Word of the Day for Toastmasters everywhere

Saturday 13th April 2019 - Contributed by at easy-Speak.org
histrionics

(noun) his-tree-ON-iks

Play-acting, insincere and exaggerated emotional behaviour, stagy acting or speech.

Angel proceeded to put on an incredible display of histrionics, peacock-blue eyes flashing, nostrils flaring above his furiously pouting mouth, as he shouted and swore at Alejandro.

Jilly Cooper, *Polo*.

Since we're engaging in histrionics, I believe your response ought now to be "By God, you swine, you'll pay for this".

P.D. James, *Death of an Expert Witness*.

Inside the modern courtroom in Nice's Palais de Justice on the Cote d'Azur, the story of Lord Shaftesbury's decline and demise unfolded with a mixture of pathos, sordid revelations, histrionics and drama that at times became surreal.


Albrecht's first entrance, draped with lilies and a velvet mourning cloak, can easily look like self-regarding histrionics.


The levels of self-importance this New Jersey emo band reach on their third album are awesome. Mining that rich seam of creative inspiration - self-pity - they charge through overblown guitar solos, absurd piano interludes and vocal histrionics to create a kind of ghastly angst-rock opera.