

## Mark Wheeler – Plays for Drama Students

Mark Wheeler is one of the UK's leading playwrights. His remarkable "reality" plays are challenging, engaging & thought provoking. Mark's scripts are amongst the most popular contemporary plays performed by senior teens and drama groups.

*"It is important that we pay due cognisance of the invaluable role that Mark plays as a socially conscious dramatist; he has become one of the most performed playwrights in a wide range of professional and community venues as well as in educational establishments that face so many of the social problems that are addressed in his work."*

Charles Vance Editor of Amateur Stage 2005

The suitability and integrity of Mark's work is why they are so popular for drama students, and the drama DVD **Wheeller Plays Exemplified** contains filmed scenes from his many plays, plus interviews with the playwright – a fantastic drama resource.

**Too Much Punch For Judy** with its strong drink-driving message, is one of the top three plays being studied in the UK and has been performed more than 5,000 times.

**Missing Dan Nolan** explores the mystery of Dan's disappearance and the tragic events that occurred that night; raising issues concerning personal safety and the importance of looking out for your mates. It is also in use as an exemplar script.

**Hard to Swallow** uses simple narrative and a series of stylised visual tableaux to build a powerful and sometimes harrowing chronicle of Catherine's long and ultimately unsuccessful fight against anorexia nervosa.

**Kill Jill** Big Brother meets Kill Bill meets Jack (of Beanstalk fame) meets Tony Martin... Mix these together to create a script that explores the issues of homeowners defending themselves, asking "How far can Reality TV be allowed to go?"

**Graham - World's Fastest Blind Runner** has been selected as an exemplar text for drama teachers. This much used study text and brilliant performance script is for teachers seeking something different and written specifically for senior students. Also available is the professionally produced DVD of a performance, in itself a drama resource for teachers.

**All suitable for intermediate, senior teen and drama students, there is much more info about all of these plays and online ordering facilities at**

**www.mavmuse.com**

## More One Act Plays!

**God Willing** by Bruce Olive

drama: 1 m 1f

A chilling drama inspired by the Mumbai Hotel attack, exploring the nature of modern terrorism and why some people are so desperate, they are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to pursue their goals. **Winner of 2010 Noosa Playwriting Competition.**

**Provocateur** by Mark Lucas

comedy/farce: 1 m 2f

Its one thing to have a plan but another entirely to know what to do with it. Chaos reigns supreme in an undercover world of espionage, cat burglary and hairy women. A modern play, from a master of one act playwriting.

**That's That Then** by Bruce Shearer

comedy 6 m/f

This dry black comedy is set in the future, when civil servants in a numberless room, long forgotten, in the bowels of the intergalactic civil service, try to decide what to do with a rogue planet, hell bent on destroying itself.

**Tudo Ou Nada (All or Nothing)** by Frank Wilkie

Ingrained prejudices, family secrets and damaging indiscretions are exposed when two lovers from vastly different cultural backgrounds bring their dysfunctional parents together to explain why they remain unmarried.

**Winner 2010 Noosa Playwriting Audience Choice Award** comedy: 3m 3f

## Two Act Plays!

**Farmer Will Swap Combine Harvester for Wife**

by Hugh O'Brien

comedy 3 m 3f

A fourth-generation grain and beef producer, Cyril Evans promised his father he would never sell the family property Evanswood. But life didn't quite go as planned for the likeable Cyril. Due to a sad misunderstanding 33 years ago, his marriage to the lovely Delmay Maydel was called off the night before the wedding.

**Frank Annie's Diary** by Louise Neilsen

comedy 3 m 4f

Four women go away with everything perfectly planned and everything goes perfectly wrong. Three men go away with nothing planned whatsoever and everything goes perfectly right. Join Annie and her friends as a fly on the wall, hear the truth as it's told - girls talk, secret women's stuff.

**Irish at Heart** by Helen Wyngard

comedy 6 m 7f

A delicious black comedy set in Ireland; a whimsical, affectionate look at the 'doings' surrounding an Irish funeral. with moments of genuine tenderness, guaranteed to touch the most cynical play-goer.

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## **New Releases 2011 One Act Festival Plays**

**God Goes to a Shrink** by Hugh O'Brien 2f 1m 30 mins  
Disguised as a female delicatessen worker, God seeks counselling from an atheist psychologist with a dim-witted (but lovable) receptionist. This entertaining play pokes good-natured fun at sacred cows from different religions and makes a startling revelation about Ken and Barbie!

**Golf, Marriage and Other Murderous Matters**  
by Debra Chalmers 3f 3m 45mins  
One definition of farce is that it is about ordinary people put into extraordinary situations.... and then watching them lie, cheat and claw their way out of it. John and Jenny suffer from the usual stress of modern life. But one Friday night Jenny is pushed just that little too far. She soon discovers that murder might be relatively easy, disposing of the body may be challenging... but explaining to friends..... is almost impossible.

**Into the Mist** by Helen Wyngard 1f 1m 30 mins  
Comedy actress Margaret Rutherford delighted thousands with her wry antics. However, her own life was haunted by a dark shadow which took shape before she was even born. Looking at her later life, after the applause had faded, and the effect this shadow was to have on her and her devoted husband, 2 wonderful roles for older actors as they explore a range of emotions in this theatrical tour-de-force. A touching reminder that comedy often masks a great sadness.

**Monologues Three - Comedies** by Therese Edmonds  
**Gavin Regrets, Shelly Kelly's Day O' Destiny & Valerie Gets Hitched** Three great characters, three different scripts to brilliantly showcase an actors skills.

**Nothing** by Mark Lanham 1f 2m 35 mins  
Three close friends "waste" a day in a garage, dealing with the small and not so small issues in their middle class, comfortable lives. Are they happy? If not, why not? If so, why? Must everything in life be a drama and can we get away with being ordinary? More importantly – will the grass ever get cut?

**The Knock on the Door** by Bruce Olive 2f 2m 40 mins  
In 1915 Gladys and Harold wait for news of their 18 year old son, fighting in Gallipoli. Nearly 100 years later, Cate waits patiently in the same suburban house for the return of her husband ,fighting in Afghanistan. Through these parallel lives, this play explores how Australians, particularly women, have attempted to cope with the anxiety of loved ones fighting overseas.

**Maverick specialise in One Act Festival Plays for drama groups - more titles, detailed info, ordering:**  
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## **Maverick's Top Selling Plays**

**Two Women & a Chair**  
Jessie and Martine arrive at an audition to discover only a bare room with a mysterious black chair. The only instructions on what they should do are contained on the flyer advertising the play, and it soon becomes clear that this is no ordinary audition - or is it an audition at all? 2f 30 mins

**Michael Olsen**

Madness in fast forward. Mitchell Germaine is the ultimate loser. After a massive argument, his wife Sally leaves him and he then proceeds take Leon (the pizza boy), Warren (the TV repairman), 'Tash (the prostitute) and Imelda (the disciple of God) hostage, much to the financial delight of Jane, the Brownie. 4f 3m 45 mins

**Garbage**

**Helen Wyngard**

We have all transgressed at least one of the Seven Deadly Sins, and that's what this play's about! Set as a "Welcome-to-Hell" orientation lecture, this comedy recaps all seven sins and sets each of them in a different comedy scene and in a different comedy style. medium mixed 45 mins

**The Dilemma of Deidre Dearheart**  
Classic melodrama! Sickly sweet heroine Deidre and her care-worn mother are about to be evicted from their home for non payment of the rent. Deidre's mother finds a note saying that Father has run off with the mailman, after their last chicken is cruelly dispatched under the wheels of the mailman's truck... 3f 4m 35 mins

**Tony Barnes**

**Verve**

**Mark Lucas**

**Seven Deadly Sins**

**Simon Denver**

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**Murder at the Music Hall**  
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