

Catching Him in Pieces

Catching Him in Pieces, produced by Mondo Bizarro, is an original play about the life and work of New Orleans' poet Everette Maddox. Maddox was a poet, teacher, renowned MC and bar fly. He published several collections of poems in his lifetime, including *Thirteen Original Poems*, *The Everette Maddox Songbook* and *Bar Scotch*. Works published posthumously include *American Waste* and *Rhette's Last Stand* (2004).

In his time, Everette Maddox was considered by many—including fellow New Orleans poet Ralph Adamo—to be the “best loved poet in the city of New Orleans,” both for his poetry and his entertaining public readings. Maddox's poetry is many things, but is perhaps most revered for its undeniable humor and heart aching honesty—all revealed through a voice that is uniquely New Orleans. In short, Maddox was a man who in daily life characterized both the city's unmatched beauty and often times harsh and unforgiving underbelly.

The piece is comprised of Everette Maddox's poems and personal letters, adaptations from literature and original writing. All original writing is composed by Bruce France and Nick Slie with support from local writer and poet Patrick Strange, who also wrote the play's culminating poem, “To New Orleans.”

Performances:

- ASHE Cultural Center, New Orleans, LA. May-June 2006
- Hopkins Black Box, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA. Sept., 2006