

# Charles Wood

## Writer

'Prisoner and Escort' was Charles's first play based on a duty that occasionally came his way in the army (he had been a regular soldier). Charles wrote it for television. It was first done as a radio play on the Third Programme, then as a stage play as part of a triple bill of his plays at the Arts Theatre under the title 'Cockade' ('Prisoner and Escort', 'John Thomas', 'Spare') all directed by Patrick Dromgoole and put on by Michael Codron (Evening Standard Award, 1963). - Eventually, 'Prisoner and Escort' reached the medium for which it was first written, when it won a prize for the director, one Phillip Saville. 'Dingo' was Charles's first full-length play for the theatre. It was called 'I Don't Hold With Heroes' until the National Theatre (at the Old Vic) decided they wanted to do it and Ken Tynan suggested the title change. In the end he and Olivier gave up trying to get a license for it (regarded as "subversive" by the Lord Chamberlain). At last 'Dingo' gets on at Bristol and the Royal Court (turned into a club to avoid the Lord Chamberlain). His play 'Veterans' won an Evening Standard Award in 1972. In Charles's words: "My only real success in the theatre, due to John Gielgud." 'The Knack' was Charles's first screenplay, based on Anne Jellicoe's play. He was asked to do it by Woodfall, in the shape of Oscar Lewenstein. He had seen 'Cockade', as had Lindsay Anderson who was the putative director. In the end it was directed by Richard Lester and won the Grand Prix at Cannes. He wrote and rewrote a lot of films for Richard. Among those, which didn't reach the screen, were 'Flashman and Petulia' (not in his version). His Future Projects involve a stage play about Gallipoli, project with Chris Kelly who is looking into the possibility of a television play about Elgar based on a book about his last years and a young Jewish violinist said to be his last "muse", project with Tony Palmer who is hoping to get together a film about Maria Callas and a project with Estelle Daniels who is thinking about something to do with 'Hogarth' (Charles's unproduced screenplay 'Rakewell').

## STAGE PLAYS

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
1995	THE TOWER	Almeida	Version of the Dumas play Dir. Howard Davies Publ. Oberon
1993	THE MOUNTAIN GIANTS	NT	Version of the unfinished Pirandello play with a new last act Dir. Bill Gaskill Publ. Absolute Press
1989	MAN BEAST AND VIRTUE	National Theatre	Version of the Pirandello play Dir. Bill Gaskill Publ. Absolute Press
1986	ACROSS FROM THE GARDEN OF ALLAH	Comedy	Dir. Ron Daniels Prod. Duncan Weldon Starring Glenda Jackson and Nigel Hawthorne 100 performances Publ. Oberon

1984	RED STAR	Barbican RSC	Dir. John Caird
1978	HAS WASHINGTON LEGS?	National Theatre	Dir. Geoffrey Reeves
1975	JINGO	Aldwych RSC	Dir. Richard Eyre Publ. Methuen and Oberon
1971	VETERANS	Lyceum, Edinburgh / Royal Court	Dir. Ronald Eyre Prods. Michael Codron and Oscar Lewenstein Starring John Gielgud Publ. Methuen and Oberon Evening Standard Award 1972
1969	H	National Theatre Old Vic	A tale of the Indian Mutiny, about one of the generals in Trafalgar Square Dir. Geoffrey Reeves Publ. Methuen and Oberon
1968	DINGO	Bristol / Royal Court	Full-length play Dir. Geoffrey Reeves Publ. Penguin, Methuen and Oberon
1966	DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH	Aldwych RSC	One act play Dirs. Trevor Nunn and Peter Hall
1965	MEALS ON WHEELS	Royal Court	Play Dir. John Osborne
	FILL THE STAGE WITH HAPPY HOURS	Nottingham / Royal Court / Vaudeville	Full-length play Dir. Bill Gaskill Prod. Michael Codron Publ. Penguin and Oberon
1962	DINGO		Full-length play
1960	PRISONER AND ESCORT		Charles's first play Publ. Penguin

## TELEVISION

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
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2000	MONSIGNOR RENARD "SUMMER 1940"	ITV	Dir. Malcolm Mowbury (Ep. 3) Prod. Chris Kelly
1998	KAVANAGH QC	Carlton	"BRIEFS TROOPING GAILY" Dirs. Jack Gold and Peter Smith Prod. Chris Kelly
1997	KAVANAGH QC	Carlton	"MUTE OF MALICE" Dirs. Jack Gold and Peter Smith Prod. Chris Kelly
1997	SHARPE'S WATERLOO	Carlton	Dir. Tom Clegg Prod. Malcolm Craddock
1996-97	SHARPE'S REGIMENT	Carlton	Dir. Tom Clegg Prod. Malcolm Craddock
1995	ENGLAND, MY ENGLAND	Ladbroke Films, Channel 4	Television play from a version by John Osborne Dir. Tony Palmer
1994	SHARPE'S COMPANY	Carlton	Dir. Tom Clegg Prod. Malcolm Craddock
1994	A BREED OF HEROES	BBC	'Screen One' Television play from the book by Alan Judd Dir. Diurmid Lawrence Prod. Andree Molyneux
1988	TUMBLEDOWN	BBC	Single Film Dir. Richard Eyre Prod. Richard Broke BAFTA Best Single Play RTS Best Single Play Prix Italia
1988	INSPECTOR MORSE	Carlton	Dir. Peter Hammond Prod. Kenny McBain
1987	MY FAMILY AND OTHER ANIMALS	BBC	Prod. Joe Waters
1984	PUCCINI	Channel 4	Single Film
1983	WAGNER	London Trust	Dir. Tony Palmer

1983	RED MONARCH	Goldcrest	Single Film
1977-79	DON'T FORGET TO WRITE	BBC	Dirs. David Askey, John Bruce and Alan Dossor Prod. Joe Waters
1997	LOVE LIES BLEEDING	YTV	ITV Playhouse Dir. David Cunliffe Prod. Peter Willes
1974	DEATH OR GLORY BOY	YTV	Dir. Marc Miller Prod. Peter Willes
1972	A BIT OF VISION	YTV	'ITV Sunday Night Theatre' Dir. Marc Miller Prod. Peter Willes
1971	A BIT OF FAMILY FEELING	YTV	'The Ten Commandments' Dir. Marc Miller Prod. Peter Willes
	A BIT OF AN ADVENTURE	YTV	Television play Dir. Marc Miller Prod. Peter Willes
1967	DRUMS ALONG THE AVON	BBC	'The Wednesday Play' Dir. James McTaggart
1964	DRILL PIG	ITV	ITV Play of the Week Dir. John Hale
1964	PRISONER AND ESCORT	ABC	'Armchair Theatre' Dir. Phillip Saville
1962	NOT AT ALL	BBC West Region	Single Film Dir. Patrick Dromgoole
1961	TRAITOR IN A STEEL HELMET	BBC West Region	Single Film Dir. Patrick Dromgoole

## FEATURE FILM

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
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2008	THE OTHER MAN	Rainmark Films	Co-written with the director Richard Eyre Starring Liam Neeson and Antonio Banderas
2001	IRIS	BBC Films	Co-written with the director Richard Eyre Prods. Robert Fox and Scott Rudin
1995	AN AWFULLY BIG ADVENTURE	BBC Films	From the book by Beryl Bainbridge Dir. Mike Newell Prod. Hilary Heath
1979	CUBA	Holmby Pictures	Dir. Richard Lester
1969	THE BED SITTING ROOM	United Artists	From the screenplay and play by Spike Milligan and John Antrobus Dir. Richard Lester
1968	THE LONG DAY'S DYING	Junction Films / Paramount	From a book by Alan White Dir. Peter Collinson
1968	THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE	Woodfall	From a version by John Osborne Dir. Tony Richardson
1967	HOW I WON THE WAR	Petersham Pictures	Loosely based on the book by Patrick Ryan Dir. Richard Lester
1966	HELP!	Walter Shenson	Co-written with Marc Behm Dir. Richard Lester
1965	THE KNACK	Woodfall	Dir. Richard Lester The Grand Prix at Cannes Winner