

Reviews of Past Work by Dan Bray

Knight of the Bat 2: the Act of Assemblers

“Bray writes with a manic pace, delicious word-jam and comic brilliance.”

- *Elissa Barnard, NS Reviews*

“Dan Bray has been writing plays that meld Shakespeare’s language with our own contemporary speak for years and his command of this very specific skillset is clear. He also knows how to mine every nook and cranny of his ideas for fun, silliness, and laughs. All of this is on playful display in *Knight of the Bat 2*.”

- *Amanda Campbell, The Way I See It Theatre Blog*

Rain on the Parade

“Villains has tended to focus its bright and shining light on old works, but with a squinty stink-eye. Nothing touched by Villains’ Dan Bray and Colleen MacIsaac disappoints. And nor did this. [...] Dan Bray does a doubly outstanding job as Elsworth [...] and as Gorman Roach the playwright. [...] It is yet another one of Villains Theatre’s perplexing yet unmissable productions.”

- *Alex Handyside, Wayve’s Magazine*

“Bray is a standout as the wizened, sinister, subterranean thespian Gorman Roach who applauds his own “Brechtian-ish” style of theatre in a great, half-spoken, half-sung song.”

- *Elissa Barnard, NS Theatre Reviews*

Knight of the Bat

“Fun, silly, over the top, and unabashedly just a good time at the theatre... a laugh-a-minute riot. [...] It’s for the superhero fans, but also the people who love theatre and Shakespeare [...] Just a really fun time.” - *Jonathan Greenway, Artistic Director, Western Edge Theatre*

Knight of the Bat & International Waters

“I’m still in the afterglow of *Knight of the Bat* and *International Waters*. Both were absolutely superb. My face hurt from smiling 5 minutes into *KotB*. [...] Everyone in the cast was beyond excellent and the script was delicious. *International Waters* was equally compelling and funny and I still can’t get over that magic reveal at the end. I love theatrical magic tricks and it absolutely delivered.” - *Simon Rainville, professional theatre artist*

Dinostories: 3 Prehistoric Fairy Tales

“This was the perfect way to start my last day of the Fringe. It is a children’s show but as we left it was the adults who continued to sing the songs and quote their favourite lines. Dan & Noella work so well together to create a world of wonder and possibility, and I left feeling a little more confident to celebrate strange interests. Their ability to craft just about any lesson into a song is

admirable and it was so much fun to watch the children around me watch simple props morph into magical creatures. I am still asking myself if I want to purchase the soundtrack, despite having no children in my life to share it with. I hope that this is only the first of many more kids shows from them!” - *April Hubbard, professional theatre artist & accessibility consultant*

Shakespeare’s Time Machine

“Clever and uproarious, *Shakespeare’s Time Machine* is an amazing meld of Shakespearean and more modern times [...] The one-liners, word-play and references go by so fast it’s hard to keep up with Bray’s pen [...] The tremendous energy and stamina and comic awareness that Bray brings to the character of Shakespeare is impressive. [...] A] mad, manic vision with a fast pace and furious energy.” - *Elissa Bernard, NS Reviews*

Hänsel und Gretel in: der Garten von Edible Horrors: a Terrible Parable

“Dan Bray is back in town with his unique, twisted vision in a crazy, captivating, convention-crushing Hansel and Gretel ... The energy is manic... This has to be seen to be believed.” - *Elissa Bernard, NS Reviews*

Zomblet

“Irreverent, funny and far cleverer than it has any right to be, The Villains Theatre and Terra Novella Theatre’s production of *Zomblet* answers the rarely asked question, “what if instead of pantomimes at Christmas, they came at Halloween?” Playwright Dan Bray mixes *Hamlet*, *Faust* and *The Walking Dead* to dizzying results in this two-hour opus.” -*Ryan Williams, Halifax Presents*

“It is difficult enough to pastiche the works of William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe in a way that is both witty and smart, but with *Zomblet* Dan Bray does both, while simultaneously creating a brand new play that functions both in reference to *Hamlet* and *Dr. Faustus*, and also as a stand-alone piece in its own right...If you like your Halloween horror served with a heavy side of hilarity, and especially if you are a fan of Shakespeare and/or Marlowe being served up fresh and irreverent, I absolutely recommend *Zomblet*. It is playful, joyous, smart and perfectly timed to coincide with Halloween.”

-*Amanda Campbell, The Way I See It Theatre Blog*

Herbie Dragons

“The characters that Hartford and Bray have created here are very compelling, and the arc of the story has unexpected twists, and lots of silliness entirely for silliness’ sake. ... I eagerly await six sequels. Don’t make me wait two years, please.” -*Amanda Campbell, The Way I See It Theatre Blog*

Return to Baker Street

“Halifax theatre darlings Dan Bray and Jacob Sampson have created a comedy spoof of the Sherlock Holmes story, with Bray as a bumbling, drug-addicted Holmes [...] *The Return to Baker Street* was a huge Fringe hit.” -*Michael Lake, The Coast*

Criminal Negligee

“Dan Bray’s original sex farce *Criminal Negligee* is a beautifully satisfying, hilarious romp [...] Bray’s dialogue is brisk and literary [...] a great little gem.”

-Amanda Campbell, *The Way I See It Theatre Blog*

“Outstanding! [...] Clever wordplay and puns that are actually funny (Yes, there is such a thing).”

-Kate Watson, *The Coast*