

TAYLOR AYLING

Director and Movement Director.

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Personal Statement

One of my earliest memories is sitting on a bed, watching my mother put on make-up to go to AA meetings. I remember asking her why she was leaving me. "To get better" she'd say. I was confused but fascinated. From a very young age, well-being and a passionate search for meaning seemed to drive me. Growing up working-class, theatre was my escape from crime, addiction and despair. Theatre gave me drive and purpose and a way to envision a better future.

As an adult, I have explored the most experimental and most traditional forms of performance in the world, from the basement of abandoned prisons, assistant producing performance art festivals, to working in a rural Hungarian monastery, studying performing arts from around the world. I seek out radically contrary theatrical experiences. Why? Because I live in two worlds. One working-class and the other, theatre. My drive as an artist is to understand and cultivate the power of people getting together in a room, of whatever race, gender, sexuality, ability, social status, like my mother still does, to tell their story and maybe, just maybe, get better too.

EDUCATION

M.A Contemporary Directing Practice

Rose Bruford College

2021 - 2022

1st Class B.A hons - European Theatre Arts

Rose Bruford College

2013 - 2016

TRAINING

Viewpoints

Devising

Greek Chorus

Directing Internship with Ivo Van Hove at ITA

Act to acting workshop w/ Jan Fabre Stanislavski (Active Analysis)

International School of Theatre Anthropology

Kathakali

Butoh

Performance Art

INTERESTS

World religion, travel and culture are my biggest interests. I love music and constantly have something playing anything between funk and disco to hip hop and then ambient. I am also an avid writer, I use my free time writing short stories and plays. I also trained as a children's entertainer, and although I don't do magic shows for kids anymore, my nephews seem to laugh at me all the time. I also learnt how to use adobe when trying to save money on a graphic designer and now use the skills to create digital art!

SKILLS

Workshop Facilitation
Theatre for children
Actor Training
Composition Analysis
Leading a design process

Pitch writing
Rehearsal planning
Leading technical rehearsals

CURRENT/PAST PROJECTS

Artistic Director

Public Weird Theatre, Bristol

2018 - Present

Producer

RAM theatre festival
Studio 18, Stroud

September 2024

Director

Watch Me Die (Tour, Devised production)
Loco Klub, Bristol, Front Room, Weston, Studio 18, Stroud

Oct 2023 -
April 2025

Director

A Mouthful of Birds by Caryl Churchill & David Lan
Rose Bruford College, Studio Theatre, Sidcup

June 2023

Actor

Anastasis by Eugenio Barba for ISTA
National Theatre of Hungary, Main Stage, Budapest

May 2023

Director

The Mystery of Edwin Drood by Rupert Holmes
Weston College, Tropicana Gallery theatre, Weston Super Mare

March 2023

Directing Intern

My Heavenly Favourite directed by Ivo van Hove
International Theatre Amsterdam, Amsterdam

November 2022

Director/Actor

The First King of Britain (Adapted by Taylor Ayling from
Geoffrey of Monmouth's History of the Kings of Britain)
Brookmill Pub, St Johns, London.

September 2022

Assistant Director

This Restless House by Zinnie Harris
directed by Walter Meierjohann
Stone Nest, London

July 2022

Director

X by Alistair McDowell
Rose Bruford College
Studio Theatre, Sidcup

June 2022

Director/Actor

Pyggie (Adapted by Taylor Ayling from Ovid's
Pygmalion), Public Weird
All Saints Church, Bristol

September 2021

Director/Actor

Perpetual: A Noise Art Opera
Between Teeth, The Bunker, London

November 2018