

BA (Hons) Acting

Sean Aita Senior Lecturer in Acting

Sean's professional acting career began at the Bristol Old Vic in *King Lear* with Graham Crowden. Highlights include appearing in Ingmar Bergmann's *Hamlet* at the National Theatre; working with Anthony Mingella in originating the role of Walter in one of his first plays *Two Planks and a Passion*; playing the title role in Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband* at the Westminster Theatre opposite Jeremy Sinden, and working in the West End musical *Buddy*.

Sean moved into directing by assisting at the Royal Opera House and English National Opera before starting his own company in London. He became associate director at the Royal Theatre Northampton, where he won the Checkout Theatre award for his play *Yallery Brown* co-produced with Forkbeard Fantasy, which subsequently transferred to Greenwich Theatre. He has had a twenty five year association with Vienna's English Theatre in Austria where he has written, adapted and directed work seen by over 200,000 people each year. As artistic director of regional touring theatre company Forest Forge, Sean was short-listed for the Stage Award for Achievement in Regional Theatre for his season of productions in 2005/06. At Forest Forge Sean produced the company's first ever international co-production with Theatre Newfoundland and Labrador, commissioning award winning writers Nell Leyshon and Robert Chafe.

As a writer Sean's play *Bin-it* won the live event category of the 2009 International Visual Communications Association Clarion awards recognising best practice in communicating the importance of CSR, sustainable development, social inclusion and ethical debate. Research interests include inter-cultural performance; theatre and rurality, and mediated performance.

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Publications

Aita, Sean (accepted for publication in 2010) Dance of the ubermarionettes. Towards a post-modern training for screen actors. in Nebesio, Bohdan and Taylor, Aaron *Screen acting; theory and philosophy*. Detroit. Wayne State University Press.

Aita, Sean (2009) Follow the leader: Group dynamics and leadership skill-sets in participatory projects. In Robinson, Sue (ed) *Mailout magazine* Sept/Oct/Nov 2009.

Aita, Sean (2009) A changing landscape. in *The Stage* Oct 15th 2009

Aita, Sean; Hulton, Dorinda; Ristic, Irena; Kock, Sabine (eds) (2009) *Theatre in times of war*. Vienna. IG interessengemeinschaft freie theaterarbeit.

Aita, Sean (2009) The theatre in language learning (TILL) model. Exploring theatre as pedagogy in the L2 Environment in Even, Susanne and Schewe, Manfred *Scenario: journal for drama and theatre in second language education* Volume 2008 issue 03

Aita, Sean (2008) Excellence or elitism? in Tait, Simon *AI arts industry magazine* Sept / issue 216/ pg 11

Aita, Sean (ed) (2008) *Three Plays for Rural Audiences*. Ringwood. Forest Forge Press

Aita, Sean (2008) A short cultural provocation in Prokop, Sabine *Gift: zeitschrift fur freies theater* Dec 08/Jan 09

Aita, Sean (2008) *A Perfect Match*. Vienna. BMBWK Federal ministry of education science and culture.

Aita, Sean (2006) United Kingdom: on the fringe of Europe? in Kock, Sabine and Haneder-Kultur, Maria *Visions and conditions in the field of independent/fringe/off theatre work in Europe*. Vienna. IG interessengemeinschaft freie theaterarbeit.