

McCroskey Memorial Internet Playhouse

βλαμπουσε

Submission Guidelines

The MMIP wants to be the home for the finest original poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and audio drama available on line. We want to give our actors fascinating, disturbing, endearingly odd and oddly endearing stories to read to our audience. We want to do the strange, the edgy, the potentially offensive material that NPR and PRI, burdened as they are with the FCC and a donor base that doesn't always take discomfiture well, can't do.

Each quarter's fiction and poetry submission call will be based on a theme or image, which all submissions will have to address in one way or other. (Plays, which are produced on a different time schedule, are not expected to conform to the themes or images in the quarterly submission call.) While I'm open to a wide variety of literary styles and traditions (and good writers can get me to follow them anywhere), I'm most interested in the following: literary fiction, transgressive literature, satire, historical literature, creative nonfiction, and science fiction (of the *Dangerous Visions* mold).

What am I less interested in? Oh, lots of things: heroic fantasy, romance, teen, children's literature, thrillers, generic horror, mysteries, pornography.

I say no to any poetry, fiction, or play whose express purpose is to proselytize for any religion. And I will immediately send back any work based on material

whose rights the author doesn't own: unlicensed adaptations of other authors' works or fanfic based upon popular TV shows or films.

Oh, and please don't send anything whose effect depends on typography. I love *Finnegan's Wake*, but it'd make for lousy podcasting.

Here are the particulars for each genre:

Fiction and Poetry: All fiction and poetry should in some way respond to the posted theme. Themes will change quarterly, on March 1st, July 1st, October 1st, and January 1st. Visit the website to see the current theme.

Fiction: Your work should be between 2,000 and 8,000 words. Original work only, please. Query about longer pieces.

Poetry: We're looking either for one long poem—think *The Waste Land*—or for a collection of thematically linked shorter poems.

Plays: *Script submissions by professional recommendation only.* Query with a synopsis. All lengths are acceptable. Plays should be either written as audio plays or be easily adaptable to the form. Small casts, or easily doubled casts, strongly preferred.

I have yet to measure the response time for a submitted piece. Assume 16-20 weeks for now. Simultaneous submissions accepted (provided I know about it). Please email all submissions to submissions@theinternetplayhouse.com. Use .rtf, .doc, or Pages format for all manuscripts. Cover letters aren't required, but are welcome.

If your piece is accepted, you'll be asked to give the MMIP the right to podcast your work worldwide, and to keep a copy of your work in the archive for one year. The MMIP will cast whatever actors may be needed to best carry off your work as a podcast. Obviously, poems and short-stories will be read by lone actors. Plays, if accepted, will be produced, in full, at our studio here in Seattle. In all cases, you'll get a copy of the podcast before its public release, giving you an opportunity to request whatever changes you think appropriate.

As for payment...well...I'm sorry, I've got to stop laughing long enough to say that there isn't any, at least not yet. If it makes you feel any better, and it won't, I don't get paid either. The most I can offer is access to a modest but fanatical audience and a well-presented version of your work.

If your piece is not accepted, we obviously wish you the best of luck in finding a home for it.