



## About the author

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Alan Filewod is Professor of Theatre Studies at the University of Guelph and a recognized authority on Canada's theatre history. He has been involved in political theatre for over thirty years. His books include *Collective Encounters: Documentary Theatre in English Canada* (1987), *Performing "Canada": The Nation Enacted in the Imagined Theatre* (2002), and, with David Watt, *Workers' Playtime: Theatre and the Labour Movement since 1970* (2001), and numerous articles and book chapters on social action theatre. He is a past president of the Association for Canadian Theatre Research and of the Association for Canadian and Quebec Literatures/ Association des littératures canadienne et québécoise, and is a former editor of *Canadian Theatre Review*.

## Praise for the book

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"A remarkable book. *Committing Theatre* challenges traditional paradigms and should be required reading in any study of Canadian theatre."

—Jerry Wasserman, professor of English and Theatre, University of British Columbia

"Reading this is like watching a clockmaker dismantle the mechanism of Canadian theatre to show what makes it tick. I kept saying to myself "Aha! So that's why our country's theatre looks like it does." *Committing Theatre* is a refreshingly clear-eyed work that moves the fence posts in the field of Canadian theatre analysis, and widens our field of vision."

—Chris Brookes, author, documentary-maker, former artistic director of the Mummies Troupe Theatre of Newfoundland, and Order of Canada recipient

"*Committing Theatre* is an unprecedented study of radical theatre and performative political activism in Canada since the nineteenth century. Filewod's lucid, brisk writing style makes this book a compelling read, validating and instigating much needed theatrical political intervention."

—Aida Jordão, popular theatre artist and scholar

"This sophisticated yet accessible treatment combines personal reflection with scholarly rigour, and covers an impressive array of performance events, styles and venues. More histories of theatre should do this."

—Stephen Johnson, director, Graduate Centre for Study of Drama, University of Toronto