

The Max Afford Playwrights' Award



2008 Judges' Report

The Max Afford Playwrights' Award 2008 was won by **Jonathan Ari Lander** for his play, ***Revolution***. Commenting on the play, the Judging Panel referred to the play's uniqueness, its ambition and fierce intelligence.

With a compelling and original voice, *Revolution* offers a disturbing vision of Australia in the not-too-distant future. Taking relevant and contemporary socio-political issues, Lander has created a clear, suspenseful and epic narrative, populated by vivid and beautifully-drawn characters. Furthermore, the playwright has effectively challenged the audience to consider its own moral position, without passing judgement.

Highly Commended

***Marrickville Stories* by Tessa Lunney**

Lunney has used an innovative form to examine a group of characters that are both recognisable and real. Almost a chamber piece, this is a lyrical, poetic portrait of a community and eminently theatrical. *Marrickville Stories* has strong, resonant emotional worlds that will draw an audience in to the engaging tapestry of life set in one of Sydney's most interesting and diverse suburbs.

***The Last of the Vanderbilts* by Tony O'Donoghue**

The Last of the Vanderbilts is a well-crafted and highly-polished play that is both accessible and recognisable to contemporary audiences. With flair and humour, O'Donoghue has created a gripping and exciting story populated by rapacious, yet utterly engaging rogues of the highest order. Highly commended.

Judging Panel 2008

Brett Adams

Nick Marchand

Francesca Smith

Proudly sponsored by



Organiser



Trustee for the Award

