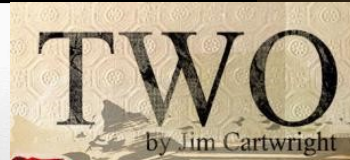


JIM CARTWRIGHT

WHO? Jim Cartwright was born in Farnworth, Lancashire in 1958 and educated at Harper Green Secondary Modern School, Farnworth. He is a multi award winning, international playwright, screenwriter and director. His work is in almost continuous production around the world and has been translated into over 35 languages. His plays have been performed at The National Theatre, The Royal Court Theatre, The West End of London and on Broadway and in many of the principle theatres of the world.

WHERE? - Cartwright moved to London to live a 'bohemian lifestyle' and began to write. His first script 'Road' was produced in 1986 at the Royal Court, London. It won various awards and was then produced in New York and is now considered a modern classic. Since then Cartwright has produced a number of plays nearer his home town. 'Two' and 'Eight Miles High' were produced at Octagon Theatre here in Bolton in 1991. Cartwright's plays have now been performed worldwide and he has directed many plays within the North West and also around London.

TWO - When writing 'Two' Cartwright stated that he lived a double life—one glamorous in London and another working class and difficult. 'Two' gives the audience an insight into the working class, factory life Cartwright witnessed. The play is centred around a community whose lives have been stripped away. The community spirit is key shown in the local pub a place where you recognise everyone and know what they're going through.



DRAMATIC CONVENTIONS

A number of Cartwright's plays engage with the poverty within the Northern working class

Although, the language of the characters does not follow a conventional realistic approach. It links to a more avant-garde (experimental theatre, began in the late 19th century).

Humour is hugely important in Cartwright's plays, he pushes the boundaries by injecting humour into the most tragic of situations - starvation, domestic violence, inoperable cancer.

He uses techniques that lend themselves to Brecht, as characters seamlessly move from talking to one another to the audience, breaking the fourth wall. Especially seen in 'Two'

He uses monologues and dialogues in many of his works.

Cartwright is not limited to a particular style but interweaves many inspirations into his writing.

FURTHER READING

<https://www.cartwrightdramastudio.com/>