

C.V.

Danusia Iwaszko

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Current Projects:

The Wisdom Club: “A wonderful, relatable story which carries a message about how the older generation is undervalued and dismissed, but all wrapped up in a witty, touching tale of friendship and possibility.”
East Anglia Daily Times.

Developed from workshops with older people. Ran for 16 performances February 2019 at The Theatre Royal Bury St. Edmunds directed by Roger Haines. Producer Jenny King is currently developing a U.K. tour for 2020.

Refuge: Secured an Arts Council Grant for the development of a play based on work in Women’s Refuges in the UK. Producer: Bury Theatre Royal 2021.

Mystery Plays: Writing a cycle of Modern Mystery Plays for the 1000th anniversary of the Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds for staging in 2020.

Theatre Royal Bury St. Edmunds. 2007-present:

Associate Artist work: seeking out groups in Suffolk and delivering writing workshops to help them find a voice.

2016-19 Worked with Age U.K resulting in *The Wisdom Club*. (see above).

2016-2019 Women in refuge, staging their writing at the theatre and in Ipswich. (New commission to be stage 2021.)

2017-2018 Special needs group. 2 devised plays staged at the theatre.

2017 & 2018. The homeless, staging their monologues at the theatre and at an international festival in Manchester for the arts and homeless 2018.

2019 Brought together members of all the above groups and wrote *The More Things Change ...* Dealing with their issues over 200 years, exploring how things have and haven’t changed. Part of the theatre’s 200th Anniversary celebration.

Other Theatre Royal Bury commissions:

2015 *A Labour of Love*. A musical about the restoration of the theatre from barrel store to Regency theatre in the 1960’s.

2009 *Between The Cracks*. About the condition Personality Disorder.

2008 *A Hard Road For Tommy*. A youth play about road safety.

Theatre Royal York: Commissions:

2017 and 2019 *The Force of Nature*. Part of Playhouse youth project. Played York, Plymouth, Birmingham Dundee and London.

2017 *Wonderful*. Youth play co-pro York and Pilot played York and Sydney.

2015 *The Creation*. Winner of York's Modern Mystery Play Competition.

2012 *In My Father's House*. Site specific in a Regency House in York.

Menagerie Theatre Cambridge: Associate Artist.

Writing workshops, directing and acting. Writing produced at Hotbed:

2017 *The Ascension* A modern day Sisyphus on Primrose Hill.

2014 *Oran's Message*. Are visions real or in the realm of madness?

2008 *A and E* class wars.

Eastern Angles Theatre. Commissions:

2016 *Nativity Blues*. Modern Nativity play. Musical.

2012 *The Lincoln Road*. About race conflict in Peterborough.

The New Wolsey Theatre Ipswich:

2019 Active Learning. Consultant to embed drama in school curriculums.

2018 New Writing consultant on new youth commissions.

2017 Leading a series of new writing workshops.

Danusia has been a new writing mentor for The Traverse Theatre, The New Wolsey Theatre, Slow Theatre and Synergy Theatre in prisons, where she has delivered playwrighting workshops since 2008 to the present.

Her play *Still Life* (published by Unthank Books) won the Women and Writing Competition in 2016 and also London's One Person Play Competition. It has been staged in London, Edinburgh, Ireland and Sydney.

She won the Theatre Royal York's Modern Mystery Play Competition in 2015 with *The Creation* and her play *One Glass Wall* (published by Oberon Books staged at Theatre 503) was short-listed for The Pearson Prize by the National Theatre and led to her being attached writer at The National Theatre Studio where she wrote "Blood Ties."

She has her own company, The Hal Company, where she develops experimental plays: *Still Small Voice*, about the Quakers, *Rough Cut*, about the cult of celebrity (The Riverside Studios Hammersmith) and *Headlands* exploring mental health (Co-pro Colchester Mercury and Hal.)

Danusia was born in London to an Irish mother and Polish father. She started her career as an actress, then wrote sketch comedy for TV and now, because her real love is live theatre, she earns her living as a playwright. Danusia lives in Suffolk.