

With each new course, up to ten young people allow us to experience the wonder and magic that is inside their own heads. Through exploring their own imaginations and pushing themselves to do the very best they can, our Member Playwrights create characters that inspire our actors, directors, writers, designers and prop makers to give the very best they can too.



### << Oh My Days! - The Rhyming Plays

Greg Haiste charmed and delighted audiences as 'third man' in our *Replay* production. His multi-role playing comedic skills were put to good use by ten Member Playwrights returning to work with us for the second time. His roles included: a compost heap, a left football sock, an eagle, a circus flea, agonising pain in the form of Jeff Stagger (left) and Angelina the cow.

### Stage One >>

Our third course is a workshop weekend during which nine Member Playwrights paired with nine actors create their own short pieces for performance. The weekend team, led by Carys Williams, enjoyed a lot of laughter and some joyously whacky ideas, which they shared in a rehearsed reading for families and friends at Diorama Arts Studios in May.



### << Walking On Eggshells - The Sensitive Plays

Our summer *Playmaking One* production featured twenty new characters in ten new plays by ten new playwrights. Sally the sardine struggled to open up until she met a travel cup, a megalodon shark stayed true to type in deciding to eat her new best friend, an Ethiopian baboon sought soothing from a bottle of Aloe Vera and a limited edition handbag lock sang a tragic duet with a chubby little green pickle as she ascended to heaven.

### Double Take >>

We are very proud of our older Member Playwrights who wrote, rehearsed and then performed in our fabulous *Playback* production. For many this was a Herculean task, undertaken alongside the pressures of school work and busy home lives. They surprised themselves as they were truly "seen and heard" on the stage at Teatro Technis.



### Sugar & Spice - The Tasty Plays

As we go to press The Tasty Plays are in rehearsal, costumes are being created by Helen Coyston, all of our wonderful two-dimensional props are being individually hand-crafted by an army of volunteers and our composers are putting the children's words to music... we can't wait!

### Theatre Trips

In February, we took a group of Member Playwrights to the Kings Cross Theatre to see *The Railway Children*. It was an incredible experience as the whole space was transformed into an Edwardian train station. We were blown away by the spectacular entrance of a real-life beautiful steam train.

In August we took another group of Member Playwrights to the Lyric Hammersmith to see *Bugsy Malone*. We laughed, we sang, we ate ice cream and we all wished we had our own splurge gun!

**Actors and Directors** - are you involved in a show that we could bring a group of our Member Playwrights to? Perhaps we could meet the company or have a backstage tour. Please let us know if you might be able to help.

## Dear Member Playwrights, Volunteers and Supporters

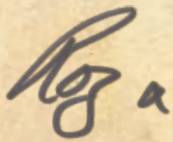
Another fun-filled, action-packed year for Scene & Heard is drawing to a close with what promises to be a cracking *Playmaking One* production.

I have had the genuine pleasure of teaching our newest Member Playwrights again this year on our *Playmaking One* and *Replay* courses. I never tire of seeing their imaginations fly, as the realisation dawns on them that there are no wrong answers and no bad ideas at Scene & Heard. It has also been my joy to watch the confidence grow in our older Member Playwrights who took to the stage in *Playback*.

I am proud and pleased that we have been able to undertake our long term strategic planning whilst still delivering five courses, two theatre trips and a partnership project. Thank you to all of you who have supported and worked with us this year.

Scene & Heard is a hugely successful voluntary organisation. We are a combination of children's charity and professional theatre company - a treasured community resource and a highly regarded part of the London theatre scene. A priority for us over the next few years is to build on our reputation as a Centre of Excellence. This means celebrating the amazing work that we do, just as we celebrate the successes of our Child Playwrights. It also means raising our profile so that we can help more organisations to benefit from our experience and expertise.

I look forward to working with you all again very soon.



Rosalind Paul  
Artistic Director



## What The Future Holds...

We saw our sixteenth year of operation as an opportunity to do a bit of thinking about what we might do with the next sixteen years and beyond. With the help of Strategic Adviser Fiona Mallin-Robinson we have formulated our strategic plan. It's a comprehensive document that covers a whole range of areas. Here's just a taster:

- We are committed to **deepening and extending our work with the Somers Town community**, building on our existing schedule of courses and trips to provide further opportunities for our older Member Playwrights. Some have become prop makers whilst others have enjoyed work experience with us.
- Part of deepening our work is to realise Scene & Heard's **long term dream of having a home** that would allow us to have more of our operations under one roof.
- Scene & Heard will build recognition for our work as a **Centre of Excellence**, share our knowledge and understanding, and be advocates of one-to-one mentoring and the positive impact of the arts on young people.
- We will celebrate and raise awareness of our position as **leaders in our field** within the theatre industry, within Camden and throughout the wider community.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to formulating our strategic plan. We now ask you to help us implement it by celebrating our successes, championing our cause and helping us to raise our public profile.

## Announcements!

Congratulations to all the new parents: Sophie Russell and Dennis Herdman and their son Frankie; Martin Ritchie and Kali Peacock and their daughter Naia; Simon Wilson and his daughter Constance; Amy Bailey and her twins Allegra and Atticus; Judith Faultless and her son Tom; Suzanne Robertson and her daughter Lyra; Richard Crawley and Saskia Fischer and their daughter Hazel; and Viv Gibbs and her daughter Winnie. Our Office Manager Kai Simmons became a father for the first time with the birth of his son Elliot.

Wedding bells rang this year for Dan Green, who married Kat; Philip Pellew, who married Ivania; and Shelly Silas, who married Stella.

## Our Friends In The North

Way up in north-west England, overlooking the sea, is a beautiful old theatre called [Rosehill](#). Our friends up there, wanting to bring the very best of community engagement with high quality theatre to the area, asked us to help them pilot a *Playmaking One* course. There are huge differences between the widespread rural communities of Cumbria and the urban neighbourhood of Somers Town, but the magic of children's imaginations and the power of theatre are universal. Four of our volunteers joined the Rosehill team to bring six children's ideas to the stage for families, teachers and friends.



## Centre for Social Justice Award

We are delighted and honoured to have won a coveted [Centre for Social Justice Award](#). Scene & Heard is one of just six grass roots charities recognised as among the best in the UK. Our patron **Emily Watson** presented Roz with the award at a glitzy ceremony in November. Emily spoke eloquently about Scene & Heard's ability to unlock a child's imagination, showing them that their greatest resource is inside their own head. Roz joyfully accepted on behalf of all at Scene & Heard. We are grateful to Legg Mason Global Asset Management who sponsored our award.



Photo: John Cairns

## School Fundraising Partners

We are very proud to be the recipient of pupil-led donations from a number of schools, including:

- Abbot's Hill School
- Eton College
- Notting Hill and Ealing High School
- St Albans School
- Sarum Hall School

Scene & Heard has helpful resources to support in-school fundraising. If you know a young person or a school who might be interested, please contact [simma@sceneandheard.org](mailto:simma@sceneandheard.org)



In March 2015 the boys of Eton College hosted a fundraising dinner, auction and Q&A in aid of Scene & Heard. Our patrons **Hugh Bonneville** and **Damian Lewis** were interviewed by journalist Kate Silverton about their careers. They championed the work of Scene & Heard and the evening raised a whacking

£33,423. Francis and Harry from Eton presented us with a cheque, which was graciously received by our patron **Anna Chancellor** at *Playmaking One* in July.

## In Kind Donations

**The Final Step** keep our computers and IT ticking over nicely. We could not do what we do without them. [www.thefinalstep.co.uk](http://www.thefinalstep.co.uk)

**White Light** donated lighting equipment for all of our productions in 2015. Their continued support brightens our work! [www.whitelight.ltd.uk](http://www.whitelight.ltd.uk)

## Thank You

As well as acting, directing, dramaturging and writing for Scene & Heard over many years, Neil Edmond has more recently created all of the illustrations for our flyers, programmes, Teacher's Pack and anniversary CD. This year, he has surpassed all our expectations with his festive illustrations for our new range of Christmas cards. Thank you Neil, for all your hard work and for your beautiful penmanship.



Our grateful thanks and admiration to actor and supporter **Vincent Franklin**, who braved the black chair on **BBC Celebrity Mastermind** in aid of Scene & Heard.

Volunteer **Jez Worsnip** once again tickled our brains as Quizmaster at the annual pub quiz. Jez runs pub quizzes across London and can be found at [www.thequizteam.com](http://www.thequizteam.com)

## Double Your Money

Volunteer **Suzanne Cave** is running The 2016 Virgin Money London Marathon on April 24th. Please help her reach her massive fundraising goal of £5,000 at [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/suzannecave](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/suzannecave). Every pound you donate will be matched by our generous sponsors, including the Joseph Mindel Trust, making your money worth twice as much!



## Our Funders Make Our Work Possible

Arts Council England, BBC Children in Need, John Lyon's Charity, Origin Housing, The Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation, The Fishmongers' Company Charitable Trust, The Francis Crick Institute, The Sir James Roll Charitable Trust, The Thompson Family Charitable Trust, Tom's Trust, The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, The Woodward Charitable Trust and The Unity Theatre Trust all funded us in 2015. We are indebted to an anonymous foundation which funded both *Playback* and our theatre trips this year.

We are grateful to **Roy Fielden** and **Jean Ellen Williamson**, whose dedication to Scene & Heard and our work is now a part of their enduring legacies. We thank them and their families.

**Audience Donations** are vital to our funding. In the last 12 months we have raised £6,145 in the buckets. Thank you!



Creating great theatre depends on you. Eyes & Ears, our monthly giving scheme, helps us make the costumes and props and run the courses that generate our amazing plays. Please join Eyes & Ears and make a real difference to the children of Somers Town!

To become a member, go to our website and download a form, or email [mail@sceneandheard.org](mailto:mail@sceneandheard.org)

Don't forget to tick the Gift Aid box to add 25% to your donation.



# EYES & EARS



**SCENE & HEARD**

## FOUNDERS

Sophie Boyack  
Kate Coleman

## PATRONS

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Registered Charity No. 1077836



SceneandHeardUK



@SceneandHeardUK

## The Scene & Heard (Online) Shop Is Now Open

As well as being on sale at every performance, our merchandise is now available online. Visit [www.sceneandheard.org/shop](http://www.sceneandheard.org/shop) for the latest additions to our range: the Scene & Heard baseball cap and Neil Edmond's exclusively designed Christmas cards (see previous page). Also available are classic t-shirt in adults' and children's sizes, tea towels and our beautiful CD of songs.



- **Spread the word about Scene & Heard:** Actors and Directors, please include your volunteering with Scene & Heard in your biographies for programmes.
- **Saturdays are Member Playwright Nights:** Come along, meet your friends and see your actors - we always love to see you and hear your news.
- **Keep in touch:** Please remember to tell us if your contact details change.
- Scene & Heard is very proud to have been awarded **The Queen's Award** for Voluntary Service.



## 2016 - the year ahead

Friday 5th February  
**Anniversary Quiz**

17th - 20th March  
**Over The Top**  
**- The Audacious Plays**  
A Replay Production

7th - 10th July  
**Risk It For A Biscuit**  
**- The Daring Plays**  
A Playmaking One Production

27th & 28th October  
**Me And My Shadow**  
A One-on-One Production  
At **New Diorama Theatre**

1st - 4th December  
**Scream & Shout**  
**- The Noisy Plays**  
A Playmaking One Production

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