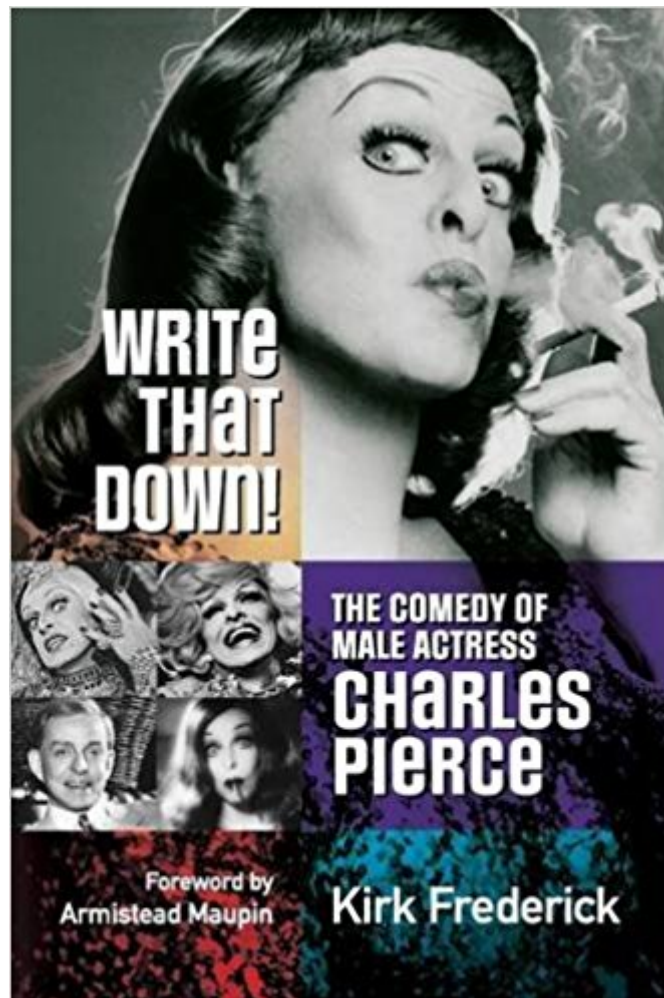




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Write That Down! The Comedy Of Male Actress Charles Pierce



Synopsis

The first, authorized biographical tribute to Charles Pierce, the foremost "male actress" of the 20th Century. Born in 1926, Pierce went from playing small gay clubs in San Francisco to international acclaim. His send ups of icons Bette Davis, Mae West, Tallulah Bankhead, Carol Channing, Katharine Hepburn, and Joan Crawford garnered him fans across the globe and lifelong friendships with Hollywood celebrities like "Golden Girls" star Bea Arthur. Pierce also enjoyed a TV and film career, notably as Bertha Venation in the groundbreaking feature film "Torch Song Trilogy" with Harvey Fierstein, Matthew Broderick, and Anne Bancroft. Author Kirk Frederick captures the essence of Pierce in a thoroughly entertaining, revealing, and funny biographical tribute as only someone who knew him on and off the stage could. Foreword by Armistead Maupin.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fun biography of Charles Pierce concentrating on the material of his act. As someone who worked with him I often heard "Write That Down!" , and we did. The man was a comic genius. No two shows were alike. The book gives a good overview of a typical performance. It also, as do I suggests you check out the Charles Pierce videos on YouTube to see the man at work.

There was no performer quite like the great Charles Pierce and no one better able to pay homage than the author Kirk Frederick who was his professional intimate for two decades. The author has painstakingly preserved some of Charles' best routines and shares amazing behind the curtain anecdotes. A great showbiz tribute to a groundbreaking artist!

I grew up in the city across the Bay from San Francisco of Hayward (mentioned in Kirk's book!) always knowing I was gay. I graduated from high school in 1972 and immediately came out and without hesitation went to a gay bar in Hayward where I met a guy from SF who invited me to his dwelling in SF. After a nice night with him in his bed, we went to brunch in the morning and after that he took me to a bar on Polk Street where, he promised, I would for the first time experience a male performer who would knock my socks off. We walked in and to the left of the door was a rather small stage, across from which was the bar area. We sat down in front of the stage and shortly thereafter Charles Pierce came out and performed and I experienced the most humorous hour ever!!!! He was brilliant!!!! I laughed so hard, I thought my stomach muscles would shatter! What a jewel he was! Shortly thereafter, I dumped that worthless SF guy and moved to Los Angeles, and in 1978 met the greatest guy (Italian) that I would ever meet, and we've been together for almost 40 years. Note: A few years after we mated, we saw Charles at Studio One and that performance, too, was exhilarating. When I learned that Kirk's book was available, I ordered it here and read it at once. Kirk has accomplished an outstanding feat in that he brought the brilliance of Charles back to me after so many years have passed, and I am deeply indebted to him for that. Kirk, I live near you, in Sherman Oaks, and if I see you, I will personally thank you for this great book!

Finally! A great book on the great Charles P" style="display: inline"> Yes No

Charles Pierce was one.of.a.kind brilliant. The female impressionist could tell the same story fifty times onstage and get you to laugh your pants off every single time. It's an art to be a comic storyteller, and Pierce was an artiste. Now Kirk Frederick who worked with Pierce for many years brings us a delightful book that encompasses Pierce's whole career including his dueling duologues between Bette Davis and Joan Crawford and ... Bette and Tallulah Bankhead. There's even a section written by Pierce himself before he passed on in 1999. Cherish this book! Like the artiste himself, it's one.of.a.kind GREAT.

I'm thrilled that Kirk Frederick took the major effort to create this book! There is nothing like it anywhere, just like there was no one like Charles Pierce. Painstaking and pleasurable in its detail, this is an exclusively personal glimpse into an extraordinary career. I've always loved Charles and was fortunate enough to meet him once before he passed on. Hopefully, there is a movie in the making here! I'd certainly pay big money to see it. Thanks, Kirk, for the sacrifice that it took to make

this book so that others can experience the greatest male actress of them all. You should be very proud. MB

I loved watching Charles Pierce. Finally, someone has written a biography of one of our great, comic talents - and someone who knew him from a unique perspective. Kirk Frederick's book is thoughtful, well-researched, charming, funny and poignant. He captures the man and his genius brilliantly. A "must read"!

Brilliant! If you were lucky enough to see Charles Pierce perform you'd know how difficult it would be to capture the hilarity, wit and essence of this man yet Kirk Frederick does it with a wonderful charm and wit of his own. The writing is flawless and so much fun. For those who have never seen Charles perform or know nothing about him this book is a must and for those who have seen his show you'll want to relive the hilarity all over again and you certainly do with this book. Charles Pierce paved the way for many performers and is often referred to as a comic genius. This book tells you why and is written with such perfection you'll think you are right there, front row, center.

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