

Luke Yankee

Writer

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Published Works:

“Just Outside the Spotlight: Growing Up with Eileen Heckart”

(Backstage Books, 2006) *Foreword by Mary Tyler Moore; Memoir about the golden age of Broadway & Hollywood and growing up as the son of Oscar, Emmy and Tony winning actress, Eileen Heckart.*

“One of the most compassionate and illuminating showbiz books ever written.”
(Michael Musto, *The Village Voice*)

“A Place At Forest Lawn”

(Dramatists Play Service, 2007) Co-written with James Bontempo; *Play about a cantankerous old woman and her relationship with her lifelong best friend & her son and how she must come to terms with both of them before she dies. Winner, 2005 New Noises Award for Drama; produced at several regional theaters.*

“Yankee and Bontempo cleverly interweave a slew of issues around death and dying with a cohesive dramatic arc between mother, son and best friend, producing a tapestry in which forgiveness brings a final peace.” (*Variety*)

Unpublished Plays:

“The Jesus Hickey”

(2009) *Full-length play about religious fanaticism and the nature of celebrity. Winner of the TRU Voices Award & Joel & Phyllis Ehrlich Award, given for “a socially relevant, commercially viable new work of theatre.” Winner of New Works Festivals at The Phoenix Theatre and Long Beach Playhouse. First full production produced at Skylight Theatre (Los Angeles) starring Harry Hamlin.*

“A masterpiece that’s the equivalent of the great, recent, Irish plays by Martin McDonagh and Brian Friel. So great and piercing is its satire that it could easily be termed a contemporary classic.” (*Backstage West*)

“Diva Dish!”

(2004) *One-man show about the golden age of Broadway and Hollywood. Produced on tour across the country and abroad.*

“Touching, hilarious and completely enthralling! You’ll want to hear the stories again and again!” (*Rex Reed*)

Unproduced Screenplays:

“The Things I Never Said”

(2008) *Screen adaptation of award-winning play, “A Place at Forest Lawn.”
(Co-written with James Bontempo).*

“The Jesus Hickey”

(2008) *Screen adaptation of award-winning play with a darker edge. Currently under consideration by several production companies.*

Television Spec Scripts:

One Hour Format:

**** Brothers & Sisters: “Alabaster Shards”**

(2008) *Justin reveres his new sponsor in AA...who happens to be a doctor who procures free drugs and gets him using again.*

**** First Place Winner – Scriptapalooza TV – Best Original Hour Long Script**

Pushing Daisies: “Say Cheese”

(2008) *A murder most foul becomes even more so when they try to pin the rap on Charlotte’s aunt for serving up poisonous cheese.*

Original Pilot:

“The Star Maker”

(2009) *Hour long television pilot about the dark underbelly of gay Hollywood in the late 1950’s featuring a nefarious, closeted agent who will stop at nothing to advance his clients. Finalist in NexTV Pilot competition.*

Published Articles:

Various articles on theatre: BroadwayWorld.com, Theatremania.com, NotesFromHollywood.com, [New Canaan Advertiser](http://NewCanaanAdvertiser.com), [Long Beach Blade](http://LongBeachBlade.com).

Related:

Advisory Board & panelist for William Inge Playwrights Center since 1996. Presented workshops and served on panels with: Stephen Sondheim, A.R. Gurney, Terrence McNally, John Guare, Tina Howe, John Kander, Christopher Durang, Theresa Rebeck, Joe Di Pietro, Sheldon Harnick, Adam Bock, Arthur Laurents, David Ives & Neil Simon.

Member of The Dramatists Guild and Los Angeles Writers Collective.

WRITING SAMPLES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST