

## Personal Profile

International theatre director, playwright and theatre for development facilitator, post-graduate with experience of creating, coordinating and implementing new writing theatre projects in the United Kingdom, the United States, East & Southern Africa. Also experienced in co-creating international theatre projects focusing on developing and enabling young people, social cohesion, peace-making and conflict resolution in the Global South & North. Recently, I have directed my first Zoom live theatre performance of *Catastrophe [under Lockdown]* featuring Tony Award winning actor John Kani and Jack Klaff. Before the lockdown, I directed two new plays for the South by South East Festival at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury. *Trust*, which was developed as part of the Folkestone 48 Play Festival, and *imPEACHable*, a tribunal theatre piece based on the ongoing impeachment trial of President Donald Trump.

## Education

Goldsmiths College, London, England. 2002 – MA in Theatre Directing

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. 1996 – BA in Journalism & Political Science

## Selected Directing Experience

2020	<i>Catastrophe [under Lockdown]</i>	Zoom Live Theatre Performance	
2020	<i>Trust</i>	South by South East Festival, Gulbenkian Theatre	Canterbury, UK
2020	<i>imPEACHable</i>	South by South East Festival, Gulbenkian Theatre	Canterbury, UK
2019	<i>She Says</i>	Folkestone 48 Play Festival	Folkestone, UK
2016	<i>Gidion's Knot</i>	Woman & War Festival, So & So Art Club	London, UK
2014	<i>The Robben Island Shakespeare</i>	Michael Oak School	Cape Town, South Africa
2014	<i>A Day in the Life</i> (Forum Theatre)	Houses of Parliament	London, UK
2013	<i>Pimlico</i>	Hoxton Hall	London, UK
2012	<i>Gender Equality in the UK</i> (Forum Theatre)	Committed Artists	Durban, South Africa
2011	<i>Living with HIV in the UK</i>	Tikondane Primary School	Lilongwe, Malawi
2008	<i>SubUrbia</i>	Southwark Theatre	London, UK
2006	<i>Laramie Project</i>	Tabard Theatre	London, UK
2004 – 06	<i>subVERSE</i>	Theatre 503	London, UK
2004	<i>Who Wants to be the Disco King?</i>	LOST Theatre Company	Edinburgh, Scotland

## Selected Achievements

**Commedia dell' Arte, Folkestone** – Arts Council funded research and development project to train professional and refugee theatre makers in the art of Commedia dell' Arte.

**MRC / AHRC Global Public Health Bid with the Stockholm Environment Institute Environment Department, University of York.** I was a co-investigator as a forum theatre for advocacy expert.

**subVERSE:** Co-ordinated, directed, casted and curated over 300 pieces of new writing of a contemporary and political nature over a three-year theatre residency at theatre503. This led to high profile performances in theatres in London and Edinburgh as well as within the activist movement.

**Playwright, *The Robben Island Shakespeare*:** Researched, designed and implemented a play that examines leadership under extreme conditions that faced leaders of the anti-Apartheid movement in South Africa, through primary interviews and selected text from 'The Complete Works of William Shakespeare'.

**Ethical Leadership Workshop:** Design and lead workshops that examine the current leadership situation on a personal, local & national level targeted at young people. The young people deliver a performance of Shakespeare, monologues from the former political prisoners' interviews as well as new pieces of creative writing.

**Common Air Theatre Company:** Lead a participatory theatre company that produces socially aware productions working within a community to advocate for social change and human rights. Facilitate interactive theatre workshops and direct verbatim theatre pieces on gender and human rights as well as conflict resolution and peace negotiation through behaviour change strategies and strengthening communication skills.

**For more information about my work, please visit:** [www.MatthewHahn.org.uk](http://www.MatthewHahn.org.uk); [www.RobbenIslandShakespeare.co.uk](http://www.RobbenIslandShakespeare.co.uk); [uk.linkedin.com/in/hahnmatthew1](http://uk.linkedin.com/in/hahnmatthew1).