



# ESTATES BROCHURE

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**BRECHT**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

\*published  
^original score

**PLAYS**

**The Antigone of Sophocles/DIE ANTIGONE DES SOPHOKLES (1947)**

4m 4f plus extras

DRAMA

Adapted from Friederich Hölderlin's translation from the original Sophocles text, Brecht largely reshaped the verse and wove his own passages in with those of Hölderlin. A prologue set in Berlin in 1945 shows two sisters whose brother has deserted the army and is found hanged as a result. They argue over whether they should cut his body down and risk a reprisal from the SS. After that the familiar story of Antigone's struggle against the might of her uncle, Creon, begins.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*David Constantine  
Robert Cannon  
KI Porter (in storage)

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Marc von Henning  
Judith Malina

**Baal (1918)** DRAMA

12m 5f plus extras (doubling possible)

Poet and cabaret singer Baal has become the toast of the literati, and he uses his exalted position to indulge in a high life of drinking and seducing. He starts an ill-fated affair with the mistress of one of his friends, Sophie, who ends up pregnant by him and eventually drowned. Baal takes to the streets along with his composer friend, Ekart, mixing with tramps and drivers, all the while continuing to sing in nightclubs. On the road he drinks and fights too much, but after seducing Ekart's mistress an argument erupts between the old friends, and Baal kills him in a bar brawl. Now hunted by the police, Baal is left to wander the forests alone.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Peter Tegel  
\*Eric Bentley  
Christopher Logue  
John Willett  
Tom Wright & Simon Stone

**The Caucasian Chalk Circle/DER KAUKAISCHE KREIDEKREIS (1945)** DRAMA

Ensemble

Two Soviet collective farms are trying to decide who should be gifted which valley. They are subsequently told the story that makes up the play proper: the Governor of a Georgian city is overthrown and killed in a nobles' revolt. His wife flees the city leaving behind her baby son. Grusha, a servant girl takes the baby and escapes to the mountains where she has to marry a fellow peasant in order to legitimise the

child. However, when the revolt is over the Governor's wife sends the troops back to fetch her child. The play then rewinds to the day of the revolt to trace the career of a tramp-like village rogue whom rebellious soldiers appoint as judge in the city. In the final act this judge tries the case of the child. He settles it by using a traditional Chalk Circle test whereby the child is drawn out of the circle by maternal attraction. Grusha refuses to harm the child and therefore refuses to pull him from the circle. The judge decides the child must stay with Grusha because she will serve him best.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*James and Tania Stern with WH Auden  
 \*Alistair Beaton  
 John Holmstrom  
 Frank McGuinness  
 Shared Experience  
 \*Eric Bentley  
 Ralph Manheim  
 Edgar Jones  
 Charles Polaczek  
 Shelagh Williams

#### OTHER SCORES

Hans Keller  
 David Adelman  
 Jochen Eisentraut  
 Stephen Byrne  
 Catherine Jayes  
 Julian Dawes  
 Jason Armstrong  
 Roddy Skeaping  
 Leo Chadburn/Chris Branch/Tom Haines

#### AVAILABLE SCORES

^Paul Dessau  
 Colin Sell  
 Joe Griffiths  
 Gerald McBurney  
 Ron McAllister  
 Peter Durrent  
 Ikona Sekacz  
 TR MacLomhair  
 Stephen Warbeck  
 Steve Kettley  
 Neal Swettenham

### **The Days of the Commune/DIE TAGE DER COMMUNE (1948-49)**

13m 4f plus extras (doubling possible)

DRAMA

Loosely based on Nordahl Greig's 1937 play *The Defeat*, this story of the Paris Commune is told through a group of ordinary people gathered around a Montmartre café in 1871. A number of figures from history also intervene in the action including Otto von Bismarck, Adolphe Thiers and delegates of the Commune. The Montmartre group watch on as historical events unfold in front of them including Thiers' attempt to disarm the National Guard, the Commune seizing power at the Hôtel de Ville, Bismarck's intervention in an attempt to pacify the Paris revolts and the Governor of the Bank of France preserving his independence. The group become drawn in and erect a barricade on which they fight and ultimately die, while Thiers and his band of aristocrats watch from a safe distance.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*David Constantine  
 Jean Benedetti (in storage)  
 Ray Herman (in storage)

#### AVAILABLE SCORE

^Hanns Eisler

#### OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Clive Barker & Arno Reinfrank

**Drums in the Night/TROMMELN IN DER NACHT (1919) DRAMA**

8m 4f plus extras (doubling possible)

Soldier Andreas Kragler returns from a prison camp to find his fiancée, Anna, engaged to another man: the arrogant, swaggering Friedrich Murk. Set against the backdrop of the Spartacist uprising of 1919, Kragler quarrels with Anna's parents and an increasingly inebriated Murk at a local bar. He takes to the streets, filled with the chaos of revolt, with Anna following in tow hoping to win him back. He leads a drunken company around ending up at the office of a local newspaper. The next morning, he and Anna reconcile with Kragler deciding contemptuously that he will not return to the fighting.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

Finegan Kruckmeyer

**Fear and Misery of the Third Reich/FURCHT UND ELENDE DES DRITTEN REICHES (1938)**

DRAMA

Ensemble

A sequence of naturalistic short sketches which are designed to be played separately or together. They are bound by a common thread in that they look at life, both its brutality and ingenuity, under the Nazis and deal with subjects as varied as the fear of betrayal, mistrust within the family unit, the cowardice of the liberal professions, the lack of cohesion among the oppositions, the truth behind institutions such as Hitler Youth, concentration camps, and the imminence of war. Each sketch contains a different group of characters and they are intimate in scope.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

Paul Kriwaczek

Stephen Unwin

\*Eric Bentley

Gordon Reece

AVAILABLE SCORE

Hanns Eisler

**The Good Person of Szechwan/DER GUTE MENSCH VON SEZUAN (1942) DRAMA**

4m 4f plus ensemble (doubling possible)

The Gods arrive in the city of Szechwan having travelled far and wide in search of a good person. They alight on penniless prostitute Shen Teh who takes them in where others would not. In reward for her hospitality, they set her up in a tobacconist's shop and hope to watch her thrive. However, Shen Teh finds it hard to maintain her goodness within her newfound prosperity. She dons a male disguise as her ruthless male cousin, Shui Ta, in order to take order of her affairs. His identity begins to take over hers entirely, thereby making it impossible for her to live a decent, honest life. She confesses to the Gods in a courtroom scene and they return to heaven leaving Shen Teh's problem unsolved.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

\*David Harrower

\*Michael Hofmann

AVAILABLE SCORES

^Paul Dessau

Stephen Oliver

Dominic Muldowney

Tanika Gupta  
Ben Hales  
Tony Kushner  
David Allen

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Ralph Manheim  
Eric Bentley  
Janet Suzman  
Fay Weldon

Malcolm Tulip & Arabella Lyons  
David Sawyer  
Paul Higgs  
Stephen Warbeck  
John Gibson (songs)

**In the Jungle of Cities/IM DICKICHT DER STÄDTE (1924)** DRAMA

8m 3f plus extras (doubling possible)

Chicago, 1912. Timber dealer Shlink deliberately starts a kind of metaphysical fight with bookshop clerk, George Garga. Shlink and a cohort of his shady friends turn his lover, Jane, and sister, Mary, into prostitutes. George marries Jane while his sister falls hopelessly in love with Shlink, much to the family's horror. In order to level the playing field, Shlink hands his business over to George who promptly destroys it and denounces Shlink for the treatment of his wife and sister. George manages to land Shlink in jail and arranges for his lynching at the time of his release. However, both men end up having to escape the lynch mob whereupon Shlink professes his admiration for George and that he was merely fighting for the sake of a fight. George, on the other hand, was fighting to survive.

Brecht described this play as pure sport involving two men which engulfs them and transforms them and their economic circumstances past the point of no return. The play examines 'fighting for fighting's sake' as a kind of parable about the ongoing class struggle Brecht was seeing all around him at the time.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Gerhard Nellhaus  
Ronald Hayman

**Life of Galileo/LEBEN DES GALILEI (1939)** DRAMA

12m 3f plus extras (doubling possible)

Eminent Italian scientist Galileo is attempting to establish Copernicus' theories using a telescope. Though his evidence is widely disavowed, the papal astronomer Clavius has to admit its truth. However, Galileo's questioning of the cosmos leads to the Holy Office denouncing him for heresy. He stops his enquiries for eight years until he can no longer resist. Meanwhile, his subversive ideas have begun to find favour with the public. Eventually, he is summoned to the Vatican for interrogation by the Inquisition whereby he is pressured into surrendering by the authorities. For the rest of his life he lives privately with his daughter, Virginia. One of his former pupils visits him and Galileo asks him to smuggle out the last remaining copy of his book containing all his scientific discoveries.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett  
\*Howard Brenton  
\*Desmond Vesey

AVAILABLE SCORES

^Hanns Eisler  
Nick Powell  
Hélène Montague



Mark Ravenhill  
David Hare  
David Edgar

OTHER SCORES  
Jonathan Dove  
John Grundy  
Chris Monks  
Matthew Scott

**The Life of Edward II of England/LEBEN EDUARDS DES ZWEITEN VON ENGLAND (1924)**

DRAMA

16m 1f plus extras (doubling possible)

Brecht adapted this from Christopher Marlowe's play *Edward II*. On his coronation, King Edward sends for his favourite servant, Gaveston, much to the chagrin of his peers at court, the clergy, and his wife, Anne. After Gaveston is murdered, Edward is captured by Mortimer and killed. His death is avenged by his young son who then has Mortimer hanged and Queen Anne sent to the tower.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Jean Benedetti  
\* Eric Bentley

**Man is Man/MANN IST MANN (1926)** DRAMA

8m 2f plus extras (doubling possible)

British Colonial India. Four British soldiers loot an Indian temple but one of them is left behind. Terrified of their sergeant, the men force Irish docker Galy Gay to pose as the fourth soldier using threats and blackmail. Simultaneously, the missing soldier is mistaken for a miracle-working statue in the temple. Gay witnesses his own supposed execution and funeral before delivering his own funeral speech. Finally, he takes part in a war against Tibet and single-handedly reduces a fortress, thus completing his transformation into the ideal soldier. The real soldier in question attempts to join his old comrades but is turned away with Gay's old identity papers.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATION

\*Gerhard Nellhaus  
\*Eric Bentley  
Steve Gooch  
Bernard Pomerance  
Baden Teague

AVAILABLE SCORES

Paul Dessau

**The Mother/DIE MUTTER (1931)** DRAMA

10m 2f plus extras (doubling possible)

Based on Maxim Gorky's 1906 novel of the same name. Set during the First World War, Pelagea Vlassova is drawn by her worker son, Pavel, into the workers' revolutionary movement. Though unsure at first she slowly begins to become more involved, taking part in peaceful demonstrations, learning to read, helping striking peasants and working for an illegal press. Her son is shot after attempting to escape from Siberia, and Pelagea herself is beaten up for protesting against the war. Ultimately, she becomes a fierce insurgent and the play finishes with her carrying high the red flag in a huge anti-war demonstration.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett  
Steve Trafford  
Steve Gooch  
Ralph Manheim  
Mark Ravenhill  
Adrian Mitchell

AVAILABLE SCORES

^Hanns Eisler

**Mother Courage and her Children/MUTTER COURAGE UND IHRE KINDER (1938-39)**

DRAMA

2m 2f plus an ensemble

Set during the Thirty Years' War of 1618-1648 between warring European states, Mother Courage ekes out a living from her travelling canteen wagon. As the play progresses, she suffers a great many personal tragedies including the loss of all of her children to the war. However, Mother Courage keeps face in the midst of such suffering by focusing on keeping her business alive. She embraces the matter-of-factness of war and is ultimately left alone with her trusty wagon, still determined to get her cut.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett  
\*Michael Hofmann  
\*David Hare  
Hanif Kureishi  
Anthony Meech  
David Edgar  
Dipo Agboluaje  
Ed Thomas  
Frank McGuinness  
Joanitta Bewulra-Wandera  
Tony Kushner  
Dan Willis  
Joe O'Byrne  
Paula Nazarski

AVAILABLE SCORES

Paul Dessau  
Dominic Muldowney  
Jonathan Dove  
Wesley Enoch  
Duke Special, Cian Boylan & Paul Pilot  
John Rogers  
Keith Thomas  
Ron McAllister

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Humphrey Bower  
Lee Hall  
Robert David MacDonald  
Ralph Manheim  
Eric Bentley  
Victor John  
Peter Watson

**Mr Puntila and His Man Matti/HERR PUNTILA UND SEIN KNECHT MATTI (1940)** DRAMA

2m 4f plus ensemble

Aristocratic landowner Puntila is a big farmer and an even bigger drinker. His personality oscillates between his surly manner when sober and his more genial behaviour when drunk. He hires new farmhands and invites all the village women to his daughter Eva's engagement party. He then proceeds to wreck the party and, after Eva reveals her love for Puntila's manservant Matti, he must decide whether to marry her off to the Foreign Office official to whom she has been promised or to Matti. At the apex of one of his drunken outbursts, Matti decides to leave his master as he cannot stand the uncertainty of their relationship.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

AVAILABLE SCORES

Chris Lerner

Lee Hall  
Peter Arnott  
Peter Kriwaczek  
Gerhard Nellhaus  
Ralph Manheim  
Brooks, Kriwaczek & Lewis  
Michael Robinson

^Paul Dessau  
Corin Buckeridge

### **The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui/DER AUFHALTSAME AUFSTIEG DES ARTURO UI (1941)**

DRAMA

19m 2f plus extras (doubling possible)

Set in Chicago, five businessmen who control the wholesale grocery trade face an economic crisis. They bribe Dogsborough, their mayor, to grant them a loan. However once the press get wind of this loan, ruthless gang leader Arturo Ui, together with his lieutenants, proceeds to establish a system of 'protection' and sets fire to the wholesalers' warehouses and the gang pin the crime on an unsuspecting member of the public. The gang fall out with Dogsborough over the incident and then with each other when one of them, Roma, questions Ui's plan to extend his operations into the neighbouring suburb of Cicero. Ui has him assassinated swiftly, followed by the execution of a prominent newspaperman of Cicero. Soon, the wholesalers of Cicero are asking Ui for his protection and the play concludes with the gang leader sketching his plans for the future.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Ralph Manheim  
\*George Tabori & Alistair Beaton  
Andy De La Tour  
Stephen Sharkey  
Ranjit Bolt  
\*Jennifer Wise  
Bruce Norris (2017)  
John Willett

#### AVAILABLE SCORES

Ron McAllister  
Dominic Muldowney

### **Rise and Fall of the City of Mahogany/AUFSTIEG UND FALL DER STADT MAHAGONNY (1929)**

OPERA | DRAMA

6m 2f plus extras

An opera co-written with Kurt Weill

Widow Begbick and two fellow crooks are on the lam from the police, who when fearing they can go no further decide to found a city they christen Mahagonny: city of gold. It is to be a city open to everyone but the customers leave disappointed because it is too uneventful. Lumberman Jimmy decides the only way to make the city a success is to allow everything. The city soon swells with debauchery. People attempt and fail to escape. Jimmy runs out of money, and the prostitute with whom he's fallen in love refuses to help. As the city burns wildly, Jimmy is sentenced to death. When a whole civilisation depends only on money, there is nothing else to help them.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman

#### SCORE

^Kurt Weill

David Drew & Michael Geliot  
Jeremy Sams

**Round Heads and Pointed Heads/DIE RUNDKÖPFE UND DIE SPITZKÖPFE (1934)** DRAMA  
15m 6f plus extras (doubling possible)

Based loosely on Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. Set in the fictional country of Yahoo and its capital Luma where people are divided into two races: the Ziks and the Zaks, or round heads and pointed heads due to their physiognomy. The Pointed Head minority are subject to attacks by Angelo Iberin, a leading politician and prominent Round Head. Iberin comes to blows with tenant farmer, Callas, over his involvement in the class movement known as the Sickle. Callas then decides to take his landlord's place in jail after he is condemned for seducing Callas' daughter in return for a reduction in his rent. Iberin releases the landlord with the result that the two races end up mingling briefly but once again they are separated, with the landlords feasting on one side and the condemned Sickle members waiting to be hanged on the other side.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Tom Kuhn, Ralph Manheim & John Willett

SCORE

^Hanns Eisler

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

\*N Goold-Verschoyle

Alan Brown & Kyra Dietz

Keith Hack

**Schweyk in the Second World War/SCHWEYK IM ZWEITEN WELTKRIEG (1943)** DRAMA  
10m 2f plus extras

A loose dramatic retelling of the 1923 novel *The Good Soldier* by Jaroslav Hašek. Set in Prague and the Russian Front, the story concerns wanderer Schweyk as he stumbles innocently through WWII. He manages to survive whilst overcoming dangerous situations at the Gestapo headquarters, a military prison and is finally sent off to fight for Russia near Stalingrad. Schweyk becomes lost in a snowstorm where he bumps into an equally bewildered Hitler, who features in the play in short interludes expressing his concern about the attitude of the common man.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*William Rowlinson

Susan Davies

AVAILABLE SCORES

^Hanns Eisler

**St Joan of the Stockyards/DIE HEILIGE JOHANNA DER SCHLACHTHÖFE (1931)** DRAMA  
6m 3f plus extras (doubling possible)

Chicago, 1900. Tycoon Pierpont Mauler runs the meat-packing stockyards, but after visiting the stockyards for the first time he decides that he would like to sell his shares and live a more decent life. This deal strikes panic into the hearts of the market and the workers. Mauler is confronted by activist Joan Dark, member of the Black Straw Hats, who pleads with him to save the market and prevent mass unemployment. He is moved by her plight and offers her a tour of the stockyards to show her the true 'wicked' nature of his workers but all Joan sees is abject destitution and learns of the corruption in all large institutions, even the one to which she belongs. A strike is called, which is cleared away swiftly by the military. Joan herself collapses and on

her death bed is canonised by Mauler and his friends her work among the poor. Joan herself dies a cynical martyr who has denounced the class system but to no avail.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Ralph Manheim

\*Frank Jones

Charlotte & AL Lloyd

SCORE

^Paul Dessau

**The Threepenny Opera/DIE DREIGROSCHENOPER (1928)** OPERA | DRAMA

6m 4f plus extras (doubling possible)

An opera co-written with Kurt Weill & Elisabeth Hauptmann

London, 1900. Macheath is back in town. He secretly marries the daughter of his fellow crook Mr Peachum, much to his and his wife's absolute disgust. Peachum plans to have him arrested whereupon Macheath attempts to flee only to be tangled in the web of the city's prostitutes, the leader of which is his ex-lover, Jenny. When he is recaptured and lands in jail, he recruits the help of yet another lover, Lucy, who helps him to escape. However once again he is recaptured and sentenced to death, whereupon via a *deus ex machina* he is reprieved in a deliberately uncanny happy ending.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Ralph Manheim & John Willett

Simon Stephens

Frank McGuinness

Robert David MacDonald (usually performed  
with Jeremy Sams' lyrics)

Anthony Meech & Anthony Minghella

SCORE

^Kurt Weill

**Turandot, or the Whitewashers' Congress/TURANDOT ODER DER KONGRESS DER WEISSWÄSCHER (1953)** COMEDY

Medium to large ensemble

The Emperor of China and his brother have a monopoly on the cotton in China, but are waiting for a rise in price before selling their stock. The clothes-makers unite in protest, led by revolutionary Kai Ho. Ho is an ex-Tui – the Tuis are a group of futile thinkers whose opinions are for sale. They are drafted in to invent excuses for the shortage of cotton. The most successful of the Tuis will be given in marriage to the Emperor's daughter, Turandot. However, the competitors all fail and are beheaded. Gogher Gogh, a would-be Tui, decides to burn half the imperial cotton without their consent so the rest can be sold on a rising market. The Tuis flee and some of them join Gogh's rival, Kai Ho. Gogh then makes a putsch but Kai Ho's supporters break in, thus denying him Turandot's hand in marriage.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Tom Kuhn

Ed Kemp

SCORE

^Hanns Eisler

Mia Soteriou

**The Tutor/DER HOFMEISTER (1950)** DRAMA

8m, 10f plus extras

Adapted from Jakob Lenz's 18<sup>th</sup> century play *The Advantages of a Private Education*. Läufer is engaged as a tutor for a retired major's two children. He is seduced by the young daughter of the major, Gussie, who falls pregnant by him forcing him to take refuge with a village schoolmaster who exploits him as a cheap assistant. He once again finds himself becoming attracted to the schoolmaster's young daughter and, in order to avoid a repeat of events, he castrates himself. He finds himself universally accepted after this act and is eventually allowed to marry the young daughter of the schoolmaster. Läufer is subsequently acclaimed as the perfect teacher who shall mould the education of all of Germany's youth.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Ralph Manheim and Wolfgang Sauerlander  
Pip Broughton  
Richard Grunberger  
Ralph Manheim

**The Visions of Simone Machard/DIE GESICHTE DER SIMONE MACHARD (1943)** DRAMA

10m 4f plus extras

Simone is a young woman living in France during the German invasion of 1940 and reading the story of Joan of Arc. Over four dream sequences the real people in her life become the historical figures of the story – she herself transforms into the heroine, and her soldier brother appears to her as an angel. The dreams prompt her into social action. She persuades her employer to distribute food to starving refugees and to set the town's petrol resources on fire to avoid the enemy capturing them. She becomes a thorn in the side of her Pétain-supporting employers and the Germans. Subsequently, she is captured and thrown in a mental institution run by nuns. However, her influence has already begun to spread.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Hugh and Ellen Rank  
Arnold Hinchcliffe  
Ralph Manheim

SCORE

^Hanns Eisler

ONE-ACT PLAYS

**The Baby Elephant/DAS ELEFANTENKALB (1926)** FARCE

3m 1f plus extras

Written to accompany *Man Equals Man* featuring the main character Galy Gay and some soldiers. An elephant calf is accused of killing its own mother and a banana tree is determined to prove his guilt in a trial moderated by the Moon as judge.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett  
\*Eric Bentley

**The Beggar or the Dead Dog/DER BETTLER ODER DER TOTE HUND (1919)** DRAMA

2m plus soldiers

A victorious Emperor stumbles across a beggar on the road and strikes up a conversation with him. Unimpressed by the Emperor's rank and hierarchy in society, the beggar plays devil's advocate to all his ideas. The ending reveals the beggar to be blind.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

*\*Michael Hamburger*

**The Catch/DER FANG (c.1919)** DRAMA

5m 2f

When a fisherman's wife is woken by her drunk husband and his friends, her resentment over their marriage explodes.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

*\*John Willett*

**Dansen (1939)** DRAMA

2m

Dansen is a pig farmer and an upstanding member of the community, who often meets fellow members of the commerce class in town to discuss their business affairs. His cosy arrangement is upset by the arrival of a stranger who is intent on breaking contracts and instigating a hostile takeover. He forces Dansen into collaboration against his best judgement and his own interests.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

*\*Rose and Martin Kastner*

**Driving Out a Devil/ER TREIBT DEN TEUFEL AUS (1919)** DRAMA | COMEDY

5m 2f plus extras

A young Bavarian girl and her lover flirt by moonlight outside her house whilst her unaware parents call for her to return inside. The lover continues to visit the girl at night using a ladder propped up against the house. However, they are driven up to the roof after the girl's father removes the ladder.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

*\*Richard Grunberger*

**How Much Is Your Iron/WIE VIEL IST IHR EISEN (1939)** DRAMA

4m 2f

Svendson is an ironmonger who picks up a wealthy, new customer with a fervent desire for iron bars. His keenness is cooled when he discovers that this new customer is stockpiling weapons – he sees his own orders continue to double even with the customer buying from other merchants. Eventually, the customer stops paying his way.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Rose and Martin Kastner

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Enda Walsh

**In Search of Justice** (1938) DRAMA

5m 1f

Taken from *Fear and Misery in the Third Reich*. The judge is coached and then briefed by the Inspector and subsequently the Prosecutor regarding the case of a Jew who has been beaten up and robbed by the SS. There is a conflict between what the locals want and what the Nazis want. Torn between the two, the Judge asks the advice of a colleague only to be told to look after his own interests first.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

\*Eric Bentley

**The Informer** (1938) DRAMA

2m 2f

Dramatic sketch of family life in Hitler's Third Reich.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

\*Eric Bentley

**The Jewish Wife** (1938) DRAMA

1m 1f

A woman is saying goodbye to friends on the phone. She then begins to rehearse a speech she intends to deliver to her husband. Slowly it is revealed that she is a Jewish woman married to a Nazi and she knows it is better for him if she leaves him.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

Martin Crimp

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

\*Eric Bentley

Leila Doolan

**Lux In Tenebris** (1919) FARCE

3m 1f plus extras

Paduk has organised an exhibition to discourage the proliferation of venereal disease. However, he is shown up by the proprietress of a brothel to be a hypocrite as he is in fact a former client. She convinces him that her business has better prospects than his and, after a guided tour, he agrees and becomes her partner.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Eva Geisel and Ernest Borneman

Eric Davidson (in storage)

**Señora Carrar's Rifles/DIE GEWEHRE DER FRAU CARRAR** (1937) DRAMA

6m 5f

Partly based on J.M. Synge's *Riders to the Sea*. The Widow Carrar refuses to let her two sons join the Spanish Republican Army or let her worker brother have access to the rifles that her husband concealed in their house before his death. She hopes that



in neutrality she shall find respect and peace from the rebel generals, but her brother claims that if she is not with them she is against them. Her position is changed when her eldest son is carried in dead, shot by the rebels at sea. Against the backdrop of rising gunfire, Carrar and her remaining son decide to take the hidden rifles and head to the front.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

*\*Wolfgang Sauerlander*

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

*Ted Braun*

*Frank Evans*

*Sean MacIomhair*

*Biyi Bandele*

**The Wedding/DIE HOCHZEIT (1919)** COMEDY

5m 4f

A wedding party in which everything goes wrong – the guests argue, make love, the furniture falls apart and the bride is revealed to be pregnant.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

*\*Jean Benedetti*

*Rory Bremner*

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

*Dan Warburton with Jean Benedetti*

## SIX LEHRSTÜCKE

### **The Baden-Baden Lesson On Consent/BADENER LEHRSTÜCK VOM EINVERSTÄNDNIS**

(1929) EXPERIMENTAL DRAMA

4m plus chorus

Four airmen have crashed and are in danger of death. The audience doubles as the chorus who are asked whether or not to help these young men, in an example of how Brecht experimented with Greek tragedy structure and moving the audience from spectator to auditor.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Geoffrey Skelton

#### SCORE

^Paul Hindemith

#### OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Ralph Manheim (*rights handled by Universal Edition*)

### **The Decision/DIE MASSNAHME (1930) EXPERIMENTAL DRAMA | SONG**

4m plus chorus

Four political agitators return home from a successful mission in China. During their report to a controlling Chorus however, they were forced to admit to killing a young communist. In a series of short scenes they act out this communist's mistakes that led to his death in order to logically explain to the Chorus why they were forced to kill him.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

#### OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Carl Mueller

### **The Exception and the Rule/DIE AUSNAHME UND DIE REGEL (1930) EXPERIMENTAL DRAMA**

8m, 1f

A merchant is travelling across the desert. He mistrusts his guide because he finds him overly friendly with the porter and sends him away. The porter subsequently loses their way in the desert and they begin to run low on supplies. When the porter offers him a drink of water the merchant thinks he's going to attack him and so shoots him. In the following courtroom scene the judge finds the merchant not guilty on the proviso that the underdog shall always want to attack his employer, and therefore, how was the merchant to know that this was an exception to the rule?

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*Tom Osborn

\*Ralph Manheim

#### OTHER TRANSLATIONS

\*Eric Bentley

### **The Flight Over the Ocean/DER OZEANFLUG (1929) EXPERIMENTAL DRAMA**

1m plus extra voices

Radio play. Lindbergh describes his preparations for his solo flight of 1927 across the Atlantic Ocean. His enemies are the weather: fog and snow, and his own body: sleep. They all express their determination to overcome him. Reports come in from other ships at sea and other continents through use of a vocal chorus, but Lindbergh

overcomes the obstacles and his own fears, and the work ends in praise for his stunning achievement.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

George Antheil

SCORE

^Paul Hindemith

**He Said Yes/He Said No/DER JASAGER/DER NEINSAGER (1930)** EXPERIMENTAL DRAMA

1m, 1f, 4f/m plus chorus

Based on the Japanese play *Taniko* translated into English by Arthur Waley. A teacher leads an expedition of his students to the mountain, taking with him a boy whose mother is ill. The boy falls ill too on the journey. Custom dictates that the boy must be sacrificed by being thrown into the valley, which the other students do regretfully, albeit with the boy's consent.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*John Willett

\*Wolfgang Sauerlander

OTHER TRANSLATIONS

Gerhard Nellhaus

SCORE

^Kurt Weill

**The Horatians and the Curiatians/DIE HORATIER UND DIE KURIATER (1934)** EXPERIMENTAL DRAMA

Ensemble

The Curiatians decide to attack the city of the Horatians, and so both sides prepare their armies for battle. Owing to their superior armaments, the Curiatians win the first engagements but their pursuit of all the spoils splits them, allowing the Horatian swordsmen to sweep in and take the victory.

AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*H.R. Hays

## OTHER

### **Berlin Requiem/DAS BERLINER REQUIEM (1929)** POETRY

Radio play. A collaboration with Kurt Weill who provided musical accompaniment to a selection of poems written by Brecht.

### **The Seven Deadly Sins/DIE SIEBEN TODSÜNDEN DER KLEINBÜRGER (1933)** LIBRETTO 2f plus ensemble

A ballet libretto set in America. Two sisters, Anna I and II, are sent off to make their fortune. Across seven years they traverse seven cities, in each of which Anna II is tempted by one of the seven deadly sins. She manages to avoid each one in turn and the two sisters succeed in finding fortune – enough to return home and build a house for their family. In the final episode, another two Annas are foolish enough to commit these sins and are ruined.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman

#### SCORE

^Kurt Weill

### **The Trial Of Lucullus/DAS VERHÖR DES LUKULLUS (1939)** DRAMA | VERSE 10m, 1f

Radio play. After his great burial, Roman general Lucullus is called to judgement in the underworld by a peasant, a slave, a fishwife, a baker and a courtesan. The figures from his triumphant frieze are called as witnesses to his military victories to defend him against the accusations. However, the jury and judge point out the human loss in each case and decide there is blood on his hands.

#### AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS

\*H.R. Hays

## **NOËL COWARD**

### **LIST OF WORKS**

#### **MUSICALS**

##### **Ace of Clubs** (1950) DRAMA | ROMANTIC COMEDY

Large ensemble

Set around the 'Ace of Clubs', a Soho nightclub, this is a story of showgirls, romance, gangster dealings and deceptions, humoresque confusion and of London life in the 1950s.

##### **After the Ball** (1954) ROMANTIC COMEDY

6m 6f

This concert version of the Noël Coward musical based on Oscar Wilde's classic play premiered at the Covent Garden Festival and the Chicago Humanities Festival to honour Noël Coward in his centenary year. The young Lady Windermere discovers that her husband has been seeing Mrs. Erlynne, a fascinating older woman, so she determines to run away with her admirer, Lord Darlington. Her honour is saved when Mrs. Erlynne intervenes and, in the process, compromises herself in the eyes of Victorian society.

##### **Bitter Sweet** (1929) DRAMA

12f 2m

Everything that wealthy London society had to offer a properly brought-up girl lay at the feet of little Sarah Millick in 1875; but she fell so desperately in love with her handsome young singing master that she threw it all away in order to be with him.

##### **Conversation Piece** (1934) ROMANTIC | DRAMA

16f 12m

In the decades following the French revolution, Paul, Duc de Chaucigny-Varennès has come to Brighton to escape the terrors. He is accompanied by Melanie, a dance hall singer whom Paul passes off as his ward and the offspring of his murdered friend. Paul plans to marry her off to a member of Brighton's high society - but Melanie has other plans. With the help of her suitor Edward, she plots to outmanoeuvre Lady Julia Charteris in the hope of getting her heart's desires.

##### **The Girl Who Came To Supper** (1963) ROMANTIC COMEDY

8m 8f plus chorus

Based on Terence Rattigan's play *The Sleeping Prince*. The story is set in 1911 at the time of George V's coronation. After seeing a performance of the West End musical *The Coconut Girl*, American-born chorus girl Mary Morgan captivates Charles, the

widowed Prince Regent, and becomes involved in the actions of his teenage son King Nicholas.

**Noël and Gertie** (1983) COMEDY

1f, 1m

A triumph in London, this witty and moving show from Sheridan Morley tells of the friendship between two of this century's greatest stage personalities: Gertrude Lawrence and Noël Coward. Although they only appeared in two productions together, *Private Lives* and *Tonight at 8:30*, they epitomized an era of style and elegance. The songs, sketches and snippets of scenes pieced together here have the entrancing effect of accurately portraying this remarkable duo and the era they helped to define.

**Operette** (1938) COMEDY

6f 4m plus large chorus

Set in the year 1906 at the fictional "Jubilee" theatre, an ageing Viennese operetta star warns the young ingénue not to marry a nobleman.

**Pacific 1860** (1946) DRAMA

6m 5f

Life carries on serenely in Samolo, a South Sea island jewel in Queen Victoria's crown, until Madame Salvador, the celebrated diva arrives to disturb the safe routine of the Stirling family and particularly that of Kerry, their youngest son. The two fall in love, but middle class Victorian morality parts them. *Pacific 1860* features one of Coward's most attractive scores, written for the show that starred Mary Martin and re-opened Drury Lane after World War II, but was never heard in the U.S.

**Sail Away** (1961) ROMANTIC COMEDY

9m 8f

*Sail Away* tells the story of a romantic love affair aboard a cruise ship, with all the classic wit and charm of Broadway's golden era. Recent divorcée Mimi Paragon (a role originated by Elaine Stritch) is stuck serving tourists as one of the ship's hostesses when she is drawn to the much younger and strikingly handsome Johnny Van Mier. Complicating their relationship is a host of eccentric and hilarious cruise ship characters – from the cynical and quirky Sweeney couple; to Johnny's dominating and diva-like mother, Mrs. Van Mier; to the wacky novelist Spencer Bollard and her wide-eyed niece Nancy.

ONE-ACT

**The Astonished Heart (Tonight at 8:30)** (1936) DRAMA

4m 3f

In psychiatrist Christian Faber's drawing room sits his weeping wife and his sad assistants, waiting for the siren Leonora. In four flashbacks the story emerges: Leonora, a girlhood chum, visited Christian's wife and was introduced to him. She set out to capture her friend's husband but was captured herself. She threw him over because of his jealousy. He jumped out of the window. Leonora has come because

Christian calls for her on his death bed. She returns slowly from his room to announce he has died and that his last words were tender ones to his wife, for whom he mistook Leonora.

**The Better Half (1922)** COMEDY

2f 1m

Alice and David are in an unhappy marriage; Marion is the understanding friend whom David wants to have an affair with. Alice tries to push David and Marion together by confessing to affairs of her own and David infuriates her by being so very understanding about it all! Contained in the anthology *London's Grand Guignol*.

**Come into the Garden Maud (Suite in 3 Keys) (1966)** COMEDY

2m 2f

Affable Verner Conklin has endured his ill-humoured wife for years. When faced with odd numbers for dinner she orders him to dine in their suite - with Maud Caragani. When Anna-Mary then snappishly tells Verner to go away, he does, with Maud.

**Family Album (Tonight at 8:30) (1936)** COMEDY

5m 4f

Just back from their father's funeral, the Featherway children cannot pull long faces nor feign regret. The last one to break into laughter is pious Lavinia, father's companion until his death. Even she must admit that he was lecherous and mean. After some wine, Lavinia reveals that she and old Burrows burned the final will (which left nothing to the children) minutes after the old man died.

**Fumed Oak (Tonight at 8:30) (1936)** COMEDY

3f 1m

Henry Gow loathes his awful wife, their adenoidal child and his repulsive mother-in-law. One evening he tells them what he thinks of them and announces that with £500 saved he is going to leave them – and off he goes.

**Hands Across the Sea (Tonight at 8:30) (1936)** COMEDY

5m 4f

Piggie Gilpin & Lady Dalborough invite all their world tour hosts to a party on their return to London. An unassuming couple from Malaya stray into the party, bewildered by the other guests and forgotten by the hostess.

**Love, Noël (2014)** MUSICAL REVUE

1f, 1m

Based on his book, Barry Day's *Love, Noël: The Letters and Songs of Noel Coward* is the dramatic staging of the letters and correspondence of the playwright, director, actor, composer, and singer. Coward's letters span several decades and give you insight to some of his closest relationships with everyone from George Bernard Shaw to Edna Ferber, from the Queen Mother to his own mother, and of course, his constant collaborator, Gertrude Lawrence. A loving portrait of one of the theatre's most influential minds.

**Red Peppers (Tonight at 8:30)** (1936) COMEDY

4m 2f

George and Lily are a music hall act which is not going well. One night they argue with the MD and the manager, and Lily throws her hat at the MD who is playing a number impossibly fast.

**Shadows of the Evening (Suite in 3 Keys)** (1966) DRAMA

2m 2f

George has only a few months to live. George, his mistress Linda and his estranged wife Anne agree that he will go back to Anne to be with his children and because he has continued to love her as well as Linda.

**Shadow Play (Tonight at 8:30)** (1936) DRAMA

5m 4f

Victoria has just returned from the theatre where she saw a romantic musical. She quells a headache with three Anytal tablets just before her husband enters and announces divorce plans. Victoria, head buzzing, attempts to understand his reasons. She slips into a fantastic dream that reviews their meeting, courtship and marriage. Coming to, she clings to her husband and he reconsiders.

**Star Chamber** (Tonight at 8:30) (1936) COMEDY

6m 5f

A meeting takes place of the management committee of a theatrical charity, the "Garrick Haven Fund", to benefit a retirement home for destitute actresses.

**Still Life (Tonight at 8:30)** (1936) DRAMA

6m 5f

Married woman, Laura starts an affair with Alec Harvey. After several months they find they can't go on. Alec takes an appointment in South Africa and they part with just a handshake.

**Ways and Means (Tonight at 8:30)** (1936) COMEDY

5m 4f

Toby & Stella find themselves in the French Riviera with no money and an outstayed welcome. A burglar breaks in & Stella offers to direct him to the rich guest's stash if he will go halves. He agrees and leaves them tied up to allay suspicion.

**We Were Dancing (Tonight at 8:30)** (1936) COMEDY

5m 3f

Single Karl and married Louise grow sentimental while waltzing and fall desperately in love. When Louise's stodgy husband finds them kissing, she must ask her new lover his name in order to introduce him to her socially impeccable husband. After a night of discussion, frequently interrupted by sandwiches and drinks, Louise wins her freedom but finds, in the light of dawn, that she doesn't want it.



## PLAYS

### **Blithe Spirit** (1942) FARCE

5f 2m

Widower Charles has re-married. After bringing Madame Arcati in to conduct a séance, his first wife's ghost is inadvertently summoned & proceeds to haunt the house. Tension occurs between old and new wives and all three wind up in the spirit world.

### **Brief Encounter** (2007) DRAMA | ROMANCE

Noël Coward and Emma Rice

7m 3f

Your heart dances. The world seems strange and new. You want to laugh and skip and fall forever... You are in love. You are in love with the wrong person. Laura, the respectable suburban wife, and Alec, the idealistic, married doctor, meet in a station buffet, fall passionately in love but are doomed never to find fulfilment. Emma Rice, former Joint Artistic Director of the Company, has adapted Coward's classic 1945 screenplay, and the one-act play *Still Life* on which it was based, into a richly theatrical, imaginative and vibrant piece of theatre.

### **Cavalcade** (1932) DRAMA

16f 12m

The story of a family and a nation with a message of faith in the future. *Cavalcade* was Coward's most ambitious stage project, set during the Boer War, which cost £30,000 in its day and includes scenes of the relief of the sinking of the Titanic and the coming of the Jazz Age.

### **Design for Living** (1933) COMEDY

6m 4f

From 1930s bohemian Paris to the dizzying heights of Manhattan society, a tempestuous love triangle unravels between a vivacious interior designer, Gilda, playwright Leo and artist Otto - three people unashamedly and passionately in love with each other. They are trapped in what Coward called 'a three-sided erotic hodge podge'.

### **Easy Virtue** (1926) DRAMA | COMEDY

9m 9f

The family is scandalised when their son arrives home married to an unsuitable older woman who drips diamonds, pearls, previous marriages and scandal. She is also kindly, articulate, generous, sympathetic and lovable, unlike the other characters. After a dramatic appearance wearing all of her jewellery at the family dance, she leaves her young husband in the hands of his wholesome former sweetheart and makes a stylish exit.

**Fallen Angels (1925)** COMEDY

3m 3f

Best friends now happily married to others, Julia and Jane both once counted the dashing Frenchman Maurice as their lover. Guess who's back in town and requesting the pleasure of the ladies' company? Coward at his inimitable best, the story is a champagne cocktail of wit and charm.

**Hay Fever (1925)** FARCE

5f 4m

Ultra-bohemian, all of the Bliss family have invited friends for the weekend and each Bliss is furious. Their histrionic antics send their guests scuttling away first thing in the morning.

**Home Chat (1927)** COMEDY

6f 4m

Janet Ebony and best friend Peter Chelsworth are involved in a train crash while innocently sharing a sleeping compartment. Once home, her mother, husband and mother-in-law accuse them of having an affair. Taking their revenge, Janet and Peter pretend they actually are.

**I'll Leave it to You (1920)** COMEDY

6f 4m

Left a widow with five grown-up children, Mrs. Dermot turns to brother Dan for help. Uncle Dan arrives to find an idle family ready to live on his money. He announces that he is doomed to die in three years and that he will leave his money to the member of the family who has made good by then. Each sets to with such determination that Oliver becomes a successful inventor, Evangeline a novelist, Bobbie a composer and Sylvia a film star; even Joyce, finishing her school career, distinguishes herself. Now he tells the family his riches are a myth and his previous announcement was only a means to raise the family from lethargy.

**Long Island Sound (1947)** COMEDY

12f 10m

Set in New York, Long Island. Fêted English author Evan visits the home of wealthy, socialite Louisa for a quiet weekend but which turns out to be filled with her ghastly, loud cronies. He finally escapes through the window.

**Look After Lulu (1959)** FARCE

16m 8f

Based on *Occupe-toi d'Amélie* by Georges Feydeau. A woman of the night is "entrusted" to a friend by her lover, when he goes into the army.

**The Marquise (1927)** COMEDY

6m 3f

When a count and a duke, having been close friends since their youth, want their respective children to marry each other, the young couple concerned, Adrienne

and Miguel, are not happy with this arrangement – for although fond of each other, they both love someone else.

**Nude With Violin (1956)** COMEDY

8m 6f

Brilliant painter Paul Sorodin dies, and indecently close to death's heels come Sorodin's relatives, his business manager, and others who, their grief not entirely untinged with greed, anxiously await the reading of the will. Sebastian, valet and companion extraordinary to Sorodin, steps in with some jolting surprises for the mourners. One jolt makes it clear Sorodin was not all he had seemed. Also on hand with revelations of their own are an eccentric Russian princess, an ex-show girl, an Eleventh Hour Immersionist and a mute but effective gentleman named Fabrice. Before they get through, reputations are arranged and rearranged.

**Peace in Our Time (1947)** DRAMA

22m 13f

Coward begins his great drama with the premise that the Battle of Britain was lost, and that the Nazis conquered and now occupy England. Of the assorted people who frequent one particular pub we recognize some who bear themselves courageously under the occupation, as well as some opportunists who are anxious to collaborate. As the war wears on, the weak surrender themselves to the enticements of the Nazis, while the strong-willed and those with longer memories grow bitter, stubborn, and rebellious.

**Post Mortem (1930)** DOCUDRAMA

5f, 18m

A one-act play in eight scenes, written in 1930 by Coward after seeing *Journey's End* by RC Sherriff. John Cavan is a young English soldier, the son of a London editor, fighting in the trenches in 1917. He argues with his fellow soldier Perry Lomas, who believes John's father's newspaper is guilty of glorifying the war. At the end of the scene John is mortally wounded by enemy fire. The following six scenes take place in 1930 back in England, as John's ghost encounters friends, family, and his girlfriend Monica, and discovers what the war has meant to them - not a great deal, as it turns out.

**Present Laughter (1939)** FARCE

6f 5m

Writer Garry Essendine fends off copious female attention, aspiring, obsessional writers, his ex-wife, and jealous friends while trying to get a decent lie-in in the mornings.

**Private Lives (1930)** ROMANTIC COMEDY

3f 2m

Sybil and Elyot arrive at a hotel in France for their honeymoon to discover Amanda - Elyot's first wife in the adjoining suite with her new husband, Victor. Amanda & Elyot elope.

**Quadrille** (1952) COMEDY

10f 9m (doubling possible)

A mild-mannered fable about an errant couple who have run off from their respective spouses, who are tracked down by the aforesaid spouses in a villa in France, who are escorted back to their respective households and who are then ditched in turn by the pair who found them.

**Relative Values** (1958) COMEDY

5m 5f

Moxie and Miranda are estranged sisters; Moxie is a maid, Miranda a film star. Tensions mount when Miranda becomes engaged to Nigel, the son of Felicity, whom Moxie works for. Moxie blurts out the truth about Miranda.

**A Song at Twilight** (1966) COMEDY

2m 2f

This bittersweet comedy is the story of a cosmopolitan author caught in his declining years between two women, one being his wife of convenience for twenty years, the other, one of his former loves.

**South Sea Bubble** (1956) COMEDY

8m 3f

The governor of the South Seas island of Samolo, Sir George Shotter, favours self-government for the island, but is opposed by an old-Etonian local grandee, Hali Alani.

**Star Quality** (2000) COMEDY

Noël Coward and Chris Luscombe

7m 5f

Behind the scenes of a new West End play - between the temperamental leading lady, the ruthless director, and hapless young playwright, the clash of egos is increasingly hilarious and bloody.

**This Happy Breed** (1943) COMEDY

7f 5m

Spanning seventeen years between WW1 and WW2. Frank settles in Clapham in 1919 with his wife Ethel. A respectable working class home experiences marriage, separation and sorrow.

**This Was a Man** (1926) COMEDY

5f 4m

Banned in the UK when it was written in 1926, due to 'facetious adultery'. Successful Painter, Edward Churt is aware of his wife Carol's infidelities. An old army comrade decides to avenge his friend by seducing his wife and catching her out but the plan has unintended consequences.

**Volcano (1956)** COMEDY

7m 7f

Based on Coward's hedonistic life in Jamaica. On Samola, a fictional Caribbean island, Adela Shelley, a widow in her early forties is faced with the ghosts of her passionate past when Guy Littleton, a handsome lothario, returns on a visit and in the process seduces a young married woman, Ellen Danbury. When their respective spouses arrive, complications ensue...

**The Vortex (1925)** DRAMA

5m 4f

In *The Vortex*, Coward explores the darker side of the cocktail party set. Emotional blackmail, drug abuse and shattered relationships are minutely observed in this disturbing, early piece from a playwright whose sharp eye was more usually turned towards the light.

**The Young Idea (1923)** COMEDY

7m 7f

This 'comedy of youth in three acts' is a light and sprightly early work in which two precocious siblings run circles around their elders and betters in order to engineer the reconciliation of their divorced parents. Sholto and Gerda are visiting their father's country home in order to hunt, learn about English society, and split up their father from his second wife. The entertainments of the English country gentry are a far cry from the sun-baked Italian villa they have grown up in with their mother, and their satirical volleys against the horsy aristocracy are as delightful as their whispered conspiracy to orchestrate a happy ending for their parents.

**EDUARDO DE FILIPPO**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**Christmas in Naples (1931)** DRAMA

6m 3f 1m/f

It's Christmas time at the Cupiello household in Naples, but only patriarch Luca seems to be getting into the spirit. He has painstakingly and lovingly built a special Nativity scene for his family to enjoy but none of them seems to be interested in indulging him. His son Tommasino is a petty thief, his daughter Ninuccia is cheating on her husband, and his wife Concetta is trying to hold everything together amongst the family's constant in-fighting.

**Filumena Marturano (1946)** COMEDY

8m 5f (doubling possible)

Filumena Marturano, found in the brothels of Naples by the domineering Domenico Soriano with whom she has enjoyed an on-off relationship for twenty-five years, lies on her deathbed hoping to marry her love before she dies. However, after the ceremony is over, Filumena reveals that she feigned illness in order to formally establish herself as Soriano's wife, much to his despair. More surprises are in store however when Filumena reveals that she has three sons, unwittingly provided for using Domenico's money, and that they are in need of a father figure.

**Grand Magic (1948)** DRAMA

11m 9f (doubling possible)

Magician Otto Marvuglia helps Marta escape the clutches of her overprotective and stifling marriage to the mean-spirited Calogero. During a trick in front of guests at the hotel where the couple are staying, Otto manages to 'disappear' Marta into the hands of her lover, Mariano, leaving Calogero utterly confused as to the whereabouts of his wife. Otto tries to keep the trick going by consequently convincing Calogero of the world's permanent illusory nature in order to hide from him the painful truth. However, the deception leads to the total unravelling of Calogero's mind, much to the chagrin of his family.

**Inner Voices (1948)** DRAMA

9m 5f

Set in the aftermath of the Second World War, Alberto's life is turned upside down when he accuses the family next door of murder and soon thereafter realises that he only dreamt the grisly scenario and that no such murder ever took place. However, much to his dismay, his simple mistake triggers a chain of unstoppable events which leads to chaos within the neighbourhood. Each family member turns on each in turn accusing them of the alleged murder as suspicion and paranoia infects the lives of everyone involved.

**The Local Authority** (1960) DRAMA

14m 6f (doubling possible)

In a small town in Naples, Italy, justice rests with one man: the formidable and fearsome Antonio Barracano. Don over all he surveys, he is a respected Mafioso who doles out punishments and favours as and when he pleases in order to keep control and order over the town. However, when he butts heads with local businessman Arturo Santaniello after he intervenes to keep the peace between him and his estranged son, Rafiluccio, Antonio becomes drawn into a blood feud which threatens to erupt and destroy the town.

**Naples Gets Rich** (1945) DRAMA

14m 7f (doubling possible)

It's the middle of the Second World War and the Jovine family is struggling to survive the chronic food shortages and incessant bombing. Matriarch Amalia has resorted to selling supplies on the black market despite strong disapproval from her husband, Gennaro. The family's descent into petty criminality becomes much steeper after Gennaro goes missing (presumed dead) in an air raid. However, the family's rise in fortune is thrown into sharp focus when he returns traumatised from time spent in a POW camp.

**Non Ti Pago!** (1940) COMEDY

7m 5f (doubling possible)

Ferdinando, the lottery shop owner who gambles away his profit, is furious when his clerk Bertolini, the suitor of his daughter Stella, wins four million lira after dreaming Ferdinando's dead father telling him the winning lottery numbers. Ferdinando seizes the winning ticket and refuses to recognise Bertolini as the legitimate owner. When his plan to trick Bertolini in to signing over the money fails, Ferdinando hands over the money and curses him, leading their family into an absurdly comic dispute between the law and religion.

**Saturday, Sunday, Monday** (1959) DRAMA | COMEDY

11m 6f

Don Peppino suspects his wife, Rosa, of cheating with an old friend and she in turn is annoyed by his lack of interest in her cooking and preference for the food prepared by his daughter-in-law. Their long-term marriage has been worn down by an emotional war of attrition. Set over one tempestuous weekend, tensions between the pair come to a devastating head during the traditional Sunday dinner in the presence of their family and friends. Add to the mix a strong-willed daughter being pulled in different directions by her family, an outspoken Auntie, and the maid's potentially dangerous brother knocking about, will everyone survive until Monday with their relationships intact?

**Those Damned Ghosts** (1946) COMEDY

8m 4f

Impoverished Pasquale moves into a dilapidated mansion that has a local history of being taunted by a variety of ghosts. However, Pasquale doesn't believe any of the myths and hopes to turn the place into a profit-making hotel for him and his wife,

Maria. However, he soon starts to financially over-reach himself with various repairs much to the chagrin of his put-upon wife, and before long, he too starts to feel the cold touch of phantom presences.



## **GRAHAM GREENE**

### **LIST OF WORKS**

#### **PLAYS**

**Carving a Statue** (1964) DRAMA  
3m 2f

A father has used his young son as a model for the baby Jesus in a large divine sculpture of God which he has been working on for sixteen years. However, his son has now grown into a teenager and is therefore no longer useful as a model for his father's art, and subsequently finds himself at emotional odds with his increasingly distant father who is beginning to misidentify himself with the divine image he is attempting to create.

**The Compliant Lover** (1959) COMEDY  
5m 3f

A light-hearted comedic play about love and relationships which centres primarily on the illicit affair between Mary Rhodes and Clive Root, the bookseller friend of her husband, Victor Rhodes. After discovering his wife is having an affair, Victor quietly decides that he must accept the situation and thus becomes the 'compliant lover' of the title.

**For Whom the Bell Chimes** (1980) FARCE  
5m 1f/m

A farce set in a one-room studio apartment, each act starts with the chime of the doorbell and the entrance of a new character into the increasing chaos onstage.

**The Living Room** (1953) MELODRAMA  
5f 2m

Graham Greene's debut play is a vivid exploration of the tensions between sex and faith, and is all set in the living room of a religious household belonging to three elderly siblings: Teresa, Helene and their brother James, a Catholic priest. When their orphaned niece, Rose, comes to live with them, she brings with her an atmosphere of abandon as it's revealed she is having a desperate affair with a married man. Pressured by all sides to give him up, Rose passes from innocence to misery as the house is plunged into spiritual despair.

**The Potting Shed** (1957) DRAMA  
6m 5f

Now a middle-aged man, James Callifer returns to his family home where his estranged father is dying. His return only fuels his desire to uncover a long-held personal mystery of what happened to him in his family's potting shed when he was a boy. His attempts to unlock memories of this event are blocked in turn by each of his family members. With the aid of a psychoanalyst, James eventually discovers the truth behind that fateful day and how it led to his rejection by his father and his alienation from the world.

**The Return of A.J. Raffles** (1975) COMEDY

8m 2f

Greene's Edwardian comedy is based loosely on the characters from E.W. Hornung's *The Amateur Cracksman* – a collection of short stories which revolve around the gentleman thief, A.J. Raffles. Set in the late summer of 1900, Raffles – presumed dead in the Boer War – plots to rob the Marquess of Queensberry as revenge against the latter's treatment of his friend Oscar Wilde. He ropes in two friends, Bunny and Lord Alfred Douglas, to help him with his mission. However, everything goes up in smoke when Raffles and Bunny's robbery is interrupted by the Prince of Wales and Inspector Mackenzie, who also discover that the Prince's personal letters have been stolen.

**Yes and No** (1980) EXPERIMENTAL

2m

A short experimental play recording a conversation between an unnamed Director and an unnamed Actor in which the latter's only lines as he discusses a play script with the Director are the words 'yes' and 'no'.

ADAPTATIONS

**The End of the Affair** (1997) DRAMA

8m 1f (can be played with cast of 7)

adapted for the stage by Caroline Butler & Rupert Goold

It is 1946. Civil servant Henry Miles suspects that his wife Sarah is having an affair, and asks his writer friend Maurice Bendrix to contact a private investigator on his behalf. However, Maurice is harbouring a secret – he too was once Sarah's lover and is equally keen to find out whether she was unfaithful to him too.

**The Ministry of Fear** (2010) DRAMA | THRILLER

3m 3f plus 14 supporting characters

adapted by Daniel Jamieson

Blitz London. Just released from a psychiatric prison, Arthur Rowe attends a charity fête where he stumbles into the tent of a fortune teller. She gives him the answer to the 'guess the weight of the cake' competition, enabling him to win, but this seemingly innocuous event trips Rowe into a hell of corruption and betrayal. This is an espionage thriller and an unnerving portrait of a man whose mind is in free fall.

**Our Man in Havana** (2007) COMEDY

3m 1f (playing a variety of roles)

adapted by Clive Francis

Jim Wormold, an under-employed vacuum cleaner salesman living in 1950s Cuba, is struggling to pay for his teenage daughter's increasingly extravagant lifestyle. So when the British Secret Service offers him the chance to become 'their man in Havana', he cannot afford to say no. There's just one hitch... He doesn't know anything worth knowing! To avoid suspicion, he begins to recruit non-existent sub-

agents and concocts a series of intricate fictions – but Wormold soon discovers that his stories are closer to the truth than he could have ever imagined.

**The Power and the Glory** (1958) DRAMA

28m 9f (doubling possible)

adapted by Denis Cannon & Pierre Bost

In the revolutionary days of Mexico, a priest decides to stay with his people in disguise rather than escape. It is little consolation, however, for wherever the priest goes with the mass and the sacraments, the police are sure to follow, executing those who harboured him. Though he is a humanly weak priest, with a past of many sins, he has moments of strength. He steals a bottle of wine from a drunken official, and ends in prison. Released, he travels to another province where he is given food and clothes, and the people make religious processions. At ease again, he slips back into his old pleasures. At the moment of his escape, however, he chooses to go instead to a dying man. Here he is ambushed, and executed.

**Travels with my Aunt** (1989) DRAMA

13m 9f (can be played by a much smaller cast with doubling)

adapted by Giles Havergal

Henry Pulling, a recently retired bank manager, forms a bond with his eccentric Aunt Augusta whom he meets for the first time at his mother's funeral. The odd pair subsequently decide to embark on a journey way across Europe, and eventually even further afield. Aunt Augusta pulls Henry away from his quiet suburban existence into a world of adventure, crime and the highly unconventional lifestyle.

NOVELS

**Brighton Rock** (1938)

William Heinemann

Co-represented by StudioCanal. Previously adapted as a musical by Giles Havergal, Don Black & John Barry, and also as a play by David Horlock, Matt Devereaux and Bryony Lavery.

Charles 'Fred' Hale comes to Brighton on an assignment to distribute cards anonymously for a newspaper competition. Hale had previously betrayed the former leader of a gang now run by teenage sociopath, Pinkie Brown. After being threatened by Pinkie, Hale is taken in by Ida Arnold. But he cannot escape the clutches of Pinkie for long and is eventually murdered by him. Pinkie's subsequent attempts to cover his tracks and remove evidence only lead to a chain of fresh crimes. His guilt is compounded by his disastrous marriage to a young waitress called Rose, who can destroy his alibi for the evening in question. Driven by justice, Ida decides to pursue Pinkie at all costs, warning Rose of the man she has married.

**A Burnt-Out Case** (1960)

William Heinemann

World-famous architect Querry finds himself bored of his vacuous, celebrity lifestyle and sets sail on a voyage to the Congo. He arrives anonymously at a leper colony

where he is diagnosed as a 'burnt-out case'. Working ceaselessly in the colony, Query starts to feel his mind clear of its fog. However, when he strikes up a meaningful friendship with the wife of a palm-oil plantation owner his integrity is again called into question.

**The Captain and His Enemy (1988)**

Reinhardt Books (Viking)

Victor Baxter is taken away from his boarding school by a mysterious stranger who takes him to London. The stranger is simply known as 'The Captain' and lives with a woman called Liza. Whilst there, Victor strikes up a maternal relationship with Liza, who renames him Jim and depends on him for news of the world outside their door. Raised in these odd circumstances, Jim is never sure of The Captain's relationship with Liza and it is not until he reaches manhood that he can confront The Captain, when he learns the shocking truth about this man, his allegiances, and the nature of love.

**The Comedians (1966)**

Bodley Head

Three men meet on a ship bound for Haiti, in a world in the grip of the corrupt 'Papa Doc' and the Tontons Macoute, his sinister secret police. Brown the hotelier, Smith the innocent American, and Jones the confidence man are the 'comedians' of Graham Greene's title. Hiding behind their actor's masks, they hesitate on the edge of life. To begin with, they are men afraid of love, afraid of pain, afraid of fear itself...

**The Confidential Agent (1939)**

William Heinemann

Former university professor D is sent by his government on a secret mission to England to buy coal. He leaves behind terrible memories in his home country ravaged by a civil war which claimed the life of his wife. What turns out to be a simple mission to a country of which he has very fond memories turns into a nightmare for D. Implicated in murder, accused of possessing false documents and theft, and held responsible for the death of a young woman, D becomes a hunted man tormented by political allegiances and doubt over his identity.

**Doctor Fischer of Geneva or The Bomb Party (1980)**

Bodley Head

Doctor Fischer despises the human race, and Alfred Jones, a translator for a large chocolate company in Switzerland, has just married his estranged daughter. The notorious 'toothpaste millionaire' as he is known invites Jones to one of his famous parties where he feeds his guests porridge and reads from his own deadly version of the Book of Revelations. The parties are a chance for Fischer to humiliate the rich sycophants in his clique.

**England Made Me (1935)**

William Heinemann

Anthony Farrant, in his thirties, charming and broke, is back in London from the Far East after being fired from every job, kicked out of every club, and left by every

woman. His twin sister Kate comes to the rescue, setting him up with a job as bodyguard to Krogh, an all-powerful Swedish financier, and her lover and boss. Farrant has a sense of decency after all, and when Krogh gives orders that offend him he leaks information to Minty, a down-trodden journalist, with drastic results.

### **The Honorary Consul (1973)**

Bodley Head

Doctor Eduardo Plarr moved to Corrientes in Argentina after he escaped the political turmoil of Buenos Aires as a child, leaving behind his father, a political revolutionary, from whom he has not since heard. One day two of Plarr's friends from his Jesuit schooldays turn up at his surgery to tell him his father is alive and imprisoned in Paraguay. They hatch a plot to kidnap the US Ambassador on his trip to Corrientes in order to ransom him for the release of political prisoners in Paraguay but kidnap the wrong man taking the British Honorary Consul, Charles Fortnum, instead.

### **It's a Battlefield (1934)**

William Heinemann

Drover is in prison appealing his death sentence for killing a policeman during a riot in London, an act of self-defence for his wife who he believed was in grave danger. The Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police is summoned to a meeting with the assistant to the Home Secretary to decide whether or not to reprieve Drover's sentence. Neither are quite sure if they should. Meanwhile, Drover's wife Milly visits the policeman's widow and finds comfort in the arms of her husband's brother, Conrad.

### **The Lieutenant Died Last/Went the Day Well (1990)**

Part of a short story collection in *The Last Word and Other Stories*, Reinhardt Books (Viking)

Co-represented with StudioCanal

A short story which was subsequently adapted into a film in 1942. Set in 1940, a group of German parachutists have taken over an English village. The villagers decide they must take action against the enemies on home turf.

### **Loser Takes All (1955)**

William Heinemann

Bertram plans to get married to Cary in a quiet, unassuming wedding. However, when his boss Dreuther switches the wedding and honeymoon to the rather more exciting Monte Carlo, Bertram becomes sucked into the casino lifestyle in order to pay for the luxurious holiday in which they have found themselves. At first he loses but after a while he begins to win big money. His luck attracts the attention of businessman, Bowles, who happens to be in direct competition with Dreuther. Cary soon loses interest in her newly avaricious husband. Bertram becomes hell bent on revenge against his boss.

### **The Man Within (1929)**

William Heinemann

Francis Andrews flees a smuggling boat whom he has betrayed by informing customs officers on its embarkation. In his flight he stumbles across an isolated cottage where he finds the enigmatic Elizabeth. He strikes up a relationship with her which is scuppered by the arrival of Carlyon, head of the smugglers. Elizabeth persuades Andrews to testify against Carlyon and his crew – a decision which leads to the smugglers promising to exact revenge for Andrews' betrayal.

**No Man's Land** (commissioned in 1950; published posthumously in 2005)  
Hesperus Press

British agent, Brown, slips through the Iron Curtain into Soviet Germany to find his brother's killer and obtain state secrets buried under a Catholic shrine. His prayers are answered in the form of Clara, the beautiful wife of Starhov, whose home he is incarcerated in, on suspicion of espionage. When the instinctive trust he and Clara succumb to drives Brown to risk and lose everything on a hazardous mission, Brown triumphs at nothing but Clara's safe passage to the West. On the other side of the Iron Curtain they are married, but Brown is tortured by the certainty that, just as Clara betrayed his brother and Starhov, she must soon betray him. Due to the global power dynamics that inexorably divide them, the one person he trusted in the East is the person he can least trust in the West.

**The Power and the Glory** (1940)  
William Heinemann

In a poor, remote area of Mexico, the Red Shirts paramilitary group rule with an iron fist. Catholicism has been outlawed and priests are being hunted down and killed. An unnamed so-called 'whiskey priest' is on the move trying to minister as best as he can. However, he is haunted by his past demons and his inability to feel true repentance for his actions. His flight is taunted by his opposite number, Padre José, a priest who has been forced to renounce his faith and marry a woman.

**Stamboul Train/The Orient Express** (1932)  
William Heinemann

As the Orient Express makes its way from Ostend to Constantinople, the lives of its many passengers are bound together in a series of interlocking events. The characters include Coral Musker, a chorus girl, Carleton Myatt, a rich businessman, Richard John, a doctor, journalist Mabel Warren, and Josef Grunlich, a murderous burglar. They all find themselves caught up in each other's fates and bound in a web of espionage, murder and lies.

**The Tenth Man** (written in 1944; later published in 1985)  
Bodley Head  
Previously adapted by Kate Brooke in 1994

Occupied France during WWII: one in ten prisoners is to be executed. Lots are drawn to decide who will die. Chavel is chosen but, having accrued significant wealth as a lawyer, offers his estate to whomever will take his place. A young man, Janvier, puts himself forward. Fast-forward and with the war over, Chavel returns to his homestead to find it occupied by Janvier's mother and sister, Thérèse. Assuming the fake name of Charlot, he becomes their servant. Their stability is violently interrupted when an

imposter arrives claiming to be Chavel in order to stake some kind of claim on the property by winning Thérèse's hand in marriage. Charlot, who has fallen in love Thérèse himself, and armed with the truth, sets out to reveal all to her as an act of redemption for his prior cowardice.

## SHORT STORIES

### **The Basement Room** (Twenty-One Stories)

Philip Lanes' parents are gone for a fortnight, he is "between nurses" and all alone in their great Belgravia house with enigmatic butler Baines and peevish housekeeper Mrs Baines. Philip idolises Baines and his stories of adventure in Africa. When he realises Baines cowers under the hectoring of Mrs Baines, he sneaks out of the house in search of an escape and spies Baines intimately engaged with a mysterious girl. Philip confronts Baines, who makes him promise to keep his secret. A terrible confrontation proves too much for Philip's confidence and shatters his vision of his fallen idol.

### **The Case for the Defence** (Twenty-One Stories)

Mr Adams is standing trial for murdering Mrs Parker, an old woman who was found battered to death in the middle of the night, he having been all but found with the body. Unable to sleep, Mrs Salmon heard a door click shut, and at the window she saw Adams on the step of the house wearing gloves. Henry MacDougall, driving home late from Benfleet, had nearly ran Adams down as he walked down the street looking dazed nearby. Mrs Parker, who lived next door at No. 12, was wakened by a noise like a chair falling, and saw Adams and his big bulging eyes as he turned to leave. It all seems like an open-and-shut case until the sudden appearance of Mr Adams' twin sows a seed of doubt on the proceedings.

### **The Destructors** (Twenty-One Stories)

Trevor wants to become a member of the "Wormsley Common Gang", a group of teenage boys from a tough London neighbourhood. He devises a reckless plan to win their approval by destroying a beautiful two-hundred-year-old house that survived through The Blitz. The gang sets to work while the owner of the house, Mr Thomas (aka "Old Misery"), is away over the bank holiday weekend. Their plot is to destroy the house from inside, then tear down the remaining outer structure, to systematically destroy Old Misery's pride and joy.

### **The End of the Party** (Twenty-One Stories)

9-year-old Francis harbours an extreme fear of the dark that only his psychically connected twin Peter can comprehend. He wakes from a foreboding dream that he was dead, and dreads the birthday party that evening which Mrs Henne-Falcon plans to culminate in a game of hide-and-seek in the dark. Peter tries to help him feign sickness but, unable to confess his darkest fear, Francis is swept away to the party. The strange relationship between the twins reaches its terrifying climax when Peter finds his brother in the dark.

**Twenty-One Stories (1929-54)**

William Heinemann

A collection of short stories, all sharing the themes that feature so strongly in Graham Greene's novels: humour and violence, pity and hatred, betrayal and pursuit. Comic, sad, shocking and tragic, they recount the tales of Mr Marling's loud stomach, destructive gangs of children, indiscretions revealed, and secrets uncovered, each one unmistakably the work of the twentieth century's master storyteller.



**PATRICK HAMILTON**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**The Duke in Darkness** (1942) DRAMA  
10m

Set in the 16<sup>th</sup> century during the French Civil War, the Duke of Laterraine has been imprisoned in a castle for fifteen years by his enemy. He has been loyally aided by his longstanding servant, Gribaud. As part of a long-term escape plan the Duke has been feigning blindness but everything is thrown into jeopardy with the onset of Gribaud's madness as the Duke struggles to distinguish between those he can trust and those he can't.

**Gaslight** (1938) DRAMA | THRILLER  
3f 2m

As the gas light in her home flickers and dims, Bella Manningham is convinced that she is losing her mind. With her husband mostly absent both physically and emotionally, his abusive behaviour towards her is further setting her nerves on edge. However, help is at hand in the shape of Detective Rough who has his own suspicions about the enigmatic Jack Manningham.

**The Man Upstairs** (1953) DRAMA | THRILLER  
4m 3f

George Longford, a quiet, modest, yet dignified man lodging in the Mayfair flat of a close friend, finds his private space invaded by The Armstrong family, a gang of confidence tricksters plotting to relieve him of his money to help their friend Cyrus flee to Australia. Unknown to them, George has a radio in the flat connecting him with his friend Charles, who arranges to have the gang arrested. Before they can escape the flat, the gang are subjected to an extended ritual of revenge.

**Rope** (1929) DRAMA | THRILLER  
6m 2f

Brandon and Granillo are two young, brash university students who have just murdered one of their compatriots, Ronald Kentley, as a supposed expression of their intellectual superiority. They quickly stuff his cadaver into a huge chest and proceed to host a party for his friends and family and use the chest as a buffet for their guests. However, their arrogance soon runs dry when they discover that one of their guests, Rupert Cadell, may just well have their number.

**The Slaves of Solitude** (2017) DRAMA | ROMANCE  
Adapted by Nicholas Wright

1943, Henley-on-Thames. Miss Roach is forced by the war to flee London for the Rosamund Tea Rooms boarding house, a place as grey and lonely as its residents. From the safety of these new quarters, her war effort now consists of a thousand petty humiliations, of which the most burdensome is sharing her daily life with the unbearable Mr Thwaites. But a breath of fresh air arrives in the form of a handsome

American lieutenant and things start to look distinctly brighter – until a new boarder moves into the room next to Miss Roach who soon starts upsetting the precarious balance in the house.

## NOVELS

### **Craven House** (1926)

Black Spring

A light-hearted satire set in an English boarding house.

### **The Gorse Trilogy** (1952-55)

Black Spring Press

Ernest Ralph Gorse's heartlessness and lack of scruple are matched only by the inventiveness and panache with which he swindles his victims. With great deftness and precision Hamilton exposes how his dupes' own naiveté, snobbery or greed make them perfect targets. These three novels are shot through with the brooding menace and sense of bleak inevitability so characteristic of the author. There is also vivid satire and caustic humour.

### **Hangover Square** (1941)

Penguin Modern Classics

Hamilton's most celebrated and widely read novel is a jet black comedy set against the backdrop of Britain's declaration of war on Germany. George Harvey Bone, a lonely alcoholic, becomes obsessed with gaining the affections of failed actress, Netta. The only time he feels truly free from the chains of his existence is during long blackouts that seem to induce in Bone a completely different personality, but also one which quickly turns murderous in the face of rejection.

### **Impromptu in Moribundia** (1939)

Faber & Faber

Published at the outbreak of WWII, this book is an anomaly within Hamilton's oeuvre. A satire on social complacency which apes the style of Wells and Huxley, the story charts a young man's descent into the fictional Moribundia where the dull affairs of England are transformed into a supposed bourgeois idyll.

### **The Midnight Bell** (1929)

Vintage Classics, Random House

Set in The Midnight Bell, a pub on the Euston Road, *The Midnight Bell* forms the first part of the trilogy later published as *Twenty Thousand Streets Under the Sky*. Barman Bob is in love with Jenny, a West End prostitute. However, fellow bar worker Ella, is secretly in love with Bob.

### **Monday Morning** (1925)

Faber & Faber

Published days after his 21st birthday, the novel follows a writer's attempts to get down to work on a fated Monday morning.

**Mr Stimpson and Mr Gorse (1953)**

Black Spring Press

The second book in the Gorse Trilogy which follows the exploitations of conman and anti-hero, Ernest Ralph Gorse. After attempting to swindle a young woman out of her savings Gorse graduates onto more difficult material by attempting to practise a sophisticated fraud on a wealthy colonel's widow.

**The Plains of Cement (1934)**

Vintage Classics, Random House

The third part of the trilogy focuses on Ella and takes place in the same time period as *The Midnight Bell*. Still nursing affection for Bob, Ella has to ward off the unwanted advances of elderly customer, Ernest Eccles.

**The Siege of Pleasure (1932)**

Vintage Classics, Random House

The second in the *Twenty Thousand Streets Under the Sky* trilogy, this relates the early life of Jenny as a domestic servant and her descent into prostitution.

**The Slaves of Solitude (1947)**

Constable and Robinson

Set in the fictional town of Thames Lockden, the plot follows the experiences of Miss Roach who has escaped Blitz-hit London to lead a safer but dull life running a boarding house in the suburbs. There she must endure the mockery of difficult guest, Mr Thwaites, but manages to find a ray of sunlight in her growing affections for an American serviceman. However, their liaison is interrupted by the arrival of Miss Roach's German friend, Vicki Kugelman, with whom she soon finds herself locked in bitter competition.

**The Twenty Thousand Streets Under the Sky Trilogy (1929-34)**

Vintage Classics, Random House

A trilogy of semi-autobiographical novels which focus on three protagonists who populate The Midnight Bell pub in London. The books are notable for their authentic portrayal of working-class London life in the inter-war period.

**Twopence Coloured (1928)**

Faber & Faber

19-year-old Jackie Mortimer leaves his hometown of Hove in search of a life on the London stage, only to become entangled with 'provincial' theatrical life and the object of affection for two brothers, Richard and Charles Gissing.

**Unknown Assailant (1955)**

Black Spring Press

The final book in the Gorse Trilogy which follows the exploitations of conman and anti-hero, Ernest Ralph Gorse. This final part of the trilogy sees Gorse attempts to bamboozle a dreamy barmaid.

**The West Pier (1952)**

Black Spring Press

The first book in the Gorse Trilogy which follows the exploitations of conman and anti-hero, Ernest Ralph Gorse. In this first instalment, set in Brighton in the 20s, Gorse attempts to swindle a young working-class woman out of her life savings. Graham Greene declared it to be 'the best book written about Brighton.'

**RADIO PLAYS****Money with Menaces (1937)**

A Fleet Street tycoon finds himself under telephone threat of blackmail.

**To the Public Danger (1939)**

After leaving her dull boyfriend for a rebellious bounder, the play follows a fickle woman who goes for a drunken drive down country lanes. An examination of the pitfalls of driving under the influence.

## **MOSS HART** **LIST OF WORKS**

### **PLAYS**

**Light Up the Sky (1948)** COMEDY  
7m 3f

*Light Up the Sky* takes place in the hotel room of Broadway actress Miss Irene Livingston, prior to the opening of a new play in an out-of-town tryout. Over the course of the evening – and thus, over the course of the play – we follow a truck-driver-turned-playwright watching his first play being produced in Boston. This backstage comedy features the grandly temperamental leading lady; her sarcastic, gin-rummy-playing mother; the flamboyant director; the lowbrow producer; and his ice-skating, wisecracking wife. The opening night performance is a complete disaster. After adoring one another and the play in Act 1, they viciously attack each other in Act 2. No one escapes unscathed including the leading lady's pet parrot, J.J., named after the Shuberts. In the final scene a mysterious and hilarious new character changes all that has come before.

### **MUSICALS**

**As Thousands Cheer (1933)** COMEDY | REVUE  
3m 3f

Written with Irving Berlin

It was the Depression era version of *Saturday Night Live* and *The Daily Show*. Moss Hart's sketches were sharp, witty and hilarious and Irving Berlin's songs ranged from wry to satiric to poignant. Their inspiration? The newspaper headlines of the day, from affairs to society photos and advice to the lovelorn; even comic strips and the weather report were fair game! A cast that included Clifton Webb, Ethel Waters and Marilyn Miller impersonated the likes of Joan Crawford, the Hoovers, John D. Rockefeller, Mahatma Gandhi and Josephine Baker for over 400 performances beginning in September of 1933. Considered a masterpiece of that specialized genre known as the topical revue, *As Thousands Cheer* inspired some of Harts best solo work as a comedy writer and afforded Berlin the opportunity to pen some of the greatest musical gems.

**Lady in the Dark (1941)** DRAMA  
11f 9m

Written with Kurt Weill (Music) and Irving Berlin (Lyrics)

Liza Elliott is at the top of her field as the successful editor of a fashion magazine, but her mysteriously profound lack of fulfillment frightens her into psychoanalysis. She has been unsettled by confused and fantastic dreams, the central characters of which are, in various guises, four men: her married lover, a handsome if shallow movie star,

the magazine's flamboyant photographer and her chief nemesis, the cynical advertising manager.

Uniquely structured like a straight play, the arresting score arrives in extended interludes that dramatize Liza's dreams. Ultimately, it is the memory of a haunting childhood song that she has been unable to recall that sets her free. This highly enjoyable show includes the hit songs "The Saga of Jenny," "The Princess of Pure Delight" and "My Ship." Winner of a 1997 Evening Standard Award for Best Musical.

## **WILLIAM DOUGLAS HOME** **LIST OF WORKS**

### **PLAYS**

**Yes M 'Lord (The Chiltern Hundreds)** (First staged in 1949) COMEDY

4m 4f

Written by William Douglas Home.

The son of an eccentric Earl of Lister switches party allegiances to try and capture a seat in parliament, only to find the family butler standing against him.

**Now Barabbas** (First staged in 1949) DRAMA

17m 4f

Written by William Douglas Home.

Prison drama centred on the fate of a condemned murderer and its effect on other inmates and members of the prison.

**A Friend Indeed** (First staged in 1966) COMEDY

4m 4f

The youthful dalliances of an older generation come back to haunt them, with awkward implications for a young couple's romance.

**The Reluctant Debutante** (First staged in 1955) COMEDY

3m 5f

Written by William Douglas Home.

Classic comedy about an aristocratic mother's attempt to find a suitable match for her daughter, which do not go according to plan.

**Lloyd George Knew My Father** (First staged in 1972) COMEDY

4m 4f

Written by William Douglas Home.

A proposal to build a new road through the grounds of their estate provokes a drastic response from Sheila, wife of the even more eccentric General Sir William Boothroyd.

**The Secretary Bird** (First staged in 1968) COMEDY

2m 3f

Written by William Douglas Home.

When writer Hugh Walfords finds that his wife is about to leave him for another man, he takes the unusual step of inviting his rival to stay for the weekend, with uproarious consequences.

**The Kingfisher** (1977) COMEDY

2m 1f

Written by William Douglas Home.

Gentle comedy of romance in old age. Cecil hopes to rekindle a romance with Evelyn, an old flame whom he has not seen for fifty years. However, he must also win the approval of Hawkins, his long-serving and devoted manservant.

**The Dame Of Sark** (first staged in 1975) DRAMA

7m 2f

Written by William Douglas Home.

Dramatisation of relationships between conquerors and conquered on the island of Sark during the German occupation of the Channel Islands in World War II. Based on the autobiography of the Dame, Sybill Hathaway.

**JOHN HOPKINS**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**Absent Forever (1987)** DRAMA

2m 2f and 1f/m

Rosemary's political activist daughter, Kate, has gone missing after a student demonstration has turned violent. As she begins her search to find out the truth behind what happens, she bumps heads with Inspector Rankin, a man seemingly determined to keep all his cards about the protest very close to his chest. As Rosemary slowly begins to piece together events, she uncovers a dark side to her daughter's personal life which threatens to overwhelm her entirely.

**Crying in the Night** DRAMA

3m 2f

A son visits his father in hospital after he has been severely injured in a traffic accident. Their strained relationship shows when the son immediately begins challenging his father to take responsibility for his own life after it emerges that the accident may have been self-inflicted. The perspective then shifts to the mother in the family who has set up a new life with a much younger man – her daughter calls on her and also chastises her for her behaviour. In a role reversal, the children are holding their parents to account as they collectively bemoan their parents' inability to communicate truthfully with them.

**Economic Necessity (1973)** DRAMA

6m 3f

An engaging family drama. Denis has decided to renounce his obligations to his family in spite of the increasingly angry reproaches from his friends and family. Each of them in turn attempts to show him the importance of his familial responsibilities and the impossibility of carrying on with this way of life but the patience begins to wear thin on both sides until Denis is reduced to an incoherent wreck adrift in his own home.

**Fable (1965)** DRAMA

3m 2f

The play contrasts the experiences of an oppressed white couple, Joan and Len, with the middle-class, black, liberal writer Mark Fellowes, living under house arrest with his attentive wife, Francesca. Although Fellowes initially appears a figure of hope, his revolutionary talk is, finally, exposed as empty and futile. While Fellowes believes Francesca is taking his radical tracts to be published, she is actually destroying them. But when he finally learns of Francesca's betrayal, Mark's response is merely to continue as if nothing has changed, colluding with his wife in maintaining the illusion that he is taking genuine action. As a comment on the



ultimately ineffectual nature of white liberal opposition in South Africa or elsewhere, this is an extremely challenging and radical position.

**Family Matters** COMEDY | DRAMA

8m 3f

Set in a small town in America, this is a sort of comedy of manners. A young man returns home after an extended stay in New York City where he has acquired some gay friends. He has brought his new friends to stay with him in his hometown but encounters a life quite different to the one he left. His father has left his mother and set up house with a much younger woman, and his mother is having an affair of her own with the local doctor.

**Find Your Way Home (1974)** DRAMA

3m 1f

1970s England. Julian has decided to drown his sorrows by becoming a sex worker after his married lover has left him. On this particularly tense evening he has brought home with him the dangerous and enigmatic David. However, their uneasy alliance is interrupted when Julian's ex-lover, Alan, arrives having left his wife. But little do either of them know that Alan's wife, Jacqueline, has followed swiftly after and is looking for answers. What follows is an intense, brutal and compelling examination of sexuality, marriage and love.

**Losing Time (1979)** DRAMA

3m 2f

Ruth has been abandoned by her husband and has taken to walking the streets of New York City alone at night. One particular evening she is sexually assaulted and drags herself to the apartment of her friend, Joanne, who is horrified to learn of the night's events. Together they decide to wreak revenge on two unsuspecting males who they invite to dinner, but things do not go according to plan.

**Next of Kin (1974)** DRAMA

4m 4f plus children

1970. The Lloyd family gathers together for Sunday tea. Amidst their small talk the family is shocked to discover that patriarch, Brian, has simply disappeared leaving the guests he welcomed completely in the lurch. His wife, Susan, attempts to uncover the reasoning behind this strange behaviour. His children watch silently from the corners of the different rooms, and resentments slowly begin to gather. As the family realises Brian is not coming back, they have to learn to accept and deal with their new reality.

**A Night in September (1940)** DRAMA

5m 4f plus 1 male child

Set during the Blitz, one family attempt to survive amidst an outburst of shelling above their heads. Forty years later and the survivors, Andy and his sister, Sylvia, are now grown up and attempting to get on with their lives. However, the inescapable anxiety of life in a city under attack is still reverberating dreadfully in their lives. The consequences of time have only deepened the trauma of a childhood fought in the so-called 'civilian trenches.'

**Talking to a Stranger** DRAMA

2m 2f

The four episodes are individually subtitled *Anytime You're Ready I'll Sparkle*; *No Skill or Special Knowledge is Required*; *Gladly, My Cross-Eyed Bear* and *The Innocent Must Suffer*. They are respectively the stories of the daughter, Terry; the father, Ted; the son, Alan and the mother, Sarah. Her viewpoint is recounted after her suicide.

**This Story of Yours** (1969) DRAMA | THRILLER

4m 1f

Years of witnessing the worst human beings have to offer seem to have taken their toll on police detective, Johnson. He returns home to his wife, Maureen, drunk and emotional unstable following another harrowing night at work. His frustration is unleashed against his unsuspecting wife. He's convinced he's caught the man responsible for a series of horrific attacks on young girls. However, in the course of his interrogation of his suspect, dark emotions float to the surface for both men as they engage in a violent power-play game with terrible consequences.

**GEORGE S. KAUFMAN**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**MUSICALS**

**Animal Crackers** (1928) ROMANTIC COMEDY | FARCE  
9m 5f plus chorus

Co-written with Morrie Ryskind  
Music and Lyrics by Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby

The scene is the Long Island estate of Mrs. Rittenhouse, a wealthy patroness of the arts with a marriageable daughter. Her celebrity weekend guest is the renowned Captain Jeffrey Spaulding, the African Explorer. He arrives with his secretary, Horatio Jameson, followed by a pair of "musicians": Ravelli, and the Professor. What follows is typical Marxian lunacy, involving a stolen painting, a surreal bridge game, a Broadway gossip columnist named Wally Winston, a financial wizard formerly known as Abie the Fish Peddler, and a climactic burlesque of Marie Antoinette and the Three Musketeers.

**The Cocoanuts** (1925) ROMANTIC COMEDY | FARCE  
7m 3f plus chorus

Music and lyrics by Irving Berlin

In the midst of the Florida land boom, Mr. Schlemmer is trying desperately to run Coconut Manor and put the moves on the wealthy Mrs. Potter. When Mrs. Potter's necklace disappears, the suspects are drawn from Silent Sam and Willie, two vagabonds intent on stealing the hotel's silverware, and a hotel clerk in love with Mrs. Potter's daughter, Polly. The show includes the classic "Why a Duck?" routine, and the classic auction scene.

**Of Thee I Sing** (1931) ROMANTIC COMEDY  
22m 17f

Co-written with Morrie Ryskind  
Music by George Gershwin  
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin

It's a presidential election year: bachelor presidential candidate John P. Wintergreen is set up by his handlers to run on the "love" platform, and will marry the winner of a nationwide beauty contest if he wins the White House. Unfortunately, Wintergreen spurns the piquant Southern bombshell, Diana Devereaux, who wins the contest for the no-nonsense contest organizer, Mary Turner. Once the Wintergreens are married and successfully ensconced in the White House, Devereaux turns all her considerable powers to suing the new president for "breach of promise". Complications for the president and First Lady, as the saying goes, ensue, until love triumphs in the end.

**Silk Stockings** (1955) ROMANTIC COMEDY  
33m 16f

Ninotchka screenplay – Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder, Walter Reisch

Silk Stockings book and musical – Written by George S. Kaufman, Leueen MacGrath, and Abe Burrows. Musica and lyrics by Cole Porter.

Based on the 1939 film 'Ninotchka', this musical follows the story of a humourless political agent who regards love as a purely chemical attraction, is sent to Paris. During her time there, she discovers a new sense of romance and returns home with a more relaxed and romantic view on life.

### **The Band Wagon (1931)** ROMANTIC COMEDY

20m 24f

Written by George S. Kaufman and Howard Dietz, lyrics by Howard Dietz, and music by Arthur Schwartz.

A famous movie star believes himself to be losing fame, so his friends wrote a Broadway show for him to star in. He is overjoyed until the director decides to cast someone else as leading lady. Upon first meeting, the two performers dislike each other, however during their time together, they may begin to form a closer bond than they anticipated.

### PLAYS

### **The Butter and Egg Man (1925)** ROMANTIC COMEDY

7m 5f

Innocent, naive Peter Jones, the “butter-and-egg man” of the title (a 1920s slang term for a wealthy rural businessman eager to spend large amounts of money in the big city), arrives on Broadway from Chillicothe, Ohio, hoping to invest \$20,000 in a play and turn a profit large enough to buy a local hotel back home. He is conned by shady producer Joe Lehman and his partner Jack McClure into backing their play with a 49-percent stake. After the play bombs out of town, Lehman and McClure want out. Jones buys them out, then revamps the show into a huge hit. Jones then sells the play back to them at a huge profit after learning from a lawyer that the play was plagiarized. He returns home to Ohio – with his new love Jane Weston, Lehman’s office girl – to buy his hotel.

### **Dinner at Eight (1932)** COMEDY

14m 11f

Co-written with Edna Ferber

Despite her attempts to throw the perfect society dinner party, Millie Jordan is confounded by events beyond her control: Dan Packard, a business tycoon has just gobbled up her husband’s shipping line; Packard’s wife, Kitty, is having an affair with Dr. Talbot; Millie’s daughter is having an affair with the aging matinee idol Larry Renault; and the glamorous Carlotta Vance, a former paramour of Millie’s husband Oliver, is about to sell all her stock in his company to Dan Packard. By the time the butler announces that “dinner is served,” a microcosm of Depression society has

been thrown together and shaken by the thousand little dirty secrets that connect each person to another, no matter what their class.

**June Moon (1929)** COMEDY | PLAY WITH MUSIC

7m 5f

Co-written with Ring Lardner

Aspiring lyricist Fred Stevens ventures from Schenectady to the Big City, because “that’s where they got the Mecca for a man if he’s got the song-writing gift.” Young Stevens has more enthusiasm than talent, however, and he gets swept up in the fads and foibles of the song-writing business. Serving as 24-bar Greek chorus is Fred’s friend and mentor, Maxie, Tin Pan Alley’s resident song-plugging genius and cupid, who remarks about the song “June Moon”: “It’s a tune that’s easy to remember, but if you should forget it, it wouldn’t make any difference.”

**The Man Who Came To Dinner (1939)** COMEDY

14m 9f

Co-written with Moss Hart

Media darling Sheridan Whiteside meets his Waterloo in the shape of a small piece of ice on the doorstep of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Stanley, of Mesalia, Ohio. He turns the Stanley household upside down, forcing everyone in town to cater to his egotistical demands. Meanwhile, his essential secretary has given her notice after falling in love with a local reporter, and Whiteside must engage every weapon in his considerable arsenal of guile and manipulation to keep her in his employ. A three-ring circus of machinations and celebrity appearances ensues.

**Once in a Lifetime (1930)** ROMANTIC COMEDY

20m 19f

Co-written with Moss Hart

It’s winter of 1928 and a down-at-heels vaudeville troupe – the acerbic May Daniels, the fast-talking Jerry Hyland, and their slightly dopey cohort, George Lewis – decide to make their fortune by going to Hollywood. The only problem is: they don’t know what they’re going to do out there. The trio pretends to be a team of skilled vocal coaches and, with the help of Lotusland’s greatest gossip columnist, they find themselves working for Herman Glogauer, the volatile producer behind Glogauer Pictures. George makes the studio a success despite himself and finds the girl of his dreams, while May and Jerry fall into each other’s arms.

**The Royal Family (1927)** COMEDY

11m 6f

Co-written with Edna Ferber

The curtain goes up on the most famous theatrical family on Broadway: the fabulous Cavendish clan, which has defined unforgettable stage acting for over three generations. While matriarch Fanny Cavendish plans a farewell tour, her leading lady daughter, Julie, has to choose between a dinner date and a first rehearsal – and just when matinee idol brother Tony is on the lam for slugging a Hollywood director. In the meantime, Fanny’s granddaughter, Gwen, is thinking the unthinkable

– chucking the whole thing to marry a stockbroker. But, the show must go on – and so must the Cavendish tradition, and, when the curtain falls, the torch is passed from one generation of actors to another.

**Stage Door (1936)** ROMANTIC COMEDY

11m 22f

Co-written with Edna Ferber

During the depression, the Footlights Club in New York City provides an affordable respite and community for the bevy of struggling stage actresses who reside there. The main story concerns Terry Randall, a headstrong and witty girl from the Midwest who is determined to become a leading actress on the Great White Way. While pursuing her career, she becomes involved with two completely different beaux: the left-wing, arrogant playwright Keith Burgess, and David Kingsley, a well-groomed, elegant film producer. Despite the vicissitudes of the theatre trade, Terry sticks to her guns and wins both the leading role in a Broadway play and the affections and respect of the man she loves.

**You Can't Take It With You (1936)** ROMANTIC COMEDY

9m 7f

Co-written with Moss Hart

The family of Martin Vanderhof lives “just around the corner from Columbia University – but don't go looking for it.” Grandpa, as Martin is more commonly known, is the paterfamilias of a large and extended family of charming eccentrics. His granddaughter, Alice, is an attractive and loving girl who is still embarrassed by her family's idiosyncrasies. When Alice falls for her boss, Tony, a handsome scion of Wall Street, she fears that their two families – so unlike in manner, politics, and finances – will never come together. But, after all, why be obsessed by money? You can't take it with you...

**Merrily We Roll Along (1934)** COMEDY

16m 11f

Written by Moss Hart, and George S. Kaufman.

Beginning in the present and moving backwards, this play follows the personal and professional lives of a wealthy composer and his two friends. The show ends with the three of them in the past, unaware of what is to happen.

**THOMAS KILROY**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**The Death And Resurrection Of Mr. Roche** (1968)

The arrival of the enigmatic homosexual Mr. Roche into an all-night, male drinking session leads to brutal violence and a surreal coup de theatre. But the play centres upon the sad bachelor, Kelly, and the inner journey which he has to make into his own sexuality under the shadow of Mr. Roche.

**The Secret Fall Of Constance Wilde** (1997)

Through a dram of magical transformations and mysterious, masked figures, against the background of one of the most notorious cases in British legal history, the play divines the costs of the characters' conduct, Oscar's plea for salvation in Constance's eyes, and her heroic exertion to reclaim a state of grace.

**The Shape Of Metal** (2003)

Thomas Kilroy's *The Shape Of Metal 2003*, focuses on an old, female artist poised at the far end of life, somewhere between life and death, and her relationship with her two daughters, Judith, and Grace.

**The O'Neill** (1969)

7m 4f

In the sixteenth century, a war was fought between the Irish and the English for nine years, which led to the dissolution of the ancient order of Irish government.

**Double Cross** (First produced in 1986)

7m 4f

A play which tells the story of Brendon Bracken, MP and minister for information, and William Joyce, better known as Lord Haw Haw.

### **Talbot's Box** (1977)

3m 2f

Matt Talbot, the workers saint (1856-1925), provokes Thomas Kilroy's examination of the idea of sanctity in the modern world. The very incorporation of penance and spiritual search, his conversion from alcoholism to prayer, fasting and self-mortification is sketched in the textured resonances of idiom of the Dublin streets and in the soaring versions of his final visions.

**The Seagull** (Adaptation of Chekhov's play of the same name) (First produced in 1985 by the lyric) **FARCE** | **TRAGEDY** | **ROMANCE**

7m 4f

This play tells the story of Arkadina (a fading actress), and her passionate, lonely son, Konstantin. One day, in fit of misery, he shoots a seagull. Trigorin, the writer, threatens to write a story about it. Nina, the local beauty, and object of their affections, becomes "The Seagull", with calamitous consequences, as the play moves in a spiral of farce, tragedy, and love.



**STEPHEN MACDONALD**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**Not About Heroes** (1982) DRAMA  
2m

*Dulce et decorum est/Pro patria mori*, facetiously penned British poet Wilfred Owen, who was soon to die in the Great War. It is sweet and fitting to die for one's country. This moving play is about the poetic life and the interrelationship between two of the finest Great War poets: Owen, who died, and Siegfried Sasson, who didn't. Told by means of letters and poetry, Not About Heroes paints a vivid picture of the war.

**ROBIN MAUGHAM**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**The Servant** (1947) CONFESSIONAL DRAMA  
3m 3f

Written by Robin Maugham.

This play follows the malignant influence of a manservant who takes over the life of a young English law student by providing him with his every desire.

**BERNARD MILES**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**BILL MORRISON**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**The Emperor Of Ice Cream** (Based on Brian Moore's 1966 novel of the same name)

The scene is Belfast, Northern Ireland, during the early stages of World War II. Seventeen-year-old Gavin enlists in the war effort to escape the responsibility of continuing his education and getting a "real job". Gavin joins the A.R.P. He has a totally negative self-image and convinces himself that he is just "a second son that will never amount to anything". He'll never be as successful as his older brother Owen, and will never meet his father's expectations of him. Gavin's adolescent fantasies of power and achievement – sometimes sexual, sometimes iconoclastic – always rest on a knife-edge of indecision and powerlessness, of shame and humiliation. But these fantasies, and his father's equally self-serving political/philosophical beliefs are put to the test when the bombs fall. It seems that Hitler has found Ireland on the map! This changes everything.

**Love And Bottle**

9m 7f

An adaptation of George Farquhar's restoration comedy.

**A Love Song For Ulster** (First production on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1993)

11m 3f (Includes two musicians)

*A Love Song For Ulster* chronicles the history of a family from the arranged marriage between John, a stolid, decent protestant, and Kate, a beautiful, impetuous, Catholic, free spirit to the 1922 North/South partition to the bombings and atrocities of the Troubles.

**BERNARD POMERANCE**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**The Elephant Man** (1977) DRAMA  
2f, 6m

The Elephant Man is based on the life of John Merrick, who lived in London during the latter part of the nineteenth century. A horribly deformed young man – victim of rare skin and bone diseases – he becomes the star freak attraction in traveling sideshows. Found abandoned and helpless, he is admitted to London's prestigious Whitechapel Hospital. Under the care of celebrated young physician Frederick Treves, Merrick is introduced to London society and slowly evolves from an object of pity to an urbane and witty favourite of the aristocracy and literati, only to be denied his ultimate dream – to become a man like any other.

**Hands of Light** (1989) DRAMA  
5f, 10m

Hands of Light is a fable based on the myth of King Midas about one man's avarice and how it destroyed the people he loved the most. Midas wished that everything he touched would turn to gold. However this wish was not a blessing but a curse. His greed invited us to contemplate the consequences of being slaves to our desires.

**Melons** (1984) DRAMA  
1f, 7m

Among other things, Melons is concerned with the diverse meanings of the land (and the law of ownership) and, as one character observes, the difference between acculturation and the Reconstruction.

In the play, the old chief has been presumed dead. Actually, he is living a pastoral life with his adopted Pueblos, who secretly regard him as the Messiah (he does nothing to discourage that misconception). To resolve a dispute over oil rights, an old Army rival turned oil executive visits him. They talk endlessly. The play flashes backward, then moves slowly forward - and becomes ambushed by its own circumlocution.

**Miranda** (2003) DRAMA  
5f, 8m

Bernard Pomerance wrote his last play Miranda out of compassion for the indigenous peoples of the world. Inspired by The Tempest, the play is told as Prospero writes his memoirs, after he returns to Milan and is once again the Duke of Milan. Miranda, his daughter, is a grown woman. Prospero has forgiven his brother, the evil Ferdinand, now the powerful Cardinal of Milan.

Prospero remembers his time in the Americas and his love for the Powhatan princess Ariel and their child, Caliban. This production brings to life the early history of America, and features music and dance of Native Americans, including that of the Abenaki of Vermont -- and the magic of both the Powhatan and of Prospero.

**Quantrill in Lawrence** (1981) DRAMA

2f, 11m

Quantrill in Lawrence is the story of a mercenary band led by Quantrill with the James Brothers, centring on their sack of Lawrence, a border town during the American Civil War. "On August 21st 1863, in revenge for certain raids made on Missouri by men of Lawrence, and especially for the death of certain girls who were — as the called them — friends, Quantrill put Lawrence to the torch, the knife, the gun."

**Spin Off** (2003) DRAMA

3f, 3m

Spin Off is set within the world of a network television series. It weaves a surrealistic tale of characters attempting to 'immigrate' from the world of fiction into the reality beyond the soundstage. Figures from television's seemingly endless stream of cop shows have been mysteriously awakened to the narrow limits of their existence as stereotypes. They devise a plan to 'cross over' in order to find fully dimensional lives. In preparing to escape the confines of their artificial world, they make discoveries about the nature of memory, aspiration, identity, loyalty and, most importantly, love.

The play swings from moments of sardonic comedy to metaphysics as the characters prepare for a climactic confrontation with the individual who seems to hold power over their futures. Ultimately, the decisions they make on how to deal with the Faustian bargain offered by their TV masters, lead them to essential questions about what it means to be real Americans and what it means to be truly human.

**ENA LAMONT STEWART**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**Men Should Weep** (1947) DRAMA  
9f 4m 1 boy, 1girl

This extraordinarily moving play tells the story of women surviving in the East End of Glasgow in the 1930s. It finds in the lives of Maggie, her family and her neighbours not only all the tragedy that appalling housing, massive unemployment and grinding poverty can produce, but also a rich vein of comedy – the sense of the ridiculous, and the need for a good laugh.

**Starched Aprons** (1945) DRAMA  
11f, 6m

Based on her own experiences of working at the Sick Children's Hospital in Glasgow, Ena Lamont Stewart portrays a natural and intimate picture of nursing life in her first play Starched Aprons. Set in and amongst a doctor's surgery reception, the comedy, friendships and hardships experienced by nurses every day – both particular to the setting of Scotland in the 1920s Depression era, and universally recognisable – are laid bare with social realism. From disgruntles about low wages and class divides amongst nurses to the misogynistic undertones of the workplace, Starched Aprons demonstrates the selflessness and sacrifice this profession demands. When one nurse, stone-cold from decades of maintaining a strong appearance in the face of infirmity and fatality, crumbles into herself, the layers of the nurse figure finally unravel to reveal an honest depiction of vulnerability and unreserved duty to the work.

**PETER NICHOLS**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**Blue Murder** (1995) DRAMA | FARCE  
5m 2f

*Blue Murder* is a two-part farce, energetic and impossibly self-referential, in which conservative suburbia and Whitehall collide with murders, porn stars and blackmailers, and a playwright trying to keep up with them all. Subtitled 'a play or two', *Blue Murder* opens with 'Foreign Bodies' where swinging London meets bourgeois Shrewsbury and the drinks are laced with cyanide. As the son of the household struggles to write his first play, a murder story is offered to him on a plate. The second half, 'A Game of Soldiers', is a Whitehall farce taking place in St James's Palace. The same dramatist has brought his complete play to be censored but the Lord Chamberlain's Men have a few shameful secrets of their own to hide, including a priapic guardsman. Once the actors start to have tantrums about the size of their parts, the whole ridiculous structure begins to tumble.

**Born in the Gardens** (1979) DRAMA | COMEDY  
2m 2f

Not much has changed in the days since Maud's husband, Victor, died, except for the addition of the casket in the music room. She and her son Maurice are still pottering around the house, watching television and enjoying their eccentric hobbies. Everything becomes much less comfortable, however, when her other children arrive for the funeral. Quirky, dark, and hilarious, *Born in the Gardens* combines a commentary on Thatcherite politics with an examination of a family in transition.

**Chez Nous** (1976) DRAMA | COMEDY  
5m 5f

In the wake of the publication of his controversial book on adolescent sexuality, Dick and his wife, Liz, have retreated with their family to the French countryside. Joined by their friends Phil and Diana for a child-free weekend, they enjoy the sunshine and the cheap wine until certain unsavoury revelations come to light. At the worst moment possible, two reporters appear to interview Dick, causing great worry among the couples that all their secrets will be aired in the press. Nichols drew inspiration for this darkly comedic, and sometimes deeply shocking play from time spent at his own family's home in France.

**A Day in the Death of Joe Egg** (1967) DRAMA | COMEDY  
3f 2m 1 girl

A frank and remarkable play based on the author's experience of having a disabled child, *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* is about two parents caring for their 10-year-old girl Josephine. Since birth Josephine has not been able to move or speak, and experiences frequent debilitating fits. Her father Bri, a weary schoolteacher, relies on desperate black humour to deal with the situation, while her mother Sheila still nurses

hopes of a miraculous recovery. In the first act the couple play out, for the audience's benefit, the various scenes of condolence visited upon them by doctors and vicars, in comic routines that seem sadly well-rehearsed. The second act introduces another couple and Bri's mother, creating an awkward sitting-room comedy that confronts the secret angers and fantasies of a family struggling to cope. The play's treatment of taboos surrounding disability provokes both laughter and shock in the same moment, as the couple's persistent jokes fail to disguise the strain placed on their marriage.

**Forget-Me-Not Lane** (1971) DRAMA  
5m 4f

*Forget-Me-Not Lane* is a bittersweet play about fathers, families and nostalgia – about (in Nichol's words) a youth which was bitter to live through but sweet to remember. Middle-aged Frank is packing his suitcase, and starts to tell the audience about his life. He summons up memories of his childhood and adolescence during the Second World War, watching the experiences of his younger self with a mixture of amiable amusement, mortification and nostalgia. Frank relives the grammatical pedantry of his father Charles, the bickering between his parents, his adventures in transvestism with his best friend Ivor, a juvenile attraction to the vivacious star of the local stage, and his awkward flirtations with Ursula, later to be his wife. Frank is gloomily disappointed by the contrast between his teenage sweetheart and the tired mother Ursula has become, his reminiscences gradually exposing his dissatisfaction with familial life.

**Lingua Franca** (1977) DRAMA  
4f 3m

Based around a leading character in Nichols' acclaimed work, *Privates on Parade*, and inspired by his own experiences, *Lingua Franca* is a fast-paced, sexually-charged story that plays with notions of xenophobia and cultural stereotypes to comic effect. It's the mid-1950s and "innocent abroad" Steven Flowers has travelled to Florence to teach English in a chaotic language school, *Lingua Franca*. He is soon adopted by fellow Brit, Peggy, but is more interested in Heidi, a newcomer from Munich. Heidi's deep-seated prejudice against the Jews causes tension with the anti-fascist Italian manager, Gennaro, and Russian Jew Irena. Atheist and pacifist Jestin worships only the art that surrounds him, while Australian Madge struggles when her students start to speak better French than she does. As Steven tries to make sense of his own life and a Europe at peace after so many years of war, Peggy's unrequited obsession leads to highly dramatic consequences.

**Passion Play** (1983) DRAMA | COMEDY  
4f 2m

Eleanor's marriage disintegrates when her husband James embarks on an affair with someone she had considered as a friend and confidante. The consequences will lead Eleanor to question every aspect of her life. James, a leading restorer of paintings, agrees to a clandestine meeting with the couple's sultry young friend Kate, the widow of a former colleague. An affluent photographer, Kate ostensibly needs James' professional input for a book she plans to write; but her real motive for meeting Eleanor's husband is to convince him to take her as his lover. James needs

little convincing, and slowly the lies mount up. The revelation that her husband of twenty-five years is being unfaithful comes as a tremendous shock to Eleanor, who feels compelled to reveal secrets of her own. With the marriage at crisis point, both she and James develop alter-egos – Nell and Jim – who give voice to the troubled spouses' innermost thoughts.

**A Piece of My Mind (1987)** FARCE

3m 2f

Nichols wittily transforms writer's block into a meta-farce in this story of a frustrated playwright that is written and lived and performed at the same time. Ted Forrest is the playwright within the play, who has retired to the countryside to write a novel. He can't get past rewriting the first page, and is tormented by the astronomical success of his former protégé Miles Whittier, whose plays have taken the world completely by storm while Ted's languish unnoticed in small theatres and close early. But as he goes along he turns his frustrations into a playful and hilariously self-aware drama about creativity and family, woven of flashbacks and theatre reviews and inevitable farce. Actors step out of their parts, complain they haven't had enough time for a costume change, or refuse to be killed off as Ted is driven to despair by the failure of his creation. *A Piece of My Mind* is a masterful feat of theatrical irony and knowingness as well as a heartfelt portrait of jealousy and disappointment.

**Poppy (1982)** DRAMA | COMEDY

6m 4f

In *Poppy*, playwright Peter Nichols subverts the pantomime, an archetypal piece of Victoriana, to explore a particularly dark moment in the history of Victorian colonialism – the Opium Wars. Classic panto hero Dick Whittington sets sail for India to seek his fortune in the opium trade, encountering such luminaries as the emperor of China and Queen Victoria along the way. Although the British characters ultimately live happily ever after, the implications for the defeated Chinese are much darker.

**Privates on Parade (1977)** COMEDY

10m 1f

Marlene Dietrich and the British military seem an unlikely marriage, but *Privates on Parade* achieves their seamless union. In post-war Malaysia, Terri Dennis presides over the Song and Dance Unit South East Asia, a unit tasked with entertaining their fellow troops. The vaudevillian tone of this play facilitates its raucous story about soldiers, drag-artistry, and post-war colonial politics.

**Pursued by a Bear (1997)** DRAMA

5m 3f

Shaftesbury Avenue, 1920. A full house for this evening's performance of the classic play *The Winter's Tale*. Shakespeare's famously enigmatic stage direction is executed by Antigonus, after which tragedy immediately unfolds. Antigonus is murdered on stage; luckily, Sherlock and Watson happen to be in attendance, and volunteer to solve the mystery. The audience needn't utter a word of complaint, as one dramatic performance is quickly subsumed by another. The cast and crew members pile onto the stage in outcry of the cold-blooded murder, each with



interconnected backstories of love, betrayal and deceit. In classic detective story fashion, Sherlock and his sidekick Watson must work out who is telling the truth – and quickly, as more crew members are dropping like flies. We almost reach the anticipated climax – Sherlock ducks the web of lies attempting to deceive him and masterfully resolves the murder mystery – when he is revealed to have been duped by his own game. The cast had actually tricked Sherlock into the whole thing, in an ode to those ever-relevant lines, “All the world's a stage, / And all the men and women merely players”.

**So Long Life** (2000) COMEDY  
4f 2m

Bristol, 1995. It is Alice's 85th birthday. An occasion for celebration. But like many family gatherings, it is also an occasion for parading long-held resentments, as her children attempt to persuade her to relinquish her independence and move to a home. However, Alice has no such plans. As the battles rage over her head, Alice's consciousness drifts, time shifts, and past and present merge. The play casts a glance back across the 20th century through the lives of six wayward individuals. The result is a bittersweet comedy about the problem of ageing that exposes the painful truths of family life.

**The National Health or Nurse Norton's Affair** (1969) DRAMA | COMEDY  
12m 8f

Five beds in a hospital ward; one empty, having been vacated overnight, soon to be filled by the arrival of an MP with leg cramps and memory loss. The four other beds are filled with carping patients in various stages of convalescence or decline, and various stages of resignation to the boredoms and humiliations of the hospital. The nurses and doctors on the ward struggle against long hours, low funding and overwork. Intercut with the darkly comic scenes are sketches from a histrionic hospital soap opera, the reality behind them giving the lie to whitewashed scenes of medical glamour.

## **TERENCE RATTIGAN**

### **LIST OF WORKS**

#### **PLAYS**

**Adventure Story** (1949) DRAMA  
12m 5f

A partly fictional account of Alexander the Great's journey to conquer the world and himself, slowly becoming despotic as a result of his driving ambition to rule the world...

**After The Dance** (1939) DRAMA  
8m 5f

Set in the Mayfair flat of a high-living, hard-drinking, successful writer, David. Following his involvement with a younger woman, his wife Joan kills herself and he considers following, but turns back to drink.

**A Bequest to the Nation** (1970) DRAMA  
9m 7f

Based on Rattigan's 1966 television play *Nelson* (full title: *Nelson - A Portrait in Miniature*). It recounts the events surrounding Horatio Nelson, his mistress Emma Hamilton, and his wife Frances Nisbet in the events immediately before, during and after the Battle of Trafalgar. It also includes various other historical characters such as Thomas Hardy and William Nelson. The title refers to Nelson leaving Emma and their child Horatia to the nation on his death.

**The Browning Version** (1948) DRAMA  
5m 2f

Ill health is forcing Andrew to retire from teaching. His wife despises him for his failures and finds consolation with Frank, a younger teacher. She openly taunts Andrew, while Frank watches her with disgust and shame. The wife knows she has lost Frank – but even more bitter is the realisation he's now Andrew's fast friend.

**Cause Celebre** (1977) DRAMA  
15m 5f

When Alma engages the handsome but uncouth George as odd-job boy it has tragic consequences, culminating in murder. The play follows the course of the trial.

**The Deep Blue Sea** (1952) DRAMA | ROMANCE  
5m 3f

*The Deep Blue Sea* is a powerful account of lives blighted by love - or the lack of it. The play opens with the failed suicide of Hester Collyer who has deserted her husband for the charms of an ex-fighter pilot.

**First Episode** (1933) DRAMA | ROMANCE  
6m 2f

Co-written with Philip Heimann

Student Tony is infatuated with older actress, Margot, and she too returns his passionate affections. However, she must compete with Tony's best friend, David. Rattigan's first play was written with fellow Oxford undergraduate, Philip Heimann.

**Flare Path (1942)** DRAMA

7m 4f

Filmed as *The Way to the Stars* and set in the 1940s, Rattigan's famous play concerns Patricia's love for film actor Peter, despite her marriage to Flight-Lieutenant Teddy Graham. Going to the hotel to break with Teddy, followed by Peter, Pat encounters Doris, married to a Polish count, who is one of two pilots not to return from a bombing raid. Hearing the count's last letter, Pat realizes how much Teddy needs her, and gives Peter his dismissal.

**French Without Tears (1936)** COMEDY

7m 3f

At a villa on the South Coast of France, a group of young men are being coached in French by a gentleman and his daughter, Jacqueline. Learning French is hard, but the experience is made easier by the presence of the glamorous Diana Lake who proceeds to charm the boys one-by-one until she decamps back to London leaving the forlorn suitors to the willing Jacqueline.

**Harlequinade (1948)** FARCE

9m 5f

The play is set on the stage of a theatre in a Midlands town. Arthur Gosport and his wife Edna are the principal leads in a professional touring theatre company, currently performing *Romeo and Juliet*. In order to hide their unsuitability as teenage lovers, they have the stage lights turned down so low that they fuse. However, when Arthur is confronted by the daughter and granddaughter he never knew he had, he discovers that he's actually still married to his first wife and has (unwittingly) committed bigamy.

**In Praise of Love (1973)** DRAMA | COMEDY

3m 1f

Deception is the linchpin of this sophisticated comedy drama about a fatally ill wife and her ineffectual husband that starred Rex Harrison and Julie Harris on Broadway.

**Love in Idleness (1944)** DRAMA | ROMANCE

6f 4m

Michael, eighteen, returns to wartime London from schooling in Canada, brimming with youthful left-wing convictions. Reunited with his mother Olivia, he is alarmed as he begins to realise that she is the mistress of Sir John Fletcher, a leading member of the war cabinet. Sparks fly between the idealistic young man and the pragmatic politician, while Olivia is torn between them. The available version was edited by Trevor Nunn using the original first draft *Less Than Kind*, parts of which are interpolated with the text.

**Man and Boy (1963)** DRAMA

5m 2f

At the height of the Great Depression, ruthless financier Gregor Antonescu's business is dangerously close to crumbling. In order to escape the wolves at his door, Gregor tracks down his estranged son Basil in the hopes of using his Greenwich Village apartment as a base to make a company-saving deal. Can this reunion help them reconcile? Or will this corrupt father use his only son as a pawn in one last power play? A gripping story about family, success and what we're willing to sacrifice for both.

**Ross (1960)** DRAMA

21m

The story of British army officer T.E. Lawrence (the inspiration for *Lawrence of Arabia*), who in 1922 went undercover in the RAF picking as his alter-ego, a rather bookish man called Ross.

**Separate Tables (1954)** DRAMA

9f 2m

These two plays are set in a shabby genteel hotel on England's south coast. Except for the two leads in each (which may be doubled), the same characters appear in both. *In Table by the Window*, a down-at-the-heels journalist is confronted by his ex-wife, a former model who provoked him to the violent act that sent him to prison, destroying his future. Still in love, they nevertheless go through another terrible scene and it is the hotel manager, Miss Cooper, who helps repair their broken lives. *In Table Number Seven*, a 'self-made' army colonel without any true background and education to which he lays claim, finds solace with a spinster over the objections of her ruthless, domineering mother. When a sordid scandal threatens to drive them apart, Miss Cooper again comes to the rescue.

**A Tale of Two Cities (1950)** DRAMA

5m 3f

Co-written with John Gielgud

In a time when governments all over the world are facing down political unrest and fierce protests, this revolutionary story has never been more relevant. This adaptation marries three of the finest artists in their own fields that England has ever known: Dickens, the master story-teller; Rattigan, the great playwright and Gielgud, the mercurial actor. Gielgud intended to play both Sydney Carton and a number of other roles, and this adaptation reflects that ambition by having thirty characters played by just eight actors.

**Variation on a Theme (1958)** DRAMA | ROMANCE

5f 4m

Inspired by *La Dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas fils, and set amidst the glamorous and exotic society of the 1950s French Riviera, *Variation on a Theme* revolves around the tempestuous love affair between Rose, a beautiful and worldly socialite, and Ron, a young ballet dancer with a keen eye for social advancement.

**While the Sun Shines (1943)** COMEDY

5m, 2f

Lord Harpenden is due to marry Lady Elisabeth Randall, but neither seem overjoyed about it. Matters are complicated when Elisabeth finds herself the object of three other suitors' attentions and Harpenden's former flame turns up too.

**The Winslow Boy (1946)** DRAMA

7m 4f

Cadet Ronnie Winslow is expelled from the Royal Naval College accused of stealing. His father, refusing to believe his guilt and dissatisfied with the manner in which the investigation was conducted, demands a new inquiry. This is refused and Arthur Winslow settles down to fight for his son's honour. Following an independent inquiry the matter is taken to the House of Commons, but Arthur ruins himself financially and in health in the process. However, his stubbornness wins – a civil trial is allowed and Ronnie is acquitted.

ONE-ACT

**All On Her Own/Duologue (1974)** DRAMA

1f

A powerfully atmospheric one-woman play, All On Her Own tells the story of Rosemary Hodge who, alone at midnight in London, has a secret burden to share that is both heart-breaking and sinister. The play is set in a large house in Hampstead, North London. Rosemary is a widow who returns from a party and, a little drunkenly, starts addressing her dead husband Gregory. Through her reflections and recriminations, she comes to a sad realisation about their relationship, her behaviour, and the nature of his death.

With its intimate, conversational style, Duologue can be seen as a forerunner to Alan Bennett's Talking Heads series twenty years later.

**Before Dawn (1973)** COMEDY

3m 1f

A hilarious retelling of the play and opera *Tosca*, with Scarpia as a swaggering villain who proves to be impotent, Tosca as a proud beauty and a Captain who gets confused as to whether Scarpia means that Tosca's lover should really be executed... Or only appear to be. Tosca's attempt to stab Scarpia is foiled by his knife-proof vest.

**CHRISTINA REID**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**The Belle of Belfast City (1989)** DRAMA

5f 2m

Three generations of a Northern Irish family are reunited when an anti-Anglo-Irish Agreement rally is organised by the National Front, and find themselves caught between clashing political views. Dolly is a former music-hall star whose bawdy songs and unconventional antics conjure a magical Belfast far removed from that represented by her nephew Jack, a hardline loyalist politician. The family's skeletons are soon exposed as old conflicts with Jack are reawakened.

**Clowns (1996)** DRAMA

4f 3m

*Clowns* picks up where *Joyriders* left off, with the teenagers now in their twenties. Thanks to Belfast's burgeoning economic growth at the eve of the ceasefire the old Lagan Mill has transformed into a shopping mall. Arthur is now married and is about to open a café in the new mall. Sandra has returned from London where she works as a stand-up comic but is haunted by Maureen's death, a reminder of the tragedy which sent her away. Maureen's little brother has graduated from joyriding to selling drugs. In a moment between history and future, the characters are trapped by the pain of the past but hopeful about an end to the conflict which has defined their lives.

**Did You Hear the One About the Irishman...? (1993)** ROMANCE | DRAMA | COMEDY

6m 5f

This painful love story of a star-crossed couple divided by sectarianism serves as an exploration of prejudice from which no one leaves unscathed. Allison's family won't allow her to marry a catholic serving a life sentence for terrorist offences. Brian's family don't want him to marry the Protestant niece of a Unionist politician. Their optimistic hope that they will rise above the feud becomes heartbreaking as it becomes clear that neither of them are powerful enough to overcome the perpetuation of conflict.

**Joyriders (1986)** POLITICAL | DRAMA

3f 2m

Middle-class social worker Kate runs an employment training project for Belfast's working-class youth at the old Lagan Mill. She struggles to reach the students while confronting the ultimately trivial gesture of the employment scheme, while the four teenagers resort to sniffing glue or joyriding through military checkpoints as a form of escape. After being accidentally shot by British soldiers, Arthur seems on the brink of middle-class respectability when he plans to invest his government settlement in a restaurant. Sandra, however, remains shaken by the shooting of her friend Maureen by soldiers pursuing her joyriding little brother. As the violence erupts around them, the students have to weigh up the costs of their uncertain futures.

**Tea in a China Cup (1983)** POLITICAL | DRAMA

8f 7m (doubling possible)

Beth narrates the bittersweet history of three generations of women in her working-class Protestant family in Belfast, torn between the influence of traditions and the rejection of gentility and respectability. Through memories of family pride and tradition, they seek to preserve a sense of community and continuity by transferring traditions and possessions as Beth cares for her elderly dying mother.

**N.F. SIMPSON**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

PLAYS

**A Resounding Tinkle (1957)** COMEDY

2f 1m

Middie and Bro Paradock are a 1950s middle-aged suburban couple who have just has their elephant delivered, in part exchange for last years giraffe, only the elephant is – heavens! – too big.

**Gladly Otherwise ( )** COMEDY

1f 2m

A man questions the perturbed Mrs Brandywine over the building of her house. Why does she need a floor? Why is there wallpaper on the walls?

**If So, Then Yes ( )** COMEDY

6f 14m

**The Form (1961)** COMEDY

2f 2m

The story of a willowy little man who come to an office for an interview. He has a long wait, and to kill time he shows the receptionist his photographic collection. Finally, the important man arrives and the little man is given his forms to fill out.

**One-way Pendulum (1959)** COMEDY

4f 10m

**The Hole (1957)** COMEDY

2f 5m

**One Blast And Have Done ( )**

**JULIAN SLADE**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**MUSICALS**

**The Duenna** (1954) MUSICAL | COMEDY | DRAMA  
10m 6f

Co-written with Lionel Harris, adapted from the operetta by Richard Brinsley Sheridan

The wealthy Don Jerome's son Ferdinand is in love with Clara, but her father is hell-bent on sending her to a nunnery. In desperation Ferdinand bribes her maid to admit him to her bedchamber with a duplicate key, but Clara refuses his advances, keeping the key so she can escape herself. Meanwhile Ferdinand's sister, Louisa is in love with Antonio but her father wants her to marry the wealthier Mendoza.

**Follow That Girl** (1960) MUSICAL | DRAMA  
8f 6m plus 5 smaller roles (doubling possible)

Co-written with Dorothy Reynolds

Adapted from their earlier musical, *Christmas in King Street*. Victoria Gilchrist's parents put forward two potential suitors for her hand in marriage: a pair of boring businessmen. Victoria objects to marrying either and decides to run away. Her parents immediately contact the police to try and find her but the policeman leading the charge ends up falling for her instead. The musical has a meta-theatrical framing device whereby Tom is actually the writer who conjures up the musical from his script in the first scene.

**Free As Air** (1957) MUSICAL | DRAMA  
11m 10f (doubling possible)

Co-written with Dorothy Reynolds

Terhou is a small Channel island and home to an incredibly small population who number no more than those found in the average operatic society. Every year however they must find a May Queen for their annual festival. Cue the arrival of society girl Geraldine to their shores, hotly pursued by Jack Amersham, a famous racing driver and gossip columnist, Ivy Crush. The locals at first welcome this unusual invasion but then come to fear that their idyllic existence might be interrupted forever.

**Hooray for Daisy!** (1960) MUSICAL | COMEDY  
8m 8f (doubling possible)

Co-written with Dorothy Reynolds

A fun Christmas show about an amateur dramatic society staging a pantomime.

**The Merry Gentleman** (1953) MUSICAL | DRAMA  
9m 8f (doubling possible)

Co-written with Dorothy Reynolds



Confusion arises when Father Christmas drops in on a Christmas night party. The guests soon find themselves whisked away to Christmas-land on a special treasure-hunt – the search for true happiness.

**Now We Are Sixty** (1982) MUSICAL | DRAMA

4m 2f

Written by Gyles Brandreth, music co-written with H. Fraser-Simson

A play with music, *Now We Are Sixty* is an account of the life of writer A.A. Milne as he discusses his life and career with a young undergraduate who has come to interview him. Milne discusses his most famous creation, *Winnie the Pooh*, and how those books have overshadowed everything else he has done. It also reveals tense relationships with his father, and son Christopher Robin.

**Salad Days** (1954) MUSICAL | DRAMA

8m 5f doubling possible (minimum cast: 12)

Co-written with Dorothy Reynolds

Jane and Timothy have recently graduated from university, just married and are now contemplating how on earth they're to make a living. One day they encounter a homeless man who trundles around on a mobile mini-piano. He offers the newlyweds the chance to look after his so-called business interests for a month for a salary plus whatever else they can make. Jane and Timothy soon find out that his piano is not just any old piano but instead an incitement to sing and dance to all who hear it.

**Trelawny** (1972) MUSICAL | COMEDY

14m 9f plus 2f/m (doubling possible)

Co-written with Aubrey Woods and George Rowell, adapted from Arthur Wing Pinero's *Trelawny of the Wells*

Actress Rose Trelawny falls in love with the grandson of snobbish knight, Sir William Gower. Unfortunately, the visit to her partner's home is such a humiliating failure that she finds she can no longer sum up the spirit needed to play the stage melodramas for which she has become famous. Luckily, Rose is able to persuade Sir William of the vitality of the theatre and he agrees to invest in a new kind of realist theatre by financing a play. Rose excels in her part and Sir William finally relents and agrees to Rose's marriage to his grandson.

**Wildest Dreams** (1961) MUSICAL | ROMANCE

4m 4f plus extras (doubling possible)

Co-written with Dorothy Reynolds

Set in the fictional town of Nelderham located in Gloucestershire, the story centres on Harriet and her niece, Carol, who in their little, dreary village harbour dreams of finding a great romance.

**JOAN SHIRLEY**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**Murder By Sex** (First staged in 1991) COMEDY | FARCE

4m 5f

Written by Joan Shirley. Danny Davies production Lyceum Theatre, Crewe, Music Hall Theatre Shrewsbury, and other locations. (11<sup>th</sup> November 1991 – 18<sup>th</sup> July 1992).

A husband and wife are at home. During the play, more and more people turn up, bringing their own desires to the table. Filled with comedic storylines, the play is very humorous and entertaining. Even when its darker plotline reveals itself...

**CECIL P. TAYLOR**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**And a Nightingale Sang** (1979) COMEDY | DRAMA | PLAY WITH SONGS

4m 3f

Following the course of WWII as seen through the eyes of a working-class Newcastle family, each scene begins with a separate member of the family addressing the audience or singing a song from the period. Grandpa Andie is recruiting mourners to attend the burial of his dog, devout Catholic Mam is fretting about the health of the local priest, patriarch George is serenading the audience with popular songs from the period, youngest sister Joyce is dithering over whether to accept a marriage proposal from soldier Eric, and Helen, the beating heart of the piece, is depended on for guidance by the whole family but is secretly yearning for her own romantic adventure. That adventure comes in the shape of Norman who shows her that she can waltz, despite her limp, and fall in love.

**The Ballachulish Beat** (1992) COMEDY | PLAY WITH SONGS

8m 1f plus extras

A play with songs charting the discovery, hype, exploitation and ultimate downfall of a Scottish rock group, The Keelies. They are managed by a Glaswegian communist and ex-convict Andy, who is tossed aside by uber-capitalist Ron. Ron signs up the bands without realising they already have representation, leading to an almighty clash of principles.

**Bandits!** (1976) DRAMA

15m 12f (doubling possible)

Loosely based on one of the most notorious unsolved crimes of the sixties, *Bandits!* focuses on the world of a group of racketeers and the amoral policeman who chases them, following the actions of the world-weary Superintendent Bridges as he tries to tie together the threads of Hynes' murder, determined to get a conviction at any cost.

**The Black and White Minstrels (1972)** COMEDY

3f 2m

Cyril is a self-centred and neurotic writer who is obsessed with his own perceived failure. He is trapped in a disorganised ménage with two women: Gil and Pat, along with his friend, Harry. Their eccentric equilibrium is interrupted by the arrival of a new lodger, Atara, who rents the spare room. Cyril becomes obsessed with her in a love/hate attraction.

**Bread and Butter (1966)** DRAMA

2f 2m

Two working-class Jews, the best of friends, dream on a park bench. Morris wants a revolution; Alec wants to feed the pigeons.

Spanning four decades of British life, Bread And Butter is the hilarious and heartbreaking story of an eccentric friendship. Mixing salmon sandwiches with talk of war and women, two men search for a slice of happiness amidst the rubble of the twentieth century.

**Bring Me Sunshine, Bring Me Smiles (1980)** DRAMA

5f 7m

Unemployed shipbuilder Ted finds himself running an unofficial Citizens' Advice Bureau when his friends and family alike descend upon his homes with a myriad of problems they are very keen to discuss. Teddy's notion of bliss and hot cocoa as a method for patching bruised relationships proves too insufficient as complications explode and people expose the worse sides of themselves.

**Good (1981)** DRAMA

8m 5f

John Halder is a liberal-minded professor of literature. He has a wife and three children and cares for his senile mother. He inadvertently becomes a potential ally for the Nazi Party when he writes a book discussing euthanasia for elderly people suffering from dementia and extreme senility. His fondness for German literature only makes him more attractive for the Nazis. By rationalised steps he is absorbed into their ideology. The play is told through a stream of consciousness punctured by the musical melody that repeats itself endlessly inside Halder's head.

**Gynt! (1973)** DRAMA

9m 5f plus ensemble

A radical reworking of Ibsen's classic play, *Peer Gynt*.

**The Magic Island (1979)** CHILDREN | FOLKTALE

3m 2f

Taking the form of a fairy tale, the story concerns a young girl called Anne whose imagination is awakened by an evil force: the Tidy Man, whose mission is to tidy up all the untidy aspects of human behaviour, and a good force: the Gateshead Goblin, who resists any such unnecessary airbrushing of human life.

**Operation Elvis (1978)** CHILDREN | DRAMA

4m 4f (doubling possible)

Ten-year-old school Malcolm is convinced that he's the reincarnation of Elvis Presley. His mother, her boyfriend and his schoolteacher are becoming increasingly concerned with his odd behaviour and only Jackie, a local pigeon-fancier, seems to sympathise. Facing pressure from everyone around him, Malcolm decides to run away to Memphis, Tennessee but ends up in Morpeth, Northumberland instead. There he meets Michael, a boy with severe brain damage who is cared for by Lynn. Despite their differences, these two boys strike up a real friendship.

**Peter Pan Man (1977)** SATIRE

16m 7f plus ensemble

A satirical re-working of JM Barrie's classic tale featuring JM Barrie and his family.

**The Rainbow Coloured Disco Dancer (1980)** DRAMA

5m 3f (doubling possible)

Carol is a young child of mixed race with white parents. She is confronted by casual and aggressive racism everywhere she goes and is desperate to confront such prejudice, especially that perpetrated by a pair of boys known as the 'Skins'. When she discovers the local children's disco with its multi-coloured lights and excitement she might just have found a method of survival.

**Schippel (1974)** FARCE

5m 2f plus extras

An adaptation of the German comedy *Bürger Schippel* by Carl Sternheim. Schippel is a lowly member of society who is suddenly summoned by three parts of a male voice quartet whose fourth member has unexpectedly dropped dead. They are determined to keep their prize for the best quartet in the district, awarded always by the prince, and have landed on Schippel as the only viable replacement.

**To Be a Farmer's Boy (1980)** DRAMA | ROMANCE

3m 3f 1f/m

Three generations of the Ashburton family have lived on their farm in Dartmoor. The play opens with the auction of the farm and flashes back to show the history of the land and its ownership, as well as the lives and loves of the Ashburton family.

**Walter (1975)** DRAMA

5m 2f

Based loosely on the life of comic Walter Jackson. We meet Walter in old age, dying of heart disease. He begins to look back on incidents in days gone by that express his complex emotional relationships, his Judaism which continues to exert a pull on him despite his secularism, and the left-wing radicalism of his youth which has gone stale in his later years.

**You Are My Heart's Delight (1973)** DRAMA

1m 1f

A short play. A moorland estate in Scotland is being modernised, souring life for the gamekeeper, David, and his sister, Janet. That is until they discover a very simple way of turning back the clock.

## **HUGH WHITEMORE**

### **LIST OF WORKS**

#### **PLAYS**

**As You Desire Me (Luigi Pirandello, trans. By Hugh Whitmore) (2005)** DRAMA  
4m 2f

Elma is a singer in a sleazy 1930s Berlin nightclub. Having suffered an appalling assault during the First World War, she has no memory of her former life. A man appears and tells her that she is, in fact, the wife of an Italian aristocrat, and a new life awaits her. But when she goes to Italy to pursue this dream, she is greeted only by problems and disappointments. Pirandello uses this story to explore the mysteries of identity and memory, themes that preoccupied him throughout his life.

**The Best of Friends (1987)** DRAMA  
2m 1f

In 1924 when George Bernard Shaw was sixty-eight, his friend Sydney Cockerell, then director of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, introduced him to a Benedictine nun at Stanbrook Abbey in Worcestershire. Dame Laurentia McLachlan, who was later to be elected Abbess, enjoyed a lively friendship with both Shaw and Cockerell for over twenty-five years. Whitmore's play is based upon the letters and writings of the three friends.

**Breaking the Code (1986)** DRAMA  
7m 2f

This compassionate play is the story of Alan Turing, mathematician and father of computer science. Turing broke the code in two ways: he cracked the German Enigma code during World War II (for which he was decorated by Churchill), and also shattered the English code of sexual discretion with his homosexuality (for which he was arrested on a charge of gross indecency). Whitmore's play, shifting back and forth in time, seeks to find a connection between the two events.

**Disposing of the Body (1999)** DRAMA  
5m 3f

When life starts to fade into a summery drowsy twilight, you should be taking things a little easier... But for Henry Preece, embarking on early retirement with his attractive wife, things start to go seriously wrong. 'All my life,' he says, 'I've either been looking back at happy times that have gone or looking forward to the happiness to come.'

In Hugh Whitmore's elegant and tantalising play, the mystery and excitement of an unexpected passion is given full rein, until Henry realises that the door he's just flung open should have remained tightly shut.

**God Only Knows (2000)** COMEDY  
3m 2f

Contentedly full of good Italian food and drowsy with wine, four English holidaymakers are relaxing on the terrace of a villa in Tuscany. Suddenly, out of the

evening shadows, there appears a fugitive - a man who claims to possess long-hidden knowledge that is both momentous and dangerous - an enigma involving the Vatican's secret archives, an Italian dealer in antiquities, and a Jewish preacher known as Yeshua ben Pantera. And the answer to this riddle? God only knows...

**It's Ralph** (1991) DRAMA

3m 1f

Andrew and his wearily frustrated wife Clare are spending the weekend in their Gloucestershire cottage, which, like their marriage, is well in need of repair. Ralph, an old friend of Andrew's, visits and remembers their shared radical youth. Ralph brings Andrew face to face with his own spiritual bankruptcy and the latter finally unburdens himself to his visitor. Clare leaves, the house decays rapidly and Ralph helps Andrew to regain his integrity, but at a price...

**The Last Cigarette** (2009) COMEDY

1m

Written with Simon Gray

Notable for his uncompromising honesty and a wit both fierce and fearless, Simon Gray's voice was uniquely his own - intelligent, probing and often outrageously funny. He faced life - and death - with unflinching courage and defiant humanity; even when writing about his own mortality, he lost none of his prodigious talent to entertain. Warm, candid and with a double dose of dark humour, this dramatisation of Gray's *The Smoking Diaries* and other memoirs was completed just before his death.

**A Letter of Resignation** (1997) DRAMA

3m 2f

1963 was an amazing year. President Kennedy's assassination. The Great Train Robbery. Beatlemania. The Profumo Affair. Life was changing. Britain was becoming a different place and to many people the Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, seemed outdated and irrelevant - an Edwardian grandee lingering uncomfortably in the world of E-type Jaguars, Carnaby Street and *That Was The Week That Was*. But few were aware that his life was scarred by domestic unhappiness and sexual betrayal. *A Letter of Resignation* explores the events that lay hidden behind the headlines and examines a complex web of personal and political morality.

**A Marvellous Year for Plums** (2012) DRAMA | THRILLER

7m 3f

Britain in 1956: the Suez Crisis. Prime Minister Anthony Eden, described by a colleague as 'half mad baronet and half beautiful woman', is faced with the terrible possibility of leading his country into war. His health is collapsing. His friends, colleagues and opponents, among them Hugh Gaitskell, Ian Fleming and Fleming's wife Ann, are facing crises of their own, crises of conscience and crises of the heart. Hugh Whitemore's play is a true epic: a suspenseful thriller, an achingly romantic love story and a fascinating examination of a flashpoint in our history which still resonates today. What is the cost of an 'illegal' war?

**My Darling Clemmie** (2008) DRAMA | ROMANCE

1f

This play celebrates one of the most successful partnerships in history, the long and remarkable marriage of Winston and Clementine Churchill. From their unconventional courtship, through the testing and tumultuous years of the First World War and Churchill's erratic political progress, Clemmie was his unwavering ally. As a mother, fierce protector of his reputation, and devoted wife, she could also courageously confront Britain's wartime leader if she thought him misguided. This moving, amusing and frank portrait celebrates this couple and the power of their love.

**Pack of Lies** (1983) DRAMA | THRILLER

5f 3m

Actual events during the Cold War inspired this thriller that takes place in a suburb of London during the autumn and winter of 1960-1961. Loyalty, duty and friendship collide when the Jacksons slowly discover the Krogers, their neighbours and cherished friends, are not what they appear. A gripping play that may leave you wondering exactly what it is those nice people next door are really up to.

**Sand in the Sandwiches** (2016) BIOGRAPHY

1m

Sand in the Sandwiches celebrates the great poet John Betjeman, who was renowned for his passions, his dedication and his incredible work, just as much as he was for his laughter and light verse. The play embraces the Betjeman's own love of nostalgia and playful impertinence, as it tells the story of his life from boyhood to teenage years and all the way to life as Britain's most high profile poets.

**Stevie** (1977) BIOGRAPHY

2f 1m

Stevie chronicles a stream-of-consciousness documentation of English poet Stevie Smith's life. Stevie recalls each major period in her peculiar life from her living room in Palmers Green, London. She takes us through her parents' relationship, the day her father left her forever, her schoolgirl amusements, her resistance to marriage and indifference towards sex, the escalation of her writing career and public literary life, and the brain tumour that first silenced and then killed her. The narrative integrates many of Stevie's poems, and explores what Whitmore described as her "oddly endearing" character.



## **THORNTON WILDER**

### **LIST OF WORKS**

#### **PLAYS**

##### **The Alcestiad (1955)** DRAMA

18m 4f 1 boy

A daring retelling of the heroic legend of Alcestis, Queen of Thessaly, who gave her life for her husband Admetus, beloved of Apollo, and was brought back from Hell by Hercules. When Alcestis returns from the dead, she seeks a greater understanding of life and how we lead it.

*The Alcestiad* is written in the tradition of the early Greek tragedies but is enhanced by Wilder's unique poignancy and humour.

##### **The Beaux' Stratagem (2006)** COMEDY

8m 5f

In 2004, the Estate of Thornton Wilder asked writer Ken Ludwig to complete a play that Wilder had begun in 1939 but never finished. It's an adaptation of the classic Restoration comedy by George Farquhar set in 1707 which tells the story of two young men who, having spent all their money by living too well, roam from town to town in search of a wealthy heiress.

##### **A Doll's House (1937)** DRAMA

4m 4f 1 boy 1 girl

An adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's most notable play about a waning marriage and the social constructs between a husband and wife. Nora, the wife of a banker, Thorwald, has a secret debt, incurred with good intentions and a forged signature. When her husband is promoted to bank manager, the threat of blackmail threatens to destroy his career and their family life together. As circumstances unravel, Nora realises the truth of her situation: she accuses her husband and her father before him of having used her as a doll. In one of the most famous scenes ever written for the stage, Nora slams the door on her domestic life as wife and mother until she can learn to be herself.

##### **The Matchmaker (1955)** FARCE

8m 7f

Horace Vandergelder, a wealthy merchant in 19<sup>th</sup> Century New York, decides to take a wife and employs a matchmaker, Mrs Dolly Levi, to help him. Dolly subsequently becomes involved with two of Vandergelder's clerks, several young women, and the headwaiter at an expensive restaurant where this romantic farce runs headlong into hilarious complications.

The play was adapted into multiple award-winning musical *Hello, Dolly!*, the film version of which starred Barbra Streisand and won three Academy Awards.

**Our Town** (1938) DRAMA

17m 7f

A timeless drama detailing life in the mythical village of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire. *Our Town* explores the relationship between neighbours, George Gibbs and Emily Webb, whose childhood friendship blossoms into romance. However, when Emily loses her life in childbirth, the inevitable circle of life portrayed in each of the play's three acts become fully-realised.

Since its premiere, the play has become a canonical American text and won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1938.

**The Skin of Our Teeth** (1942) FARCE

4m 4f

George and Maggie Antrobus of Excelsior, New Jersey, are a suburban, commuter-town couple who bear more than a passing resemblance to the very first husband and wife, Adam and Eve. Their two children, well-behaved Gladys and rebellious Henry, along with their garrulous maid Sabina, somehow manage to survive one apocalyptic disaster after another, but only by the skin of their teeth.

ONE-ACT**The Ages of Man** COMEDY | DRAMA

A collection of four short plays: *Infancy*, *Childhood*, *Youth*, and *Rivers Under the Earth*, written during the sixties and published in 2012.

**Bernice** DRAMA

2m 1f

Represents "Pride" in Wilder's projected cycle on the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Cement Hands** COMEDY

3m 1f

Represents "Avarice" in Wilder's projected cycle on the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Childhood** (1962) COMEDY

3f 2m

In this provocative, sometimes chilling comedy, Wilder renders a child's-eye view of the grown-up world.

**The Drunken Sisters** DRAMA

3f 1m

*The Drunken Sisters* is Wilder's satyr play that followed *The Alcestiad*, his adaptation of the ancient Greek *Alcestis* story.

**The Happy Journey from Trenton to Camden** (1931) DRAMA

3m 3f

A father, mother and two of their three surviving children drive from Newark, New Jersey to Camden.

**Infancy (1962)** COMEDY

3m 2f

Babies act like grown-ups and grown-ups act like babies in this playing about fulfilling basic human needs.

**In Shakespeare and the Bible** DRAMA

3f 1m

Represents "Wrath" in Wilder's projected cycle on the Seven Deadly Sins.

**The Long Christmas Dinner (1931)** DRAMA

7f 5m

Showcases the lives of several generations of the Bayard family, and some of their Christmas dinners.

**Love and How to Cure it (1931)** COMEDY

2m 2f

This melodramatic comedy is set in Soho, London, on the stage of the Trivoli Palace of Music in April of 1895.

**Playlets: Short, Short Plays (1916-1928)**

3-5 f/m

This volume, containing twenty-two short plays written by Thornton Wilder between 1916 and 1928, offers a dazzling range of characters, setting, mood and style – all the more remarkable for their compression and economy. They include knights, saints, sinners, the Devil himself, a drunk puppeteer, talking sea serpents and donkeys, Mary and Joseph, Ibsen, Shelley and Mozart, the great actress Fanny Otcott, and the mistress of Saint Francis before he chose celibacy.

**Pullman Car Hiawatha (1931)** COMEDY

12m 5f

Set in a Pullman car on a train travelling from New York to Chicago in December.

**Queens of France (1931)** COMEDY

3f 1m

In New Orleans in 1869 a charlatan of a lawyer preys on vulnerable women.

**A Ringing of Doorbells** DRAMA | THRILLER

4f

Represents "Envy" in Wilder's projected cycle on the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Rivers Under the Earth (1962)** DRAMA

2m 2f

This play is thought to represent middle age, in Wilder's unfinished cycle of *The Ages of Man*.

**The Seven Deadly Sins**

Thornton Wilder's seven one-act plays depicting the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Someone from Assisi** COMEDY

2f 1m 1girl

Represents "Lust" in Wilder's projected cycle on the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Such Things Only Happen in Books** (1931) DRAMA | THRILLER

3m 1f

Strangers are caught up in various deceptions, illusions and mysteries.

**The Wreck on the 5:25** DRAMA | THRILLER

2m 2f

Represents "Sloth" in Wilder's projected cycle on the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Youth** (1962) SATIRE

5m 2f

Wilder's satirical meditation on the excesses of America.

NOVELS

**The Bridge of San Luis Rey** (1927)

Liveright

*The Bridge of San Luis Rey* explores the stories of several interrelated people who die in the collapse of an Inca rope bridge in Peru, and the events that led up to their being on the bridge at that moment. Brother Juniper, a Franciscan monk, is a witness to the tragedy and proceeds to enquire into the lives of the victims hoping to seek some kind of cosmic answer as to why each of them had to die.

The novel won the Pulitzer Prize in 1928.

ADAPTATIONS

Cynthia Meier

David Greenspan

**The Cabala** (1926)

Kessinger

Wilder's debut novel tells the story of Samuele, an American student who spends a year in the fabulously decadent world of post-World War I Rome. He experiences first-hand the waning days of a secret community, known as a 'cabala', composed of decaying European royalty, eccentric expatriate Americans and even a cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church.

**The Eighth Day** (1967)

Harper & Row

Set in a mining town in Southern Illinois, *The Eighth Day* tells the story of two families blown apart by the apparent murder of one father by the other. The accused, John Ashley, however is rescued on the eve of his execution by a gang of mysterious, masked men. His flight triggers a powerful story tracing the fates of all those whose lives are forever changed by the tragedy.

The novel was the recipient of the 1968 National Book Award.

**Heaven's My Desination** (1935)

Guild Books

Travelling textbook salesman George Marvin Brush is a fervent religious convert who is determined to lead a good and holy life. A Quixotic hero, his travels take him through smoking cars, bawdy houses, banks and campgrounds all across America from Texas to Illinois – and into the soul of the country itself.

**The Ides of March** (1948)

Harper & Brothers

*The Ides of March* is an epistolary novel divided into four sections set in Julius Caesar's Rome. The book describes events leading up to Caesar's assassination in 44 BC and humanises the legendary and elusive personalities involved in one of the most dramatic periods of history.

**Theophilus North** (1973)

Harper & Row

The last of Wilder's works published during his lifetime, *Theophilus North* is a quasi-autobiographical novel. Theophilus sets out to see the world in the summer of 1926 but only gets as far as Newport, Rhode Island, before his car breaks down. To support himself, Theophilus takes odd jobs in the elegant mansions along the Ocean Drive and soon the young man finds himself playing the roles of tutor, spy, confidant, lover, friend and enemy to their myriad of glittering inhabitants.

ADAPTATIONS

Matthew Burnett

**The Woman of Andros** (1930)

Liveright

Inspired by Roman comedy *Andria* by Terence, *The Woman of Andros* is set on a fictional, obscure Greek island in the pre-Christian era. Chrysis, a courtesan of haunting beauty and intelligence gathers with the young men of the island to ask profound moral questions of how we live, love and die, as well as examining themes of social class and status.

**EMLYN WILLIAMS**  
**LIST OF WORKS**

**PLAYS**

**Accolade** (1951) DRAMA  
6m 3f

London, 1950. Acclaimed author and public figure Will Trenting is on the verge of receiving a knighthood. The unexpected honour attracts the glare of the voracious press who fight to expose his private promiscuity, including sex parties in London brothels at which underage girls were present. Though the press are out to destroy him, his wife decides to stand by him having known about and lived with his proclivities for many years. But with society bent on destroying him, Trenting finds his happy family life, particularly his loving relationship with his teenage son, struggling for survival.

**The Corn is Green** (1938) DRAMA  
10m 5f

Englishwoman Miss Moffatt settles in a remote Welsh mining village where she starts a school for the local boys, most of whom are underprivileged. She takes a particular interest in one boy, Morgan Evans, who shows great academic promise. Moffatt is determined to do all in her power to help his application for a scholarship to attend Oxford University but Morgan bucks against her advice and falls prey to the charms of local girl, Bessie.

**The Light of Heart** (1940) DRAMA  
4m 4f

Ageing Shakespearean actor Maddoc, once a giant of the stage, has fallen on hard times due to his excessive drinking. He lives in a run-down room at the top of a dilapidated house in 1930s Covent Garden with his daughter, Catrin, born with a lame foot, but who nevertheless tends to his every physical and emotional need. Her routine is broken by the arrival of young musician Robert, with whom she falls in love after he moves in to the neighbourhood. She soon finds herself caught terribly between the incessant needs of her father and her new-found freedom with Robert, whom she plans to marry. Things are complicated by the arrival of Mrs Lothian, a die-hard fan of Maddoc's with important connections who has persuaded a major theatre producer to produce *King Lear* with him in the title role. However, as ever with the belligerent and drunken Maddoc, getting him rehearsed and on stage is going to be an uphill struggle which requires the collusion of everyone around him.

**A Murder Has Been Arranged** (1930) DRAMA | THRILLER  
5f 4m

In this spooky thriller, Sir Charles Jasper is due to inherit an enormous fortune on his fortieth birthday. He plans to celebrate the occasion with a party on the stage of the St James Theatre, supposedly haunted by the ghosts of those who mysteriously died several years previously. The party is interrupted by Maurice, Sir Charles' hitherto missing nephew and the recipient of his legacy in the event of his death. Maurice

tricks his uncle into writing a suicide note, which Sir Charles believes is actually a chapter for his book before finishing him off with a poisoned drink. After the deed is done however, Sir Charles' birthday guests begin to suspect Maurice and they employ a variety of ingenious and subtle tactics in order to force him to confess.

**Night Must Fall (1935)** DRAMA | PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER

5f 4m

The curmudgeonly Mrs Bramson resides in a remote part of Essex with only her quiet, intelligent niece Olivia to keep her company. When one of her young female employees, Dora, falls pregnant out of wedlock Bramson decides she must persuade the father of the unborn child into marriage. The father turns out to be the charming yet dangerous Dan, who comes to the house having already committed one murder and with his eyes firmly set on another in the shape of the elderly Bramson. Olivia quickly has the true measure of him and must engage in a battle of wills and wits in order to expose the truth. However, her endeavour is compromised by her sexual attraction to the charismatic young man.

**Someone Waiting (1954)** DRAMA | THRILLER

5f 4m

Based on a true story. Tutor Walter Fenn has been summoned back to England from Australia following his son, Paul's shock conviction for murdering a young Swedish woman during a Christmas party. Fenn is absolutely certain his son is innocent and therefore wheedles his way into a position tutoring law student Martin Nedlow, son of wealthy entrepreneurs John and Vera Nedlow whose flat was the location for the murder. The Nedlows are mortified by their son's association with a supposed killer and subsequently their relationship with their son is extremely strained. As Fenn begins his lessons with Martin, and learns more about the young woman brutally murdered and about his father's character, he begins to suspect that John Nedlow is in fact the real murderer and hatches a plan to expose him.

**The Wind of Heaven (1945)** DRAMA

4m 4f

Set in the 1850s, the story centres on inconsolable Crimean War widow Dilys Parry living an isolated life in Blestin, a small Welsh village which lives in a state of godless terror since a mysterious disaster snatched away all its youth. When a young boy arrives in the village, the illegitimate son of a servant girl, he nevertheless begins to have an immediate spiritual impact upon Dilys and the other villagers.