

Clare Whistler
Director and Choreographer
CV

Forge Lodge
Ashburnham
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 9PH

01424 892304
07775600618
clarew@dircon.co.uk
www.clarewhistler.co.uk

Trained at Elmhurst Ballet School and Rambert School of Dance, Clare was a professional dancer/choreographer in Toronto (two years), NY (three years) and 12 years in San Francisco, with her own duet dance company DanceArtCompany, for which 40 choreographers made pieces. In the UK she has collaborated and created pieces and performances with many artists of all art forms. Established True North (Unusual Pieces In Unusual Places) and Shaping Voices (an arts company working with older people – www.shapingvoices.org). She has worked for the past 15 years in opera as a director and movement director, as well as directing numerous education and community projects for people of all ages and abilities in every conceivable site. She is a visiting artist at the University of Brighton and has won two Royal Philharmonic Society Awards in 2006 and 2008. Clare has always continued to create her own performance work and in 2010 she will be presenting 'Salt' No 4 of 'Gift Series' (Egg 2006, Coal 2007, Yew 2009, Salt 2010) and has just been awarded an Arts Council grant for *Uncertainties of Landscape* a collaboration with writer Gretel Ehrlich, artist Mariele Neudecker and composer Kajia Saariaho. She is currently on an 8 month ARHC Grant for 'Embodied Emotions' a Research Project at Queen Mary's University of London - <http://projects.beyondtext.ac.uk/sg-alistair-campbell/> and is Artist in Residence 2009-2011 at Bunces Barn, part of the High Weald Initiative, curating projects across all art forms.

Opera

Il Travatore, Den Norskye Opera, Denmark, Movement Director
Director Olivia Fuchs
September 2011

Saul, Buxton Opera, Movement Director
July 2011

The Magic Flute, Garsington Opera, Movement Director
Director Olivia Fuchs
June 2011

Songlines to Seahaven, Glyndebourne Community opera, 500 children
Newhaven Fort
June 2010

Pelleas & Melisande, Opera Holland Park, Movement Director
Director Olivia Fuchs
May 2010

Swanhunter, Opera North, Direction & Choreography
Composer Jonathan Dove
November 2009

La Traviata, Den Norske, Denmark, Movement Director
Director Olivia Fuchs
September 2009

Katia Kabanova, Opera Holland Park, Movement Director
July 2009

On The Rim of the World, Glyndebourne Opera, Director
March 2009

La Passion de Simone, Associate Director
Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles
January 2009

The Merry Widow, Scottish Opera, Direction & Choreography
August 2008

Confucius Says, Hackney Music Development Trust, Director
Hackney Empire opera for 300 children, Composer Richard Taylor
Royal Philharmonic Award for Education 2009
July 2008

The Rake's Progress, Garsington Opera, Movement Director
Director Olivia Fuchs
June 2008

Rigoletto, Aarhus Opera, Denmark, Movement Director
Director: Olivia Fuchs
October 2007

Of Water and Tears, Jerwood Project with Glyndebourne Chorus,
Director and Concept. Devised piece for 20 singers, Bach, Britten,
Composer: Julian Phillips
August 2007

Jenufa, Opera Holland Park, Movement Director
Director: Olivia Fuchs
June 2007

La Passione Du Simone, New Crowned Hope Festival,
Assistant to director: Peter Sellars
September and November 2006 and Barbican, July 2007, LA 2009

School4Lovers, Glyndebourne, Finnish Opera, and the State Opera of Tallin,
Director

Toured to Helsinki, Tallin and Berlin
February-March and June 2006

Flight, Glyndebourne, Assistant to director
Director: Richard Jones
July 2005

Macbeth, Opera Holland Park, Movement Director
Director: Olivia Fuchs
June 2005

Tristan Und Isolde, Opera Bastille, Paris, Assistant to Director
Director: Peter Sellars, Designer: Bill Viola
April 2005

Theodora, Opera National du Rhin, Revival Director
Director: Peter Sellars
October 2004

Theodora, Glyndebourne, Assistant to Director
Director: Peter Sellars
Summer 2003
Revival Director, September 2003 for Glyndebourne Touring Opera

Idomeneo, Glyndebourne, Assistant to Director
Director: Peter Sellars, Designer: Anish Kapoor, Conductor: Simon Rattle
June 2003

Troilus and Cressida, Royal Festival Hall, Movement Director
The Philharmonia Orchestra
March 2002

Carmen, Opera 2000, Movement Director
April-May 1998 and July 1997

Mrs. Frazer's Frenzy, Purcell Room and De La Warr Pavilion,
Movement Director
March and May 1997

Macbeth, Hastings Opera, Choreographer of Witches
February 1997

Community and Youth Opera

Embodied Emotions

2010 Year Long Residency

Beyond Text, ARHC Research Grant.

Using Movement to Teach Emotional Literacy in Primary Schools.

Artist in Residence at Queen Mary, University of London.

Five solos for History Seminars at QM, sessions in Osmani Primary School,

April 1 whole school takeover with takeaways.

Performance created with Osmani school for the People's Palace, Queen Mary, University of London, November 2010

Visiting Artist

University of Brighton

January 2010

Visiting Artist, Performance and the Body

Queen Mary, University of London

October 2010

Trashcatchers Cannival

Tooting, for Lucy Neal

July 2010

Sea Roads to Seahaven

Sing Up Project, Glyndebourne Education, 500 children at Newhaven Fort,

June 2010

A Weekend Away

Shaping Voices, Director, Performances at Hydro Hotel and Redoubt

Fortress, Eastbourne

April and June 2010

Creative Writing course

Shaping Voices, 10 week for older people, Bexhill

January-March 2010

Flight

Shaping Voices/National Youth Theatre

Isle of Sheppey, Intergenerational Project, Co-Director

July 2009

Cherish

School for Life, London, workshops for environmentalists with Lucy Neal and

Ruth Nutter

May 2009

Frothee Coffee at the Pamdor

Shaping Voices, Co-director film and performance at Hastings Museum

June 2009

A Weekend Away

Shaping Voices, Workshops with Eastbourne older residents

March-July 2009

My Life As A Bat

Royal Philharmonic Society London
Director of youth project, music and film
March 2009

On The Rim of the World

Glyndebourne Opera
Director of community opera for 150 parents and children
March 2009

Lost Dreams, Wild Dreams, Recollected Dreams, [Macbeth, Refugee Chorus], Glyndebourne Youth Opera, Director
Culmination of two year devised site specific opera. Composer: Julian Phillips
March 2008

Lost Dreams, Wild Dreams, YO! International Youth Opera Festival, Director.
Site specific piece for Delta College Utrecht
November 2007

Bloom Blue, Royal Festival Hall, Movement Director for children's choir
Director: Suzi Zumpe
October 2006

Hear Our Voice, Hackney Music Development Trust, Director and
Choreographer
Composers: Jonathan Dove and Matthew King Librettist: Tertia Setfon-Green

Shown as *Towards an Unknown Port*, St Mary's Church, Elmbridge, Surrey,
February 1999
Opening of Holocaust exhibit at the Imperial War Museum with 100 primary
and secondary school children, July 2001
Bloomsbury Theatre, Toured to Nuremberg and Prague Opera House
July 2006

Beyond the Mountain, Opera North, Director
Project based on the Pied Piper story
November 2005

The Greenhouse Project (two responses to Acis and Galatea)
Strange Nature and Acis and Galatea, Glyndebourne Youth Opera,
Director with Music Director, Jonathan Gill
April 2005
Toured to Utrecht, Yo International Youth Opera Festival, October 2005

On Spitalfields, Spitalfields Festival, Director
Composer: Jonathan Dove
Awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Education in
May 2006
June 2005

Elemental, Glyndebourne Youth Opera on the Main Stage, Director
A major production of four works created over the previous three years
with Glyndebourne Youth Opera 4, based on air, earth, water, and fire
March 2004

Ancestor in the Chalk, Glyndebourne Youth Opera, Artistic Director
Composer: Orlando Gough, Librettist: John Agard
Toured to Spain
March and December 2003

Firestone, ENO Baylis, Director
Part of ENO Baylis' Early Earth Operas
Queen Mary, University of London People's Palace, April 2003
ENO Coliseum, June 2004

Fire Work, Glyndebourne Youth Opera, Choreographer
Composer: Will Todd and Elizabeth Clark Melville
Dome Concert Hall, May 2002

Caol-I and Fire Work, Glyndebourne Youth Opera, Director
Scotland Tour, April 2002

Anniversaries, ENO Baylis (?), Director and Choreographer
with the Hoxton Singers and Students from Haggerston School
Film made about the project and performed at Hackney Empire,
June 2002

Shadow and Light, Handel House Project, Director
March 2002

Airheads, Glyndebourne Youth Opera, Director
Composer: Ian McCrae Librettist: Jane Buckler Conductor: Ian McCrae
University of Sussex, March 2001
Toured France, Switzerland and Germany April 2001
Brighton Festival at St. Bartholemew's Church, Brighton, May 2001

I am My World, Turtle Opera, Royal Opera House, Director
Linbury Studio, July 2001

Maths Project, Glyndebourne Education, Director with visual artist Kate
Adams
Gardener Arts Theatre and Moulescombe Primary, June 2001

Our Town, The Millenium Dome, Director
July 2000

The Stones Remaining, Aldeburgh Festival Commission, Movement Director
Composer: Deirdre Gribbin, Percussion: Richard Benjafield with the
Aldeburgh Pebble Orchestra.
June 1999

Tales from the End of Northworld, Community Opera Wick, Co-Director with composer Will Todd

Set in a bus depot in Wick with a large mixed cast of professional musicians and schoolchildren from Wick.

Northlands Festival, September 1999

Pinhole Camera (the Rodelinda project), Glyndebourne Education and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Director and Choreographer

Composer: Deirdre Gribbin Oboist: Cherry Forbes Violinist: Jo Parker

July 1999

Darkness and Light: the 20s, A Decade of Contradictions, Glyndebourne Youth Opera, Director with musical director and composer David Knotts
December 1999

Orpheus: Parallel Tellings of A Well Known Story,

Glyndebourne Youth Opera,

Director

March 1999

Lughnash is close to madness, True North and Darlington Arts, Director

August 1998

Walking the Downs, Glyndebourne Education, Movement Director and Workshop Leader with composer Jonathan Dove, director Ali Campbell, and designer Suzanne Hutchinson

1996-1998

Wild West Project, Warbleton Arts Project, Director and Choreographer
Awarded 1st prize (1996) and 2nd prize (1995), Sussex Community Arts

Awards

Summer 1995 and 1996

Performance

Dancers in Landscape Collective

Begun December 2010, Bunces Barn. Supported by South East Dance

Ongoing events 2011

Embodied Emotions

Performance with Osmani students, People's Palace Queen Mary,

University of London

November 2010

Improvised performance

With Sophia Campeau-Ferman, ZU Studios, Lewes

October 2010

Tree

Website launch for Ali Campbell, Queen Mary, University of London

Cherry Tree ceremony performance solo

October 2010

24 Chairs

Performance for exhibition opening, The Foundry, Lewes
September 2010

Invisible

Photography, Installation, Film & Performance – 10 year retrospective of collaborations between Clare Whistler and Victoria Rance
Invisible solo performance, music Joanna Lawrence
Lucy Bell Fine Art Photography Gallery, St Leonards On Sea
September 2010

Low Flight

Performance poetry at Chichester Festival for poet Meredith Andrew
July 2010

Bees, singers, its not honey you're after - it's blossom (Machado)

A special event performance, writing, film, music about bees, Bunces Barn with Angie Biltcliffe, Sophia Campeau-Ferman, Rebecca Marshall, Mark Pappenheim

Embodied Emotions

ARHC Research Grant Beyond Text, Queen Mary, University of London
5 Solos for 5 Lectures January-May 2010
Seal with singer Suzi Zumpe
Pointing is an Extraordinary Gesture with singer Olivia Bishop
The Fleeting Expression or please explain tears with singer Nicholas Sharratt
Nail Biting, Blushing, Flinching with violinist Joanna Lawrence
Lost in Translation with music Sussan Deihim

The Visitor

Video and book project with visual artist Judith Alder
May-Oct 2009

Navigators & Ghosts

Concieved & Directed site-specific piece for the Redoubt Fortress, Eastbourne, with 4 singers and 3 performers
Eastbourne Festival April 2009

Low Flight, Director and Performer

Writer: Meredith Andrew Composer: Ian McCrae Designer: Dody Nash
Singers: David Bates and Katie Tearle
The Chapel University College Chichester, June 2004

The Book Club Project, Battle Festival, Director

Composer: Ian McCrae Musicians: Joanna Parker and Martin Lawrence
Battle Abbey School, June 2002

Stravinsky's Tango, Performer and Deviser in collaboration with Jonathan Dove

Glyndebourne Opera
September 2001

Responses, Hastings Museum and Art Gallery, Choreographer and performer in collaboration with four composers and musicians, including Jonathan Dove
January 2001

A Certain Slant of Light, Beaminster Festival, Choreographer and performer
St. Mary's Church in Beaminster, Dorset
July 2000

Blow the Wind Southerly, Director with singer Jane Metcalfe and accompanist Nicholas Bosworth
Hastings Museum, May 1999

How to Make the Water Sound, De La Warr Pavilion, Devised with True North (composer Deirdre Gibbon and singer Katie Tearle)
This programme included *Ariel Dances*, composed by Jonathan Dove and designed by Alasdair Middleton; *Stone* with music by Deirdre Gribbin; *Only the Restless Surface*, designed by Tamsin Currey; and *How to Make the Water Sound* with the Fidelio Trio.
January 1999

Out of Silence, Goodwood Sculpture Park, A True North Production
June 1998

Only the Restless Surface, A True North Production
Lewes, East Sussex
1998

Ariel Dances, De La Warr Pavilion, Performer and choreographer in collaboration with director Alisdair Middleton, composer Jonathan Dove, and singer Katie Tearle
March and May 1998

Good Luck, Summer Fest San Francisco, Performer and deviser, to music by Ravel, accompanied by Jonathan Dove
July 1997

Invisible Guests, Sculpture at Goodwood, A True North Production with music composed by Jonathan Dove and Diedre Gribbin
1997

Music Workshops

Dogfight, ENO Baylis, Workshop leader for 2 weeks with schoolchildren.
Autumn 2002

'Write an Opera Workshop', Royal Opera House, Bretton Hall, Workshop leader
August 2002

'Music in Prisons', Holloway Women's Prison, Facilitator
Winter 2002

7 sessions on *Dido and Aeneas*, Trinity School of Music, Workshop Leader
November- January 2001

Guild Hall singing and movement workshops, Workshop Leader
February-March 1998

Workshop with the Northern Symphonia Orchestra, Workshop Leader
A True North Production
August 1998

Singing workshops for a combination of professional and non-professional
singers
Throughout Hastings with Jane Metcalfe
Throughout 1997

Awards
Awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Education
Spitalfields Festival *On Spital Fields*
May 2006

The Gifts Series

Egg 2005
Keats House
Jen Mitas, Alasdair Middleton)

Coal 2007
Alex MacInnis, Victoria Rance, Sophia Campeau-Ferman

Yew 2009
John Agard, Kate Adams, Richard Davies, Wycliffe Stutchbury,
Philip Carr Gomm

Salt 2010
Kjell Torriset, film with Sam Sharples

Candle 2011
Joanna Haigood, Tamsin Currey, Susanne Wolf