

2006 Playwrights

John Catron (THE NEAR LIFE WAX AND SMUDGE OF TRUE CLOWN LOVE) is a theater artist living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His written works have received staged readings and premiere performances at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center. Actors Theatre of Louisville and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, among others. John's most recent play, GIVE A MAN ENOUGH (GaME), premiered at the Minnesota Fringe Festival in 2005. He is currently collaborating with Live Action Set and the Spaghetti Western String Co. on their latest hybrid theater-dance-music work, THE PERCUSSIONIST, as part of the Walker Art Center's Momentum series of new dance works. John is a graduate of Grinnell College.

Jenice Gharib (THE DRESSING ROOM) is a writer of short stories, poetry, monologues and plays living in Santa Fe. During her time as a magazine editor, she published many articles and helped others write many more. She now works as the director of the Southwest Literary Center and has just completed her MFA in Creative Writing at Naropa University. THE DRESSING ROOM is her first play to be produced.

Aaron Jewell (RELAX) is an Original Works, Theatre student at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle where he will be receiving a BFA in may '07. His most recent focus has been performance art and collaboration pieces performed in the Seattle area. RELAX will be Aaron's first produced script.

E. Phillips (THE TEA PARTY) is originally from the bay area, she holds a BFA in acting from Cornish College of the Arts. Her plays include, THE WELL, DISABLED, WIDE OPEN AND RED, THE PENGUINS, ON AN ISLAND IN THE SOUND and GOD SAVE THE QUEEN. She was the 2006 joint recipient of the Corwin Award for best One Act Play, and the 2007 recipient of the Corwin award for best full-length play. She received a meritorious achievement award from the Kennedy Center for THE WELL. Erin holds a Masters degree in Dramatic Arts from The University of California at Santa Barbara. She is currently working on her MFA in Playwriting at the University of Texas at Austin.

Lori Romero (SURREAL ESTATE) Lori served as Artistic Director of Friends & Artists Theatre Ensemble in Los Angeles, and acted, produced and directed in other theatre venues in Colorado, New York and California (she performs under the stage name of "Lori Tirgrath"). The critically acclaimed, *The Running of the Grunions*, Lori's first full-length play, was produced at the Flight Theatre in Los Angeles, California. Her short play, *Surreal Estate*, was produced by the FUSION Theatre Company as part of their 10 Minute Play Festival: The Seven. Another short play, *Noon Whistle*, was presented at the Santa Fe Playhouse for their Back to the Bench: Bench Warmers V, and was published in the 2007 issue of *Sojourn: a journal of the arts*. *Girl Meets Boy* was a semi-finalist in The Actors Theatre of Louisville's Ten-Minute Play contest. Her screenplay, *Strange Saints*, won the Manhattan Short Film Festival's Scripts and Screenplay Competition. She is co-founder of the literary journal "Cezanne's Carrot"

(www.cezannescarrot.org). Carrot (www.cezannescarrot.org). In addition to her writing credits, she is also an actor under the professional stage name of Lori Tirgrath (SAG/AFTRA).

Adam Szymkowitz (FILM NOIR) just graduated from The Juilliard School's Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program. In 2004, he received his playwriting MFA from Columbia University where he was the Dean's Fellow. His work has been produced throughout the U.S., and in Canada, England, The Netherlands and Lithuania. His plays have been presented or developed at such places as Ars Nova, South Coast Rep, Playwrights Horizons, The Lark, Kitchen Dog, HotINK, Theatre of Note and Studio Dante among others. Plays include DEFLOWERING WALDO, OPEN MINDS, ANNE, THE ART MACHINE, PRETTY THEFT, FOOD FOR FISH, HERBIE, INCENDIARY, OLD FASHIONED COLD FUSION, BEE EATER, TEMPORARY EVERYTHING, SUSAN GETS SOME PLAY AND NERVE. Several of his plays have been published by Dramatists Play Service. Szymkowitz is a two-time Lecomte du Nouy Prize winner, a member of the Dramatists Guild, the MCC Playwright's Coalition and of the Ars Nova Play Group. For more, go to www.adamszymkowitz.com.

Mark Witteveen (FOR AND AGAINST) has written several plays, including RAISING PEACOCKS, GEORGE'S HOUSE, and THE AMERICAN BAR, in addition to a number of award-winning shorter works, including DRIVER'S TEST, a finalist for the 2007 Nantucket National Short Play Contest, LOVING PARENTS, Short listed for the 2007 Short & Sweet Festival, Melbourne, Australia and STATE CHAMPION, finalist, Actors Theatre of Louisville's 2004 Heideman Award. His plays have been seen throughout the country, and in New York at The Trilogy Theatre, Theatre Row Theatre and HomeGrown Theatre, among others. Readings include Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago and Geva Theatre Playwrights' Festival in Rochester, NY. Witteveen is the recipient of several grants and a Trisolini Fellowship from Ohio University. MFA in Playwriting- Ohio University. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild and lives in Rochester, NY.