

SAM HOLLAND-BUNYAN MFA, AGSM, RSA

t: +44 7411 279365 | e: sam@loamproject.com | w: samhollandbunyan.com w: hinterlandarts.org

Specialising in embodied acting (late Stanislavski Active Analysis and Anne Bogart Viewpoints) building on experience as a leading theatre actor (including National, Gate, Hampstead, Royal Court) training actors forms a core part of my practice as practitioner and theatre director/maker in parallel with interdisciplinary work as a visual artist, playwright and sustainable materials researcher.

“It’s very rare to work with a director who refills your creative well. Sam is a director who not only does just that, but also expands your horizons and possibilities as an artist. I would work with her over and over and over again. One of the very best.” Andy Sheridan (Actor). “Sam creates a safe and nurturing environment in which to ‘play’ and explore, leading to greater depth in the work and a deeply satisfying experience for an artist. Her understanding and unique insight into the human condition provokes actors to ask difficult questions and push boundaries”. Gemma Ryan (Actor).

Sep 2026 Freelance Theatre Director Best Girl Productions
New Writing - ‘Tron’ by Rona Munro at HOME Manchester + The Dukes Theatre Lancaster (Confirmed)

June 2026 Freelance Theatre Practitioner Hinterland
Developing Ensemble Workshop with Wiltshire Creative adult company at Salisbury Arts Centre, Wiltshire (Confirmed)

May 2026 Freelance Theatre Director Flesh & Blood Stories
New Writing - ‘Four Plays in May’ – in repertory supported by Arts Council Wales (TBC), Wales

March 2026 Freelance Theatre Director Untethered+Hinterland
New Writing - ‘Am I Losing My Mind Or Just My Figure?’ by Sam Holland-Bunyan & Genevieve Labuschagne at Camden Peoples Theatre SPRINT Festival, London (Confirmed)

Feb 2026 Freelance Theatre Practitioner Hinterland
Devising new work with young company in response to Road by Jim Cartright at Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester (Confirmed)

Nov 2025 Freelance Theatre Director Fugglestone Trust
Curated festival of spoken word and music in Wiltshire

Nov 2025 Freelance Theatre Director Hinterland
New Writing - ‘Eat’ by Kate Scott at The Lyric Theatre Bridport in Dorset

Sep 2025 Freelance Theatre Director Hinterland
New Writing - ‘Justine Stops Oil’ by Louis Catliff at The Glitch Theatre, London

July/Aug/Sep 2025 Freelance Theatre Director Untethered+Hinterland
New Writing - ‘Am I Losing My Mind Or Just My Figure?’ by Sam Holland-Bunyan & Genevieve Labuschagne at Camden Fringe + Etcetera Women Writers Festival + Coronet Theatre Notting Hill in association with RADA Theatre Lab, London

Dec 2024 to present Artistic Director/Practitioner Hinterland
A Community Interest Theatre Ensemble dedicated to providing pathways back into work for female creatives in the mid phase of their lives, Wiltshire + South West + London

June 2024 Freelance Theatre Director Best Girl Productions
New Writing - ‘Blackout Songs’ by Joe White at 53two Theatre, Manchester

Sep 2023–Jun 2024 Resident Assistant Director & Resident Director Engagement Royal Exchange Theatre

Assistant Director | ‘Romeo & Juliet’ (Autumn/Winter 23), Collaborator | ‘Manchester - A City for Life’, Assistant Director | ‘Liberation’ R&D, Workshop Leader | ‘Spinning Tales’, Director | Leigh, Atherton & Tyldesley ‘Take Over’, Assistant Director | ‘Intergen Comedy Project’ (Winter 23/24), Assistant Director | ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ R&D, Assistant Director | ‘A Taste of Honey’ (Winter/Spring 24), Co-Director | ‘An Evening of New Work with Simon Stephens & Carmen Nasr’, Director | ‘First Love’ - Samuel Beckett Adaptation R&D (Spring/Summer 24) in Manchester

Oct–Nov 2022 Assistant Director RADA
‘Twelfth Night’ by William Shakespeare Jerwood Vanbrugh Theatre | ‘Contemporary Duologue’s - RADA Studios | ‘The Effect’ by Lucy Prebble - Gielgud Studio, London

Dec 2019 to present Founder & Creative Director Loam Project
Loam project is an incubator which seeks to blur the boundaries between the disciplines of technology, engineering, art and design and provide a production house and support network for locally based artists, innovators and makers in Wiltshire

Sep 2016 Theatre Director | Writer | Actor Freelance
‘Systemised’ | Immersive | Multi-media | The White Room | Salisbury New Writing, Wiltshire

Aug 2015 Visual Artist | Theatre Maker New Red Studios
'Dis_connect' | Multi-media | Theatre performance | Art Installation, Wiltshire

Aug 2014 Freelance Theatre Practitioner Deverill Festival | Salisbury Playhouse
Devised community 'Play in a Day – Run1914', Wiltshire

April 2014–Dec 2022 Associate Director/Dramaturg Salisbury Fringe Festival
Responsible for reading scripts, directing scratch nights, and curating festival seasons, Wiltshire.

April – June 2014 Theatre Director | Playwright Wyle Valley School | Salisbury Playhouse
Paper Bird (Devised Play with 100 young people) | Wyle Valley School | Salisbury Playhouse | Codford Theatre Co-Production, Wiltshire

Jan 2014 to present Co-Founder | Creative Director Cecence
 Head of Industry Engagement & Sustainability
Building and developing Cecence's brand. Sustainable material research, design and product development, harnessing funding programmes and engaging with industry, educating and influencing, Wiltshire

May 2013–May 2014 Youth Theatre Leader | Director Trowbridge | Stage 65
Ran satellite youth theatre in Trowbridge, Wiltshire

May – October 2013 Community Theatre Practitioner Salisbury Playhouse
Character Mask and Improvisation Workshops – Salisbury Playhouse and local communities, Wiltshire

September 2013 Performer | Collaborator Chapel Arts Studios
Co-curated story telling community workshop, Wiltshire

Sep- Oct 2012 Freelance Theatre Director Comedy Sketch Show
Edinburgh Festival Fringe Show with Mel Hudson, Edinburgh + London

Jan 2011 - Jan 2013 Theatre Practitioner Radical Combustion
Workshops for young people aged 5 – 11 using character half mask to develop devised work, Wiltshire

Aug 2011–Feb 2012 Theatre Practitioner PAWS Arts Project
Character Half Mask workshops in the community commissioned by Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire

Aug 2011-present Theatre Practitioner | Acting Teacher Freelance
Specialising in Stanislavski Active Analysis, embodied action, improvisation, character half mask and devising, coaching for drama school & auditions, Wiltshire + London

Jan 2010–Dec 2020 Actor Freelance
Work includes in this decade: 'Philippa Gregory' – Salisbury Literary Festival – Salisbury Cathedral / R&D – Salisbury Playhouse | New Writing Festival – Salisbury / 'The Fight For The Tripod' – The Old Labs at Newnham – Cambridge - Writ. Eleanor Bron / Theatre – 'Systemised' – Arts Centre – Salisbury / Dis_connect – New Red Studios – Salisbury / Art Installation – 'Augusta Park' – Laurence Rushby – Andover / Radio – 'Technically Speaking' – Dan Page – Sketch Show – Pilot / 'Theatre Casino' – Salisbury Playhouse, JMK, Out of Joint – Salisbury / Theatre – Salisbury Festival – Salisbury / 'The Fight For The Tripod' – Sir John Soanes Museum – London - Writ. Eleanor Bron / Pip – Experimental Vlog – Spanish Civil War.

Dec 2008–Aug 2010 Artistic Director The Hungry Actors
A physical ensemble led theatre company making satirical political work in Valencia, Spain

Apr 2005–Aug 2009 Co-Artistic Director Ars Xikanda
Arts academy (HE) training actors for theatre Spain specialising in improvisation, character half mask and devised work, Valencia, Spain

Aug 2007 Theatre Director Teatro Flumen
Premiere of La Lupe – a play with songs (also Teatro Inestable) in Valencia, Spain

May 2004-Jan 2005 Illustrator Harper Collins
Book illustration for parenting guide.

Jan 2004–present Co-Founder | Material Researcher Futuremech
New company specialising in new materials and cable technology

Jan 2002–Jan 2004 Illustrator Bloomsbury
Book illustration for 'I'm Bored' activity books

August 2001 Actor | Writer Pleasance Theatre
'Am I Losing My Mind or Just My Figure'- solo show about pregnancy in Edinburgh, Scotland,

Jan 2000–Dec 2009 Actor Freelance
Work includes in this decade: Radio – 'Hudson & Pepperdine Save The Planet' – BBC Radio 4 / Feature Film – 'The Virgin of Liverpool' – The Mob Film Company - Dir. Lee Donaldson / Theatre – 'Barbarians' – Salisbury Playhouse – Salisbury - Dir. Joanna Read /

Television – Judge John Deed – BBC / Theatre – ‘Arcadia’ – Northampton Theatre Royal | Salisbury Playhouse - Dir. Rupert Goold / Theatre – ‘Am I Losing My Mind Or Just My Figure’ Edinburgh Fringe Festival Pleasance Theatre – Edinburgh & London / Feature Film – ‘Esther Kahn’ – Magic Lantern Films Limited – Curzon – London - Dir. Arnauld Desplechin

Jan 1990–Dec 1999 Actor

Freelance

Work includes in this decade: Theatre – ‘Summer Lightning’ – Salisbury Playhouse & Theatre Royal Bath - Dir. Rupert Goold / Theatre – ‘After October’ – Chichester Festival Theatre & Greenwich Theatre – Chichester & London - Dir. Frith Banbury/Keith Baxter / Theatre – ‘Danton’s Death’ – Gate Theatre – London - Dir. David Farr / Theatre – Max Klapper – A Life In Pictures’ – STRAY DOG, & Gate at Electric Cinema – London - Dir. David Farr / Theatre – ‘Black Chiffon’ – Number 1 Tour & Richmond Theatre London - Dir. Sean O’Conno / Radio – ‘The Diary Of Samuel Pepys’ – BBC Radio Drama / Television – ‘Chiller – Prophecy’ – Yorkshire Television / Theatre – ‘A Going Concern’ – Hampstead Theatre – London - Writ. Stephen Jeffries / Theatre – ‘A Message For The Broken Hearted’ – Liverpool Playhouse & BAC – Liverpool & London - Writ. Gregory Motton - Dir. Ramin Gray / Theatre - ‘The Case of the Frightened Lady’ - Watford Palace - Dir. Frith Banbury / Theatre – ‘Orphee’ – Hen & Chickens Theatre Club – London / Theatre - ‘On The Verge’ - London RSC Fringe Festival / Theatre - ‘The Franklin’s Tale’ - NT Cottesloe - Dir. Prunella Scales.

Jan 1984–Dec 1989 Actor

Freelance

Work in this decade includes: Television Film – Worlds Beyond ‘Home’ – Thames Television / Television Comedy – The Refuge ‘Baby Talk’ – Yorkshire Television / Television – ‘Interference’ – Thames Television / Television – ‘Bleak House’ – BBC

Training | CPD

2025	Reader	Royal Exchange Theatre	Bruntwood Prize
2025	Playwriting	53Two	Somebody Jones
2024	Prison Partnership Project CPD	Lyric Hammersmith + Clean Break	Jordana Golbourn Rachel Conlon
2024	Artistic Directors Programme	Cohort #2	George Perrin
2024	Theatre of the Oppressed as Political Resistance	Odd Arts Manchester	Julian Boal
2023-24	Royal Exchange Manchester	Birkbeck Resident Director Programme Training	Suzanne Bell
2023	Concept and Vision In Theatre Making	Bristol Old Vic JMK Trust	Polina Kalinina
2023	The Ensemble	Bristol Old Vic JMK Trust	Sally Cookson

Education

Class of 2024 Birkbeck, University of London MFA (Theatre Directing) Distinction*Peter Cheeseman Award

Class of 1991 Guildhall School of Music & Drama (Professional Actor Diploma | BA Equivalent)

Awards

2025	Offies Assessors’ Choice	Camden Fringe
2025	London Pub Theatres Standing Ovation Finalist	Camden Fringe
2022	Purple Plaque	Innovate UK
2021	Top 200 Female Powered Businesses Award	JP Morgan
2020-21	Women in Innovation Award	Innovate UK
2019	Women in Aerospace Award	FAC
2005	AOI Annual Images Award	Association of Illustrators ICA
2001	Pick of the Fringe	Pleasance Theatre

REFEREES

Emma Baggott
Freelance Theatre Director
Associate Director Royal Exchange Manchester
emmabaggott1983@gmail.com

Nicolai la Barrie
Resident Associate Director
Lyric Hammersmith
nicolai.labarrie@gmail.com

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