

TERESA HOWARD - Writer, Librettist & Lyricist

Teresa is a librettist, lyricist, playwright and scriptwriter, with a background in acting, mime and physical theatre. She recently received a Hosking Houses Trust Fellowship, and has been working with Watford Palace Theatre's participation team on musical theatre workshops with an award from The Noel Coward Foundation. She has also worked for the Literary Department of the Royal Court Theatre and was the recipient of a Literary Fellowship at Winchester School of Art.

Teresa is the book-writer and lyricist of the new British musical based on Dodie Smith's **I CAPTURE THE CASTLE** in collaboration with composer Steven Edis, directed by Brigid Larmour, which has received its world premiere in April 2017 at Watford Palace Theatre and the musical will also play at the Octagon Theatre, Bolton and Oxford Playhouse during Spring 2017.

I CAPTURE THE CASTLE had a workshop production in 2015 with the Royal National Theatre and Watford Palace Theatre at the NT Studio. The show also received a substantial grant from GftA for the production at Watford Palace Theatre and previously received a workshop production at Drury Lane Theatre supported by Watford Palace Theatre, and the Arts Council of England. *Imagine* from this show was short-listed for the Sondheim Award 2012 and *Diary Song* in 2011. *Only Men* was performed at the Richard Stilgoe Masterclass at Mercury Musical Developments (MMD) in 2011.

Current projects include a libretto commissioned for a new musical (supported by GftA), which is in development at Hackney Empire. Teresa is also working on a radio play.

Teresa's previous collaboration with Steven Edis, is as book and lyric writer for a Pre-Raphaelite musical called **POSSESSED** based on the love affair between Jane Burden (wife of the Arts and Crafts designer William Morris) and Pre-Raphaelite artist Dante Gabriel Rossetti. While at the National Theatre, Clive Paget was her dramaturg on this musical and received a Writers' Guild Encouragement Award for nurturing the project. After a showcase with Peter Polycarpou and Anna Francolini at Greenwich Theatre, workshop performances at the Arts Theatre London and Oxford Playhouse, and masterclasses with Claude-Michel Schönberg, **POSSESSED** received a premiere production at Camden People's Theatre, London in 2016, directed by Madeleine Edis.

Many of the songs from **POSSESSED** have been sung as part of festivals and cabaret performances: *Hungry Sea*, was chosen for a cabaret of International new musical songs at the Kings Head Theatre, and *Raft of Delight* was sung in cabaret by Josie Lawrence in *Trying it On* at the Menier Chocolate Factory in 2011. *Hold Still* was short-listed for the Stephen Sondheim Award in 2010 and three songs from the show were short-listed for the UK Song Contest in 2008. *More Than Life Itself*, was chosen for performance as part of the Clearspace Festival of new musical songs in the USA in 2008.

Teresa's stage plays include: **GROCK** (Chichester Festival Theatre, with Derek Royle); **STONEFIST** (Soho Theatre); **BADER AND DOOLITTLE** (Commissioned by JABOD); **REV. LUKE'S USEFUL SHOW** (Old Fire Station, Oxford) and **MUSIC ON THE METRO** (Winchester). Teresa also created and wrote a TV series called **PROTECTORS**, commissioned by Talisman Films, and was a researcher on **PAINÉ** for Peter Law at Red Door. Her children's audio book, **THE LONELY MONSTER**, with songs by Olivia Caldwell, was produced by HD Productions. She also writes articles for magazines and journals including *The Spectator* and *Blackwell's - The Art Book*.

She received a Fellowship as Resident Writer for Winchester School of Art, taught playwriting at the Holborn Centre for Performing Arts and has lectured on writing at University College Oxford, and been critic and presenter for BBC World Service.

Teresa is a maker of *Tiny Shows* with the Copenhagen Interpretation and Women Who Write Musicals, a member of Musical Theatre Network, on the Board of Mercury Musical Developments and a member of the MMD Lab.

Websites: www.possessedamusical.com <http://possessedamusical.blogspot.com>

April 2017

Twitter: @TeresaHowards