

ANASTASIA OSEI-KUFFOUR

Director | Writer | Producer | Poet

I am a Black, British, female, working-class director with a decade of experience, primarily in UK theatre. Over the past 2 years, I have directed a film of my hit stage show *Typical* – Soho Theatre On Demand – and a portfolio of shorts. I have loved expanding my craft to include film and hope to focus on cinematic and visual storytelling more in future. Theatre will always be a love of mine however. I am drawn to drama that reveals profound truths about humanity and stories that highlight what needs to be changed. I like hard-hitting theatre, film and TV dramas, with beautiful writing and believable characters. I trust that my flair as a poet, my dramaturgical insights, and collaborative approach with cast and crew will open the way for me to deliver such theatre, film and TV dramas to audiences here in the UK and internationally.

Theatre:

YOU WILL FIND ME <i>Director</i>	2026	Theatre Royal Windsor	Produced by Theatre Royal Windsor
LOVE STEPS <i>Writer and Director</i>	2024	Clapham Omnibus and Talawa	Co-produced by Ebenezer Ademisoye
BRENDA'S GOT A BABY <i>By Jessica Hagan</i>	2023	New Diorama	Produced by New Diorama and Nouveau Riche
4 WALLS <i>By Rukus</i>	2023	Derby Theatre	Produced by Derby Theatre as part of Derby CAN
All Roads <i>By Roy Williams</i>	2023	UK Tour	Produced by Attic Theatre in partnership with Tramshed and in association with Theatre Peckham and Bernie Grant Arts Centre.
ON THE ROPES <i>By Dougie Blaxland and Vernon Vanriel</i>	2023	The Park Theatre	Co-produced by The Production Exchange and The Park Theatre.
SEEDS <i>Written By Mel Pennant</i>	2020	UK Tour <i>(due to the Covid-19 pandemic this tour went to just 4 of the 7 venues planned: Leeds Playhouse, Live Theatre Newcastle, Derby Theatre, Warwick Arts Centre)</i>	Tiata Fahodzi and Wrested Veil in association with Leeds Playhouse, Soho Theatre and Tara Finney Productions
TYPICAL <i>By Ryan Calais Cameron</i>	2019	Soho Theatre, London (Sept 2019) / Pleasance Courtyard Beneath, Edinburgh Fringe (Aug 2019)	Noveau Riche and Soho Theatre
CUTTIN' IT <i>By Charlene James</i>	2018	UK Tour (19 Schools)	Royal Court Production

FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON <i>By Maureen Hunter</i>	2017	Finborough Theatre	Wrested Veil

Short Pieces (Theatre) (2012-17):

AN ADVENTURE <i>By Vinay Patel</i>	Excerpt for a Private Opening, Bush Theatre	Bush Theatre
CELL <i>By Nathaniel Martello-White</i>	Young Vic	Five Plays Project
DISHONOUR <i>By Tanika Gupta</i>	Theatre 503	Acts of Defiance Festival
HERE COMES THE BRIDE <i>By Milli Bhatia</i>	Bush Theatre	Black Lives, Black Words
ALL THE WAYS TO SAY GOODBYE <i>By Neil LaBute</i>	Young Vic	Fresh Direction Project
HOSEA'S GIRL R&D (Talawa Firsts)	Talawa's Studio (Old Street)	Talawa
YOU KNOW THAT I'LL BE BACK <i>By Tamara Felisa Micner</i>	Theatre 503	Theatre 503
UNIVERSALLY SPEAKING <i>By Connor Carroll</i>	Theatre 503	Theatre 503

Associate Directing (Theatre):

GOOD DOG <i>Written by Arinzé Kene</i> <i>Directed By Natalie Ibu</i>	2019	UK Tour (14 Venues)	Tiata Fahodzi and Tara Finney Productions in association with Watford Palace Theatre
FLOWERING CHERRY <i>Written by Robert Bolt</i> <i>Directed by Ben Whitrow</i>	2015	Finborough Theatre	Troupe
THE HACKNEY VOLPONE <i>Written by Ben Jonson</i> <i>Directed by Anna Jones</i>	2014	Rose Lipman Building	NYLon

Assistant Directing (Theatre) (2012-17):

MIXED BRAIN <i>Directed by Natalie Ibu</i>	Roundabout Summer Hall, Edinburgh Fringe	Tiata Fahodzi and Paines Plough Co-Production
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MACBETH <i>Directed by Justin Audibert</i>	Dorfman, National Theatre / Stratford Circus / Schools Tour	National Theatre
ROMEO & JULIET <i>Directed by Bijan Sheibani</i>	Dorfman, National Theatre / Stratford Circus / Schools Tour	National Theatre
CUTTIN' IT <i>Directed by Gbolahan Obisesan</i>	Part of the Young Vic's Jerwood Assistant Director Programme, supported by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation	A Young Vic / Royal Court Theatre Co-Production with Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Sheffield Theatres and The Yard Theatre
PLAQUES & TANGLES <i>Directed by Lucy Morrison</i>	Royal Court Theatre	Royal Court
ALPHA BETA <i>Directed by Purni Morell</i>	Finborough Theatre	Fieldwork
IDOMENEUS <i>Directed by Ellen McDougall</i>	Gate Theatre	Gate Theatre
HENRY THE FIFTH <i>Directed by Ellen McDougall</i>	Unicorn Theatre	Unicorn Theatre
THREE GENERATIONS OF WOMEN <i>Directed by Ria Parry</i>	Greenwich Theatre (and Touring)	Broken Leg Theatre
ANDY CAPP THE MUSICAL <i>Directed by Jake Smith</i>	Finborough Theatre	Presented by Joe Brown and Matt Whayman by arrangement with Samuel French Limited and in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre
A DOLL'S HOUSE <i>Directed by Carrie Cracknell</i> <i>As Boris Karloff Trainee Assistant Director</i>	Young Vic Theatre	Young Vic Theatre

Film:

CHEVALIER <i>(Director's Assistant in Pre-Production and Production)</i>	2022	<i>Directed by Stephen Williams</i> <i>Written by Stefani Robinson</i>	Searchlight / Element Pictures
TYPICAL <i>(Directed)</i> ONCOMM nominated	2021	<i>Starring Richard Blackwood</i> <i>Written by Ryan Calais Cameron</i> <i>D.O.P Jermaine Edwards</i>	Soho Theatre On Demand

		<i>Editor Oral Norrie Ottey</i> <i>5* Reviews: Guardian, New York Time</i>	
FAITH, HOPE, LOVE	2020	<i>Six Short Poetry Films</i>	Wrested Veil Production Company

Radio / Audio:

Faith and Trevor <i>(Faith, Hope and Glory Series 5, episode 3)</i>	Feb 2023	BBC Radio 4
JOY AND HOPETON <i>(Faith, Hope and Glory Series 5, episode 2)</i>	Feb 2023	BBC Radio 4
IRISH INDEPENDENCE PLAYS: THE BULLETIN	Nov 2022	Applied Stories and the National Archives.
IRISH INDEPENDENCE PLAYS: PERSONS UNKNOWN	Nov 2022	Applied Stories and the National Archives.
FAITH <i>(Faith, Hope and Glory Series 4, episode 3)</i>	Sept 2022	BBC Radio 4
GLORIA <i>(Faith, Hope and Glory Series 4 episode 2)</i>	Sept 2022	BBC Radio 4
MIDDLEMARCH MONOLOGUES	March 2022	BBC Radio 3
HOPE AND JIM <i>(Faith Hope and Glory Series 3, episode 1)</i>	Feb 2022	BBC Radio 4
A STRANGER IN A STRANGE PLACE	November 2021	Co-produced by Tamasha Theatre Company and the National Archives.
PRECIOUS LITTLE THING <i>By Roberta Livingstone</i>	May 2021	A Talawa and Feral Inc Production
TYPICAL <i>By Ryan Calais Cameron</i>	2019	Audible

Other Artistic Work:

- **Theatre503: Associate Director** (Aug 2019- May 2021)
 - Contributing to the delivery of Theatre503's strategy, artistic identity and vision.
 - Enabling and championing writers, artists and companies who bring work into the building.
 - Programming and producing, literary development and community engagement.
 - **DRAMATURGY; supporting writers with the development of their plays.**
- **Artistic Director of Wrested Veil Ltd** (WV) (2017 to the present). Projects so far:
 - ***Seeds*** by Mel Pennant (see above).
 - ***Footprints on the Moon***, by Maureen Hunter (WV production, Finborough Theatre).
 - ***Love Stepz R&D*** (formerly *Hosea's Girl*), Talawa Studio Firsts (R&D).
 - An outreach programme for young people (aged 13 – 18) in collaboration with the Gate Theatre and St Peter's Hall Charity: ***The Chronicles of Kalki & The Christians***.
- **Former Trainee Artistic Director at tiata fahodzi** as part of the Artistic Director Leadership Programme (ADLP), 2017-2019.
 - Originating and running the literary department – formulating strategy, script reading and reporting, training up readers, advising on seed commissions.
 - Supporting the delivery of the artistic programme.
 - Working as Associate Director on *good dog* by Arinzé Kene – looking after the Spring 2019 tour.
 - Producing and preparing to direct ***Seeds*** a co-production with tiata fahodzi – working with the writer to develop the script, booking the tour, fundraising etc.
 - Producing and leading on projects – e.g. two Introduction to Directing projects (In Sheffield and Watford with RTYDS).
 - Managing freelance staff.
 - Managing budgets and fundraising for projects (fundraised over £51,000 over two years)
 - Curating the ADLP blog and contributing to tiata fahodzi's marketing and digital department including working with videographers to create video assets.
- **Former Resident Assistant Director:** Finborough Theatre, Carne Trust Award (2016)
- **Former Lead Director and Curator:** Rapid Write Response, Theatre503 (2016)
- **Former Script Reader:** Finborough Theatre, Talawa, Theatre503, Bruntwood Prize, Verity Bargate Award. (2016-2021)
- **Former Creative Arts Director at St Peter's Hall** (charity), creating and directing a performing arts programme for young people aged 13-18 (2013-2015)

Education / Training:

- The Doorway Project led by Kate Flatt & Femi Elufowoju Jr. supported by Watford Palace Theatre and Young Vic (Jan 2021)
- Female Empowerment workshops led by Katie Mitchell, organised by the NT (June 2020)
- National Theatre Directors Course (2017)
- Introduction to Playwriting, Royal Court Theatre, led by Vivienne Franzmann (2015)
- Springboard, YV: led by Natalie Abrahami, David Lan, Mike Alfreds etc. (2013)

- Introduction to Directing, YV: led by Lyndsey Turner and Michael Longhurst (2012)
- Graduate Diploma in Law & Legal Practice Course, College of Law (2008-2010)
- Business Management Degree (2:1) Queen Mary University of London (2005-2008)
- A-Levels: Drama (A), Media (B), English Literature (B), Maths (C) (2003-2005)
- GCSEs (4As,5Bs, 4Cs) (1998-2003)

References (Film):

Stephen Williams:

Anastasia Osei-Kuffour worked alongside me on my feature film 'Chevalier' from June to November 2021. She made a valuable creative contribution to the process of making this movie and I can testify to the fact that her understanding of visual storytelling, makes her more than ready to take the next step in directing for TV and Film.

She supported me with the development of the script during prep, giving insightful notes that helped move the script further towards readiness.

She had a clear instinct for talent which was immensely helpful during the casting process, offering strong options for various parts.

Her understanding of story, dramatic action and the journey each character goes through was an invaluable asset during shooting, often reminding me of things discussed during prep and giving me perceptive notes on the actors' performances. Knowing I had another person with a skilled directorial eye on my team was an unexpected bonus to discover when we first met and as we continued to work together it was a great comfort to know I had that support.

She has a strength and passion for the work which carried through no matter what challenges she faced and managed to engage with people in a manner which gives me every confidence in her ability to lead, function well under pressure and create strong performance-led content in future.

It was a pleasure to work with her and I can't wait to see what treasures she will no doubt direct in future.

Stephen Williams

Emmy award winning Director (Chevalier, True Story, Watchmen, Lost)

***Stephen Williams is happy to be contacted.**

Geoffrey Haley:

(About Typical- film)

Typical was really well done! Well written, superbly acted and expertly directed. The minimalistic staging and subdued camera style really laser focuses the audience on the emotional landscape of the main character from the very start.

Also, the eye level close-up locked off camera during Christopher's final speech was hauntingly devastating. You imprison the audience with Christopher in a state of cathartic paralysis.

Very well done. His story is so tragic - and yet you also manage to celebrate his humanity. I'm incredibly impressed.

Geoffrey Haley

Writer, Director and SOC's two-time Camera Operator of the Year