**Significance**: Hirsutene is a linear triquinane that was isolated from the fungi *Coriolus consors* in 1976. Its lack of heteroatomic functional groups along with the presence of four contiguous stereo-centers and two quaternary carbon atoms render this condensed cyclopentanoid natural product challenging. In 1985, Curran and Rakiewicz reported an elegant synthesis of (±)-hirsutene employing a late-stage radical cyclization.

**Comment**: Accessed in two steps from the corresponding enone, acetate A was converted into lactone B by Ireland–Claisen rearrangement followed by phenylselenolactonization. Elimination, SN2′ reaction, and deprotection furnished carboxylic acid E. Further transformation led to iodoenyne H, which underwent 5-exo-trig/5-exo-dig radical cyclization cascade in the presence of AIBN/Bu₃SnH to afford (±)-hirsutene.