



MANAGEMENT

**PLAY CATALOGUE
2024**

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**Jada
ALBERTS**

Brothers Wreck
1 Act / 3M, 2F

This play is about life.

It begins with a death: on a hot morning under a house in Darwin, Ruben wakes to find his cousin Joe hanging from the rafters. What follows is the story of a family, buffeted by constant tragedy, holding itself together – as their people have done generation after generation. This play asks us: how do we deal with death? And how many other people does it take for each of us to live? Little by little, Ruben's family brings him back from the edge.

Premiered Belvoir 2014

Published by Currency Press 2014

**Jada
ALBERTS &
Anne-Louise
SARKS**

Elektra/Orestes
2 Acts / 2M, 3F

Elektra's life is a mess. She's stuck living with her mother, which is bad enough – it was her mother who murdered her father. Her stepfather is not much older than her and has all too happily taken her father's position as king. And her sister doesn't even care! She's sided with their mother and taken up gardening like nothing ever happened. Elektra sent her little brother Orestes into exile when he was just 11. He was the next in line for her father's throne and had to be protected from their stepfather. Nine years later he has come of age. Now he's on way to the palace to join Elektra and take the ultimate revenge against their mother. There will be blood.

Premiered Belvoir St Theatre 2015

**David
ALLEN**

In The Doghouse
2 Acts / 4M, 3F

A new and updated version of the infamous "lost" Elizabethan play, "The Isle of Dogs". The play that almost strangled English Drama at birth, turned a virgin into a raging Queen and her privy councillors into dedicated spiofobes. This play is part epic theatre, part road movie and part stand-up comedy routine; a sixteenth century romp in contemporary underclothes with authorship variously attributed to Thomas Nashe, Benjamin Jonson, William Shakespeare and Arthur Prickshafte. Arthur who...? You may well ask...

Gone with Hardy
1 Acts / 3M, 1F / Requires a pianist
Composer: Terry Clarke

A vaudevillian biography. The story of Stan Laurel before he became the partner of Oliver Hardy, telling of his stormy relationship with an Australian dancer called Kate. This much produced worldwide play features Jock.

Down Down at Dingley Dell

1 Act / 8M, 2F / Radio play

A fantasy/farce set in nineteenth century Australia bringing together Lola Montez, Charles Dickens' son, the poet Adam Lindsay Gordon and George Selth Coppin, the father of antipodean theatre.

Slam, Decco, Steff & George

1 Act / 2M, 2F / For actors aged 12-16, for classroom or school performance.

In Australia's distant future, 15 year old Decco defends her territory against all-comers.

Joseph Conrad Goes Ashore

1 Acts / 2M, 2F / Comedy

A mature-aged female student who has literary fantasies attempts the seduction of a Lecturer in English with sadly farcical consequences.

Virtue

2 Acts / 5M, 2F

A university lecturer fights for his reputation against prejudice and intrigue in a narrow-minded community. Based on the 1950s "Orr" case in Tasmania.

Behold the Gay Marsupial

2 Acts / 2M

An early work about a defrocked priest rediscovering Australia after years in Africa. Ripe for re-working.

The Night We Blitzed The Bridge

2 Acts / Large cast / Male and female / For actors aged 16-20.

1942, the night Japanese submarines invaded Sydney Harbour and the night of the Great Jitter-Bug Contest on the Manly Ferry! Comedy, action and a grand suspense finale on the Harbour Bridge.

Pike's Madness

2 Acts / 1M, 1F / Playing a multitude of parts

The adventures of an English school teacher in Australia who thinks he's Hamlet. Black comedy with a touch of the surreal.

Manila Yellow

2 Acts / 3M, 2F / Playing assorted roles.

T.I.E. Community. An expose of the corruption in the Philippines under the Marcos regime as seen through the life and adventures of a street-wise Manila kid and a middle-class university student.

Winner 1985 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Theatre-in-Education

Tina's Troopers

2 Acts / large cast, speaking and non-speaking parts. A play for high school kids, with music.

Tina and her band of young travelling performers survive in post-nuclear Australia.

Don't Listen To Gougher

2 Acts / 5M, 4F / Possible doubling

The early days of South Australia presented in the Brechtian manner.

Meat

2 Acts / 5M, 4F / Large cast with all parts to be played by white actors.

Uganda under Idi Armin. A political thriller that explores the involvement of the West in his rise to power. A tale of corruption and brutality.

Karen

2 Acts / 2M, 2F / 30 minutes.

Karen can't cope with her separated parents' constant rows. She looks back to happier days.

Upside Down At The Bottom Of The World

2 Acts / 2F

D.H. Lawrence in Australia. The famous writer and his German wife spend six months on the New South Wales coast, brawling, squabbling and remembering England - much to the amazement of their conservative neighbours.

Winner 1980 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Play

Souvenirs From The Book Lovers Library, Perth

2 Acts / 2M, 3F

In Western Australia, in the 1920s, a young English poet and his wife confound conventional morality. Based on D.H. Lawrence's time there. A sort of sequel to Upside Down At The Bottom Of The World.

Once A Bold Collier

2 Acts / 2M, 2F / Restricted availability

Set in the leitchen of the Moreton's cottage on the Hunter Valley coalfields of NSW during early months of 1929.

Forests Of The Night

2 Acts / 2M, 3F / T.I.E. Community

A young female journalist goes looking for the legendary Tasmanian Tiger with a drunken Irish academic, while her mother, a wealthy business woman, schemes to exploit the wilderness that is the Tiger's habitat. Adventure, conflict, humour and a touch of lyricism and mystery. Might make a good main theatre piece. A lot of special effects.

Florrie

2 Acts / 7M, 5F

The life and times of a fictional Australian Music Hall artiste. With songs and dances. (Written for the Drama Department at Newcastle University. Won the city prize for best

production of the year).

Glorious Things

2 Acts / 3M, 1F / Victorian pastiche

In Victorian England, two Australian confidence tricksters, one black, one white, seduce - as they think - a respectable woman into a life of crime. Years later she has her revenge. Not quite as simple a piece as it may sound.

Cheapside

2 Acts / 3M, 1F / A radio version is also available

Multi-award winning and widely-produced play about the murky goings-on of spies and playwrights in the Elizabethan Theatre. Strong contemporary flavour in style and language. Features William Shakespeare, Robert Green and an Australian Cut-Purse. Robert Greene lives in a noisy, bustling underworld of spies, crooks and punks, fending off the debt collectors and arch-rivals, Marlowe and Shakespeare. A play bursting with life and humour, CHEAPSIDE provides a fascinating account of the lot of professional playwright - and suggests that it may not have changed much over the last four hundred years.

Published Currency Press 1985

Winner 1985 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Drama

Cut & Running

2 Acts / 5M, 5F / Comedy

In the summer of 1929, Arthur Sinclair, last of the great Australian silent film makers arrives in Wagga Wagga to shoot the story of bushranger Dan Rafferty - and uncovers a hornet's nest of dark secrets!

Dance Canary

2 Acts / 2M, 3F / Ideally able to perform together as a band, but can be faked.

Three old jazz musicians get together with a punk drummer and Czechoslovakian saxophonist for a come-back gig in a hospital for the mentally handicapped. Funny, moving, provocative.

Koala Capers

2 Acts / 6M, 4F and a giant koala

A farce set in the studios of a television station in an Australian country town, featuring a giant drunken koala, a stripper and Chat Show Host with a death wish. The ending, which involves a fire, is quite bizarre.

Pommies

2 Acts / 5M, 2F / A radio version is also available

A middle aged Australian businessman remembers the long-ago summer in 1954 when, as a student, he worked in a Holiday Camp in England. Comic, traumatic, passionate, this play explores Anglo-Australian encounters of the uncomfortable kind.

Modest Expectations

2 Acts / 3M, 1F

Charles Dickens on his last legs in Melbourne, riddled with lust, guilt and regret and

encountering both fictional and real life characters he sent to Australia.

Premiered The Playbox Theatre Melbourne, October 1990.

Published Currency Press 1990

Southern Steel

2 Acts / 7M, 3F

An adaptation of the Dymphna Cusack novel set in wartime Newcastle and examining the loves and lives of a local family of battlers.

Writers

2 Acts / 3M, 2F

A 'behind-the-scenes' story of Harry, a successful playwright who decides he is going to make some 'real money' by writing scripts for a long running TV soap opera, 'Diamond Hill'. But no sooner has he joined the team than he discovers that all is not as straight forward as he imagines. 'Upstairs' has decided to axe Diamond Hill, and use him as a scapegoat. And then there's Alice.

Jack Drum's Entertainment

2 Acts / 6M, 1F

Part irreverent bawdy comedy, part political thriller, this play explores life on the Elizabethan stage and surmises on the mysterious events following Saturday 7th February 1601 when Shakespeare's company put on a single matinee production of Richard II - a play concerning the overthrow of a monarch. The following day Queen Elizabeth I imprisons her former favourite, the Earl of Essex, for leading a failed rebellion against her. The queen's fearsome agent, Frances Bacon, terrorises Shakespeare, the players and Shakespeare's 'dark lady' whilst conducting his investigation into why the players chose to put on that play and discovers they were paid a considerable bonus by the Earl of Essex. On the 25th Essex is executed. Shortly after Will Kempe leaves London to become a writer in provincial exile, while Shakespeare and his company move their theatre away from Shoreditch, timber by timber, to establish The Globe on Bankside.

**David
ALLEN &
Barry OAKLEY**

Dirty Books

2 Acts / 6M, 1F

Paris, 1929. In a meeting contrived by their wives, James Joyce and DH Lawrence come together in a scarring, darkly comic, clash of personality, nationality and literary double-dealing. Sexual skeletons are dragged from cupboards, family secrets exposed and relationships pushed to breaking point in a richly entertaining mix of petty jealousies and grand visions.

**Richard
BARRETT**

Heartbreak Kid

2 Acts / 3M, 4F

When Christine Papadopolous, a young Greek Australian takes up her first teaching position she looks forward to sharing with her students their experiences of growing up with an immigrant background. But her growing affection for one student in particular, Nicci, throws her into turmoil. Later adapted into the successful long- running television series *Heartbreak High*.

Published Currency Press 1988

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Sitting for Freud

1 Act / 2M

In 2008, Lucian Freud's painting *Benefits Supervisor Sleeping* sold at Christie's in New York for \$33.6 million – the highest price ever paid for a work by a living artist. But while Freud's earlier portraits of friends, family, and other acquaintances had long received critical acclaim for their psychological penetration of the relationship between artist and model, his paintings had not always commanded sky-high prices. It was Freud's paintings of larger-than-life Australian performance artist Leigh Bowery that increased Freud's international profile and catapulted his sales into the stratosphere.

Words of One Syllable

1 Act / 2M (mid 50s, mid 20s) 1F (mid 50s)

Frank, approaching death, talks for the last time to his son. They try to surmount the obstacles of sexuality, education, even class, that separate them. Robert and his mother, Kath, are now confronted with the need to invent lives of their own, away from the shadow of Frank.

Premiered at Belvoir Street Theatre 1990

Vital Signs

1 Act / 5 M, 2 F / Possible doubling

Christopher's finally getting his life together. He's got a new lover, tender, handsome James; he's even pursuing his dream of going into business, abandoning a secure teaching job, when his old lover, Henry, turns up in town with the tell-tale signs of full-blown AIDS. Henry's hoping to take advantage of the new treatments, but there's a possibility that he'll be resistant to the combination of new and old drugs now available. Henry's need for support and hopes of repairing his relationship challenge Christopher to deal with the past, and incorporate it into his pursuit of the future.

Favorite Names for Boys

1 Act / 15M, 3F / Possible doubling

A boy who wants to be the next De Niro in the heartland of Australia is guided by a soft-hearted drag queen. Kevin is a young man with a dream. He wants to be the next De Niro. Simple. Problem is, his corner of the world isn't quite up to speed.

What's a boy to do? Thank God for Maxine, a soft-hearted Drag Queen who's got lots of connections. *Favorite Names For Boys* looks deep into the heartland of Sydney's west and finds a place where the very idea of family is being refashioned. The old roles are up for grabs, but the responsibility for guiding a new generation has never been more urgent.

Commissioned by Railway Street Theatre for the Olympic Arts Festival 2000

**Ron
BLAIR**

President Wilson in Paris

2 Acts / 2M, 1F

This play opens with Edith and Woodrow Wilson in their Paris apartment in 1918. But all is not as it seems. A thriller about the power fantasies and homicidal games of a strange couple on Sydney's North Shore.

Published by Currency Press 1974

Perfect Strangers

1 Act / 1M, 1F

After a long marriage, they separate in a comic and acrimonious dispute over who owns what books.

Marx

1 Act / 5M, 2F

A dramatic analysis which illuminates the development of Marx's political philosophy during his early poverty-stricken days in London's Soho. Blair explores at the same time Marx's relationships with his wife and family, their maid and with fellow intellectuals. This hero is a young family man on the verge of his great undertaking; a passionate intellectual trapped in a London slum, ruthlessly holding to his vision of a world without privilege while around him 'children die like flies at summer's end'. In this compelling portrait of the architect of Communism, he argues that dedication to principle, even in the face of personal tragedy, is what distinguishes the great man from the good one.

Published Currency Press 1983

The Christian Brothers

1 Act / 1M

A moving dramatic monologue in which a teaching brother grapples with personal anguish and a sense of time departed while trying to hold the attention of a class of unwilling students.

Published Currency Press 1982

Revived for Sydney Theatre Company season and regional tour 2003

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Last Day In Woolloomooloo

1 Acts / 5M, 2F

A rich, savoury comedy very much in the Irish and Sean O'Casey tradition and set in a Sydney boarding house under threat of sale, the play is woven all around a central concern for ordinary people and their lives. Funny, and a sad allegory, and a splendid piece of theatre.

A Place In The Present

1 Act / 3M, 2F

A headmistress at a private school awaits her daughter's arrival on a railway platform. She is joined by a professional magician and a wino and finds herself caught by memory and desire.

Published Currency Press in Short Plays, Vol.1

Flash Jim Vaux

1 Acts / 4M, 2F

Composed by: Terence Clarke and Charles Colman.

A ballad opera about a convict who was transported three times to NSW. A boisterous and touching portrait of a Regency dandy turned lag. The play is in the form of a ballad opera, tracing, (rather loosely) the life of James Hardy Vaux during the period 1807 to the 1840s. James was a quick-witted, notorious pick pocket and swindler who led a remarkable full life while travelling back and forth across the globe (all expenses paid). His life crossed paths with many rich and varied characters, some of whom influenced his life, some of whose life he influenced.

Either way these are the people who made our country's history. Share their celebration and take heed of their message: Breath deep friends - while you can!

Published Yackandandah Playscripts 1990

Alive in Dinner Suits

2 Acts / 4M, 2F

This stage play is set in a radio drama studio in 1950 and deals with the activities of the staff of a radio drama department. Initially we seem to be watching these executives acting in a radio play, the play of their own office lives in front of us. In this way the two chief components of making radio drama - the office politics and the actual recording in the studio become one.

A House is Built

2 Acts / 12M, 10F / Possible doubling

*Commissioned by NIDA 1993***Andrew
BOVELL****Who's Afraid of the Working Class**

(Co-written with Patricia Cornelius, Melissa Reeves and Christos Tsiolkas) 1 Act / 9M,10F / Possible doubling

This play is a series of four intertwining stories of fringe-dwellers, living in an age of social, economic and moral deprivation. Mostly out of work, and politically uninterested, they work at survival. A gritty portrayal of real life in an urban wasteland.

*Published as "Melbourne Stories" by Currency Press 2000**Winner 1999 Australian Writer's Guild Award for Best Play**Winner 1999 Australian Writer's Guild Award Gold AWGIE**Winner 1999 Australian Writer's Guild Award for Best Original Stage Play Winner**1999 Qld Premier's Award for Drama**Winner 1999 Green Room Award for Best New Australian Play**Winner 2000 Jill Blewitt Award for Best New Play***When the Rain Stops Falling**

1 Act/ 4M, 2 F

Alice Springs. 2039. It's been raining for days. A fish falls from the sky and lands at the feet of Gabriel York. His estranged son comes seeking answers, to understand the past. But for Gabriel York the past is as mysterious as the fish. *When The Rain Stops Falling* takes place between the claustrophobia of a small 1950s London flat to the windswept coast of Australia and into the heart of the Australian desert. Crossing continents and spanning generations, this contemporary family saga delves into the past and reaches into the future, bringing to light the enduring impact of collective and individual action.

World Premiere 2008 Adelaide Festival of the Arts

Available at Australian Plays Transform

*Ruby Award for Best Work or Event in South Australia**Winner 2008 Victorian Premier's Award, The Louis Esson Prize for Drama**Winner 2008 Queensland Premier's Award for Best Drama (Stage) Award**Winner 2008 Adelaide Critics Circle Individual Award**Winner 2008 Ruby Award for Best Work or Event in South Australia**Winner 2009 AWGIE (Australian Writers' Guild Award) for Best Stage Play**Winner 2009 Sydney Theatre Awards 2009 Best New Australian Work**Winner 2009 Greenroom Awards, New Writing for the Australian Stage***After Dinner**

2 Acts / 2M, 3F / late 20s or early 30s

A black comedy about being single and eating in restaurants. Five people converge on

a suburban nightspot to enjoy their meal and the after dinner entertainment. A bitter sweet farce about human vulnerability.

Published Currency Press 1988

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Ship Of Fools

1 Act / 4M, 4F

A medieval journey for a new dark age, this parallels two journeys separated by time and space. The first journey tells the story of the fools of Basle, who in 1492 were rounded up and set adrift down the River Rhine. The second journey tells the story of eight unemployed and contemporary Australians who are rounded up and sent into the Australian desert on a work-for-the-dole scheme. The play is an exploration of society's treatment of the individual and reveals that little has changed over the centuries.

The Ballad Of Lois Ryan

2 Acts / 1M, 2F and musician(s)

Lois is a textile worker in a small country town. Life for Lois revolves around the factory, the supermarket and home. The play is about Lois' struggle to free herself from the traps that bind working mothers. Lois wins her struggle but not without paying a price.

Published in "Australasian Drama Studies", Focus Issue No. 2 1992

Speaking in Tongues

2 Acts / 2M, 2F / Possible doubling

"...clever, provocative, elliptically resonant and writerly..." – NT Times *"Bovell explores love, marriage, strangeness, intimacy, trust, betrayal, obsession, self-punishment and detachment with generous emotional intelligence"* - The Observer In the first act of this psychological thriller two couples in unstable marriages inadvertently exchange partners in a night of adulterous encounters. The situation in the separate hotel rooms are so similar that at times both couples speak the same words. While Leon and Jane go through with the infidelity, Pete and Sonja do not, and the repercussions for both marriages are profound. In the second act, we are introduced to a psychologist and her husband. The psychologist disappears one night on a deserted road after her car broke down. As the play progresses and revelatory details accumulate, these two seemingly disparate stories become linked in a chain of coincidences that leads to an utterly unexpected conclusion.

Speaking in Tongues is represented in the USA by Dramatist Play Service. It has been produced internationally in many different languages and was adapted for the award-winning film *Lantana* in 2001.

Published Currency Press 1998

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 1997 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Original Stage Play

Holy Day

2 Acts / 4M, 4F

When a child disappears tensions and vulnerabilities are exposed within a tenuous community on the frontier of white settlement. Elizabeth, the devout wife of a missionary is suspected of being involved in her own child's demise. But the men who sit in judgment can't fathom the reason why a woman would take the life of her own child. Linda, a local aboriginal woman knows what happened at the mission on the night the child disappeared. But she maintains her silence. She refuses to recognise the

authority of European justice and by doing so she casts herself as a political prisoner. *Holy Day* is about two defiant women who refuse to account for the unaccountable. It depicts a white community locked in a moral crisis, unable to liberate itself because it cannot face its dark truths.

Published Currency Press 2002

Available at Australian Plays Transform

World Premiere August 2001 at State Theatre Company of South Australia and transfer to Playbox Theatre, Melbourne.

Winner 2002 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Stage Writing

Winner 2002 Victorian Premier's Literary Award

Piccolo Mondo

1 Act / 3F, 2M

Three women over lunch realise the implications of one's affair with a married man. The other two soon come to realise that the man she is having the affair with is, in fact, one of their husbands.

Like Whisky on the Breath of a Drunk You Love

1 Act / 2F, 2M

It's hot. The moon is full. There's not a breath of wind and the air is full of something... it smells like melting tar, like fumes from a petrol station, like the backyards of restaurants, like whiskey on the breath of a drunk you love... It's heady, pungent, illicit, like desire. No, desire is sweet. It's unfulfilled desire, sort of sour ... a kind of lust ... an unforgiving lust.

Sonja meets Pete in a bar and they go back to a cheap motel room. Meanwhile Christine meets Tony in a bar and they also go back to a cheap room. The catch? Sonja is married to Tony and Christine is married to Pete. A double infidelity. Two scenes of seduction and betrayal are played out, each superimposed on the other. This play was later adapted as Act One of the stageplay *Speaking in Tongues*.

Distant Lights Dark Places

1 Act / 2F, 2M

One act radio play, later adapted as Act Two of the stage play *Speaking in Tongues*.

Winner 1996 New York Festival Gold Medal for Drama

Winner 1997 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Radio Play

Fever (co-written with Patricia Cornelius, Melissa Reeves and Christos Tsiolkas)

4 Act / 3F, 4M

Set against a landscape marked by a sense of turmoil and deprivation, the connecting image in these four intertwined stories is the river as a line of demarcation that separates people; as a body of water that must be crossed to reach the promise of the other side; as a means of escape from turmoil and delivery to what is unknown.

This play aims to uncover aspects of our society that are complex, difficult and painful to comprehend. It pushes beyond the boundaries of realism, staking out its territory in another direction entirely; one that uses allegory, epic theatre, surrealism and music-theatre to investigate the burning issues of race, class, culture and environment.

Commissioned by Melbourne Workers Theatre 2003

The Secret River

2 Acts / 14M/4F

Convict William Thornhill, exiled from the stinking slums of early 19th century London, discovers that the penal colony offers something that he never dared hope for: a place of his own. A stretch of land on the Hawkesbury River is Thornhill's for the taking. As he and his family seek to establish themselves in this unfamiliar territory, they find that they are not the only ones to lay a claim to the land. The Hawkesbury is already home to a family of Dharug people, who are reluctant to leave on account of these intruders.

As Thornhill's attachment to the place and the dreams deepens, he is driven to make a terrible decision that will haunt him for the rest of his life.

Commissioned by Sydney Theatre Company 2011 and premiered at Sydney Theatre Company in 2013.

Things I Know To Be True

2 Acts / 3M, 3F

The Price family appear to be living the Australian dream—a loving household in a solid brick house on a quarter acre block where the passing of time is measured by the seasonal changes in working class patriarch Bob's beloved roses. The four kids have grown up and spread their wings, with only the youngest, Rosie, still at home. As the seasons turn, their story becomes darker and more difficult. But, with complexity comes richness, resolution and meaning. Epic in existential scope while deeply human in focus, Things I Know To Be True will tug at your heart while asking the big questions about what it is that keeps us going.

Commissioned by State Theatre Company and Frantic Assembly 2015.

**Andrew
BOVELL &
Hannie
RAYSON**

Scenes From a Separation

2 Acts / 3M, 4F

There are two sides to every separation. Two truths. A fascinating collaboration between two of Australia's most exciting writers. A story which will resonate with anyone who has ever loved and lost.

Mathew and Nina have been married for twelve years. He is forty; a successful publisher. Always in control, his pace is enormous and his path is littered with the discarded souls of those who tried to keep up. Nina's thirty-eight; a journalist. She hasn't worked since the birth of the children. She's restless; looking for something. So when Mathew suggests she takes on the biography of Lawrence Clifford, tycoon, philanthropist and now Australian of the Year, she throws herself into the project with an all-consuming enthusiasm. A play about love and betrayal, about sex, sacrifice and survival, of break-up and break-down, of family, falling in love and getting found out.

Published Currency Press 1996 (Revised script for Sydney Theatre Company production 2004)

Available at Australian Plays Transform

**Grace
CHAPPLE**

NEVER CLOSER

2 Acts / 3M, 3F

Christmas, 1987. Deirdre is trapped between nations, conflicts, and lives almost lived. She's getting ready to celebrate the holiday alone, when fate gathers together all her old friends for one more night, and they find a small ember of warmth in the darkest corner of winter. But when Niamh arrives last with her new English boyfriend, the group start down a collision course that will change all of their lives forever. They don't yet know how good and how bad things can be.

Never Closer is an exploration of love, trauma, and forgiveness in a shitty, beautiful world. By examining the generational trauma and cost of one nation's battle against hatred, this new play asks whether it is possible to find light in the darkness, and whether it's worth trying anyway.

Published by Australian Plays Transform.

**Warren
COLEMAN**

Buzz (Co -written with Tyler Coppin)
2 Acts / 2M

It's 1990 and Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the moon, is still there. He has his own TV show but the ratings are plummeting. When the show is axed his communication with Earth is severed and he is left utterly alone. How will he cope? Will he ever get home?

**Wesley
ENOCH**

The Story of the Miracle at Cookie's Table
2 Acts / 2M, 2F

In the 1870's a girl is born under a tree – her birth tree – chosen to give her strength and wisdom. When the tree is cut down she follows it into the white man's world, working as a cook for the big house on the island. Her tree has become a kitchen table, one she will pass down through successive generations as a legacy – a way of carving out her family stories. Now, generations later, a young man and his mother fight for ownership of the table.

Published by Currency Press 2007

Winner 2005 Patrick White Playwright's Award

Shortlist 2008 VIC Premier's Literary Award – Louis Esson Prize for Drama

**Wesley ENOCH &
Deborah
MAILMAN**

The 7 Stages of Grieving
1 Act / 1F

This is a proud milestone in Australian theatre history; a contemporary Indigenous performance text from the highly acclaimed Kooemba Jdarra. Appropriating western forms whilst using traditional storytelling, it gives emotional insight into Murri life.

This one-woman show follows the journey of an Aboriginal 'Everywoman' as she tells poignant and humorous stories of grief and reconciliation. A powerful, demanding and culturally profound text, *The 7 Stages of Grieving* is a celebration of Indigenous survival, an invitation to grieve publicly, a time to exorcise pain. It has a universal theme told through the personal experiences of one incredible character. *The 7 Stages of Grieving* premiered at the Sydney Theatre Company in August, 2002 and was directed by Wesley Enoch, starring Deborah Mailman. It has since toured nationally.

Available Australian Plays Transform

Published in BlackStage: Contemporary Indigenous Australian Plays

**Nick
ENRIGHT
The Estate**

Cloudstreet
Adapted by Nick Enright & Justin Monjo from the novel by Tim Winton
3 Acts / 20M, 17F / Possible doubling / 3 parts

A sprawling stage adaptation of Tim Winton's enormously successful novel of the same name. A huge success at the 1998 Sydney & Perth festivals, the story follows the fluctuating fortunes of two families who inhabit a rambling old house in Perth. Both the novel and stage adaptation have proven to be major works and have each left an indelible mark on the Australian arts scene.

Published by Currency Press 1999

Commissioned by Belvoir Street Theatre Company/Black Swan Theatre Company for 1998 Festival of Sydney and 1999 Festival of Perth 1999. Later toured nationally and to London, Dublin, New York, Washington and Zurich.

Winner 1999 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Stage Adaptation

Winner 1999 Australian Writers' Guild, Gold AWGIE

Winner 1999 Dublin Theatre Festival for Best International Production

Winner 1999 Green Room Award for Best New Australian Play

Bobbin Up

2 Acts / 7F, 9M / Including doubling

Based on the novel by Dorothy Hewett published 1959

It is the late 1950s and the Russians launch the first Sputnik. A group of women sweat in the Jumbuck Woollen Mills in Sydney for breadline wages. The whistle blows - grime is washed from faces, hair combed, lipstick applied- and the workers emerge, women again, leaving the factory behind them. Out into the evening streets, flashing neon lights and the journey home to family and lovers. Among them are Shirl, nineteen and four months pregnant; Dawnie, beautiful and fiercely chaste; Patty, singing in the dance halls; and Nell, an active Communist Party member.

These women have their own dreams; but a common spirit binds them, and with Nell as their leader they will come together for the fight which lies ahead....

On The Wallaby

2 Acts / 10M, 4F / Including doubling

A musical play which traces through the Depression of the lives of a Port Adelaide family. The misfortunes of the O'Brien's are seen in the light of the strategies and manipulations of the politicians of the time; while at another level the author presents us with the death of musical hall theatre and the arrival of radio entertainment.

Published by Currency Press 1982

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Miracle City

7M/ 5F

Book by Nick Enright based on a concept by Max Lambert Music by Max Lambert, Lyrics by Nick Enright

It's 1963 in Knoxville Tennessee and America has just entered the world of the televangelist. Miracle City is a sparkling new musical that tells the story of Lora and Ricky Lee and their two children, who weekly broadcast their songs, prayers and appeals for funds to an enthralled TV audience, with the glorious hope of building the city of their dreams. But as the debts pile up faster than the donations flood in and the happy screen façade starts cracking, it's time for shady scams and desperate measures.

Variations

2 Acts/ M4/ F5

Book and Lyrics by Nick Enright Music by Terence Clarke
Chamber music for 9 players and 6 instruments

The search for love and fulfilment. Sydney, 1982. Three generations of Australian women: the oldest, a cellist, finds a violinist to accompany her in duets; the middle one, Meg, is a successful shopfront lawyer and single parent of a 17-year-old girl; each has a suitor. Meg's sister-in-law unexpectedly lands on her doorstep, a fugitive from an uncomprehending husband and a routine and apparently happy marriage.

The Venetian Twins

2 Acts / 6M, 3F

Composed by: Terence Clarke / composite set

This musical romp is based on Carlo Goldoni's celebrated comedy of mistaken identity: twin brothers let loose on one mad day in Eighteenth Century Verona. The double

central role is a gift to a bright young comedian. One of the female roles requires a good coloratura soprano.

Published by Currency Press 1996

Daylight Saving

2 Acts / 3M, 3F / 1 set

Felicity and Tom both have busy lives and demanding careers. Tom is travelling with his petulant protégé Jason, the international tennis star, when Felicity receives a surprise call from an American boyfriend from her past. As she plans a candle-lit reunion dinner her highly stressed neighbour drops in ... and so does her mother.

The confusion becomes complete as each of them become involved in Felicity's evening.

Published by Currency Press 1990

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 1990 Australian Writer's Guild Award for Best Play

Winner 1990 Australian Writer's Guild Award, Gold AWGIE.

Summer Rain

2 Acts / 7F, 6M / Multiple sets

Composed by: Terence Clarke

On Christmas Day 1945 a stranded tent-show troupe reach a drought-stricken outback town. Before they leave on New Year's Day, many lives are changed. A romantic musical comedy featuring memorable lyrics by Nick Enright and beautiful music by Terrence Clarke.

Revived by Sydney Theatre Company in 2005 starring Genevieve Lemon and Gerry Connolly.

Published Currency Press 2001

The Marriage of Figaro

5 Acts / 4M, 8F or 5F, 7M

This celebrated and humane comedy by Beaumarchais takes place on one mad day when the valet Figaro keeps trying to marry the maid Suzanne despite all obstacles. This is one of the great plays of the 18th Century and of course the basis for Mozart's opera. This translation was commissioned and first performed by Lighthouse for The State Theatre Company of South Australia in 1984.

St James Infirmary

2 Acts / 2F, 4M / 1 set

In a Catholic boys' boarding school during the Vietnam War a gifted young artist makes a stand against Australia's involvement in the conflict. His fall from grace divides the school and the people closest to him, particularly the young matron of the school infirmary.

Published by Currency Press 1993

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Women of Troy

1 Act / 3M, 5F / Chorus of women / Possible doubling / A radio version is also available

Euripides' Tragedy is a frightening parable of the after-math of war: Hecuba, dethroned queen of defeated Troy, must see her city burned, her family humiliated, as she and her women wait to be lead into exile.

This adaptation was commissioned and broadcast by ABC Radio.

Mongrels

2 Acts / 3M, 3F / Multiple sets / Strong language

Burke is an ex-con. O'Hara is an invalid. Both are mongrels, and both are writers. United by their tenacity as well as by their relationship with the powerful Elaine, they make an uneasy bond, a bond forged out of rivalry, affection and suspicion. *Mongrels* is a highly adult play, brutal and comic by turns, a study of love, ambition and human capacity for survival, set in the ferment of the Australian theatre in the 1970s.

Published by Currency Press 1993

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 1992 Australian Writer's Guild Award for Best Play

Winner 1992 Sydney Critics' Circle Award

The Quartet from Rigoletto

2 Acts / 6F, 4M / Possible doubling

Rigoletto, its staff of four and some of its clientele, a multi-cultural, multi-purpose, multi neurotic bunch, are united in their need for company. And caffeine. 'The Quartet from *Rigoletto*' is dedicated to the proposition that the greatest gift in life may be the ability to make the perfect short black. Nick Enright comments "I spend a lot of my life in cafe society ... I go there for the coffee, the food, the back numbers of magazines I wouldn't be caught dead buying and, of course, the people. The passer by. The staff: cheerful, abstracted, suicidal, brisk, vengeful, what will it be today? The customers: lost souls like myself who come to work on that novel, comb the classifieds, deconstruct that movie, reconstruct that relationship, kill that hour, plan that life." A light, breezy romantic comedy.

World premiere at The Ensemble Theatre, Sydney 1995

Blackrock (Revised version of Property of the Clan)

1 Act / 12F, 12M / 9 cast version available

One night on Blackrock Beach, an unspeakable act is perpetrated. This powerful play raises disturbing but potent questions about the way we live our lives in the 90s.

What impact does the media have on our perceptions and behaviour? What effect does peer group pressure and the decay of family relationships have on today's teenagers? For the community of Blackrock - especially its youth - it's time to start looking for the answers.

Published by Currency Press 1996

Available at Australian Plays Transform

World premiere at The Sydney Theatre Company, August 1995.

Winner 1996 Australian Writer's Guild Award for Best Play

Snow Queen (libretto)

1 Act

Composed by: Graham Dudley

One act opera in based on the story by Hans Christian Anderson. First performed 1985

Good Works

2 Acts / 4F, 8M / Possible doubling

Provides us with a window into the lives of two Irish Catholic families, the Donovan's and the Kennedys. Spanning several decades and three generations, this compelling

story exposes some of the darker moments that colour many of our family histories. It is a play of remarkable insight, clarity and emotion that has earned a place of considerable importance in the national repertoire.

Published by Currency Press 1995

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered at Q Theatre Sydney in 1994

Winner 1995 Chapman Tripp Theatre Awards Best Production

Winner 1995 Green Room Award for Best New Australian Play

Playgrounds

1 Act / 4F, 5M / Including doubling

“Memories light the corners of my mind...” Two linked plays about growing up in the outer western suburbs of Sydney. The first, *The Way I Was*, looks at adolescence and the confusion of young love. The companion piece, *Where Are We Now?* jumps twenty years to Warwick the successful TV host returning to his roots in supposed triumph, but it becomes a night of emotional reunion with the past. The two plays can be performed separately.

Premiered Sydney Theatre Company 1996

A Property of the Clan

1 Act / 2F, 2M / Possible doubling / Theatre In Education piece

“I never even knew her! More than to say hello to. What do you want me to do? Bawl my eyes out like all the girls? What do you want me to say? I’m sorry? Course I’m sorry. What happened to her shouldn’t happen to a dog. What else? What else do you want to hear?” What you felt. What you’re feeling.”

Published by Currency Press 1993

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Commissioned by Freewheels Theatre In Education Company in Newcastle, and first performed in 1992.

Spurboard

2 Acts / 7M, 7F/ Possible doubling

Rodeo clown Gil can be played by either sex, or even shared by several actors

A spurboard is a solid wooden structure on which bareback riders train; it can train muscles and judgment, but it doesn't buck like a real bronc. Four young people in a rural town in western NSW mount the spurboard as they face the end of school and challenge of choosing a path in life. For Mitchell, high school dropout and skilled rider, it's the thrills and spills of the weekend rodeo circuit; for his high-achieving brother Greg, it's the night sky seen through his grandfather's telescope. For Mitchell's girlfriend Amy, it's a job in her mother's beauty salon as she commits herself to Mitchell for better or worse; for Amy's best friend Karen, it's flight from an abusive and uncaring family to the Police Academy and a rookie posting in the Big Smoke.

This play was commissioned by Australian Theatre For Young People, and has since been produced by drama schools and community youth theatres. It can be performed by a large ensemble cast in a number of combinations.

Published Currency Press 2001

Available at Australian Plays Transform

A Poor Student

2 Acts / 2M, 1F

Five years ago, Haddon Grey was an actor at the zenith of his profession. Now, disabled

by a stroke, and too proud to be seen by his friends, colleagues or public, on or off the stage, he lives alone and perhaps in penury, a long way from the city which once acclaimed him. But Thelma Cayley has her own reasons to be concerned for Haddon's welfare. She hires Jez, a young and inexperienced actor, to present himself to the reclusive older man as a potential student. But the lessons on offer are lessons in life; the young student becomes a witness and then a participant in the relationship of two complex and vulnerable people. And in the end, the lessons are not only for the young.

Premiered Glen Street Theatre 2001

The Man with Five Children

2 Acts / 4M, 4F

In the early 1970s Gerry, a young film-maker, begins to track the lives of five young Australians. All he asks of them is a day out of each year of their lives, a day when he will follow them with a camera, charting their growth and development by interviewing and observing them. But as the years roll on, and the annual instalment of *Five Children* becomes a national chronicle, their lives becomes his. Are they his subjects or his children? Or his creations?

This play takes place over twenty-eight years in two locations: in Australia during the last quarter of the twentieth century, and in the mind of the film-maker.

Published Currency Press 2003

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered Sydney Theatre Company 2002

The Voyage of Mary Bryant

Book and Lyrics by Nick Enright, Music by David King

4F/ 14M

The Mary Bryant story begins in the late 1800s, when she is sentenced to seven years deportation to the Botany Bay penal colony. After the eight month journey on board the First Fleet, Mary and her fellow convicts are given the task of building a new world at the polar end of civilization but food supplies quickly diminish, and starvation and disease claim the lives of many.

Desperate and hungry, a small band of convicts including Mary, her husband Will and baby Charlotte escape to sea on the colony's fishing boat, setting their sights on the Dutch port of Timor. Alone in a small boat in the most isolated part of the world, the escapees face conditions far worse than they left behind - furious storms, harsh open sunlight, and depleted food and supplies as they navigate the then uncharted Great Barrier Reef and the Torres Strait. Now regarded as one of the greatest sailing voyages in history, Mary Bryant's escape took 66 days and over 5,000 kilometres.

Chasing the Dragon

4F/ 2M

According to the ancient legend, if you catch a glimpse of the Dragon's tail, you will meet with good fortune, but good fortune does not always reward the pure heart. Carol, a drug runner who was caught after putting her freedom on the line, in an attempt to secure a better future for her family, was a woman determined to find her path from a dark past to a golden future. She has only ever stared the beast in the mouth and gave up her young baby daughter for adoption, when sentenced to decades of imprisonment in an unnamed Asian country. Carol has been released and now searches for her grown up daughter, named Laura. Laura has been brought up in an upper class milieu by an upwardly mobile couple, Claire and Gavin and has recently met with an Aboriginal man, Zack, who she tries to keep a secret from her parents. Carol discovers this and encourages the relationship.

First Class Women

2 Acts / 13 M4, F9 variable cast 10-15

A zealous middle-class woman seeks to better the lives and conditions of a group of female convicts in colonial NSW. A child born within the institution tests the convictions of all.

**Tim
GOODING**

Rock-Ola

2 Acts / 2M, 2F

Four archetypal figures from the "classic" rock and roll era - JET, the Rebel; ANGEL, the Devil Woman, PAGLIACCI, the Clown Who Cried; and VELVET, the Little Girl Blue; - fear that their best days are gone. Their music has lost any rebellious potency it might once have had. The four take off in a small plane, intent on crashing it on the site of the old Sydney Stadium and perishing in the fashion of Buddy Holly, before they get old.

A Tentshow Pagliacci

2 Acts / 6M, 6F / Possible doubling

A troupe of travelling comics/clowns perform their version of Leoncavallo's opera "I Pagliacci" - about the Clown who must perform despite a tragic heart - in a tent at a seedy seaside holiday resort. Each member of the troupe has a comic style based on a famous movie comedian/comedienne, from Charlie Chaplin to The Three Stooges & Lenny Bruce, from Judy Holiday & Mae West to Phyllis Diller. The resultant clash of comic styles culminates in tragedy.

King of Country

4 Acts / 4M, 2F and 3 musicians

A Country and Western Musical. "CHOOK" FOWLER, former C & W singer, is now a middle aged lost soul, caught between the Bushman/Digger mythology of his father, and the 'go for it', self-promotional 1980s model Australian represented by his daughter. The family's conflict is in part explained by each particular generation's attitude to "the land". CHOOK is forced to reconcile a past he believes he has wasted, with his lack of a future when the family returns to Tamworth for the annual Country Music Festival.

Published Currency Press 1992

Trog! - The Dignity of Labour

2 Acts / 1M / Restricted availability

'Spider' Webster is an ageing roadie from the days when all the job required was a strong back and a capacity for over-indulgence. But Spider can't cut it anymore. With a bad back, diminished self-esteem, a no understanding of today's technology, he plans revenge on the modern world by making one last tour... just him and his cat...

The Miser

2 Acts / 8M, 2F

Harpagon – paranoid buffoon and incarnation of bourgeois greed - lives in self imposed squalor in a neglected mansion. His children are starved of life and of love as a result of their father's monstrous thrift.

This marvelous classic is full of pathos and ruthless wit. Moliere leads us through a hall of mirrors - we see what it shows us and squirm with delight and shameful recognition.

**Wendy
HARMER**

Backstage Pass

1 Act / 3F, 2M

Rock fans Janis and Razz are waiting anxiously for a glimpse of their idol, Stax Jackson, although Razz's brother is more interested in his skateboard. Stax is really gorgeous, or is he? And who is Brian Cronk? Cannon-the-roadie reveals some very interesting information.

This comedy focuses warmly on the generation gap between parents and teenagers, the hype and artificial glamour surrounding pop stars and the intensity of adolescent passion for their particular idols.

Published by Currency Press 1990

What is the Matter with Mary Jane?

1 Act / 1F

Based on the personal experience of the actor Sancia Robinson, this play bravely examines the nightmare of Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia, from the perspective of one who has made it through to the sanity of self - acceptance. Brimming with courage, humour and poignancy.

Published by Currency Press 1995

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiere Sydney Theatre Company 1995

**Dorothy
HEWETT
(The Estate)**

Bon Bons and Roses for Dolly

3 Acts / 5M, 4F

Composer: Mervyn Drake. Awgie-award winner with music.

The tawdry dreams of three generations - set in a rundown cinema, 1890s to 1970s.

Published by Currency Methuen Drama 1976

AWGIE Award, Best Play 1974

Catspaw

2 Acts / 8M, 4F

Composed by: Terence Clarke and Roy Richie

Open stage 1970s musical about drugs, dropouts, conservation and Australian history.

The Chapel Perilous

2 Acts / 3M, 2F plus chorus of 4 or more

Composer Frank Arndt. Open stage with music.

Now more than 25 years old Dorothy Hewett's epic play has grown into a classic of the new Australian Theatre and Sally Banner into a national heroine. A major statement of the woman artists quest for freedom and self realisation in a community uncertain of its standards, the play is full of lyricism, music, satire and self parody. It traces Sally's life from school days, through lovers, attempted suicide, marriage and politics to disillusion and, at the end of her life, the artist's ever-present sense of failure, ironically coupled with worldly success.

Published by Currency Press 1981

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Christina's World

1 Act / 2M, 3F

Operetta Composed by: Ross Edwards

An operetta recreating a young girl's memories of her family and her tragic love affair.

Golden Oldies

2 Acts / 2F

A compassionate, satirical study of the loneliness of women within the family, grandmother and mother in turn face the helplessness of frail age and the daughter is left at the last picking over old memories in an empty house.

Published Currency Press 1981

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Golden Valley

2 Acts / 4M, 4F / Children's play with music

Composer: Jim Cotter

A modern fairytale set in the Australian bush.

Published by Currency Press 1985

Available at Australian Plays Transform

AWGIE Award, Best Children's Play Any Medium 1982

The Jarrabin Trilogy

The Wire Fences of Jarrabin, 2 Acts / 6M, 4F

The Memory Theatre, 2 Acts / 5M, 5F

Pleasure and Palaces, 2 Acts / 6F, 4M

A trilogy about life in a country town in WA between 1920-1970, it tells the saga of shopkeepers, farmers, local drunks, the Bank Manager, a mad lay preacher, Aborigines and young lovers set against the changing fortunes of Jarrabin - flood, fire, war, racism, the rising salt, and an Aboriginal death in custody.

Joan

2 Acts / 11M, 7F

Composer: Patrick Flynn

Open stage with music - a modern retelling of the Joan of Arc story.

Published by Yackandandah Playscripts 1984

The Man from Mukinupin

2 Acts / 3M, 5F

Composer: Jim Cotter

Lyrical celebration with music set in West Australian country town during First World War.

Published by Currency Press 1980

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Me and The Man in the Moon (with Robert Page)

2 Acts / 6M, 4F plus chorus of 4 or more / Traditional songs

Australian tent shows from First World War to the Sixties - open stage celebration, traditional music.

Mrs Porter and the Angel

2 Acts / 5M, 4F

Black fantasy with music. Academics journey through

a suburban hell.

Nowhere

2 Acts / 3M, 2F

Josh, self-professed derro and ex-communist, lives in a hut on the edge of the Showground in Dry Torrent, a town whose affluence dried up when the river did. He shares his days with Blue, a Vietnam veteran whose car broke down at that spot and saw no reason to keep moving. When Vonnie, a young Aboriginal woman fleeing the city, her abusive pimp and a drug habit arrives, the quiet lives of Josh and Blue are changed forever. The fate of these three unlikely friends is written with compassion and humour.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Pandora's Cross

2 Acts / 5M, 4F

Composer: Ralph Tyrell

Artists, crims and bohemians in Sydney's Kings Cross - a song and dance celebration.

The Rising of Pete Marsh

2 Acts / 6M, 2F plus chorus of 4 or more

Symbolic open stage with music set in Britain in Roman times and the year 2000.

Song of the Seals

2 Acts / 4M, 4F

Children's play with music. Composer: Jim Cotter.

About seal people and conservation on the Australian coast. An imaginative journey on the sands of Mystery Bay.

Published by Currency Press 1985

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Susannah's Dreaming

1 Act / 6M, 2F / Radio play

Composer: Kate Lilley

A lyrical one-act radio play full of the sounds of the sea and of fishermen, the dreams of both mother and daughter are destroyed.

Published by Currency Press 1981

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Tatty Hollow Story

1 Acts / 6M, 2F

Composer: Mervyn Drake

Fantasy with music about sex, love and illusion in modern Sydney.

Published by Currency Press 1976

Available at Australian Plays Transform

This Old Man Comes Rolling Home

2 Acts / 6M, 7F / Traditional songs

Romantic realism - life of a working class family in Redfern, Sydney in late Forties.

Published by Currency Methuen Drama 1976

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Zimmer (Co- written with Robert Adamson)

2 Acts / 8M

Composers: Michael Driscoll, Tom Flood

Love, sex, violence and tragedy set in an Australian prison.

Zoo (with Robert Adamson)

2 Acts / 5M, 5F

Composer: Jim Cotter

Open stage musical for young people. The fantastical adventures of two Australian teenagers.

**Tom
HOLLOWAY**
1 Act / 3M

Storm Boy

The much-loved Australian story Storm Boy endures across generations and can be retold again and again.

A long stretch of beach. A wife and mother recently passed away. Hideaway Tom and his son Storm Boy are living in a humpy, keeping out of sight from the townsfolk. The boy explores the island, goes treasure hunting after every storm and breaks the silence of their lives when he meets Fingerbone Bill – also an outcast. Storm Boy stumbles across three orphaned baby pelicans, tucks them into his woolen jumper and sets about raising them.

Dance of Death

1 Act / 1F, 2 M

Alice and Edgar's marriage would be perfect, if they didn't want each other dead. In this blistering jet-black comedy, 20th century master Friedrich Durrenmat has created an electric adaptation of a Strindberg classic, stripping away the sentiment to deliver a depiction of wedded hell as brutally hilarious as a wrestling match refereed by Beckett.

Available on Australian Plays Transform

Forget Me Not

2 Acts/2M, 2F

Gerry is almost 60, and he is going to meet his mother for the first time since he was three. His daughter Sally has had it up to here with him and his problems. The old lady lives somewhere in the UK. Liverpool, according to the records. So Gerry is going there to find out what made him who he is.

Co-commission with Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse Theatres and Belvoir.

Published by Currency Press 2013

As We Forgive

1 Act / 1M

In *As We Forgive*, Holloway explores the questions, "When is doing the wrong thing, the right thing?"; "Are there limits to even the most absolute moral laws?" and "Can evil ever be justified?"

Three characters at the edges of society try to come to terms with the events in their

lives. Each has a story to tell. Each has a reason for why they behaved as they did.
Available on Australian Plays Transform

And No More Shall We Part

1 Act / 1M, 1F

This play is not a political debate. It is not trying to argue that euthanasia should be legal or illegal. It is a play about two people who are deeply in love trying their hardest to be able to say goodbye to each other. As the Baby Boomer generation heads in to their sixties and seventies, this is a question that is going to be faced more and more by the largest generation on Earth. It is not about religious beliefs or perceived human rights, it is about preparing to say goodbye.

Premiered Melbourne Fringe Festival, 2009

Winner 2010 Victorian Premier's Award, The Louis Esson Prize for Drama

Winner 2010 Australian Writer's Guild Award (AWGIE) for Best Stage Play

Beyond The Neck

1 Act / 2M, 2F

Dealing with grief and recover, this play is set ten years after the 1996 events at Port Arthur and is based on in-depth interviews conducted by playwright Tom Holloway.

Published by Playlab Press

Presented as part of the Royal Court Theatre's International Young Playwright's Festival London, 2007

Premiered in Tasmania by Performing Lines, 2007

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 2008 Australian Writer's Guild Award (AWGIE) for Best Stage Play

Don't Say The Words

1 Act / 2M, 1F

After a decade under siege a city has finally fallen. But ten years of rage have taken their toll. For an officer returning from this epic overseas campaign, it is time to put the horrors of battle behind him, and to take back his place at the family table.

For the officer's wife, it is time to take her revenge...

Inspired by Aeschylus' *Agamemnon* and a truly contemporary Australian landscape — with breathtaking results.

Published by Currency Press 2008

Premiered Griffin Theatre Company, 2008

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Faces Look Ugly

1 Act / 1M, 2F

Faces Look Ugly is a play about sickness, love, death, the sick love of death and everything in between. Sometimes you need to just stop and tell the people around you that enough is enough. And it's always helpful to have a bloodied tire iron close to hand.

World Premiere at the Aarhus Theatre, Denmark 2011

Love Me Tender

1 Act / 5M, 2F

Inspired by Euripides' *Iphigenia in Aulis*, this play creates a vision of contemporary Australia drawn from our experiences of the catastrophic bushfires, of raunch culture

and pre-teen sexuality, and of our domestic rituals. It speaks about our fears, the expectations of fathers, the extremities of love, and the need for action when the world becomes undone.

Published by Currency Press 2010

Commissioned by Griffin Theatre Company 2008

Premiered Company B, Belvoir 2010 Season with Griffin Theatre and ThinIce Productions

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Red Sky Morning

1 Act / 1M, 2F

A lyrical exploration of dislocation and the need to connect, told through the experience of a father, a mother and their teenage daughter in the course of one life-changing day. The play confronts head, on the impact of depression and isolation in the modern world
Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 2007 RE Ross Trust Script Development Award

Winner 2008 Green Room Award for Best New Writing for the Australian Stage

100 Reasons for War

4 Parts / Indeterminate

Grandly ambitious, funny, angry, provocative and ultimately optimistic response to a century of 'man's inhumanity to man', 100 years after Gallipoli.

This is no battlefield-drama or period piece. Holloway's war is played out in the here and now, in kitchens and classrooms, boardrooms and bars. A big play about big things: Big Bang, the power of words, technology and social media, Edward Bernays, Anna Freud and Bill Clinton, gender, age and class divides, sports-rage, phone-rage and queue-rage, evolution, faith and chimpanzees.

World Premiere at Blue Cow Theatre, 2015

Double Indemnity

2 Acts / 6M, 3F / Possible doubling

Adapted from the book by James M Cain. Insurance agent Walter Huff has nosed around the business long enough to smell a scam, so when he meets Phyllis Nirdlinger to talk about her husband's insurance coverage he gets a perfumed whiff of trouble. But she has a persuasive way of putting things. Can't a wife fix a little security for herself? After all, a beloved husband can suffer a fatal accident just as easily as an honest guy can fall hard for a dame who's no good.

The LA sunshine throws plenty of dark shadows in James M Cain's sensational thriller novels of the thirties and forties, of which this steamy tale of murder and desire is the undoubted masterpiece.

Premiere at Melbourne Theatre Company, 2016

**Emme
HOY**

Extinction of the Learned Response

2 Acts / 3F, 2M

In a spotless room, four people are having tea.

Duncan and Marlow are scientists. Rachel and Wells are their subjects, and they can almost pass for human now...

But Wells is growing stronger and Rachel is learning faster than predicted, and Duncan and Marlow's hold on them – and on power – is proving more fragile than expected. Tensions are rising, tempers are fraying, and somewhere in the darkness, tenderness blossoms, and a carefully controlled experiment begins to twist into something far stranger, and far more

obscure...

Bathory Begins (written with Gretel Vella)

2 Acts / 7F, 7M

Year 10 Art teacher Mrs Bathory is most definitely a reincarnation of the sadistic, serial-killer Countess, Erzebet Báthory. It's pretty obvious to her class of seven —yes, seven— girls. The last remaining survivors. When the students in 10F decide to pull the prank of the century and destroy the beast for good, there's just one thing that stands in their way. The private schoolboys from Judas Gents have arrived, and they don't feel so comfortable with murder. Girls vs. boys. Public vs. private... And an undead woman of the night. Things were never going to end well.

**Jean
KITTSOON**

Escape - Passion Series

1 Act / 1F

Against a background of chip fat, blowflies and Country and Western, a waitress hungers for a new life.

Premiered at Griffin 1994, produced for SBS TV 1995

Available at Australian Plays Transform

**Paul
LIVINGSTON**

Emma's Nose

1 Act / 2 M, 1F

Freud is nervous. It's 1895 and he is just an historical footnote in the annals of psychiatry; but his mentor and inspiration Wilhelm Fliess is coming to town. Perhaps he can help Freud solve the unfathomable condition of one of his most difficult patients - Emma Eckstein. Perhaps Fliess can help Freud get to the heart of Emma's real illness. Emma's Nose is the story of an atrocity - and the horrific consequences of collaborative self-deception, as Freud aligns himself with one of the giants of German crackpottery. Two buffoons set about curing the world and their victim, Emma, pays dearly. Emma's Nose is a darkly comic play; hilarious, savage and, most remarkably, true.

Premiered at Belvoir St Theatre

Her Master's Voice

2 Acts / 1F, 2M

A play for two actors, one male, one female, who appear to be under arrest. It becomes evident only late in the piece that they are in fact two dogs being held in a council shelter. The male dog Hannibal is a hardened pound rat. He's been on death row on several occasions, having been lost, dumped, the victim of cruelty, a runaway, and has lost the urge to play the perfect puppy. He is joined by a young female dog, Bindi, well kept, a pure breed, this is her first time inside. She remains optimistic, insisting her master will rescue her. There has been some mistake.

Hannibal harbours a secret; the fact that THEY take everything, including your deepest desires and needs. Her Master's Voice is also about humans, our hopes, and our attitudes toward mortality, love and faith. Hannibal and Bindi represent the polar opposites of personality, the eternal optimist meets the terminal pessimist.

The odd couple of the canine world forced into one dark night of confrontation and contemplation on the state of being.

It's Alive!

1 Act / 6F, 7M

Set on page 182 of Mary Shelley's novel, Frankenstein, three characters ponder their fate. As the Monster waits for his character to be redeemed, he is joined by a minor

character, The Drowning Girl, who is in search of her father and a larger role in the book. Her Father avoids oblivion by taking on many smaller roles in the hope of not being written out. As Shelley pushes toward a conclusion, their situation becomes dire.

A shorter version of *It's Alive!*, with 2F, 3M is also available

Radio plays by Paul Livingston include *Her Master's Voice*, *This Hideous Progeny* and *One Eye on Venus* (all produced by ABC Radio)

**Doug
MACLEOD**

Huts (Co-Written by Philip Dalkin)

2 Acts / 1M

**Tony
McNAMARA**

The Great

2 Acts / 7M, 4F (2M, 1F Doubling)

This definitely won't be a history lesson...*The Great* is Tony McNamara's distinctive comic take on the rise and reign of Catherine the Great of Russia. The action spans the course of Catherine's adult life as she learns the ways of the world and takes on the challenge of political power with all of its attendant responsibilities, excesses and sorrows. It is at once a coming of age story, a family drama and a wild satire on power. With an attention to veracity that would make Monty Python squeal, history is well and truly damned. Leave the facts with your car keys and your towel on the Sands of Time, come, frolic in the Sea of Great Unlikelihood...

Published by Currency Press 2008

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered at Sydney Theatre Company 2008

The John Wayne Principle

1 Act / 3F, 4M

In a single gunshot, Robbie is catapulted from 90s househusband to corporate tycoon. Suddenly his world spirals into a comic frenzy of jerks in jackets and suaves in suits while his designer wife dreams of overthrowing Osh Kosh ... *what's a man gotta do to keep his head?* A hilarious contemporary satire.

Published by Currency Press 1997

Premiered Sydney Theatre Company 1996

The Caffè Latte Kid

1 Act / 3M, 2F

Highly charged and savage satire on the corruptions that can eat away at families in the 1990s. A young man leaves a mental institution and goes home to his family. They aren't there immediately, but when they do get together he finds the only way he can get their attention is to hold a gun on them. Screamingly funny, cutting and accurate.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Resurrection of Grudge Graham

2 Acts / 5M, 3F

Heavy metal rocker Grudge Graham returns from a year in rehab for his comeback tour. But is his long time manager and friend, Manny, ready for the new improved Grudge? Exciting, intelligent humour from an important new Australian talent.

The Recruit

2 Acts / 5M, 2 F

A crisply cynical play about sports, male competitiveness, pop psychology and the cult of celebrity. This play follows two football agents who descend on the home of the

simple but talented young player Stuey to recruit him for their club. Plans are complicated when they find that the week before, Stuey's brother Jimmy committed suicide. Where winning at any cost is the only consideration, the pair wager on who will be the first to sign up Stuey, while engaging in outrageous emotional manipulation of his parents Ken and Meg, who are grieving over their son's death.

The Virgin Mim

2 Acts / 3M, 3F

When Ed and Steve meet old friends for dinner, they're hot. They're cooking. They're on the threshold of a million dollar deal. But tonight they're not talking money. Tonight they're here because Mim is coming home. Mim McDermott, ruthless lawyer extraordinaire, is back from a Catholic community in Ireland. She's a born-again believer and when she tries to save their souls, she plunges them all into holy hell. The play is a tidal wave of comic mayhem, as Mim zealously exposes the cracks in her old friends' marriages, the soul-destroying compromises in their work, and the fraudulent foundations of their friendships.

Premiered at Sydney Theatre Company 2002

The Unlikely Prospect Of Happiness

1 Act / 5 M, 3F

There's nothing like being audited to remind you that everything comes at a cost. Ben O'Sullivan is having a bad day at the family-run clothing factory. He's back from a business trip to find his brother drunk, his father ripping off suits, his mother dying (again) and his wife off for an erotic massage. Then Zoe Sparkes arrives. Zoe is an auditor from the Tax Office. She's a single woman who can do the maths. Within 24 hours she has taken over Ben's office. She has taken stock. And she has taken off her clothes. Who can blame Ben for falling in love? The best thing is - she loves him back. She offers him the unlikely prospect of happiness. Will he take it?

Premiered at Sydney Theatre Company 2004

The Give and Take

2 Acts / 5M, 3F

Don is an executive. His mind should be on his firm's latest line of garden sprinklers. But his wife has just told him she's leaving to have tantric sex in Tuscany. When he tells his three children, they aren't surprised; they are a self-absorbed trio only interested in Dad's money. The children will put up with Dad quitting his job. The children will put up with Dad wreaking havoc with their private lives. They will even put up with Dad trying to salvage his family. But when Don bets everything he owns on a horse race, what will three selfish twenty-somethings do then?

The Give and Take sends up a generation that is both idealistic and ruthlessly pragmatic, with a wry eye turned on their wayward parents.

Premiered at Sydney Theatre Company 2005

Ian MEADOWS

Between Two Waves

1 Act / 2M, 2F

Having lost a lifetime of research in the worst floods Sydney has witnessed, Daniel – a climatologist and advisor to the government – isn't in the mood for appreciating the irony of what he should have predicted.

Paralysed by the knowledge that the world is consuming itself, Daniel takes little joy in planning for his future – somewhat of a problem for his spirited other half, Fiona. When Fiona tells Daniel they're about to start a family, Daniel must choose between what he

knows and what he loves.

An urgent and searching new play about the most pressing issue of our times, *Between Two Waves* asks an anxious, warming world: how do we find happiness in the face of an uncertain future?

A politically charged relationship drama set against a climate change backdrop, *Between Two Waves* is the first play to be produced out of the Griffin Studio, by one of the most talented new voices in the country.

Premiered at Griffin Theatre 2012

Published by Currency Press 2012

Four Deaths in the Life of Ronaldo Abok

1 Act / 3F, 3M

In June 2011, Ronaldo Abok's life is in chaos. It should be a time for joyous celebration and South Sudan, the homeland he was forced from, is about to become the world's newest nation. But Ronaldo is torn in too many directions. He's studying filmmaking, working his part-time job at the cinema, ferrying Aunt Mary and her kids around town and visiting Uncle Atem in hospital. And although Ronaldo's certain he's the next Tarantino, he can't get his films off the ground and in Australia you need English to have a voice.

Then he meets Rachel and a girl who knows her mind but questions whether Ronaldo knows his. Will he be a Lost Boy forever, or will he find peace?

**Mary
MORRIS**

Australian amateur performance rights only

Blabbermouth

2 Acts/ 4F, 2M

Blabbermouth is the adaptation of another popular Morris Gleitzman novel about a young girl, Rowena, who moves to a new country town, and school, with her widowed father who has a penchant for satin cowboy shirts and embarrassing his daughter in public. Rowena hears, but cannot speak and the play explores many issues including disabilities, friendship, fitting in, and how children and adults try to co-exist.

Published Currency Press 1996

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Boss of the Pool

2 Acts / 3F, 1 boy, 1 girl

Adapted from Robin Klein's best-selling novel. Shelley is embarrassed when her mother starts working at the retard farm. Why can't she get a decent job? Petra's mother gets cheap cassettes from hers. At the pool, Ben is afraid of the water but hangs around the edge and Tania in the wheelchair is organising a disco.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Two Weeks With The Queen

2 Acts / 2M, 2F, 2 boys

Adapted from the best-selling novel by Morris Gleitzman. Colin has a mission. He wants to speak to the Queen about his brother Luke who has cancer. Cousin Alistair would like to help but stress brings on his dandruff. Colin takes the lock off the back door and goes out alone.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

**Peta
MURRAY**

Blueback

1 Act

A gentle, evocative puppet play adapted from Tim Winton's fable of the same name, *Blueback* tells the story of an inquisitive boy's journey into adulthood, and his friendship with a grand old fish. *Blueback* celebrates the magic and mysteries of the sea, and has been described as "a fable for all ages, bringing to life issues of personal maturation, conservation, and the power of place."

Salt

2 Acts / 1M, 2F

Meg is an independent woman who loves to eat and loves to cook. At the age of 42, she finds herself sharing a kitchen with her mother, Laurel, a glamorous 70 year old who carries a can opener in her handbag. A recipe for disaster? 'Salt' takes us to the heart of the matter in five courses cooked on stage, to ask: What nourishes? What starves? Who feeds? Who is fed?

A play about love and memory, emptiness and fullness, motherhood and ageing, Salt is a poetic tribute to the ties that bind and the perils and pleasures of the table.

Published by Currency Press 2002

*Winner 2001 Australian National Playwright's Centre New Dramatists Award Winner
2001 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Best Stage Play*

Wallflowering

2 Acts / 1M, 1F with 2 dancers (optional)

Wallflowering traces the uncertain steps of Cliff and Peg Small, an ordinary couple, as they attempt to save their marriage. One time prize-winning ballroom dancers, they now find themselves out of step with each other, and with the changing values of the world around them. Through the metaphor of dance, the play examines the dynamics of an evolving relationship. It looks at the impact on relationships when individuals embrace growth and change, and begin to tell the truth.

Published by Currency Press 1992

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Spitting Chips

2 Acts / 2M, 2F / For 10-15 year olds

Spitting Chips is a comedy about grief, loss and anger for younger audiences. The play charts the changing relationship between Sybil (also known as Spud) Adams and her well-meaning, but workaholic father, as she begins to come to terms with the death of her mother and the inevitability of change.

Published by Currency Press 1995

Available at Australian Plays Transform

This Dying Business

1 Act / 2F, 1M

Set in a lecture theatre where three dying people are giving a formal presentation to a conference audience. Based on research in a hospice, it examines the hospice philosophy and community attitudes to death and dying through the eyes of the patients, their relatives and those who care for them professionally. The play is stylised and based upon image rather than conventional narrative and despite the weighty subject matter it is warm, funny and never morbid.

The Flying Flopps

1 Act / 3 puppeteers minimum / primary school puppet play / the five central

characters are represented by multiples of each puppet and one character is ultimately played by an actor puppeteer.

H.B. Flopp, the youngest member of a travelling circus family is preparing for his debut and must master "the trick of tricks". He must confront his fear of the dark and of the trick that one day caused his father to disappear forever. He must also control his imaginary friend, Hector Bully who threatens to ruin everything.

Commissioned by Terrapin Puppet Theatre 1990

The Diver

2 Acts / 3F, 2M / For upper primary and secondary students

This follows the journey of thirteen year old Ziggy Baddeley as she discovers a new sense of self. After the breakdown of her parent's marriage, Ziggy, her baby brother and her mother, Clare, move to a new suburb to begin again. In order to deal with the loss of security and all the changes thrust upon her, Ziggy decides to re-invent herself. She plans to start at her new school as a 'more colourful, more interesting person'. At the new school, she meets two other teenagers, and becomes embroiled in the drama of their lives. Theo Casella is struggling to discover himself after years of living in the shadow of a highly successful older brother. Karen Fischer, a champion diver, is drowning beneath the weight of her father's ambitions and expectations. This play takes a comic look at the many influences, pressures and choices faced by young people as they strive to develop their identities and strengthen their self-esteem.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Keys to the Animal Room

2 Acts/3M, 2F

"You can do terrible things to animals and they still love you. It takes a lot to break an animal's heart..."

Julie and Carl's lives are falling apart. They say they are in love but the whole marriage thing is just not working. Raised voices and strained tempers make for ugly scenes. Violence has entered the home and struck at its very heart. With Julie scared and Carl striving for perfection in an imperfect world, they're both caught up in the cause and effect of what society demands. But how do they tell the people they love they're living a domestic nightmare? The guilt of hitting her. The shame of letting it happen again and again. Behind closed doors lie the best kept secrets.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

One Woman's Song

1 Act/16M, 10F doubling plus a chorus

This play tells the story of Oodgeroo Noonuccal (Kath Walker) and the Noonuccal people. Set against four decades of a changing nation, it is the story of a woman's search for her own voice. From the ti-trees of Stradbroke in the 1920's, through Brisbane in the Depression and World War II, into the Menzies dominated fifties and then to the heady days of the Civil Rights Movement in the sixties; one woman saw it all from an unique perspective and wrote what she saw.

The Law of Large Numbers

3F, 2M plus a chorus / number indeterminate

The Law of Large Numbers tells the story of Coral Reith, a middle-aged woman who suddenly finds herself in an "empty nest" after years as wife and mother. Coral's

attempts to find kindred spirits and meaningful community lead to dead ends, and eventually she takes solace in the "nearly machines" of local gaming halls.

Meanwhile, her home town is experiencing a mysterious proliferation of ants and spectacular antmounds.

This play is a bizarre comedy about gaming machines, and is designed to involve both community members and audience in the performance.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

**Louis
NOWRA**

The Wedding in Venice

2 Acts / 5M, 5F For 10 actors

The Wedding in Venice is a comedy set in the 1980s. Cosimo is a flight attendant and apparently a prince. Lady Rosalind Suttor, the doyen of Sydney society, takes him under her wing in the hope that he will marry her daughter Hettie. She does not realise that Cosimo lives with his handsome partner Robert. Carson Bloom, a society columnist, decides that he will unmask Cosimo as a fraud, first of all picking on his military record, but he is proved wrong. Everyone, including Robert, wants Cosimo to marry Hettie but a day before the wedding in Venice, Carson reveals that Cosimo is not a prince. Cosimo runs off with the best man (Robert). But his final actions are 'princely' - as Hettie says: "He's more like a Prince than a Prince".

The Language of the Gods

2 Acts / 6M, 6F / Possible doubling

Sulawesi, 1946. As the people's movement rolls inexorably towards the establishment of an Indonesian republic, Dutch colonial rule is on the brink of collapse. The Braak family faces the inevitable, but not before confronting the truth about their own lives and the legacy they will leave behind. A remarkable insight into turbulent times and a powerful human drama about people whose lives are set to change forever.

Published by Currency Press 1999

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Sunrise

2 Acts / 7M, 6F

The garden of an Australian country estate, the sixtieth birthday celebrations of patriarch and scientist Clarrie Shelton, the "tribal get-together" of the family, the comings and goings of their friends and relations over an Easter weekend that begins at twilight and ends at sunrise. In this foreboding atmosphere of privilege and pleasure Louis Nowra explores the mysterious chasm between what we do and what we dream and say. The family of a pastoralist gather for his 60th birthday and revive old loves and fears. Unspoken disorders flare up with the suddenness of a bushfire, doing violence to the people and the land.

Published by Currency Press 1983

Inner Voices

1 Act / 5M, 3F

This play demonstrates a preoccupation with isolation and the exercise of power through the imagination. The central character is held prisoner by men whose ignorance is matched only by their ambition. The son of Catherine the Great, locked away since childhood, is set upon the throne of Russia knowing only his name.

Published by Currency Press 1977

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Visions

2 Acts / 13M, 6F Composer:
Sarah de Jong

This play is set in Paraguay of the 1860s during the War of the Triple Alliance, the bloodiest conflict in Latin American history. The megalomaniac President Lopez has married Madame Lynch, a Partisan courtesan. His ignorance and her egotism together bring ruin on the country themselves. Against this violent background of bungled diplomacy, death and superstition, is set an allegory of conflicting values, where visions of the civilised arts of peace sacrifice a nation to its own barbarity.
Published by Currency Press 1979

Inside the Island

2 Acts / 12M, 4F

Louis Nowra pursues his concern with the mechanics of power and the ways convention protects the privileged from human nature in this compelling play. Set in a farming district of western New South Wales in 1912, it is demonstrated how a matriarchal imitation of English society is destroyed by an outbreak of 'holy fire', madness from a wheat fungus.
Published by Currency Press 1982

Albert Names Edward

1Act / 2M / A radio version is also available

An early play about an amnesiac holed up in the fantasy world of Mickey Spillane. The play explores the relationship between speech and thought in the shaping of perceptions.

Published by Currency Press 1983

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Precious Woman

1 Act / 4F, 10M

Concerns power and privilege. Set in the 1920s in China, the child-like Us-ling learns that there is no place for compassion in the execution of social change.

Published by Currency Press 1982

Capricornia

3 Acts / 15M, 13F

Xavier Herbert's classic novel of racial conflict in the Northern Territory during the 30s has been expertly dramatised in this powerful and moving story of a man's journey of self discovery when he learns the truth of his Aboriginal parentage.

Published by Currency Press Theatre Series 1988

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Golden Age

2 Acts / 10M, 6F

An epic play about two young hikers who accidentally discover a lost community in the horizontal forests of Tasmania. Lost in time, the group clashes with the culture of modern Australia with tragic consequences. A study based on a true story of the relationship between language and culture.

Published by Currency Press 1989 and Dramatic Publishing Company 1990

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Byzantine Flowers

2 Acts / 4M, 2F

Set during the First World War in Northern Queensland, it is a story of a half kanaka islander girl, Roma and a half caste Aboriginal boy, Eddie who are itinerant canecutters. Before going off to war Eddie gets Roma a job in the house of the plantation owner, Mr Harris. In his 60s and a widower he falls in love with Roma as she does with him, or does she? Eddie returns from the horror of the war to discover his girlfriend seems to be in love with both of them. The confrontation that eventually results will make Roma not only wiser but perhaps matriarch of the plantation.

Published by Five Islands press 2000

Summer of the Aliens

2 Acts / 4M, 4F

It is 1962 and the world is worried about the Cuban missile crisis, except for Lewis, a youth on the cusp of manhood, growing up in a Melbourne housing commission suburb. He is preoccupied by flying saucer, much to the disgust of his friend Brian who can think only of losing his virginity. Lewis finds a natural soulmate in local tom-boy, Dulcie, who has her own confusions about approaching womanhood. And then out of nowhere Lewis's errant father returns to stay, as if he had never gone.

Published by Currency Press 1992

Cosi

2 Acts / 7M, 4F

A young director, Lewis gets to do his first production. The trouble is, he has mental patients for a cast and they want to do an opera, even though there is no orchestra and no one can sing. But the highly strung Mozart fanatic Roy is determined. Against the odds and amid the mayhem of the asylum, Lewis agrees. He then attempts to get the opera on the boards with the help of pyromaniac Doug; Julie, an attractive junkie; obsessive, compulsive Ruth; amorous Cherry and emotionally paralysed legal eagle Henry.

Published by Currency Press 1992

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 1992 NSW Premier's Literary Award

Radiance

2 Acts / 3F

On the outskirts of a sleepy seaside town in Northern Queensland stands an old house shrouded in mystery. Three half sisters return to this childhood home on the eve of their mother's funeral, but they do more than just bury their mother. Their bonds are elusive, tentative, born of a broken past webbed in secrets, lies, deceit and shame. Now driven by needs long buried, and a half conscious but burning desire to know the truth and exorcise the ghosts of the past they unleash secrets on this one night that will change their lives forever. This is the one night of the year when the tide goes out and they can walk across the mudflats to the island....if they have the courage.

Published by Currency Press 1993

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Temple

2 Acts / 8F, 13M

Time when money was cheap so long as you had the guts to ask for it. Laurie Blake did and with it he built his Bridges of Dreams. A small debt might have been his problem,

but a billion dollar debt was the banks'. It is a ferocious and funny portrait of the rise and rise of a former truckie and slaughterhouse owner turned entrepreneur. A womaniser, art collector and friend to Prime Ministers, Laurie Blake, the takeover king of Australia, rampages his way through a decade when the whole country seemed out of control.

Published by Currency Press 1993

Winner 1994 Victorian Premier's Literary Award

Crow

1 Act / 1F, 13M

This is the tale of an aboriginal woman nicknamed Crow. She has been fighting the government for years to win back a tin mine which is rightfully hers. Mercurial, stubborn, sexy and irreverent, she never gives in even if at times she is her own worst enemy. Set in 1942 during the bombing of Darwin, this is a moving picture of an extraordinary world. A frontier melting pot peopled by nightsoil collectors, soldiers, flying ghosts, a transvestite, a chinaman with a myriad of get-rich-quick schemes and CROW'S two sons, one of whom is a travelling boxer, the other with a talent for swallowing live mice.

Published by Currency Press 1994

The Watchtower

2 Acts /4F, 8M

Set in a Blue Mountains TB sanatorium from 1939 to 1945. The story of what happens to a group of TB patients who must wait to be cured as the world is engulfed in the Second World War. The disease has determined everyone's lives. Some patients die, others live, and in the end a sense of hope prevails over despair.

Published by Yackandandah Press 1992

The Jungle

1 Act / 20 parts / 5 actors

16 self contained playlets set over 24 hours from dawn to dawn in Sydney. Moving from the streets of Kings Cross to the harbour views of a penthouse apartment, connections are made between characters and situations in bizarre and revelatory ways... an inspector, searching for stolen abalone, is trapped by a Kurt Cobain fanatic who is about to urinate on him; a Kings Cross policeman, who's been speeding for 24 hours, questions a prostitute over stolen drugs; a gay Sydney businessman acquires a young and very brash Romanian lover. And there's an alien roaming the streets... the resulting picture is of a city and people existing within an almost amoral randomness but where a little kindness goes a long way.

Published by Five islands Press 1998

Premiered at Sydney Theatre Company 1995

Beatrice

1 Act / 9F, 2M

Beatrice lives in a run-down terrace in Woolloomooloo with her sister, her mum and her mother's current boyfriend. Thirteen years old, autistic and disconnected from her dysfunctional family, Beatrice takes refuge in her mind. There, she delights in the music and videos of a bygone era: The Thin Man, Frank Sinatra and The Rat Pack.

Dragged along by her begrudging sister, Beatrice becomes involved in a community worker's bizarre attempt at a nativity performance. When her cherished music is sold, a tuxedoed Fairy Pack (an imaginative answer to the Rat Pack) come in to her life to

help get the records back, solve a murder and give her the confidence to shine like a star.

Commissioned by Australian Theatre of Young People for their 40th anniversary in 2003

Miss Bosnia

1 Act / 7F, 1M

1993. Sarajevo. Mira is a big-haired super-bitch, a former Miss Yugoslavia. She's running the first Miss Bosnia pageant as a morale-booster for the shattered city. Self elected organiser of this inaugural beauty contest, Mira has her own reasons for wanting it to succeed. The six contestants are a motley bunch. This is more than a chance to represent Bosnia-Herzegovina in the Miss World pageant. First prize is a coveted seat on the last UN convoy out of Sarajevo. Who wouldn't put brains and bodies on the line? Longing, love and lust mingle with the smell of fear and war and power is the ultimate ruler ... but who has the power? Shy yet alluring Lidija, an elegant Goddess - draws you in with her mystic appeal. Who is she... what is her story? Why does the very presence of General Jez fill her with dread and terror?

Boris is a young disillusioned soldier desperate to escape the war. Could the pageant be his ticket out? And could his connection with General Jez secure his escape?

Bitchery is rife, adrenalin is the drug of choice, the comedy is bayonet sharp and the talent quest is raucously hilarious. In a world made sick by war, laughter is still the best, perhaps the only medicine. Based on a bizarre but true story, this bitterly funny play is a witty look at the politics of swimsuit parades, and a sombre condemnation of the horror of war.

The Incorruptible

1 Act / 1F, 10M

Ion Stafford, *The Incorruptible*, is the quintessential man of the land. Chosen by the powerbrokers to be the ideal politician he soon turns the tables on those who think they can control him and starts his own crusade for ultimate power.

Published by Currency Press 1995

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered at Playbox 1995

The Woman With Dog's Eyes

2 Acts / 4M, 1F

It's the night of the winter solstice. Malcolm and Penny Boyce have returned to the site of their wedding night for their fortieth wedding anniversary; a famous old hotel. Since that idyllic night forty years ago, much has passed. And died. Malcolm has ascended to the pinnacle of industry and is now a millionaire magnate. Along the way he has betrayed his wife, drawn two of his sons into his empire and greed, and banished a third from his life all together.

Malcolm, believing his family to be in ignorance of the fact that his death is imminent, has arranged for a complete re-enactment of that golden wedding night. But his wife and sons have learned that his days are numbered and arrange for the surprise arrival of the estranged son, Todd. Todd's arrival and his mother's plea for his re-entry into the family fold brings to the surface a chain of bitter memories and half-forgotten vendettas. Finally, Penny who seems to be the servant of this house of men – reveals her own complete mastery of them all – and by force of her knowledge of them all pushes and bullies the family to hold together.

*Published by Currency Press 2006 as first part of **The Boyce Trilogy***

Available at Australian Plays Transform

World Premiere Griffin Theatre, Sydney 2004

The Marvellous Boy

2 Acts / 4M, 1F

Hugely entertaining new play...bursting through with vivid, unexpected life. TIME Magazine

This play follows *The Woman with Dogs Eyes* as part two of a trilogy about dynastic succession in a family at war. Youngest son, Luke embarks on a crash course in managing the company after his father, Malcolm, learns he has terminal cancer.

Luke is hungry to prove himself and a definite risk taker. He is introduced to underworld identity Ray Pollard, his soft-hearted, hearing-impaired sidekick Victor and Esther, a campaigner determined to expose Malcolm's alleged wrongdoings to the world. With the intention of dampening her efforts to sabotage the company's next building project, Luke seduces Esther and falls for her, unaware she was his father's mistress for ten years shifting his journey from ignorance to the truth about his father's ruthless lust for power, and his own vulnerability.

Published by Currency Press 2006 as part two of ***The Boyce Trilogy*** World

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiere Griffin Theatre, Sydney 2005

The Emperor of Sydney

2 Acts / 3M, 2F

As their father dies in the master bedroom above the huge Beauchamp mansion living room, three sons fight for control of the family construction company. There are two immediate problems - the company is near bankruptcy because of a huge stalled project (their father's personal vision) and they are facing a criminal investigation into the father's role in the suspicious death of the project's outspoken critic. There is Todd, the black sheep of the family who wants to prove himself, Keith, the oldest who believes it is his natural right and the youngest, Luke, who is driven by the death of the only woman he has ever loved. The one who wins will be the most ruthless. The victor faces losing his soul in the fight.

Published by Currency Press 2006 as final part of ***The Boyce Trilogy***.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Emperor of Sydney is a self contained play but is also the final instalment of a trilogy (including ***The Woman with Dog's Eyes*** and ***The Marvellous Boy***).

World Premiere Griffin Theatre, Sydney 2006

This Much is True

1 Act/ 7M, 1F

A debt collector, a drag queen, a rogue chemist and a manic depressive walk into a pub...

This Much Is True continues the story of Lewis from *Summer of the Aliens* and *Cosi*.

Now he's older, a writer and lives in an inner city suburb filled with public housing, the underclass and characters who could only exist in such a place.

He attends the 150 year old hotel, The Rising Sun, where he mixes with a core of customers, including an ice chemist, a once famous drag queen, a violent debt collector, a con man, a manic depressive and a fixer.

These stories are true.

**Hannie
RAYSON**

Extinction

2 Acts/ 2M, 2F

The death of an endangered tiger quoll is the critical backdrop to an Australian story about our very survival. Andy Dixon is a vet who believes strongly in preserving the environment and our natural resources. When his lover, the determined conservation biologist Dr Piper Ross, agrees to undertake research paid for by the CEO of a mining

company, he begins to question her methods and his feelings toward her. Little does she know that Andy has been diagnosed with a rare illness, and his life is in as much danger as the species she is trying to save.

World premiere Black Swan State Theatre Company 2015

Originally commissioned by the Manhattan Theatre Club, Lynne Meadow, Artistic Director, Barry Grove, Executive Producer with funds provided by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

The Swimming Club

2 Acts/3M, 4F

Six young people from around the world, including two UWA students, spend one glorious summer together on a Greek island in 1983. They are beautiful, adventurous, idealistic and believe that the world is theirs for the taking. Fast-forward to 2009: each - in their own way - feel trapped by their life choices and are baffled by their children's youth culture in the new millennium. Will a reunion on their magical Greek island be able to rekindle their spiritual fire?

World Premiere, Melbourne Theatre Company 2010

Published by Currency Press 2010

The Glass Soldier

4 Acts/ 8M, 4W

The true story, a story of love, mateship and the bond between husband and wife, friend and friend, father and son. The Glass Soldier is a play, inspired by the life of Nelson Ferguson who served in France as a Field Ambulance officer in World War I. It is an epic story about war and art and the triumph of love told from the point of view of a young Australian who was plunged into a powerful international tragedy, the likes of which he could never have anticipated.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Inheritance

2 Acts / 6F, 6M

In the Mallee country in rural Victoria, the Hamilton and Delaney families gather to celebrate twin sisters Dibs and Girlie's eightieth birthday. But these have been heartbreak years in the bush and the cracks are beginning to show – between parents and their children and between siblings, between those who have been loyal to the land and those who have left it, between farmers and townies, between country folk and their city cousins. And in the background is always the question: Who gets the farm?

Published by Currency Press 2003

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner of 2004 Helpmann Awards for Best Play and Best New Australian Work

Two Brothers

2 Acts / 5M, 3F (1 double)

"The problem with my brother is that he won't give up his principles to get results."
Former Liberal Front bencher.

This is the story of two brothers who fierce ideological fight rips their family apart, decimates their personal and political reputations and challenges the moral integrity of the nation.

Eggs Benedict is the Minister for Home Security. His first responsibility is to keep boat

people from the Middle East out of Australia. His brother Tom is a left-wing community activist. He represents one of the Iraqi survivors of a boat that sank in the Indian Ocean where 353 asylum-seekers drowned.

Part political thriller, part family drama, Hannie Rayson asks searing questions about a political culture where the unthinkable becomes a routine "operational matter". A culture in which some people would rather let refugees down at sea than face questions about the meaning of global citizenship. Surely there is some bedrock of honour that imposes moral responsibilities on governments? After all – this is Australia. Nobody's that bad!

Published by Currency Press 2005

Available at Australian Plays Transform

World Premiere Melbourne Theatre Company 2005, transferred to Sydney Theatre Company and toured regionally.

Mary

1 Act / 5F / Can be played with 4F

Mary is a play about being Greek and growing up in Melbourne. It juxtaposes a Greek-Australian family with an Anglo-Australian one, focusing on the relationships between mothers and their teenage daughters. The play explores the conflicts and the comedy of cultural difference, both within families and between them. It is also about the quest for identity as women, daughters and mothers.

Published by Yackandandah 1983

Room To Move

2 Acts / 3M, 3F

A comedy about the impact of feminism at a time when it has become a permanent third partner in our relationships, particularly the repercussions for a family when a 30 year-old "new man" moves in with their 62 year old mother.

Published by Yackandandah 1985

Co-winner 1986 Australian Writers' Guild Award FOR Best Original Stage Play

Hotel Sorrento

2 Acts / 4M, 4F

Hilary lives in seaside Sorrento with her father and sixteen year old son; Pippa is visiting from New York and Meg returns from England with her English husband. Three sisters, reunited after ten years in different worlds, again feel the constraints of family life. It is Meg's semi-autobiographical novel, recently short-listed for the Booker prize, which overshadows their homecoming.

It is about expatriatism, our perception of home and the tensions that exist between those who've left and those who've stayed behind. It is about the responsibilities of family obligations and national ties, the rights to individuality within a clan and a country.

Published by Currency Press 1990

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered Playbox Theatre Company 1990

Winner 1990 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Play

Winner 1991 NSW Premier's Literary Award for Best Play Winner

1990 Green Room Award for Best Play

Falling From Grace

2 Acts / 5F, 2M

A play with a bright comic surface and mysterious depths. It is about women in medicine, in the media and in the office - power and authority in female hands. It is also about public morality and a struggle between women to see who should be its guardian. These women are best friends in a professional world. They are witty and erudite, passionate in pursuit of success and relentless in their pursuit of passion. They juggle careers, children and lovers. They are forty and their friendship is about to be tested.

Published by Currency Press 1994

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered Playbox Theatre 1994

Joint Winner 1994 NSW Premier's Literary Award for Best Play

Scenes From a Separation (Co-Written with Andrew Bovell) 2

Acts / 3M, 4F

There are two sides to every separation. Two truths.

A fascination collaboration between two of Australia's most exciting writers. A story which will resonate with anyone who has ever loved and lost.

Mathew and Nina have been married for twelve years. He is forty; a successful publisher. Always in control, his pace is enormous and his path is littered with the discarded souls of those who tried to keep up. Nina's thirty-eight; a journalist. She hasn't worked since the birth of the children. She's restless; looking for something. So when Mathew suggests she takes on the biography of Lawrence Clifford, tycoon, philanthropist and now Australian off the Year, she throws herself into the project with an all-consuming enthusiasm. A play about love and betrayal, about sex, sacrifice and survival, of break-up and break-down.

Published by Currency Press 1995 (Revised script for Sydney Theatre Company production 2004)

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Life After George

2 Acts / 2M, 4F

"We are the people of the sixties. We are the players in a great revolution, forged not by men at war, but by men in love." Peter George

This is the story of three women, three marriages and one husband. After the charismatic radical, Professor Peter George, crashes a light plane on an island in Bass Strait, his death brings his three wives together.

From Paris and Marxism in 1968, through feminism into cyberspace, George married the 'it' girl of the successive generations. In the three marriages we see the progress of Australia's intellectual and political life from the idealistic sixties to the pragmatic nineties. From the barricades to the world-wide-web.

This is a play about the radical baby boomers who defected to the other side, and those who have tried to keep the faith. It is also about the revenge of the supposedly apathetic and cynical Generation Xers. Are we witnessing the death of idealism? Or is irony the only strategy for the new millennium?

Published by Currency Press 2000

Available at Australian Plays Transform

World Premiere Melbourne Theatre Company, transferred to Sydney Theatre Company and toured nationally overseas productions include Duchess Theatre, London Centaur Theatre Company, Quebec, The English Theatre, Frankfurt Germany, Vienna English Theatre, Vienna and Slovenian National theatre, Slovenia.

Winner 2001 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best New Play

Winner 2001 Victorian Premier's Literary Award

Winner of five 2001 Green Room Awards including Best New Australian Play

Competitive Tenderness

2 Acts / 5M, 7F

An hilarious contemporary farce. In the competitive, fast lane of Australian politics, the City of Greater Burke is in the frontline of local government reform. Striving to become a model of leaner and meaner bureaucracy, the city is rationalising at an irrational speed. Driving the push for competition is the fearless Dawn Snow, Chief Executive officer; an emissary from the world of private enterprise. A volatile office environment, a gunpowder of ethnic mix, dangerous dogs on the loose and a Traffic Department overtaken by neo Nazis ... this is a play which creates pure laughter from its inspired havoc. Hanne Rayson shows us the personal and the political for what they really are - dangerously funny bedfellows.

Published by Currency Press 1996

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered at the Playbox Theatre in November 1996.

Hester Beckenbauer's Good Fortune

1 Act / 3M, 2F

Famous children's book author Hester Beckenbauer has just been awarded a prestigious prize. It won't make her rich, but she has means, and she wants to leave a legacy. Unfortunately for her adult children, it's not the legacy they had in mind – Hester has bought a wind farm. What follows is a comic take on that classic trinity: family, inheritance and renewable energy.

Premiered Sydney Theatre Company in September 2016.

**Anne-Louise
SARKS**

Elektra/Orestes (& Jada Alberts)

2 Acts / 2M, 3F

Elektra's life is a mess. She's stuck living with her mother, which is bad enough – it was her mother who murdered her father. Her stepfather is not much older than her and has all too happily taken her father's position as king. And her sister doesn't even care! She's sided with their mother and taken up gardening like nothing ever happened.

Elektra sent her little brother Orestes into exile when he was just 11. He was the next in line for her father's throne and had to be protected from their stepfather. Nine years later he has come of age. Now he's on way to the palace to join Elektra and take the ultimate revenge against their mother. There will be blood.

Premiered Belvoir St Theatre 2015

Nora (& Kit Brookman)

2 Acts / 2M, 3F

Nora Helmer is one of those iconic fictional characters who has taken on a life of her own. In 1879, at the end of Henrik Ibsen's new play *A Doll's House*, she did the unthinkable: she walked out the front door of the house she lived in with her husband and children, slammed the door behind her, and left. In 2014, Nora's dilemma remains the same: how much will a woman put up with and why? And what is the alternative?

A Christmas Carol (& Benedict Hardie)

5M, 3F

The most famous miser of all misers – and there are a lot of misers out there! – is Ebenezer Scrooge. Caught in the great grind for money, he forgets to live a shared life – until one Christmas night when something utterly, famously un-money happens to the old bastard...

Medea (& Kate Mulvany)

2 Act / 2M, 1F

Two young children on a stage play games to distract themselves. Off-stage and unheard their parents are having a very famous showdown. At some inevitable moment in the next hour the children will be drawn away from their games and into their parents' bitter argument. From there they will enter mythology as the most tragic siblings of all time.

Premiered Belvoir 2012

Winner of five 2012 Sydney Theatre Awards including:

Best Mainstage Production

Best Direction of a Mainstage Production (Anne-Louise Sarks)

Best New Australian Work (Kate Mulvany & Anne-Louise Sarks)

Published in Downstairs at Belvoir by Playlab 2014

**Toby
SCHMITZ**

Capture the Flag

1 Act / 3M, 1F

Berlin, May 4th 1945. Three Hitler Youth boys hide deep in a drain beneath the city. Above them the devastation and horror of war has dwindled to random bursts of resistance and the dreaded terror of occupation. Only weeks ago it was all a game, but now time is up for these young lives, whose remaining options are almost unfathomable. They promised it wouldn't come to this.

When children are trained in the terrible art of nationalism how grown up can they get? How blind can they be? And how quickly can they turn?

Cünt PI

2 Acts / 2M, 2F

An actress with an absent boyfriend, a teenager doing his thesis on pornography, an au pair with a night to spare and a famous thinker with sex on the brain meet randomly in the bosom of a paradox: a cool bar in Canberra. Two conversations straddle each other and four strangers tag-team against an age-old conundrum: If you had one night with a sexy stranger and like, nobody could ever find out, hypothetically even, would you, you know, fuck them?

Empire

2 Acts / 11M, 4F

A minimum of doubling should be used, certainly not the principle characters. PRICE and VICAR could be doubled. So could FOVEAUX and JOCK, POPPY and GLORIA, NICOLE and GRACE, COLLINS and the ANZAC. And so on.

It is Christmas, 1925, on board the Empress of Australia, an ocean liner making the Atlantic run. Our narrator is a young Dada poet and through him we meet the crew and passengers who represent many nationalities, classes, and aspects of 'empire'. Plotlines include a jewel thief from steerage, a society 'it' girl desperate for an affair, a blue-blooded Noel Coward type with a fascist heart and a dogged Inspector from Scotland Yard punished for his incompetence by a posting as ship's detective.

Someone is bumping people off and the first half of the play presents the murders off-stage until, just before the interval, our narrator kills a passenger in front of us, revealing himself as the villain. The second half sees the play change genres as the question changes from 'who is it' to 'how will he be stopped' until the climax combines Victorian spectacle with post-modern horror.

Lucky

1 Act / 2M, 9F (Possible Doubling)

This play follows the travels of a partial savant over twenty four hours as he scours Sydney attempting to raise twelve thousand dollars before low-level criminals twist his head off and dump his body at sea.

Lucky's particular autism concerns numbers. He claims, though we are never sure how truthfully until the end, that by calculating enough sums in his head simultaneously, he can predict the future: he knows how late the train will be, which person will walk around the corner next, and he can tell, just by looking at you, how you will die. By laying his eyes on his true love Lucky is forced into the real world.

Pin-balling through the city in one night Lucky meets many characters, some seemingly archetypal, all of them at various stages on the road of love.

Lucky's eventual victory is entirely personal, a triumph over the fears that can keep us second-guessing and stalling all our lives.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner of the 2002 Patrick White Award

Chicks Will Dig You

2 Acts/2M, 2F

Jasper is low. He hasn't had a meaningful cuddle in three years. He hasn't even had a peck on the cheek. To reduce the blues, his oversexed friend Sebastian gives him a birthday present that changes his life. The Hunt is the world's most successful pick-up guide and Jasper is quickly immersed in the savage inner city dating world armed with a new set of rules.

Jasper launches himself on a meteoric search for the truth that lies between the sexes. And we all know what eventually happens to meteors.

2004 Recipient for Australian National Playwrights Award

Fifteen and Then Some

1 Act / 1M, 1F

Now that she's a year out of school and the world sucks like she predicted, Leeza Lockseed is ready to get something off her chest, and the *Daily Mail* is willing to pay.

Bobby Bannister, staving off depression in pop purgatory is chuffed by the mere fact that *Rolling Stone* is willing to listen.

Both pick their way through the strange, sexy world of obsession and top-ten stardom back to the hotel room and the night that changed their lives.

I Want to Sleep with Tom Stoppard

1 Act/ 2M, 2F

Luke is a younger actor is going out with Sarah, an older actress who he met doing a play.

He is forced to introduce her to his affluent parents over dinner.

A debate about the relevance of theatre fuels a fire that quickly envelops the evening.

**Alan
SEYMOUR**

The One Day Of The Year

3 Acts / 3M, 2F

One of Australia's best known plays - April 25, Anzac Day is taken as the national focal point from which radiates perennial conflicts of father and son, comradeship and individualism.

Published by Penguin 1985
Revived by Sydney Theatre Company in 2004

**Katherine
THOMSON**

Mavis Goes To Timor (Co-Written with Angela Chaplin & Kavisha Mazzella)
 1 Act / 1F

In 1999 as we watched the devastation of East Timor, a woman in Yarrowonga remembered the debt Australia owed Timor from World War II, the outrage of the 1975 invasion, the murder of the "Balibao 5" and the injustices that have been perpetrated against the Timorese for decades.

One woman's journey of a life time for a people whose journey to freedom has finally finished. Experience of the warmth, tears and excitement of Mavis' story and the story of the women of East Timor.

Published by Currency Press 2002

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 2003 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Stage Play

Kayak

1 Act / 1M, 2F

A moral thriller that begins on Sydney Harbour when a sole woman kayaker, in search of isolation from human contact, is pelted with doughnuts by a boy in a passing 'tinnie'. The woman seeks revenge, the boy's guardian becomes involved, and the tables are turned again and again as all three characters struggle for the moral high ground. A fast-moving thriller with strong comic undertow.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Commissioned by Griffin Theatre for their 2002 Borderline season of one-act plays

This Hospital Is My Country

1 Act / 2F plus one musician

This moving play examines the life of Elena, a refugee from the Greek civil war who has dedicated her life to working in a children's hospital. Now, with the threat of privatization, she may be asked to go and the memories come flooding back. As Elena locks herself in her beloved laundry, she finds a young girl taking refuge. A young girl who is, like Elena, afraid to face her future.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Commissioned by Deckchair Theatre Company

Fragments of Hong Kong

1 Act / 6F

A school girl wanders the neighbourhood planning her suicide, watched by an ambitious young woman being fitted out not only for her wedding dress, but also for her political role. Mrs. Ma folds letters on behalf of Chinese dissidents, while a Filipina maid worries that the family is planning to emigrate, but if they are, why is she being sent to buy a car space? It's been raining for a week and the embankment is seeping. Fragments is the story of these women interwoven around an inquest at which all but one must testify.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Navigating

2 Acts / 3M, 4F

'The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing',

observed Edmund Burke. The courage of ordinary people in the face of economic upheaval or public corruption is at the heart of Katherine Thomson's writing. In *Navigating we meet Bea*, an embattled woman who finds herself in possession of damaging documentary evidence. The seaside town in which her and her sister live is riddled with corruption and buried secrets, as the forces once responsible for a holiday tragedy now conspire to win the contract for a private prison. Unwilling to recognise the fear and deceit around her, Bea confides in one hollow friend after another. Her small world crumbles. Silence, she discovers, is as damaging as speech. A dense, powerful, witty human drama which goes to the heart of small-town politics and finds sources of unexpected wisdom.

Published by Currency Press 1997

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered at Melbourne Theatre Company and Queensland Theatre Company in 1997, Sydney Theatre Company 1998

Board of Studies NSW, Higher School Certificate, English Syllabus (01-03)

A Sporting Chance

1 Act/ 2M, 2F

A play for young people, the action takes place in the course of an under 15's AFL game. Michelle is worried that her footy days are over and Ferret, playing opposite her, wants more than anything to please his father who has finally come to watch him play. Nancy hates her breasts, falls down a crumbling cliff, and spends the entire game-time climbing to safety, while Terry can only watch the footie from the sidelines dreaming of the day that they "pick me!" Highly physical.

Diving For Pearls

2 Acts / 2M, 3F

A glossy resort grows in place of the old community of steel-workers and two ordinary people make some incongruous attempts to adjust to the new world. Barbara, doggedly optimistic; Den, painfully resentful, together assault the unfamiliar heartlessness with stubborn humour and outbursts of emotional power. *Published by Oceania Press, Japan and Currency Press 1991*

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Premiered Melbourne Theatre Company 1991

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Higher School Certificate, English Curriculum 1998 – 2001

Board of Studies NSW, Higher School Certificate, English Syllabus 1995-2000

Winner 1991 Louis Esson Prize for Drama

Winner 1991 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for best new play

Barmaids

2 Acts / 2F

BARMAIDS tells the story of Nancy and Val who know how to run a pub. But when the Arms is bought by a syndicate, accountants start hatching new schemes. A play full of colourful stories and worrying rumours evoking the loyalty between barmaid and drinker.

Published by Currency Press 1991

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner 1992 Australian Writers' Guild Award for Best Community /Theatre-In-Education play.

Wonderlands

2 Acts / 3M, 3F

The Yirralong people have lodged a native title claim for the right to "possess, occupy and enjoy their ancestral lands". Lon, a third generation pastoralist is terrified that his dream of passing the family property on to his son-in-law will be shattered. As the pressure mounts, long buried secrets begin to unravel.

This is a play about white belonging, black belonging. It's about the dust storm of forgetfulness and about finding new ways to move forward. It's about the struggle to find the balance of a shared history – personal and political – and that binding, that connection that sets our hearts free.

Published by Currency Press 2003

Winner 2004 Rodney Seaborn Award

Harbour

2 Acts / 6M, 4F

On the Wednesday before Easter, 1998, a few hundred metres away from the site of the new Sydney Theatre, one of the most dramatic events in recent Australian history took place. It was the culmination of a tightly planned scheme between the Federal Government and a stevedoring company. An attempt to smash the Maritime Union of Australia -- the wharfies. This play is set against the backdrop of this explosive industrial dispute. Sandy - a retired wharfie - comes home after a six year absence to find his family divided. His kids have moved on -- and up. They're on opposite sides of the political divide. His wife doesn't want to be in the same room as him. The world has changed, and it seems he no longer has a place in it. But he's a battler, with a burning desire to unite his family and set the past to rights. A past full of explosive secrets that threaten to blow them apart forever.

Commissioned by Sydney Theatre Company to open the new Sydney Theatre, January 2005.

Published by Currency Press 2004.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

Winner of 2005 NSW Premier's Literary Award for Best New Play and shortlisted for the 2005 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize in the United States.

'.. a robust and wondrous play, and a fitting Australian drama to open the magnificent Sydney theatre at Walsh Bay. The opening of the STC's playhouse was a historic occasion made all the more memorable and meaningful with the premier of such a rewardingly humorous and humane Australian play. Bryce Hallett, Sydney Morning Herald

Darlinghurst Nights

2 Acts / 3F, 4M

A musical play set during a day and hot night, in Darlinghurst and King's Cross in the late 1920's. A poet, Ken, sits in his Elizabeth Bay 'eyrie' wanting to conjure up the old King's Cross. From the harbour lights comes his cartoonist friend Joe, long dead but as wild and anarchic as ever, and Joe takes Ken back to their time together as young men. Back to the Gunmen's Girl, the Iceman, the Woman in the Green Rolls Royce and all their interweaving stories in which Ken and Joe were involved.

****Please note that rights for poetry must be acquired for each season of the show as well****

King Tide

1 Act / 3F, 2 M

Sal was once an award-winning investigative journalist and author, uncovering

government corruption and public scandals. Two years ago, her son's death robbed her of a willingness to engage and her ability to question. Now, as she comes to terms with her loss, her teenage daughter Beck brings home Taki, a Japanese surfer, to stay with them. Sal is unsettled by his reclusive behaviour and unexplained past. When her calculating brother Jack visits with his new, younger girlfriend, Sal is awakened to a sense of danger she has long forgotten.

Available at Australian Plays Transform

King Tide was commissioned by HoriPro Inc., Japan.