the production exchange management

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MATT ASTON

Director

Matt is a freelance director who combines a busy career with the Artistic leadership of his company - Engine House - which he formed in 2010. Matt has over 20 years experience working at a senior level in the arts and has been a freelance theatre director since July 2009. During this time he has enhanced his reputation across a variety of scales and genres.

Theatre:

THE SNOWFLAKE (Premiere) by Matt Aston (based on the book by Benji Davies)	2025	Polka Theatre	Birmingham Rep / Polka (2025) / Little Angel Theatre (2026) Co-Production.
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK By Chris Hannon	2025	Theatre Royal Wakefield	Theatre Royal Wakefield
RECEPTION - THE WEDDING PRESENT MUSICAL By Matt Astom (Premiere) (Directed)	2025	The Warehouse in Holbeck (Slung Low), Leeds.	Perfect Blue Productions
CINDERELLA by Chris Hannon	2024	Theatre Royal Wakefield	Theatre Royal Wakefield
THE SNOWFLAKE (Premiere) by Matt Aston (based on the book by Benji Davies)	2024	Birmingham Rep	Birmingham Rep / Polka (2025) / Little Angel Theatre (2026) Co-Production.
SLEEPING BEAUTY by Chris Hannon	2023	Theatre Royal Wakefield	Theatre Royal Wakefield
KRAPP'S LAST TAPE by Samuel Beckett	2023	Nottingham Lakeside Arts	20th Anniversary Production
ROBIN HOOD *By Anthony Spargo*	2022	Greenwich Theatre	Greenwich Theatre
THE PARK KEEPER *By Mike Kenny (Premiere)*	2021	Rowntree Park, York	Park Bench Theatre

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PARK BENCH THEATRE: **FIRST LOVE** ***By Samuel Beckett (Directed)*** **TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC** ***By Matt Aston and Cassie Vallance (Premiere) (Directed)*** **EVERY TIME A BELL RINGS** ***By Matt Aston (Premiere) (Directed by Tom Bellerby)***	2020	Rowntree Park, York	Park Bench Theatre *(Produced a mini season of outdoor performances in the weeks after the first Covid lockdown consisting of these three plays)*
SLEEPING BEAUTY ***By Berwick Kaler***	2019	York Theatre Royal	York Theatre Royal
THE STORM WHALE ***By Matt Aston (based on the book by Benji Davies) (Premiere)***	2019-ongoing	York Theatre Royal (Christmas 2019) Little Angel Theatre(Christmas 2021) The Marlowe (Christmas 2022) Nottingham Lakeside Arts (Christmas 2024)	Little Angel Theatre / York Theatre Royal / The Marlowe, Canterbury/ Engine House co-production
CINDERELLA – THE PANTO WITH SOUL	2018	City Varieties, Leeds	City Varieties, Leeds
GRANDAD'S ISLAND ***By Matt Aston (based on the book by Benjo Davies) (Premiere)***	2018-19	UK Tour	Engine House In association with York Theatre Royal
RED RIDING HOOD ***By Mike Kenny***	2018	Nottingham Lakeside Arts / Engine House	Engine House Theatre
ALADDIN – THE ROCK AND ROLL PANTO ***By Peter Rowe***	2017	City Varieties, Leeds	City Varieties, Leeds
KISS ME ***By Richard Bean***	2017	East Ridings Theatre	East Ridings Theatre
TOUCHED ***By Stephen Lowe***	2017	Nottingham Playhouse *(Feat. Vicky McClure)*	Nottingham Playhouse Theatre Company

SLEEPING BEAUTY – THE ROCK AND ROLL PANTO ***By Peter Rowe***	2016	City Varieties, Leeds	City Varieties, Leeds
SNOW WHITE ***by Mike Kenny (Premiere)***	2016	Engine House / National Tour	Engine House Theatre
4000 DAYS ***By Peter Quilter (Premiere)***	2016	Park Theatre *(Feat. Alistair McGowan)*	Arden Entertainment
CINDERELLA – THE PANTO WITH SOUL ***By Peter Rowe***	2015-16	Theatre, Clwyd	Theatre, Clwyd
AUSTEN – THE MUSICAL ***By Rob Winlow***	2015	Old Hall Theatre Company / East Ridings Theatre	Old Hall Theatre Company
FLAT STANLEY ***Adapted by Mike Kenny***	2014	Engine House	In association with Hull Truck / Polka Theatre / Nottingham Lakeside Arts
BOMBER'S MOON* ***By William Ivory*** * ***West End Transfer in Spring 2015***	2014	Engine House / Park Theatre, London *(Feat. James Bolam & Steve John Shepherd)*	Engine House Theatre
RED RIDING HOOD ***By Mike Kenny***	2013-14	Engine House	In association with Curve, Leicester / West Yorkshire playhouse / Polka Theatre (2nd Revival)
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST ***By Mike Kenny***	2013	Engine House / Civic Hall, Barnsley	Engine House Theatre
UP AND DOWN ***Adapted by Matt Aston from book by Oliver Jeffers***	2013	National Tour	GaGa Theatre Company
RETURN OT THE FORBIDDEN PLANET ***By Bob Carlton***	2013	The Castle, Wellingborough	The Castle, Wellingborough
TWO LITTLE BOYS ***By Mike Kenny (Premiere)***	2012	Lakeside / Engine House	Engine House Theatre
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST	2012	Engine House / LBT Huddersfield	Engine House Theatre

By Mike Kenny			
RED RIDING HOOD ***By Mike Kenny***	2012	Polka Theatre (Revival of Engine House / Lakeside Co-Production)	Engine House Theatre
DIARY OF A FOOTBALL NOBODY ***By William Ivory (Premiere)***	2012	Nottingham Playhouse	Nottingham Playhouse
RED RIDING HOOD ***By Mike Kenny (Premiere)***	2012	Lakeside Arts Centre / Engine House / UK Tour	Engine House Theatre
ALADDIN ***By Mark Chatterton & Sarah Nixon***	2011	Theatre Royal, Wakefield	Theatre Royal, Wakefield
SÉANCE ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON ***By Stephen Lowe (Premiere)***	2011	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
BOMBER'S MOON ***By William Ivory***	2011	Belgrade Theatre Coventry	Belgrade Theatre
THE NEWSPAPER BOY ***By Chris Hoyle (Rehearsed Reading)***	2011	Contact Theatre, Manchester	Contact Theatre, Manchester
OLEANNA ***By David Mamet***	2011	Lakeside Arts Centre / Engine House	Enging House Theatre
SLEEPING BEAUTY ***By Mark Chatterton and Sarah Nixon***	2010	Theatre Royal Wakefield	Theatre Royal, Wakefield
BOMBER'S MOON ***By William Ivory***	2010	Lakeside Arts Centre / Lincoln Performing arts	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG ***By Peter Nichols***	2010	Nottingham Playhouse	Nottingham Playhouse Theatre Company
FLAT STANLEY ***Adapted by Mike Kenny***	2009	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
KRAPP'S LAST TAPE ***By Samuel Beckett***	2009	Lakeside Arts Centre / York Theatre Royal / Tour (Revival of 2003 production)	Nottingham Lakeside Arts

BOMBER'S MOON ***By William Ivory*** ***(Rehearsed Reading)***	2009	Lakeside Arts Centre	
EMPTY BED BLUES ***By Stephen Lowe*** ***(Premiere)***	2009	Lakeside Arts Centre / Lincoln Performing Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts / LPAC Co-production
THE HAPPY PRINCE ***By Oscar Wilde*** ***Adapted by Annie Wood***	2008	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
ZERO ***By Chris O'Connell*** ***(Premiere)***	2008	UK Tour	Theatre Absolute / Warwick Arts Centre Co-Production
SMILE ***By Stephen Lowe*** ***(Premiere)***	2008	Lakeside Arts Centre	Lakeside Arts Centre / New Perspectives Theatre Company Co-Production
TWINKLE LITTLE STAR ***By Phillip Meeks*** ***(Co-directed with Damian Cruden)***	2008	UK Tour	Lakeside Arts Centre / York Theatre Royal Co-Production
SMILE ***By Stephen Lowe*** ***(Rehearsed Reading)***	2007	Momentum New Writing Festival	Theatre Writing Partnership
ZERO ***By Chris O'Connell*** ***(Rehearsed Reading / Script Development)***	2007		Theatre Absolute / Warwick Arts Centre Co-Production
THE KISS ***By Glyn Cannon*** ***(Premiere)***	2007	Nottingham Lakeside Arts	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
SILENCE ***By Ivar Waldermarson*** ***(Rehearsed Reading)***	2006	Momentum New Writing Festival	Theatre Writing Partnership
THE RETIREMENT OF TOM STEVENS ***By William Ivory*** ***(Premiere)***	2006	Nottingham Lakeside Arts	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
KRAPP'S LAST TAPE ***By Samuel Beckett***	2006	Lakeside Arts Centre / International Tour (Revival of 2003 Production)	Nottingham Lakeside Arts

SAMUEL'S HEAD ON MY TABLE ***By Declan Keane (Premiere)***	2005	Momentum New Writing Festival	Theatre Writing Partnership
A WHO'S WHO OF FLAPLAND ***By David Halliwell***	2005	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
LISTEN WITH MOTHER ***By Kenneth Alan Taylor (Rehearsed Reading – New Play)***	2005	Lakeside Arts Centre	
A DIFFERENT WAY HOME ***By Jimmie Chinn***	2004	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
A VISIT FROM MISS PROTHERO ***By Alan Bennett***	2004	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts
KRAPP'S LAST TAPE ***By Samuel Beckett***	2003	Lakeside Arts Centre	Nottingham Lakeside Arts

Awards:

Writer's Guild of Great Britain	**[won] Encouragmenet of New Writing Award**	**SMILE**	2008

Current Positions:

Freelance	**Theatre Director**	**July 2009 - current**
Engine House	**Artistic Director**	**September 2010 - current**

Previous Positions:

Lakeside Arts Centre	**Theatre Producer / Programmer**	**November 2001 – July 2009**
Nottingham Playhouse	**Producer**	**February 1999 – November 2001**