

# TAMSIN COOK

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## **PROFILE:**

A freelance Theatre Director, Performer, Poet and Workshop Facilitator, practised in managing projects with multiple partner organisations. Recent work spans across diverse community groups including veterans, homeless young men, unemployed people and women with refugee/asylum seeking status. Experienced in site based performance; whether directing in tiny rooms of a former train station, for projects which span a whole city or an office block, I relish the opportunities and challenges of transforming familiar spaces to present new writing or devised performance. Special interests include women's issues, protest theatre and community engagement.

## **DIRECTING/WRITING/PERFORMING CREDITS INCLUDE:**

### ***Colectivo Sustento/ CIP San Joaquin/ Calera de Tango,***

**Santiago, Chile**

**Nov 2016- January 2017**

Working with 14-25 year olds on remand to facilitate drama sessions based on civic participation; working with adult prisoners in Felix e Illusiones Theatre Collective to devise material for a new show based on parentification; working with young people in a semi-open prison to create drama through storytelling.

### ***A Lovely Word/Platform***

**The Everyman Theatre**

**May 2015- October 2016**

I hosted, curated and performed at the monthly poetry and spoken word event *A Lovely Word*, showcasing Liverpool writers and professional poets from further afield. I also write and perform short stories, poetry and monologues at the *Platform* showcase for new writing. I ran a series of writing workshops with positive feedback from participants; "I think it flowed really well and think this sort of work is really important for Liverpool's community" "...felt very natural and joyful-please keep doing this forever!"

### ***The Centre***

**Collective Encounters Youth Theatre**

**April 2015-August 2015**

I co-directed and wrote for a promenade piece in an office block, which focussed on austerity and public service cuts, imagining a surreal dystopian future which operates as one 'big society'.

### ***Home Deconstructed***

**Secret Door Theatre/ The Lantern Theatre, Liverpool**

**February 2015**

A devised theatre piece focussing on the notion of 'home' and what it means to different people, using personal experiences and the stories of others as starting points. I was a writer and performer on the project, a long term collaboration with theatre maker Natasia Bullock (YEP Director).

## ***Apply Camouflage: Disappear***

**Secret Door Theatre/ The Blade Factory (Camp+Furnace)**

**October 2013**

As part of On the Verge festival, showcasing emerging artists working in non-theatre spaces. This devised installation performance focussed on identity and relationships in a modern world, following the stories of 4 characters who 'disappeared' through varying areas of their lives; motherhood, first love and career ambitions.

## **WORKSHOP FACILITATION CREDITS INCLUDE:**

### **Manchester Royal Exchange Theatre, Feb 2015- Feb 2016. Workshop Facilitator.**

I delivered workshops as part of the School and Community Programme. This included workshops on performance technique, scriptwriting and theatre-in-the-round.

### **Community Arts North West (CAN) Women's Refugee Theatre Project, Jan-Jun 2013. Workshop Leader/Ass. Director.**

This participant-led programme led to a final performance, Heart's Core, the content for which was generated by the women. My work involved facilitating devising workshops for large groups, which included challenges from language barriers. I also led exercises for improving performance technique and was a stagehand for the final performance at Z-arts, Manchester.

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING:**

### **Hope Street Limited**

Director on Hope Street Limited's Emerging Artist Programme, six months of experience working on projects for diverse audiences in various sites with lead artist mentors. Directed Manchester Contact Young Actors; performance in Tate Liverpool; walkabout performers for Hope Street Feast and a durational installation focussed on camouflage.

### **Drama BA (Hons) 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Liverpool John Moores University, 2009-2012**

A diverse, predominantly practical course covering all aspects of theatre making including directing, acting and stage management. Modules included: Devising and Improvisation, Applied Theatre and Direction in Practice. Whilst at John Moores I devised and directed a community theatre piece with the aim of bridging the age gap between women, directed hyper-theatre and wrote extensively on the role of theatre in the act of protest, in particular reference to the Occupy Movement.

### **A-Levels**

Art and Design, Art History, Textiles Technology, Media and Film Studies

## **REFEREES:**

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