

## DIRECTORS NOTES

Ten years ago we were invited to come and read a half finished script. Not many people turned up but we enjoyed a strangely different evening. We left hoping local teacher and author, Morgan Sweeney would complete the job and we would have some new and interesting material to work with. Spurred on by our excitement in the piece, Morgan completed the play and entered it into The National Little Theatre Guild [L.T.G] authors competition.

Months later my husband Mike and I were attending the L.T.G Conference where the results of the competition were declared. BODYBAG absolutely trounced the opposition and won. Mike and I felt so proud; not only knowing Morgan as a good friend but feeling that we might even have contributed in some small way on that evening all those months before which culminated in him finishing this modern day masterpiece.

The premiere production was played in our own studio theatre upstairs before many members and friends over three nights, to great acclaim.

Morgan then bit the bullet and took the play to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival which was without doubt one of the best times of my life. In fact it turned out to be quite a family affair with Mike playing the passionate Welshman, our son Richard produced and operated an incredible range of sound effects, our daughter Helen was prompt and in my opinion, I played one of the best roles ever written for a woman. On top of this I was given the opportunity to engage in some street theatre [albeit to play a corpse in the pouring rain] as part of the pre-advertising campaign. Richard Longstaff and Ben Brinicombe regularly ran the entire length of the Royal Mile handing out fliers. It was a great holiday with a purpose and a result.

Ten years on I still find it interesting and exciting as the piece evolves. Subtle changes emerge with new faces in the cast joining forces with some of the old. Ben Brinicombe and Richard Longstaff expertly revive their original characters whilst the author just wants to see the play for the first time. As for me...well, I would like to say my role is less energetic but what I really hope is that Morgan likes what he sees and that my interpretation inspires him to write some more.

*Gwyneth Savage*



## The Cast

RAVEN – Rear – echelon controller at operational HQ.....*Richard Longstaff*  
MAJOR – Field officer commanding the Bodybag mission.....*Mike Hoggarth*  
SERGEANT – An NCO and veteran of Black Ops.....*Ben Brinicombe*  
ELVER – An experienced private soldier and sniper.....*Ben Durkan*  
BASS – An experienced private soldier and Assassin.....*Andrew Davies*  
DR. SLOPEK – A dissident female genetic engineer.....*Nicola Woodier*  
GUNTHER – Slopek's aide .....*Nico Adowlerio*

## PRODUCTION

Director .....*Gwyneth Savage*  
Prompt .....*Gillian Scholey*  
Wardrobe .....*Jenni Rushton*  
Photographs .....*Gordon Rushton*

The set was designed and built by members of the stage crew.

