

ROBIN HAWDON



For three decades Robin Hawdon was a successful actor in the UK.

ON TV

He was well known to British television viewers through regular appearances in such series as *Play For Today*, *Armchair Theatre*, *Compact*, *Wives and Daughters*, *Flying Swan*, *Robin's Nest*, etc.

He played the part of Barry Southern in the long-running series *Compact*, co-starred with Jonathan Pryce in the ITV play, *Spasms*, and with Michael Crawford in the ITV sit-com, *Chalk and Cheese*.

ON FILM.

Robin featured in a number of films - notably:

The Day The Earth Caught Fire

Burke and Hare

The Boys

I Want What I Want

Bedazzled

He starred in *When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth* and the spoof James Bond movie, *Zeta One* (*The Love Factor* in the USA).

Robin was also scheduled to film test for the part of the real James Bond, but this was cancelled when Roger Moore accepted the role.

ON STAGE

On stage Hawdon was seen in several leading roles in London's West End:-

The Last Joke (Phoenix Theatre)

Misalliance (Bernard Shaw, Royal Court Theatre)

One Over The Eight (Review, Apollo Theatre),

The Easter Man (title role, Globe Theatre)

The Importance Of Being Earnest (Algernon, Royal Court),

Not In The Book (Criterion,) etc.

He also played a number of classical leads around the country, such as **Hamlet**, **Henry V**, and Henry Higgins in ***Pygmalion***.

Hawdon curtailed his acting in his 50s to concentrate on his writing and directing activities. Now however, in mature age, reviving his acting career!

PLAYWRIGHT

As a writer his early plays **Barn Dance**, **The Secret**, and **The Hero** were seen at such venues as the Hampstead Theatre and the Edinburgh and Salzburg festivals. The first major commercial success for Hawdon was **The Mating Game** which achieved a long run at London's Apollo Theatre, and has subsequently played in over thirty countries around the world. This was followed by other much performed plays such as **Birthday Suite**, **Revenge**, **Dont Rock The Boat**, **Perfect Wedding** and the huge success of **Don't Dress for Dinner** (based loosely on an early French play by Marc Camoletti) which ran in the West End for six years, and has played all over America, Australia, Canada and the English speaking world.

More recently his play **God And Stephen Hawking**, about the phenomenal advance of modern science and its effect on traditional philosophical thinking, caused something of a stir in the national press when Stephen Hawking himself took objection to being portrayed on stage.

His dramatized version of Kingsley Amis's Booker Prize winning novel, **The Old Devils**, toured Britain and America in 1989.

A new play, **The Lion And The Unicorn**, about an extraordinary meeting between Winston Churchill and Neville Chamberlain at the start of World War II, was scheduled for UK production in 2020, but this was postponed due to the Covid pandemic.

Most Hawdon plays are published by Concord Theatricals or Josef Weinberger.

SCREENPLAYS

Hawdon was commissioned to write the screenplay for **The Battle Of Trafalgar** by the James Bond producers, but the film was never made due to the cost of staging the battle before the advent of CGI. He has also written screenplays based on his political thriller

novel, **Number Ten**, and his hugely successful comedy, **Perfect Wedding**.

DIRECTOR

Hawdon has directed a number of stage productions, and in the nineteen eighties founded the Bath Fringe Festival, and subsequently became Director of the **Theatre Royal Bath**, one of England's premier touring theatres.

AUTHOR

Hawdon has 5 books published, including his recent memoir, **Almost Famous**, describing his colourful career, and encounters with many of the great British and American names of the late twentieth century.

PRIVATE LIFE

Robin's wife of over forty years, Sheila, is a psychotherapist and writer. They have two daughters, both writers, four grandchildren, and homes in Bath, the South of France and Australia.

WEBSITE - robinhawdon.com

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robin_Hawdon

<http://twitter.com/authordebate>

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Agent UK - Film Rights Ltd, London

Agent Australia - 888 Inc, Queensland.