

Meet the team

Rachel Conlon

Director of the YSJ Prison Partnership Project and Senior Lecturer in Theatre specialising in socially engaged arts practice, with a particular interest in theatre in the criminal justice system. Her practice investigates women's personal and collective narratives and explores the relationship women navigate between the inside and outside of prison. Her work is driven by a social justice and feminist agenda. Her postgraduate training was in both Drama Therapy and in Applied Theatre and her work takes on a therapeutic approach in its process and delivery, offering the potential for change, empowerment and transformation. She also co-coordinates and co-delivers the 'On the Out' project that creatively engages with women post release from prison and in recovery living in the local York community and with young girls at risk of the criminal justice system.

<https://www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/prison-partnership-project/on-the-out/>

With a professional career that spans over the last 30 years, she is also an active practitioner nationally in the field of drama with young people at risk and makes educational theatre and film work with, for and by diverse youth communities in partnership with the NSPCC. The work explores issues surrounding child sexual exploitation and interpersonal domestic violence and acts as an intervention tool for young people to seek help and support. She delivers training for the NSPCC with teachers, youth workers and public sector professionals.

<https://www.yorks.ac.uk/working-with-the-community/nspcc-partnership>

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Phyllida Lloyd

Phyllida's directing credits include: Grenfell: In The Words Of Survivors (National Theatre and St Ann's Warehouse, New York) TINA: The Tina Turner Musical , Mamma Mia, (London, Broadway and Worldwide) Mary Stuart (London and Broadway) The Donmar Shakespeare Trilogy, Josephine and I (London and New York) The Taming of the Shrew (Shakespeare in the Park). Films include - Mamma Mia, The Iron Lady and Herself.

Kate Pakenham

Kate was Producer at The Old Vic Theatre for 11 years, Executive Producer at the Donmar Warehouse for 7 years and, since 2018, has been producing independently in London and New York through her company Kate Pakenham Productions. She also acts as an executive and creative consultant across the cultural sector.

Contact: kate@katepakenham.com

Jordana Golbourn

Jordana is a Community Theatre Maker who has worked as an Artist Facilitator and Researcher on the Shakespeare on Screen in Prisons Project completing a Masters by Research on The use of metaphor in personal and community narratives: Women in the Criminal Justice System and the Shakespeare on Screen in Prison Project.

She is a collaborative artist driven by play, curiosity and care, directing, producing and facilitating professional and inclusive projects with community artists that take place in a variety of settings including theatres, women's centres, schools and YMCAs. She has worked for companies such as Clean Break, Donmar Warehouse, Almeida Theatre, Lyric Hammersmith and Young Vic Theatre.

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Jessica Robson

Jessica is a Theatre Maker, Director and Actor who has worked on the York St John University Prison Partnership Project since 2014 running drama and creative projects with women in prison and creating important theatre shows to open up public conversations. As a part of this work Jess facilitated on the Shakespeare on Screen in Prisons Project.

As an artist she holds social justice, hope, community and collaboration at the centre of all she does, working with a variety of communities such as in prisons, SEND communities (adults & children), in schools, women refugees, mental health hospitals, with people in recovery and with people experiencing homelessness.

Jess now runs a not-for-profit theatre company, Night-Light Theatre as a Creative Producer and Director; producing, directing & facilitating theatre, film and arts for wellbeing projects in a variety of settings and collaborating with a wide range of organisations such as the NHS, HMPS, charities supporting those with lived experience of homelessness and Theatres.

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Jennifer Joseph

Jennifer has been a Clean Break Member since 2010. After completing her studies and performing in multiple short touring productions with the company, Jen is now a successful actor. She continues to work with Clean Break, speaking about her experiences and performing in the company's work, most recently in Hear by Deborah Bruce which was performed at the House of Lords. Between 2014-2016, she acted alongside a stellar cast in Phyllida Lloyd's Shakespeare Trilogy for the Donmar Warehouse also Paradise at the National Theatre and continues to find other success both on stage and screen. As a potent advocate for Arts in Prisons, she takes part in outreach programmes about penal issues and is an Ambassador for Women In Prison. Her most recent roles include appearances in Flush at the Matchstick Theatre, and in the horror film Patient Zero, directed by Russell Owen even more recently appeared and collaborated in Royal Court's Inside Bitch 2019. Jen's credits continue appearing in shows like My Mad Fat Diary, TopBoy, Riches, Used To Be Famous and a number of short films. Jen is currently working on developing her new theatre company called Nubian CoHearts and hoping to have its first complete showing sometime this year.

Harriet Walter

Harriet Walter trained at LAMDA and has worked extensively in theatre, film television and radio. Her television credits include Sky Atlantic's The End, Silo, Succession, Ted Lasso, Killing Eve, Belgravia, Law and Order:UK, Doctor Who Christmas special and The Crown. Films include The Last Duel, Herself, Rocketman, Star Wars; The Force Awakens, The Sense of an Ending Sense and Sensibility, Young Victoria, Atonement and Louis Malle's

Milou en Mai. On stage she is best known for her Shakespearean work, from Viola and Ophelia to Beatrice, Lady Macbeth and Cleopatra. Most recently she played Brutus, Henry IV and Prospero in the all-female trilogy for the Donmar Theatre which set the plays in a women's prison.

Harriet is also a published author of ; Brutus and Other Heroines, (Nick Hern Books), Other People's Shoes (also Nick Hern Books), Macbeth; portrait of a marriage (Faber), Facing It, a book of images of older women and the upcoming She Speaks! What Shakespeare's Women Might have Said (Virago)

Harriet is a patron of Clean Break and of Prisoners Abroad.

She was awarded a CBE in 2000, and a Damehood in 2011.

Clare Dunne

Clare is a writer and actress currently most known for playing Amanda in Kin on RTE and BBC One. At first working mainly in theatre across numerous stages in the world, Clare eventually wrote her first feature film 'Herself', which she also starred in. This film was her first venture as a screenwriter and she was encouraged and mentored by Phyllida Lloyd after a long theatrical journey in the Donmar Shakespeare series where she played a prisoner playing roles such as Portia in Julius Caesar and Prince Hal in Henry IV.

The film 'Herself' premiered to rave reviews at the Sundance Film Festival and was the closing film for DIFF 2020, winning the Human Rights Film Award and an IFTA for Best Script in 2021. Clare is currently working on her next feature which she is set to direct in 2025. More of her work as a screen actor releases across Autumn of 2024.

Tea Films

With over 15 years of experience TEA films' award winning team of creatives strive to share the voices and narratives that aren't always explored. They produce a wide variety of films including Shorts and Docs, Music Videos, and Promos. TEA films were one of the first companies to produce video content enhancing theatrical productions, and have gone on to collaborate with companies such as Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, The Royal Court, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Frantic Assembly, The Young Vic and many more.

Website: <https://teafilms.com/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/TEAfilms>



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