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Anna Ziegler wins Stage competition

'Photograph 51' tells DNA scientist's story

By GORDON COX

Scribe Anna Ziegler has won the third annual Stage Intl. Script Competition for her play "Photograph 51."

Award from Stage -- an acronym for Scientists, Technologists and Artists Generating Exploration -- is reserved for new science-centric legit works and comes with a \$10,000 cash prize and development opportunities. Play was selected by a panel of judges that included legit notables David Auburn ("Proof"), David Lindsay-Abaire ("Rabbit Hole") and John Guare ("Six Degrees of Separation").

Set in the 1950s, "Photograph 51" centers on Dr. Rosalind Franklin, the scientist who contributed to Watson and Crick's discoveries about DNA.

Eric Simonson's "Fake," Jennifer Maisel's "There or Here" and Charlotte Rahn-Lee's "Double Helix to Heaven" were singled out as finalists from a pool of almost 150 international entries.

Stage is a collaboration between an artists' lab and a science institute at UC Santa Barbara. Org recently launched the Stage Project, an initiative to enlist creatives to develop scientifically inclined multimedia pieces. Work begins on the first outing, "The Brain Project," in October.

Formerly an annual award, Stage's play kudo will now be handed out on a biennial basis.

Read the full article at:

<http://www.variety.com/article/VR1117990116.html>