

Ben Wiles

MD – Pianist – Arranger – Vocal Coach



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Background

Ben is a theatre MD with a broad skill set and a flexible way of working. Over the last 15 years he has worked on every kind of theatre, from intimate studio productions to No 1 tours, and every style of music, from opera to rock. A good knowledge of vocal technique combined with strong arranging and keyboard skills has enabled him to create strong performances in challenging situations.

Having spent six years as a lecturer – teaching the history and practice of musical theatre at Middlesex and Hertfordshire Universities – he has recently refocused his career away from teaching and is now pursuing a full-time career as an MD and writer of musicals.

Recent Production History

Nov 2012- Jan 2013	<i>The Pantomime Adventures of Peter Pan</i>	MD, arranger	Derby Live (Paul Holman Associates)
Sep-Oct 2012	<i>The Threepenny Opera</i>	MD	Crescent Theatre Birmingham (Birmingham School of Acting)
June-Sep 2012	<i>HMS Pinafore</i>	MD, arrangements	National Tour (Illyria Theatre Company)
May 2012	BSA Showcase	Pianist	MAC, Birmingham
Feb 2012	Cabaret with Jamie Lee Pike	MD	Lauderdale House
Nov-Dec 2011	<i>Sleeping Beauty</i>	MD, arranger	Broxbourne (Paul Holman Associates)
June-Sep 2011	<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	MD	National Tour (Illyria Theatre Company)
July 2011	Toccata Music	Arranger, orchestrator	Tour of India
Mar 2011	<i>Heaven Sent</i> (New Musical)	MD, orchestrator	New Wimbledon Studio (Hidden Talent Productions)
Nov-Dec 2010	<i>Cinderella</i>	MD, arranger	Broxbourne (Paul Holman Associates)
Sep 2010	<i>A Little Of What You Fancy</i> (Music Hall)	MD	Battersea Barge (London Touring Theatre)
July 2010	<i>Trouble Comes In Threes</i>	MD, writer	Schools Tour (Bedfordshire Youth Opera)

Recently produced work as writer

2012	<i>One Step Forward</i> (workshop)	Composer, add. lyrics (with Ben Francis)	dir. Madelaine Smith Moore, Goldsmiths, London
2012	<i>Giddy Goat The Musical</i>	Book, lyrics, add. music (with Danni Brace)	dir. Gemma Gross, C Theatre, Edinburgh
2011	<i>Amsterdam</i>	Book, lyrics, music	dir. Gus Gowland, Vauxhall Tavern
2011	<i>Revenge of the Scissorman</i> (children's opera)	Book, lyrics, music (after Heinrich Hoffman)	dir. Dan Smith, schools' tour

Other Recent Work

Audition pianist for Enchanted Entertainment

Conductor for Potters Bar Choir

Keyboard player on productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Titanic*, *Peter Pan* (Stiles and Drewe), *Sweeney Todd*, *Our House* etc.

Work History

2006-2010	North Hertfordshire College (associate of Hertfordshire Uni.)	Module leader and lecturer on BA, HND and FdA Performing Arts
2004-2006	Middlesex University	Lecturer on BA Performing Arts and BA Music
2003-2004	Bill Kenwright Limited	Assistant MD on <i>Scrooge</i> and <i>Joseph</i>

Education & Training

2010 MA(Dist) in Musical Theatre (Writing) – Goldsmiths University of London

2003 BA(Hons) Performing Arts (Drama) – Middlesex University

Other skills

Own transport and equipment

Highly skilled at creating backing tracks, orchestrations and vocal arrangements

Good knowledge of Estill-based singing technique