

HESTER WELCH

THEATRE DIRECTOR & MAKER



PROFILE

I am a director with a decade of theatre making experience, both in the UK and internationally. My passion is playful, devised theatre with an emphasis on ensemble and collaboration. Currently my interest is moving more towards outdoor performance using clowning and game to interact with audiences in non-theatre spaces.

With my company, Wayang Kitchen, I have made a number of immersive, site specific productions that fuse food and performance. My work as a community arts facilitator also greatly influences the work I make, I use my skills as a facilitator to inspire and shape stories.

ASSOCIATSHIPS/AWARDS

- Co-Artistic Director & Artist, [Wayang Kitchen](#) (Malaysia)
- Co-Founder, [Spilt Ink Theatre](#) (UK)
- Founder, Lost Cabaret Bristol
- Associate Artist, [DogLeg Theatre](#)
- Previous Associate Artist and Trainer, [David Glass Ensemble](#)
- Previous Associate Artist, Omnibus Theatre
- Albina Magerl Creativity & Innovation Award, Goldsmiths, University of London, 2013
- My work has been funded by ACE, British Council, Kakiseni, Yayasan Hasanah.

CORE TRAINING

ÉCOLE PHILIPPE GAULIER, PARIS 2018 - 2019

- Graduated from courses in Le Jeu, Clown, Mask, Melodrama, Shakespeare and Chekhov, Bouffon, Characters.

GOLDSMITHS, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Drama and Theatre Arts BA, 2010-2013

- Training focused on Theatre Making, Applied Theatre, and Post-Colonial Theatre.
- Co-Director of Drama and Shakespeare Society

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- Experienced International Facilitator, Performer, Trainer and Producer. I have led projects and workshops with young people, early years, teachers, refugees, asylum seekers, seniors, people with special needs, people affected by homelessness and people with mental illness.
- Specialisms are in Jacques Lecoq and Michael Chekhov movement practices as well as clown, devised theatre, puppetry, ensemble, immersive and site responsive/specific work.

CONTACT DETAILS

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DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

- 2025, Co- Director of ensemble scenes on "Twenty W8 Days Later", The Waiting Room, Shambala Festival (UK)
- 2024, Co- Director of ensemble scenes on "S.S. Wait Britain", The Waiting Room, Shambala Festival (UK)
- 2023, Clowning Director on "The Cherry Orchard" Dir. Stuart Wood, The Tobacco Factory/Bristol School of Acting, Bristol (UK)
- 2023 & 2022, "Walimaturus"/"The Wedding Banquet", Wayang Kitchen & Suatukala, The Rice Museum, Langkawi & Laman Wau, Kuala Lumpur, (Malaysia)
- 2023 & 2021, "The Box We Tick" (Associate Director), LegalAliens Theatre, Jackson's Lane, London (UK)
- 2023, "Welcome To Our Malaysia!" Wayang Kitchen, Artisan's Playground, Kuala Lumpur (MY)
- 2021, "Food Tripping Penang: The UK Connection" - virtual cook-along event with storytelling, Wayang Kitchen, (Malaysia & UK)
- 2021, "RICE!", Wayang Kitchen, (MY) & Omnibus Theatre (UK), online
- 2020, Live Streamed "Immersive Gig @ The Gingerbread House", Bath (UK)
- 2020, "The PENDemic Is Mightier Than The Sword", Wayang Kitchen, KL City Walk (MY)
- 2020, "Miss Ellie's Adventure", Wayang Kitchen, Miss Ellie's Tea House/online (MY)
- 2020, "In The Nico Time", Wayang Kitchen, Pisco Bar/online (MY)
- 2019, "Romeoé et Juliette", Sakura no Ki no Shita, Cours Gabriel, Paris (France)
- 2019, "The Langkawi Show", Wayang Kitchen, Fat Cupid, Langkawi (MY)
- 2017 & 2018, "The Food Play", What About Kuching Festival & Now Theatre (MY), Poplar Union & Omnibus Theatre, (London (UK)
- 2017, "City of Darkness", Theatre Ash, (Assistant Director to David Glass) (Jakarta, Indonesia & Hong Kong)
- 2017, "The Forest", Marphy's Play House/David Glass Ensemble, Chengdu (China)
- 2016, "A DEvine Comedy" R&D, (AD to David Glass), Soho Theatre/Trinity Laban, London (UK)
- 2015, "Colour", Omnibus Theatre, ACE funded tour to Children's Centres & Libraries in South London (UK)
- 2015, "The Desire Machine", Arbonauts, (AD to Helen Galliano) Brunel Tunnel Shaft, London (UK)
- 2015, Immersive "Honey Trail" with local businesses along Clapham High Street, Bee Conscious Festival (London, UK)