

Celebrating Australian Playwriting



Australian Script Centre



The Easter Man

by Brett Heath

EXTRACT

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THE EASTER MAN

SETTING:

A dingy cell containing an old metal chair that is leaning on two of its legs up against stage left wall.

BLACKOUT.

Start ATMOS tape - a hollow mechanical drone. It runs for the whole show as low bedding SFX.

SFX 1 - Metal door closing.

The EASTER MAN rushes on stage, as if pushed on, dressed in a straightjacket.

He starts his first outburst towards the door from where he entered.

EASTER MAN: I'm going to peel the skin off your face and then shove it up your fucking arseholes you pair of septicaemic Paddlepop suckers.

SILENCE

(He pants, looks around.)

Use following dialogue to move from door, around space, marking out space.

EASTER MAN: 1 2 3 4 5 once I caught a fish alive, 6 7 8 9 10, then I let him go again, why did you let him go? Cause he bit my finger. So, which finger did he bite? This little finger on my left...left, left right left right left. Attention. Present arms.

He stands defiantly with his folded arms in front, looking towards the door. The door wash fades out as a backlight fades up over him. His arms gradually lower. He stands there, alone, he sways slightly. He then falls to his left and onto the wall. He ends up upstage left, next to a hanging green fluro. Fluro turns on. He starts dialogue.

EASTER MAN: Well, well...I fooled 'em. I fooled 'em again. And I'll keep on fooling them until I'm finished ...in here. Well, don't want to go blowing my

EASTER MAN: cover now do I, not when I'm at this point in my research. Yes, research. That's why I'm here. Undercover work. Oh Jesus, don't let this