

# MATT RUDKIN

Theatre maker and trainer

## SUMMARY

Following an Art School education I have worked in puppetry, cabaret, street theatre and devised performance as a performer, writer, director and maker. I created and compered Edinburgh's original *Bongo Club Cabaret*, concurrently performing with the Edinburgh Puppet Company for 5 years. I performed over 200 times in the street theatre show, *'The Incredible Bull Circus'*, and in 2009 I began making indoor work as *'Inconvenient Spoof'* with Silvia Mercuriali, also co-writing her audio tour *'Wondermart'*. I have performed throughout the UK and Ireland, in France, Belgium, Holland, Finland, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Japan and China. I have created a large variety of theatre work, including 4 Arts Council funded shows, as listed below. For more information about all my work visit [mattrudkin.co.uk](http://mattrudkin.co.uk). I have been a regular reviewer for Total Theatre since 2012 and all my reviews can be seen here: [TT reviews](#)

I have also taught Theatre Arts in HE and FE, predominantly as a Senior Lecturer for 17 years at the University of Brighton. I have designed and delivered critical and creative programmes of study and developed a wide range of exercises for training skills in improvisation, acting, writing and puppetry. I have worked as a Level 4 coordinator, a Student Experience Coordinator and an External Examiner. My academic knowledge relates to the history of contemporary Fine art and theatre practice, with particular interests in early modernism, postmodern theories of language, evolutionary psychology and Flow theory. My performance practice was included in the Research Excellence Framework (2014).



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## HIGHER EDUCATION and TRAINING

UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON	Higher Education Academy Teaching Fellowship D2	2014
UTRECHT UNIVERSITY	Summer school for researchers in 'Games and Play'	2014
THE ACTORS SPACE (BARCELONA)	Physical Theatre & Clown training	2002
CENTRAL SCHOOL OF SPEECH AND DRAMA	MA Performance Studies	1998–99
ECOLE PHILIPPE GAULIER	Physical theatre & Clown training	1995
TOMORROW'S PEOPLE	NVQ II Information Technology	1993-94
NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY	BA (Hons) Creative Arts (1st) Art & Design Foundation Course	1988–91 1987–88

## TEACHING PRACTICE

UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON	Visiting tutor (Clown & Devising) HE	2019-2020
BRIGHTON MET. COLLEGE	Visiting tutor (Acting, Puppetry & Devising) HE	2018-2019
UCA (Farnham)	Visiting tutor (Acting) HE	2018-2019
STAGECOACH (Brighton)	Drama tutor for children ages 6- 15	2018-2020
BRICCT (Brighton)	Visiting tutor (puppetry) FE	2018-2019
MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY (CHICKENSHED)	External Examiner (Inclusive Performance) FE/HE	2015-2019
UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON	Senior Lecturer (Theatre and Performance) HE	2002–2017
CITY COLLEGE (Brighton)	Visiting tutor (Acting) FE	Jan–Mar 2016
GOLDSMITHS UNIVERSITY	Visiting lecturer (Critical Studies) HE	Spring 2005
EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY (Australia)	Artist in residence (Devised Theatre) HE	Aug-Oct 2004
ROSE BRUFORD COLLEGE	Visiting lecturer (Shakespeare) HE	Oct–Dec1999

## THEATRE PRACTICE

The work listed on the following page is divided into Devised Theatre, Street Theatre, Puppetry, Directing and Cabaret. In each category the work is listed chronologically. I have worked on numerous smaller jobs that are not included here.

## DEvised THEATRE as *Inconvenient Spoof productions*

### **'FAKE HIP GNOSIS'** 2016-17

A 50-minute, absurdist show based on extracts from Hypnotic tracks and Self-development seminars, created with Meredith Colchester and Joe Mulcrone. Shown at The Marlborough Theatre, Brighton Fringe 2016, and Rialto theatre, Brighton '17.

### **'THE ROOM IN THE ELEPHANT'** 2015-17

A highly self-referential hour-long indoor show created with M.Colchester and J.Mulcrone. Shown at the Marlborough Theatre, Chats Palace, Camden People's Theatre, Hen and Chickens (London), Heroes of Fringe (Ed.) and Carlisle fringe.

### **'BUDDHISM: IS IT JUST FOR LOSERS?'** 2013-14

An ACE funded indoor show concerning the limitations of conceptual thought. Made with Meredith Colchester and Joe Mulcrone - Shown at the Nightingale & Marlborough Theatres (Brighton); Mimetic festival & Camden Peoples Theatre (London)

### **'NAÏVE DANCE MASTERCLASS'** 2011-16

An ACE-funded 50-minute show created with Silvia Mercuriali, with direction from Liz Aggiss and Petra Massey. Appearances include: Old Market & Nightingale Theatres (Brighton), 'Peraspera' festival (Bologna), Soho Theatre & Canada Water Cultural Space (London), The Edinburgh Fringe and London Clown Festival. Cabaret appearances including Duckie (London)

### **'DEAN GIBBONS AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF DEATH'** 2009-11

An ACE-funded show exploring links between Evolutionary Psychology and 'Peak Oil' theory, made with Silvia Mercuriali with direction from David Woods (Ridiculusmus). 9 venue UK tour.

## STREET THEATRE

### **'YOU'RE GETTING WARMER'** - Performer. 2016

Appearing as the meteorologist, 'Dr. Lockheed' in this semi-scripted Street theatre / Art trail experience for family groups by Pebble Gorge performed in Norwich, Oxford, Maidenhead, Bournemouth, Reading, Farnham. 2015-16.

### **'THE TERRIBLE SHAMAN'** - Director & Performer. 2012

Commissioned by the Nightingale theatre as part of the 'Dip Your Toe' and created with Annie Brooks and Orlando Britts. Performed at Milton Keynes, Brighton and Amiens fringe festivals.

### **'WONDERMART'** - Co-Writer. 2009

Made with Silvia Mercuriali, this interactive audio takes place in any supermarket. Appearances include: 'Burst' festival (London), Dublin festival, Edinburgh fringe, Mois Multi Festival (Quebec), Colorado Springs; Brisbane Powerhouse and Melbourne Arts House (Australia); Welsh Millennium Centre (Cardiff); and Kampgnagel (German translation).

### **'INSIDE OUT'** - Performer & deviser. 2007-08

A silent clown show for family audiences made with Fraser Hooper; toured the indoor venues and Street Arts festivals.

### **'THE SHOP'** - Performer & writer. 2006

A street theatre show presented at Winchester Hat fair, 'Watch this Space' (National Theatre) and Brighton Street Festival.

### **'THE INCREDIBLE BULL CIRCUS'** - Performer. 2003-07

A street theatre clown show performed with Mikey Martins. Over 200 appearances, including at: Winchester Hat Fair (UK), 'Just for Laughs' (Montreal), 'World Buskers festival' (New Zealand); 'Feste de Ville' (France); 'Humourology' (Belgium) and Melbourne Comedy festival.

## PUPPETRY

**'PUPPETS WITH GUTS'** – Performer. Touring with two shows for this large-scale, outdoor arts company. 2019

**'THE TIME MACHINE'** – Writer, Performer & maker. 2018

A Creative Scotland funded adaptation of H.G.Wells' sci-fi tale - premiered at the Scottish Storytelling Centre and performed on a Scottish tour and Edinburgh fringe. 2018.

**SHANGHAI PUPPETRY FESTIVAL**– W'kshop leader. 2014

Working with Rick Conte to lead teenagers through puppetry workshops and direct shows during a 4-day festival.

**PUPPET INTERVENTIONS** - Writer & performer. 2005-06

Puppetry sketches written and performer with Rick Conte for EU alcohol-policy conferences presented at Warsaw' and Helsinki .

**THE EDINBURGH PUPPET COMPANY** – 1993-2001

Working on various projects ranging from 2-month national tours to 2-week community carnival projects.

### **PUPPET & PROP MAKER**

For various companies, including the Emporium Theatre, Il Pixel Rosso, Showtime Productions and Boogaloo Stu. (See website for images and video)

## DIRECTING

**'THE WORKS', 'CURIODDITY'** and **'MYSTERIUM'** 2010-18

Working for Jon Hicks during development of these prop-based, visual comedy shows - various venues including Jackson's Lane.

**'LITTLE HONKEY'** 2012-14

An irreverent 60-minute Nativity Pantomime co-written with Joe Kenny and performed annually for 3 years at the Marlborough Theatre.

**'FUNNY PECULIAR'** 2014

Direction for Red Herring, during development of this street theatre tour based on eccentric Brighton characters, shown at Brighton Fringe.

**'SITTING BEAR and the MAN in the MOON'S REFLECTION'**. 2008

A 50 min. puppet-based show shown at 'Shunt Lounge (London), The Komedia & The Basement (Brighton).

**'THE TWISTED LADDER'** for W.A.A.P.A. (Perth, Aus.). 2004

An 80-minute devised show made over 8 weeks in residency at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts with students from the Contemporary Theatre Arts degree. Presented over a five-nights at Edith Cowan University, Perth. 2004.

**'TO DO ONE DOES'** and **'QUITE VERTICAL'** 1993

Devised theatre shows created with Ailie Cohen.

## CABARET

**'THE HAPPY CLAP TRAP'** - Coordinator & Host. 2012-14

An alternative arts cabaret that appeared quarterly at the Marlborough Theatre (Brighton).

**'THE BONGO CLUB CABARET'**- Coordinator & Host. '94-01

A late night Arts Cabaret that ran annually throughout the Edinburgh Fringe festival at Out of the Blue Arts, New Street.

### **PERFORMER**

I have hosted various others events, and also performed extracts from my devised shows as cabaret acts on numerous occasions.