

Rocket Man



by Steven Dietz

Theatre Pro Rata
March 17-April 1, 2018
Performing at The Crane Theater

The play

Rocket Man premiered at the Arizona Theatre Company in 1998, and has been produced across the country. Its exploration of a man who feels defeated by time and circumstances, and who hopes to achieve another life in a different world, brings together the fierce power of depression with the possibility for hope that is offered by theories of alternative worlds. Donny Rowan's interactions with his family and friends show us the ways in which we help and hinder one another in our search for meaning in our less-than-perfect world.

The playwright



Steven Dietz was born (1958) and raised in Denver, Colorado. He received a BA from the University of Northern Colorado in 1980, then moved to Minneapolis where he began his career as a director of new plays at The Playwrights' Center. He subsequently lived in Seattle, and now divides his time between Seattle and Austin, Texas, where he teaches directing and playwriting at the University of Texas-Austin. He has written over thirty plays, as well as many adaptations, and is one of the most produced playwrights in the United States. His work has garnered multiple awards.

Resources

Steven Dietz biography

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steven_Dietz

Steven Dietz interviews

LA Times, 1989, focused on Ten November

http://articles.latimes.com/1989-06-11/entertainment/ca-3060_1_lake-superior-minnesota-s-north-shore-sink-or-swim

Austin Chronicle, 2008

<https://www.austinchronicle.com/arts/2008-11-07/699092/>

Denver Post, 2013

<http://www.denverpost.com/2013/10/30/playwright-and-native-son-steven-dietz-returns-home-with-two-works/>

The Playwrights' Center
<https://pwcenter.org>

Miscellany

James Gleick, *Time Travel*. 2016. A non-fiction history of the idea of time travel in both fiction and reality. Includes an excellent list of sources and further reading.

Alan P. Lightman, *Einstein's Dreams*. 2011. A novel in which 26-year-old Einstein imagines possible worlds in which time works differently.

Elton John's "Rocket Man" on YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jEAjTVOdWCA>

Parallel universes in fiction
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parallel_universe_\(fiction\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parallel_universe_(fiction))

Parallel universes in fact
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parallel_Worlds_\(book\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parallel_Worlds_(book))

This article includes links to other books of interest.

Finding new futures in a black hole
<http://earthsky.org/space/some-black-holes-erase-your-past>