

Drama Stuff # 32 Snowy August 2011

At last!



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Other Stuff

New Shorts 15-minute plays competition is closed

Well, this year we have 34 entries – a record! Yay!

The competition used to be called *Student Shorts* but is now called *New Shorts* because we have entries from a number of non-student writers who attended the two really successful Playmarket/RNZ Drama writing workshops in Wellington and Auckland.

So, what happens now is all the scripts are 'anonymised' so the assessors have no idea who wrote which script. This is called 'blind assessment' - a ridiculous term when you have to read scripts (unless they're in Braille), or ridiculous because it could give the impression the assessors are blindfolded then choose the winners by sticking pins into something – a list of names? But of course what really happens is the four assessors actually read all the anonymised scripts and a huge fight ensues until a

decision is made on the winning six scripts. It's then everyone discovers who wrote what. Very exciting!

The assessment process will take up to three weeks or so and then the winners will be notified.

The RNZ Drama/Toi Whakaari Audio Drama Project

The recording week at Toi Whakaari went off almost without a hitch and we learned lots about how to do it even better next time.

Four professional writers were commissioned to write the scripts to suit the cast (the opposite to what usually happens and a bit of a challenge). So it's huge thanks to Rebecca Barnes, Martha Hardy-Ward, Gavin McGibbon and April Phillips.

And what a great cast of graduating year actors. Brilliant work from (in no particular order) Lily, Ana, Sophie, Chris, Leon, Te Rina, Catherine, Hayley B, Phoebe, Victoria, Emma, Adrian, Leroy, Tawanda, Elliot and Hayley S.

The four short plays from Toi Whakaari will feature, along with the *2011 Go Solo* pieces and the six winning plays from *New Shorts 201*, in the first season of new drama, *The Newest of the New* next year.

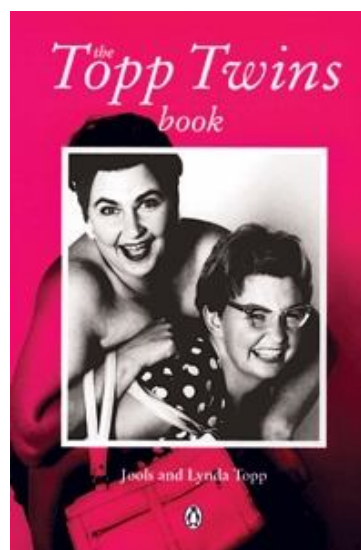
The Topp Twins online! What a hoot!

RNZ drama is pleased (just a bit!) to announce that you can listen to the fabulous Topp Twins online. So, check out the link below for Jools and Lynda reading their own story, *The Topp Twins Book*— and there's lots of their music in it too!

Listen online

www.radionz.co.nz/national/drama/book_readings/topptwins

And of course there're lots of other things to listen to on the RNZ Drama page, so shop around! It's all free!



DRAMASTUFF August 2011

Info and comments: dramainfo@radionz.co.nz

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