



Plays: Maria Irene Fornes

María Irene Fornés , Susan Sontag (Preface)

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The celebrated playwright, director, translator, lyricist, and seven-time Obie Award winner, has been an influential voice in American theatre for more than four decades and a highly-regarded teacher of playwriting. Includes: *Mud*, *The Danube*, *Sarita*, and *The Conduct of Life*.

Plays: Maria Irene Fornes Details

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Author : María Irene Fornés , Susan Sontag (Preface)

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Christine says

"Man must have an ideal"

Irma Mayorga says

Revelatory. Reread for reference.

Fruit says

Love this collection~ The Danube is my favorite. Powerful, moving material as always from Fornes.

Vanessa says

Maria Irene Fornes plays with language and form, creating contemporary plays that talk about things like nuclear war, class strife and the struggle for power between the sexes, but are never preachy or heavy handed. Her first language is Spanish, but she writes in English, creating stark, haunting dialogue. Each play is a little bit funny and a little bit scary. Mud is my favorite.

Kristyna Iris Petiskova says

It proved to me again that greatness often lies in simplicity.

Melissa says

Plays in volume (& my review):

Mud: too much swearing & other vulgarity for my taste

The Danube:

The Conduct of Life: ***** Heart-rending. Horrific. Ironically the happiest (& most sane) individual is Olimpia, the maid with a speech defect. (minimum MPAA "PG-13" for sexual violence)

Sarita:

Chris says

I enjoyed these plays as a whole, in much the same way that I enjoy the works of other modernist playwrights. Their gritty, surreal, and complex structures cause me to think a lot about their themes- here: interpersonal violence, the roles of women, and personal failures.

J.A. McNeil says

Appreciate Flores style, but hers is not my preference of dramatic writing. Much like Beckett's where nothing happens but vague dialogue and unsubstantiated actions.

Drew says

Sometimes when you haven't read someone in awhile you forget just how good they are. Such is the case with Maria Irene Fornes, whose four plays here delighted the hell out of me. "Mud" uses simple language to disclose not-so-simple truths about a love triangle situated in poverty; "The Danube" reinvents Ionesco's "Bald Soprano" as a deranged romance in Hungary; "The Conduct of Life" personalizes totalitarianism; and "Sarita" is a quirky musical filled with distorted courtships. All these plays are marvels.

Tamara says

Frustratingly idiosyncratic. Beautiful but often feel half finished. Sometimes hard to understand and fixated on sickness. Set in stone in a way that makes me shy away from them. Strange ideas about elsewhere. So attracted to her language and fervor but not her narrative structure. Can feel like interludes in another larger play. Very odd that this is referred to as realism? These plays are super strange!

Gurldoggie says

Egad. What an intense collection of insightful and violent plays. A riveting and stomach churning look at a raging battle of the sexes, with language both unexpectedly alien and too familiar. Like Samuel Beckett writing for "Ms." Magazine. This book will give you a jolt.

James says

holy avant stage construction.

Gregory says

This play really doesn't appeal to me. It didn't appeal to me when I read it in undergrad, and it didn't appeal to me when I read it again as a grad student. So, as it turns out, going to a flea market and purchasing various knickknacks is NOT in fact a way to go about writing a play that I will actually enjoy. Sorry, Kate. Sorry, Scott. Sorry, Maria. Try again.

Maybe I would like Fefu and Her Friends?
