

# The Writers' Guild Weekly e-bulletin No. 429, Friday 9th July 2010

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## **Guild News**

**Theatre Committee New Writing Encouragement Awards: nominations open**

The Theatre Committee is accepting nominations for its sixth annual 'New Writing Encouragement Awards', for presentation this autumn. Any WGGB member may nominate anyone in any capacity who has given him or her an especially positive and enriching experience in developing his or her new writing for the theatre over the past 12 months. The deadline for entries is 31st August, 2010.

Please include a paragraph on why this experience was so personally valuable to you.

Please email all entries to David James, chair of the Theatre Committee, at [david.sassafras@btinternet.com](mailto:david.sassafras@btinternet.com)

## **Writers' Guild Awards 2010 – Call for Nominations from Guild Members**

It is time to send in your nominations for the Writers' Guild of Great Britain Awards 2010. All members of the Writers' Guild are entitled to nominate in all categories – so don't miss this opportunity to nominate any great writing you have come across in the past year, whether in theatre plays, films, books, radio, television or game scripts.

The award categories are as follows:

- Book (Fiction) \*
- Book (Non-Fiction) \*
- Feature Film Screenplay
- Feature Film Screenplay – Best First Feature-Length Screenplay
- Radio Comedy / Light Entertainment
- Radio Drama
- Television Comedy / Light Entertainment
- Television Drama Series
- Television Short-form Drama \*\*
- Television Soap / Continuing Drama \*\*\*
- TV Children's Drama - Live Action or Animation
- Theatre Play
- Theatre Play for Children and Young People
- Videogame 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 episodes 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 2009 to 31st May 2010 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 [susan@writersguild.org.uk](mailto:susan@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 3rd September 2010**, and the shortlist will be announced on **Friday 1st October 2010**. The winners will be announced on Sunday 21 November 2010.

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 special award - which can change from year to year - that will be awarded by the Executive Council.

## **Writers' Guild Awards for Books**

The Writers' Guild is inviting submissions from UK publishers for the **Best Book Awards** (Fiction and Non-Fiction). These will be judged not only on the quality of the writing - though that may well be of primary importance - but also on their imaginative content (in the case of fiction), the extent to which they fulfil their brief (in the case of non-fiction), and the extent to which they offer a good read.

Each publisher can make a maximum of **two submissions** (one fiction; one non-fiction).

The **entry fee is £50** per submission.

The criteria for eligibility for the award is as follows:

Nominated writer(s) must be British or work in Britain. Eligible books must have been first published and released between 1 June 2009 - 31 May 2010 inclusive.

Submissions should be made to:

The Writers' Guild Best Book Award 2010, Writers' Guild of Great Britain,  
40 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4RX

The deadline for submissions is **Wednesday 1st September 2010**.

Please send **FOUR COPIES** of each book you wish to nominate for the award.

Cheques should be made out to the Writers' Guild of Great Britain or paid directly into WGGGB Awards account no. 34042212. Sort Code: 08-60-01.

**Contact :** [susan@writersguild.org.uk](mailto:susan@writersguild.org.uk)

The Best Book Awards will be presented, along with awards for television, theatre, film, radio and videogames, at a reception in November 2010 to which the nominated authors and their guests will be invited.

## **Discounts for Members**

### **Discounts for Guild Members – save yourself money!**

The Writers' Guild of Great Britain will be announcing a set of discounts to be offered to Guild members as an additional benefit to your Guild membership. The first offer we are offering is a reduced rate subscription to *Variety* magazine and Variety.com.

The offer is:

UK & Europe - \$299 (normal price \$399)

USA - \$248 (normal price \$329)

Rest of the World - \$449 (normal price \$599)

For this you will receive Weekly Variety magazine plus unlimited access to Variety.com – a benefit available only to subscribers. To take advantage of this offer you can either go online or telephone Variety's Customer Services department:

Online – [www.variety.com/wggb](http://www.variety.com/wggb)

Call – 001 515 247 2993 (8am-10pm US time)

Please quote your membership number when claiming this subscription.

## **Guild Events**

### **Summer drinks with Directors-UK**

Film and Television writer members of the Guild we will be joining members of Directors-UK for a summer evening drink in Covent Garden on Tuesday 20th July. There are a limited number of places available. If you would like to attend please contact Anne Hogben at the Guild office for more information.

[anne@writersguild.org.uk](mailto:anne@writersguild.org.uk)

## **Events**

### **Screen Epiphany: *Kes* + introduction by David Morrissey**

**Wed 14th July, 18:20 NFT1**

Actor-director David Morrissey joins BFI to introduce the film that inspired him. *Kes* is Ken Loach's moving and masterful tale of a lonely Yorkshire lad who transcends the mundanity of his existence by caring for and training a kestrel.

This July the BFI continues its Film Science Season with a range of utopian and dystopian visions of the future ranging from Cameron's *The Terminator* to Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey*. There are also a number of previews and events including Elmosnino's highly anticipated biopic, *Gainsbourg*. **The BFI have given the Writers Guild 5 pairs of tickets to be won to the exclusive event on wed 14th July.**

## **BFI Brian Clemens Season**

From 2nd - 31st July the BFI is celebrating the work of British TV and cinema writer Brian Clemens. He has worked for some of the greatest action/ adventure series ever made and the BFI will be showcasing a selection of his work including *The Avengers*, *Danger Man* and *Captain Kronos: Vampire Hunter*. Clemens will also be at BFI for two on-stage interviews on 22nd, regarding *The Avengers*, and on 28th July about his fantastic exploits both real and fictional at 6:30pm. **Book now as tickets are running out.**

[www.bfi.org.uk/go/writersguildclemens](http://www.bfi.org.uk/go/writersguildclemens)

## **Writers' Guild of America Foundation Launches Online Streaming Event**

### ***Twilight Saga Screenwriter Melissa Rosenberg To Be Interviewed Before International Audience – July 13th***

The Writers' Guild of America Foundation launches live video streaming of their events with their July 13th Melissa Rosenberg interview – (screenwriter of the *TWILIGHT SAGA : Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse*). The new WGF Live Stream will allow ticketed viewers to watch WGF events from anywhere in the world.

At the Writers Guild of America Foundation event, Rosenberg will tell how her career (*Dexter, Ally McBeal, The O.C.*, etc.) led to the Twilight franchise opportunity, and how it has impacted her life. She will be interviewed by *LA Times* writer Gina Piccalo. *Twilight: Eclipse*, is the third of the mega-popular series that Melissa Rosenberg has adapted for the big screen.

#### **How:**

Those interested in viewing the live stream can purchase a ticket to log into the WGF Live Stream at <http://wgfoundation.payperlive.com/event> to watch events. Viewers with Twitter accounts can also participate in the Q&A portion of the interview by posting questions on the WGF Live Stream site.

#### **Event Details:**

**What:** **Melissa Rosenberg screenwriter of the Twilight Saga (*Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse*).** will be interviewed by *LA Times* writer Gina Piccalo. This is

your chance to hear how Rosenberg's career (*Dexter*, *Ally McBeal*, *The O.C.*, etc.) led to the *Twilight* franchise opportunity, and what it has meant for her.

**When: Tuesday, July 13 - 7:30pm**

**Where: At the WGF/WGA headquarters, 7000 W 3rd St, Los Angeles 90048**

**tickets to WGF live stream: <http://wgfoundation.payperlive.com/event>**

**\$9.99**

**Tickets to physical event:**

**<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/116634>**

**\$20 (discounts for WGA members, students and military/veterans) or call 800-838-3006**

### **About the Writers' Guild Foundation:**

The Writers Guild Foundation is a 501 c 3 educational charity. All proceeds from ticket sales to the physical event or the WGF Live Stream support its library and educational outreach programmes. For more information about the Writers Guild Foundation, visit: [www.WGFoundation.org](http://www.WGFoundation.org)

### **Women, Power and Politics Film Festival**

Four days of award-winning cinema, director Q&As and panel debates, celebrating women making change global. [Full details here](#)

Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn, London, NW10

Until 17th July.

[Download the Season Brochure here](#)

Box Office 020 7328 1000 [www.tricycle.co.uk](http://www.tricycle.co.uk).

## **Guild Events**

### **Meet the Writers' Guild in Glasgow**

There is a chance for Scottish members to meet their new Executive Council rep, Julie Ann Thomason, and General Secretary Bernie Corbett at a Writers' Guild event in Glasgow on Tuesday 13th July 2010.

The venue is Bar Budda, 400A Sauchiehall Street G2 3JD and the event starts at 7.00 p.m. Bring your questions, opinions and ideas for the Writers' Guild, and how we should improve our activities and services for Scottish members.

## **Courses and Workshops**

### **Three New One-day Scriptwriting Courses at The Script Factory: Horror, Thriller & Adaptations**

#### **Horror & Slasher**

An intense full-day session aimed at understanding the craft of writing scripts in the Horror genre.

Tutor Rob Ritchie

Tuesday 13th July at the Soho Theatre (21 Dean Street, London W1)

#### **Truth & Fiction: Adaptations**

The skills every screenwriter needs to adapt novels, plays and real-life stories to the screen.

Tutor Rob Ritchie

Thursday 15th July at the Soho Theatre (21 Dean Street, London W1)

#### **Thriller**

A film commissioner recently bemoaned the lack of great thriller scripts out there: spend a day honing your scriptwriting skills in the Thriller genre.

Tutor Angeli MacFarlane

Friday 16th July at The Hospital (24 Endell Street,, London WC2H)

#### **Friendly Producers Scheme:**

Amanda Posey, Producer of the Oscar-winning film *An Education*, joins them as a Friendly Producer. Writers completing any of the above courses will be invited to apply to our Friendly Producers scheme, where one writer will have the chance to meet with Amanda to discuss his or her film idea at a one-to-one meeting.

Full course details are here: [www.scriptfactory.co.uk](http://www.scriptfactory.co.uk)

Course fees for any of the above one-day courses are priced at £120 (+VAT). To book

call The Script Factory on 020 7851 4890 or email [sheena@scriptfactory.co.uk](mailto:sheena@scriptfactory.co.uk) with any questions.

### **Community Theatre Event in Warwick**

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July (10am-5pm)  
Friends' Meeting House, Warwick  
Led by Stephanie Dale

**Stephanie Dale** is a professional playwright and member of the Writers' Guild of Great Britain. Her plays have been produced by Soho Theatre, LAMDA, Birmingham Rep and BBC Radio 4. Dale is a tutor on the Mphil in Playwriting Studies at Birmingham University and also teaches at BSA, City University.

She is currently working on her new play, *Dealing with Dreams*, and has been commissioned by Birmingham Repertory Theatre to write a site-specific play around the ruins of Weoley Castle.

**Cost:** £50 (£40 concessions)

**Booking:** [www.scripionline.net/stage.html](http://www.scripionline.net/stage.html)

### **Developing Ideas for the Stage Event in Ludlow**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (10am-5pm)  
Pentabus Theatre, Ludlow  
Led by Peter Roberts

Suitable for aspiring playwrights, this one-day workshop will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of creating stories for the theatre. Writers will be able to explore how to structure scenes, develop character and plot and how to write effective dialogue. It will also look at the basic practicalities of putting your work on the stage. An essential toolkit to master the art and craft of playwriting.

**Peter Roberts** is a Royal Shakespeare Company award-winning writer with credits for stage, television, and radio. Stage plays include *Education, Education* and *Viking Tales* for Derby Playhouse, *Flying For Arthur* (Sherman Theatre, Cardiff) and *Heart and Stone* (New Theatre Works). His play-with-music, *A Maid With A Lamp*, based

on the life of Florence Nightingale, is scheduled for Derby Theatre in May 2010. His adaptation of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* is scheduled for production at Derby Theatre in 2011.

**Cost:** £50 (£40 concessions)

**Booking:** [www.scriptonline.net/stage.html](http://www.scriptonline.net/stage.html)

## Opportunities

### The Terry Pratchett prize

Sir Terry Pratchett and Transworld Publishers have launched a new award for aspiring debut novelists, The Terry Pratchett Anywhere But Here, Anywhen But Now Prize. Transworld will offer the winning author a publishing contract with a £20,000 advance. The award will be judged by Sir Terry Pratchett, Tony Robinson, Michael Rowley from Waterstone's and two senior members of the editorial team at Transworld Publishers. Deadline for submissions: 31 December 2010. For further details about the award, and full terms and conditions, see [www.terrypratchett.co.uk/news%5Ctermsandconditions.html](http://www.terrypratchett.co.uk/news%5Ctermsandconditions.html).

### Writers' retreat in Rabbie Burns' country

**13th-17th September 2010**

**Writing unlimited** is heading up over the border to Dumfries, to the heart of Rabbie Burns' country and the glorious setting of Friar's Carse Hotel, where Burns was inspired to write many of his well-known works.

This rather special retreat is for writers looking for the time and space to make progress with their writing. As writers themselves, they are more than happy to leave you alone to crack on with it, to wander in the grounds, walk by the river, take a trip into Dumfries and follow the tourist trail...

And in the evenings, you can meet up with fellow writers and talk shop over dinner and drinks.

Cost £380 per person in spacious, comfortable, single-occupancy, en suite rooms, plus all meals.

For further details please go to [www.writingunlimited.co.uk](http://www.writingunlimited.co.uk), email: [writingunlimited@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:writingunlimited@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 01204 389327/ 07866278671.

## **Welcome to the extraordinary - short film competition**

Raindance.tv and Intercasino have teamed up to present 'Welcome to the Extraordinary - Short Film Competition' - judged by Matthew Horne.

And when we say short, we mean short. Pack your most original, bold idea into 40 seconds, including credits for a chance to win a trip to the Cannes Film Festival.

Interested? More details available on the [website](#)

Want some competition? [Forward to a friend](#)

## **Pentabus: We are here play competition**

The award-winning Pentabus Theatre company invites playwrights from around the UK to submit a play for its 2012 season. Think you have an unproduced play that they might want to programme? Deadline for submissions: 29 October 2010. For submission guidelines, see [www.pentabus.co.uk/index.php/current-programme/we-are-here](http://www.pentabus.co.uk/index.php/current-programme/we-are-here).

## **An invitation to apply for accommodation at a writers' residence in the north of France in 2012**

**The Villa Marguerite Yourcenar**

**A crossroads of European cultural diversity**

Lying at the heart of the Mounts of Flanders on the Belgian border and 25 miles from Lille, the Villa Marguerite Yourcenar is a residence for European writers that is managed by the Conseil Général du Nord and offers authors from all over Europe accommodation for a period of one to two months for them to carry on or finish their manuscript on the verdant site of the former family property of Marguerite Yourcenar (1903-1987), which is now listed as **sensitive natural area**.

In order to be entitled to apply, you must live in Europe and/or have published at least one book at a European publishing house, except for publications at the author's expense. All literary genres are admitted: novel, poetry, theatre, essay, comics, youth-oriented literature, etc. Applicants are selected by an independent jury of specialists and personalities from the European literary sphere. Residence at the Villa Marguerite Yourcenar is accompanied with a 1,800 Euro monthly grant.

**For information and application forms, contact Françoise Bultez :**  
[fbultez1@cg59.fr](mailto:fbultez1@cg59.fr)

[www.cg59.fr](http://www.cg59.fr) [→ Villa Marguerite Yourcenar]

Application submission deadline : 31st January 2011

## What Members Are Getting Up To

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JESSE ARMSTRONG and SAM BAIN co-wrote the episode of *The Old Guys* going out on BBC1 at 9:30pm on Friday 16th July.

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COLIN BENNETT'S Book *Acting on Television*, a craft book for young actors, based upon his legendary courses at RADA, is available from book shops for £10, ISBN 978-1-905493-11-1, or on-line [www.actingontv.com](http://www.actingontv.com). It's very funny and cuts to the chase with most topics, from getting to know casting directors to learning lines. Some of it is quite tedious but if you need to know the facts then... get over it, grit your teeth and read!

\*\*\*

MARK BURT wrote the episode of *Coronation Street* going out on ITV1 at 7:30pm on Friday 16th July.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to DICK CURRAN, whose play *Islanders* is one of 10 chosen for this year's 24:7 festival in Manchester. An earlier version of the play had a rehearsed reading at Live Theatre but this is its first full-scale production. For more information, see [www.247theatrefestival.co.uk/showislanders.html](http://www.247theatrefestival.co.uk/showislanders.html).

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JULIE DIXON wrote the episode of *The Bill* "*The Calling*" going out on ITV1 at 9:00pm on Tuesday 13th July.

\*\*\*

JEFF DODDS wrote the episode of *Casualty* "*Going Solo*" going out on BBC1 at 8:25pm on Saturday 10th July.

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ROB GITTINS wrote the episode of *EastEnders* going out on BBC1 at 8:00pm on Monday 12th July.

\*\*\*

JESSICA LEA wrote the episode of *Hollyoaks* going out on C4 at 6:30pm on Friday 16th July.

\*\*\*

JAN McVERRY wrote the episodes of *Coronation Street* going out on ITV1 at 7:30pm and 8:30pm on Monday 12th July.

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HOWARD OVERMAN wrote the first episode in the new season of *Misfits* going out on C4 at 10:00pm on Saturday 10th July.

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JULIE PARSONS wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on ITV1 at 7:00pm on Monday 12th July.

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ANDREW PAYNE wrote the episode of *Midsomer Murders* "*The Dogleg Murders*" going out on ITV1 at 8:00pm on Wednesday 14th July.

\*\*\*

JOANNA TOYE wrote the episodes of *The Archers* going out on Radio 4 at 7:00pm from Sunday 11th till Friday 16th July. Each episode will be repeated at 2:00pm the day after its original broadcast.

\*\*\*

PETER WHALLEY wrote the episode of *Coronation Street* going out on ITV1 at 8:30pm on Friday 16th July.

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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. 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 2010.*