Mary Donnet Johnson

(she/her/hers) Playwright

Member: DGA, Playwright's Center, NPX, TCG, AEA, SAG/AFTRA

EDUCATION

Kenyon College — Playwright's Conference (2016)
Sarah Lawrence College — Bachelor of Arts

HONORS / AWARDS

2026 Participant in Sewanee Writers' Conference, with Lauren Yee and Anne Washburn
2026 Winner: International Bradford Gromelski Jury Award and voted Audience Favorite, Fusion Theatre Company, Albuquerque, NM, ***(The Sound of Light)***
2025 Writing Fellowship at Virginia Center for the Creative Arts
2024 Grant in support of environmental theatre piece, the Puffin Foundation, Teaneck, NJ ***(The Cord)***
2024 Winner: Stethoscope Stage Festival, Fort Worth, TX ***(Kamaya monologue from Shanktown)***
2024 Second Place: Spectacular Tournament of Playwrights, Three Oaks, MI
(Are You Really Seeing Me Right Now?)
2023 Winner: Mississippi University for Women TN Williams Festival
(Love is Alive in the Old Folks Home)
2023 Semi-finalist: Risk Theatre Modern Tragedy Playwriting Competition ***(Bend)***
2021 Semi-finalist: American Shakespeare Center Shakespeare's New Contemporaries contest ***(Bend)***
2020 Winner: Playhouse on the Square, Memphis, TN, New Works Festival ***(Shanktown)***
2016 Finalist: Kentucky Women Writer's Conference judged by Martyna Majok ***(Sin Cycle)***
2014 Semi-finalist: Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwright's Conference ***(Twinkle)***

SELECTED PLAYS – FULL LENGTH PRODUCTIONS AND READINGS

Shanktown (World Premiere July 8-24, 2022, Playhouse on the Square, Memphis, TN)
Party of Twelve (Commission, April 8-10, 2022, Washington Theater, Murfreesboro TN)
To Know You (Maryville College Bicentennial Commission, November 1-2, 2019, Clayton Center for the Arts, Maryville TN)
Divine (Staged reading, Actor's Bridge Ensemble, Nashville, TN, 2018)
Circular Emotion (Staged reading, Tennessee Women's Theater Project/Women's Work Festival 2018)
Gandhi Has Fun (Workshop readings, Centennial Black Box, Nashville Story Garden, Nashville, TN 2017)
Passage (Darkhorse Theater, Nashville Sideshow Fringe, Nashville, TN/2016)

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SELECTED PLAYS – SHORT / ONE ACT PRODUCTIONS AND READINGS

The Sound of Light (Production, Fusion Theatre Company, Albuquerque, NM, Winner of the 2026 International Bradford Gromelski Jury Award and voted Audience Favorite)
A Rare Find (Production, Royal Stage Theatre, Citrus Heights, CA, SacTown Play Festival 2025)
Love is Alive in the Old Folks Home (Staged reading, Mississippi U. for Women, Columbus, MS/10:4:Tenn festival 2023)
Last Rights (Production at the Cordelle, Nashville, TN/She/Her/Hers 2018)
Wrath (Staged reading, Darkhorse Theater, Nashville, TN/10-minute playground 2017)

SCREEN

'Twas the Night (Screenplay, Nashville Rep's Virtual Holiday Extravaganza 2020)
Give Me a Work: the George Liele Story (documentary film 2023)

PUBLICATION

Kamaya Monologue from Shanktown (HuMed Journal 2024)
Love is Alive in the Old Folks Home (Ponder Review, spring of 2024)
Kamaya monologue from Shanktown (Smith and Kraus' Best Women's Stage Monologues of 2023)
Mirror Me (Ponder Review, fall of 2020)
A Rare Find *(Qu Literary Magazine, summer 2025)*