

Chris Yarnell

Director/ Movement Director/Facilitator/ Magician

Email: christopheryarnell@hotmail.com

Phone: 07715 822966

Website: www.chrisyarnell.com

Selected Directing Credits

2026	Binding Agent	Harry Smithson	Brighton Fringe/ White Bear (currently booking)
2026	TBW Made Himself Vanish	David Whitney	Norwich Theatre Royal
2025	Grandad Anansi (Remount)	Z-Arts, Half Moon Theatre	Tour (Inc Polka, Half Moon)
2025	That's Mine	Georgia Cornick	Theatre 503
2025	The Undying	Rea Dernhardt	SOHO Theatre/ Old Red Lion
2024	Mulatto Boy	Edi Di Melo	Omnibus Theatre
2023	My Name Is	Haste Theatre	Vaults, Streatham Space
2023	JOY	Vaults Young Company	Vaults Festival
2022	Grandad Anansi	Z-Arts, Half Moon Theatre	Tour (inc Lyric Hammersmith, Cambridge Jctn)
2022	Jerimiah	Jack Dean & Company	Tour (inc Salisbury Arts, New Wolsey Theatre)
2022	13	Mike Bartlett	London College of Music
2020	They F**K you up	The Outbound Project	Held for covid (winner of UNTAPPED award)
2019	Tumours	Ashleigh Laurence	Tour (inc SOHO Theatre, Ed Fringe - Assembly)
2019	Sideways Momentum	Olivia Wilkes Productions	The Bunker
2019	M.E.H	The Outbound Project	Tour (inc Ed Fringe - Underbelly, TR Plymouth)
2018	The Palestinian in the Basement	Sammi Ibrahim	The Bunker (Pint Sized)
2018	100 Ways The Fire Starts	Cuckoo Bang/ Max Wilkinson	White Bear Theatre (BITS)
2017	12 Million Volts	The Outbound Project	Tour inc: Jackson's Lane, New Diorama
2016	Moonshine's E.N.A	Magic Maverick/ Molly Burns	Tour Ovalhouse, Pleasance Islington, The Albany
2015	inTENTse	Shambles Ensemble UK Festival	Tour UK Festival Circuit

Resident/ Assistant/ Associate Director (Selected)

2026	Come Alive	Simon Hammerstein	Rodeo Productions	Empress Theatre
2023	Compositor E	Marie McCarthy	Omnibus	Omnibus Theatre
2023	Wuthering Heights	Lucinka Eisler	Inspector Sands/ China Plate	Tour Inc Royal & Derngate
2021	Apocalypse Wow	Adele Thomas	Symonkey	R&D
2021	Josquin	Liam Steel	English Touring Opera	Film
2018	Feed	Ailin Connant	Theatre Temoin / The Lowry	Tour (Inc Lowry, Pleasance)
2010	The Dumb Waiter	Rob Salmon	New Wolsey Theatre	New Wolsey Theatre

Movement Direction (Selected)

2025	Sword in the Stone	Eilish Mullane/ David Whitney	Theatre Royal Bury
2022	The Witness	Jo Blake/ Rob Clarke	R&D
2018	Mood Kill	Snippet Theatre	Almedia, Lion and Unicorn, White Bear
2016	Sad Little Man	Pub Corner Poets/ Josh Overton	Hull Truck, Ed Fringe 2017, New Diorama

Other

2026	Tabula Rasa	Dramaturg	Blank Slate (Brighton Fringe)
2024	Ruptured	Dramaturg	Joanna Wozniak (Cockpit, CPT, Omnibus)
2023	Im Sorry Im Not Lucy Liu	Dramaturg	Eden Jun & Francesca Hsieh (CPT)
2022	Punchdrunk	Creative Associate	Punchdrunk
2020	The Drum	Deviser	Hubbub / Gecko
2020	Laines Events	Magician	Laines
2018	Spill Festival	Play Specialist	Pacitti Company/ SPILL
2016	Hangman Revisited	Illusions Consultant	Omnibus/Kings College/ National Theatre
2015	Horrible Histories	Actor	Birmingham Stage Company - UK Tour.
2014	Cruel	Core Deviser R&D	Theatre Temoin
2013	Peanuts	Composer/ lyricist	Polaroid Theatre
2013	Modern Day Romance	Composer/ lyricist	Silly People, Roundhouse Accidental Festival
2010	Leaving Only a Trace (R&D)	Deviser	Shane Shambhu
2011	Les Enfants Party	Magician (immersive)	Les Enfants Terribles, Latitude festival
2011	Party Piece	Core Deviser	Pulse Festival/ Bedlam (NWT commission)
2011	Gecko's The Overcoat	Foreboding (performer)	Gecko - New Wolsey Theatre

Facilitation/ Education (Selected)

Director

Freelance Facilitation

Director: *The Jungle Book*

Tutor: Movement/ Professional Development/ Devising

Freelance Facilitator

Devising (Guest Facilitator)

Professional Development Lecturer

Physical Storytelling (Workshop Leader)

Physical Theatre (Guest Lecturer)

Director/ Tutor (Movement/ Text)

Freelance Facilitator

Our Place film project

Magic Skills workshop

Freelance Facilitator

Creative Learning Practitioner

Icon Theatre

Theatre 503

Simply Theatre (Switzerland)

Fourth Monkey

National Youth Theatre

VAULTS Young Company

East 15 Acting School

Bristol Old Vic – Made in Bristol

St Mary's University

Identity School of Acting

Hubbub Theatre Company

Junction Arts / Derby LGBT+

Stone Crabs

ZooCo

New Wolsey Theatre

Additional Skills

Application writing, Arts Administration, Acting, Mask (Neutral, Laval, Character, Commedia), Mime, Puppetry, Unarmed Combat, Yoga, Static Aerial, Bouffon, Clown, Physical Comedy, Improvisation, Theatrical Design, Company Development, Parody, Chorus, Ensemble, Singing, Writing Music/ Lyrics

Winner:

- Untapped Award
- Les Enfants Terribles Partnership Award
- Manchester Culture Award
- The Stage Award
- Black British Theatre Awards
- Screendance Film Festival - Selection

Shortlisted:

- Sir Peter Hall Directors Award
- What's On Stage Award
- Adelaide Fringe Award
- Charlie Hartill Fund
- Total Theatre Award

Funded:

- 2021: Arts Council England *Develop Your Creative Practice* Grant (£9,700) – for film and physical storytelling research with Shambles Ensemble
- 2026: Arts Council England – Developing and Illusion-Based Theatre Practice

Affiliations & Residencies

- Associate Artist: Jack Dean & Company, Highly Sprung
- Resident Artist: BOLD Elephant
- Genesis Director: Young Vic Directors Program
- Activator: Chisenhale Dance Space
- Punchdrunk: Creative Associate 2022
- Facilitator: National Youth Theatre
- Associate Artist – Highly Sprung

Training & Education

 **National Theatre Studios 2025** – Visiting Directors included Katie Mitchell, Ian Rickson, Miranda Cromwell, Rebecca Frecknall, and Anthoy Lau.

Complicite – Developing Short Stories 2026 – With Catherine Alexander

Tall Stories Director's Course (directing storytelling) – 2026 – with Artistic Director Toby Mitchell

East 15 Acting School – BA (Hons) Physical Theatre, First-Class (2014)



Additional training includes: Stratford East Youth Theatre, New Wolsey Young Company, Magic Circle, Suffolk Youth Dance Company, and workshops with Katie Mitchell, and Matthew Dunster