

Rabiah Hussain

Writer

Rabiah was a writer for the prestigious Kudos TV and Royal Court Theatre Fellowship Programme in 2019, following which, she was commissioned by Royal Court to write WORD-PLAY which has premiered in July 2023. She was commissioned by Royal Court to write another play and was part of their One Night Stand programme. Rabiah was in the writer's room for Riz Ahmed's ENGLISTAN, and completed a shadow scheme with The Forge for ACKLEY BRIDGE. She is currently developing a TV series with HTM.



In 2018, Rabiah was part of the BBC Drama Room programme and is an alumnus of the B3 Media Talent Lab for upcoming BAME filmmakers. Rabiah's debut full-length play, SPUN, premiered at Arcola Theatre in July 2018, receiving 4-star reviews in The Guardian and The Stage, and was nominated for Best Stage Production at the Asian Media Awards. SPUN toured Canada in 2019, and won the German Baden-Wuttemberg Youth Theatre Prize in 2020. Rabiah co-wrote WE ARE SHADOWS, an audio drama tour of Brick Lane for Tamasha Theatre in 2020. Her other plays include WHERE I LIVE AND WHAT I LIVE For written for Theatre Absolute in 2017.

Rabiah was the copywriter for the 2019 LEVI's Music Project campaign video, YOUR VOICE. YOUR WAY.

Rabiah's plays, poetry, monologues, and audio projects have been part of programmes with Tamasha Theatre, The Rich Mix, The Space Arts Centre, The Bunker Theatre, RADA, Bechdel Theatre, Theatre Absolute, and Battersea Art Centre.

Accompanying her creative work, Rabiah has contributed opinion pieces to The Guardian, Huffington Post Blog, Exeunt Magazine, Burnt Roti, The F-Word, Gal-Dem and Wales Arts Review.

WORD-PLAY Reviews

Evening Standard - Often hilarious, sometimes moving, this work about how words matter has a cumulative power...Playful, thoughtful, and deliciously up-to-the-minute

The Stage - The play is at its most resonant [] in the way it captures language's ability both to divide people, and to unite them

The Guardian - *Boldly, excitingly experimental...Hussain's script shines in sudden moments of lyrical outrage and the actors do these scenes justice*

Time Out - *Word-Play' deliberately talks around its points, in a series of sketch-like scenes exploring how language clouds reality...it's blade-sharp.*

Metro - *...The evening fizzles along with thought-provoking and explosive examples of how even innocuous words can do damage*

What's On Stage - *This play shows how it's all too easy to manipulate language for self-serving purposes and to use a lot of words while saying nothing - especially when it comes to 'balance'*

Agents

Nick Barron
nbarron@unitedagents.co.uk

Associate Agent
Nicole Schivardi
nschivardi@unitedagents.co.uk
020 3214 0942

Credits

In Development

Production	Company	Notes
WORD-PLAY	The Development Partnership	TV adaptation of original play
UNTITLED PLAY	Royal Court	Play commission
TV SHOW	HTM	Treatment commission

Television

Production	Company	Notes
ENGLISTAN 2019	BBC Studios	Part of writer's room
ACKLEY BRIDGE	The Forge / Channel 4	Series 3, shadow scheme writer

Theatre

Production	Company	Notes
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WORD-PLAY	Royal Court	Play commission
MY VOICE IS... 2022	Royal Court	Series of one-off performances at the Royal Court.
ROYAL COURT AND KUDOS FELLOWSHIP 2019	Royal Court Theatre and Kudos Film & Television	6-month Fellowship
WE ARE SHADOWS 2019	Tamasha Theatre, Rightful Place Theatre & Coney Productions	Audio drama tour of Brick Lane
SPUN	Arcola Theatre	27 June – 28 July 2018 Debut full-length play September 2019 Canadian Tour (Montreal & Toronto) February 2020 Winner of German Baden-Wuttemberg Youth Theatre Prize 2020
WHERE I LIVE AND WHAT I LIVE FOR 2017	Theatre Absolute	Writer, 30 minute monologue commissioned as part of Theatre Absolute's 'Are We Where We Are' programme
BINNACLE 2017	Bechdel Theatre, Bunker Theatre	Writer. Short play commissioned for Bechdel Testing Life festival of writing by female playwrights, taking inspiration from recorded real life conversations between women
SPEAK 2017	RADA / Take Back Theatre	Writer, Monologue performed as part of Take Back Togetherness programme, Rada Festival, and as part of Bunker Without Borders festival, The Bunker Theatre
DISSECTED 2017	The Bunker Theatre	Writer, short play showcased at Bunker Without Borders festival at The Bunker Theatre
DESIRABLE 2017	The Space Arts Centre	Writer and performer of spoken word monologue, One Festival
FISH KILL 2014	The Horse Hospital	Short play presented as part of Peg's Off programme for Three Peg's Productions

Short Films

Production	Company	Notes
VAPOUR 2018	Various Instances Production	Writer