

JACK HEIFNER

THEATRE

- CASSEROLE Presented in workshop in April, 1975 at Playwrights Horizons in New York City. World Premiere at STAGES in Houston, Texas during May, 1982.
- VANITIES Opened Off-Broadway at the Chelsea Westside Theatre on March 22, 1976 and closed August 2, 1980 after 1785 performances. It is one of the longest running plays in Off-Broadway history and has been produced by thousands of theatres around the world. VANITIES is published by Samuel French (acting edition) and The Literary Guild (hard cover edition). The play was made into a half-hour pilot for ABC television in May, 1977. The play was filmed by HBO before a live audience at The Westwood Playhouse in Los Angeles in October, 1980. The original production and those at major theatres (The Mark Taper Forum, ACT in San Francisco and others) were directed by Garland Wright.
- PATIO/PORCH Two one-act plays, opened in New York on Broadway at The Century Theatre in April, 1978. The two plays are published by Dramatists Play Service, are included in "The Best Short Plays of 1980" and "Texas Plays." Opened in London in 2010.
- MUSIC-HALL
SIDELIGHTS A theatrical scrapbook drawn from "L'envers due music-hall" by Colette. The play was an adaptation from her writings with the addition of original music. Presented by The Lion Theatre Company in New York for a limited engagement during October of 1978.
- STAR
TREATMENT in New York and played a limited engagement at The Lion Theatre Company in the spring of 1980.
- RUNNING ON
EMPTY A comedy presented at New Dramatists in New York during March of 1982. Another production, directed by the author, opened in Houston during January, 1986. Published by Dramatists Play Service.
- TORNADO A disaster comedy presented in a World Premiere Pro-

duction at The Texas Playwrights Festival in Houston during June of 1983.

- SMILE A musical about teenage beauty pageants based on a film by the same name. Presented in workshop in New York during August of 1983. Music by Marvin Hamlisch, Lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, Book by Jack Heifner. Directed by Graciela Danielle.
- TWISTER A one-act play presented at The West Bank Cafe in New York City in April, 1984. Produced, on a double bill with PORCH, at The Edinburgh Festival in 1986.
- TROPICAL
DEPRESSION A one-act play presented at The Texas Playwrights Festival in Houston, Texas at STAGES during June, 1984.
- NATURAL
DISASTERS World Premiere of an evening combining TWISTER and TROPICAL DEPRESSION, presented at The West Bank Cafe in New York during January, 1985. Published by Dramatists Play Service.
- LEADER OF
THE PACK A Broadway Musical: music and lyrics by Ellie Greenwich, additional material by Jack Heifner. Opened in New York during April, 1985. Published by Samuel French.
- BARGAINS A one-act play produced in Dallas at The Margo Jones Theatre during February, 1987. Published in "The Best Short Plays of 1988." A two-act version of the play had a World Premiere at The Old Globe Theatre in San Diego in March, 1992. Directed by Jack O'Brien. The New York Premiere took place in February, 1993 at Primary Stages. Published by Dramatists Play Service.
- AMERICAN
BEAUTY An original musical, with music by Michael Rice and scenes by Jack Heifner. Opened in Little Rock at The Arkansas Repertory Theatre in February, 1988. Published by Dramatic Publishing.
- BOYS' PLAY A one-act play presented in New York in May, 1989 at The West Bank Cafe. Opened in Little Rock in April, 1990. Los Angeles and San Francisco productions followed in 1992. Published by Dramatic Publishing.

- HOME FIRES Presented in staged readings at The Bigfork Performing Arts Center in Montana in May, 1990. World Premiere at the Arkansas Repertory Theatre in Little Rock during May, 1991. A 1996 Los Angeles production was nominated as Best Play by The Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle. Published by Dramatic Publishing.
- THERE SHE IS A collection of sketches about beauty contests developed in workshop during 1991 in Bigfork, Montana.
- HEARTBREAK A new comedy presented in Los Angeles in November, 1992. Winner of five Dramalogue Awards including Best Play. Productions followed in San Francisco in 1995 and in New York at The Lark Theatre Company in 1997. Published by Dramatic Publishing.
- SING BABY A musical set in the 1940's with book by Jack Heifner and SING music and lyrics by Don Jones. Opened in Little Rock at The Arkansas Repertory Theatre in September, 1993.
- THE LEMON A new play developed in workshop during May, 1993 in COOKIE Bigfork, Montana. Staged readings in New York and L.A. Presented at The Key West Theatre Festival, October, 1999.
- JUMP FOR JOY A new play developed in workshop during May, 1994 in Bigfork, Montana. Presented at The Key West Theatre Festival in October, 1998.
- COMFORT AND A new play presented at Portland Center Stage, Portland. JOY Oregon in December, 1995. A San Francisco production opened in November, 1997 and Richmond in 2010. Published by Dramatic Publishing.
- KEY WEST A new comedy presented at the New Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco in June, 1999. Other productions in Richmond and Houston followed.
- DWARF A new one-act presented at Ensemble Studio Theatre TOSSING in New York City in October, 1999 and the Phoenix New Play Festival in July, 2000.
- EARTH TO A new play presented in a staged reading at The BUCKY Playwrights Project, High Point, N.C. in February, 2001.

Presented in workshop at The Key West Theatre Festival in 2002. World Premiere at The Bay Street Theatre in Sag Harbor, New York in July, 2003

CHINA DOLLS A new play presented in a stage reading at the Phoenix New Play Festival in July, 2002. Presented in the Ensemble Studio Theatre Octoberfest in October, 2002.

LUCKY A new play presented at the Phoenix New Works Festival In 2004 and at Bay Street Theatre in Sag Harbor, New York In 2004.

SEDUCTION A new adaptation of LA RONDE, opening at The New Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco in January, 2004. Opened in London in 2004 and was presented at the New York Fringe Festival in 2005. Presented again in London in January 2011.

VANITIES – A
NEW MUSICAL A musical version of the play, opened in Palo Alto in 2006 at TheatreWorks and at The Pasadena Playhouse in 2008. Book by Jack Heifner, with music and lyrics by David Kirshenbaum. Opened off-Broadway at Second Stage Theatre in July 2009. Opened at ACT Theatre in Seattle in February 2011. Opens in London in September, 2016.

HATE MAIL A one-act play presented in London, Texas, Washington, and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2015.

BURY ME IN THIS A new play presented at the 2016 Festival of New American Plays in Nacogdoches, Texas.

FILM AND TELEVISION

VANITIES A television pilot for ABC (1977)
Play filmed for HBO (1980)

LOVELAND A television pilot for CBS (1979)

STEEL
MAGNOLIAS Episode of the TV series for CBS (1990)

THE GIRLS IN
PENTHOUSE ONE A television pilot for Ivan Reitman and Disney (1991)

STRAIGHT TALK Partial rewrite of the Dolly Parton film, Disney (1991)

DESIGNING Episode of the television series (1992)
WOMEN

BARGAINS A television pilot for CBS (1993)

MISS BIKINI A feature film (1994) Apple/Rose Films

WIDE PLACEA feature film (1994) Unproduced.
IN THE ROAD

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mr. Heifner has worked as an actor with The American Shakespeare Festival, in summer stock and in many off-off Broadway productions. He appeared on Broadway in OTHELLO with Moses Gunn. He was the director and contributing writer to the hit political revue, ISSUE? I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU for The Acting Company (1984-85.) He was co-Producer of the hit revue DAS LUSITANIA SONGSPIEL, written and performed by Sigourney Weaver and Christopher Durang (1980).

Member of The Writers Guild of America, The Dramatist Guild, Actors Equity Association and ASCAP. Past member of The New Dramatists (7 year maximum term). Former member of the Advisory Boards of The Gathering at Bigfork (an annual conference for writers, actors and directors in Bigfork, Montana) and STAGES Repertory Theater in Houston, Texas. Elected to the Texas Institute of Letters in 2001. Elected to the Texas Playwrights Hall of Fame in 2014. Mentor for The Young Playwrights Festival in Los Angeles from 1991 to 1997.

Mr. Heifner is currently Playwright in Residence at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. (Full time position for one semester each academic year since 1997.) He is the director and founder of the Festival of New American Plays, a series of staged readings featuring work by prominent American playwrights. At the university he has also directed THE SEAGULL, THE MEMBER OF THE WEDDING, HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING, STAGE DOOR and THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST. He will direct THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH in 2017.

Education: BFA, Southern Methodist University, Dallas.

Advanced Studies in Screen and Television Writing at The Columbia Pictures Writers Workshop.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

VANITIES	Samuel French, Inc. (Acting Edition) New York, 1976
VANITIES	Nelson Doubleday, Inc. (Hard cover Edition) Garden City, New York, 1977
PATIO/PORCH	Dramatists Play Service, Inc. (Acting Edition) New York, 1978
PATIO/PORCH	"The Best Short Plays of 1980" (Anthology) Chilton Book Company, Radnor, Pennsylvania, 1980
PATIO/PORCH	"Contemporary Scenes for Student Actors" (Anthology) Penquin Books, New York, 1980
NATURAL DISASTERS	Dramatists Play Service, Inc. (Acting Edition) New York 1985
SHORT PIECES FROM THE NEW DRAMATISTS	Broadway Play Publishing, Inc. (Anthology) New York 1985. Two pieces: "The Pollster" and "Brilliants."
RUNNING ON EMPTY	Dramatists Play Service, Inc. (Acting Edition) New York, 1987
LEADER OF THE PACK	Samuel French, Inc. (Musical) New York, 1987
BARGAINS	"The Best Short Plays of 1988" (Anthology) Applause Theatre Books, New York, 1988. (Hard cover and paperback editions.)
PATIO/PORCH	"Texas Plays" (Anthology) Southern Methodist University Press, Dallas, 1990. (Hard cover and paperback editions.)
BARGAINS	Dramatists Play Service, Inc. (Acting Edition) New York, 1992.
BRILLIANTS	"Playing Contemporary Scenes" (Anthology) Meriwether

Publishing, Colorado Springs, 1996.

BOYS' PLAY Dramatic Publishing Company (Acting Edition) 1999.

COMFORT & JOY Dramatic Publishing Company (Acting Edition) 1999.

HEARTBREAK Dramatic Publishing Company (Acting Edition) 1999.

HOME FIRES Dramatic Publishing Company (Acting Edition) 1999.

AMERICAN
BEAUTY Dramatic Publishing Company (Acting Edition) 1999.

VANITIES (Musical Version) Samuel French, Inc, New York, 2016.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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JACK HEIFNER - SHORT BIO

Jack Heifner is best known for his play VANITIES, which ran for five years in New York and became of the longest running plays in off-Broadway history. The musical version of the play opened off-Broadway in 2009. His is also the author of PATIO/PORCH, NATURAL DISASTERS, RUNNING ON EMPTY, BARGAINS, JUMPING FOR JOY, BOYS' PLAY, HOME FIRES, HEARTBREAK, COMFORT AND JOY, THE LEMON COOKIE, DWARF TOSSING and other plays produced in New York, Los Angeles and theatres around the country. Mr. Heifner has written the book to six musicals, including LEADER OF THE PACK on Broadway and the musical version of VANITIES. He has also written for television and film. Mr. Heifner was born in Corsicana, Texas and lives in New York City. He is currently playwright in residence at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, where he teaches play, screen and television writing one semester each academic year.