

Jon Whitten

JonWhitten@hotmail.co.uk

JonWhitten.com

+44 7806 676 863

CORE EXPERIENCE

Writer/Composer/Performer for 'Daphnis Rising' 2014

JON WHITTEN (PROD. ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND AND WORBOYS PRODUCTIONS)

Premiered at the Junction, Cambridge, this show will tour nationally in 2015

- An immersive, one-hander adventure story, weaving together song, poetry and prose
- For audiences aged 15+

Tom Snout/Band Leader/ Musician for 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' 2014

DEAFINITELY THEATER

After the sell out success of Love's Labours Lost, Deafinitely return to London's Globe Theatre

- "Superb production" - *Ed Vaizey, UK Minister for Culture, Communications & Creative Industries*
- "Delightfully innovative" **** - *Laura Seymore, Exeunt Magazine*
- "Unique and delightful", "A ridiculous, riotous farce." ****(*) - *Cavelle Leigh, The Public Review*

Musical Director/Composer for 'Kidnapped' 2014

SELL A DOOR THEATRE

(Premiered at The Greenock Theater, Scotland, currently on a 97 date international tour to include Hackney Empire, Windsor's Theatre Royal and Eastwood Park Theatre)

- "the songs instantly giving a flavour of 17th century Scotland" – *The Stage*
- "a stroke of genius" – *Croydon Radio*
- "the cast belting out a song... as if they were a punk-folk ceilidh combo in full pelt" ****– *Scotland Herald*

Composer/Musical Director/Producer for 'The Heads' 2012 - 2013

BLIND SUMMIT THEATER

(Premiered at the Soho Theater on the 16th of January 2013)

- "musical accompaniment that gives the effect of a silent film" – *Lyn Gardner, Guardian*
- "beautiful magic" – *Big Issue*
- "offers a new perspective on puppetry" – *Total Theatre*

FURTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Dulcimerist and Ukulelian 2014 – Present

SAM LEE & FRIENDS

Various venues and festivals across the UK and internationally

- Playing Yang Chin dulcimer and tenor ukulele for this Mercury Award nominated group
- "The Band whittle folk in wonderful shapes, giving a flavour of 70's krautrock, while hints of disco and bluegrass added brilliant backing to Lee's Baritone" – *Jude Rogers, Guardian*

Contributing Composer/Performer 2014

INTERNAL: MUSIC FOR DISSOLVING (ALBUM)

- Released by Sounds True
- Produced by Jamie Catto and Alex Forster

Composer/Performer for 'Ok, So Does Everybody Know What They're Doing?' 2013

TOM PENN

(Premiered at The Junction Theatre, Cambridge)

- Composer/Performer for ‘All the Sea’ (Research and Development)** 2013
HERRICK AND FRANKS
(Week long residence at Chipping Norton Theatre)
- Classical Guitarist for ‘Dulce Napoli’** 2013
CHARLES CASTRONOVO
(Performed at The King’s Head Theatre, Islington)
- ***** – The Independent.
- Composer/Performer for ‘The Rift Zone’ (Research And Development)** 2012
NIGHT LIGHT THEATRE
(Two week residence at Junction Theatre, Cambridge. Full show premiered at the New Diorama this year)
- Contributing Composer/On-Stage Musician /Actor for ‘Love’s Labours Lost’** 2012
DEAFINITELY THEATER
(Premiered at the Globe Theater as part of the Globe to Globe festival, and thereafter taken on a four-week national tour)
- **** – Lucy Howard, Guardian
 - “What made this production work, for me, was the music. Perfectly judged, witty and expertly played” – A Younger Theatre
 - “a complete triumph” – The Arts Desk
- Composer/On-Stage Musician for ‘Not Known at This Address’** 2012
TIN BOX THEATRE
(National Tour over November and December 2012)
- Puppeteer** 2012
LONDON OLYMPIC OPENING CEREMONY
- Controlling the head of a nineteen meter Voldemort puppet
- Composer/On-Stage Musician for ‘Dreams from a Bombshell’** 2012 – Present
SILENT SHOUT THEATER IN ASSOCIATION WITH TAMASHA THEATER
(Premiered at the Rich Mix Theater as part of the Small World/Global Ties festival, substantially reworked twice in 2013, first for The Old Print Works in Birmingham then for a private showing in The Old Livesy Museum. Development is ongoing)
- Composer/Performer for ‘The Night Pirates’** 2012 – 2013
NIGHT LIGHT THEATER
- Composer for ‘Free Fall’** 2011
PLAYTHINGS THEATRE
(This new play by award-winning author Vinay Patel premiered at the White Bear Theater)
- Artistic Director** 2011 – Present
CROSS CULTURAL ACOUSTIC VARIETY SHOW (Bi-Monthly Concert Series)
- Contributing Composer/Lead Vocalist** 2009
AEON ZEN (Band)
- Various composing credits on 2009 album *A Mind’s Portrait*, called ‘debut album of the year’ by Progression Magazine
 - Lead Vocalist 2007-2008
- Director, Conductor and Composer** 2009 – Present
JMT (New Music Ensemble)

Musical Director/Composer/On-Stage Musician for ‘Quest for the Divine Bottle’ 2007

BABOLIN THEATER CO.

(Premiered at the Bedlam Theater as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, also performed at The Robinson Theater)

- Also providing musical and compositional consulting for the company’s 2008, 2009 and 2011 Edinburgh shows

SELECTED UPCOMING PROJECTS

Composer/Musical Director for ‘Tantalus’ 2014

TPEIΣ ΣΑΤΥΡΟΙ (THREE SATYRS)

A new large scale ballet for seven dancers, string orchestra and soloists

Project Co-Director/Programmer 2014

PLAYING GOD

Applying the computerised optimisation methods of genetic algorithms and back propagated neural networks to raw sound in order to evolve the perfect music. A public-access exploration and education project (PRS funding pending)

Contributing Composer/On-Stage Musician for ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ 2014

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RELEVANT SKILLS

- Grade 8 Classical Singing (Distinction)
- National Youth Choir (2006 – 2010)
- Studied Classical Baritone and Counter Tenor under Russell Smythe of the Royal Academy
- Complete Fluency in guitar & piano performance
- Programming experience in C, C++, Python, HTML and CSS
- Holder of a British Judo Association Brown Belt
- Spoken and written Indonesian
- Strong foundation in British Sign Language and South American Spanish

I also play several non-western instruments:

Name	Origin	Description
Khagara	Mongolia	A style of west Mongolian Throat-Singing that creates an extremely low, rich tone. It’s been compared to having ‘a mouthful of sound’
Yang Chin	Mongolia	A 42-tone Hammer Dulcimer, traditionally played by one person but which works extremely well as a group instrument
Baglama	Turkey	Like a long-necked Guitar/Mandolin cross with quarter-tone frets
Gamelan	Java and Bali	A Gamelan is an Indonesian orchestra, comprising up to 30 people, in which parts range from extremely slow and straightforward to mind-bendingly fast & complex
Gender Wayang	Bali	A chamber form of Gamelan involving two or four people playing fragmented, simple parts which interlock to become bounding, energetic melodies
Tenor Ukulele	Hawaii	Like a guitar, but smaller and with only four strings – a much richer tone than the more common alto version
