

Ian Fraser

# THE EXCERPT IS BELOW THIS RESUME

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## Theater Plays Staged.

### In USA

*'CAT AND GOD'*

(published by One Act Play Depot, Canada)

*'Yours Till the Cows Come Home'*

staged reading, Fusion Theatre, NM

### ***Dogs of the Blue Gods***

To be staged by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Theatre, WI, **2008**).

Staged by the First Banana Theater Company, Madison, WI, 1998.

Staged by the Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa, WI, 1999. (Won First place at the Wisconsin State AACTFest).

*Blitzbrecker and the Chicken From Hell*

Staged by the First Banana Theater Company, Madison, WI, 1998.

### In South Africa

***The Accidental Antichrist***

(Special FNB-Vita Award for 'Most Outstanding New Production.'

Nominated for FNB-Vita Award for 'Playwright of the Year.' South Africa, 1994).

***The Sugar Plum Fairy***

(Pick of the Fringe Award Grahamstown Arts Festival. South Africa, 1993).

***Sleeping Chickens*** (South Africa, 1993).

***Heart Like a Stomach***

(Winner of the Amstel Playwright of the Year Award. South Africa, 1992).

***Butterfly Jam***

(Amstel Playwright of the Year nomination. South Africa, 1991).

***Like the Pyramid on the Camel Packet***

(Officially staged by the Performing Arts Council Transvaal. South Africa, 1991).

***The Gospel According to the Mafia***

(Pick of the Fringe Award Grahamstown Arts Festival. South Africa, 1991).

***Blitzbreker and the Chicken from Hell***

(Officially staged by the Cape Performing Arts Council. Amstel Playwright of the Year nomination. Pick of the Fringe Award Grahamstown Arts Festival, South Africa, 1990).

***Dogs of the Blue Gods***

(Tonight AA Life Vita Award for Comedy. South Africa, 1990).

(Staged by the First Banana Theater Company, Madison, WI, 1998.  
The Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa, WI, 1999. (Won first place at the Wisconsin State AACTFest).  
To be staged by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Theatre, WI, 2008).

***Charles Manson***

(Amstel Playwright of the Year nomination. South Africa, 1989).

***Lenny Bruce Live***

(Best Cabaret 1988, The Argus newspaper. South Africa, 1988).

***Bring Me Gandhi*** (South Africa, 1987).

**Publications**

***My Own Private Orchestra***, Penguin Books 1993.

(Nominated for 'CNA Literary Awards,' Debut section, 1994)

**Journalism**

***The Star***, Johannesburg, South Africa. 1994 –2002  
Internet technology columnist.

***Mail & Guardian***, Johannesburg, South Africa 2002-2006  
Columnist, "Fraser's Razor."

**Voice Work**

South African Broadcasting Corporation/TV 2 2004 – 2006  
Johannesburg, South Africa.  
Contracted voice talent for on-air announcements and movie promos.

**Voice Work**

Products & Campaigns Worked On: KFC, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Visa, Pizza Hut, Schick Razors, Red Bull, Agfa, Pringles, Kellogg's, EMI, Sealy Posteurpedic, South African Airways, Greyhound Bus, Nu Metro Film Distributors, Ster Kinekor Film Distributors, FinWeek Magazine, UIP-Warner, MNET TV, Tusk Music, Southern Sun Hotels, DSTV Multichoice, Pedigree Dog Food, Nedbank, Engen, CAN, Yokohama, assorted Ads-Up TV, Tiger Wheel and Tyre, Independent Newspaper Company, MNET Sound Check, Bruma Flea Market, Volkskas Bank, 'Green Machine,' Pampers, Castle Lager, PG Glass, MNET Multichoice, Standard Bank, Sun International, Financial Mail, Zappa Sambucca, Berocca Calcium, First Bowring Insurance, , Out There Magazine, Ithuba

DOGS OF THE BLUE GODS

by Ian Fraser

AWARDS

The 'Tonight-AA Life Vita Award For Comedy' . South Africa.  
Pick of the Fringe award, Grahamstown Arts Festival. South Africa.  
First Place in the 1999 Wisconsin State AACTFest. USA.

CHARACTERS

RALPH.....An older dog, and father of Rover.

ROVER-----A young dog. Painfully willing to follow orders.

FANG-----An older dog. Insomniac and depressed.

REX                   An older 'civilian' house-dog.

SET

A bare stage, save for a water bowl to one side. The DOGS pad to it at times.

SYNOPSIS

*The story takes place in a police dog training facility. The characters themselves are dogs - played by actors padding around on all fours, quite naturally. The story unfolds as we discover the quiet group dynamics of a bunch of very jaundiced, somewhat depressed dogs, beginning to wonder what their purpose is in life.*

*Rex is a new arrival in the facility - a domestic street dog - with very alien ideas to the more militarized thinking of the pack. His arrival brings out the long simmering and unacknowledged tensions in the kennel.*

*The warring concepts of Pacifism versus Patriotism are played out - but on a 'dog' level. The piece has been performed in South Africa, both by adults, and by school children - in a variety of different theatrical stagings.*

*Another layer is added, by having the dogs regard humans as 'Gods' and themselves as 'people'. Thus 'white' Gods, 'black' Gods, and the police of the title - the 'Blue' Gods.*

LIGHTS UP

We see the three dogs lying on top of each other. They are Fang, Ralph, and Rover. They each snore at different pitches. They are played by actors with no masks or 'doglike' additions. They just are actors, on all fours, naturally, as we'll see.

After a minute of this we hear:

FX COCK CROWING-

which wakes Fang, who extricates himself from the pile of sleepers. the actor playing the character (like all the others) moves about on all fours, quite naturally. He pads off to one side and - as the audience realize he is a dog - he glares upwards as the FX repeats-

FX COCK CROWING-

Fang  
HEY SHUT UP! SHUT UP!

He glares a moment longer, then turns and pads back to the group. he pauses and stretches. Ralph lifts his head up and yawns, then speaks:

Ralph  
You're up early-

Fang  
I'm always up early, can't sleep  
Ralph, no matter what I do, just  
can't sleep-

Ralph  
You been thinking too much-

Fang  
Yeah an maybe you got flea's-

Ralph  
Okay, be like that then-

Fang  
Agh- I'm- oh I dunno..

Ralph

You haven't woken up yet  
an you're already depressed-  
don't be so indulgent.

Fang (yawning)  
Ah you know what I mean-

Ralph  
Yeah yeah, just keep it  
down - Rover's still  
sleeping, an you know  
what he's like-

Fang  
His head's in the clouds -  
you should put him straight-

they each pad casually over to opposite ends of the stage and cock their legs as  
they speak-

Ralph  
He's my boy - he doesn't  
necessarily think like I  
does but - hm - I recognise  
the puppy I used to be-

Fang  
Oh bollocks Ralph- come on,  
we grew up in the same puppy  
farm, you were never like him-

Ralph  
You wanna pick a fight this early-

Fang  
No-

Ralph  
Good-

there is a pause as each of the two begin to groom themselves  
and stretch and generally tart up for the days activities-

Fang  
But I'm getting tired of biting-

Ralph  
That's what you always say-

Fang  
I mean it's stupid-

Ralph  
You always say that too-

Fang  
Why pick on me. The kids asleep, you don't have to  
-to pretend you're superdog-

Ralph  
Coz every morning you  
say the same thing! look Fang,  
accept the fact that we're  
here to stay, dog-

Fang  
Never-

Ralph  
We are!

WE HEAR A LOUD FARTING SOUND FROM THE SLEEPING Rover-

Fang  
This is going to be one of those days.

Rover (WAKING UP)  
Ungh-

Fang  
Hmmm..

Ralph (TO HIM)  
Shhh-

Rover  
MORNING!

Ralph  
Hi kid!

Rover  
There's gonna be action today,  
can smell it!

Ralph (ENTHUSIASTIC)  
Great!

Fang  
Great-

Rover (STRETCHING)  
Y-E-A-H-

Fang  
Keep the noise down a bit will you-

Rover  
Down? That was nothing! You want noise, try this!!!-  
(Yells) MORNING WORLD!!

Fang  
Thanks a lot-

Rover  
(TO Ralph) What's wrong with him?  
(TO Fang) What's wrong with you?

Fang  
Don't you ever get tired of shouting?

Rover (SHOUTING)  
NEVER!

Fang  
Oh – okay – dumb question I guess-

Rover  
If my god tells me to bite, I'll bite -  
if he says shout, I'll shout!

Ralph  
That's my boy-

Fang  
-And you approve-

Ralph (SHRUGS)  
He's my boy.

Fang  
Oh the hell with it-

HE PADS OFF TO ONE SIDE, Ralph AND Rover LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND SHRUG. THE LIGHTING SLOWLY BEGINS TO BRIGHTEN, AND Ralph AND Rover PAD OVER TO A SUITABLE SPOT, TALKING AS THEY DO-

Ralph  
Doing alright?

Rover  
Great – how're the balls?

Ralph  
Oh – er – better, better.  
Wait til you get to my age, start losing steam-

Rover  
It'll never happen-

Ralph  
You wait an see, I used to be able to  
chase black gods for miles and miles-

THEY STARE UP AT THE SUN, SQUINTING AS THEY "BARK"

Ralph  
GOOD MORNING WORLD!!

Rover  
GOOD MORNING WORLD!!

Fang  
BOLLOCKS!

Ralph  
HELLO TO EVERYTHING-

Rover  
HELLO TO EVERYTHING-

WE HEAR A LOUD VOICE OFFSTAGE, SHOUT-

VOICE  
HEY YOU ANIMALS THERE!!!  
SHUT UP!!

ALL THREE CRINGE AT THE VOICE.  
Ralph PLUCKS UP THE COURAGE TO SAY-

Ralph  
GOOD MORNING!

VOICE  
SHUT UP!!



Ralph STARES MEANINGFULLY FOR A MOMENT, THEN PADS OVER TO WHERE Rover IS LYING ON HIS BACK, PAWS IN THE AIR, ENJOYING THE SUNSHINE-

Ralph  
Hmph! There's nothing  
worse than a rude god-

Rover (with largesse)  
Ah he's just doing what he has to do-