

Luke Yankee

Writer

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Published Works:

“The Last Lifeboat” (Dramatists Play Service, 2014)

The untold story of the owner of the White Star Line when The Titanic sank, whose decision to save himself rather than go down with the ship made him the scapegoat for one of the greatest disasters of all time.

“Luke Yankee has written a surging drama that is riveting, dramatic, educational and entertaining all at the same time. THE LAST LIFEBOAT is destined to become a theatre classic!” (*Rex Reed*)

“A Place At Forest Lawn” (Dramatists Play Service, 2007)

Dramatic play about a cantankerous old woman and her relationship with her lifelong best friend, her son and how she must come to terms with both of them before she dies.

*Winner, New Noises Award for Drama; produced at several regional theaters.

“Yankee cleverly interweaves a slew of issues around death and dying with a cohesive dramatic arc between mother, son and best friend, producing a tapestry in which forgiveness brings a final peace.” (*Variety*)

“Just Outside the Spotlight: Growing Up with Eileen Heckart” (Random House, 2006)

Foreword by Mary Tyler Moore.

Memoir about the golden age of Broadway & Hollywood and what it was like growing up as the son of Oscar, Emmy and Tony winning actress, Eileen Heckart. (320 pages, hardcover. Also available for Kindle, iBook & Nook)

“One of the most compassionate, illuminating showbiz books ever written.” (*Michael Musto, The Village Voice*)

Produced Plays:

“The Jesus Hickey”

A quirky, coming-of-age comedy about the seduction of celebrity funneled through the window of religious fanaticism. First full production produced at Skylight Theatre, Los Angeles, starring Harry Hamlin.

*Winner of the TRU Voices Award and Joel & Phyllis Ehrlich Award, given for “a socially relevant, commercially viable new work of theatre.” Winner of New Works Festivals at The Phoenix Theatre and Long Beach Playhouse.

“A masterpiece that’s the equivalent of the great, recent, Irish plays by Martin McDonagh and Brian Friel. So great and piercing is its satire that it could easily be termed a contemporary classic.” (*Backstage*)

“Diva Dish!”

One-man show about the golden age of Broadway and Hollywood. Produced at regional theatres and on more than 25 cruises worldwide for Holland America, Royal Caribbean, Crystal, Celebrity, Princess, etc.

“Touching, hilarious and completely enthralling! Luke Yankee is such a marvelous storyteller, you’ll want to hear the stories he tells again and again!” (*Rex Reed*)

Original TV Pilots:

“The Star Maker”

One hour drama about a charming but ruthless agent in 1950's Hollywood reveals everyone's dirty, little secrets...before they can reveal his.

***Finalist in NexTV Pilot competition – one of 8 finalists out of over 700 submissions.**

“Egos & Cocktails”

When a famous Broadway actress in 1969 is diagnosed with a new condition called bipolar disorder, she must choose between taking the medication that stifles her creativity or being a stable wife and mother.

“Takin’ It To The Streets”

One hour drama about a young actor who witnesses the brutal murder of his fiancée then gives up the world of show business to become an undercover cop.

Unproduced Screenplays:

“The Last Lifeboat”

Screen adaptation of play.

***Grand Prize – Scriptvamp Attention Grabber Screenwriting Competition.**

***One of ten scripts chosen for DreamAgo International Screenwriting workshop in Switzerland**

“The Jesus Hickey”

Screen adaptation of award-winning play with a darker edge.

“The Things I Never Said”

Screen adaptation of award-winning play, “A Place at Forest Lawn.”

Television Spec Scripts (representative – full list on request):

Nurse Jackie: “Anita Vicodin”

As Jackie continues to navigate the slippery slope of sobriety she must undergo the painful step of making amends.

***Grand Prize Winner – Scriptwriters Network Television Outreach Project**

Episodes: “Episode 4.5”

Beverly learns that her mother is planning a visit, but doesn't know she and Sean are separated.

Royal Pains: “Little Miss Conception”

Dr. Hank Lawson must perform an emergency C-section at a garden party...on top of a grand piano.

***Placed in top 5% of Warner Bros. Writers workshop – out of over 1,750 submissions.**

***Top Five Finalist in Acclaim TV Writing contest**

Brothers & Sisters: “Alabaster Shards”

Justin's new sponsor in AA is a doctor who procures free drugs and gets him using again.

***First Place Winner – Scriptapalooza TV – Best Hour Long Script**

Related:

Currently completing MFA in Writing for the Performing Arts – University Of California, Riverside (Dec. 2016)

Advisory board member & panelist for William Inge Playwrights Center since 1996. Presented workshops and served on panels with: Stephen Sondheim, Theresa Rebeck, Joe Di Pietro, Marsha Norman, David Henry Hwang, Terrence McNally, John Guare, Christopher Durang, John Kander, A.R. Gurney, Arthur Laurents and Neil Simon.

Creator and host of seminar series, “Conversations on Craft”. Conducted 75 minute interviews with Marc Cherry, David Lee, Mark Rydell, Edward Asner, David Rambo, Adam Belanoff, Harriet Harris & Michael Learned.

Member of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, The Dramatists Guild and The Los Angeles Writers Collective.