
Statement

A former lecturer in Electronic Literature at Liverpool John Moores University, I now work as a playwright, journalist and professional poet.

I am a founding member of award winning live poetry collective Aisle16, with whom I make regular appearances at Manchester Literature festival, Glastonbury, Latitude Festival, Port Eliot Literary Festival and poetry/comedy/cabaret clubs around the UK. I am also the co-director of *Homework*, a monthly scratch night at Bethnal Green Workingmen's Club.

In total I have co-written nine live literature productions, including 2005's Poetry Boyband (Time Out Critic's Choice of the Year). My debut poetry collection, *Things To Do Before You Leave Town*, was published this January and was recently positively featured on Newsnight Review (29.5.09). My work has also been featured in the poetry magazines/journals *Reactions*, *Rising*, *Tears in the Fence* and *Orbis*.

I continue to teach creative writing. In 2009 I wrote and taught the Creative Writing course for The Oxbridge Tradition at Cambridge University. I have also worked as a creative practitioner for Creative Partnerships, Activate, The Windows Project and Apples and Snakes.

I am currently developing a feature film with Warp Films and working on my debut solo theatre production, *The Three Stigmata of Pacman*.

Skill Set

- Ability to write to a professional level across several mediums, sharing skills learnt as a journalist, an academic, a poet and as a screenwriter.
- Flexibility to adapt to creative commissions and research briefs across a wider cultural continuum.
- Creative project managing, including creative development, fund-acquisition, marketing and front-end event management.
- Capacity to instruct and teach with lucidity, having written culture-specific courses from primary to university level.
- Willingness to collaborate and draw new parallels between existing mediums, which is at the core of my development as a writer.

Media Features

19.10.05 BBC Radio 3	Interview, <i>The Verb</i>
28.12.05 Style, Sunday Times	Listed, Up And Coming
20.12.05 Time Out	British Creative Talent
05.08.06 The Telegraph Mag	Critic's Choice of the Year
08.02.08 The Times	2-page feature on Aisle16
12.02.09 BBC Radio 1	Listed, Top Ten Literary Stars of 2008
29.05.09 BBC N/night Review	Performance, Colin Murray
	Performance and review

Commissions

3.7.08 The Round, Newcastle	Six poems, inspired by theatrical productions
20.9.08 Mercy	Poetry/animation
13.2.09 IF:Book	Poetry/animation
19.2.09 BBC Blast	Two poems for teenagers
17.3.09 London Science Museum	Short story and performance, for <i>Big Bang</i> season.

Reviews

"In his free-wheeling lyricism, caustic wit and brilliantly surreal turn of image, Sutherland is a truly contemporary original. His poetry rejuvenates techniques as disparate as collage, memoir, sound experiment and formal appropriation in vigorous but firely wrought lines. Refreshingly fearless and bleakly funny, *Things To Do Before You Leave Town* collects works that shock and delight in performance but reveal their true depth on the page."

– Luke Kennard, reviewing *Things To Do Before You Leave Town*

"Is this a performance poet with a comic's stagecraft or a highly literate stand-up? Ross Sutherland's one-man show is as slippery as an eel in its definition, and all the better for it. Hopelessly in love with language in the same way Daniel Kitson and Stewart Lee are, Sutherland's show brought together home-made videos, diagrams and poetry readings... *The Three Stigmata Of Pac-Man* has the makings of a truly original, great show."

– Brighton Argus (*****)

Education

UEA | BA in English Lit w/ minor in Creative Writing (1:1)
 LJMU | MRes in English Lit & Cultural History (pass w/ dist.)
 LJMU | PhD in English Literature and Cultural History (current)

Theatre Productions

Powerpoint

2004 | Aisle16 | co-writer, performer

- Well received run at Edinburgh Fringe (Aug 04):
- "Razor sharp stuff...not lacking of moments of pure genius." - *Metro*.
- Transferred to the Old Red Lion Theatre, Islington. Four week sell-out run..
- Received *Time Out's* Critic's Choice (1.4.05).
- "A sharp production with enough care and zeitgeisty energy to earn it a place in the West End." *Ham & High*.
- 10 date national tour.
- Sole British production at Divadelná Nitra, Slovakia's International Theatre Festival (23.9.05).

Poetry Boyband

2005 | Aisle16 | co-writer, performer

- Sold-out run at Edinburgh Fringe (Aug 05)
- "Reminiscent of the Beachcomber columns...a brilliant evening's entertainment."- *The Stage*.
- "The most ingenious PowerPoint presentation ever." - *Independent on Sunday*.
- Transferred to the Old Red Lion: received Critic's Choice of the Year. Only fringe show on list.
- 30 date national tour.

Services to Poetry

2006 | Aisle16 | co-writer, performer, video designer

- Commissioned by Candida Lycett Green to produce original work for John Betjeman's centenary celebrations.
- 9 date national tour (Sep/Nov 07)
- "It has a purity and power you never expect until it is there in front of you."-Johann Hari, *The Evening Standard*

Found in Translation

2008 | Aisle16 | co-writer, performer, visual designer

- Developed at Aisle16's scratch night *Homework*
- 8 date national tour
- Performed at London Word Festival (9.2.08), Manchester Literature Festival (26.10.08), Liverpool Biennial (20.9.08)
- Scheduled for feature on Radio 4 documentary on the OULIPO, Autumn 2009.

The Dead That Never Lived

2008 | Monkfish | director, co-writer, performer, designer

- Directorial debut
- Developed as part of residency at The Round theatre, Newcastle
- Developing new ways for writers to collaborate with digital artists (animators, filmmakers, sound artists).
- Set to tour in 2010

Online: films | animations | poems
www.aisle16.co.uk
www.myspace.com/rosssutherland

Recent Education Work

The Oxbridge Tradition | Jul 09-Sep 09

601 Cathedral Parkway, Suite 7R, New York, NY 10025, USA

Designer and tutor of four-week Creative Writing course at Cambridge University, hosted at Peterhouse College. Age of students 13/15 years.

Ref: Dr. Simon Dyton, +1 212.932.3049
dyton@oxbridgeprograms.com

Creative Partnerships | Feb 09-Apr 09

Tuckswood School, Norwich, NR4 6BP

"Change school" project- working with a filmmaker to write and shoot a short film with every class, from Reception to year 6.

Ref: Ed Pearson-Shaul (teacher), 01603 454479
office@tuckswood.norfolk.sch.uk

Liverpool John Moores University | Jan 07-Jul 07

Dean Walters Building, Upper Duke Street, L1 7BT

Member of LJMU's innovative English Literature and Electronic Creative Technology course-team, lecturing on the influence of new technologies on media (the impact of print, cinema, internet, video games, etc). Worked extensively with the University's acclaimed International Centre for Digital Content.

Ref: Dr Alice Ferrebe, 0151 2315139
A.C.Ferrebe@ljmu.ac.uk

Other Employment

Writer-in-residence

Jan 08-Jun 08 | Monkfish Productions

3 Equitable Street, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, NE28 8LP

Involved (i) running poetry workshops for local schools & writing groups. (ii) Developing new work in response to productions at The Round theatre. (iii) Directing two theatre productions at The Round.

Ref: Claire Morgan, 0785474884
monkfishproductions@hotmail.co.uk

Journalist

Jun 06-Jun 09 | Metro Newspaper

Acresfield, St Ann's Square, Manchester, M2 7HA

Weekly contributor to Newcastle, Manchester and Liverpool's Metro Newspaper. Working for the 'Life' section (arts and culture), producing previews, reviews, features and interviews. Portfolio of writing available on request.

Ref: Chris Brown, 0161 8365065
chris.brown@ukmetro.co.uk