

# Plays For All Seasons by Keith Trezise



Whether you are looking for a one-act for a drama festival or something for a full evening's entertainment, you will find all you need within the works of Keith Trezise. From the poignant prize-winning one-act drama *Duplex* to the full-length comedy *Dying To Be Heard*, every base is covered.

For Drama festivals there is a choice of four one-act plays and for a full evening's entertainment you can either choose a full-length comedy, or put on a double bill of one-acts which you can mix and match as you please.

When considering a double bill it is worth noting that *Duplex* and *Four Play* can be performed using the same set and *Branching Out* and *Curtain Call* don't use a set at all!

Both *Branching Out* and *Curtain Call* have enjoyed some success in Drama Festivals with Keith's own theatre company - Flying Horse Theatre - with *Curtain Call* being awarded Best Original Play at the 2010 Tamworth (Hastilow) Drama Festival.

Each play is cleverly crafted, with many twists and turns to keep your audiences guessing before revealing the most unexpected outcome!

All plays are published by Jasper Publishing Ltd and their website is www.jasperpublishing.com.



**Keith Trezise** 

Keith Trezise was born in Rugby in Warwickshire more years ago than he cares to remember, but rumour has it that it was about 1954.

He has been entertaining audiences one way or another for most of his adult life both as a guitar/vocalist and as an actor and director with his local amateur group Rugby Theatre and started writing plays seriously in 1997 - the same year his debut play *Duplex* ended up winning the Little Theatre Guild's One-Act Play Competition.

In 1999 Keith was awarded a commission to write a new play for the Millennium funded by Rugby Borough Council and the Arts Council.

Flying Horse Theatre came into existence in 2008 in order to promote Keith's plays competitively within the Drama Festival Circuit and have picked up several trophies since then.

Details of available plays follow on the next few pages and we are sure that you will find something to your liking and - more importantly - to the liking of your audiences.

## **Branching Out**

Playing time: approx 50mins

Cast: 1m, 2f



The picture above is a still from an Australian production of **Branching Out** which was performed outdoors.

When performed indoors it is not necessary to use a set as the actors can produce the illusion of being up a tree through mime. Flying Horse Theatre used a green leaf gobo to good effect to assist in the illusion.

Three intrepid eco-warriors arrive at the site of a condemned tree with the sole purpose of saving it from the road developer's axe. However, each has his or her own private reason for being there. Rachel - the self-styled leader of the group - is there for the glory, whilst Derek - a claustrophobic hypochondriac who suffers from vertigo - is there because he is infatuated with Rachel. Pauline - a true tree-hugger - is there simply because she cares about the tree - as long as they save it by Saturday as she has to attend a wedding!

This play received four awards from various festivals since 2008.

**B**ecause there is no set needed, this play is an ideal addition to a double bill.

### Four Play

Playing time: approx 50mins

Cast: 2m, 2f



**Four Play** is a fifty-minute-farce which Keith wrote as a contrast to his prize-winning drama **Duplex** and both plays can be performed using the same set - making them an ideal double bill. So much so that they have been published as a double-bill called **Complications** by Jasper Publishing.

A 'fifty-minute-farce' that sees Gary attempting to seduce the lovely Kate. Things get slightly complicated when Digger, Gary's work colleague, arrives a week early to move in with Gary whilst he sorts his failing marriage out - especially when it turns out that Kate is Digger's wife! If that wasn't bad enough, Gary's estranged wife, Claire, arrives for a 'chat' with Gary and it is only by sheer luck and boundless energy that Gary keeps everyone apart. Inevitably though, luck can't last forever and the whole situation has to be sorted out before things get too out of hand - especially after Claire suspects Gary and Digger of being gay lovers!

This play was instrumental in winning Keith his commission to write a new play for the Millennium after being seen by members of the Millennium commissioning body.



## **Duplex**

Playing time: approx 50mins

Cast: 3m, 2f, 2 extras m or f



This play won the 1997 Little Theatre Guild's One-Act Play Writing Competition yet took only three days to write. That wasn't because Keith found writing it easy - it's more a case that he had forgotten about the deadline and had to write it at the last minute!

The casting is fairly flexible with the part of Doctor Armitage being suitable for a man or a woman. The extras in this play can be given to stage crew who might enjoy the opportunity to get in front of the curtain for a brief moment.

This prize-winning drama examines the stresses of modern life and follows Paul Wentworth as he tries to deal with them. It seems that Paul is leading a double life that threatens to ruin his marriage and ruin him financially. When he reaches breaking point it is time to call in the doctor - who suspects a case of schizophrenia. Things get out of hand when Paul takes his own wife hostage at knife point and pleads for the others to help him resolve his problems. The tension builds throughout to a dramatic climax that raises a few questions in itself.

As stated before, this play can be performed on the same set as *Four Play* and as such is an ideal partner for it in a double bill should you wish to do one and this double bill is published as *Complications* by Jasper Publishing.

### **Curtain Call**

Playing time: approx 30mins

Cast: 2m, 3f, 1 extra m or f



The picture above was taken at an outdoor rehearsal with Flying Horse Theatre.

Curtain Call is set in an abandoned theatre and so no set is required. This is an ideal play for drama festivals and indeed has won three awards for Flying Horse Theatre and was awarded Best Original Play at the 2010 Tamworth (Hastilow) Drama Festival.

A group of actors takes over an abandoned theatre in an annual tribute to their colleague who they lost in a tragic motoring accident ten years ago. They begin rehearsals whilst trying to locate the elusive Elaine with no success.

Finally Elaine reveals herself to them and reveals a whole lot more than they had bargained for!



# Dying To Be Heard

Playing time: approx 100mins

Cast: 4m, 3f, 1 extra m or f



Keith was commissioneded to write a full-length play about communication for the Millennium, but persuaded the commissioning body that a play about lack of communication would be more entertaining. In a collaboration with two local writers - John Mattocks and Jeanette Hill, *Dying To Be Heard* was born and, as well as writing the play, Keith also directed it and took a lead role in it too.

Commissioned to celebrate the Millennium, 'Dying To Be Heard' follows the fortunes of the Johnston family in the run up to Charles' and Maggie's Silver Wedding celebrations. The shock discovery that daughter Lucy, who is always on her mobile phone, is embarking on a surrogate pregnancy for her 17 year old friend and that son Oliver, who speaks in a strange American-surfer dialect, is possibly a cross-dresser does nothing to assist the party preparations. Maggie tries her best to be organised, but hindrance from her lazy husband Charles and the arrival of her step-father, the Admiral, with his sexy young nurse Carol, only serves to frustrate her best efforts. Will the party ever go ahead? Will Lucy be able to get enough money off Charles for a decent outfit? And who on earth is the mysterious Ralph who shows up uninvited?

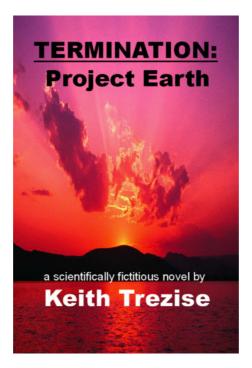




Having taken a brief look at some of the plays on offer it is our hope that your appetite for the plays of prize-winning Playwright Keith Trezise has been well and truly whetted.

The plays have proven time and again that they are ideal for drama festivals and the quality is of a standard to entertain the most discerning audience.

For further information and selected video clips visit Keith Trezise's website www.keithtrezise.co.uk or visit www.jasperpublishing.com



After experiencing the plays of Keith Trezise, you may find you want to curl up with his debut novel and enjoy a laugh or two.

Imagine a world devoid of life - a world where man's influence and the resulting ecological decline has paved the way for the extinction of all life on Earth. Now imagine you have the answer - the ability to repair the hole in the ozone layer and deplete the greenhouse gases in our atmosphere - yet nobody listens. Such is the saga of Frogmorton Culpepper, an ordinary man with the extraordinary ability to save the world. When one opportunity to save the planet is foiled by his jealous boss, he is presented with a second opportunity when confronted by a hologram of an alien in his microwave oven fortelling the fate of all life on our planet. A race against time begins where he enlists the help of the girl of his dreams, an ex-NASA employee, a homicidal lunatic and his cat Chloe in the face of chilling opposition from the FBI, CIA, the Mafia and his own over-bearing mother.

