

# Derry Playhouse Writers

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## We Enter Our Fifth Year!

### ☆ In Memoriam ☆

**Y**abo Yablonsky died at his home in the Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, California on 10 February. I spent some time with him during the last few weeks and he continuously talked about how marvelous it was for him to have spent time in Derry/Donegal. He said he felt privileged to have been invited by DPW to share his 50 plus years of artistic experiences as a playwright, script writer, director and film maker in our Bi-Coastal Connections Project. He marveled at the amount of raw talent and untapped creative energy he encountered in the people who took his workshops in play writing and acting / directing. He will be sorely missed and to pay tribute to his time with us we should all continue to do what he urged us to do...'*work daily on your art, there is no better way to spend your life*'. Margie

Derry Playhouse Writers and The Playhouse and will celebrate his memory by staging his play, **The Leopard**, in the Fall.



### Fund Raising Events

We held two successful fund raising events in March – our second annual pub quiz and our second annual draw for two Manchester United tickets. The funds raised at these events will help us defray our day-to-day administrative expenses, i.e., copying, postage, electricity, etc.

The success of these efforts are due to the diligent volunteer work of Eugene McGinty and Martin O'Brien and we offer them our heartfelt thanks. We also extend thanks to our Quizmaster,

Dixie Doherty, who once again donated his remarkable skill at making our Pub Quiz a roaring success as well as Hugh McDaid for donating a lounge at Badger's Bar for the event. (See p.2 for names of our prize donors).

We further thank Tom Finnigan for donating the Manchester United tickets and Michael Duddy for arranging for bed and breakfast accommodations and local transportation in Manchester to this year's winner who was Dominic O'Kane (husband of Collette a new DPW member). And a double thanks to all of you who sold the game tickets and encouraged friends to attend the quiz. The ultimate success of events like these are always a team effort.



### Beginning Our Fifth Year

Hard to believe it was only yesterday....! We have had a very successful four years and hope to continue to give aid, comfort and encouragement to ourselves and other writers who enter our door. We have just completed our Bi-Coastal Connections Project although it ended two months prematurely due to Yabo's illness and his inability to complete the final phase of his workshops in play writing & acting/directing. And David Gothard once again provided inspiration to those who took his creative writing workshop.

We have acquired a computer and printer which are available for your use. We have a snug, warm place in which we meet weekly on Wednesday's from 1 – 4pm. Please join us and give suggestions on how we can better serve your needs. We are currently planning to hold workshops on writing poetry and considering applying for funding to have two poets in residence that will result in a publication. So we've ended our fourth year on a positive note. **Onward & Upward Mit Da Arts.** (Yabo saying).

## **Pub Quiz Prize Donors**

The following business' donated the prizes won at our pub quiz. Please give them your custom:

Austin's Department Store - The Diamond  
Cooley Jewelers – Shipquay Street  
Kular – Shipquay Street  
MegaDeals - Quayside Shopping Centre  
SuperDrug Store – Ferryquay Street  
White Orchard Florist - Buncrana Road

We also thank the following individuals who donated prizes:

Michael Duddy  
Donal Gunis  
Dominic O'Kane