

Women's overdone monologues

10 industry professionals and theater educators were asked to score 116 frequently done pieces as

- 1 – I have not seen this monologue
- 2 – I have seen it but am fine seeing it again
- 3 – I have seen it so often, it doesn't matter how well an actor does it, I'm completely sick of it!

Several of the participants spontaneously created a fourth category (see [Overdone monologues!](#)), and these pieces were allowed to have scores of 4, which is why some of the averaged scores are higher than 3.

You should read most of these plays, regardless of finding audition pieces, because they will help give you a sense of what has happened in a lot of contemporary American drama in the last forty or so years. But when it comes to auditions, please notice how many of the pieces are quickly approaching 3's. That means a piece was a 3 for most of the survey takers. And, you should also know that there was no monologue on this survey that did not get at least one 3.

Average score/Playwright/Year first produced/Char/Identifying line or topic

- 2.0 BAITZ/The End of the Day/1990/HELEN/I think you married me so as to become an American citizen
- 2.6 BALL/Five Women Wearing the Same Dress/1993/GEORGANNE/Tommy Valentine
- 2.6 BALL/Five Women Wearing the Same Dress/1993/ALL OTHERS
- 2.2 BOGOSIAN/Talk Radio/1985/DENISE/Paranoid caller, spoon in the garbage disposal, etc.
- 2.3 BOGOSIAN/Talk Radio/1985/LINDA/Sleeping with Barry Champlain
- 2.9 CRISTOFER/Shadow Box/1975/Beverly/I Want you to come home
- 2.4 CRISTOFER/Lady and the Clarinet/1989/LUBA/Vomiting on desk of lover's secretary
- 1.8 DANIELS/Apartment 3A/1996/ANNIE/Sesame Street telethon speech
- 3.0 DURANG/"Dentitiy Crisis"/1978/JANE/Peter Pan monologue
- 3.4 DURANG/Laughing Wild/1987/WOMAN/Tunafish monologue **THE WINNER!****
- 2.7 GUARE/Marco Polo Sings A Solo/1977/DIANE/I really started cookin' when I was eight
- 2.6 GUARE/Landscape of the Body/1984/ROSALIS/Gorilla suit - porn audition speech
- 3.1 GUARE/House of Blue Leaves/1986/Bananas/Picks up the Pope, Bob Hope, Jackie Kennedy, etc. in the Green Latrine
- 2.8 GUARE/House of Blue Leaves/1986/BUNNY/I won't cook for you til you marry me
- 2.0 HANLEY/Slow Dance on the Killing Ground/1970/ROSIE/Losing virginity speech

- 1.8 HARRINGTON/Night Luster/1983/ROMA/I don't think people see me...voice to die for...etc
- 2.8 HENLEY/Crimes of the Heart/1979/ALL
- 2.3 HOWE/The Art of Dining/1979/ELIZABETH BARROW COLT/Mealtime was the same as it had always been
- 2.6 JOHNSON/Brilliant Traces/1988/ROSANNAH/I was standing in the back of the church
- 2.7 JOHNSON/Brilliant Traces/1988/ROSANNAH/Did you ever think you were visited by extraterrestrials
- 2.7 KORDER/Search and Destroy/1992/MARIE/Movie pitch/penis claw monologue
- 1.7 KRAMER/Wall of Water/1998/CHARACTER/Last cigarette speech
- 2.4 KUSHNER/A Bright Room Called Day/1987/ZILLAH/Dear Mr. President
- 2.4 KUSHNER/Angels in America: Perestroika/1992/HARPER/Night flight to San Francisco...
- 2.5 LONERGAN/Lobby Hero/2001/DAWN/ALL
- 2.7 LUCAS/Blue Window/1984/LIBBY/Speech about falling off the balcony with her husband Marty
- 2.4 MAMET/Oleanna/CAROL/1992/You did it to me. Here
- 2.5 MAMET/Oleanna/CAROL/1992/Other monologues
- 2.4 MARTIN/Picasso at the Lapin Agile/1998/SUZANNE/Sleeping with Picasso
- 2.3 MARTIN/Picasso at the Lapin Agile/1998/ALL OTHERS
- 2.9 MASTRIOSIMONE/Woolgatherer/1979/ROSE/Sees the birds at the zoo get killed by the boys
- 2.7 MASTRIOSIMONE/Extremities/1980/MARJORIE/Police. Charges. Arraignment.
- 2.7 MASTRIOSIMONE/Shivaree/1983/SHIVAREE/Well sport you can dance for dance
- 1.8 MURRAY-SMITH/Honor/1995/SOPHIE/I wish I was...like you
- 2.1 NIGRO/Seascape with Sharks and Dancer/1985/TRACY/Problem with loving squashable animals
- 2.6 NORMAN/Getting Out/1977/ARLIE/Frog squishing speech
- 2.8 NORMAN/Night Mother/1982/JESSIE/I am what became of your child
- 2.6 PATRICK/Kennedy's Children/1973/CARLA/I wanted to be a sex goddess
- 2.6 RABE/In the Boom Boom Room/1973/CHRISSEY/...and a piece of meat is all I am
- 2.7 RABE/In the Boom Boom Room/1973/ALL OTHERS
- 2.9 REBECK/Loose Knit/1994/MARGIE/I want you to f*** me in that car of yours
- 2.5 REBECK/Spike Heels/1994/GEORGIE/Who made up these rules, do you actually think we're buying it
- 2.5 REBECK/Spike Heels/1994/ALL OTHERS
- 2.5 SHANLEY/Women of Manhattan/1985/RHONDA/Why she keeps his tennis shoes
- 2.6 SHANLEY/Women of Manhattan/1985/ALL OTHERS
- 2.7 SHANLEY/Savage in Limbo/1984/SAVAGE/I feel strong
- 2.6 SHANLEY/Savage in Limbo/1984/ALL OTHERS

- 2.0 SHENGOLD/Lives of the Great Waitresses/1996/TAMMIE SUE/About the ugly guy who was great in bed
- 2.9 SHEPARD/Cowboy Mouth/1971/CAVALE/You're so neat - ugly duckling speech
- 2.0 SHINN/Other People/2000/PETRA/Fish stew speech
- 2.9 SILVER et al /A...My Name is Alice/1983/WOMAN/Yelling at the jock strap in the wash
- 2.8 SILVER et al/A...My Name is Still Alice/1984/WOMAN/Bridal registry
- 3.0 SILVER/Fat Men In Skirts/1991/POPO MARTIN/My name is Popo Martin
- 2.4 SILVER/The Food Chain/1994/Amanda/Waiter asked if I was alone
- 2.9 SIMON/Star Spangled Girl/1966/SOPHIE/Mr. Cornell, ah have tried to be neighborly, gooey chocolates
- 2.7 SIMON/Last of the Red Hot Lovers/1969/JEANETTE/Do you know Charlotte Korman
- 2.7 SIMON/Chapter Two/1977/Jennie/You know what you want better than me George
- 2.7 SIMON/Brighton Beach Memoirs/1983/NORA/Papa's coat pocket
- 2.0 SLADE/Romantic Comedy/1979/PHOEBE/Marshmallows out the nose
- 2.1 SONDHEIM/Assassins/1990/SQUEAKY FROMME/Charlie Manson speech
- 2.5 SON/Stop Kiss/1998/CALLIE/Talking to unconscious girlfriend in hospital
- 2.7 TOPOR/Nuts/1980/CLAUDIA/I used to say I love you to the moon and down again
- 2.7 TOPOR/Nuts/1980/CLAUDIA/ALL OTHERS
- 2.7 WADE/Key Exchange/1986/LISA/Father built sandbox for dying mother to watch kids
- 2.4 WASSERSTEIN/Uncommon Women and Others/1975/MUFFET/...this French dish comes into class
- 2.9 WASSERSTEIN/Uncommon Women and Others/1975/RITA/Menstrual blood speech
- 2.5 WASSERSTEIN/Uncommon Women and Others/1975/ALL OTHERS
- 2.6 WELLER/Split/1977/MARGE/Stevie Wonder
- 2.1 WILSON/The Gingham Dog/1968/GLORIA/I used to pray, I really did
- 2.9 WOLFE/The Colored Museum/1986/TOPSY/Yoho! Party! Party!

MORE OVERDONE MONOLOGUES

There have already been more suggestions for the overdone lists, and additions will be put up periodically. To be notified of these updates, [join the newsletter list](#). If you see a lot of monologue auditions, and want to suggest overdone monologues, please [send them in](#).

Go to

- [Overdone Monologues](#) – how the survey was done and what it reveals
- [More survey results](#) – more opinions and preferences on material choice
- [Overdone Shakespeare](#)
- [Men's overdone monologues](#)

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