



Debra Mulholland

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Introduction.

Profile.

A hard working, versatile, creative individual, Debra Mulholland has solid practical experience in all aspects of producing, directing, teaching, creating and forming companies in the performing arts sector.

Having spent the last thirty years studying and experimenting across most forms of theatre, she sees a project through from concept to completion. She has created shows which break new ground in established theatrical forms.

Deb is an educator as well as a practitioner. Seeing a need for training opportunities, within the Amsterdam international acting community, she forged a legacy with a film acting studio.

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Education:

Theatrical Education.

- **Actors Institute.** Foundation course in Acting. London. 1986
- **London Improvisation.** Theatre-sports. 1986-1990
- **Ecole Jacques Lecoq International.** Paris 1991-1992
- **Meisner Technique.** Jacqueline McClintock. *Mulholland Film acting.* 2009-2012
- **Shakespeare.** Colin Reese. Actress. First folio. *Badhaus theatre.* 2012
- **Multi media.** Sound sensor, (Lisa), creating site-specific art space, and interactive participating object art insulations. *Felix Meritz. Summer school.* 2008
- **Shadow play.** *Ostade theater.* 2008
- **Movement with Objects.** Clair Heggen. *Ostade theater.* 2006
- **Finding Shakespeare through movement.** **Lorna Marshal.** Yoshi Oida theatre. 2006
- **Japanese Movement and Improvisation.** Tapa Sudana. *Peter Brook theatre.* 2006
- **Where Business @ theatre meet.** *Felix Meritis.* Phelim McDermot 2003
- **Shakespeare. Text acting, for Camera.** *Judith Weston. Felix Meritis.* 2002



2019 – 2023

Deb has been working as an administrator for Studio on the Square, working in the retail shop and teaching Art in an afternoon program for children aged between 7 and 11yrs. Whilst working for Studio on the Square she has created programs and events, hosted and participated.

Acting and producing.

Since returning to N.Z in 2017 Deb has performed at Centrepint theatre with the National improvisation group 'Spontaneous' who are based in Palmerston North.

She co-produced 'An improvised Christmas Carol' with them in 2019.

She co-wrote and directed a comedic one-man adaptation of 'King Lear' which was performed at Square Edge FX theatre in 2020.

Deb has an agent in Wellington who sends her on auditions for acting jobs (Pro-actors).

Since arriving home, Deb began to teach art classes to children part time, and works on a part time basis as Arts Administrator for 'Studio on the Square'.

The part time nature of this work, allows her the freedom allows to pursue her Arts passion. She has taught Meisner technique masterclasses for Young and Hungry, and for Hastings youth theatre. Deb has also mentored and given Meisner masterclasses at Victoria University students in the MFA in theatre Directing program.



*Deb has been invited to teach at the N.Z drama conference,
to be held in Hastings Sept 2023. She has also acted in various musicals, films, commercial
T.V shows. She has acted in various musicals, films, commercials and t.v shows in the past
years.*

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Theater. Writing. Directing, Producing.

2020.

Earless the fearless.

Square Edge FX theatre.

A one-man comedic adaptation of 'King Lear'

Palmerston North.

2019.

A Christmas Carol.

In association with Centrepoint theatre.



Basement theatre.

A devised and Improvised Christmas show.

Spontaneous Improv troupe.

Palmerston North.

2016

Director:

Dead days.

For Young and Hungry. New writer's festival.

Performing at Bats theatre. Wellington.

Director

Cyrano De Bergerac.

A one-man show - comedy.

An adaptation.

Mime, movement and object theatre.

Picked up by agents and now playing at festivals, and schools through out Holland.

2015.

Co-writer/Director.

Earless- the fearless

A one-man show - comedy.



An adaptation of Shakespeare's '**King Lear**' told by the fool.

Mime, movement and object theatre.

Picked up by agents and now playing in Shakespeare 'pop up theaters', festivals and schools through out Holland.

Le Petite festival

Dubrovnik. Croatia.

Sleeping Beauty.

An adaptation of the fairytale. Combining the theme of the 2015 festival

'Healing the earth'. The children of Dubrovnik and I re-write the story together.

This show has built over the last few years to now become the headline of the festival.

2014

Director. 'North lights.

An adaptation of a 1949 radio play for the theatre. **Radio Horror theatre.**

Transforming a radio show into a live performance for audiences.

Performing many times in differing theatres throughout Holland.

Le Petite festival

Dubrovnik. Croatia.

Snow white and her superheroes.

An adaptation of the fairytale. Combining the theme of the festival 'Forgiveness'.



2013

Director.

Let Petite festival

Dubrovnik. Croatia.

Which way to witch school'.

An adaptation of the children's story 'Combining the theme for the festival.
'The beauty of Women'.

Object theatre.

1995 - today

Ode to Mummenschanz.

The seven-minute performance piece was created for the Wellington International Fringe Festival in 1995. It has performed at festivals, theatres, and opens corporate functions, art galleries, museums and many more differing forms of function around the world. It has featured on CNN, TV New Zealand, and won the Rotterdam International Street theater's 'People's choice award'. This show is still being performed.



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Film/Theatre/Education

Mulholland Academy:

A study for film and theatre, acting.

Since... 2010. Owner.

Creative director, Producer, director, teacher

All relevant details on the Mulholland Academy site.

Working toward creating excellence in actor training.

An International school, with students coming from all over the world to train.

Hosting a film and writing retreat once every year or two, in a differing location.

Italy, Mallorca, Poland.

Miss Money Penny movies: Producing and directing.

Personal story telling.

Film. We write and film the story with the client.

The Department of Acting: was a workshop that was set up in **2001** and became the 'Mulholland Academy in **2010**. The new Academy offers



a wider range of disciples for the pre-professional, and professional actor.

I am now a consultant for the Academy, it is in the hands of past colleagues and friends who manage and run it.

Actress/Director/Producer/Writer

Flight.

A One women comedic theatre play. 2000

Actor/Producer/writer. Director: Lee Simpson (Improbable theatre, Comedy store player)

Off your head.

An improvisation show.

1995 - 2001 A 'short form comedy show,' performing for an international audience weekly

S'carrie.

Writer/Producer/ Director.

A short film made to commemorate the anniversary of the film 'Carrie'.



Teaching.

Teaching for the Mulholland Academy, and invited Master classes around the world.

Each year I direct the Master class in Performance for the Academy, and

I am invited to give Meisner technique-acting classes around the world.

I teach - movement, mime, improvisation, sketch, clown, Meisner, adapting stories, classical play's, On-Camera acting, devising, street theatre, site specific, and some Shakespeare. I also mentor students.

Skills:

* Producing/Directing/Teaching

- Creative vision
- Collaboration
- Consultation with clients to - realizing their vision
- Organization
- Administration



- Theatre/Film/performance maker
 - Management (volunteers & employees)
 - Business development
 - Creativity
 - Events planning and delivery
 - Team working
 - Performing
 - Building and sustaining effective partnerships.
- * And Directing an acting studio

Below is a more in-depth description of my range, projects I have created, been part of, and have been commissioned to make.

Theatre and film knowledge.

Directing, consultancy, producing, lighting design, sound design, stage design, management, casting, costume design, mentoring and teaching.



Theatre and film styles and forms:

Transforming/adaptation, storytelling, personal stories, classic, and contemporary plays, commedia delle-arte, mask and puppet theatre, street theatre, sketch, improvisation, stand-up comedy, shadow theatre, object theatre, projections, small stage, site specific, short movie making, writing short sketches, plays, films, and commercials.

Corporate consultation and collaboration

Collaborating with clients to create new experiences. Creating new ways of working or exploring... some projects achieved are theme-based performances, corporate plays, role-play situations, conflict resolution, cabaret, and teambuilding workshops. Some of which are very successful, playing out for years, and employing more trainers... sold to differing companies adapting to their needs. The writing and creation are always in collaboration with the client. The content often comes about based on a number of internal needs... International conference themes, business core values, internal conflicts, evenings of entertainment, staff functions, role play situations with management and staff, (training management) and creating team building concepts.



The concrete conclusions to some of these collaborations.

Creating a Show - I created this concept/structure and then successfully sold it to many companies. Its simple story telling allowed us to go into differing businesses and organizations, and after consulting and collaborating with them, finding their themes, (or conflicts) and ways of working we were able to create a show, with company content.

Between two to six facilitators workshop participants, depending on how many people are in the conference. Sometimes up to 100 participants.

Each facilitator working with 15-20 participants at a time.

The workshop situation culminates in a performance/cabaret situation.

Adapting the companies, or group's personal situations, or experiences.

This structure brings out the natural ability in participants, throwing them into a role they naturally excel at.

The participants make the show... each team becomes the actors, writers and directors.

A high-powered experience of devising and performing a piece of theatre based on



company themes in two to three hours work shopping, and making an hour's dinner and cabaret event. A theatre-based workshop tailor made to suit the company needs. A fun experience learning, training and developing. Teamwork. Focusing on company themes and issues A company celebration.

Creating art object installations, street theatre performances, and site-specific events for corporate clients.

Clients:

Liberty Global.

Dinner event.

International launch of their new brand.

Creative director, concept, and maker.

1. **Object art** performance piece with shadow play and actors.
2. **Projection** with interactive actors

Eight hundred executives worldwide came together to celebrate the launch



of the new brand. I was commissioned to make two new shows based on the clients work life and journey to the event.

Two shows were created.

Delft University.

700-year anniversary of Delft city.

Creating a study program, for International students, and creating two street theatre shows.

1. Not in our backyard now

2. Shoot

Delft University firstly invited me to create a '**theatrical summer school**' program for both their Dutch and International summer school students. I created two programs for them. Employing ten teachers, each bringing a specific expertise to the actor-training program.

During our consultation and collaboration, the head of the department and I discussed the upcoming city celebrations, and the idea of presenting Delft city a gift from the University.

The student committee accepted my two pitches, and I went on to create **two street shows.**

With the Dutch students I created a show called.. '**Not in my backyard now**'.



A look at the connection the Dutch had with Africa at the turn of the last century, and how that had become sustainable and into the now. I researched and found a book called, 'the heart of darkness', following the story of an accountant who had boarded a ship in Holland and traveled down the jungle banks of Africa. We recreated the story. Using African beat boxers, and local designers and artist to create an abstract structure, which transformed the locations, from the past into the present.

The second show with the international students was to become such a huge success it opening the 700-year week-long festival. The show was a film action movie. 'Shoot', a real film crew filming a make-believe film crew, filming an action sequence of a movie. This was a slapstick comedy with a 'custom made car', that 'caught fire, and blew up (pyrotechnics).

Foam Art Gallery.

Amsterdam English Writers association.

Celebrating 800 years of 'Gothic literature'

A site-specific performance in the 'library' of the Foam gallery.

A short original play was written and performed for the event.

'On a dreary night in November'

Bringing Mary, Shelley, Byron and Frankenstein to life, we relive a moment of horror.



A comedy.

Creating Corporate workshops for clients:

Nike

Conflict management workshop.

A workshop created to train managers. Differing 'crisis' situations with staff and customers were created. Facilitators then led a 'solutions'-based discussion with the managers to strengthen their working practices.

ING bank/Abn Amro take over

Writing a show with the clients.

A hostile takeover put both banks in a situation where they were unwilling to work with each other. On the merge day, my comedy partner and I performed a show written with the managers of Abn amro. A welcome gift. We took the basic story and structure from the movie Slum millionaire and created a dark comedy based on the 'pain points' of both banks.

Green peace

Conflict resolution.



Training managers and heads of departments.

In a discussion with clients, it became clear one their main points of conflict was often on ships out at sea with a mix of technicians, scientists and crew. Often the scientist was in a position to want to take on an authority role while unable to actually communicate A workshop situation was created to help managers from differing departments role-play interventions, going through a series of possible conflicts and finding solutions. A set of role-plays were set up with actors and a discussion to set 'rules of communication' between departments.

NS. Dutch National train service.

Creating a Show - The participants make the show... as above.

Two-year contract. Three times a week. Working with all departments

of the NS over the whole of Holland. All departments from CEO are to train drivers.

United Nations

Crossing boundaries.

Creating a Show - The participants make the show... as above.

Charities (red cross, etc.) coming together to find solutions for the future of humanitarian aid. Where a charity would usually be called upon to help



in natural disasters, now finding themselves in war torn countries,
helping in relief but also called upon to set up refugee camps.

Creating boundaries for 'Christian aid' groups... new rules discussed,
and put into practice.

ING bank International.

Creating a show...

Three-year contract. Once a month.

Each month 100 staff members from all over the world gathered for a
weeklong conference. At the end of the conference, six of us come in
to work with the participants on our 'Creating a show/cabaret' concept. I
t was supposed to be a secret, but became so successful.

Groups would write their scenes on the airplane over.

Doctors without borders.

Creating a show... as above

Working with doctors in preparation of going into war torn countries.

Role-play and theatre-based conflict resolution.

Creating a show... As above.

AMC Hospital, Scientist training careers.



The world café situation... facilitating and performance.

Helping young scientists look at the differing options available to them in terms of their career path.

More companies worked for.

Shell, Ernst and Young, Mars, The Netherlands National bank, Phillips, IMB... and many more.

My work.

I have not included all of my work here. Some of my most memorable achievements are here. I have worked for differing corporate companies in many different capacities all over the world.

My acting resume, admin, or any in-depth time frames for making, or budgets breakdowns are included here.

This resume is a representation of some of my own, producing, corporate work, my school, and some shows I have created.



Thank you.

I have included my most recent reference.

If you need anything more, please do not hesitate to ask.

Email: Primary: Deb.M.Mulholland@gmail.com

www.MulhollandAcademy.com

Again, thank you for your time, patience and attention.

Best wishes

Deb Mulholland