

I've never seen a play so meta, turning in on itself again and again, self-referencing in such surprising, delightful and poignant ways. It seems to me quite post-postmodern, or perhaps uber-neo-postmodern. It was such an enjoyable afternoon, seeing your comic/romantic play. Ruth Draper lived a wonderful love story; your play made me wish I had known her. LOCKE LOST is very funny, engaging and also demanding of the audience as we must fill in what isn't explicit in the text.

*Betty Ronayne, Academic Librarian*

I kept wondering if it is the playwright or actor holding the dominant role in the progress of the play since the personalities of "Bob" the actor, "Bob" the playwright and "Bob" the character seemed to mesh and flow on stage in the fluid swirls of ocean tides that are referenced throughout the play as the multitude of characters join him on his solo stage. What is certain, however, is that the admiration "Bob" the wonderful creator of this play has for Ruth Draper—his inspiration—comes shining through.

*Linda Goff, Library Instruction Librarian*

You had us spellbound during the entirety of your presentation! You are a gifted writer and actor, as well as communicator of a message that is at the heart of our mission as a PFLAG chapter. Thank you for the inspiration you brought to all of us. It was an honor to have you as our guest presenter.

Dick Ernst

*PFLAG of Greater Placer County*

Wonderful performance. Totally absorbing. Googled Ruth Draper afterwards which even led to a Monte Python *Italian Lesson* I hadn't seen before...I remember seeing her perform in New York in the 40s (high school, on big dates we went to the city) but it may well be one of those false memories on which I stay alive.

*Bobby Stewart, Actor*



# LOCKE, LOST

THE LESSON OF THE ITALIANS

A new play by  
Robert Locke



🌿 AUDIENCE RESPONSES 🌿

It is a highly entertaining, very loving homage to a great artist who deserves to be remembered forever.

*Wayne Miller, Actor & School Administrator*

More than an homage; it's a tight, spiraling play of huge scope. I was watching you

closely during this performance, wondering if I know another actor who could play this part—actually these parts—and I decided that yes, I do. But I would cast you.

*Ray Tatar, Artistic Director, California Stage*

Your performance was stupendous. The hour went so quickly; I didn't want it to be over. You covered such a gamut of information and that play is so completely you and your philosophy. We all agreed we want to hear some of the tapes you have and talk about the intriguing Ruth Draper. Your love for her came through very clearly.

*Tonie Dewey, School Librarian*

I cannot express how grateful and happy you made us both feel yesterday. What a talent! What a fun show! So many laughs; it felt so good and we feel so lucky to have seen it. It is sure to be a hit!

*Susan Street, Bridge Aficionada*



***Locke cleverly turns the humor in on himself as the playwright-director playing the character of a playwright-director grinds anguish into neat patties of popular entertainment.***

*Sacramento Bee - Premiere*

*Lost kitty drawings-David Rauscher  
Brochure photography-Justin Blake*



# More than an Homage: A Swirl of Art and A Sweep of History

It was phenomenal, the effect you had on me. I kept looking to see the characters you were talking to because it was so believable that they were actually there on the stage with you. When the little boy was on top of the bookcase and the bookcase was threatening to topple, I was actually on the edge of my seat and I looked over there twice only to remember that not only was there *not* a little boy on top of a bookcase over there, but there was not even a bookcase. You were like a child onstage, believing in everything, and making us believe, too! I was riveted!

*Lisa Reynolds, 3rd Grade Teacher*



Ruth Draper as depicted by John Singer Sargent in 1914, inscribed

*"To Leslie McGregor"*  
the character she created in *A Scottish Immigrant at Ellis Island*.