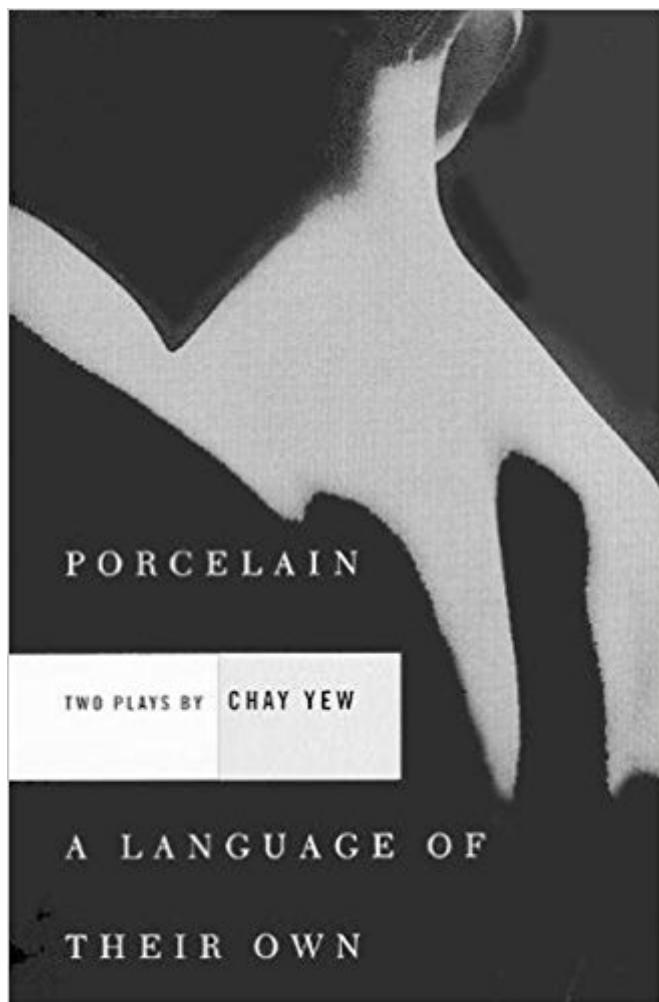


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Porcelain And A Language Of Their Own: Two Plays



Synopsis

Banned in his native Singapore, Chay Yew has been hailed as "a promising new voice in American theater" by Time magazine. With these two powerful, provocative plays, Yew first brought his startling and poetic voice to stages across America and abroad, exploring the battlegrounds, both internal and external, where matters of the heart conflict with barriers of race and sexuality. *Porcelain* is an examination of a young man's crime of passion. Triply scorned as an Asian, a homosexual, and now a murderer; 19-year-old John Lee has confessed to shooting his lover in a public lavatory in London. A winner of the London Fringe Award for Best Play, *Porcelain* dissects the crime through a prism of conflicting voices: newscasts, flashbacks, and John's own recollections to a prison psychiatrist. *A Language of Their Own* is a lyrical and dramatic meditation on the nature of desire and sexuality as four men—three Asian and one white—come together and drift apart in a series of interconnected stories. A critical and popular success at New York's Public Theater, it won both the George and Elisabeth Marton Playwriting Award and the GLAAD Media Award for Best Play.

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Customer Reviews

Porcelain is an examination of a young man's crime of passion. Triply scorned - as an Asian, a homosexual, and now a murderer - nineteen-year-old John Lee has confessed to shooting his lover in a public lavatory in London. *Porcelain* dissects the crime through a prism of conflicting voices: newscasts, flashbacks, and John's recollections to a prison psychiatrist. *A Language of Their Own*

is a lyrical and dramatic meditation on the nature of desire and sexuality as four men - three Asian and one white - come together and drift apart in a series of interconnecting stories.

A Language of Their Own is not a play about borders but a play about sides: It embodies not the permeable barriers that frontiers create but the spaces on either side. It is constructed juxtaposing a series of binary opposites: English-Chinese, public-private, desire-disease, and love-friendship among others, setting up a yin and yang paradigm that is true to the customs and heritage which are integral to the characters' life experience and a leitmotif throughout the play.

Was a good read, interesting, and compelling.

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