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Performing Herself: Autobiography and Fanny Kelly's Dramatic Recollections

Tools

Bush-Bailey, Gilli (2011) *Performing Herself: Autobiography and Fanny Kelly's Dramatic Recollections*. Manchester University Press, Manchester. ISBN 9780719079214

Abstract

This unique book contains the never before published script of the first ever one-woman show, written by Fanny Kelly. The script was performed in Britain in the 1830s and 40s, based on Kelly's own experiences and offers a picture of the exuberant and often bizarre Georgian entertainment world.

The performance text is introduced, edited and explained by Gilli Bush-Bailey, who focuses 21st-century revisionist scholarship on Kelly's story. It is an innovative contribution to the modern debate on biographical and autobiographical writing, whilst also being a valuable text for those who wish to study comedy and women's performance. The materials and methods of the modern stand-up routine are already to be seen in this unusual text.

This book will appeal to students and scholars who are involved in performance, theatre history, or biography. It is also an accessible text for the interested general reader.

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Additional Information: Library Code: 792.028092 BUS ----- HBK ISBN: 978-0719079214

Uncontrolled Keywords: One-Woman Show, Fanny Kelly, Play, Women's Comedy, Stand-up, Autobiography, Performance Text, Biography, Performance Criticism

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I try to get as much information as possible about what a fight would have been like in a particular period, Kate explains. But because what I'm eventually doing is telling a dramatic story, not all of it is useful. The scene has to be exciting and do something for the audience. Ultimately, of course, a stage fight is all smoke and mirrors. In our lesson, Kate shows me how an actor will stand with his or her back to the audience ahead of a choreographed slap or punch. When the slap comes it makes contact not with skin but with air: the actor whacks his chest or leg to make the sound of the slap. Many teenagers who perform poorly at schools come from homes where learning is not encouraged, but many students do not develop their abilities even though they receive encouragement at home. Even able students may rebel if they feel that too much is demanded of them. Parents should try to encourage good performance in school without unreasonable pressure. The use of drugs. In some countries drug abuse among adolescents causes great concern. *Performing Herself* book. Read reviews from world's largest community for readers. This unique book contains the never-before-published script of the first... Start by marking "Performing Herself: Autobiography and Fanny Kelly's Dramatic Recollections" as Want to Read: Want to Read saving... Want to Read. Currently Reading. Read. Other editions. Enlarge cover.