

## John Romeril

John Romeril graduated BA Hons from Monash University in the early 1970s. His interest in drama was whetted by his studies, and by developments at La Mama in Carlton. Accordingly he became a founding member of the Australian Performing Group based at the Pram Factory 1970-1981 and wrote close to forty plays for the group, including THE FLOATING WORLD in 1974. The latter was instrumental in him receiving the Canada-Australia Literature Award in 1975 and led to a production of the play in Ottawa.

Working freelance for the last twenty-six years he has continued to produce theatre, film and television scripts both here and overseas (eg. Japan, Vietnam, Okinawa). ONE NIGHT THE MOON is a popular Australian credit of note from 2001. A music drama, it featured music and lyrics by Paul Kelly, Kev Carmody and Mairead Hannan, and gained a cinema and television release. His last produced play in Melbourne was MISS TANAKA, based on the short story of that name by Xavier Herbert. Romeril transplanted its setting from Darwin to Broome as a salute to Noriko Nishimoto, the Perth-based Japanese emigre puppeteer who was a key collaborator on the script.

His most recent theatre credit has been as dramaturg for Kamarra Bell-Wyke's CHOPPED LIVER, a play about Hepatitis C produced by Ilbijerri (Melbourne's indigenous theatre company). It is currently touring Aboriginal health centres throughout regional Victoria.