



Correct Billing:

Most scripts we handle have Billing and Credit requirements which are usually stated in the first few pages. When the title of the play appears for advertising, the name of the author must appear in conjunction with the title, on a separate line with no other name. The size of the type used for the authors name must not be less than 50% in size to the type used for the Title. Check the front pages of the scripts in case there are more requirements than this. It must be clearly stated that in all advertising that the audience will witness an amateur performance or community theatre performance, the names of the author (s) of the play shall be included in all announcements and on all programmes and advertising and the integrity of the authors work will be preserved.

If unsure please ask.

Warm Regards Helen

The Play Bureau Newsletter

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Welcome to 2017.

What's New?

HOT OFF THE PRESS!!

❖ Everything You Touch

By Sheila Callaghan

2M 6 F

Victor is a ruthless fashion designer in the 1970s at the top of his game. Esme, his glamorous protégé and muse, is pushed aside when an ordinary Midwestern woman inspires Victor to make his artistry accessible to the masses. A generation later, a woman grappling with a healthy dose of self-loathing must wrestle her own family demons to find her way through the world of fashion that won't give a woman her size a second look. Skipping back and forth in time, Everything You Touch is a viciously funny look at the struggle to find an identity that's more than skin deep.

❖ Paperless

By Shona M Wilson (new kiwi playwright)

2 m 5 F

Paperless is a comedy; an emotive look at redundancy. It is set in 2015. There are two teams within a government office, called File Safe and Research. All staff members face the threat of redundancy. Two jobs will remain of seven. Long-term staff members find themselves competing with their younger counterparts in a bid to secure the remaining positions.

In an effort to boost morale, every staff member attends a team building weekend. Led by a wayward team leader, these disgruntled employees soon create chaos as their own personal issues emerge. The competition escalates and undermines the whole purpose of the trip, and then the unexpected happens.

❖ The Poorly Written Play Festival

By Carolyn Gage

3 M 3 F

Five members of a play selection committee have gathered in the green room to choose the plays for their Festival of Poorly-Written Plays. The artistic director begins with a review of the more common criteria for a bad play: blatant exposition and contrived names for the characters. He then suggests that they all go around the table and introduce

themselves and say a little something about themselves - blatant exposition if ever there was. As he calls on Hedda, the literary manager, and Mrs. Bracknell, the benefactress, it becomes obvious that the folks around the table all have contrived names. This is a hilarious "actors nightmare" for playwrights, guaranteed to delight audiences, whose attempts to follow the action are constantly frustrated by the dramaturgical liberties of this "poorly-written" play. The incoherencies and inconsistencies build to a frantic climax, as the artistic director, faced with a plethora of plot difficulties, resorts to the cheesiest playwriting device of all.

❖ Too Many Cooks

By Marcia Kash

6 M 2 F

It's 1932 in Niagara Falls, Canada, where the rum-running business is at its peak. In the aftermath of the Crash, Irving Bubbalowe and his daughter, Honey, have risked everything they have to open a new gourmet restaurant. When their star - the renowned singing chef François LaPlouffe - fails to appear, tonight's grand opening is suddenly placed in jeopardy. However, when unemployed chef Frank Plunkett wanders in looking for work, Honey persuades him to masquerade as the missing LaPlouffe. The beleaguered Bubbalowe, meanwhile, also has to contend with Chicago gangster Alfonse Feghetti and his sidekick who have come looking for an illegal shipment of booze that, unbeknownst to Bubbalowe, has found its way into his basement. In addition, Bubbalowe has to keep at bay the hot-blooded Immigration officer Veronica Snook, on the trail of the vanished chef, as well as a suspicious teetotaling Mountie who is ready to arrest Bubbalowe for both murder and bootlegging. Madness ensues and Bubbalowe and the others create a hornet's nest of fabricated stories and identities as they try valiantly to save the restaurant - and themselves - from both the gangsters and the law.

❖ *Sunday on the Rocks*

by Theresa Rebeck

4 F

On a beautiful Sunday morning in mid October, three house mates decide to have scotch for breakfast in this play by the author of *Spike Heels*, *The Family of Mann* and *Loose Knit*. Elly is pregnant and considering an abortion, Jen is being harassed by a co worker who is obsessed with her, and Gayle just feels a bit lost. Their problems are compounded by a fourth roommate, Jessica, a religious young woman who has little compassion for their confused attempts to make sense of life in the nineties. As they drink, joke and argue, it becomes clear how difficult it is to make a moral decision in an increasingly complex world.

❖ You Got Older

By Clare Barron

4 M 3 F

Mae returns home to help take care of Dad and — maybe (a little) — herself. *You Got Older* is a tender and darkly comic new play about family, illness, and cowboys — and how to remain standing when everything you know comes crashing down around you.

❖ A Feminine Ending

By Sarah Treem

3 M 2 F

Having recently graduated from a major conservatory, and with a rocker boyfriend on the brink of stardom, aspiring composer Amanda Blue's "extraordinary life" seems to be all mapped out. But when she's called home to answer her mother's distress call about a [marriage in crisis/marital crisis], Amanda's grand plan starts to unravel. *A Feminine Ending* is a bittersweet new play about dreams deferred, loves lost and learning to trust a woman's voice in a man's world.



Others you may like:

Adult Entertainment by Elaine May

3 M 3 F

There is a cloud over porn queen Heidi the 'Ho's usually cheery cable TV show. Her guests are wearing armbands to mourn the passing of their employer and mentor, a legendary porn filmmaker. Tired of working for others, this motley group of adult video veterans decides to write and shoot their own extravaganza, an "art" film. The script doesn't live up to their expectations so they bring in a new writer, one who insists they read the classics to prepare for their roles. Unexpected ideas develop as the hilarity escalates bringing the play to a raucous and riotous conclusion.

❖ *Sherlock Holmes : The Baker Street Irregulars*

ADP by Eric Coble

5 - 10 M 5 - 10 F

Sherlock Holmes is missing, and the streets of London are awash with crime. Who will save the day? The Baker Street Irregulars—a gang of street kids hired by Sherlock himself to help solve cases. Now they must band together to prove not only that Sherlock is not dead but also to find the mayor's missing daughter, untangle a murder mystery from their own past, and face the masked criminal mastermind behind it all—a bandit who just may be the brilliant evil Moriarty, the man who killed Sherlock himself! Can a group of orphans, pickpockets, inventors and artists rescue the people of London? The game is afoot!

❖ *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*

By John Heimbuch / Jon Fergusson

2 M 1 F 7 either

In the quaint village of Sleepy Hollow, stories of wonder and strangeness surround the legend of a mighty headless Hessian. When the humble schoolteacher Ichabod Crane vies for the hand of the beautiful Katrina Van Tassel, the townsfolk might protest but it is ultimately t"[Heimbuch and Ferguson] infuse this work with a lively blend of gothic terror and tongue-in-cheek humor that ably captures Irving's story and demonstrates why it remains so compelling.

❖ *The Inn at Rose Harbour*

By Joseph Robinette

6 -7 M 8 - 11 F

Jo Marie Rose, widowed as a young woman, is celebrating the 20th anniversary of her purchase of the Inn at Rose Harbor, a local bed-and-breakfast in the town of Cedar Cove, Washington. She has invited many of her former guests (us, the audience) to join her as she reminisces about her early days as owner of the inn. Joining Jo Marie with their own stories are her very first guests, Josh Weaver and Abby Kincaid, who, at the time, were in their early 30s. Neither, however, was eager to return to the picturesque town where each was raised, but necessity had brought them back-Josh to care for his ailing stepfather, from whom he was estranged, and Abby for her brother's wedding, though hiding a painful memory from her youth. Thus, the threesome leads us through their intriguing stories, while younger actors portray them as they were when the inn was new. This unique theatrical device of then-and-now guides the audience through a myriad of engrossing episodes, both humorous and serious, and introduces us to an array of fascinating characters who inhabit the town of Cedar Cove.

❖ Death by Design – a comedy with songs and murder

by Rob Urbinati

4 M 4 F

What happens when you mix the brilliant wit of Noel Coward with the intricate plotting of Agatha Christie? Set during a weekend in an English country manor in 1932, *Death by Design* is a delightful and mysterious “mash-up” of two of the greatest English writers of all time. Edward Bennett, a playwright, and his wife Sorel Bennett, an actress, flee London and head to Cookham after a disastrous opening night. But various guests arrive unexpectedly – a conservative politician, a fiery socialist, a nearsighted ingénue, a zany modern dancer – each with a long-held secret. When one of the guests is murdered, it’s left to Bridget, the feisty Irish maid with a macabre interest in homicide, to solve the crime. This musical version of Rob Urbinati's *Death by Design* is more than homage – it’s a new classic, with a terrific musical theatre score that kills!

❖ The Surprising Story of The Three Little Pigs

by Linda Dougherty

18 M & F

Three classic fairy tales (*The Three Little Pigs*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*) begin in their usual "once upon a time" fashion; however, this time things change on the way to "happily ever after" as the pigs wonder what life would be like if the wolf were not always at their door, the Billy goats gruff decide they can't face another trip-trap over the troll's bridge, and Papa Bear has had enough of the meddlesome little Goldilocks! Assisted by The Voice (struggling to narrate the changing stories) and three Stagehands (desperately trying to juggle sets to keep the stories straight), the three trios join forces to rewrite their stories, ridding themselves of their respective villains by exchanging them.



What's on around the Country

<i>Play</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Treasure Island	Stuart Paterson	Christ's College	Mar 02 - Mar 03
Spirit Level	Pam Valentine	Dolphin Theatre Inc	Mar 03 - Mar 25

One Man, Two Guvnors	Richard Bean	Nelson Repertory Theatre	Mar 10 - Mar 18
Swallow	Stef Smith	A Little Box At The Top Of The Stairs Productions	Mar 15 - Mar 18
The Hound Of The Baskervilles	Steven Canny	Tauranga Repertory Society	Mar 15 - Apr 01
Time Of My Life	Alan Ayckbourn	Cambridge Repertory Society	Mar 18 - Apr 01
Quartet	Ronald Harwood	Greytown Little Theatre	Mar 22 - Apr 01
Quartet	Ronald Harwood	Whangarei Repertory Society (Octagon Theatre)	Mar 24 - Apr 09
The Witches	Roald Dahl	Hamilton Playbox	Mar 25 - Apr 08
The Hound Of The Baskervilles	Steven Canny	Waipukurau Dramatic Soc - Little Theatre	Mar 29 - Apr 07
Calendar Girls	Tim Firth	Matamata Dramatic	Mar 29 - Apr 08
Enchanted April	Matthew Barber	Te Aroha Dramatic Society	Mar 30 - Apr 08
Ladies' Day	Amanda Whittington	Theatre Hawkes Bay	Mar 30 - Apr 08
100	Christopher Heinmann	Wanganui AMDRAM Musical Society	Mar 30 - Apr 02
The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe	Joseph Robinette	Waihi Drama Society	Mar 31 - Apr 08
Play On!	Rick Abbot	Wellington Repertory Theatre	Apr 05 - Apr 15
Remote	Stef Smith	New Plymouth Little Theatre Society	Apr 05 - Apr 13
All's Well That Ends As You Like It	Michael Green	Heretaunga Players	Apr 05 - Apr 09
Fear And Misery Of The Third Reich	Bertolt Brecht	Lincoln High School	Apr 06 - Apr 07
Top Girls	Caryl Churchill	Chilton Saint James School	Apr 06 - Apr 07
Chamber Music	Arthur Kopit	University of Otago- Theatre Studies	Apr 06 - Apr 07
Pool (No Water)	Mark Ravenhill	Ara Institute of Canterbury	Apr 07 - Apr 12
Shoot/Get Treasure/Repeat	Mark Ravenhill	Ara Institute of Canterbury	Apr 07 - Apr 12
Twelve Angry Men	Sherman Sergal	Morrinsville Little Theatre	Apr 12 - Apr 26

All This Intimacy	Rajiv Joseph	Elmwood Players	Apr 19 - Apr 29
All The Kings Women	Luigi Jannuzzi	Riverlea Theatre & Arts Centre	Apr 20 - Apr 29
Dad's Army	Jimmy Perry	Manawatu Theatre Society	Apr 25 - May 13
Calendar Girls	Tim Firth	Mackenzie Drama Group	Apr 26 - Apr 29
The Supermarket Sisterhood	Devon Williamson	Manawatu Theatre Society	Apr 28 - May 13
The Cripple Of Inishmaan	Martin McDonagh	Dolphin Theatre Inc	Apr 28 - May 13
Unoriginal Sin	David Tristram	New Plymouth Repertory Society	May 01 - May 13
The Amorous Ambassador	Michael Parker	Putaruru Theatre Players	May 02 - May 07
My Husbands Nuts	Devon Williamson	Whangamata Theatre Society	May 03 - May 05
Our Man In Havana	Clive Francis	Howick Little Theatre	May 06 - May 27
And Then There Were None	Agatha Christie	Carmel College	May 08 - May 11
Yes, Prime Minister	Antony Jay	Canterbury Repertory Theatre	May 09 - May 20
Our Day Out And Other Plays	Willy Russell	Massey High School	May 09 - May 10
Art'	Yasmina Reza	Tadpole Productions	May 11 - May 21
The Domino Effect and other plays for teenagers	Fin Kennedy	Waikato Diocesan School For Girls	May 16 - May 17
Play On!	Rick Abbot	Pahiatua Repertory Society	May 18 - May 27
Narnia	Jules Tasca	Family Friendly Productions	May 18 - May 20
Alice's Adventures In Wonderland And Through The Looking Glass	Clemence Dane	Howick Childrens & Youth Theatre Inc	May 18 - May 21
Under Milk Wood	Dylan Thomas	Victoria University of Wellington	May 25 - Jun 09
Never The Sinner	John Logan	Dunedin Repertory Soc	May 26 - Jun 03
Are You Being Served?	Jeremy Lloyd	Whangarei Repertory Society (Octagon Theatre)	May 26 - Jun 11
Murder On The Nile	Agatha Christie	Carmel College	May 28 - May 31