



From Page to Stage - Take Part at Malvern Theatres

Introduction

'It was above and beyond what I expected to get out of it having never attended a playwriting course before. Steve gave us all a voice and the way he taught us brought us all together as we all had a chance to get to know one another. If there was an 11 out of 10 he would get it.'

Workshop Participant

The Workshops

The ten-week course was a follow up to our scriptwriting course that took place in the Autumn of 24. The course sold out very quickly which was great for us!

Twelve attendees joined us for the first five weeks, and we had a further six attendees for the second five-week batch.

The course was quite hands on with a lot of practical exercises and at times getting participants up 'on stage' to undertake tasks and to also work in pairs or small groups in writing exercises.

Each 90-minute workshop had a similar format.

- A quick round up on what the Group had seen during the week.
- A discussion on a video clip of a short play I had asked the Group to watch.
- A look at a particular playwriting subject such as dialogue, character etc.
- Setting a practical exercise for the Group to undertake.

In addition to this we had several one-off bespoke workshops. These were on Directing, One Person Plays and How to Get a Play Staged. These one-off workshops proved very popular, and I was especially impressed with how the Group responded to the Directing one.

All participants worked to the writing of a ten-twelve minute play. We gave detailed feedback to all participants and from the Group we put on seven plays.

The Showcase

The Showcase went beyond our expectations. All of the plays were of a high quality, and all were received so warmly by friends and family audience. We also had some actors who came to the event and they gave the evening a real sense of occasion. It was a great end to a great project.

Thank you to all those who attended the course and a massive thanks to Malvern Theatres for their continued support.

Quotes from the workshop attendees

'Really thoughtful, fun and engaging course'

'There was always plenty of opportunity to take part and comment and because the atmosphere was so constructive everyone did so'

'I've learned a lot more about structuring plays and key elements such as tension, jeopardy, dialogue, characterisation'

