

# ANNA-HELENA McLEAN



**Nationality:** British, half Danish

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## EDUCATION

- **2 year teacher training,** Tract and Touch (Voice Leader)
- **Final year PhD student** (performance practice) at Guildhall School
- 1997-2000: **Borderline 1:1 BA Hons Degree in Drama, Theatre Studies & Music,** Royal Holloway, Uni. of London
  - 1996: **Distinction, Grade 8 Cello, Grade 6 Piano and Music Theory**
  - 1995: **Gold medal in Acting,** LAMDA

## SELECT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

**2022:** **Featured Presenter** at the **VASTA** (Voice and Speech Trainers Association) **36th Annual Conference** in California with *The Voice Lesson - A Performative Essay*.

**2022 & 2023:** **Britten Pears Residency Artist** 2022 developing a split-stage, multimedia solo *The Voice Lesson - A Performative Essay*. In 2023 premiering an Immersive 4-hander new Music Theatre work, *A Voice Lesson (Orla Descends)* (funded by Arts Council England) alongside *The Identity Choir* outreach programme (LGBT+ voice work and with specialisms in neurodiversity). *The Voice Lesson* film was selected for Snape Maltings *Festival of the New* Sept 2022.

**2021 - present:** Voice Tutor *The ACT-ing Voice* One-on-one private voice coaching for actors and ACT Ensemble trainees, both online and in-person across London and South East UK.

**2021:** External Examiner and Supervisor **MA Classical Acting**, part time voice coach for final year productions incl. *The Tempest* 2022 and *Ragedom* 2023 at Central School of Speech and Drama.

**2021:** Voice Tutor (2-year contract) on the **BA Hons Acting Studies** at Guildhall School of Music & Drama

**2020 - 2021:** Producer and Voice Tutor **Singing Village - bringing us through and beyond the pandemic** Virtual choir with international participants over 12 weeks culminating in a livestream concert.

**2020:** Course validator **MA Psychophysical Performance** at Huddersfield Uni with Dr. Ben Spatz and Ian Morgan

**2019 - 2021:** Voice Leader for *Resonant Tails* (extended voice training for children with profound and multiple learning difficulties produced by Tract and Touch), special schools throughout the UK.

**2011 - present:** Corporate voice, communication and public speaking coach for **Alef Trust** in Liverpool and **Springboard Consultancy** in USA. Corporate positions also include Sonata Software, Wow talks, John F Demartini, West Lexham, Mind Apples, Awake Projects, Pamela Prather and A Town Explores a Book

**2007 - present:** Producing Director of **ACT INTERNATIONAL - A Voice and Performance Training** and **Cultures of Change Hybrid Symposium**. ACT offer independent residential workshops including a British Council workshop tour of India in 2009, and regular freelance placements across USA, Eastern and Mainland Europe and UK. Currently in partnership with Centro Anidra in Italy (since 2018) where *Cultures of Change* took place in 2023.

**2005 - 2009:** Voice Coach and co-Director *Archetypes in Shakespeare* (voice and performance training combining Gardzienice's 'Mutuality' with Fitzmaurice voicework). International touring with Pamela Prather former (VASTA President) including Yale School of Drama, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, National Theatre of Scotland.

**2004 - present:** Lecturer in **Voice, Extended Voice, Vocal Performance and Voice-led Ensemble work** across Universities Exeter, Falmouth, Huddersfield, Kent, Northampton, Plymouth, Winchester (2009-2019), Wolverhampton; Colleges incl. Rose Bruford, Volda Uni Norway, Edinburgh Scotland, SUNY Purchase NYC; Drama

Schools incl. Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (2005-2012), National School of Drama Delhi, DePaul School of Theatre Chicago, Yale School of Drama NYC, Central School of Speech and Drama, Fourth Monkey, East 15, Circomedia, No Filter Salon:Collective.

**2000 - 2007:** Senior Voice Tutor, programme leader, actor-musician and music director, **Gardzienice Centre for Theatre Practices, The Gardzienice Academy** for Theatre Practices and the **Ancient Greek Orchestra** (Orkiestra Antyczna), Poland.

#### OTHER SELECTED PERFORMANCES

**2023:** Director and Performer in **A Voice Lesson (Orla Descends)** presented in the Britten Pears Studio (part of Britten Pears Artist Residency programme 2023, funded by Arts Council England).

**2018 - 2021:** Co-creative, Extended Vocal Performer in a 2-person dance-Opera for kids, **The Wig Show** with Voiceturgy & Direction by Yvon Bonenfant (*The Place* London, *WELD* Sweden, UK Schools touring).

**2016:** Director and Cellist **Madame Butterfly** produced by Ignacio Joaquin Productions, London.

**2014 - 2015:** Director and Composer **STORM** (An urban reimagining of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*) Arts Council England & MacArthur Foundation funded, London & Chicago.

**2014 - 2015:** Actor-Musician **King Charles III** multi award-winning West End / Broadway / BBC Radio / BBC4 series drama, produced by Sonia Friedman, dir. by Rupert Goold, London.

**2014:** Voice and Ensemble coach for the Musical **Glasgow Girls**, dir. by Cora Bisset, produced by National Theatre of Scotland and Stratford East.

**2014:** Director **STORM for Libraries** produced by the Birthplace Trust for Shakespeare Week.

**2013:** Actor-Musician **How to be Immortal** produced by Penny Dreadful, dir. by Kirsty Housley (Complicite), UK.

**2012 - 2016:** Director and Performer **Titania - A Solo Cabaret** MTN award-nominated. Produced by Chicago Shakespeare, touring nationally & internationally: **CPR Giving Voice Festival** 2015, Scottish Highlands tour (produced by Helena Richardson) 2014.

**2012:** Voice Coach **Awake Youth** immersive event for 1000 school children, Concert Hall Västerås, Sweden.

**2011:** Core co-creative **Peer Gynt** with Awake Projects, produced by The North Wall, Oxford.

**2011:** Composer and Musician **Old Roots/New Routes** Old Vic New Voices. London Bridge Tunnels.

**2010:** Director ACT Youth adaptation of **Romeo & Juliet** British Council funded Workshop tour of India

**2009 - 2011:** Core co-creative **Awake** with Jackson's Lane and The Point, dir. by Christopher Sivertsen, London.

**2009 - 2012:** Co-creative and Producer **ill met by moonlight** supported by Trestle Touring, dir. Ian Morgan (RADA).

**2009:** Director/Composer **Romeo & Juliet** with Dawid Zakowski (Studium Teatralne), prod. Teaterhaus Mitte, Berlin.

**2008 - 2009:** Core co-creative **Peer Gynt** Novu Sweden 2008; Platform Easterhouse, Scotland 2009

**2008:** Vocal co-creative **Sclavi - Song of an Emigrant** with *Farm in the Cave*, Prague.

**2007:** Director/Composer **The Lear** (a new-writing adaptation of Shakespeare's *King Lear*) Arts Council England Funded. The Nightingale Theatre, Brighton.

**2007:** Voice Coach **Nothing Left To Lose** Company Collisions, London International Mime Festival

**2006:** Core co-creative **Arquiem** Periplum, Royal National Theatre, London.

**2006:** Core co-creative **Yerma** dir. by Helena Kowt-Hausen, with Kathryn Hunter, Marcello Magni, Helen Chadwick.

**2004 - 2007:** Lead **Electra** dir. by Włodzimierz Staniewski, Barbican BITE 2006.

**2002 - 2007:** Lead and company voice coach **Metamorfozy** or *The Golden Donkey* dir. by Włodzimierz Staniewski, Barbican BITE 2006.

#### SELECT PRACTICE, PROJECTS AND TRAINING

- **Directing** Workshop with **Katie Mitchell** produced by Clod Ensemble, 2023.
- **Intimacy Coordination** Stage 1 Training with Ita O'Brien produced by *Intimacy on Set*, 2021.
- Director **ACT Sex** Practice-Research workshop series blending on, and offline facilitation, incl. conversations around women in the post-Grotowskian laboratory. The Old Truman Brewery, 2020.
- **WOW talks: Words of Wisdom** dir. by Gal Stiglitz. Presentation for corporates, London 2013.
- Director National Theatre of Scotland's **Diaspora, Archetypes in Shakespeare**, 2012.
- Director **Act SEX!** Volda University College, Norway, 2011.
- Lead Practitioner **British Grotowski Project: Traces** with Ian Morgan (RADA), Jade Maravala (ZUUK), dir. by Dr. Paul Allain. University of Kent, 2008.
- Co-creative **I-Thou Project** R&D with Dr. Rebecca Loukes, Exeter Uni, 2007.
- **Theatre Exchange** Platform for research through cross-disciplinary exchange to evolve new performance practices produced by South Street Theatre Reading and funded by Arts Council England, 2004.

- **Chronicles: A Lamentation** R&D with *Song of the Goat* theatre, dir. by Grzegorz Bral. Grotowski Institute at Brzezinka in Poland, 1999.
- **Iphigenia** Workshop with *Song of the Goat Theatre*, produced by Alison Hodge at Royal Holloway, 1999.

#### CONFERENCE PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS

- Co-presenter **Leading 'with the trouble': a physio-vocal reflection on leadership in ensemble practices in the Grotowskian Diaspora** with Dr. E. Behrens. *Alliances & Commonalities* Conference 2023, Sweden.
- Co-presenter **How does identity play into practice? Interrogating agency, community and wellbeing in workshop facilitation** Guildhall Researchworks, 2023.
- **Feminist tools for promoting agency within the post-Grotowskian laboratory** TaPRA Conference, 2021.
- **Researcher presenter Voice and Well-Being - A Roundtable Discussion** with presentations by Dr. Konstantinos Thomaidis, Dr. Gey Pin ANG, Christina Shewell. Co-facilitator: Dr. Virginie Magnat 2021.
- Co-presenter **Migrations of/in music theatre: Global, Regional, Local Movements** as part of IFTR conference in Serbia exploring Theatre, Nation and Identity: Between Migration and Stasis with Dr. Demetris Zavros from Uni. of Wolverhampton, 2018.
- **Persephone** A multi-modal lecture, *Diazoma* conference dir. by Petros Themelis, Athens 2017.
- **Rewilding across disciplines: an interdisciplinary symposium**; lecture-presentation of *STORM*, dir. by Dr. Ben Spatz, Uni. of Huddersfield, 2016.
- **Laboratory Theatre Network: Big conversations in little rooms** produced by Centre for Performance Research (CPR), dir. by Richard Gough. Solo lecture-presentation of *STORM* Uni. of Falmouth, 2015.

#### RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

- 2023:** Contributor **The Ethics of Ensemble: Spaces of Safety, Bravery, Accountability and Communities of Disagreement** by Dr. Electa Behrens In: Anthology - Intertwinements: Ethics in Art and Research (Routledge).
- 2022:** Contributor **Reflections on the 2022 VASTA Conference Converging Pathways** by Elisa Gonzales, Rachel Finley & Sarah Nichols in *Voice and Speech Review* (Routledge).
- 2020:** Contributor **Interrogating the practices of Kristin Linklater and Anna-Helena McLean in voice coaching practices** Royal Central School of Music and Drama publication by Sarah Nichols (VASTA). Contributor **Training as Vocal Archaeology?** by Konstantinos Thomaidis (Theatre, Dance & Performance Training)
- 2019:** Author **The Act of Listening: Gardzienice's Mutuality Training and The ACTing Voice Theatre, Dance and Performance Training** Special issue. 10 (3) and blog (Theatre, Dance and Performance Training Online Blog).
- 2019:** Contributor **The always-not-yet / always-already of voice perception: training towards vocal presence** Time and Performer Training by Evans, M. Thomaidis, K. and Worth, L. eds. (Routledge).
- 2015:** Contributor **Doing What Comes Naturally? Women and Devising in the UK Today**. In: Women and Collective Creation Mermikides, A. and Smart, J. (Palgrave).
- 2014:** Author **Theatre: Coming of Age. On devising, international exchange and community collaboration with Smart, J.** (Total Theatre Magazine).
- 2013:** Contributor **Singing from Stones: Physio-vocality and Gardzienice's Theater of Musicality** by Konstantinos Thomaidis. In: *Gestures of Music Theater: The performativity of song and dance* (Oxford University Press),
- 2012:** Co-author **Listen... The Actor-Chorus-Text Summer Residency with director-practitioner, Anna-Helena McLean, with Nair, A.** In: Reviews (Theatre, Dance and Performance Training Journal).
- 2004:** Contributor **Hidden Territories: The Theatre of Gardzienice** Staniewski, W. with Hodge, A. (Routledge).

#### OTHER RELATED WORK:

- Voice over **Depths** an audio immersive story by Dan Horrigan of Dan Horrigan Film Productions.
- Cellist-Singer **Bloom Britannia - A new 'People's Opera'** by Orlando Gough, dir. by Polly Graham, 2019
- Voice Coach **Wild Country** Solo performance, dir. by Kirsty Housley (Complicite), 2019.
- Director and Voice Coach **Richard III** based on Shakespeare's original play. A new, devised interpretation with able and disAbleD actors, produced by Athena Stevens (Olivier Nominated 2019), 2010.
- Voice Coach **Opera Circus** RnD with Frankie Armstrong and Kathryn Hunter, 2008
- Director and Voice Coach **Hector** a performance with able and disAbleD actors, produced by Aegis Productions. Sadler's Wells London, 2008.
- **Shiver 1 & 2** new films and a performance research project, dir. by Barry Edwards (Brunel Uni), Shunt Lounge London, 2007.
- **Arthur Cravan and Mina Loy** RnD with Sandy Grierson (RSC) and Vanishing Point Theatre, 2006.
- **The Wright School** workshop with John Wright, 2004.