

26/27 PROGRAMME

Introduction

The Writing for the Stage programme is an online creative writing series of courses that guide you through the entire journey of writing a play. Grounded in Anton Bonnici's theory of Performative Complex Realism, the courses enable you to discover what you are writing and shape it into an impactful work that is both meaningful and spectacular. Each course is also supported with its own paperback guidebook to ensure you may return to the concepts and exercises at your own pace. All courses are held online, in the evening, between 8pm and 10pm. Each course is made of 3 modules of 4 sessions each for a total of 12 sessions and includes three types of sessions:

Interactive Lecture – this is where the methodology and main concepts are explained in an interactive format with regular exercises and discussions.

Reading Masterclass – in every module there will be an opportunity to read together excerpts from classic, modern and contemporary plays to witness the playwriting conventions being studied in action.

Sharing & Feedback Session – these are the sessions where course participants share excerpts from their works in progress and receive reactions in a safe and enthusiastic environment.

This combination of different session styles gives all participants a well-rounded experience, starting with a solid introduction to the basic concepts of play writing. It also makes them familiar with a selection of essential plays and playwrights as a source of inspiration, whilst allowing them time to develop their own works in progress along the way. Finally, each course ends with a *project showcase session* where the participants present their writing projects to performers and directors from the Paris Anglo-theatre scene.

The three courses, *The Fundamentals*, *The Architecture* and *Impact*, complete the entire journey of writing a play in a total of 36 sessions that may be completed over three seasons; first the focus is on discovering the foundations of your new play, then shaping the material into a first draft and finally rewriting the play with an eye for meaningful completion and effective staging. To top it all, the aim is to organize a new writing reading weekend festival in June 2027 to showcase in person the works developed over the 26/27 program.

Course Descriptions

Course One: The Fundamentals

Offered Spring & Fall: Mondays

The first course aims to help both first time playwrights and seasoned playwrights starting a new project to find the core foundations of their play. By the end of this course the participants should be ready to start developing their first draft.

Module 1: An Introduction to the Process

Module 2: Character & Conflict

Module 3: Emergent World & Story

Introduction to Performative Complex Realism

The Process of Developing Complex Characters

The Process of Developing a Rich World

The Creative Process & The Dramatic Situation

The Process of Developing Dynamic Conflicts

Emergent Stories

Reading Masterclass

Reading Masterclass

Reading Masterclass

Sharing & Feedback Session

Sharing & Feedback Session

Projects Showcase Session

Course Two: The Architecture

Offered Spring & Fall: Wednesdays

The second course aims to help playwrights give shape to their new material and guide them towards an effective ending. By the end of this course the participants should be able to complete a first draft of their play.

Module 1: An Introduction to Structure

Module 2: Effective Conventions

Module 3: Bigger Shapes

From Moments to Scenes

Dialogues & Monologues

Plotting Acts

Showing & Telling

Managing Tension

Towards an Ending

Reading Masterclass

Reading Masterclass

Reading Masterclass

Sharing & Feedback Session

Sharing & Feedback Session

Projects Showcase Session

Course Three: Impact

Offered Winter: Mondays and Wednesdays.

The third and final course aims to guide playwrights through the process of redrafting and rewriting with special focus on theatrical conventions and specific forms. This course also includes a full 1-1 final module where the playwright is given individual feedback on bringing the play to completion.

Module 1: Towards Completion

The Spectacle of Theatre
Drafting & Re-writing
Reading Masterclass
Sharing & Feedback Session

Module 2: Special Considerations

Focus on Comedy
Focus on the Solo Show
Reading Masterclass
Sharing & Feedback Session

Module 3: Ready to Launch

One to One Full Draft Feedback
Conclusion: From Script to Stage

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The Writing for the Stage Reading Festival

A June Weekend Event

Completion of all three courses will make you eligible to take part in a New Writing Showcase Festival where the projects developed over the three courses are read by professional actors and showcased to a live audience in Paris. This festival will also be accompanied with a limited series anthology publication of the showcased works.

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Pricing & Registration

FULL COURSE (12 sessions) - 320eur

FULL COURSE for returning participants – 272eur

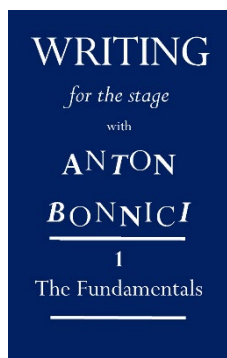
MODULE (4 sessions) – 120eur

SINGLE SESSION - 35eur

Spring courses start in March, Fall courses start in September and Winter courses start in January. Registrations are taken on a continuous basis.

If you have any queries or to register for a course, please send an email with your request to antonbonnici@ofpottersdemons.com

Anton Bonnici is a teacher, playwright and dramaturg based in Paris, France. He is the founder of the *Writing for the Stage* workshops and the *Not Theatre* community building thought and practice. He is also currently invested in further developing the *Performative Complex Realism* theory of theatre. After having produced and directed performances in Paris, London and Moscow, his plays *Yet So As By Fire*, *Quasar Love*, *Pornotopia*, *Corpus Dei*, and *When the Phone Rang* (co-written with Youssef Alaoui) have all been published by The Opiate Books. More details on where to find his books on www.writingforthestage.com.



The *Writing for the Stage with Anton Bonnici* book series is a practical playwriting guide for both beginners and seasoned writers. In Book One, *The Fundamentals*, you'll be introduced to the main concepts of Bonnici's theory and methodology as he highlights the essential foundations of all great works of drama. But as much as it is a guide, this is also a manifesto encouraging all of us to stop being afraid, grasp reality, take a leap and write! Available to download for free from www.writingforthestage.com or to buy in paperback form from all leading online book retailers.