



AN AUDIENCE WITH... RAY HOLMAN

BAFTA award winning costume designer Ray Holman whose recent work includes BBC's *Silk*, *Torchwood*, *Doctor Who*, *Law & Order* and *Sherlock* is coming to the Kuku Club in the Park Plaza Hotel, Cardiff on Friday 3rd February.



Ray will take the audience through how his career began, how he made the choice between acting and design, how he made the move from TV to Theatre and back again. As well as winning a BAFTA Ray has designed for the socially driven drama adaptation *The Hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper*, the renowned cult favourite *Doctor Who* and most recently the highly acclaimed BBC legal drama *Silk*.

Past credits include *Pobol Y Cwm*, *Band of Gold*, *Sea of Souls*, *Peak Practice*, *Rab C Nesbitt*, *Born and Bred*, *Law & Order* and *Torchwood*.

Join Ray Holman in association with the Drama Association of Wales at the Kuku Club, Park Plaza, Cardiff for an intimate evening with Ray, a question and answer session as well as showcasing sketches, productions shots and the real work.

For more information and to buy tickets please click [here](#). Due to the unprecedented interest from non-members we would strongly advise you to book your tickets now, tickets for members are just £10!

Exclusive Christmas Package for Members

We are delighted to offer a night's stay at the four star award winning Park Plaza with a full welsh breakfast and a ticket for *An Audience with... Ray Holman*. Prices start at just £105, call 07766 005157 for further information. Please note this offer has to be booked before 7th January 2012 and there is limited availability.

The award winning Park Plaza Hotel in Cardiff is located in the heart of the city centre, within walking distance of Cardiff Castle, the Millennium Stadium and the National Museum of Wales. The hotel is only five minutes walking distance from the new St Davids 2 Shopping Centre, John Lewis and the famous Victorian and Edwardian arcades of Cardiff. This contemporary four star city centre hotel with stunning Spa offers laid back friendly service with excellent facilities.

DAW ONE ACT PLAYWRITING COMPETITION 2012

As all you talented, industrious, play-writing people of the DAW know, the closing date of the 2012 competition will be 31st January. The results will be announced at the Wales One Act Final on Friday 8th June in the Congress Theatre, Cwmbran, Torfaen. The Wales Final is held over two nights: Friday 8th and Saturday 9th, but the results will be announced on the Friday evening.

A big 'thank you' to all the playwrights who have entered so far this year, but we are still on the lookout for that one elusive Festival play which will win our competition categories and will be published by DAW Publications. If you're not on our mailing list and would be interested in receiving an entry form, please go to our website www.dramawales.org.uk or contact me at my email address teresa@dramawales.org.uk and I'll be delighted to answer any of your questions.

I look forward to receiving your work!

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT from the Staff and Executive Committee of DAW

To all our members and the supporters... the office and library will close on Friday 16th December 2011 at 1.00pm and will reopen at 9.00am on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. We've had a tumultuous year which has made us even closer as an organisation and more determined to continue providing a service par excellence to all our loyal members. Onward and upward!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful New Year. Here's to 2012, here's to an exciting future, and here's to the continuation of long standing friendships and to the new friendships we will forge next year. Thank you for your continued support, your lovely letters, phone calls and emails during 2011. Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi gyd. We look forward to working with you in 2012.

Teresa

TRAINING NEWS

We are delighted to announce dates for the [Acting Skills](#) and [Enhancing Festival Productions](#) workshops scheduled for early 2012.

21.01.12: Acting Skills, Cardiff

22.01.12: Enhancing Festival Productions, Cardiff

18.02.12: Acting Skills, Conwy

19.02.12: Enhancing Festival Productions, Conwy

03.03.12: Acting Skills, Holyhead

04.03.12: Enhancing Festival Productions, Holyhead

17.03.12: Acting Skills, Guilsfield, Powys

18.03.12: Enhancing Festival Productions, Guilsfield, Powys

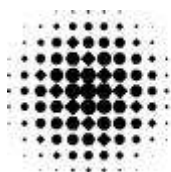
24.03.12: Acting Skills, Mold

25.03.12: Enhancing Festival Productions, Mold

31.03.12: Acting Skills, Milfod Haven

01.04.12: Enhancing Festival Productions, Milford Haven

The workshops will also take place in Gwent and dates for these will be available on our website as soon as dates are confirmed with the venue.



CANOLFAN
MILENIWM
CYMRU
WALES
MILLENNIUM
CENTRE

These workshops are supported by Wales Millennium Centre.

DON'T FORGET!

In addition to these we are also taking bookings on the following course...

28.01.12: Building A Character, Brecon

18.02.12: Health & Safety in the Theatre, Blackwood

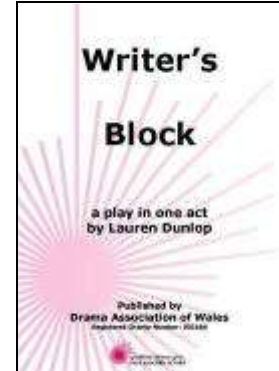
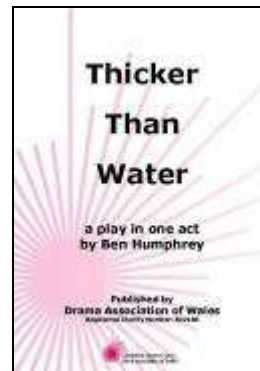
25.02.12: Health & Safety in the Theatre, Denbigh

10.03.12: Applying to Drama School, Cardiff

Full details and a booking form for all of our workshops can be found on the [Training Opportunities](#) page on the DAW website.

NEW FROM DAW PUBLICATIONS

With the one act festival just around the corner, many of you will be looking for suitable scripts for the 2012 season. Here are two great new plays from DAW publications.



WRITER'S BLOCK by Lauren Dunlop

When a playwright, sitting on a deadline, is struggling for ideas, he desperately pens a few basic characters to get himself started. However, then they come to life in his imagination things begin to get more complicated. The characters have no intention of cooperating: the romantic leads hate each other, the heroine falls for the villain, the secondary characters are eaten up with resentment, and chaos break out. When the characters decide to take over and write the play themselves, the audience is felt to consider the question: How much control do we really have over our own destiny?

Cast: 5 Characters. Available for purchase and performance immediately.

THICKER THAN WATER by Ben Humphrey

Robert's life is at a standstill. He has lost all passion and drive for his work and is battling with inner demons over a checkered past. That is until Fiona arrives, unexpectedly, into his life. Robert's passion, drive and zest for life is awakened and he begins to shift his outlook on the bleak world of his existence. But is Fiona who she says she is? The play twists towards a devastating end reminiscent of a Greek tragedy and destroys everything in Robert's life. An ideal festival work, written for two strong actors and open to countless interpretations.

Cast: M1 F1. Available for purchase and performance from 29 December 2011.

You can download a [full catalogue](#) of DAW publications from our website.



LIBRARY REVIEWS compiled by Teresa Hennessy

FULL LENGTH - SETS

INSPECTOR DRAKE and the BLACK WIDOW by David Tristram

When oil tycoon John Johnson is found with a huge sword in his back, it looks like a straightforward case of dying illegally. But things in Drake's world are never as they seem. Why was Johnson badly disguised as his own wife? Why had he eaten a tortoise? And why do all the women in the house look similar? Flying Ducks' first independent movie is due for release across cinemas nationwide. If you're a fan of Tristram's work, and let's face it who isn't, take a look on the [Inspector Drake the Movie website](#).

Comedy/Thriller. Cast: M3 F3

Publisher: Flying Ducks Publications

FULL LENGTH – SINGLE COPIES – MIXED CAST

THE GOD OF SOHO by Chris Hannan

In Heaven, Big God's mind is crumbling, Mrs God has lost her looks, and their daughter, Clem, the Goddess of Love and Sex and Beauty, has been rejected by her lover and banished to Earth. Down in the streets of Soho, Clem searches for something new, and finds it in glamorous and self-loathing reality-TV star Natty, whose fetishistic love life with rock star Baz is about to hit the headlines.

Comedy. Cast: M5 F6 + musicians

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

HOW TO BE HAPPY by David Lewis

We all want to be happy. We all know what it feels like. But what if it keeps slipping through our fingers? Paul is a former happiness guru. As a young man he wrote self-help books and appeared on the television as 'Mr Happy'. But now his marriage has failed and his career as a serious novelist is faltering, while his ex-wife has remarried a wealthy advertising executive to the dismay of their troubled teenage daughter. Surely if anyone can unlock the secret of perpetual happiness, he must be the man?

Play. Cast: M2 F3

Publisher: Joseph Weinberger Plays

NO NAUGHTY BITS by Steve Thompson

In December 1975, Monty Python's Flying Circus was broadcast coast to coast in the US. It was the Pythons' first time on a major network... but somebody cut out all the naughty bits! Undismayed, Michael Palin and Terry Gilliam flew to New York to persuade the network to reinstate the cuts – and, somewhat by accident, found themselves at the centre of a landmark court case concerning freedom of expression and the protection of artistic integrity...

Play. Cast: M6 F2

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

ONE ACT – SINGLE COPIES – MIXED CAST

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ME by Simon Williams

"It's my birthday. All I wanted was a bottle of Claret and a couple of winners at Sandown". Instead, retired actress Margot Buchanan receives three separate visitors: her ex-husband Leo, and ageing film star fresh from a punch-up with a reporter, Leo's current wife Judy, and his latest mistress Sadie, an aspiring Juliet seeking Margot's acting advice. Just as the inevitable fireworks kick off, Leo suffers a fatal heart attack. Then the kissogram shows up...

Comedy. Cast: M2 F5

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

WINTERLONG by Andrew Sheridan

From the moment he came into the world as the snow fell and the cold wind blew, Oscar's existence has been a stagger through an underworld peopled by loners and losers. He's aching to piece it together, but the figures that clot his life are unwilling to fix him when they're unable to fix themselves. Oscar must discover if a bird with a broken wing can learn to fly, or is destined to stay earthbound for ever.

Drama. Cast: M5 F3 + 1 boy

Publisher: Nick Hern Books

OUBLIETTE by David Foxton

A tour guide is taking a group of visitors around a 12th-century manor and brings them to a mysterious room with no windows or doors, an "oubliette", from the French for "to forget".

Unknown to the present-day tourists, they are accompanied in the room by Anne who lived in the manor 500 years previously as a servant girl to Lord James Darlow. As the story unfolds the reason for the "oubliette" becomes clear.

Play. Cast: M6 F9 + 5 M or F.

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd

YOUTH

A HANDBAG by Anthony Horowitz

A group of young people are rehearsing The Importance of Being Earnest but, as they attempt to perform a play which is alien to them, it becomes apparent that their surroundings are not normal. Gradually, as tensions mount, squabbles ensue and each young person's story starts to emerge, the location is found to be an institution – reinforced by the final grim, chilling echoes of doors slamming and being locked.

Thriller. Cast: M4 F2

Publisher: Samuel French Ltd