

**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.

Artistic director of the Folkestone Performing Arts Centre and runs their Community Theatre outreach group and the Ensemble Company. FPAC is a new work incubation space, training centre to develop performing artists and community hub in Folkestone, UK.

Currently, he is devising shows with PROJEKT EUROPA at the Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury for PROJEKT ENCOUNTER. Recently, he directed *Art* by Yasmina Reza [winner outstanding director & outstanding play, Tournament of Plays Award] in Brussels for the SHAPE Theatre and directed a community theatre project at the Tower Theatre with Counterpoints Arts, the NHS and men from Napier Barracks.

## Education

**Goldsmiths College** – London, England, MA in Theatre Directing

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

## Selected Directing Experience

2022	<i>Like Birds</i>	Projekt Europa, Marlowe Theatre	Canterbury, UK
2022	<i>Art</i>	SHAPE THEATRE	Brussels, Belgium
2021	<i>Wasted Words</i>	<i>The Festival of Fleeting Words</i>	Online / International
2020	<i>Banana</i>	<i>New Writing/New Normal Festival</i>	Online / International
2020	<i>The Rivonia Trial Tribunal Play</i>	Radio Play	[R & D]
2020	<i>Sanctuary</i>	WriteNow Berlin Festival	Online / International
2020	<i>Catastrophe [under Lockdown]</i>	Peacock Festival of Civil Liberties	Online / 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</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
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, Sheffield, UK - Facilitator** of online workshop to adapt Forum Theatre practice to an online platform.

**MRC-NRF Tupumue UK / Kenya - Newton Fund's UK-Kenya Joint Partnership on Non-Communicable Diseases. Co-investigator as a legislative theatre for advocacy expert.**

**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.**

**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](http://www.MatthewHahn.org.uk);

[www.RobbenIslandShakespeare.co.uk](http://www.RobbenIslandShakespeare.co.uk)