

Curriculum Vitae - Ellie Verkerk, BMus(Hons), ITECDip



Instruments: Piano / Keys, Trumpet / Flugelhorn, Accordion
Skills: Musical Director, Teacher, Arranger / Fixer
Other Skills: Massage Therapist, mindfulness meditation tutor

e: ellieverkerk@mac.com
Music: www.ellieverkerk.com
Twitter: @EllieVerkerk_MD

Profile

Graduate of the Royal College of Music with an Honours degree, specialising as an orchestral musician and accompanist. I am dedicated to inspiring a love of music and empowering others through our deep connection to the creative arts, and have been teaching for over 25 years. I have extensive experience as a musical director in London's West End, working alongside numerous musical theatre professionals and actor musicians. I have worked in a broad variety of roles with people of all ages and abilities, which include mentoring and supporting young people who aspire to work in the creative arts industry, acting as Musical Director for colleges, schools, youth theatres, and dramatic societies, vocal coaching, leading workshops and choirs, orchestral coaching, conducting orchestras, teaching aural and theory, and accompanying instrumentalists for recitals, festivals, auditions and exams. Other work includes freelance gigs, recording and session work with singer-songwriters, and teaching mindfulness meditation. I am also a qualified massage therapist, specialising in the treatment of those who work in the performing arts.

I am happy playing and teaching any style of music, am flexible with a joyous, humorous and generous attitude, always working well beyond what is expected of me. My sole intention as a musician and teacher is always to connect, empower, support and motivate others to always be the best versions of themselves, through positive group interaction and collaboration. Testimonials are included on page 3 of this document.

Education

2012 - 2013	<i>Essentials For Health</i>	ITEC Level 3 diploma Holistic Massage (91%) / Anatomy & Physiology (72%)
1997 - 2001	<i>Royal College of Music</i>	BMus(Hons) II:I
1995 - 1997	<i>Woking College VIth Form College</i>	3 A levels, Music (A)

References Upon Request

Credits

Musical Director / Arranger [marked with *]

2016 *The Last Five Years* The Musical Season, Frankfurt Premiere
2016 *Frankenstein** Blackeyed Theatre, Actor-musician Autumn UK national Tour
2016 *Twelfth Night* Reading Between The Lines Theatre Co, Actor-musician production
2016 *MS. A song cycle** Producer, Rory Sherman, in association with Simon Grieff (SimG Productions)
2015 *The Great Gatsby** Blackeyed Theatre, Actor-musician UK national Tour
2013 *Dracula** Blackeyed Theatre, Actor-musician UK Tour
2013 *Mash Up Gig (West End performers)** Paulden Hall Productions, Leicester Square Theatre
2013 *Underground Orchestra* Shaun Buswell (singer/songwriter), Shepherds Bush Empire, London
2012 *Mother Courage** Blackeyed Theatre, Actor-musician UK Tour
2012 *Plug In The Lead (feat. Tony Christie & West End guests)** Paulden Hall Productions
Leicester Square Theatre
2012 *Mash Up Cabaret (West End performers)** Paulden Productions, Leicester Square Theatre
2011 *West End Unplugged (West End performers)** Interval Productions, Leicester Square Theatre
2011 - 2013 *Cabaret** South Hill Park Arts Centre, Berkshire, supporting various West End, local performers and performing arts students (monthly gigs)
2011 *Oh What A Lovely War** - Blackeyed Theatre, Actor-musician UK national tour
2010 *Beauty and The Beast** Blackeyed Theatre, Actor-musician UK national tour

Associate MD / Assistant / Arranger [marked with *]

2016 *Teenage Cancer Trust concert series (feat. Bring Me The Horizon)* - production assistant to the film director [reading orchestral scores / helping to direct the film crew], Royal Albert Hall
2014 *Celebrating Jon Lord (feat. Deep Purple, Paul Weller, Bruce Dickinson, Rick Wakeman)* - as above - assistant to the conductor / production assistant to the film crew. Sunflower Jam, Royal Albert Hall
2014 *Kerrigan-Lowdermilk LIVE (West End performers)* United Theatrical Productions, St James Studio (working directly with Kait Kerrigan and Brian Lowdermilk)
2013 *All I Want For Christmas...Is An Audience (West End performers)** Julie Atherton, Theatre Bench, St James Studio
2010 - 2013 *Jersey Boys*, Deputy, Keys / backing vocals, Prince Edward Theatre, London

Session & other work / Arranger [marked with *]

2016 *MS Song Cycle album recording*, produced by Rory Sherman and SimG Productions
2013 - ongoing *Olivier Bursary Award* Society of London Theatre, audition accompanist, West End
2012 & 2015 *EP recording** Dear Pariah (singer-songwriter). Keys, Flugel Horn, Accordion
2012 *Arranger: The Songs Of My Life** with Peter Polycarpou, Garrick Theatre, London
2011 *Album recording* for "The Sound Of Musicals" (MD / keys / fixer)
2010 *Album recording* for Stephanie Fearon's debut album, "My Parade" (MD / keys / fixer)
2010 *Album recording* for Buswell (Trumpet / Flugel Horn / piano)

Teaching

2015 *Surrey Arts Magna Carta project* (Repetiteur), premiered at the Royal Albert Hall
2011 - ongoing *Read Dance and Theatre College, Reading* (MD, repertoire & vocal coach)
2014 - 2017 *Starmaker Youth Theatre Company* (MD / Keys), Reading, Berkshire
2009 - ongoing *Guildford School of Acting, Surrey* (MD, repertoire, vocal coach, mindfulness tutor)
2004 - 2005 / 2014 *Yvonne Arnaud Youth Theatre* (MD / Keys), Guildford, Surrey
2003 - 2008 *Surrey County Youth Theatre* (MD / Keys), Woking, Surrey
2001 - 2003 *Surrey County Youth Orchestra* (Section tutor - French Horn)
2000 - 2001 *Royal College of Music / LPO Playerlink Scheme* (Workshop leader)
1997 & 2000 *Volunteer Enabler* (Workshop leader), Orpheus Centre, Godstone, Surrey
1991 - ongoing *Piano teacher & choir leader* (Private tuition, various schools and colleges)

Other skills / additional information

Experienced in use of Sibelius 7
Web designer
Photography

Testimonials

“Ellie, you bring joy wherever you go” Dr Robin Fenton, composer and senior music educator

“A terrific talent. Terrific energy. You have magic in your fingers” *Kate Elmitt, ARAM, LRAM, ARCM*

“Ellie is one of the most motivational musicians / MDs I’ve worked with.” Andrew Smith, guitarist

“A huge thank you for your amazing work and endless enthusiasm. You are truly an inspiration. You are so talented, such a hard worker We are so lucky to have you!” Adam Paulden, Producer, Paulden Hall Productions

“Beautifully played once again. Ellie is such a sensitive and heartfelt accompanist” *Juliette Caton, Producer*

“Her dedication and commitment to the players is more than obvious. She had drilled these youngsters to perfection and instilled in them a confidence and belief that they can do anything they put their mind to. She controlled the band expertly getting them to accompany sympathetically whilst maintaining a rock band sensation.” Jeanette Maskell, musical theatre critic

“As a teacher, Ellie has encouraged my daughter and given her a new love of the piano and music. She is inspiring both as a tutor and performer, and makes the lessons fun whilst maintaining a positive learning environment. She expertly adapts to the situation and preferred learning styles of the individual. She encourages her pupils to work out what they are trying to achieve, where they need to improve, and to give them goals. She instils confidence and is a great encourager.”
Penny N, mother to a private pupil, 2009

“The band was brilliant. That’s what I’ve come to expect from Ellie. She is a brilliant MD.” Jim Zalles, Producer, Theatre Bench