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MARTIN O'BRIEN

Originally from Runcorn in the north-west, Martin now lives in North London. He has been an actor since the age 18 when he rather unexpectedly took a year out of university to take a lead role in the West End musical **BLOOD BROTHERS**. Since this time, he has worked as an actor in both TV and on stage. A few years of an Open University degree in Psychology led to a sideline in schools' and youth work, heading up projects on social, moral and faith issues with both students and teachers. It is through this work that Martin developed his passion for writing.

In 2002, Martin won a BBC Northern Exposure Award for his first full-length stage play **ON EAGLE'S WINGS**. He was a finalist for the Tony Doyle Bursary 2004.

He was one of six writers team writing a 90-minute play for BBC Radio 3 **LOST IN LIVERPOOL** (tx spring 2006). This was commissioned through the BBC New Writing Initiative's Northern Exposure scheme.

Martin is currently on the writing team for BBC TV's successful daytime soap **DOCTORS**.

Martin is also a producer through his Theatre-in-Education company Ten Ten Theatre, set up in May 2007 to bring drama on social and moral issues to schools and other educational institutions, young offender institutes and prisons. The company tours nationally and also works on other one-off projects such as The Dead Man Walking Schools Theatre Project in Northumberland, which was by special arrangement with Hollywood actor/writer Tim Robbins and Sr. Helen Prejean (the lead character in the story).

DOCTORS

3 scripts to date for this successful BBC TV daytime soap

THE KINGS

2-part television drama

Developed through PAL labs television writing course mentored by Roy Battersby and Avril Russell, 2003

THE JEWELLER

Based on an original Polish play.

London tour of community venues, November 2004

ON THE SEVENTH DAY WE WILL EMERGE

BBC 7, November 2004. Producer Anne Edyvean.

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IN THIS LIFE

45-minute radio play, 2003

Developed with Jessica Dromgoole, BBC New Writing Coordinator

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

Script-in-hand performance produced by the BBC
at the Liverpool Everyman Theatre, July 2002.

*Developed with Suzanne Bell, Literary Manager, Liverpool Playhouse and subsequently
developed for the BBC Radio 4 Friday Play slot with Tanya Nash (BBC Northern Ireland)*

RISK

Risk Television / Channel Five, 2000

26-part teen drama

Invited to write 1x26 minute trial script and attend storyline meetings

BABIES

30-minute film, adapted from own original stage play, 2000

Produced on video and distributed to schools in the UK, Ireland, Australia and Canada

AWARDS and NOMINATIONS

BBC NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Development Award for *On Eagle's Wings*, 2002

TONY DOYLE BURSARY

BBC Northern Ireland

Finalist for 'The Kings', 2004

Four day seminar with Patrick Spence, John Yorke & Ashley Pharoah

July 2008