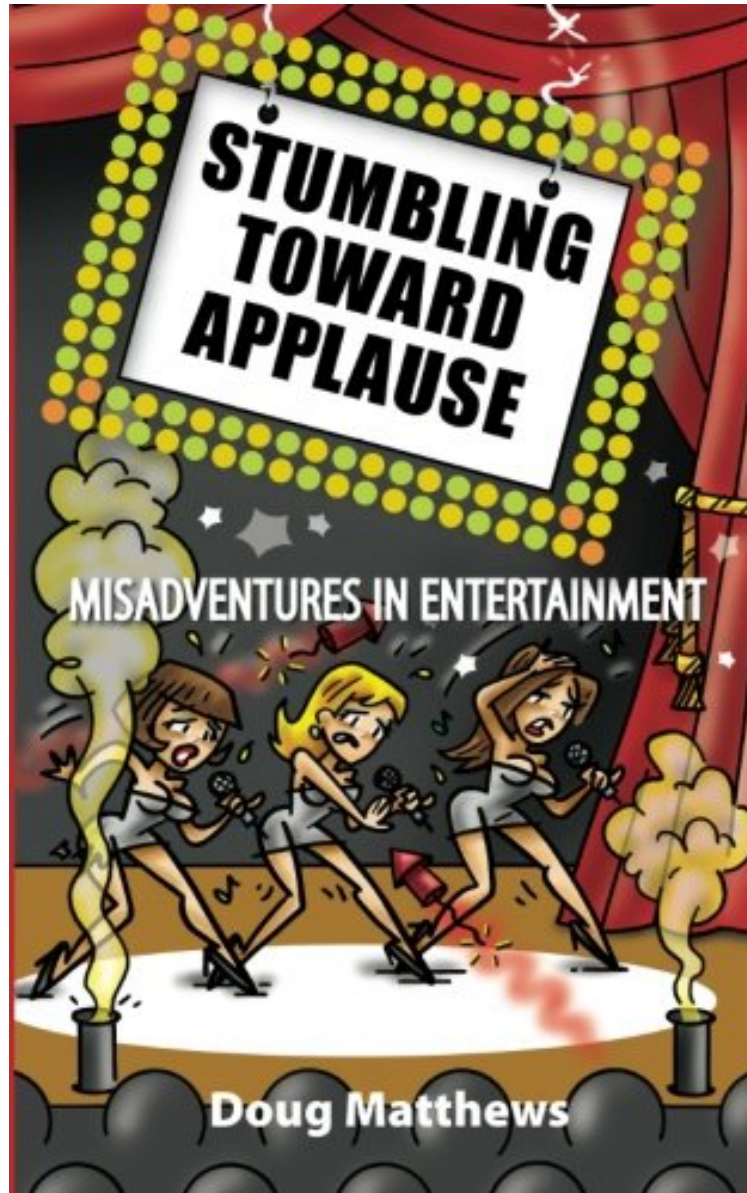


(Get free) Stumbling Toward Applause: Misadventures in Entertainment

Stumbling Toward Applause: Misadventures in Entertainment

Doug Matthews

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Doug Matthews : Stumbling Toward Applause: Misadventures in Entertainment before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stumbling Toward Applause: Misadventures in Entertainment:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny and Poignant Look Inside the Entertainment BusinessBy Debra Purdy KongHow did a senior officer in the Canadian Air Force eventually become a special events organizer?

Well, it began with passion and respect for the entertainment business. *Stumbling Toward Applause* is not a memoir, but a series of reflections that offers many life lessons. Some of the pieces are a collection of anecdotes under a chapter heading while longer stories are complete chapters in themselves. There are hilarious incidents about working with animals and heartbreaking stories dealing with tragedy. Although author Doug Matthews' business was based in Vancouver, several events took place out of town. There are vivid descriptions of family life in a trailer one particularly hot, fly and mosquito-infested summer in Barkerville, BC. There's also a riveting account of an unsettling tour the performers took while in Cambodia to perform for the Canadian troops. The book is not only entertaining and insightful, but well written. It will make you wish you were either in the business or had at least seen some of the shows. I wish there were even more reflections, but you know what they say in the biz . . . always leave them wanting more. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. FUN AND EYEOPENING! By Julie H. Ferguson The author, Doug Matthews, has opened the backdrop on special events production with this collection of stories about his twenty years in the business. It races along with action, dangers, and emotional essays, all of which include a sub-text of lessons learned. He writes with spare humour and honesty about celebrities and unknown performers, as well as his own moments of success and embarrassment. *Stumbling Towards Applause* has an easy-to read style that allows the book to be devoured in one evening. I highly recommend this book for all those who love to go backstage, while disclosing that I am a member of Matthew's writing community.

Unusual brushes with celebrities like Michael Buble and Diana Krall, jungle animals on the loose, bar fights, pyrotechnics gone awry, technical glitches at award ceremonies, and a sweltering outdoor show for UN troops in war-torn Cambodia - these are a sampling of the stories that await within *Stumbling Toward Applause*. This inspiring book is the first to reveal real-life, backstage experiences within the relatively young industry of special events. With the consequences of human frailty and conversely human determination as the theme, it takes readers from hilarious live, onstage mishaps to the poignancy of an actor's untimely death. Under the surface lurk nuggets of wisdom and lessons about life, business, and relationships.

About the Author After twenty-two years in the Canadian Armed Forces serving as an aeronautical engineer, Doug Matthews began his second career in the entertainment industry when he joined Pacific Show Productions, located in Vancouver, Canada, in 1985. This company produced special events and entertainment in Canada and overseas for many diverse clients. For example, these included: original musical theater productions in Barkerville, BC; the millennium First Night celebrations in Vancouver, BC; the annual Leo Awards for BC film and television; and four entertainment show tours for the Canadian Armed Forces to the Arctic, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cambodia, Egypt, and Israel. Pacific Show Productions was regularly nominated for special event awards both in Canada and the United States and won several under Matthews's leadership. The company was sold in 2004.