

## PETER MCALLISTER

**Job title**

Senior Lecturer, Acting

**Email**

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### COURSES

Acting, BA  
Research Degrees (PhD)

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### PROFILE

I'm an acting teacher and a theatre director. I'm Senior Lecturer on the three-year [Acting, BA](#) degree where I teach a range of classes based on the work of Stanislavsky, Michael Chekhov, Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler, Uta Hagen and Susan Batson, and a number of projects based on 19th Century Russian Realism, 20th Century American Poetic Realism and 20th Century British Social Realism.

I began my career as assistant director to the British theatre and film director, Lindsay Anderson. In 1983 I was awarded a British Council / Polish Government scholarship to study directing in Poland where I was attached to Andrzej Wajda's celebrated production of *Antygona*. On my return to the UK I directed the British premiere of Sławomir Mrożek's *A Summer's Day*.

I taught acting at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow where I was a Lecturer in Acting and Direction. While in Scotland I became a founder member of the Scottish classical touring company, Theatre Babel, for whom I directed six productions *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *Julius Caesar*, *A Doll's House*, *Macbeth* and *King Lear*.

I was Course Coordinator of the BA in Acting Studies at the Samuel Beckett Centre, Trinity College, Dublin, where I ran the first acting degree course in Ireland. While in Dublin I taught masterclasses at the International Theatre Festival, and worked as a voice coach at the Abbey Theatre on their productions of *Asylum! Asylum!*, *The Doctor's Dilemma* and *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme*.

Since May 2000 I have taught acting at Central and directed the following public productions: *Vassa Zheleznova* by Maxim Gorky, *Stars in the Morning Sky* by Alexander Galin, *Barbarians* by Maxim Gorky, *Absolute Hell* by Rodney Ackland, and *Music Lessons* by Ludmila Petrushevskaya.

My main research interests are in the work of Stanislavsky, Michael Chekhov, Richard Boleslavsky and their American successors. I trained in the Method with Professor Edward Greer of Syracuse University, and participated in the teacher training programme of the Michael Chekhov Studio led by his original students from Dartington.

I coach actors professionally for theatre and film, and I am on the advisory board of 'Stanislavsky in the 21st Century' led by Professor Sharon Marie Carnicke, author of the groundbreaking *Stanislavsky in Focus*. I am one of only two qualified instructors in the Perdekamp Emotional Method (PEM) in the UK.

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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- Acting Classes
- Scene Study
- Characterisation
- Directing Projects / Productions
- PhD Supervision
- Acting Methodologies
- Acting and Actor Training

## PHD SUPERVISION

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To date, I have supervised one PhD thesis to completion:

Reeves, Rebecca (2020). *Character 'under erasure': a Stanislavskian approach to post-dramatic theatre-making*.

## KEY PUBLICATIONS

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2018. '*Lee Strasberg's Method*', *Stanislavski Studies*, 6.1, 105-110. ISSN 2056-7790

## EXTERNAL PRACTICE

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2007: *Stars in the Morning Sky* by Alexander Galin, Jagged Fence Productions - Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, London

2004: *A Doll's House* by Ibsen, Theatre Babel - Perth Theatre; Nuffield Theatre, Southampton; National Chiang Kai-Shek Cultural Center, Taipei, Taiwan; Citizens Theatre, Glasgow; Oxford Playhouse

1999: *King Lear* by Shakespeare, Theatre Babel - Dundee Rep and UK Tour

1997: *Macbeth* by Shakespeare, Theatre Babel - Tron Theatre, Glasgow, and UK Tour

1997: *A Doll's House* by Ibsen, Theatre Babel - Citizens Theatre, Glasgow, and UK Tour

1996: *Julius Caesar* by Shakespeare, Theatre Babel - Citizens Theatre, Glasgow, and UK Tour

1995: *Hamlet* by Shakespeare, Theatre Babel - Citizens Theatre, Glasgow, and UK Tour

1994: *Twelfth Night* by Shakespeare, Theatre Babel - Tron Theatre, Glasgow, and Tour

1985: *A Summer's Day* by Sławomir Mrożek, POSK - Polish Theatre, Hammersmith, London

## REGISTER OF INTEREST

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Nothing to declare.