



2011 - 15

PLANET CORWIN

October 27, 2011

"The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones that do."  
~ Steve Jobs, R.I.P.

THROUGHOUT THE 'PLANET,' CLICKING **BOLD, DARK RED TYPE** OPENS A RELATED INTERNET LINK.

**COMING UP FOR AIR**

**M**elinda and I are just emerging from months of rehearsals and the thrill of a string of opening nights for the **Antaeus Company** revival of **Noel Coward's *Peace in Our Time*** over the past weekend. And for those who wish to catch us in our '**STUBS SPECIAL**' cast, I include a list of our appearances (box at right). There are not a lot of them, due to previously mentioned **Firesign Theatre** performances in Kirkland and Portland, but hopefully favorable reviews will afford us the opportunity to add additional shows and even extend the run. So support us now!

"In *Peace in Our Time*," writes *L.A. Times* Critic **Charles McNulty**, "stunningly revived by the Antaeus Company at Deaf West Theatre, **Noel Coward** imagines what would have happened if Britain had fallen to the Germans early on during the Second World War... The absorbing fictional world that it creates is like a majestic sepia-tinged photograph sprung to life. Every aspect of the staging, from **Tom Buderwitz's** London pub set to **Jeremy Pivnick's** shadowy lighting to **Jessica Olson's** convincing period costumes, ushers us back in time to a moment not so long ago when civilization was hanging by a thread.

"Hats off to [**Barry**] **Creyton's** audience-friendly streamlining of Coward, [**Casey**] **Stangl's** majestic staging and a flawless acting company embodying Antaeus' classical values."

**FULL REVIEW**

"You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something in your life."  
~ **Winston Churchill**



*Our Performances*

- Friday, Oct. 28, 8
- Saturday, Oct. 29, 8
- Sunday, Oct. 30, 7:30\*
- Friday, Nov. 4, 8
- Sunday, Nov. 6, 2:30
- Thursday, Nov 10, 8\*\*
- Friday, Nov. 11, 8\*\*\*
- Saturday, Nov. 12, 8
- Sunday, Nov. 13, 7:30\*
- Sunday, Nov. 20, 7:30\*
- Friday, Nov. 25, 8\*\*
- Saturday, Nov. 26, 8
- Sunday, Nov. 27, 7:30\*
- Thursday, Dec. 1, 8\*\*
- Friday, Dec 2, 8\*\*\*
- Sunday, Dec. 4, 2:30
- Friday, Dec. 9, 8\*\*
- Saturday, Dec. 10, 8\*\*
- Sunday, Dec. 11\*

*If extended*

- Friday, Dec. 16, 8
- Sunday, Dec. 18, 2:30
- . . . with additional extensions possible

\*possible / \*\* no Proctor / \*\*\* no Peterson

## OCCUPY YOURSELF

**Dear Investor:** Up until now, **Goldman Sachs** has been silent on the subject of the protest movement known as **Occupy Wall Street**. That does not mean, however, that it has not been very much on our minds. As thousands have gathered in Lower Manhattan, passionately expressing their deep discontent with the status quo, we have taken note of these protests. And we have asked ourselves this question: *How can we make money off them?*

The answer is the newly launched **Goldman Sachs Global Rage Fund**, whose investment objective is to monetize the Occupy Wall Street protests as they spread around the world. At Goldman, we recognize that the capitalist system as we know it is circling the drain – but there's plenty of money to be made on the way down.

The Rage Fund will seek out opportunities to invest in products that are poised to benefit from the spreading protests, from police batons and barricades to stun guns and forehead bandages. Furthermore, as clashes between police and protesters turn ever more violent, we are making significant bets on companies that manufacture replacements for broken windows and overturned cars, as well as the raw materials necessary for the construction and incineration of effigies.

It would be tempting, at a time like this, to say "Let them eat cake." But at Goldman, we are actively seeking to corner the market in cake futures. We project that through our aggressive market manipulation, the price of a piece of cake will quadruple by the end of 2011.

Please contact your Goldman representative for a full prospectus... We haven't felt so good about something we sold since our souls.

Sincerely,

**Lloyd Blankfein**, chairman

-- and **Andy Borowitz**, rug puller

**MORE**

"Find your spot. Occupy it.

Even if it is only in your own mind."

~ **Diane McEachern**, Occupy Bethel, Alaska

## NORMAN, WAS THAT YOU?

Our dear friend, **Norman Corwin**, the "poet of the airwaves," has died at his home in Los Angeles, at the ripe old age of 101, according to his wonderful caregiver,

**Chris Borjas**. Norman, who began his career in Boston as a newsman, experimented in "all forms of writing – whimsy, fantasy, historical drama, poetic narrative, propaganda, satire, science essay, burlesque, parody," wrote biographer

**R. LeRoy Bannerman** in *On a Note of Triumph: Norman Corwin and the Golden Years of Radio*.



**ON THE AIR.** Norman Corwin in his element . . . a radio mic, a script, and the audience beyond.

"There's not an actor who will not drop what he is doing to be in one of Norman Corwin's radio shows. We all look up to him as a writer of the greatest importance" said actor **Charles Laughton**. And Melinda and I agree wholeheartedly, having been privileged over the past three decades to perform in many of Norman's brilliant audio plays and to be directed by him as well.

In the *L.A. Times* obit, it is noted "Corwin, who outlived most of his colleagues and contemporaries, had longevity in his genes. His British immigrant father, **Sam**, a printer and inveterate reader whose love of the printed word inspired his son, died in 1987 — at 110."

**FULL STORY**

■ **CONTINUED**

A large crowd of people at a protest. In the foreground, a large effigy of Lloyd Blankfein is being held up. The effigy is a large, realistic-looking head of a man with a shaved head and a goatee, mounted on a wooden stick. The man's mouth is open as if shouting. The background is filled with a dense crowd of people, some holding signs. One sign in the background says "TAX THE RICH".

**THE PERFECT HOIST.** Lloyd Blankfein's latest market venture will carry pickets and pitards with the Goldman Sachs brand.

"Intelligence recognizes what has happened. Genius recognizes what will happen."~ **John Ciardi**

## WE NEED MORE JOBS

"No one wants to die. Even people who want to go to heaven don't want to die to get there. And yet death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it. And that is as it should be, because Death is very likely the single best invention of Life. It is Life's change agent. It clears out the old to make way for the new. Right now the new is you, but someday not too long from now, you will gradually become the old and be cleared away. Sorry to be so dramatic, but it is quite true." So spoke **Steve Jobs** in his 2005 Stanford Commencement Address.

"Your time is limited so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma — which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice and most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary."

And Planeteer **Richard Laible** adds: "Ten years ago, we had Steve Jobs, **Bob Hope** and **Johnny Cash**. Now, we have No Jobs, No Hope, No Cash..."

■ **CONTINUED**

## THIS IS HEAVY

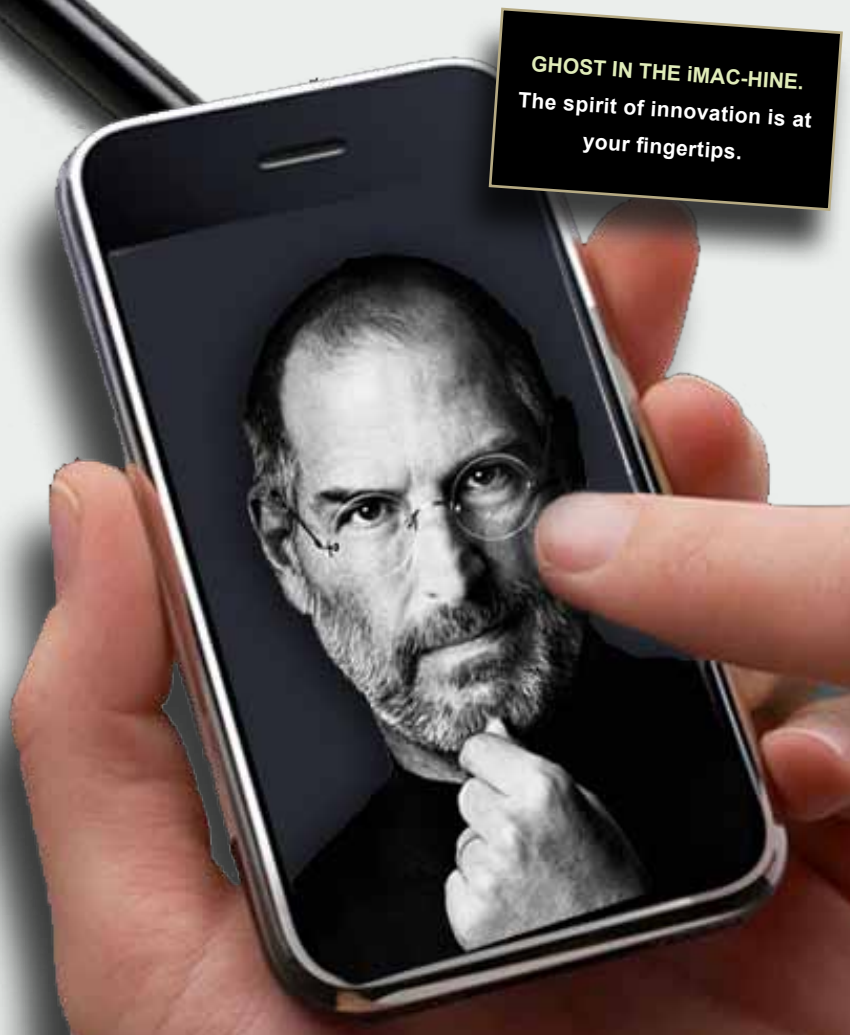
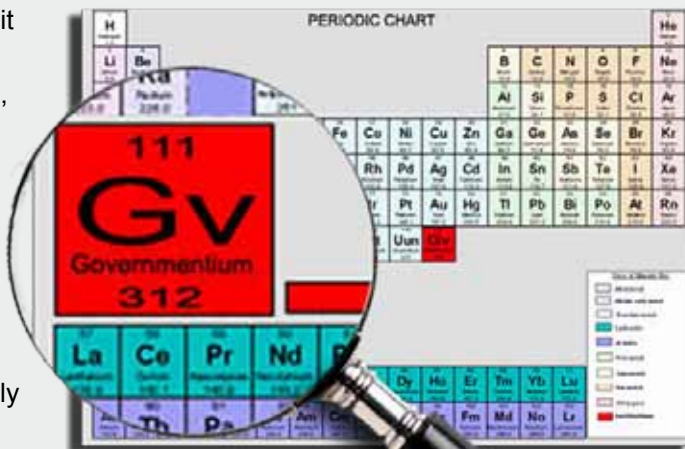
**Oxford University** researchers have discovered the heaviest element yet known to science. The new element, **Governmentium** (symbol=Gv), has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons.

Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A tiny amount can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second, to take from 4 days to 4 years to complete. Governmentium has a normal half-life of 2 to 6 years. It does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places. In fact, its mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes. This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as a critical morass.

When catalyzed with money, Governmentium becomes **Administratium** (symbol=Ad), an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium, since it has twice as many morons.

"It is well enough that people of the nation do not understand our banking and monetary system, for if they did, I believe there would be a revolution before tomorrow morning."

~ **Henry Ford**



"What this country needs is more unemployed politicians." ~ **Edward Langley**

## IN THE iNEWS

■ **Westboro Baptist Church** announced plans to protest Steve Jobs's funeral. "He had a huge platform; gave God no glory & taught sin," **Margie Phelps**, daughter of the church's founder actually tweeted in her iPhone [sic]. The Topeka-based church's members believe that God punishes America for its tolerance of sin, like accepting homosexuality.

■ Police identified a cell phone snatcher who stole a new iPhone 4S when the thief's mug got snapped by an app called **iGotcha**, which triggered as he attempted to unlock the phone and was then emailed to the victim, who passed it on to police.

■ And finally: 7H15 M3554G3 53RV35 7O PR0V3 H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5! 1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5! 1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG 17 WA5 H4RD BU7 NOW, ON 7H15 LIN3 Y0UR M1ND 1S R34D1NG 17 4U70M471C4LLY W17H 0U7 3V3N 7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17, B3 PROUD! ONLY C3R741N P30PL3 C4N R3AD 7H15.

"I became insane, with long intervals of horrible sanity."  
~ **Edgar Allan Poe**

## WHAT'S IN A NAME

The policeman in Monopoly is named **Edgar Mallory**, the rich guy with the top hat is named **Milburn Pennybags** and the guy in jail is **Jake the Jailbird**. The patient in the game Operation is

**Cavity Sam**. In the Clue game, you are in the mansion of **Mr. Boddy**.

On "Entourage," "Turtle's" real name is **Salvatore Assante**. "Shaggy," the beatnik character in "Scooby-Doo," is actually **Norville Rogers**. On "The Honeymooners," **Trixie Norton's** real name is **Thelma Macguyver's** first name was **Angus**. "**Hoss**" **Cartwright** of "Bonanza" is actually named **Eric**, named after an uncle. "**Granny**" of "The Beverly Hillbillies" is **Daisy Moses** while "Seinfeld's" soup Nazi is **Yev Kassem**. Everyone knows that **Darth Vader's** real name is **Anakin Skywalker** but few know that his brother's name is **Herb Maynard G. Krebs** middle initial stands for "**Walter**" because, as **Dobie Gillis** explained, "My mother didn't spell too well."

**Winnie the Pooh's** real name is **Edward Bear**. In "Curious George," the man in the yellow hat's real name is **Ted Shackleford**, and in "Peanuts," **Peppermint Patty** is **Patricia Reichardt's** nickname. **Tarzan** is **John Clayton**, Lord of Greystoke, and the Wicked Witch of the West in *The Wizard of Oz*, is named **Elphaba**. "Barbie" is actually **Barbie Millicent Roberts**, and her boyfriend is **Ken Carson**. The Michelin man is named **Bibendum**, **Mr. Goodwrench's** first name is **Phil**, and "Mr. Clean" got his surname from a 1962 "Give Mr. Clean a First Name" contest. The winner? **Veritably**.

"Peter Fonda" is a Boom Operator on HBO's "Boardwalk Empire" ~ **Phil's Phunny Phacts**

## FAIRLY UNBALANCED

As noted by my childhood friend from Goshen, Indiana, Planeteer **Robert Riddle**, the late-night

■ **CONTINUED**





comics have begun to target Obama, and here's a silly sampling:

"A man jumped the White House fence," said **Conan O'Brien**. "But after a brief chase, the Secret Service was able to talk President Obama into coming back and finishing his term."



And **David Letterman** quipped, "The Republicans are so happy about [the death of] **Bin Laden**, they've granted President Obama full citizenship."



And our fave, **Craig Ferguson** observed: "I think the next election just got a lot easier for President Obama

'cause his response to every question during the debates will be: 'Wait, I forget...Did you kill Osama Bin Laden - or did I kill Osama Bin Laden? Oh no, it was me, wasn't it?'

"Leftish stations are going, 'President Obama saves the world!' Stations on the right are going, 'Obama kills fellow Muslim.'"

"Orville and Wilbur were Wright wing extremists."  
~ **Wynne McLaughlin**

"I'm Irish, and my people believe that if you eat a ham in the shape of your rival's head, you gain all their knowledge." ~ **Stephen Colbert**

# PLANET CLICK

## COMING DISTRACTIONS

**Saturday, November 5** will see Melinda and me in re-creations at the **SPERDVAC** ("Society to Preserve and Encourage Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy") luncheon for Honorary Veterans of Old-Time Radio at **Beverly Garland's** Holiday Inn in North Hollywood. I'm playing **Desi** and **Walter Winchell** in *I Love Lucy: The Untold Story* by **Gregg Oppenheimer** plus a role in *Sorry, Wrong Number*, and **Michael Kacey** will be directing us and my old friend **Michael C. Gwynne** in various fun roles in the comedy *My Client Curley* which will be co-directed by the author – the late, great Norman Corwin – from somewhere way offstage... Melinda will be playing a wide variety of roles, including **Eleanor Roosevelt!**

"I find the way the financial system is functioning deeply unethical. We shouldn't bail out the banks. We should bail out the people."  
~ **Herbert Haber!**, *Occupy Berlin*

## GIVEN

Thanks to **Richard Fish, Allison Barenburg, Scott W. Langill, Jayne Stahl, Brian Westley, Joey Green, Richard Laible, Bill Coombs, Victor Kopcewich, H. Lee Kagan, Nick Oliva, Joan Allemand, Jim Terr, David Ossman, John Strachan, Kenneth T. Wilhite, Jr., Eddie Deezen, James Brice, Chris Mayka, Greg Benson, and Taylor Jessen**. And a happy belated birthday to **Oscar Wilde** (Oct. 16, 1854).

"I think that God in creating man somewhat overestimated His ability."  
~ **Oscar Wilde**

## TAKEN

- iLONELY
- iPLANET
- iWACKY
- iCATS 2
- iBALLS
- iBALLS ON WHEELS
- iHELLO
- iL&H
- iSTRIP
- iFACE IT
- iUP
- iKID BOMB
- iFRANTIC DAD
- iOPTIMUS
- iAPPALLIN'
- iTHOM
- iDUBBLES
- iCOUNTDOWN
- iFLYHIGH
- iVSAUCE
- iBOOKS
- 99
- iSHRED
- iWUERKER

CLICK THE WORD TO GO TO THE SITE

"The world is indeed comic, but the joke is on mankind." ~ **H. P. Lovecraft**

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**FST:** <http://www.FiresignTheatre.com>

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