

Al Smith

Writer

Al read English Literature at Edinburgh University. He has been a Pearson Playwright in Residence at the Finborough Theatre and participated in the Paines Plough/Channel 4 Future Perfect Scheme. He is a graduate of the BBC Writers Academy and has been a broadcast Hot Shot. In 2012 Al won the BFI Wellcome Trust Screenwriting Prize.



In 2017 his radio series Life Lines won gold for Best Fictional Storytelling at the ARIAS, the Radio Academy Awards and he was nominated for the Charles Wintour Award for Most Promising Playwright at the 2017 Evening Standard Theatre Awards. Since, Life Lines has won the BBC Audio Drama Award for Best Series four times.

His most recent play, RARE EARTH METTLE, open at the Royal Court in November 2021, and his new radio play ALL BLEEDING STOPS EVENTUALLY is currently playing on BBC Radio 4.

Agents

Rose Cobbe
Assistant
Anna Campbell
anna.campbell@unitedagents.co.uk
+44 (0) 20 3214 0821

Credits

In Development

Production	Company	Notes
CANDOUR	BBC Radio 4	Commission
LIFE LINES: SERIES 9	BBC Radio 4	Commission
SYCAMORE GAP	National Theatre	Commission
UNTITLED	Rose Theatre	Commission
LIFE IN THE FREEZER	English Touring Theatre	Commission

Production	Company	Notes
UNTITLED	Traverse Theatre	Commission
SLOAN COMMISSION	Manhattan Theatre Club	Commission

Theatre

Production	Company	Notes
RARE EARTH METTLE 2021	The Royal Court	Dir. Hamish Pirie. Published by Methuen / Bloomsbury.
RADIO 2019	Arcola Theatre, Produced by Audible	Dir. Josh Roche. ★★★★★ "a dream voyage to the moon and back" The Guardian.
HARROGATE 2016	The Royal Court	Nominated for Charles Wintour Award for Most Promising Playwright at the 2017 Evening Standard Theatre Awards. ★★★★★ "an echo chamber of recurring, beautifully deployed details" The Independent. ★★★★★ "dark, tender drama defies interpretation" The Telegraph.
DIARY OF A MADMAN	Gate Theatre	The Traverse Theatre Edinburgh and The Gate Theatre, London. ★★★★★ "I have seen no other play that takes on the themes of our own brave new dysfunctional world so successfully as Al Smith's work" The Times.
HARROGATE 2015	HighTide Festival	"ventures into Pinteresque territory." ★★★★★ The Guardian
SPORT 2013	Finborough Theatre	Rehearsed Reading, Dir. Bethan Dear
HARROGATE 2013	HighTide	Rehearsed Reading, Dir. Richard Twyman
THE BIRD 2008	Underbelly / Arcola	Dir. James Yeatman
MAYFLY 2006	Old Vic New Voices 24 Hour Plays	Dir. Michael Longhurst
THE ASTRONAUT WIVES CLUB 2006	Soho Theatre	Dir. Richard Wilson
RADIO 2006	Underbelly / 59E59 NYC	Dir. James Yeatman. Winner of the Sunday Times Playwriting Award at the NSDF.
ENOLA 2005	Underbelly / Arches	Dir. Al Smith, Winner of the Sunday Times Playwriting Award at the NSDF

Radio

Production	Company	Notes
LIFE LINES: SERIES 8 2025	BBC Radio 4	Dir. Sally Avens
THE DEFECTORS 2025	BBC Radio 3	Drama on 3 Dir: Sasha Yevtushenko
LIFE LINES: SERIES 7 2024	BBC Radio 4	2025 BBC Audio Drama Award for Best Series - Life Line's fourth win
ALL BLEEDING STOPS EVENTUALLY 2023	BBC Radio 4	Dir: Sally Avens
LIFE LINES: SERIES 6 2022	Radio 4	Dir: Sally Avens
LIFE LINES: SERIES 5 2021	BBC Radio 4	Won Best Series at the BBC Audio Drama Awards 2022
SNEAKERNOMICS 2021	BBC Radio 4	9 x 45" drama doc. TX 2021
THE MARGINS 2021	BBC Radio 4	Original 60" radio play. Produced by Sally Avens.
LIFE LINES: SERIES 4 2020	BBC Radio 4	New series of award winning radio drama
LIFE LINES: SERIES 3 2019	BBC Radio 4	
FIRST DO NO HARM 2019	BBC Radio 4	Bronze ARIA award 2020 for Best Fictional Storytelling
LIFE LINES: SERIES 2 2019	BBC Radio 4	Won Best Series at the BBC Audio Drama Awards 2020 Won Silver at the Prix Europa 2019
CULTURE 2017	BBC Radio 4	Commission
LIFE LINES 2016	BBC Radio 4	Gold for Best Fictional Storytelling at the 2017 Radio Academy Awards & Best Series at the 2017 BBC Audio Drama Awards
EVERYMAN 2016	BBC Radio 3	Co-writer
DUCHAMPS URINAL 2015	BBC Radio 4	Co-writer Ben Street Dir: Lu Kemp
EVERYDAY TIME MACHINES 2014	BBC Radio 3	90" single
LIFE IN THE FREEZER 2013	BBC Radio 4	Dir. Sally Avens

Production	Company	Notes
THE POSTMAN OF GOOD HOPE 2009	BBC Radio 4	Dir. Sally Avens
RADIO 2007	BBC Radio 4	Dir. Lu Kemp
OK COMPUTER 2007	BBC Radio 4	Co-writer. Dir. Lu Kemp

Television

Production	Company	Notes
CASUALTY 2025	BBC	Series 39, Episode 26
CASUALTY 2024	BBC	Series 38, Episode 24
CASUALTY 2023	BBC	Series 37, Episode 39
EASTENDERS 2019		Episode 5783 (Re-write)
EASTENDERS 2019	BBC	Episode 5787 (Re-write)
EASTENDERS 2019		Episode 5781 (Re-write)
FATHER BROWN 2016	BBC	Episode 9 THE SINS OF THE FATHER
SHAKESPEARE LIVE 2015	BBC/RSC	Dir: Greg Doran
THE CORONER 2015	BBC	Episode 2 HOW TO CATCH A LOBSTER
AFRICA 2013	BBC / Discovery / France2	TV feature
AFRICA 2013	BBC / Discovery	Script editor, 5 episodes
THE CUT 2011	BBC	Exec producer & writer on 3 series (40 episodes)
EASTENDERS 2009	BBC	3 episodes
HOLBY CITY 2008	BBC	5 episodes
DOCTORS 2006	BBC	1 episode

Production	Company	Notes
CASUALTY 2006	BBC	1 episode