

HEATHER CASSIDY

Theatre Practitioner

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Master of Arts: Arts in Social Contexts / Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (2008)

M.A. (Honours): Theatre Studies and English Literature / University of Glasgow (2003)

CURRENT PROJECTS

INTER-ACT (NHS)

Drama Facilitator September – November 09 (Primary 6 - 7)

'Max in the Middle' is a week-long experiential health & wellbeing project for Primary 6 & 7 pupils in the Forth Valley area. The project encompasses drama, dance, and cookery, and encourages the children to think about being active in making healthy choices. Our residency in each school concludes with a performance for an invited audience of parents, carers and members of the local community. This project also ran in January – March 09.

DRAMAWORKS (RSAMD)

Drama Tutor August – December 09 (Primary 1 - 2)

I will be running two terms of Saturday and Sunday workshops for Dramaworks, working with Lower Primary Age children to develop their creativity via storytelling, visual art, play and performance.

RSAMD / FOCUS WEST

Drama Workshop Leader February 04 – ongoing (Secondary 1)

The RSAMD Interactive Drama Workshop, *Charlie's Future*, is designed to challenge pupils at the start of their Secondary School education to consider their personal potential, their future education and career paths, and how best to go about achieving these ambitions. This workshop originally ran as part of the GOALS project.

PAST PROJECTS

ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL / FUSIONS

Every summer I run an arts week for *Fusions*, an initiative based at Kirn Primary School in Dunoon which provides extra learning support for children with a range of additional support needs. The summer arts week can involve anything from drama, movement, and puppetry, through to percussion, art, gardening, and storytelling, depending upon our theme for the week and the children's interests.

Drama Arts Worker Every August 05 - 09 (Ages 6 – 14)

2009 **The Beachcomber:** Discovering stories about what washes up on the shore.

2008 **The Wild Side:** Adventures in a colourful wilderness.

2007 **Green Fingers:** Find out what's lurking at the bottom of the garden.

2006 **The Caped Crusaders:** The world of the superhero.

2005 **The Big Blue Adventure:** An imaginary journey beneath the sea.

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Workshop Director August 09 (Ages 8 – 12)

Three days of workshops developing a new audience for drama and creative activities in the Lennoxton area. The theme for the workshops was *My Whole World* and explored ideas around 'Home' to mark Scotland's Year of Homecoming.

LYCEUM YOUTH THEATRE

Youth Theatre Assistant Tutor _____ May - June 09 _____ (Ages 5 - 7)

I assisted Heather Fulton with a block of four PLAY! Sessions for Lower Primary age children, on the theme of superheroes.

Youth Theatre Tutor _____ January – February 08 _____ (Ages 11 – 18)

As part of my Masters course, I ran five drama sessions exploring the themes of *Six Characters in Search of an Author* with a group of young people who were on the waiting list to join regular LyT activities. This project gave them the chance to engage with the youth theatre on a one-off project. I co-delivered this project with actress Amanda Beveridge and with mentorship from Steve Small.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

Workshop Director _____ April – June 09 _____ (Nursery)

'Up, Up, and Away' was a project that explored the transition from nursery to primary school for children in three nursery classes. Working in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council's cultural-coordinator team and nursery teaching staff, I wrote a six-visit project that used drama, creative play, storytelling and puppetry to explore ideas around routine, change, emotions, friendships and people who help us. Two of the nursery classes were joined by their parents in the final session, so that the ideas we explored could be shared and used back at home.

BORDERLINE THEATRE

Workshop Director _____ April 09 _____ (Ages 12 – 16)

This workshop ran as part of a day-long Youth Conference at Cumnock Academy in the Easter Holidays. Through the workshop we explored the way that young people are viewed via the media, and what positive, constructive things the young people can do to challenge negative opinions about them.

DRAMAWORKS (RSAMD)

Drama Tutor _____ January – June 09 _____ (Secondary 4 – 6)

Over two terms, I worked with a group of young people, aged 15 - 17, who attended Dramaworks on a Sunday. In the first term they researched and devised a short performance piece which explored politics, the government, and rebellion. In the second term they explored different kinds of Text, including scripts, creative writing, video documentary and oral storytelling.

CATHERINE WHEELS THEATRE COMPANY

Education Facilitator _____ August – November 08 _____ (Primary 1 – 3)

A Town Called Elsewhere Tour: I toured Scotland with Catherine Wheels Theatre Company running workshops with Primary 1 – 3 classes and Continuing Professional Development sessions for teachers. The week after the workshops, the pupils saw a performance of *A Town Called Elsewhere* in their school hall or local community centre. The project explored citizenship, belonging and fitting in. I also worked on the original tour of this project in February 2007.

SCOTTISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Refugee Week Assistant _____ April – July 08 _____

I worked with the Arts & Cultural Development Officer to programme, co-ordinate, market, and evaluate *Refugee Week Scotland 2008*. During the Week, more than 90 events took place, including theatre, dance, music, exhibitions, talks, film screenings, media awards, and community celebrations.

IMAGINATE

Delegate Host _____ May 08 _____

Imagine invited me to Host one of their Delegate groups at the 2008 *Imagine Festival* (previously known as the Bank of Scotland Children's International Theatre Festival).

GIANT

I have worked for Giant in a Freelance capacity since October 2004 on a number of projects for 2 – 11 year olds. This has involved a wide variety of duties, including writing and delivering cross-art form workshops, evaluating projects, liaising with schools and communities, and developing an inclusive approach to my work. The three projects that I delivered most recently for Giant were:

Storyteller, Writer & Training Facilitator August – April 08 (Ages 2 - 4 / Professionals CPD)

Early Years Storytelling and creative play workshops for 2 – 4 year olds using books and original stories. I also delivered twilight training sessions to childcare and teaching professionals on how to make storytelling interactive.

Lead Drama Artist October 07 (Ages 3 – 5)

A week-long series of workshops in collaboration with a Visual Artist as part of the Nursery programme for the *Inspirations Festival*, using art, drama, storytelling, and creative play to explore the artwork of Picasso, Calder and Klee.

Drama Officer April – October 07 (Ages 3 – 11)

Over six-months I worked for Giant three-days a week to develop and deliver the drama programme for the new Giant Workshop Space on the Saltmarket, and also worked as part of the Giant Creative Team to deliver a range of other projects, including an Inclusive Schools project, developing an Early Years Storytelling programme, and running an After School Drama group.

INTER-ACT (NHS)

Drama Worker March 08

This project delivered day-long workshops for thirteen Primary 7 classes on Alcohol and Cigarette awareness. It also included a training session for teachers, who facilitated the education days in collaboration with the Inter-Act Drama Workers.

Drama Worker April – May 07 (Secondary 3)

Over the course of four weeks, I worked with a group of ten S3 pupils who were having difficulty engaging with school. We worked outside of the school campus, using drama to improve their confidence and develop their skills. The group went on to make short films and video diaries about their school experiences.

Drama Worker February – March 07 (Primary 6 - 7)

The *Max in the Middle* workshop tour involved Primary 6/7 pupils in a gameshow-style drama workshop which looked at issues of health, body-image and happiness.

SCOTTISH YOUTH THEATRE

Drama Tutor January – March 07 (Ages 6 – 8)

For SYT, I ran a ten-week drama project for 6 – 8 year olds, as part of their Saturday workshop programme.

REELING & WRITHING

Education Officer September – November 06 (Ages 11 – 18)

I delivered workshops with young people immediately after performances of *My Dark Sky*, which investigated the final days of The White Rose Resistance – a group of young people executed in Munich in 1943 following their protests against Nazi Germany. I also assisted in the delivery of Continuing Professional Development sessions for teachers.

Project Administrator June – September 06

As Project Administrator for *My Dark Sky*, I coordinated the tour programme and designed and implemented Feedback procedures for pupils, teachers and the general public. The tour opened at the Tramway, before touring across Scotland.

Tour Programmer September 05 – February 06

I programmed Reeling & Writhing's first national tour, *Good Reason*, playing 19 dates across Scotland.

PITLOCHRY FESTIVAL THEATRE

Director & Project Leader August 06 (Ages 12 – 16)

Over the course of five days, I worked with a group of young people at PFT, devising a detective drama, *Murder in the Manor*, which was then performed in promenade around Explorer's Garden.

Outreach Drama Tutor October – December 05 (Ages 8 -12)

I worked as one of a team of three arts workers, writing and delivering PFT's first HIPER Outreach Project, widening access to the arts for 8 – 12 year olds in the surrounding areas of Blair Atholl, Blairgowrie, Aberfeldy and Kenmore.

GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY / GOALS

Drama Leader June 06 – June 08 (Ages 10 – 11)

Fairtrade and Recycling Drama Workshops run as part of Primary 7 visits to Higher Education Campuses in West Scotland. This project concluded in June 2008.

WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL

Arts Worker May – June 06

This was a four-week pilot programme for West Lothian Council, working with a group of post-natally depressed mums and their babies, using wicker, wool, found and made objects to create hanging mobiles to place above the babies' cots, as well as a more general painting to music session.

NATIONAL THEATRE OF SCOTLAND

Community Director December 05 – April 06 (Ages 13 – 76)

As part of my role within the NTS Lothian Team, I was the Community Director on the Livingston version of NTS and TAG's co-production of *The Crucible*, writing and leading all rehearsals, as well as regularly attending the professional TAG rehearsals at the Citizens' Theatre in Glasgow.

Drama Artist October 05 – April 06 (Ages 13 – 76)

I worked for NTS for seven months as one of their Freelance Artists on the inaugural Learn Department projects in East and West Lothian.

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Touring Performer: Push Off! January – March 05 (Primary 4 – 7)

I performed in a schools tour for upper primary age pupils on the subject of gravity.

Touring Performer: Little Giants January – June 04 (Primary 1 – 3)

I performed in a six-month schools tour for lower primary age pupils looking at pollination.

COLLUSION

Drama Worker & Director March 04 – December 05 (Ages 5 – 25)

My work for Collusion was in schools as well as in community venues, working with a variety of mainstream and additional needs groups, and involved directing two performances with an additional needs group in Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire.

THEATRE BABEL

Administrative Assistant November 03 – April 05 (various dates)

I worked at various times for Theatre Babel, assisting with the company administration.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

I have undertaken a wide range of training to develop both my skills and my knowledge, including training with the following artists and companies:

Andrea Brooks (Zygo Arts)

Artfull

Carl Jørn Johansen (Rogaland Theatre, Norway)

Davey Anderson & Clem Sandison (Push Bar To Open)

Emily Ballard (TAG Theatre)

Federation of Scottish Theatre

Firefly Arts (Michael Richardson)

Gerry Mulgrew and Paddy Cuneen (Communicado)

Gitte Kath (Teatret Møllen)

Goat Island Performance Group (Chicago, USA)

Gordon MacLellan (Creeping Toad)

Guy Hollands (TAG Theatre)

Imaginate

Improbable

Jenny Sealey (Graeae)

Jo Timmins

Julie Ellen (Playwrights' Studio Scotland)

Karen Farnbank (Theatre Wild)

Katja Kamotskaia (RSAMD)

Katrina Caldwell (Giant)

Lynne Clark (QMUC)

Maggie Kinloch (RSAMD)

Mark Storor

Morna Burdon

National Theatre of Scotland – Dave Boyd; Pointless Creations; Tania Swift; Vox Motus

Nazli Tabatabai (ZendeH)

Neil Bettles & Laura Sutton (Frantic Assembly)

Peter Rinderknecht (Switzerland)

Professor Jonathan Neelands (University of Warwick)

Promote YT

Quarantine

Scottish Arts Council

Starcatchers

Tony Goode (RSAMD)

The International Workshop Festival

Victoria (Belgium)