

Rachel McNally

Creative Producer

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EXPERIENCE - CURRENT

Freelance, Bristol — *Creative Producer*

November 2020-Present

Creative Producer- Objects without Borders

<https://objectswithoutborders.org/>

Pilot: how puppetry and object theatre can connect artists and communities across borders - physical, digital & cultural. Working with Refugee & Asylum Seeking Artists and Puppetry Artists.

Collaboration with Bath Spa University, LARA Bristol, Seenaryo Jordan, Dafa Puppet Theatre Czech Republic, Theatre Orchard Weston super Mare and other freelance creatives.

January 2021-May 2021

Grant Writer and Producer - The Noughty One

R&D: an installation of automated puppetry that explores our relationship between the digital and physical, how we create meaning and emotion out of simple patterns. Working with Noisy Oyster

Noisy Oyster Director Nik Palmer nik@noisyoyster.co.uk

<https://noisyoyster.co.uk/>

December 2020

Arts Consultant

Work with Visual & Community Artists

Anna Haydock Wilson & Amy Hutchings

Connecting Asylum Seekers/Refugee Communities, & Young Carers with Printmakers - project to support these communities creatively and lessen the social isolation of lockdown.

June 2019- PRESENT

The Empathetic Puppet - in development

Partnership Project with refugee and local SW communities exploring how we can use puppetry to bring diverse communities together and change hostile attitudes towards migrants. (now Objects without Borders)

EXPERIENCE

Puppet Place, Bristol — *Executive Producer*

2008 - JUNE 2019

Re-developed the organisation as a HUB for artists working with puppetry and animation (this included business strategy, financial & staff management, community capacity building, fundraising, lease negotiations and building management)

Developed Bristol Festival of Puppetry as the biggest international

SKILLS

Leadership

Strategic Planning

Financial & Business Management

Professional & Public Engagement

Communication

Problem Solving

Team Management

Creative Focus

Puppetry as a Creative Methodology

Puppetry is a universal artform that has the ability to engage with all ages and across cultural and language boundaries.

My work focuses on how we value and use puppetry (with other arts) across our society and culture, from the entertainment to health sectors, within education and politics.

Community Focus

Dialogue Building Across The Divide

I am interested in how we develop understanding between diverse groups: how we shift perceptions to understand our differences and then identify our shared goals.

LANGUAGES

English
Conversational Italian
Basic French

celebration of puppetry and animation in the UK.

At the time of leaving Puppet Place was regularly supporting over 100 artists and had developed an audience for Bristol Festival of Puppetry in excess of 10,000.

www.puppetplace.org

REM Projects, Bristol — *Producer*

2002- 2009

Ran my own business as a tour producer and fundraiser in touring theatre.

Booked national and international tours for different companies and artists including: Pickled Image, Shoofly Theatre, The Devil's Violin, Stuff & Nonsense, The Paper Cinema, Full Beam.

Prior to running my own business, I worked as a producer for Full Beam exclusively. Previous jobs include temporary admin at Matrix - London. In 1995, I took a year out from academic studies to spend time in Italy, learning the language.

EDUCATION

University of Bristol, Bristol — *MA in Classical Literature and Civilisation*

October 1995 - September 1996

MA thesis on Virgil's Aeneid and Milton's Paradise Lost

University of Bristol, Bristol — *BA in Classics (2:1)*

October 1991-June 1994

Putney High School , London — *A' Levels in English, Latin, History*

1984-1991

OTHER ROLES

H&CCA - Management Committee Member

2021-Present

Puppeteers UK - Chair

2016-2021

H&CCA -Trustee

2010-11

OTHER SKILLS / QUALIFICATIONS / INTERESTS

Pottery / Walking / Weekend Accordion Player