

BAFTA ROCLIFFE NEW WRITING SHOWCASE: TV COMEDY 2024

ZOOM WEBINAR
4PM – 6PM
WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2024

ANDY BRERETON



Andy is currently Senior Commissioning Editor in the Scripted Comedy team at Channel 4. Before joining Channel 4, Andy was co-Managing Director of Shiny Button Productions. The company produced scripted comedy shows *King Gary*, *Murder They Hope*, Amazon comedy film *Your Xmas or Mine* and Channel 4's *The Curse*. Prior to that he was Head of Development at Tiger Aspect, creating the BAFTA winning *Murder in Successville*,

as well as executive producing *Crackanory*, *Murder on the Blackpool Express* and *Drunk History*.

MEERA SYAL CBE

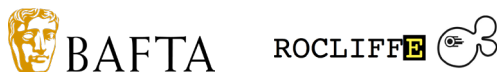


Meera Syal CBE is an award-winning British actress, comedian and writer. In 2023, she was presented with the BAFTA Fellowship at the BAFTA Television Awards with P&O Cruises, which is the highest accolade bestowed by BAFTA and recognises an outstanding contribution to the industry. Syal was also rewarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Women in Film & Television Awards 2023.

Syal's television credits as a writer & performer include the multi award-winning comedy series *Goodness Gracious Me* and *The Kumars at Number 42*, for which she received a BAFTA nomination. Syal can currently be seen in Amazon's *The Devil's Hour* and *The Wheel of Time*, and in the title role in Acorn's *Mrs Sidhu Investigates*. Other television credits include *The Split*, *Broadchurch*, *Back To Life* and *Code 404*. Her credits as a screenwriter include *Bhaji on the Beach*, *Anita and Me* and *My Sister Wife*, for which she won two Asian Film Awards.

Syal's first novel, *Anita and Me*, won the Betty Trask Award and is the first novel by a British Asian writer to be included on the national school's curriculum.

An online showcase of three TV Comedy script extracts by emerging UK writing talent, performed by a cast, and with feedback from industry guests.

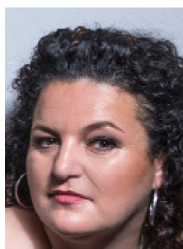


CAMILLA WHITEHILL



Camilla Whitehill is the writer & creator of the dark comedy *Big Mood* (Channel 4/ Tubi in the US). Prior credits include episodes of *Porters* (Dave), and some plays you've never heard of. She was a participant in the 2016 Channel 4 4Screenwriting scheme, and originally trained as an actor at the Birmingham School of Acting, graduating in 2012.

FARAH ABUSHWESHA (Moderator)



Farah is a BAFTA nominated producer who runs the BAFTA Rocliffe New Writing Competition, in partnership with BAFTA. Feature film credits include *Woken* by Alan Friel with Maxine Peake, Peter McDonald and Erin Kellyman; documentary *Justice for Magdalenes* backed by Screen Ireland and BFI Global Screen Fund; Netflix Original *Irreplaceable You* with Christopher Walken, Steve Coogan and Gugu Mbatha-Raw.

Additional film and TV credits include *The Last Photograph* with Danny Huston and Sarita Choudhury, Paramount series *Stags* starring Nico Mirallegro, Asim Chaudhry and Charlie Cooper, *No Return* by Danny Brocklehurst, *The Singapore Grip* by Christopher Hampton with Colm Meaney, Charles Dance and Jane Horrocks, and *The ABC Murders* starring John Malkovich and Rupert Grint with Mammoth Screen. She is the recipient of BFI Vision Award 2020 and an American Academy Gold Fellowship Finalist.

A huge thank you to our script selection panellists and judges. They include:

2024 JURY

ABDOU CISSÉ
Writer & Director

CHARLOTTE LEWIS
Head of Comedy, Objective Media

CLAIRE DOWNES
Writer

DAVE EVANS
Head of Development,
Balloon Entertainment

EMILY ALLEN
Commissioning Executive, Sky

EMILY JACOBS
Casting Director, KLS

EVA O'FLYNN
Development Executive, C4

JOHN OGUNMUYIWA
Writer & Director

KEVIN CECIL
Writer & Producer

MORWENNA GORDON
Executive Producer,
Expectation Entertainment

SARAH ASANTE
Commissioning Editor, UKTV

TANYA QURESHI
Head of Comedy, BBC

2024 PANEL

ANNA MORRIS
Actor & Writer

CJ ROCK
Associate Agent,
Casarotto Ramsay & Associates

CORIN SILVA
Actor

CORMAC FOX
Producer, Vico Films

EMILY WRAITH
Agent, Berlin Associates

GINA LYONS
Producer, Elevate Comedy

HUGH SACHS
Actor

IAN ARYEH
Director

JAMIE LEE O'DONNELL
Actor

JONATHAN PARRAMINT
Development Producer,
Derek Productions Ltd

KATIE SNAYDON
Agent, Gemma Hirst Associates

KELLY EMELLE
Development Coordinator,
Bonafide Films

LLOYD OYEFUWA
Development Assistant,
Eleven Film

LOUIS PAXTON
Writer & Director, Alumni

LULU BAKER
Script Editor, BBC

MADELEINE WRIGHT
Literary Assistant (Film/TV/
Stage Writers & Directors),
Independent Talent Group

PHIL ADIE
Agent, Nick Turner Management

ROXY COOK
Development Executive,
Paper Entertainment

SARAH MILLS
Writer & Performer, Alumni

SHERICE GRIFFITHS
Writer & Director, Alumni

SUSAN JACOBSON
Director, Pistachio Pictures

BAFTA Rocliffe patrons include: Christine Langan, Julian Fellows, John Madden, Mike Newell, Richard Eyre, David Parfitt, David Yates, Finola Dwyer, Michael Kuhn, Duncan Kenworthy, Rebecca O'Brien, Sue Perkins, John Bishop, Greg Brenner, Olivia Hetreed, Andy Patterson, Andy Harries, Christopher Hampton and Elizabeth Karlsen

BAFTA Producers

MYCA MILLMORE
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Rocliffe Producers

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Composers

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at [bafta.org](https://www.bafta.org)

BAFTA and Rocliffe request that attendees do not solicit industry guests with copies of their scripts, projects or CVs, or request contact details. BAFTA and Rocliffe cannot provide contact details of attendees.

FRONT OF HOUSE

by **RHIANNON SHAW**
Composer: **BEN PEARSON**

After being fired from her corporate job, a graduate finds work at her local theatre.

RHIANNON started writing sketches and character comedy while at university. After graduating, she won the opportunity to work with production company Turtle Canyon Media and began submitting to open call radio shows, which eventually led to her writing for *The News Quiz*, *The Now Show*, *Have I Got News For You* and *Late Night Mash*. In 2022, she won the David Nobbs Memorial Trust New Comedy Writing competition with her debut sitcom pilot. In 2023, she debuted at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe with her one-woman show, *Wedding Night*.

She grew up in Wolverhampton and now lives in London.

HELL'S BELLES

by **CAROLYN SAUNDERS & SEAN STEVENSON**
Composer: **BEN PEARSON**

A mouthy medieval nun, determined to defy the patriarchy, leads a disgruntled sisterhood in an audacious plot to bust out of the convent.

CAROLYN AND SEAN are a mother & son writing team whose ability to laugh at life's absurdities comes from years in a cramped single parent household. Their writing's thematic throughline is class and gender inequality.

Sean studied acting at Rose Bruford College. He wrote a comedy short, now at festivals, and does improv as half of the troupe Two Assholes. Carolyn wrote doc series, including Amazon's *Ted Bundy: Falling for a Killer*, until winning the WGC's Sonda Kelly Award. The Meryl Street Writer's Lab encouraged her to move into scripted, writing two shorts and episodes of a comedy webseries about inclusion riders.

MISGUIDED

by **CARYS THOMAS**
Composer: **BEN PEARSON**

When 16 year-old Rhiannon faces a school scandal, her at-a-loss single dad Mark makes her join the local Girl Guides group to straighten her out.

CARYS is a writer from Cardiff, living and working in London. She began screenwriting in 2020 when a comedy script she wrote with her sister reached the top 50 of the BBC Interconnected submission, which received a record 6,803 entries. Carys has been selected for the All3Media & Edinburgh Television Festival New Writer's Collective, featured in Philip Shelley's script library, and has written and directed short films that have screened at festivals worldwide. Carys' passion is screenwriting, but she's also published short stories and won awards for her commercial work.



RHIANNON SHAW



CARYS THOMAS



CAROLYN SAUNDERS



SEAN STEVENSON

CAST

ALICE NOKES
Independent Talent Group

JONNY WELDON
Hatch Talent

ANGUS IMRIE
Insight Management & Production

MEGAN RICHARDS
Curtis Brown

CAVAN CLERKIN
Independent Talent Group

CHARLOTTE RILEY
Conway van Gelder Grant

CORINNA BROWN
42MP

JESSICA GUNNING
Markham, Froggatt & Irwin

2024 SHORTLISTED WRITERS

All writers can be contacted via office@rocliffe.com

ABIGAIL WEINSTOCK – TATTY:
When the patriarch becomes terminally ill, the dysfunctional members of a blended 'Jew-ish' family must battle it out to determine who will finally get their way, and who must pay the ultimate price.

ALYA SOLIMAN & STEVE KEYWORTH – BAD ARABS:
A comedy following three twenty-something women as they navigate being British and Middle Eastern - and everything in between.

AMELIA PITCHER – POLES:
An abrasive, self-obsessed, hot young woman snowballs through her 20's while working as a stripper, doing her best to outrun consequences, life decisions, loneliness, and the pressure to have it all figured out.

CALLUM SANDERS-LOAT – MOVING FORWARD:
Lost 34 year-old Dalia is struggling to move forward with her life - and things only get more complicated when her newly-single traditional Indian mother suddenly moves into her flatshare.

JAMES DAVIS – THE PONTY PIGEON:
In a dead-end Welsh Valleys town, 16 year-old Sinead, a wannabe investigative journalist, decides to intern at the Ponty Pigeon - a hyper-local, hyper-Welsh newspaper operated by two deluded old men.

JOSHUA LINGARD-SMITH – ACTING UP:
When everyone thinks you're an upstanding pillar of the community but deep down you're actually a bit of a lazy degenerate. Yeah, that.

KELSEY STEWART – AUTOMATRONS:
In 2043, in St Lemons Hospital, Bristol, the last remaining human nurses fulfil a diversity requirement for an android-run NHS - and try to do their jobs.

MATTHEW FARTHING – LOST CAUSE:
A washed-up, middle-aged actress with a history of revolving-door rehab stints tries one last time to revitalise her career after burning every bridge she has.

MIRANDA HOLMS – SERENITY SPRINGS:
A penny-pinching divorcee is summoned home to care for his extravagant mother, only to get trapped as manager of her crumbling wellness centre.

BAFTA Rocliffe Alumni include: Claire Peate – *The Colour Room*, Sky, Ryan Brown – *Wrecked*, BBC, Karen Cogan – *Bad Sisters*, ITV, Ameir Brown – *Champion*, BBC, Javid Rezai – *Dodo*, Sky, Tony Cooke – *Molly and Mack*, BBC, Zu Quirke – *Nocturne*, Amazon, Daniel Brierly – *Trigger Point*, ITV, Tom Moran – *The Devil's Hour*, Amazon Prime, Kayleigh Llewellyn – *In My Skin*, BBC, Claire Wilson – *Rocks*, Netflix & *The Power*, Amazon Prime, Amanda Duke – *Treason*, Netflix and Mariama Ives-Moiba – *Nova Jones*, CBBC & *Root and Fruits*, CBeebies