

NICK STIMSON - Writer | Librettist | Director - 2026

Nick Stimson is a freelance playwright, theatre director and poet. He was also Associate Director of The Theatre Royal, Plymouth. As well as writing published musicals, Nick has created a large number of major community projects as a writer and director.

Nick is currently working on an exciting new commission of a play with music, developed at Theatre Royal Plymouth, working alongside the international pianist Robert Taub, for the bi-centenary of Beethoven's death.

In 2022 Nick wrote the screenplay for a filmed musical entitled **J - a contemporary retelling of Don Juan in a non-binary world**. Music and lyrics are by Annemarie Lewis Thomas, directed by Cressida Carre, commissioned by The MTA and starring their class of 2022. The film has been nominated for many accolades in the film festivals including two wins.

During lockdown Nick was commissioned by Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) to write a brand new production of his musical **NHS The Musical** with composer Jimmy Jewell, in celebration of the people who have looked after the nation and our families for more than 70 years. A fast-paced musical directed by Stephen Fletcher, it received standing ovations every night during the run in September 2021 and marked the triumphant return to live theatre at TRP.

Nick worked with the singer and composer Seth Lakeman, over a two year period, writing for the international folk star's album released in 2020 and narrated by Paul McGann, **A PILGRIM'S TALE**, telling the story of the Mayflower and the birth of modern USA four centuries ago. Seth toured the UK using Nick's writing in the concert playing in significant towns associated with the Mayflower tale. Nick also worked with Seth on a major project Nick wrote for the Theatre Royal Plymouth and Mayflower 400 about the Pilgrim Fathers coming to the New World,

In 2020 Plymouth Council commissioned Nick to write and direct a special musical with Chris Williams for the international **MAYFLOWER CEREMONY** commemorating the Mayflower's departure from the city four hundred years before.

Productions of Nick's musical **KORCZAK** written with composer Chris Williams, have been licensed internationally and two of his musicals are published by Concord/Samuel French, both written with composer/lyricist Annemarie Lewis Thomas: **DANGEROUS DAUGHTERS** about the Pankhurst daughters and **OH MY NELLIE BLY** about America's first female journalist. **DANGEROUS DAUGHTERS** is being produced again in the summer of 2022 in Hertford.

Further productions include: writer and director of **A WINTER'S TALE** published by Faber (with the composer Howard Goodall) at The Sage, Gateshead and The Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford & Landor Theatre, London, (winner of Best Off West End musical at the Offies); and subsequently produced by BYMT; recent productions of his musicals **FIGHT LIKE A GIRL** about female boxing, and **PETER PAN** (both with BYMT) and **THE SUNSHINE GANG**

a musical comedy drama set during WWII and an ENSA group putting on a show. **SAILORS AND SWEETHEARTS**, a play about the artist Beryl Cook, at the Drum Theatre, Plymouth; writer of **HELLO MISTER CAPELLO** for the Palace Theatre, Watford; co-writer of **PROMISED LAND** (written with Anthony Clavane) for Red Ladder Theatre, The Carriage Works, Leeds; writer of **WHO ATE ALL THE PIES?** (with music by Jimmy Jewell) at the Tristan Bates Theatre, London; writer of **THE VENUS FACTOR** (with music and lyrics by Annemarie Lewis Thomas) for MTA at the Bridewell Theatre, London; writer and director of **KORCZAK** (with music by Chris Williams) at Theatre Royal, Plymouth, YMTUK at The Rose Theatre, London and Bialystok Opera Poland (international tour); writer and director of **GABRIEL** (with the composer Andrew Fisher) for the University of Southampton; writer of **INVENTING UTOPIA**, a play about Dorothy and Leonard Elmhirst, for production at Dartington; writer (with Anthony Clavane) of **LEEDS LADS** for Red Ladder Theatre at the Carriage Works, Leeds.

Additional community projects include Nick leading the **ONSIDE** project which examined the relationship between sport and the arts and involved a dozen secondary schools and thousands of young people from across Devon; writing and directing **MATTHEW MILLER** and **THE DAY WE PLAYED BRAZIL** both major community plays for The Northcott Theatre Exeter; and writing and directing **UNION STREET** another large-scale community project for the Theatre Royal Plymouth.

He has written a novel, **FUNNY PECULIAR** and has published three collections of poetry: 'In Magnet Air' (Phoenix Press); 'Histories' (Priapus Press) and "Flying Pigs' (Enitharmon).