

Giles Smith

Director Writer Filmmaker Photographer

EXPERIENCE

CHAOS - L'Accademia Nazionale di Arte Drammatica Silvio D'Amico, Rome & Teatro Di Roma - *director*

September 2022 -November 2022

Commissioned to direct Laura Lomas play "Chaos" as a part of the Biennio Masters in Acting organised by L'Accademia Nazionale Silvio D'Amico, Rome. The play was performed in English with Italian students at Carrozzerie NOT, Rome.

Dead While I Was Alive - *film director & producer.*

September - October 2021

Commissioned to produce and direct the short film for Artemis & The Wild Things production. The film is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, addiction, mental illness, and the memory of those who have committed suicide, especially during the pandemic. The short film will be submitted to the following festivals over the course of the next 6 months: Berlinale 2021, Cannes Short Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, Sundance Short Film Festival, Venice Short Film Festival and the Tribeca Short Film Festival.

CivicoZero Onlus - *filmmaker*

May 2021

Commissioned to produce and direct a series of videos for the charity's 2021 fundraising campaign 5x1000.

SKILLS

Highly computer literate.
Full knowledge of MacOS,
chrome, android OS.
HTML5, css3, jquery

Adobe Creative Suite

Davinci Resolve Studio 15 and
above

Photographer

LANGUAGES

Fluent Italian.
Translation/interpretation

The Sonnets of Shakespeare - Teatro Stabile di Palermo, Teatro Biondo - *workshop leader*

February 2021 & April 2021

Commissioned to lead a two part formative workshop on Shakespeare's Sonnets with students of the school. The first part took place online with a series of nine lessons for twenty students. The second part took place in Palermo with the whole group and concluded with an open class for fellow students and teachers.

For You - L'Accademia Nazionale di Arte Drammatica Silvio D'Amico, Rome & Teatro Di Roma - *director*

September 2020 -October 2020

Commissioned to direct Ian McEwan's libretto "*For You*" as a part of the Biennio Masters in Acting organised by L'Accademia Nazionale Silvio D'Amico in collaboration with Teatro Di Roma. The play was performed in English with Italian students at Villa Torlonia, Rome.

The Chairs - *director*

August 2018 - January 2019

Commissioned to direct Eugene Ionesco's *The Chairs* for Laboratori Permanenti. It was presented in Tuscany, Rome and further venues to be confirmed in 2018/2019.

ZugZwang - Oroboro Teatro - *director and writer*

December 2017

Commissioned to write and direct an adaptation of Stefan Zweig's novella *Chess* for the company Oroboro. The play had its debut in Rome. It will be presented in Tuscany, Sicily and further venues to be confirmed in 2018.

Colour in the Darkness. National Portrait Gallery, London. *Director and writer*

February 2017

Directed a rehearsed reading of my new play *Colour in The Darkness* for the National Portrait Gallery, London. The play starred the Olivier award nominee Ann Mitchell and Ian Reddington. The play deals with art, portraiture and women in art at the start of the 19th Century.

**L'Accademia Nazionale di Arte Drammatica Silvio
D'Amico, Rome. *professor of Acting***

November 2016 -present

Responsible for preparing audition monologues for Final Year Actors in English at the national Italian drama academy.

Woman Before a Glass, *director*

September 2016

Directed Lanie Robertson's play for Laboratori Permanenti. The play recounts several episodes from the life of Peggy Guggenheim. The play starred Caterina Casini and had its debut at the International Todi Festival, Todi Italy.

CivicoZero, Work leader & *director*

March 2016 -December 2016

Working in collaboration with Save The Children, Italy, I was responsible for documenting the experiences of unaccompanied child migrants and refugees, encouraging them to communicate and share their experiences. The project was part of an education and arts program sponsored by Save the Children and private individuals to develop and nurture greater social integration. A series of six documentaries were filmed in a collaborative environment.

Oltremare, national tour of Italy — *director*

October 2013 -December 2015

Responsible for directing the premier of Giorgio Serafini's new play Oltremare, (beyond the Sea). The play was produced by Laboratori Permanenti and starred Caterina Cassini and Sasa Vulicevic. The first performance of the play inaugurated the new theatre in the town of San Sepolcro, Tuscany, Italy.

**Manchester school of theatre, Manchester — *visiting
director***

April 2015 -June 2015

Responsible for directing the first year actors in their Naturalism project.
The play chosen was Maxim Gorky's Summerfolk, (trans. Nick Dear.)

Employed to provide a creative and supportive environment in which students could experiment with and test out an integrated approach to rehearsal and performance practice within the context of an edited workshop presentation of the published play. The work of this unit was structured around the rehearsal of a workshop presentation that formed a summative assessment at the end of the first year.

Alongside a close investigation of the importance of language as a means of creative expression, rehearsals also fostered an approach to practice that stressed the need for research and observation, a willingness to experiment, and a confident ability to integrate the practical work of movement and voice into the creation of character, relationship and given circumstances.

Students were encouraged to work towards an increasingly secure application of the processes and methodologies to which they had been introduced in earlier stages of the course and to achieve convincing and appropriate character transformations.

CentroSperimentale di Cinematographia, Milan — *director*

June 2015 - October 2015

Directing a series of teaching Masterclasses for young professional actors focusing on texts by Harold Pinter. The aims of this project are to provide actors with a solid working process for screen and television. The masterclass takes the form of an extended workshop rehearsal period followed by filming the chosen texts.

Centro Internazionale La Cometa, Rome *director/teacher*

2007 - 2017

Director and teacher at Rome's international theatre academy. Projects directed in that time include: The Lover, Old Times, Paesaggi, Hamlet, The Tempest, Measure for Measure, Othello, King John, Twelfth Night, Betrayal, Life/Time (an original play written by myself on the life of Einstein,) Animal and mask work, ensemble building, text analysis, broad aspects of European theatrical literature (Genet, Boal, Ionesco, Pirandello, Brecht) and above all Shakespeare and verse. All projects were structured around public presentation and contributed to student assessment.

J33tre European theatre ensemble, Rome— *Co founder &*

Artistic director

2005 - 2015

Responsible for the development, production and direction of the company's artistic output. Planning and executing its educational and outreach work. Directing plays and leading over 40 workshops across Italy, wider Europe and the US. Most notably: The Sonnets of Shakespeare at The Grotowski Theatre, Wroclaw Poland, Divergencies, for the city of Rome a multi disciplinary work based on Virginia Woolf's Mrs Dalloway, Hamlet in Athens for the Theatre of Changes International Conference, The Conference of The Birds for the AutOut festival in Tuscany, In the Forest for the PAM international festival New York. Responsible for recruiting artistic collaborators and producing plays on time and on budget. Also broad experience of grant applications, arts organisations submissions.

Czech Film, — Screenwriter

2012 - 2013

Commissioned to write and develop the screen adaptation of Pulitzer Prize nominee Arnost Lustig's novel The Unloved. Short contract, the screenplay is in development.

Acting & Dialogue coach (film)

2011, 2016

Employed by RAI TV and ATC Cinema as acting and dialogue coach. Olimpiade Nascosti - directed by Alfredo Peyretti
I'M directed by Anne Riita Ciccone.

Prima del teatro, European School for the art of the actor, Pisa— *director/teacher*

2002, 2003 & 2011

Workshop leader teaching process work for young actors midway through their training. The schools collaborating with Prima del Teatro are (or were) : the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London (since 1992); the Russian Academy of Drama RATI (former GITIS), Moscow (since 1992); the Institut del Teatre, Barcelona (since 1993); the Accademia dei Filodrammatici, Milan (since 1994); the Universität der Künste, Berlin (since 1995); the ENSATTEcole Nationale Superieure des Arts et Techniques du Theatre, Lyon (since 1997); and the Real Escuela Superior de Arte Dramatico (Madrid), the Statens Teater Skole (Copenhagen) the School "La Cometa" (Rome), the 'American Conservatory Theater of San Francisco (since 2004); the Ecole du Theatre National of Strasbourg and the "Accademia Teatrale Veneta", Venice (since 2011); the Institut Nationale Superieur des Arts du Spectacle INSAS, Bruxelles and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater HfMT, Hamburg (2014).

I worked here on three occasions. Each was a short fixed term contract for the duration of the festival.

Mountview Academy, London— *director/teacher*

January 2003 - June 2003

Project director for second year actors. Shakespeare and Howard Barker. Directed the second year Shakespeare project, teaching verse work and encouraging students to apply their process work to heightened, poetic texts. This unit was organised around a workshop performance at the end of the term. I followed this with directing Howard Barker's play Seven Lear's with a focus on applying working to individual strengths within the context of an ensemble.

Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London— *director/teacher*

January 2002 - July 2002

Employed to provide a creative and supportive environment in which students could experiment with and test out an integrated approach to rehearsal and performance practice within the context of an edited workshop presentation of Chekhov's Three Sisters, and later with second year actors working on numerous plays by Harold Pinter.

Bay of Pigs theatre, New York— *director*

2001

Shakespeare's King Lear

National Theatre / West End, London— *Company member*

1996 - 2000

Over this period collaborated with Sir Richard Eyre on John Gabriel Borkman with Vanessa Redgrave, Paul Scofield, Eileen Aitkins, Amy's View with David Hare, Judy Dench, Samantha Bond, Trevor Nunn on Albert Speer by David Edgar with Roger Allam, Alex Jennings, Howard Davies on Chips with Everything by Arnold Wesker with Eddie Marsan and Rupert Penry Jones,, Patrick Marber on Closer with Mark Strong, Liza Walker, Sally Dexter, then on its West End transfer. As a part of this work I was also asked to work with Declan Donnellan at the Savoy theatre on Hayfever with Geraldine McEwan.

EDUCATION

Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London — *Degree Ba*

(hons) Acting

1992- 1995

