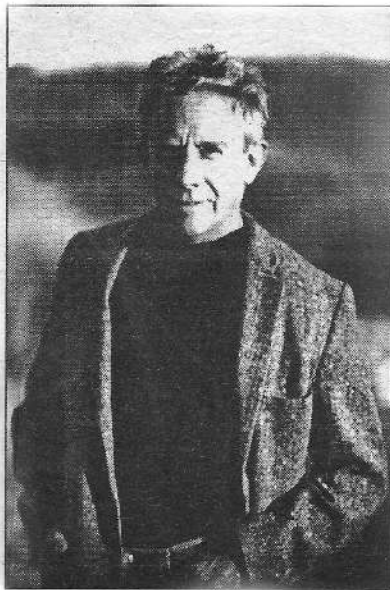


Playwrights to hold readings, panel discussion at Dowling



Joe Pintauro



John Monteleone



Gary Kott

Three critically acclaimed Long Island playwrights will hold a panel discussion and offer professional readings of their latest works this week at Dowling College.

Participating in the discussion and readings are Joe Pintauro, an internationally acclaimed playwright and novelist; Gary Kott, an Emmy Award and Humanitas Prize nominee and winner of the Writers Guild of America and NAACP Image awards; and John Monteleone, a critically acclaimed actor and playwright who is the Artist in Residence and Adjunct Professor of Drama at Dowling's Performing Arts Center.

At the panel discussion, which will be held in the Hunt Room of Fortunoff Hall on December 5 from 4-6 p.m., the playwrights will offer their insights into the creative process. Audience members will also have the opportunity to share their points of view with the panelists, and participate in a question and answer period.

The readings, which will be held at Dowling's Performing Arts Center, begin on Friday, December 2 at 8 p.m. with Pintauro reading from his latest play, *The Dead Boy*. The story takes place on the battleground between the American church and the American press over who has the moral authority to accuse and punish.

On Friday, December 9, Kott will read from his solo play, *Him*, a story of man's journey into his past and future, where he revisits career victories and defeats, searches for the logic in his romantic triumphs and humiliations, digs for clues to his humanity, and explores the heavens for traces of his origin. During the journey, the man confronts his limitations, his frustrations, his doubts and fears, as well as reaffirms his convictions and hopes. The play moves from the surface of the earth to its deepest core, then out to the ends of the universe. The reading will begin at 8 p.m.

Monteleone asks the questions of who are the criminals and victims in our society, and who creates our "paradise" and "hell," and who can free us from it in his play, *Breakout*, being read Saturday, December 10 at 8 p.m. The action of the play revolves around the kidnapping of a wealthy governor's son by what appears to be two desperate, somewhat comic, petty criminals and their "street friends," each seeking the key to the American Dream. However, as the play develops, the interpersonal relationships of the characters are exposed and reveal scarred, grossly intertwined pasts filled with cover-ups, deceit, lies and shocking hidden agendas that have landed them all in the belly of the beast. The play examines self-and familial persecution, salvation, redemption, forgiveness and brotherhood.

All events require a reservation, which can be made by calling 244-3155 Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. or Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Dowling College is located on Idle Hour Boulevard in Oakdale. ■