

Qui Nguyen



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NEW DRAMATISTS RESIDENT PLAYWRIGHT SINCE 2009

Originally from Arkansas, Qui Nguyen is a Brooklyn-based writer, fight choreographer, and all around pop-culture nerd. When he's not geeking out to indie comics and early 80s hip-hop, he spends his time being the Co-Artistic Director of the award-winning Vampire Cowboys Theatre Company. Honors include, nominations for Outstanding Production in 2008 & 2006 NY Innovative Theatre Awards (*Fight Girl Battle World* and *Living Dead in Denmark*); a citation for 2007's Best Adaptation of Comics into Other Media by ComicCritique.com (*Men of Steel*); The 2008 Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Choreographer along with nominations in the same category in 2007 & 2005; The New Dramatists Playwriting Fellowship, NYTheatre.com's 2004 People of the Year, and featured as a "Playwright to Watch" by *Time Out New York*. Qui is a co-director of the Ma-Yi Writers Lab, an alumnus of Youngblood, and the stage combat instructor for Columbia University. MFA: Ohio University.

Scripts available through New Dramatists

SOUL SAMURAI

Action Comedy, 100 Minutes 3M, 2F
Flexible Set

After avenging the death of her lover, a young samurai girl named Dewdrop along with her faithful sidekick Cert must now battle through a vampire-infested Brooklyn to make it back home to the L.E.S.

Productions: Vampire Cowboys and Ma-Yi Theater Company (2009). Published: Broadway Play Publishing.

"Explosively Funny! Time Out New York Critic's Pick!" – *Time Out New York*

"Exhilarating! Side-splittingly funny and slyly intelligent!" – *Village Voice*

"One of THE best shows in the city!" – *New Theater Corps*

FIGHT GIRL BATTLE WORLD

Action Comedy, 100 minutes 4M, 5F
Flexible set

E-V, the last human female in all the known galaxies, along with the help of her rag-tag team of an ex-military general, a feisty spaceship pilot, and one very sarcastic robot sidekick, quests to find the last human male before he is destroyed by alien forces.

Productions: Vampire Cowboys (2008 & 2009). Awards: Nominations by the 2008 NY Innovative Theatre Awards for Best Production and Full-Length Script. Published: Broadway Play Publishing.

"Theatre for sci-fi nerds!" – *The New York Times*

"A delicious intergalactic theatrical space ride." – *Theatermania*

"A hyperspace of dorky delights." – *The Gothamist*

MEN OF STEEL

Action Dark Comedy, 120 Minutes 7M, 2F
Flexible Set

Three interwoven tales of people with superpowers including the downfall of America's beloved Captain Justice, the adventures of Brooklyn's Los Hermanos Manos, and the tragic tale of an indestructible man, that ultimately collide inside the walls of a maximum security prison. A superhero story for adults.

Productions: Vampire Cowboys (2007); Theater Wit (2007). Awards: Cited as 2007's Best Adaptation of Comics into Other Media by Comiccritique.com. Published: Broadway Play Publishing.

"A culturally savvy comedy." – *The New York Times*

"A hip satire on superheroes and the existential burden of being all-powerful in a world of ordinary people." – *Backstage*

"Bold and breathtaking. A brilliant send-up of superhero tropes." – *Chicago Tribune*

"Nguyen's script does something unexpected from the get-go. It straddles a line between parody and homage, and, in the end, actually succeeds in making you think." – *Chicago Sun-Times*

LIVING DEAD IN DENMARK

Action Comedy, 100 minutes 5M, 5F
Flexible Set

Set five years after the tragic events that ended Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, a resurrected Ophelia, Juliet, and Lady MacBeth must save Denmark from an overwhelming zombie horde.

Productions: Vampire Cowboys (2006 & 2007); Pork-Filled Players (2008); Louisiana Tech University (2008 & 2009); Rorschach Theatre (2009). Awards: Nominated by the 2006 NY Innovative Theatre Awards for Outstanding Production. Published: Broadway Play Publishing.

"A perfect storm of horror and geek obsessions." – *Time Out New York*

"A four ninja star spectacle of ass-kicking." – *Flavorpill*

"Entertaining, raucous, occasionally crass, surprisingly moving, entirely original." – *nytheatre.com*

TRIAL BY WATER: A GOOK STORY PART ONE

Drama, 120 minutes 4M, 2F

Flexible set

Inspired by the true life events, two young Vietnamese brothers Huy and Hung Tran try to escape Vietnam by boarding a boat illegally traveling to the Philippines. However, when the engines dies stranding the brothers in the middle of the China Sea, their voyage becomes an ordeal that will test each of their own moralities.

Production: Ma-Yi Theater Company and Queens Theater in the Park (2006); DueEast Theatre Company/A-Squared (2007). Published: Included in the anthology *Savage Stage*.

"This is tour-de-force theater." – Time Out New York

"Qui Nguyen's new play is brilliant. So powerful it leaves its audience as changed as the main character himself." – Show Business Weekly

"A beautifully written script with moments that are just as heartwarming as they are heartbreaking." – Newcity Chicago

BLOOD IN AMERICA: A GOOK STORY PART TWO

Drama, 90 minutes 3M, 2F

Flexible Set

A young Vietnamese boy finally makes it to America after a tumultuous escape from Vietnam that cost the lives of both his parents and his brother. Now living with his Aunt and rebellious cousin in the state of Arkansas, he must learn to adapt to a new life filled with southern drawls, trailer parks, and schoolyard bullies while still being haunted by the sins of his past.

Staged Readings: Queens Theatre in the Park (2007); Youngblood (2007); Second Generation Productions (2008).

LOST ACCENTS: A GOOK STORY PART THREE

Experimental Comedy, 90 minutes 4M, 2F

Flexible Set

In a stand-alone third chapter to his *A Gook Story* trilogy, playwright Qui Nguyen struggles to finish the story he began almost a decade ago. However when his main character abruptly pulls the writer into his own story, the playwright begins deconstructing his own work until it is almost unsalvageable.

Staged Readings: Queens Theatre in the Park (2008); Ma-Yi Theater Company (2008).