

# The Writers' Guild Weekly e-bulletin No. 385, Friday 21st August 2009

On the Guild's blog this week at [writersguild.blogspot.com](http://writersguild.blogspot.com):

- [Corbett criticises proposed film bodies merger](#)
- [Rivals unite against Google Books](#)
- [Val McDermid sponsors football stand](#)
- [Tullio Kezich 1928-2009](#)
- [Michael Frayn's journalism](#)
- [BlinkBox to show BBC shows online](#)
- [Copyright code of practice revised](#)
- [Riverscross: the soap with a difference](#)
- [Screenwriters segue to video game plots](#)
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## **Guild News**

**1. SPECIAL NOTICE: Last Call for Nominations for the Writers' Guild of Great Britain Awards 2009**

This is your last chance to nominate for the Writers' Guild awards 2009. The deadline is Friday the 28th August for you to send us your favourite TV, Film, Theatre, Radio, Books and Video games that you have enjoyed in the past year. See below for full list of categories and eligibility details.

All Guild members are entitled to nominate in all categories.

Here is the full list of award categories:

- Book (Fiction) \*
- Book (Non-Fiction) \*
- Feature Film Screenplay
- Feature Film Screenplay – Best First Feature Length Screenplay
- Outstanding Contribution to Children’s Writing
- Radio Comedy / Light Entertainment
- Radio Drama
- Television Comedy / Light Entertainment
- Television Drama Series
- Television Short-form Drama \*\*
- Television Soap / Continuing Drama \*\*\*
- Theatre Play
- Theatre Play for Children and Young People
- Video game Script

\* Submissions for the Book Awards will also be sought from publishers.

\*\* Short-form drama is defined as being broadcast in a maximum of five parts.

\*\*\* Soap / Continuing Drama is defined as high-volume long-running TV drama series with one or more new episode broadcast per week. Television Short-form Drama and Drama Series may include adaptations.

Awards are made to the writer(s), not the production as a whole, so please make your nominations based on the quality of the writing not the standard of production. Nominated writer(s) must be British or work in Britain. To be eligible programmes / plays / games, etc. must have been first released, published, performed or broadcast during the period **1st June 2008 to 31st May 2009 inclusive**.

If you have any questions about this, please contact the Guild office. Please send nominations in any or all of the above categories by email to [anne@writersguild.org.uk](mailto:anne@writersguild.org.uk) with your full name and Guild membership number. Please make it clear which writers you are nominating in which categories. Please nominate only one title in each category.

Nominations may also be submitted by post to the Guild office. Please mark envelopes "Award nominations", Writers' Guild of Great Britain, 40 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4RX.

The deadline for nominations is **Friday 28th August 2009** and the shortlist will be announced on Wednesday 30 September 2009. The winners will be announced on Sunday 29 November 2009.

The shortlists and winners in each category will be chosen by the relevant Guild Craft Committee or an appropriate jury appointed by the Guild's Executive Council. There will also be a Lifetime Achievement Award which will be awarded to a Guild member by the Executive Council.

## Industry News

### 2. Durham Book Festival tickets on sale

The line-up for the nineteenth annual Durham Book Festival, produced by Durham City Arts, will be officially announced to the public on Tuesday 8th September when tickets go on general sale. However, as New Writing North has programmed the festival this year, as New Writing North newsletter subscribers, we're going to give you a sneak peek at some of the highlights of this year's programme. Tickets for the headlining author events have sold well already, despite having only been on sale for five days to Gala subscribers, so if you're interested in any of the below, you're going to have to be quick off the mark!

The festival runs from 23 October to 1 November, and highlights include:

- **Nick Hornby** in conversation with **Lynn Barber** about adapting her memoir to film, and Nick presenting his new novel, *Juliet, Naked*.
- Comedian **Jack Dee** telling us how he went from being a cheery young fellow to the grumpy middle-aged man we know today, thanks to a series of truly awful jobs he had to endure.
- Poet Laureate **Carol Ann Duffy** presenting an evening of poetry from her and new North East women poets.
- Book group favourite **Kate Mosse** introducing her new novel, *The Winter Ghosts*. Kate's novel *Labyrinth* was read and loved by book groups up and down the country.
- Writer of the hilarious *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian* **Marina Lewycka** will be talking to novelist and journalist Amanda Craig about forming unlikely friendships across cultural divides.

You can join the mailing list to get all the latest information about the festival at [www.bookfestival.org.uk](http://www.bookfestival.org.uk) and you can book tickets for events from the Gala Theatre in Durham on [www.galadurham.co.uk](http://www.galadurham.co.uk) or on 0191 332 4041.

## Courses and Workshops

### 3. Last Call: Euroscript Development Workshops 2009

Monday 7th September, 6.15-9.30pm

Only two places left...

Their Monday workshops will help you develop your script at whatever stage you're at - from initial idea to final draft - ensuring you make your work the best it can possibly be - whether feature-film, short, sitcom, TV drama or series.

Suitable for writers at all levels of experience. Book now for constructive support and advice.

[Click here now to find out more and to book](#)

### 4. Playing with Convention: Devising Theatre

5<sup>th</sup> September at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry.

**Playing with Convention** will explore the relationship between the audience (spectator/participant) and the actor (character/interpreter). It is an opportunity to consider how theatre can be developed and created through a non-scripted process. Participants will have the opportunity to look at possibilities within their own work to explore myths, rituals and historical interpretations. Specifically the workshop will explore the devising concept and how a script can be developed using the actor's skills and processes.

Using Triangle Theatre's production of *The Last Women* as an example, the workshop will examine the creation of a performance that is neither scripted nor non-scripted. *The Last Women* interweaves historical reality with the mythical, ritual and imagination. The play is a powerful interpretation of the stories of six condemned women.

Carran Waterfield, the founder and Artistic Director of Triangle Theatre Company will be running this workshop. Carran is based in the West Midlands and has devised, written and directed over forty productions. Her production and education work have been represented internationally. She regularly presents at conferences as well as leading training courses with Co-Artistic Director Richard Talbot.

Full details on this workshop and Script are available at: [www.scriptonline.net](http://www.scriptonline.net)

If you would like to book a place, please contact script on 0121 224 7415 or [Catherine.edwards@scriptonline.net](mailto:Catherine.edwards@scriptonline.net). The cost of each workshop is £50 with concessions at £45.

Script offers writers mentoring, training and support via industry-led partnerships.

## Opportunities

### **5. Scriptapalooza Television Writing Competition OPENS**

Scriptapalooza TV has seen major success in their 10 years...2 writers won Emmys, numerous writers have gotten agents, managers and meetings.

The four categories include existing 1 hour shows like True Blood and Merlin.  
Existing half hour sitcoms like The Office and Two and a Half Men.  
Original pilots and reality shows. (for reality shows they would like a 1-5 page synopsis only)

Supported by the Writers Guild of America west and the Writers Guild of Canada.

[www.scriptapaloozaTV.com](http://www.scriptapaloozaTV.com)

323.654.5809 office

[info@scriptapalooza.com](mailto:info@scriptapalooza.com)

FINAL DEADLINE October 15th.

### **6. The London Comedy Unit**

The London Comedy Unit is looking for experienced London-based writers to join a professional team to engage in developing scripts for television.

Based on a US-style large-group writing team model, the writers will meet weekly in Soho from 16th September from 0900-11:30am. Founded by Writers' Guild members with established track records in the industry, LCU will develop a range of scripts largely in the sitcom genre.

Interested writers are encouraged to apply by submitting a CV to [info@londoncomedyunit.com](mailto:info@londoncomedyunit.com)

## 7. Writer wanted for urgent project

Experienced novelist urgently needed for a film script to novel project. The subject is a hard hitting, emotional drama. Whilst there will not be an advance payment, there will be a signed contract and split royalties.

Please contact Chrystal Rose asap on 07956 951 150 or [chrystalr011@aol.com](mailto:chrystalr011@aol.com)

## What Members Are Getting Up To

SARAH BAGSHAW wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on ITV1 at 7:00pm Wednesday 26th August.

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LUCY BLINCOE wrote the episode of *Doctors* "*If You Love Somebody*" going out on BBC1 at 1:45pm on Friday 28th August.

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RAY BROOKING wrote the episode of *Doctors* "*Cradle to Grave*" going out on BBC1 at 1:45pm on Thursday 27th August.

\*\*\*

IAN CURTEIS'S radio play *The Last Year* is going out on Radio 4 at 2:15pm on Friday 28th August. Starring Derek Jacobi it examines one of the enduring mysteries of the First World War - the apparent refusal of George V to give sanctuary in England to his cousin Tsar Nicholas and, after he had been forced to abdicate during the Russian Revolution.

\*\*\*

TIM DYNEVOR wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on ITV1 at 7:00pm on Tuesday 25th and at 7:30pm on Thursday 27th August.

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LISA EVANS has been appointed Associate Writer at Theatre by the Lake, Keswick.

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MATHEW EVANS wrote the episodes of *EastEnders* going out on BBC1 at 7:30pm on Tuesday 25th August.

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RICHARD EVERETT'S stage play *Entertaining Angels* starring Penelope Keith goes into rehearsal in September for a 6 week tour prior to a London transfer produced by Michael Codron. Also in the cast are Benjamin Whitrow, Polly Adams and Carolyn Backhouse. Director is Alan Strachan. From 22nd Sept weekly tour dates are: Bath, Manchester, Richmond, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Cheltenham, Chichester.

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CHRIS FEWTRELL wrote the episode of *Coronation Street* going out on ITV1 at 8:30pm on Thursday 27th August.

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PETER FLANNERY wrote the episode of *Inspector George Flannery "The Burning Man"* going out on BBC1 at 8:30pm on Friday 28th August.

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CAROLINE HARRINGTON wrote the episodes of *The Archers* going out on Radio 4 at 7:00pm from Sunday 23rd till Friday 28th August with each episode being repeated at 2:00pm the day following its original broadcast.

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PETER KERRY wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on ITV1 at 7:00pm on Friday 28th August.

\*\*\*

IAN KERSHAW wrote the episode of *Holby City "Reformation"* going out on BBC1 at 8:00pm on Tuesday 25th August.

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LIZZIE MICKERY'S dramatization of *The 39 Steps* is going out on BBC1 at 8:30pm on Wednesday 26th August. Rupert Penry-Jones stars in the adaptation of the classical novel by John Buchan, set in the days leading up to the outbreak of the First World War. Richard Hannay's life changes for ever when British Spy Scudder barges into his flat with information about a German Spy ring based in Scotland. But when Scudder is killed, Hannay finds himself accused of murder.

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ROY MITCHELL co-wrote the episode of *New Tricks "Blood Is Thicker than Water"* going out on BBC1 at 9:00pm on Thursday 27th August.

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DOMINIQUE MOLONEY wrote the episode of *EastEnders* going out on BBC1 at 8:00pm on Monday 24th August.

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DAVID NOBBS'S museum-based sitcom *The Maltby Collection* is beginning a new series going out on Radio 4 at 11:30am on Monday 24th August.

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LYN PAPADOPOULOS wrote the episode of *Hollyoaks* going out on C4 at 6:30pm on Monday 24th August.

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JANE PEARSON wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on ITV1 at 7:00pm on Monday 24th August.

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*Writers' Guild of Great Britain, 40 Rosebery Avenue, EC1R 4RX; [erik@writersguild.org.uk](mailto:erik@writersguild.org.uk); [www.writersguild.org.uk](http://www.writersguild.org.uk); tel +44 (0) 20 7833 0777; fax +44 (0) 20 7833 4777. This email bulletin is a service to members and associates of the Writers' Guild of Great Britain. Comments, suggestions and requests to be removed from the distribution list should be sent to [erik@writersguild.org.uk](mailto:erik@writersguild.org.uk). Items are included from a variety of sources. The Guild does its best to check everything and make corrections when necessary but we will not accept responsibility for mistakes and omissions. You are advised to check terms and conditions before entering any commitments. Copyright Writers' Guild of Great Britain and suppliers of items 2009.*