

NDFA ONE ACT PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

The results of the 2006 One Act Playwriting Competition, administered by the National Drama Festivals Association, are as follows:

The winner of the George Taylor Memorial Award is **SLICED** by James Gillingham, recommended by Teignmouth Festival.

The Nan Nuttall Award (for plays for performance by Youth Groups) has been withheld.

We are indebted to our three voluntary Judges – Tony Rushforth GODA, Irene Rostron Hon. GODA and Angela Heslop NDFA. We give particular thanks to Irene Rostron for her work on the NDFA One Act Playwriting Competition, over many years. Irene is retiring as a Judge and her place is taken by Colin Dolley GODA.

We also thank the One Act Festival Organisers for the time and trouble they have taken in making the recommendations. Festivals are asked to put forward scripts which they believe show a high standard of writing – **they are recommending the written work not the performance seen at their festival.** The object of the Competition is to encourage new writing for the theatre.

NDFA PLAYWRITING SYNOPSES 2006

Winner of the George Taylor Memorial Award

SLICED

This play is a perceptive and intelligent exploration about grief and a parent's envy of a daughter's talent. There is considerable suspense in the writing and the characters are well contrasted and clearly defined. The dialogue is taut and economical and the subtext is very powerful. This is a moving, original drama which offers a memorable theatrical experience to both actors and audiences alike.

GT 2M 2F 40mins. Recommended by Teignmouth Festival.

James Gillingham, Cranbrook, Moretonhampstead Road, Bovey Tracey, Devon TQ 13 9LZ.

Runner Up

412 LETTERS

A good play with a central lesbian relationship that is not often explored on the festival circuit. The juxtaposition of the letters and the contemporary narrative is effective and the change of location in the drama adds interest and intrigue. The sense of obsessional behaviour allied to frustration makes for a powerful piece of theatre.

GT 2F 54mins Recommended by Woking Festival.

Matthew Wilkie (address withheld)

Other Plays

BANANAS

This comedy of sexual manners explores the foibles of the male/female relationship.

GT 3M 3F 43mins Recommended by Southend-On-Sea Festival.

Nicholas Wilkes, 148 Grosvenor Drive, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 1PG.

WHITE LIES

A comedy about a student reunion where the characters meet after thirty years.

GT 5F 45mins. Recommended by Maidenhead Festival.

Richard James, Applehouse, Halldore Hill, Cookham, Berks, SL6 9EX.

RIP MRS PAPADOPOLOUS

A black comedy with murder and mayhem, using some of the characters of Greek Drama.

GT 4F 1M 30mins. Recommended by Exmouth Festival.

Marie Kelsall, 4 Redvers Road, St Thomas, Exeter, Devon EX4 1BS.

NOT SO GREAT ESCAPE

A comedy set in a prisoner of war camp in 1940.

GT 9M 40mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival

Mike Lockley, 39 Hampstead Road, Wallasey, Merseyside CH44 9BJ.

BLOOD TIES

A contemporary drama dealing with social issues and relationships.

GT 3F 38mins. Recommended by Teignmouth Festival.

Ellie Price, 15 The Mount, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8NZ.

VOICES FROM THE VILLAGE OF CHRIST

An intriguing drama about a Young Man and an Artist, and as they are about to die, reliving the life of someone else rather than their own.

GT 2M 2F 30mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

James Chalmers, 61 Greenfields Drive, Little Neston, South Wirral CH64 OUL.

BANG OUT OF ORDER

A play for young people which deals with significant, contemporary social issues.

GT/NT 3M 3F 50mins. Recommended by New Forest Festival.

Johnny Carrington and Danny Sturrock, 78, St James Road, Shirley, Southampton SO15 5HJ.

QUITE A BUZZ

Humorous play using insects as a metaphor for the human condition.

GT 3M 2F 30mins. Recommended by Chalfont St Peter Festival.

Alan Robinson, 19 Westmoreland Place, Ealing, London W5 1QE.

GOOD EVENING MR ELLIS

An intriguing drama with plenty of mystery and tension.

GT 3M 30mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

Frank Power, 9 Greengates Crescent, Little Neston, South Wirral, CH64 OXH.

HIDDEN IDENTITY

Set in a general hospital ward in 2062 where the Nanny State and Big Brother have combined to form one powerful family unit.

GT 3F 1M/F 50mins. Recommended by Leatherhead Festival.

Ann Rhodes, 15 Ralliwood Road, Ashted, Surrey, KT21 1DD.

WILFRED AND LEN

A young soldier and officer meet b chance on a railway station during the closing hours of the First World War. Each has a secret view of war which becomes apparent through their use of poetry.

GT 3M 1F 40mins Recommended by Avon Festival.

Stephen Mercer, 44 Church Farm Road, Emersons Green, Bristol, BS16 7BF.

THE AMBITION OF MAC AND BETH

A contemporary setting of “the Scottish play” with a school setting.

GT/NN Mixed cast of 11 playing various parts. 40mins. Recommended by Cambridge Festival.

Andra Bishop, 66 Park Leys, Harlington, Bedfordshire, LU5 6LZ.

HERE’S WHERE THE STORY ENDS

Strong drama with the focus a dysfunctional marriage.

GT 3M 2F 25mins Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

Damien Saul. (address withheld)

THE MAIDS STORY

A play for girls exploring historical and social issues from the turn of the century suffragette movement.

GT/NN 12F 5mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

Jill Breckon, 149 Kings Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 8LY.

AVOIDANCE

An intelligent and amusing play with an element of truth/dare and surprise, exploring an existential theme.

GT 3M 3F 50mins. Recommended by Cambridge Festival.

Gytha Lodge, 12 South Street, Comberton, Cambs CB3 7DZ.

BARBECUE

A comedy full of lovely comic observations and well established characters. Ayckbourn in style.

GT 2M 4F 42mins. Recommended by Sawston Festival.

Stephen Smith, 2 Windmill Walk, Sutton, Ely, Campbs CB6 2WH.

MAXWELL

A drama which explores the character of Robert Maxwell and those in his life.

GT Mixed cast of ten. 55mins (but may be longer). Recommended by - Elmbridge Festival.

Terry Pattinson, Bourne Meadow View, Queen St, Chertsey, KT16 8BS.