

Bill Rhoten – Bio

Bill Rhoten was born in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas. He has more than 40 years of diversified acting, directing, producing, and writing experience, in over 100 stage productions in Ennis and the Dallas area. He founded Dallas Theatre on Tour, the Prairie House Dinner Theatre, Ennis Public Theatre, and Theatre Rocks! Some career highlights include: directing Pulitzer Prize and Tony winner Tracy Letts in his early career in Dallas in four productions; Bill performed in and directed William Mastrosimone's *The Woolgatherer*, for which he received the coveted "Critics Choice" award by the Dallas Times Herald; he directed *Electric Angel* by Brad Bailey, which had its world premiere in Dallas and was later produced in Los Angeles; and *The Real Queen of Hearts Ain't Even Pretty* by Brad Bailey was produced twice by Bill, who later co-produced and directed the feature length film.

His writing credits include two screenplays, a TV pilot, *Jessie's Diary*, a short film now available on Amazon.com, and his film entitled *New Hope* (writer/director) which was selected with 30 other shorts in its category (of 1,800 submitted) for competition at the Palm Springs International Film Festival. "*New Hope* was the wisest, the smartest, and truthfully the most passionate of all the films we submitted....." (The Desert Sun, Palm Springs, California)

He has authored eight stage plays: *My Favorite Christmas, Where's Santa?*, and *Life's Little Miracles*, as well as five award-winning plays, all of which premiered on the Theatre Rocks! stage: *Mojave, Hyer House, My First Date, Forever*, and *KFLU Floydada, Country that's Contagious*.

In 2021, Bill introduced the Theatre Rocks! National Playwriting Competition, thus far resulting in the exciting world premieres of Linda LaRoque's *Town Car for Sale*, Jason Milligan's *Big Boy, Miss Alice and the Colonial Encyclopedia Man*, William Cameron's *Every Livin' Soul*, and Glen "Rusty" Harding and Leigh Wyatt Moore's *The Ashes of Aquitaine*, as well as a production of William Cameron's *Criminal Mischief*.