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Profile

I am a neurodiverse artist and I am consolidating relevant life and work experience into a meaningful and satisfying working life which is one where I can fully access and utilise my creativity to create work, collaborate with other artists and facilitate community art projects

Education/courses/achievements

1979 to 1984 - St Philomena's 6 x 0'levels, 2 x CSE

1985 to 1987 - Carshalton FE College - Certificate of Travel Agency Competency

1997 - 2000 - Manchester Metropolitan University - BA Hons Creative Arts (2:1)

2008 - 2008 - Staffordshire University - Developing Arts and Health (Merit)

2010 - 2011 - University of Chichester - MA Creative Arts (Merit)

2016 - New York Film Academy - Certificate in Screenwriting

2018 - London Screenwriting Festival (Script extract successful for Euroscript and Actors Table Read schemes)

2020 - Published Chapter in the Neurodiverse Reader (Communicating away the barriers - Chapter 16)

2022 - London Best Script Award - Screenplay Shortlisted

2022 - Unscripted Film Festival - Screenplay nominated for award for best short screenplay

Current Employment

Freelance Writer (Various)

Freelance Helper (Good Life Sorted)

Most Recent Previous Employment

Specialist Mentor - Autism Hampshire

Mentor to referred and self-referred graduate and post-graduate students (Portsmouth University and Solent University) on the Autism Spectrum.

November 2017 - December 2020

Employment History

Creative Writing Facilitator - Creative Future

Commissioned by Creative Future (Brighton) to design and lead writing workshops to people in mental health recovery in West Sussex. Funded/commissioned to set up pilot project in Havant, Hampshire.

August 2012 to December 2017

Research Assistant - University of Chichester

Short-term contract to research the impact of military ethos in schools.

Responsibilities included facilitating discussion groups in schools, analysing data and compiling a report.

November 2014 - August 2015

Facilitator/Co-founder - BoBaza Arts

Following a successful funding bid, BoBaza Arts was set up to combine art and writing in creative sessions aimed at people in mental health recovery.

May 2013 to December 2013

Research Assistant - University of Chichester

Commissioned to research the impact of disability charities. I facilitated discussion forums and surveys from which I wrote and compiled an impact assessment report.

July 2012 - March 2013 (Fixed Term Contract)



Poetry Workshop Facilitator - Tongues and Grooves/Portsmouth CC

I collaboratively facilitated poetry workshops in Portsmouth primary schools as part of MONC (Mysteries of our Neighbouring Cultures) project.

Sept 2011 to April 2012 (Freelance)

Arts and Health Coordinator - West Sussex Arts Partnership

I compiled an audit of arts and health provision in West Sussex County, delivered an Arts and Health Project Development Fund and organised/hosted an Arts and Health conference at Chichester Festival Theatre.

Feb 2010 to August 2011 (Fixed Term Contract)

Arts and Health Coordinator - South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS

I maintained and developed the hospital arts programme, facilitated creative writing workshops to staff and service users and was lead writer of the Trust Art Strategy (2010 - 2013).

September 2007 to January 2010 (PAYE)

Assistant Lecturer - Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA)

Delivered workshops in applied drama and creative writing to students on Community Drama BA course and assessed practical and written assignments.

November 2007 to July 2010 (PAYE)

Facilitator - Loose Collective Theatre Company, Manchester

Facilitator of tailor-made workshops to staff groups in NHS settings in Manchester.

July 2002 - July 2004 (Freelance)

Lead Artist - Salford University

Lead artist for two eight week practical modules for first year students on the BA Honours Performing Arts Degree.

September 2002 to September 2004 (Freelance)

Performer/Facilitator - PickleHerring Theatre Company, Cheshire

Performer and workshop leader with touring community theatre company. In 2008 the company was commissioned by The Environment Agency to deliver a series of projects in the UK.

September 2000 - July 2008 (Freelance)

Co-Founder/Performer - Pigeon Theatre Company, Manchester

Collaborated on scripts in addition to performing in plays produced by this physical theatre company.

July 2000 - November 2005 (Freelance)

Administrator - Brockley Jack Theatre, London

Administrator in addition to managing box office and organising press nights.

August 1996 - September 1997

Reservations Assistant - Home and Overseas Educational Travel, London

Booked tailor made tours for schools traveling to UK and France.

May 1994 - July 1996

Voluntary Roles

Read-for-Life, Portsmouth (2010 - 2011)

Reading improvement volunteer at local primary school.

Portsmouth Writer's Hub (2011 - 2013)

Coordinator of monthly hub aimed at local writers.