

RACHEL VALENTINE SMITH

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JOINT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | RVS@THEFACTION.ORG

- > Joint artistic director of The Faction - award winning international ensemble www.thefaction.org.uk
- > Alumni Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab, New York | Founding member of Directors Lab Mediterranean, endorsed by Lincoln Center
- > Trustee of the Board, New Diorama Theatre
- > Previous resident director, inaugural pool at Almeida Theatre
- > NESTA award nominated filmmaker

AS DIRECTOR

Show/Project	Theatre	Notes
NO DEMAND NO SUPPLY by Sahar Assaf	Gate Theatre/Shubbak Festival	> A documentary piece of theatre, translated and presented in English for Shubbak Festival
HUNDRED PERCENT POSITIVE WELLNESS by Sonali Bhattacharyya	Caird Theatre, Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama	> The play was a RWCMD commission for a graduate production
MY NAME IS RACHEL CORRIE from the writings of Rachel Corrie, edited by Alan Rickman and Katharine Viner	Zoukak Theatre Masrah Al-Madina	> Invited by the EU to open the inaugural Lebanon European Theatre Festival, commissioned by the British Council
LEAVE TO REMAIN By Olga Nikora	The Queens Theatre, West End	> Staged Reading for Off WestEnd Adopt A Playwright Award winner.
LETTER TO YOUR LEADER- A LIVE ANTHOLOGY	The Bunker Theatre	> Curated and Directed written, visual and video work from artists across the globe, expressing their uncensored thoughts to their personal leaders
SAHAR SPEAKS by Sonali Bhattacharyya	Theatre503 For Palindrome Productions	> Dramatised account using source material from female Afghan journalists who trained through the Sahar Speaks programme
JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare	RADA for Women@RADA (100 play readings)	> Rehearsed reading, gender balanced company of 10. > Dramaturgy of the edit
FRAGMENTS by Arijeta Ajeti, Fjolla Hoxha, Molika Maxhuni, Jeton Neziraj, John Retallack and Pericles Snowden	Unicorn Theatre For Intent New Theatre	> Series of rehearsed readings for Kosovan and Balkans artists > With Louise Jameson, Toby Jones and Linda Marlowe
KING LEAR by William Shakespeare translated by Sahar Assaf, Robert Myers and Raffi Feghali	Al Madina Theatre, Beirut	> Arabic language version (first ever colloquial Lebanese Arabic translation) > Supported by the British Council in collaboration with the American University of Beirut and Tahweel Ensemble
ACTS OF DEFIANCE by Chloe Todd Fordham	Sphinx Theatre/Theatre 503	> Short. Part of an all female festival curated by Kay Adshead for Mama Quilla
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING by William Shakespeare Co-directed with Mark Leipacher	The 'Refashioned Theatre', Selfridges	> A specially commissioned production in 124 seat temporary theatre celebrating Shakespeare400 > Featuring digital performances from Simon Callow, Meera Syal and Rufus Hound > Additionally directed pop-up performances and 'Flashbard' running through the oxford street venue
VASSA by Maxim Gorky in a new version by Emily Juniper	Southwark Playhouse	> For The Faction
TRANSFORMATIONS Kafka's Metamorphosis , Cervantes' Dogs Dialogue and Goethe's Faust in new versions by Gareth Jandrell	Wilton's Music Hall	> For The Faction > A triple bill of solo productions
THE FACTION SOLO SEASON: An Arab Woman Speaks by Dario Fo and Franca Rame My Last Duchess by Browning / Jessica Siân Medea/Worn by Euripides / Emily Juniper Duende by Lorca devised by Kate Sawyer & Rachel Valentine Smith	New Diorama Theatre	> Ran as a repertory festival for 5 weeks > An Arab Woman Speaks was the English premiere in special arrangement with Dario Fo Nominated for three Off WestEnd Awards

ROMEO & JULIET by William Shakespeare	New Diorama Theatre transfer to Greenwich Theatre	> For The Faction Rep Season 2015 > Ran in rep with The Talented Mr Ripley and Joan of Arc > Season nominated for four Off WestEnd Awards
JOAN OF ARC by Friedrich Schiller in a new version by Mark Leipacher	New Diorama Theatre	> For The Faction Rep Season 2015 > Co directed with Mark Leipacher > Ran in rep with Romeo & Juliet and The Talented Mr Ripley
A MILLION LITTLE HANDS by Christopher York	Arts Theatre, London	> For new writing festival
MÖRDER devised by the company from Fritz Lang's 'M'	Vaults Theatre	> For the EPOCH festival
THEBES an adaptation of Sophocles' and Aeschylus' Theban plays by Gareth Jandrell	New Diorama Theatre transfer to Greenwich Theatre	> For The Faction Rep Season 2014 > Ran in repertory with The Robbers and 'Hamlet
SWINE by Diane Samuels	The Jewish Museum	> Rehearsed Reading
BLOOD WEDDING by Lorca in a new version by Gareth Jandrell with music by Tom Whitelaw	New Diorama Theatre	> For The Faction Rep Season 2013 > Ran in repertory for 8 weeks with Three Sisters and Fiesco
OTHELLO by William Shakespeare	Open Air Season at Brockwell Park	> For The Faction
THE YEAR WILL BE DIFFERENT: REFRACTIONS by Mufaro Makubika in collaboration with Paddy Molloy	Theatre503	
MR KOLPERT by David Gieselmann translation by David Tushingham	The Kings Head	> For The Curious Room Productions
ROLA COLA by Lee Mattinson	Arcola Theatre	> For the Story Project.
REGGIE & GINA / JUST SAY NO by Themba Theatre Company	Schools & Prison tour, Johannesburg	For Themba Theatre Company, Johannesburg. A company who train actors to devise work to help raise awareness of personal, sexual and social issues
THE HIGHWAYMAN by Bahar Brunton after Alfred Noyes	Edinburgh Festival, C Venues	> For The Curious Room Productions
AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR		
DANNY & THE DEEP BLUE SEA by John Patrick Shanley	Southwark Playhouse	> dir. Ché Walker
COMEDY OF ERRORS by William Shakespeare	The Curious Room	> dir. Knight Mantell

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

- > Extensive producing experience - for The Faction produced 5 award nominated and award winning repertory seasons and international work
- > Extensive facilitation and teaching experience - in the UK and internationally particularly South Africa where I lived for 2 years
- > Previous Executive Assistant for UK independent film company
- > Freelance Sub-Editor for the Guardian

OTHER SKILLS

- > Drawing, Photography and Graphic Design
- > Advanced computer literacy
- > Filmmaking
- > Fundraising

EDUCATION

BA (Hons) Graphic Design, Kingston University 2:1

FURTHER TRAINING

LIFT Producers Course - Producing an International Theatre Festival

University of Cambridge - International Development: Understanding Contemporary Issues and Themes - short course

Acting Foundation ASAD

Training workshops with Deborah Warner, Katie Mitchell, Ramin Gray and Ian Rickson

Frantic Assembly Movement Course (Intermediate) Feldenkrais training course