Izzie, who came into this production with only a fortnight to opening, has grabbed the part by the reigns from exactly one hour after finding out she'd been cast. Also, Lois. I have put more on your plate than any first-time NNTer. But from the moment you walked into our audition room, you have been *my* Vivian Bearing. The passion with which you have tackled one of the most difficult roles I've ever seen is beyond that I could ever have expected of anyone. Production teams dream of finding an actor like yourself – for Dave and me, that dream became reality. Thank you so much, and thank you again to all of our cast.

To Roderick, without your generosity, our props would have never been to this quality. To Nathan, my now three-time master of tech, who has constantly inspired me to keep my own wit on point, and my lighting designs complex. To Lisa, who made me pointing at Lois and saying "can you make her hair disappear" into reality. To Laura, who has been a wonderful source of fresh insight, an amazing second pair of eyes, and will make a phenomenal director one day.

And finally, to Dave. From that moment over the Summer, when we stood outside LASS and you introduced me to W;t, I've never wanted anyone else by my side, and I hope I've done you proud with what we've managed here. If it wasn't for you, I think I'd still be too much of a coward to propose something quite as daunting as this. Together though, it turns out, we can manage just about anything.