

Best Plays

This is a probably a ridiculous exercise. Perhaps some hints at changing theatrical fashions. Perhaps some hints at what moved(s) me and how that has changed.

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I found an early list form about 1980?

NYC

Poor Murderer - Pavel Kahout - I cried. About actors losing their identity because they play so many part they lose track of who they are. NYC - 77

Whores of Babylon - Ridiculous Theater Co. - 1968 - first show I saw with unconventional seating and wild staging. Magical

I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on The Road - Public - About women braking free. As I thought I was doing at the time. 1979 ??

That's How the Rent Gets Paid - Jeff Weiss - high energy Gay monologue - so blown away I couldn't get out of my seat - 1979

Wolkenstein Bread and Puppet Theatre - in St Johns Cath - banners, large puppets - spectacular

Kennedy's Children - Robert Patrick - four unrelated interlaced monologues - saw it in Toronto and NYC in a bar - great synopsis of the era

Toronto

Fortune and Men's Eyes - John Herbert - ended up in an easy chair in very front row - actors almost falling over me - a prison gay play - very moving for a closet man - approx. - 1975

Farm Show - I saw the opening night of this TPM production - the farmers from Blythe who were portrayed were in the theatre - Great 'populist theatre.'

Zastrotzi - George Walker - I've seen this several times - I suspect the first time is the early 80s. Struck me as great writing. I've said

since it's the best play written by a Canadian.

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I found the following names on another list of 'plays of note'. The list looks old.

Cloud Nine - Carol Churchill's great play -

Andy Warhol's Lost Love - memorable staging - audience in a store front
and the performance taking place in the street through a window
Squatt Theater

The Real Inspector Hound Tom Stoppard - probably in London in 1968

Keane - about the great actor

The 5th of July - Lanford Wilson - Circle Rep -

Cowboy Mouth - Sam Shepard

Elephant Man

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The following were on the list and I remember nothing about them.

D-Generation

Theater for the Forgotten

Tale of Vision

Awake and Sing - Odett -

The Bandit Princess Time and Space Theater

Say Goodnight Gracie

A Sleepless Night With an Honest Man - Lee Schneeder

Emma Mae Person - The First Colored

Woman To Appear on Air James Edward Shannon

Pig Child Fire

Zoot Suit

Getting Out Marsha Norman

*Daniel And Sarah and the End
Of the World* - Barking Rooster Theater

Haunted Host Robert Patrick

Prisoner of Love Richard Hall

Miss Stanwick is Still in Hiding

Such Tunes as Killed the Cow

Different Ends of the Rainbow Welldiggers

Warriors from a Long Childhood

Artaud

Moonchildren
Loose Ends Michael Weller

LoneStar
Pvt Wars James McClure

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What would be a list of 'great shows' from the 90's and 2000s?

I think I'm more impressed with spectacle and great performance feats.

Still admire difficult story well told. I'm harder to impress because my standards of narrative are higher.

Hamlet as Monologue - at TPM Backspace by Raul Bhaneja

Mercy Killer Actors Studio monologue - NYC 2014

Hand to God - NYC - 2015

Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf - NYC 2014

On the Town - NYC 2015

Concert Version *Sweeney Todd*

Romance Mamet

Brand New Ancients Kate Tempest

A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder
NYC 2014

The Glass Menagerie NYC 2014

Burnt By the Sun National Theatre

Assassins

This House National Theatre

Moll Flanders - Globe Theatre, London (2015)