



JO BEAL

Freelance Arts Manager

About Me

I am a freelance Arts Manager with 25 years' experience working in a wide range of settings and across many artforms. I believe that experiencing high quality arts produces positive outcomes for all – audiences, volunteers, participants, artists, supporters.

I love working with people - at whichever point they engage - to produce inspiring, joyous and shared creative experiences. I can deliver on a range of elements within a project including: strategic planning, programming, income generation, production, relationship management and more.

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📍 Swindon, Wiltshire

Education

Bachelor of Arts

Chelsea School of Art
1989 - 1992

Expertise

Commissioning artists and companies

Artistic programming

Income generation, fundraising, bid writing

Community engagement and participatory project management

Financial Management

Relationship Management - Stakeholders, Artists, Volunteers, Public

Production Management - Outdoor Arts and Events

Work Experience

● Jan - September 2024

Signal Festival, for Prime Theatre

Senior Producer - p/t freelance

Providing management, programming and production systems, and nurturing and supporting six young creative leaders to produce Swindon's first youth arts festival.

● January to March 2020

Fundraising Consultant - p/t freelance

Developing and writing Arts Council England grant applications for Create Studios (Swindon) and B Sharp (Lyme Regis).

● Sept - Dec 2019

Consultancy Partnership with Sally Clements - p/t freelance

Working with Torbay Great Place Scheme to support a local community to develop an Artists Brief and appoint an artist to deliver a celebratory community project, through the delivery of Creative Consultation Workshops and Training sessions.

References

Shahina Johnson
Artistic Director/CEO Create Studios

Phone: +447507709043

Email: shahina@createstudios.org.uk

Mark Powell
Artistic Director/CEO Prime Theatre

Phone: 01793 614864

Email: mark@primetheatre.co.uk

Work Experience

2016 - 2020

Kinetika

Freelance Project Manager for numerous large scale, outdoor arts projects, as follows:

2016 - 2020

Kinetika /Land of the Fanns 100 Stories (Essex)

Project Manager and Assistant Artist

Managing the overall delivery and budget management of a large-scale Heritage Lottery Funded community arts project for the Land of the Fanns Landscape Partnership Scheme, to gather 100 Stories from the local community to make 100 silk flags in celebration, and to manage an associated costume and film making project.

Sept 2018 - Sept 2019

Kinetika (Essex)

Project Manager T100 - Welcome to the Kitchen Table Walking Festival

I worked with a wide range of partner organisations and volunteers to deliver 17 arts-based public walks from 4-12 miles, forming a 2-week walking festival.

Sept 2018 - Sept 2019

Kinetika (Essex)

Project Manager T100 Recipes Walking Festival

I worked with a wide range of partner organisations and volunteers to deliver 14 public walks from 2 - 5 miles, forming a 2-week walking festival.

April 2017 - Jan 2018

Kinetika (Essex)

Project Manager for UK element of Silk River

Managing a budget and programme of approx. £170k, Silk River was an ambitious project marking the 70th anniversary of Indian independence and the cultural relationship with the UK.

April 2017 - Jan 2018

Kinetika (Essex)

Project Manager for T100 Tales Walking Festival

Overall management of 6 public walks and promenade performance events, working with the Complete Commedia Company. Management of linked costume project working with the South Essex College BA Costume Construction students.

Work Experience

May - August 2018

Cranborne Chase Landscape Partnership Scheme

Creative Advisor - p/t freelance

Consultation and planning the Arts Strategy for a Stage 2 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, on behalf of the Cranborne Chase Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Sept 2016 - August 2018

Trowbridge Town Hall Arts

Fundraiser and Project Co-ordinator

Developing partnerships and projects to deliver creative, participatory, cultural activity and opportunities inside and outside the venue. Implementation and further development of the Town Hall Arts fundraising strategy.

April - September 2016

Music Connect - Wiltshire Music Education Hub

Countywide Music Festival Producer - p/t freelance

Curating and producing a month-long celebration of young people's diverse music making in Wiltshire.

Sept 2013 - May 2016

Devizes Outdoor Celebratory Arts

Artistic Director - p/t freelance

Responsible for overall artistic vision, programming, production, delivery of and fundraising for large scale outdoor performances, festivals, events, processions, carnivals and community participatory activity. Annual programme budget approx. £160k.

June 2012 - August 2013

Devizes Outdoor Celebratory Arts

Outdoor Arts Manager - p/t freelance

Supporting the delivery and production of DOCA's outdoor arts programme, with a focus on participatory activity, volunteer recruitment and management and production management.

Work Experience

April 2012 - July 2013

Create Studios

Programme Manager p/t freelance

Managing and fundraising for a range of digital media-based community projects – the Cultural Passport app; Creative Minds (with Swindon Mind); Western Flyer project.

May 2009 - March 2012

Youth Music

Regional Executive Officer - p/t employed

Strategic sector development, advocacy and funding advisor.

April 2007 - July 2009

Flux Project, Swindon

Programme Co-ordinator - p/t freelance

Managing a cross curriculum arts programme and artists' commissions within a Treasury funded (£1.3 million Invest to Save programme) project, designed to test the impact that participating in arts activities can have on children and young people, in and out of school, in a new and developing community.

May 2006 - June 2008

Bath & North East Somerset Cultural Partnership

Project Manager - p/t freelance

Support, co-ordination and project management of events, networking activities and strategy development.

April 2005 - July 2008

Arts Council England Southwest

Regional Youth Arts Network Co-ordinator - p/t freelance

Planning and supporting the strategic development of a region wide youth arts network. Co-ordinating training and delivery of regional bulletin.

April 2005 - Dec 2006

TheatreWorks - Strategy Development for Swindon and Wiltshire

Administrator - p/t employed

Supporting the implementation of the Wiltshire and Swindon Theatre Locality Plan.

Work Experience

2000 - 2005

Kennet District Council

Arts Development Officer - f/t

Responsible for devising and delivering the Local Authority Arts & Cultural Strategy. Partnership working, fundraising, project development.

Feb 1998 - August 2000

Test Valley Borough Council

Assistant Arts Officer - f/t

Supporting the delivery of the Local Authority Arts Strategy. Managing summer holiday arts programme, administering funding applications, assistant project management.

February 1997 - January 1998

Test Valley Borough Council

Community Development Assistant - p/t

Responsible for designing, route testing and developing a set of walking and cycling routes for a large-scale tourism initiative, the Test Valley Tour.

January 1994 - September 1996

Brampton Community Sculpture Project

Trainee community artist - f/t

Trainee community artist, working with a lead artist in schools and with community groups to design and make outdoor public art work for the local parish.

Voluntary Work

2014 to August 2016
Board member of Carnival Network South

2015 to September 2016
Board Member of Quest Southwest

Founder member of Swindon Samba, a voluntary, community arts group.

Founder member of Urban Sketchers Swindon, now a regional chapter of the global Urban Sketching movement.

2007 – 2014
Board Member, Test Valley Arts Foundation.

Education

1989 – 1992
Chelsea School of Art, BA (hons) Public Art / Art for Architecture, 2:1

1987 – 1989
Basingstoke College of Technology, BTEC National Diploma General Art & Design, Distinction

1982 – 1987, Winton School, Andover, Hampshire
7 O'Levels, 1 CSE

Training

February 2016
Clare Short Course, Cultural Leadership

July 2015
Artwork, Mentoring the Next Creative Generation.

June – September 2015
CreateLab, Professional/personal coaching
October

2012
Audiences Agency, Understanding audiences for outdoor events and festivals.

January – March 2012
City & Guilds PTLLS, Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning sector, Levels 3 & 4

2009
Arts Award Advisor