TCG BOOKS PUBLISHES DEFIANCE, JOHN PATRICK’S FOLLOW-UP TO HIS PULTIZER PRIZE-WINNING DOUBT

“As thoughtful and probing as its predecessor. Defiance is filled with the provocative questions and bristling dialogue for which Mr. Shanley is known…as it wonders about its big knotty subjects.” —Ben Brantley, New York Times

“Shanley offers his second tightly woven parallel—less flashy, but maybe longer lasting, than his first. Defiance is a very rich and satisfying piece.” —Michael Feingold, Village Voice

“Defiance offers further confirmation—if any is needed—that Shanley is an important playwright. He’s a craftsman who can sneak moral lessons into his work even as he sets off dramaturgical firecrackers.” —David Finkle, Theatermania.com

NEW YORK, January 2008—Theatre Communications Group (TCG) is pleased to announce the publication of Defiance, the second work in John Patrick Shanley’s trilogy that began with Doubt. The play is set in 1971 at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where Lt. Col. Morgan Littlefield and his reluctant protégé Capt. Lee King, a young African American officer, clash over issues of race and authority within the Marine Corps, even as the Civil Rights movement and Vietnam War divide the world outside. In this high-stakes struggle at the top of the ranks, witnessed by the base’s inquisitive Chaplain White and Littlefield’s irreproachable wife Margaret, Shanley has crafted another timely play exploring issues of power and morality within a hallowed institution.

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“I have said that I feel doubt is an important and valuable exercise, a hallmark of wisdom. My attitude towards defiance is different,” said Shanley before Defiance’s premiere at Manhattan Theatre Club in 2006. “Defiance is a necessary step in the life of an individual and in the life of a nation. But it is an intermediate step. A man or woman who remains indefinitely in a posture of defiance lives a perpetual adolescence. A population that’s reflexively cynical of all authority has yet to mature. That’s why there’s going to be a third play.”

John Patrick Shanley’s plays include Doubt: A Parable (winner of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for Best Play), Danny and the Deep Blue Sea, Four Dogs and a Bone, Dirty Story and Psychopathia Sexualis, among others. His work for TV and film includes the teleplay Live from Baghdad and the screenplay for Moonstruck, for which he won an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay. He is currently in production for the movie Doubt, which wrote and directed.

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Theatre Communications Group is the national organization for the American theatre, encompassing a membership of 17,000 individuals as well as more than 460 theatre companies located throughout the United States, which present performances to an annual attendance of more than 17 million. Founded in 1961, TCG provides a variety of artistic, administrative and informational services to theatres and independent theatre artists, and acts as a forum for the profession and a resource for the media, funding agencies and the public. TCG is the publisher of American Theatre magazine, ARTSEARCH, and a line of performing arts books. Please visit our website and online bookstore at www.tcg.org.

Defiance
by John Patrick Shanley
Paperback 80pp
$13.95
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Also available from TCG:
Doubt
by John Patrick Shanley
Paperback 72pp
$12.95
978-1-55936-276-4

Dirty Story and Other Plays
by John Patrick Shanley
Paperback 256pp
$16.95
978-1-55936-282-5
Also contains: Where’s My Money and Sailor’s Song

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