

# LAURENCE OWEN

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## Education

2018 - 2021, **University of Leeds, BA Theatre and Performance, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours**

Performance Perspectives, Stage Management, Interpreting Theatre History and Performance, Theatre Directing, Creative Practices, Interpreting Theatre And Performance Histories, Performance Design, Collaborative Project, Social Choreography, Independent Practice, Business And Enterprise, Independent Research Project.

**Awards:** Outstanding Achievement; Best Independent Research Project

2014 - 2016, **Bilborough College**

Theatre Studies (A\*), Creative Writing (A\*), Computing (A)

2009 - 2014, **Alderman White School**

11 GCSES, Grade A\*-B

## Relevant Degree Project Work

2021, **Independent Research Project - Undergraduate Dissertation**

- Undertook autoethnographic research examining the processes of cultural interpretation that go into playing self-authored LGBTQIA+ characters in Table-Top Roleplaying Games (TTRPGs).
- Conducted a literature review of historical queer representation in TTRPG literature and community practices.

Skills Developed: Autoethnographic Research, Academic Scholarship and Conventions, Historiography

2021, **Independent Practice – Some Other Mirror**

- Wrote, produced, performed, designed and operated audio-visuals for an online one-man show, about coming to terms with my trans identity, during the first lockdown of COVID-19.
- Synthesised personal experiences, and contemporary theories of trans identity, to create a script that intersected the private with the political.
- Innovated using Zoom's videoconferencing platform, to create digital aesthetics of isolation that supported the narrative themes of the piece.
- This piece has expanded over the past 3 years into a live-action version, receiving 4\* reviews at The Edinburgh Fringe. The latest version was professionally filmed in 2022 [\[Click here to watch\]](#).

Skills Developed: Playwriting, Theatrical Production R&D, Production Design

2019, **Performance Project 1 – Endings (Our House)** [\[Click here to watch it.\]](#)

- Lead Sound Technician on an immersive theatre experience.
- Designed an audio system that routed different channels of sound to different sets of wireless headphones, through QLab.
- Systematized logistics of show into a paper handout. Handout co-ordinated cast and crew, and allowed show to run smoothly.

Skills Developed: Audio Engineering, QLab programming, Sound Operation, documentation.

## Relevant Work History

2022- Present, **Organising Committee** – Robin Hood International Improv Festival

- Organise attendee experience and social activities for an international improv comedy festival.
- Hire local businesses and negotiate contracts to provide food and drink discounts for attendees.
- Organise social activities like tours and meetups to help attendees make friends, network, and feel included in the festival community.
- Provide on-site support during the festival, meeting/greeting visiting artists, stage management, welfare support, and customer service. Over 100 people travel to participate, every year.

Skills Developed: Google Suite, Slack, Customer Experience, Customer Service, Contracting, Events Management

2023- Present, **Co-Producer** – Club Wormhole Alternative Comedy

- Key member of organising team for monthly showcase of alternative comedians from around the UK. This involves contributing to writing the show, hiring acts, and backstage/production tasks.
- Responsible for ensuring regular meetings are convened to ensure the quality of each show and the expectations of each member of the team are clear, as each month, production tasks rotate.
- Keep the content of the show interesting by researching comedy formats that are adjacent, such as late night talk shows, and staying aware to new trends in comedy taking place internationally.

Skills Developed: Producing, Production Management, Creative Writing, Stage Management,

2023- Present, **Trans Voice Workshop Leader**, Nottingham Playhouse

- Researched and developed a novel approach to transgender voice therapy, incorporating improvisational theatre and Speech and Language Therapy.
- Use Canva, Mailchimp, and Facebook Advertising, to create reels, graphics, mailshots, and SEO-optimised content to advertise the workshops on social media to a monthly schedule.
- Act as liaison between NHS services, Notts Trans Hub (a local charity for transgender people) and Nottingham Playhouse.
- All workshops booked up in advance, with exceptional feedback from participants.

Skills Developed: Producing, Workshop Leadership, Social Media Campaign Management,

2021- Present, **Administrator** – University of Nottingham

- Co-ordinate events aimed at students, visiting academics, and beneficiaries. I book rooms, order catering, and ensure videoconferencing technologies are working.
- Perform Secretariat duties such as meeting scheduling, setting agendas, minute taking.
- Process expense claims with adherence to institutional financial policy.
- Book travel and accommodation for visitors to the School.
- Manage relationships with suppliers of goods to the School. I ensure spends are approved, and invoices are paid on time.
- Use relevant software packages and programming languages to achieve daily tasks: Excel, Word, Outlook, Contensis CMS, Agresso Accounting, and IrfanView. I also automate processes using PowerAutomate, Powershell, Visual Basic and Python.

Skills Developed: Advanced Office 365 Skills, Secretariat Duties, Accounting, Web Content Management, Events Management, Supplier Relationships, Financial Management, Programming

2021, **Immersive Technology Artist** – Leeds International Piano Competition, Contract

- Developed interactive, educational web-app that teaches basic piano improvisation skills.
- Used HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and Twine, to create a low-resources, platform-agnostic product, and adhered to ARIA guidelines to ensure the product was screen-reader accessible.
- Taught myself basic piano, music theory, and music history, from scratch.

Skills Developed: JAMStack Web Development, User Experience, Research.

2020 – 2021, **Remote Videoconference/Livestream Technician, Freelance, International**

- Specialist in Zoom meetings/Webinars, StreamYard, Restream.
- Manage technical aspects of videoconferences for workshop facilitators and online events.

Skills Developed: Livestreaming Production, Virtual 'Floor Management', Videoconference Technology

**Interests and Achievements**

**Improv Comedy** – I perform comedy with improv group 'MissImp'. Every show, I get on stage with a group of performers, and, based on audience suggestions, we improvise a 30 minute sketch show.

**Foraging and Herbalism** – I have an interest in identifying local plants, and their medicinal and spiritual significance in human culture and folklore.

**References**

Personal Tutor: Amelia Knowlson, [A.Knowlson@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:A.Knowlson@leeds.ac.uk) +44(0)113 343 8717

Current Employer: Helen Fox, [Helen.Fox@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Helen.Fox@nottingham.ac.uk)