

# The Broken Chord by [Jennifer Fawcett](#)

At the age of 70, Helen's life is turned upside down when she receives the diagnosis of Alzheimer's.

A renowned archivist, she fights to hold on to her past while her daughter Amy tries to juggle the demands of caregiving with her full time job as a professor. When Helen's absent son, Jacob, returns for a visit, he offers to take care of his mother in return for free housing. Over the course of a year, the sickness gets worse, old wounds are healed and new ones are ripped open, as Amy and Jacob try to take care of their mother without letting her disease tear the family apart. Created through a year of research and volunteer work in the community, interviews, and improvisation, the play weaves together the fictional story of a family struggling with Alzheimer's, with dance, and monologues from local caregivers.

2M, 5W + flexible chorus of community members

## DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

- Commission

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Hancher Auditorium

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2013

## PRODUCTION HISTORY

- Professional

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Hancher Auditorium/Working Group Theatre

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2013