

NDFA ONE ACT PLAYWRITING COMPETITION

The results of the 2007 One Act Playwriting Competition, administered by the National Drama Festivals Association, are as follows:

The winner of the George Taylor Memorial Award is OSWIECIM by Emma Roskilly, recommended by Welwyn Garden City Youth Festival.

The Runner Up is JACK by Peter Bridges, recommended by BFAME

Highly Commended: THE LESSON by Christopher Beck, recommended by Somerset Festival, THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE IN BOXES by Les Clarke, recommended by Somerset Festival and EXPERT IN FLOWERS by Krista Jaquet, recommended by FEATS.

We are indebted to our three voluntary Judges, Tony Rushforth GODA, Colin Dolley GODA and Angela Heslop NDFA. We give particular thanks to Tony Rushforth for his work on the NDFA One Act Playwriting Competition over several years. Tony is retiring as a Judge and NDFA will announce his replacement in the coming months.

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 2006/2007

Winner of the George Taylor Memorial Award

OSWIECIM

A perceptive and powerful drama set in the Polish town of Oswiecim between 1940 and 1944. Following the Nazi occupation of Poland in September 1939, Oswiecim was incorporated into Germany and renamed Auschwitz. This play is written with immense subtlety, and the writer asks for a number of silences, which carry great weight. The sub-text adds to the developing tension of the drama and dramatic irony is used most effectively. This is a relatively short, but epic play which holds interest throughout. It offers many rewarding challenges to the seven cast members to explore the depth of feeling and unspoken emotions behind the spare dialogue.

**GT 4M 3F. 30 mins. Recommended by Welwyn Garden City Youth Festival.
Emma Roskilly, 62 Marmet Avenue, Letchworth, Herts SG6 4QE.**

Runner Up

JACK

This is an original and intriguing play which deals with the subject of moving on after bereavement. The humorous and the dramatic sit comfortably side by side and the dialogue is both witty and powerful. The writing ensures that interest in the outcome of the drama is always maintained and the twist in the tail has suitable impact. Two very strong male roles.

**GT 3M. 30mins. Recommended by BFAME.
Peter Bridges, c/o 94 Jerry's Lane, Erdington, Birmingham B23 5PA.**

Highly Commended

THE LESSON

This play's setting is a prison cell in an imaginary kingdom somewhere between France and Italy, between 1820 and 1840. The drama has a well thought out structure, and although the theme is serious, there are moments of wit and humour which work well. The characters are well drawn and offer two strong roles for versatile actors.

GT 2M 1M/F. 40/45mins. Recommended by Somerset Festival.

Christopher Beck, 3 Marsh Lane, Upton, Poole BH16 5NH.

THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE IN BOXES

A piece of land at the back of a factory where people sleep rough in cardboard boxes is the setting for this drama which tackles contemporary social issues. The characters of Joe and Beck, who are homeless, are well defined and contrasting and their story builds to a powerful climax.

GT 2M 2F. 46mins. Recommended by Somerset Festival.

Les Clarke, 23 Highfield Road, Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 2SE.

EXPERT IN FLOWERS

This play with music is an intelligent piece of writing which focuses on Vivi, a woman who has died and we discover the impact she had on other people's lives, from her husband to best friend. There are some strong theatrical moments and the characters are well rounded.

GT 2M 3F. 60mins. Recommended by FEATS.

Krista Jaquet, 1m Budler 15, 4419 Lupsingen, Switzerland.

REMAINING ENTRIES

THE PETIT PIRATES OF POPLAR

It's written for a large, flexible cast of young actors, set when pirates ruled the seas.

GT 4M 10F. 35/40mins. Recommended by Waltham Forest Festival.

Alexander Owen, 119 Bush Elms Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 1LU.

WHO CARES?

A drama dealing with the problems faced by a full time carer whose mother has dementia.

GT 6F. 40/45mins. Recommended by Teignmouth Festival.

Viv Wilson, Bridge View, Osmonds Lane, Teignmouth TQ14 8DB.

IN THE RUBBLE OF PARADISE

A musical set in the cabaret world of 1930s Germany with some evocative orchestrations.

GT 5M 5F. 40mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

James Chalmers, 61 Greenfields Drive, Little Neston, Neston CH64 0UL.

THE WITNESS

What happens when someone appears to get the wrong side of a story? Set in a police station.

3M 2F. 30mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

Cathy Marland, 17 Wharfedale Avenue, Prenton, Wirral CH42 9PP.

BRITTLE WOMEN

An all female play dealing with the crises they face in their lives.

4F. 50mins. Recommended by Cambridge Festival.

Lindsey McAuley, 8 St Phillip's Road, Cambridge CB23 7PR.

MR BAAL

There's a Faustian theme where the characters have powerful skeletons in their closets.
GT 2M 1F. 40mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.
Barry Prescott, 13 Gotham Road, Spital, Wirral CH63 9AS.

NOT WARM, FOUR LETTERS

Spanning over a 54 year period, the play looks at disillusionment within marriage.
GT 2M or 1M 1F. 40mins. Recommended by SADATA.
Jack Slater, 1 Earnshaw Terrace, Barnsley S75 2SF.

SPECIALITY

An elderly lady pits her wits against a gang of would be crooks with a twist in the tail.
GT 4M 1F. 35mins. Recommended by Elmbridge Festival.
Sue Viney, 1 Cedars Road, Hampton Wick, Kingston upon Thames KT1 4BG.

THE DIARIES OF ANNE AND FRANK

This drama explores the challenges of evacuation and the dangers of wartime bombing.
GT 6M 6F. 55mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.
Alan Bower, 282 Beaufort St, Dingle, Liverpool L8 6UA.

YOU, ME, TEENAGER

Deals with teenagers' issues from problems with parents to bullying. Large young cast.
GT Numerous parts. 30mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.
Becky Call, 16 Ainsworth Avenue, Saughall Massie, Wirral CH46 5NL.

JANE THE QUEENE

Historical drama about the life of Lady Jane Grey, the "nine day Queen".
GT 8M 3F 2/4 extras. 50mins. Recommended by Teignmouth Festival.
Wendy Hayden-Sadler, Rathlin House, Upper Hermosa Road, Teignmouth TQ14 9JW.

PAPER OF PINS

Humour mixes with pathos in this play about the effects of senile dementia on the family, care worker and sufferer.
GT 3F. 40mins. Recommended by Bedford Festival.
Stella Rogers, 60 Culverhouse Road, Luton, Beds LU3 1PY.

MIND GAMES

Charlie is Steve's "mind" in this drama exploring life's ups and downs.
GT 5M 6F. 64mins. Recommended by Leatherhead Festival.
Paul Longley (address withheld).

ANYONE BACKSTAGE?

A series of five monologues written for amateur dramatic societies, as seen from the perspective of the backstage team.
GT 1M 4F. 45mins. Recommended by Exmouth Festival.
Stephanie Easton, 39 Castle Hill Gardens, Torrington, North Devon EX38 8EX.

FESTIVAL

A drama set at a three day music festival, bringing together a group of young people unlikely to get along outside of the festival campsite.
GT 5M 6F. 45mins. Recommended by SADATA.
Ceri Ford, 16 Rosegrave, Goldthorpe, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S63 9GG.

QUINTESSENTIAL QUINTET

Larger than life characters abound in this play set in the 1950s and written for a young cast.

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

Frances Bartram, 14 Hayfield Avenue, Sawston, Cambridge CB22 3JZ.

AN ALMOST PERFECT MURDER

A black comedy set against the background of football's World Cup.

GT 2M 2F. 55mins. Recommended by FEATS.

Wendy Foerster, 2427 Lopez Drive, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420, USA

THE SOLLY SIDS

Comedy with a pub quiz team who are facing some mid life crises.

GT 4M 1F. 45mins. Recommended by Bedfordshire Festival.

Scott Curtis, 21 Queen's Road, Stonehouse, Glos GL10 2QA.

MONDAY MORNINGS

A school classroom is the setting for this play for young people.

GT 13F. 25mins. Recommended by Leverhulme Festival.

Allyssa Stott, 26 Carr gate, Moreton, Wirral CH46 6EQ