

Why is so difficult to get into theatre? Why do producers and directors feel that only people who have been through Drama School should get a look in? Why doesn't theatre tackle difficult subjects as well as jukebox musicals?

That's what I want to do.

Theatre needs to be relevant and have some sort of message as well as being driven by story. I am a great fan of new writing also, one of my favourite playwrights is Simon Stephens and I am a supporter of the Bush Theatre as well as the Royal Court.

I have just finished my first foray into writing for the theatre and loved it. It allowed me to write the sort of play I want to see.

As for my own direct theatre experience I have only been in two amateur productions, both with the Staines Musical Theatre Group. One was a murder mystery which doesn't really count but the second was "Cabaret" where I was part of the background cast and also sang "Tomorrow belong to me". I enjoyed the experience but realised that taking a centre stage role is not what I want to do. I know that I don't have a theatre background, haven't been to Drama School and wasn't part of a Drama Society at university – for some people I am sure that is a turn off so why should you take a risk on me?

My short period of work experience at The Lyric, Hammersmith gave me some insight into the diverse roles that exist inside a theatre company. It showed me that my skills in IT, Web site design, event management, negotiation, talent identification, team development, training delivery, recruitment, organizational change management, delivering presentations, consultancy, coaching, mentoring, contracts management, vendor management, procurement, scheduling, project management, interviewing, customer expectation management, inter-personal skills, dealing with the media, presentation delivery and resolving customer complaints all have a place in the modern theatre company.

I worked for twenty years at IBM and my final role was running the content management team and showing companies how they could use social networking to build market presence and awareness. I have a Twitter and Facebook account where I regularly report on the shows I have seen and I am well aware of what can be done using other media such as Instagram and YouTube. I am also co-manager of the Derek Jacobi Fan Club Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DerekJacobiFansClub>

I have been a fan of Jacobi's work for many years and I started a Creative Writing course because I wanted to write a biography of him. I had assisted him in his autobiography but I wanted to delve deeper and was struck by the number of times he had been involved in productions of "Hamlet" since 1957. As part of my research I started to read more about how theatres actually "work" and the sort of roles that are needed. I feel equally drawn to both the producing and the directing areas but I want more experience in the whole process of making theatre. I am a self-starter and can certainly work efficiently from home but I am also keen to take more of a hands-on role in making great theatre so I certainly relish that opportunity.

I have been looking for a part-time, London-based role that would allow me to experience being part of a company and at the same time allow me to continue working on my book. An internship is the ideal solution for me. I am prepared to make a commitment to use all of my skills to help in any way I can. I know there are lots of things I don't know so I am very keen to get stuck into whatever I can get stuck into!