

Abstract Submitted
for the APR18 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

A Staged Reading of the Play: FLIGHT BRIAN SCHWARTZ, CUNY, SMITHA VISHVESHVARA, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign — In the play Flight, the playwright doesn't claim it happened exactly this way; he has just taken five real life characters and some basic biographical facts and supposed what it was like for the airplane pioneers Orville and Wilbur growing up in the dysfunctional Wright family. Flight takes place in Dayton, Ohio, and at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in the early 1900s. It is not a documentary. The play explores the lives of the Wright family in warm and comic theatrical terms. The playwright, Arthur Giron, is the co-playwright of the recent 2015 Broadway Musical, Amazing Grace. He has written fifteen plays. Among them, Emilies Voltaire, winner of the Galileo Prize and the play Moving Bodies about the life of Richard Feynman. Arthurs play Flight toured 120 US cities. Arthur was Head of Graduate Playwriting at Carnegie Mellon University. He is a founding member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre in New York. The staged reading is performed by the Available Light Theatre Company of Columbus, Ohio <http://avltheatre.com/> The play director, some of the actors as well as a technology-historian will be available for a talkback discussion after the play reading. Produced by Brian Schwartz, CUNY and Smitha Vishveshwara, University of Illinois. Sponsored by: The Forum on the History of Physics and The Forum on Outreach and Engaging the Public.

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Date submitted: 23 Feb 2018

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