

Ben Wiles

Composer – Lyricist – Bookwriter



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Background

Ben is a composer and writer with 15 years experience of working in professional musical theatre. He has musically directed numerous small and large scale theatrical productions, and has taught the history and practice of musical theatre at drama schools and universities. As a writer, he has written several operas and musicals for family audiences, along with more 'adult' shows. His work has been seen across the UK, and has been recently produced in London and Edinburgh. He is currently interested in developing new work with a strong performative edge, and has a particular interest in the serious side of musical comedy.

Recent Production History

As a writer and composer

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	dir. Dan Smith, schools' tour
2010	<i>Giddy Goat the Musical</i> (workshop)	Book, lyrics, add. music (with Danni Brace)	dir. Clare McKenna, George Wood Theatre
2010	<i>Trouble Comes in Threes</i> (children's opera)	Book, lyrics, music	dir. Dan Smith, schools' tour

Recent Reviews

"Ben Wiles and Danni Brace have delightfully adapted Jamie Rix's popular book as a fast-fun C theatre musical" – The Stage

"The script is a sharp and endearing adaptation of the popular book by Jamie Rix and C Theatre's performers deliver the tale with infectious enthusiasm through rap, Disney-esque ballads and baa-baa-shop quartets." – ThreeWeeks

Previous theatrical writing

Includes details of first production

2008	<i>Three Birds Alighting on a Field</i> (play with operatic inserts)	Composer	dir. Juliet Morton, Hangar Theatre, Hitchin
2008	<i>Fairytales Without Fairies</i> (children's opera)	Book, lyrics, music	dir. Julia Fraser, schools' tour
2007	<i>Black Remote</i> (play)	Composer	dir. Ed Simpson, Theatre Royal Northampton and Cottesloe Theatre
2005	<i>The Hans Andersen Show</i> (children's opera)	Book, lyrics, music	dir. Fred Broom, schools' tour
2003	<i>The Ning Nang Nong</i> (children's show)	Music	schools' tour
2002	<i>Kidz!</i> (children's opera)	Music and add. lyrics	dir. Fred Broom, schools' tour
1999	<i>Song of the Nightingale</i> (children's musical)	Music and lyrics	dir. Mavis Holdsworth, Failand Theatre

Education & Training

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

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

Memberships

Professional Writing Associate, Mercury Musical Developments, 2011-present

Member, Musician's Union, 1995-present

Other life experience

15 years as a professional musician (keyboards / MD)

5 years as a lecturer in HE and FE

Highly skilled music arranger

Science and technology enthusiast (once failed to become a physicist)

Numerous crushed dreams and nervous breakdowns