

DARREN BREALEY

ABOUT

In 1975, my mother and I saw *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* at Her Majesty's Theatre in Melbourne. It became obvious I were destined to live in the performing arts world, as I were more interested in production machinations than performance.

Many of my One-Act plays and Full-Length plays have been produced in Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, and London over multiple productions. I have won several awards on the Fringe circuit, and I have several self-published collections of plays: one-act and full-length. I was born in Melbourne; Australia and my heritage descends from Irish and English stock, living in London between 2012 and 2021, until family business brought me home amid COVID-19.

WRITING

2019

Broken River © Copyright 2019 Darren Brealey - UK

Wetwang Abbey © Copyright 2019 Darren Brealey - UK

2018

Mayhem At Mumbles Manor © Copyright 2018 Darren Brealey - UK

Miss Rophilla © Copyright 2018 Darren Brealey - UK

2017

In Accord With Dad © Copyright 2017 Darren Brealey - UK

2016

A Fine Romance © Copyright 2016 Darren Brealey - UK

Fuddled Furze in Fryup © Copyright 2016 Darren Brealey - UK

Prince Prittlewell of Piddle Brook © Copyright 2016 Darren Brealey - UK

2015

Lady Garden © Copyright 2015 Darren Brealey - UK

2014

In The Eyes Of My Heart © Copyright 2014 Darren Brealey - UK

No White Mongoose For Wilma © Copyright 2014 Darren Brealey - UK

Travelling South © Copyright 2014 Darren Brealey - UK

What You Where When The Ship Went Down © Copyright 2014 Darren Brealey - UK

2012

All The Kings Horsemen © Copyright 2014 Darren Brealey - UK

Tune In Next Week When Doctor Bob Will Say © Copyright 2012 Darren Brealey – Australia



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Web

www.darrenbrealey.co.uk

AWARDS

2011

Aunt Ethel's Death Notice

Aunt Ethel's Death Notice won the Youth Award at the 2011 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festival in the Anglesea One Act Play Festival at the Anglesea Community Hall.

Award: Youth Award - Rauri Jayne Barker

2010

Separating The Dust

Separating The Dust won two Awards and received several. Nominations in the following 2010 Victorian Drama League One-Act Play Festivals:

The Dandenong Ranges One Act Play Festival

Award: Best Production

Award Nomination: Best Male Lead Actor - Stephen Mitchell & Aston Elliot

Anglesea One Act Play Festival

Award: Best Male Lead Actor - Stephen Mitchell

Award Nomination: Best New Original Work

Award Nomination: Adjudicator Award

The Mount Players One Act Play Festival

Award Nomination: Best Male Lead Actor - Stephen Mitchell & Aston Elliot

South Gippsland One Act Play Festival (FAMDA)

Award Nomination: Best Male Lead Actor - Stephen Mitchell & Aston Elliot

2011

Aunt Ethel's Death Notice © Copyright 2011 Darren Brealey - Australia

Running Out Of Air © Copyright 2011 Darren Brealey - Australia

2010

Prescription Drug Abuse © Copyright 2010 Darren Brealey - Australia

Separating The Dust © Copyright 2010 Darren Brealey - Australia

2009

As The Page Turns © Copyright 2009 Darren Brealey - Australia

Hymenoxys © Copyright 2009 Darren Brealey - Australia

2008

A Hainsworth Holiday © Copyright 2008 Darren Brealey - Australia

Keeping The Sabbath Holy © Copyright 2008 Darren Brealey - Australia

Penniless Penny © Copyright 2008 Darren Brealey - Australia

Shattered Reflection © Copyright 2008 Darren Brealey - Australia

2007

Spring © Copyright 2007 Darren Brealey - Australia

2006

Evangeline © Copyright 2006 Darren Brealey - Australia

Doped Up Deal © Copyright 2006 Darren Brealey - Australia

2005

Comfort Zone | Co-written with Stuart Pursell © Copyright 2005 Darren Brealey & Stuart Pursell - Australia

Happy Birthday, Christmas Bernii © Copyright 2005 Darren Brealey - Australia

The Hunt © Copyright 2005 Darren Brealey - Australia

2004

Fergus' Envy © Copyright 2004 Darren Brealey - Australia

2003

Camp Volunteers © Copyright 2003 Darren Brealey - Australia

Purple © Copyright 2003 Darren Brealey - Australia

1999

A Couple of S.N.A.Gs © Copyright 1999 Darren Brealey - Australia

Country Relations © Copyright 1999 Darren Brealey - Australia

The Chicks © Copyright 1999 Darren Brealey - Australia

The Mechanics © Copyright 1999 Darren Brealey - Australia

1998

Champagne Ladies © Copyright 1998 Darren Brealey - Australia

Disturbing Mavis © Copyright 1998 Darren Brealey - Australia

The Stair © Copyright 1998 Darren Brealey - Australia

1996

The Meeting Place © Copyright 1996 Darren Brealey - Australia

2008

Disturbing Mavis

Disturbing Mavis won the People's Choice Award at the Short+Sweet Singapore 2008 Festival in the Esplanade Theatre Studio, Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay.

2005

Fergus' Envy

Fergus' Envy won Best Play at the 2005 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festival in the Kyneton Daffodil & Arts One Act Play Festival at the Blue Stone Theatre.

Champagne Ladies

Champagne Ladies won the Adjudicator Award at the 2005 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festival in the Kyneton Daffodil & Arts One Act Play Festival at the Blue Stone Theatre.

1996

The Meeting Place

(Full-Length Play)

The Meeting Place was selected by the Board and Staff of the Melbourne Fringe and the awards judges for a special recommendation award in the category of the Melbourne Fringe Performance Arts Awards.

PRODUCTION

2023

Broken River | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Way

Performed during the 2023 Melbourne Fringe Festival at Gasworks Arts Park studio theatre in Albert Park, Australia

The Mechanics | Adelphi Players | Michael Mace

Performed during the 2023 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festivals at Mount Macedon, Gemco Players, Ararat, Foster, Ballarat, and Anglesea, Australia

2017

Fergus' Envy | Cosmic Players | Darren Brealey

Performed during Theatre In The Pound Festival at The Cockpit Theatre, Gateforth St, Marylebone, London NW8 8EH, UK

2015

In The Eyes Of My Heart | Cosmic Players | Rachel Creeger

Performed during the 5 Minute Festival at The Lost Theatre, 208 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 2JU, UK

No White Mongoose For Wilma | Cosmic Players | Dim Devda

Performed during the Black Box Festival at the Etcetera Theatre, above Oxford Arms, 265 Camden High Street, Camden, London NW1 7BU, UK

2012

Separating The Dust | Midsummer Festival | John McGlynn

Performed during the 2012 Midsumma GLBT Festival at the Revolt Arts Centre, 12 Elizabeth Street, Kensington, Australia

Tune In Next Week When Doctor Bob Will Say | Sherbrooke Theatre | David Lawson Smith

Performed as part of Play In A Day at the Doncaster Secondary College Theatre, 123 Church Road, Doncaster, Australia

2011

Running Out Of Air | Sherbrook Theatre | John McGlynn

Performed as part of Play In A Day at the Doncaster Secondary College Theatre, 123 Church Road, Doncaster, Australia

Aunt Ethel's Death Notice | Cosmic Players | Darren Brealey

Performed during the 2011 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festivals at Mount Macedon, Gemco Players, Ararat, Foster, Ballarat, and Anglesea, Australia

Separating The Dust | Short+Sweet Sydney | Adrian Bitel

Performed in the Short+Sweet Sydney 2011 Festival at King Street Theatre, Newtown, Australia

2010

Hymenoxys | Short+Sweet Melbourne | Darren Brealey

Performed in the Short+Sweet Melbourne 2010 Festival at Chapel Off Chapel, Little Chapel Street, South Yarra, Australia

Separating The Dust | Cosmic Players | Darren Brealey

Performed during the 2010 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festivals at Mount Macedon, Gemco Players, Ararat, Foster, Ballarat, and Anglesea, Australia

2009

Hymenoxys | Sherbrooke Theatre | Emma Barber

Performed as part of Play In A Day at the Doncaster Secondary College Theatre, 123 Church Road, Doncaster, Australia

As The Page Turns | Walking Into Bars | Emma Barber

Performed at Dante's, Gertrude St, Fitzroy, Australia

2008

Keeping The Sabbath Holy | Mitcham Theatre | Molly Henry

Performed as part of Play In A Day at the Maroondah Secondary College, Croydon, Australia

Penniless Penny | Walking Into Bars | Janeen Sonsie

Performed in the 2008 Melbourne International Comedy Festival at Dante's, Gertrude St, Fitzroy, Australia

Disturbing Mavis | Short+Sweet Singapore | Shen Tan

Performed in the Short+Sweet Singapore 2008 Festival at Esplanade Theatre Studio, Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay, Singapore

The Mechanics | Short+Sweet Malaysia | Cheryl Lee

Performed in the Short+Sweet Singapore 2008 Festival at Esplanade Theatre Studio, Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay, Singapore

Spring | Short+Sweet Singapore | Nalina Samynatha

Performed in the Short+Sweet Malaysia 2008 Festival at The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre – KLPAC, Malaysia

Shattered Reflection | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Penny

Performed during the 2008 Melbourne Fringe Festival, at the Guild Theatre, University of Melbourne, Australia

2007

Spring | Mitcham Theatre | Nicholas Ryan

Performed on 29 September as part of Play In A Day at the Maroondah Secondary College, Croydon, Australia

2005

Fergus' Envy | Cosmic Players | Darren Brealey

Performed in August as part of the 2005 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festivals, the first festival at the Blue Stone Theatre, Kyneton, Australia

Champagne Ladies | Cosmic Players | Darren Brealey

Performed in August as part of the 2005 Victorian Drama League One Act Play Festivals, the first festival at the Blue Stone Theatre, Kyneton, Australia

Comfort Zone | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Penny

Co-written with Stuart Pursell

Performed during the 2005 Melbourne Fringe Festival, at the Bedford Hotel, 1 Flemington Rd, North Melbourne, Australia

2004

Fergus' Envy | Waverley Theatre | Brian Ponder

Performed on 21 August as part of 24 Hours at the Monash Secondary College Theatre, North Clayton, Australia

2003

Purple | Waverley Theatre | Erin Pratter

Performed as part of 24 Hours at the Monash Secondary College Theatre, North Clayton, Australia

1999

Performing The Goat | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Penny

Performed during October in the 1999 Melbourne Fringe Festival at Trades Hall, Annexe Room, Victoria Parade, Carlton South, Australia

1998

Three Shorts | Cosmic Players | Shaun Oxley / Darren Brealey

Performed as a stand-alone event on 17 June at The Workhouse Theatre, Victoria Parade, Collingwood, Australia

1996

The Meeting Place | Cosmic Players | Justin Conkey

Performed during the 1996 Melbourne Fringe Festival at the East Melbourne Hotel (E.M.H.), Hoddle Street, East Melbourne, Australia

REVIEWS

2023

Broken River | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Way

Broken River, a strongly themed drama about elder abuse, sibling rivalry, and love on trial, debuted at the 2023 Melbourne Fringe Festival at Gasworks Arts Park studio theatre to a sold-out opening night and closing night. With its intense and thematical bold family themes, audiences were buzzing post-production, an audience member wrote this review:

“An intense production that moved me to my core, made me move uneasily in my seat and took me on a huge journey, I came opening night and the intensity of the actors, and the energy was palpable, congratulations to everyone.”

Broken River was a critical and public success with Alex First (theatre reviewer) critiquing the play as:

“Playwright Darren Brealey has drawn inspiration from two true-life stories to craft a powerful and intense narrative, which builds to curtain fall. By that time the bad feeling in the family has moved into overdrive. The script includes a number of shocks, which elevate the spectacle. Bad language is intrinsic to the offering. Directed by Elizabeth Way, Broken River tees off on family dynamics and doesn’t let up.

2008

Shattered Reflection | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Penny

Shattered Reflection, a full-length play opened at the Guild Theatre. Shattered Reflection, a most confronting and controversial piece of theatre tackling the serious problem of white-collar addiction to alcohol and drugs. Zachary Lurje, Arts Journalist wrote:

“Writer, Darren Brealey, is to be commended for such well-drawn and developed characters. The strength of Shattered Reflection comes in these interesting characters that you can relate to” (Buzz Cuts).

2005

Comfort Zone | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Penny

Co-written with Stuart Pursell

Comfort Zone followed, co-written with playwright and friend, Stuart Pursell, it's comical and diverse theatrical topics had strong audience appreciation, the production received rave critical acclaim:

“Comfort Zone has delivered a rare piece of new theatre that is hilariously self-referential and thematically bold” (BNews).

1999

Performing The Goat | Cosmic Players | Elizabeth Penny

The staged production of Performing The Goat containing four one-act plays: 'Country Relations', 'A Couple Of S.N.A.Gs.', 'The Mechanics' and 'The Chicks' was performed at the Melbourne Fringe Festival. The production was strong and gained positive audience reactions and critical comments:

“Darren Brealey delivers four humorous and often terrifyingly accurate portrayals ... four short plays that capture colloquial Aussie stereotypes and present them with hilarious accuracy” (Buzz Cuts).

1998

Three Shorts | Cosmic Players | Shaun Oxley / Darren Brealey

Three Shorts produced at Melbourne’s Workhouse Theatre. Three Shorts comprised of three self-contained plays: ‘Disturbing Mavis’, ‘The Stair’ and ‘Champagne Ladies’. Once again, critical and public reaction to the work was favourable, with ‘Champagne Ladies’ singled out for particular praise:

“With Three Shorts, Darren Brealey has written an eclectic mixture of observations that manage, somehow, to connect ... with the satirical ‘Champagne Ladies’ definitely my favourite” (Stage Whispers Magazine).

1996

The Meeting Place | Cosmic Players | Justin Conkey

My debut launch into writing and producing for the theatre came in the guise of my first full-length play, The Meeting Place as part of the Melbourne Fringe Festival. New York Broadway choreographer and actor, Matt West was the sole financial supporter. The Meeting Place was a critical and public success with Ralph McLean from radio station 3RRR critiquing the play as:

“The Meeting Place was a simple even old-fashioned story of family and loss. I rarely cry in the theatre - at least for emotional reasons - but there I was enjoying some new talent. And I was bawling, with the joy of it and of the magic of a good yarn well put, the tears running down my cheeks like a bloody baby.”