



CURRICULUM VITAE

TESSA GORDZIEJKO

An Arts Producer with over 25 years experience in the cultural sector, Creative Director of Imove Arts producing three recent projects ; in 2012 delivered a £4 million programme in Yorkshire over 5 years as part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

Tessa has produced projects and events across all forms of art forms, locations and scale with an emphasis on unusual staging and settings and a passion for reaching new audiences.

Through senior roles, she demonstrates a dynamic combination of production skills and the facility to work in creative collaboration with artists and venues ; together with high level performance in leadership roles, strong strategic and organisational skills, the ability to manage complex stakeholder relationships, and a track record in securing major resources from public, private and voluntary sectors.

A Fellow of the Clore Cultural Leadership programme 2005 to 2007

Current Role

CREATIVE DIRECTOR (P/T)

Imove Arts Ltd, since October 2012

Led a transitional strategy to a new commissioned programme of work from 2013, producing *Salt Song* (2013), *The Grand Departs* (April 2014) and *The Second Breath* (May 2014) and 5 new projects currently in development.

FREELANCE PRODUCER AND CONSULTANT

Previous Roles

CREATIVE DIRECTOR *imove* /PROGRAMMER FOR LONDON 2012

Arts Council England (Yorkshire), 2007 to September 2012

Led *imove*, a Cultural Olympiad programme funded by Legacy Trust UK and Arts Council England, comprising 32 new arts projects produced across the Yorkshire region in collaboration with around 130 direct delivery partners – artists and organisations. The programme reached audiences of around 4.5 million and was recognised for innovation, quality, impact and legacy. It was one of five projects across the UK selected by Legacy Trust UK for a transition award 2013

DIRECTOR, ARTS & BUSINESS YORKSHIRE

Arts & Business Yorkshire, 2001-2007

Positioned the organisation as one of the region's key cultural agencies with profile and credibility within business and arts communities, secured a £500k investment from the Regional Development Agency ; under her leadership the organisation grew corporate membership by 150%, levered around £12m business sponsorship and delivered over 2,000 learning opportunities.

 @TGordziejko

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KEY FUNCTIONAL AREAS

Production and Programming

Salt Song (September 2013), a collaboration between writer Rommi Smith, Composer Dave Kane and Film-maker Andy Wood, at the Hyde Park Picture House, Leeds

The Grand Departs (April 2014), commissioned by Yorkshire Festival, collaborating with composer David Nelson and Sculptor Andy Plant : 18 cyclists towed a grand piano up the longest continuous road ascent in England whilst a new musical commission was played.

The Second Breath (May 2014), a collaboration with Stumble danceCircus and composer/DJ Kwah, a promenade performance in Holbeck, Leeds, of circus theatre and electronic music exploring themes of climate psychology.

Currently Producer for **Slanjayvah Danza** in Leeds, developing a major new three year project working with English, Scottish and Spanish partners.

Creative Director for the **imove** programme 2009-12, led a team of three associate producers over 32 projects ; lead producer for a portfolio of **imove** projects across a range of artforms, including imove OnThe Street (dance), Stanza Stones (literature/ combined arts), Kinetic Trader (media/ art installation), The Traipse (dance/ music), When I Move The World Moves Too (music).

Creative Programmer for London 2012, programmed a range of live arts events across the region as part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad

Producer for commercial events in London including launch of Tissot Rockwatch and Eurotunnel.

Stage, Production and Tour management for touring companies (Confederacy of Fools, Monstrous Regiment, Women's Theatre Group, Red Ladder, Half Moon Young People's Theatre) ; venues (Warwick Arts Centre, Royal Shakespeare Company Stratford, Dukes Lancaster) ; events (outdoor theatre, son et lumieres, trade and fashion shows).

Fundraising and Income Development

Recently secured a £95K Grants for the Arts Award for Imove Arts programme 2014-15

Secured £4m resources for **imove**, from Legacy Trust UK, Yorkshire Forward, Arts Council England, Esmee Fairbairn Trust and partner resource.

Brokered a number of sponsorship deals at Arts & Business Yorkshire, including title sponsorship of Leeds International Film Festival by Great North Eastern Railways.

Strategy, Business and Organisational and Partnership Development

Created a strategic plan for imove Arts, as a new independent company

Recent freelance consultancy includes a strategy review for Red Ladder

Freelance consultancy 1992-1997 in organisational and strategic development for clients across North of England including Phoenix Dance, Yorkshire dance, Northern Actors Centre, Wakefield Theatre Royal, ADiTi, Nia Centre

Designed business strategy for merger between Arts & Business North and Yorkshire Business in the Arts, leading to formation of Arts & Business Yorkshire.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY pre 2001

Yorkshire & Humberside Business in the Arts Ltd November 1997 – December 2000

Delivered high level business volunteer programmes to the arts, grew and positioned the agency to lead the merger with Arts & Business.

Novus Training Ltd - Consultant, Writer, Trainer 1992 – 1997

Assessor for Arts Council of England's Capital Lottery Programme. 7 assessments over two years for cultural building projects – part of the assessment teams for Birmingham Hippodrome and the Laban Centre.

Consultancy in organisational and strategic development, for numerous arts clients across the North of England, including The Nia Centre, Phoenix Dance, Yorkshire Dance Centre, Wakefield Theatre Royal, North West Arts Board

Undertook cultural planning and strategy for public sector clients

Writer of 21 video dramas as management training materials for EBC Ltd on a range of subjects,

Cultural Industries in Kirklees/ Kirklees MDC October 1988 – June 1992

Established CIK as a model for Creative and Cultural Industries development recognised beyond Kirklees .

Provided management and development support to four touring arts companies in Kirklees

London – Freelance 1986-1988

Theatre - Stage and Production Manager for companies including Monstrous Regiment, Women's Theatre Group, Royal Shakespeare Company, Red Ladder , Dukes Theatre, Warwick Arts Centre.

Producer and Production Manager for commercial trade shows, outdoor events, media

Administrator/ Company Manager / tour booker , Confederacy of Fools UK tours of **Marathon** and **Mess**

Half Moon Young People's Theatre : Administrator / Producer/ tour booker

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Clore Leadership Programme – Fellow 2005-7
- MA in TV and Radio Scriptwriting – University of Salford
- BA Hons in English and Theatre Studies – University of Warwick
- 9 'O' levels, 3 'A' levels – Aylesbury High School

OTHER INFORMATION

Research project : 'Seeing is Doing (and Believing)

'What neuroscience can tell us about the relationship between the moving body and the watcher, and how this might in future affect the relationship between society and dance as a performed artform'

Clore Leadership Programme Research Project supervised by Professor Helen Thomas, London College of Fashion

http://www.cloreleadership.org/cms/user_files/fellow_fellowship_research_projects_download_report/52/TGordziejko_Seeing_Is_Doing.pdf

Publications

Belonging and Unbelonging : The Cultural Purpose of Festivals Festivals in Focus, European Festivals Research Project 2015

Create the Physical : Imove and the Art of Human Movement Fields of Vision : The Arts in Sport, Leisure Studies Association 2013

The London 2012 Olympic Legacy and the wonder factor : implications for culture and the intrinsic versus instrumental debate Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events May 2012

Voluntary Committee and Trustee Roles

Chair of Red Ladder Theatre

BBC Governance and Accountability - Chair of the Regional Advisory Council for BBC North (Yorkshire) and member of the BBC English National Forum - reporting to the BBC Board of Governors, was part of the presentation team to Governors two years running (2003 & 2004)

Trustee of several arts organizations including Phoenix Dance Theatre, Jabadao Movement Agency