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BAFTA Connect Member

University of Glasgow
MA, Theatre Studies (2002 - 2005)

New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts
Associates Degree in Acting for Theatre, Film and Television (2013 - 2015)

Louise Oliver

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

BAR ITALIA FILMS — Producer

March 2023 - Present (freelance)

Indie film company based in Glasgow, with a focus on short films and small independent features. Bar Italia Films is about storytelling, a love for cinema and a passion for amplifying voices outside of the mainstream. Our debut short film - [In The Room](#) - went into production in October 2023.

ONE REN ARTS — Performance Producer

May 2019 - Present (part-time)

Responsible for devising, developing and producing high quality arts programmes and projects in theatre and film. Highlights include:

- **Common is as Common Does** (21Common, Future Paisley), March 2023
- **Thread**, a musical (Creative Scotland, Kick the Door), May 2022
- **Underwood Lane: a musical play by John Byrne** (Tron Theatre, Future Paisley), June 2022
- **Roxana**, a theatre + film hybrid (Future Paisley, Paisley Book Festival and Creative Scotland)
- **Green Room Sessions**, series of networking events, panel discussions and workshops for theatre and film artists and creative freelancers. Spring 2021 to present.

PAISLEY BOOK FESTIVAL — Producer

May 2019 - Present (part-time)

Leading on the production and delivery of the Festival and supporting the Festival's Associate Programmer. To work with Festival partners / stakeholders on business planning, marketing and sustaining the festival in the longer-term.

Special initiatives that I collaborated and / or led on -

- Writer-in-Residence Programme - more info [here](#).
- Janet Coats Memorial Prize for Poetry - more info [here](#).
- Guest Curators - more info [here](#).
- Publishing 101: industry strand of programming to develop writers. Example [here](#).

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE — Associate Producer

Jan 2017 - March 2020

Civil Disobedience is an Edinburgh based production house bringing the finest talent from around the world to global stages, arts festivals, and events. We collaborate with artists on helping them achieve their goals with their existing portfolio of work as well as creating new work in-house. As Associate Producer for Civil Disobedience, an Edinburgh-based production house, I worked on successful Edinburgh Festival Fringe seasons of over 30 shows, one of which received a successful New York transfer in January 2017.

PERSISTENT & NASTY — Producer + Co-Founder

Jan 2018 - Present (freelance)

Persistent and Nasty is an advocacy initiative for women and other marginalised voices in the stage and screen industries. Through podcasts, blogs, coffee mornings and creative activism, we promote better representation, safety, and wellbeing. We were the catalyst for and sat on the HIPA (Harassment in the Performing Arts) working group led by FST and were involved in the creation of the final framework and resources.

SCOTTISH DRAMA TRAINING NETWORK — Special Projects Producer

May 2018 - May 2019

The Scottish Drama Training Network (SDTN) was a unique organisation based at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow. It offered support and enhancement opportunities to Scotland's colleges and higher education institutions who offer full-time courses that train people for a career in television, film, theatre, or radio. My role ensured the effective delivery of a varied programme of work, including but not limited to; acting as producer for the Network Ensemble Graduate Production at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe (in partnership with the Pleasance Theatre Trust), career pathway events for young people ranging from secondary to higher education, producing and delivering creative industry masterclasses and continuing professional development opportunities for teachers and performing arts graduates.

THE TANK THEATER (NYC) — Curator

October 2014 - September 2016

My role as curator was in a freelance capacity. I worked closely with the Artistic Directors to bring new ideas to the table for the seasonal programming as well as self-producing a series of small showcase events for emerging artists. Specific seasons that I contributed to included:

- **Pridefest 2015** - work that celebrates the queer community and presents new ideas and perceptions on how we define ourselves individually, within our own community and in the global community at large.
- **Darkfest 2015** - an eco-forward festival of theatre that does not use conventional theatrical lighting in an effort to re-examine how we can make theatre more sustainable.
- **Dirty Words** - a late night cabaret show series where performers reclaim the dirty words that are used against each of us as individuals.

THE BLOCKHEADS ARTISTS COLLECTIVE (NYC) — Co-Founder + Producer

October 2014 – October 2019

I formed this theatre collective in New York with a group of fellow alumni from my acting conservatory. We were a non-profit that was part of the NYC Indie Theatre Fund and Company-in-Residence with The Tank Theater. The mission was to give talented, emerging actors the chance to dive into great contemporary text alongside the belief that art and performance can be used as a vehicle and messenger for social justice. In addition to being involved as an actor, my role as Producer and Co-Founder was to be responsible for conceiving, developing, and implementing the artistic vision and focus of the company, and lead on major decisions about the ongoing development of our aesthetic values and artistic activity. The company closed in 2019 due to founding members exploring further opportunities outside of New York City. The website has been archived but a record of our work can be explored via our [social media](#).

THE WOOSTER GROUP (NYC) — Administrator

October 2013 – April 2014

The Wooster Group is a New York City based experimental theatre ensemble of artists who have collaborated on the development and production of theatre and media pieces since the early 1970's. I worked there part time during my time studying in New York. During my 1-2 days a week in the office, my duties included the following:

- Data entry and administrative support
- Research
- Errands and marketing support
- Supporting NYC to LA transfer
- Supporting rehearsals
- Exploring archival video
- Assisting production and stage management teams

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE SOCIETY — Participant Development Coordinator

Jan 2010 - Aug 2013

I created the post of Participant Development Coordinator as part of the organisation's strategic overhaul in the wake of the 2008 box office crash. The role was complex and involved working with a range of stakeholders; artists, national and international companies, cultural agencies, funding agencies, Scottish Government, educational institutions and venue managers.

I managed the services provided to promoters, presenters, directors, agents, and programmers attending the festival to scout for new talent. I facilitated connections between presenters and artists and offered advice on fundraising, networking, creative practice and touring strategy. I curated the Fringe Central programme with a range of partners including the National Theatre, Cirque du Soleil, Equity UK, the British Council, Playwright's Studio Scotland and the BBC. My final Fringe Central programme encompassed over 50 events and saw engagement with approximately 6000 participants over the course of the month. A copy of this programme is available [here](#).

DADA EVENTS & PR — Assistant Events Manager

September 2008 – August 2009

DADA was one of the UK's leading PR, creative events' and marketing agencies, in the business of driving new customers and raising the profile of their clients (it is now known as ItIsOn.com). My role focused on the conception and delivery of large-scale events, both tailored to client briefs and designed to be unique company initiatives. The remit of my position included but was not limited to the following:

Duties

- Pre-production administration
- Budget monitoring and contractual agreements
- Creative programming and performer liaisons
- Local authority applications and site planning
- On site production management
- Staffing
- Working closing with the marketing and PR departments on delivering the client brief for all events

Events

- **St Andrews Day Campaign 2008** - nationwide bus tour promoting St Andrews day with associated activities in over 30 individual towns across Scotland. Culminating with large-scale street party in the Island of Orkney.
- **Miss Scotland 2009** - theatrical production at the Clyde Auditorium involving live performance, 10 finalists and high-end production values.
- **Subway Festival 2008** - large scale street theatre festival taking place across two days within the Glasgow underground network.

EAST KILBRIDE ARTS CENTRE (SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL) — Arts Supervisor and Venue Manager

December 2006 – January 2008

This role involved acting as venue manager for our base at the East Kilbride Arts Centre and maintaining many of the organisation's administrative responsibilities, i.e., budget monitoring, invoicing, correspondence, health & safety, licence requirements, and marketing mail-outs. It was also important to keep up to date with the developments in the arts industry for research purposes and to collaborate on producing 3 seasonal programmes of arts activity and performance. Ancillary duties included acting as event manager for all on-site events and acting as the street theatre coordinator and assistant project manager for an annual street arts festival, "Artburst", that took place in the Village in East Kilbride.

RHYMES WITH PURPLE PRODUCTIONS — Co-Artistic Director + Producer

October 2004 - November 2011

An award winning theatre company that primarily focused on creating new plays and producing alternative art events. In addition to our slate of theatre, we also produced Dr Sketchy's Anti Art School during its 5 year residency at The Arches, two iterations of the [Glasgow Cabaret Festival](#), and between 2011 and 2013 were the producers and programmers of the Cabaret Tent at T in the Park.

Achievements include;

- **MORBID CURIOSITY – Director/Writer**
National Theatre of Scotland 5 Minute Theatre, The Arches (work-in-progress showing)
 - **DRUMHEAD – Director/Writer**
Tron Theatre (Mayfesto), May 2010
 - **ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD – Performer, Writer, Director**
Glasgow Art Club 2010
 - **MAN IN A BATH – Writer**
Glasgay! Festival (Special Commission) Nov 2008
 - **WAITING FOR GROUCHO – Writer/Performer**
Tron Theatre & Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2007
 - **LAZYBED – Director/Performer**
Tron Theatre 2006
 - **A WORK IN PROGRESS – Writer/Director/Performer**
Tron Theatre & Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2005
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OTHER TRAINING

Evaluation Support Scotland – 3-day training course on effective evaluation and monitoring
Level 3 VQR – Institute of Leadership & Management
Scottish Enterprise - Best Practice in Management

REFERENCES

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