

# **Creatives**

Biographies.

## Arzhang Pezhman

#### **WRITER**

Arzhang's first play, Local, was produced by the Royal Court Theatre in 2000. He has since had shorts developed by the Royal Court (Come Around), as well as full touring productions at the Birmingham Rep (Tics, Bolthole, Gravity). He has been writer-in-residence at Soho Theatre. Gravity, his last play for the Birmingham Rep was awarded the British Council's 'New Connections' recognition award. He collaborated as writer with Untied Artists in their devised show, For Their Own Good, which won a Scotsman Fringe First Award for outstanding new writing.

Arzhang has worked as a playwriting tutor, with marginalised groups (teenage pregnant mothers, young people excluded from school, inmates at Winson Green prison and senior citizens) as well as across all Key Stages in mainstream education.

He recently attained a creative/critical PhD, with a focus on workplace plays, from the University of East Anglia.

## Gaby Dellal

#### **DIRECTOR**

Gaby Dellal's feature film On a Clear Day opened The Sundance Film Festival in 2005. Starring Peter Mullan and Brenda Blethyn. Gaby's short Football starring Helena Bonham Carter also featured at SUNDANCE, Gaby directed Sienna Miller in her first lead in the feature film Two Wheels Only and gave Max Minghella his debut role (aged thirteen) in her short film Toyboys. Gaby then went on to direct Tube Tales starring Rachel Weisz. Angel's Crest with Elizabeth McGovern. Kate Walsh and Jeremy Piven was in competition at the Tribeca Film Festival 2011. Gaby wrote and directed her most recent feature film Three Generations starring Naomi Watts, Elle Fanning and Susan Sarandon, released in 2017, currently available on Netflix.

TV includes the much acclaimed 3-part drama for ITV **LEAVING** starring Helen McCrory.

Theatre includes AVA with Elizabeth McGovern at the Riverside Studios 2022. Stitchers by Esther Freud starred Sinead Cusack at the Jermyn Street Theatre in 2018. Ghosts at the Almeida Theatre, London (associate director). This transferred to the West End, with Lesley Manville, and had a BAM run in 2015/2016.



## Noga Flaishon

## **PRODUCER**

Noga is a London based writer/producer. Noga migrated from the Middle east to the UK to study acting before transitioning her practice into writing & producing during the pandemic.

Her theatrical credits include **Bunker** for Stepping Out Theatre at the Camden Fringe & Edinburgh Fringe, The On-Comm nominated **Broken Link** from Harpy Productions, **And Lethe** for Harpy Productions at The Kings Head Theatre.

In other mediums Noga produced regularly at Big Finish Productions – creating works set in the world of Doctor Who.

## Liz Cooke

#### **SET DESIGNER**

Liz studied English at Oxford University and trained in theatre design at the Slade School of Fine Art. She works as an artist, maker, writer and deviser and principally as a stage designer, for companies including the NT, RSC, Royal Court, and in the West End and principal regional theatres. She has been designing professionally for around fifteen years.

Liz works collaboratively with directors, designers and performers and has designed extensively for physical performance, often incorporating aerial and circus techniques. She has designed frequently for directors such as Kathryn Hunter, on shows from Rebecca Gilman's *The Glory of Living* to *Pericles* at the Globe and *Othello* for the RSC.

# **Holly Mather**

#### **STAGE MANAGER**

Holly is a graduate of BA Stage and Production Management at East 15 Acting School.

Theatre Credits Include; Dick Whittington Drag Panto (Tuckshop, Phoenix Theatre) 101 Dalmatians; A New Musical (Regents Park Open Air Theatre) Just For One Day Workshop (Jamie Wilson Productions), How To Have A Baby And Not Lose Your Shit (Kings Head Theatre) Steel Magnolias UK Tour (Trafalgar Entertainment) Company Of Elders Triple Bill (Sadlers Wells) That Face (Orange Tree Theatre) Robin Hood (Hawthorne Theatre) A Song of Songs (Park Theatre) Triumph (Buxton Opera Festival).

## Oguz Kaplangi

## **SOUND DESIGNER**

Oğuz was awarded with the "Best Music and Sound" at the Critics for Theatre in Scotland (CATS AWARDS 2018) with the music he composed for Zinnie Harris' adaptation of Ionesco's famous play Rhinoceros. It was staged at the Royal Lyceum Theatre, in co-production with the Edinburgh International Festival in association with DOT Theatre.

Oğuz was nominated for the "Best Stage Music" at the Afife Theatre Awards in Istanbul for the music he composed for "How to Hold Your Breath" and "1984" directed by Murat Daltaban.

He has scored for many Turkish box office hits as well as Turkey's first animation film "Kötü Kedi Şerafettin / Bad Cat". He has also composed music for several Turkish TV series



Oğuz is the producer of ethnic-electronic "Istanbul Calling" album series. He has worked with international artists such as Valderrama (Spain), Alkistis Protopsalti (Greece), Suzy (Israel), Encarna Salazar (former member of Azucar Moreno).

Recent theatre work as a composer include *Hamnet* (RSC), *Macbeth* [an Undoing] (Royal Lyceum Theatre), *Arabian Nights* (Bristol Old Vic).

# William Reynolds

## LIGHTING DESIGNER

William trained at the Motley Theatre Design School and is currently studying an MsC in Environmental Sustainability at the Centre For Alternative Technology.

William's recent set & lighting designs also include Sherlock & the Poison Wood (Watermill Theatre), The Little Prince (Brewhouse Theatre), The Rhythmics (Southwark Playhouse), In The Willows, Little Mermaid (UK Tour), Jungle Book (UK & International Tour), and La Bohème (Palestine Tour).

Lighting designs include *The Two Worlds* of *Charlie F* (Theatre Royal Haymarket & International/UK tour), *The Magic Flute* (Palestine Tour).

**Projection Designs include** The Gambler (Royal Opera House).

William is Artistic Director of Metta Theatre and founder of Metta Green sustainability consultancy, and an accredited Carbon Literacy Trainer.

## **Bobak Champion**

#### **MOVEMENT DESIGNER**

Hailing from a dance background, Bobak's journey began after watching Run-DMC's 'it's like that' video on *Top of The Pops*.

He went on to train at The Northern School of Contemporary Dance and has a wide range of productions to his name. Including within commercial settings – Phones 4 You, Bench Clothing, Ford Motors. In theatre – Lawrence Batley, The Riley, The Place and The Space theatres, choreography and movement direction on The Lock-In Dance Show 2023 tour. As well as community settings – Danceopolis, Fresh, Salaam Salaam.

Bobak is one of three northern based movement directors receiving bespoke mentorship from Box of Tricks Associate Artist - Jenni Jackson.

Bobak also creates his own works, most notably critically acclaimed show *I'm*Muslamic Don't Panik.