

Matthew Hahn

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International theatre director, playwright, senior lecturer & theatre for development facilitator, post-graduate with experience of creating, coordinating and implementing 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.

Under lockdown, I have been busy adapting my practice for an online world though the facilitating and directing of online workshops and plays for a variety of community centres, theatres and theatre festivals. Recently, I directed a Zoom live theatre performance of Catastrophe [under Lockdown] featuring Tony Award winning actor John Kani & Jack Klaff. Before 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 impeachment trial of President Donald Trump.

Education

Goldsmiths College – London, England, MA in Theatre Directing

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

Selected Directing Experience

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| 2020 | <i>Banana</i> | New Writing/New Normal Festival | International |
| 2020 | <i>The Rivonia Trial Tribunal Play</i> | Radio Play | [R & D] |
| 2020 | <i>Sanctuary</i> | WriteNow Berlin Festival | International |
| 2020 | <i>Catastrophe [under Lockdown]</i> | Peacock Theatre Festival of Civil Liberties | International |
| 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 (Forum Theatre)</i> | Houses of Parliament | London, UK |
| 2013 | <i>Pimlico</i> | Hoxton Hall | London, UK |
| 2012 | <i>Gender Equality in the UK (Forum Theatre)</i> | 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 |
| 2004 – 06 | <i>subVERSE</i> | Theatre 503 | London, UK |
| 2004 | <i>Who Wants to be the Disco King?</i> | LOST Theatre Company | Edinburgh, Scotland |

Recent Employment

St. Mary's University – Senior Lecturer, Drama Programme – 2013 – 2018.

St. Mary's University – Lecturer, Drama – 2008 – 2013.

Selected Achievements

Trustee – Most Mira, arts focused charity that builds bridges between divided communities in Bosnia.

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.

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'.

Utopia Theatre Creative Hub: Workshop to adapt Forum Theatre practice to an online platform.

Akoma Asa Arts Performing Arts Academy, London: Online workshops for young people examining racism & empowerment through broadcast journalism and forum theatre workshops.

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: Co-investigator as a forum theatre for advocacy expert.

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.

Selected Training

Viewpoints Training:

Theatre Foundry, London, UK.

SITI Company, New York City.

Anne Bogart, Dublin, Ireland.

Forum Theatre / Joker Training Programme:

Cardboard Citizens Theatre Company.

For more information about my work, please visit:

www.MatthewHahn.org.uk;

www.RobbenIslandShakespeare.co.uk