

Amy Crighton - Producer  
BA English with Creative Writing (1st Year)

Previous Experience -  
Directing: Camp Macbeth (NNT)  
Acting: A Beautiful Thing (NNT)



When I started at the New Theatre I had this image in my head that I would only do acting and try a bit of backstage things for my first year, and maybe next year I would dabble in the areas of directing and producing, but not yet. Too much responsibility and all that. Then I became friends with a second year and boy did that plan go awry. Instead I have been swept up into this wonderful whirlwind of a production, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

I want to say thank you so much to our amazing cast who have been so hard working throughout this rehearsal process and have been doing such wonderful performances from day one. You're all little terrors but I love you dearly. Thank you to Dan who, as Design Assistant – or as I like to call him “The Help” – has done a stellar job of keeping my general insanity and stress levels as under control as they can be and being great support.

And finally, a massive thank you to Callum. I first heard about this play over a 5-hour coffee break in Portland, and since then have spent the last few months kicking him to continue writing it and then encouraging him to propose it. This has been such an amazing opportunity for me and I couldn't have done it without his great writing, and constant hand on my back telling me to stop stressing and that I'm doing fine. This has been one of the best experiences I've ever had and I have you to thank for all that.

I hope you enjoy the show!

Callum Walker - Director  
BA History (2nd Year)

Previous Experience -  
Directing: Camp Macbeth (NNT)  
Acting: A Beautiful Thing, West (NNT)



If anyone has had the misfortune to speak to me at length over the past three years they're bound to have heard me talk about a play I've been writing, usually mentioned off hand like it's just a casual project amongst my otherwise exciting life. Unable to keep up this bohemian façade for any longer I've had to finish it, and now you're about to see it.

The Black Dog on my Sofa is a play about depression that is hopefully not depressing to watch. If rehearsals are anything to go by then I'd even go as far to say it's funny. Originally I wrote the play as a means of self-indulgent catharsis, but over time it's developed into a more general, relatable interpretation of depression. After all, no one would want to see The Callum Walker Story (but keep your eyes peeled for the winter in-house season). I hope the play opens your eyes to what depression is, how it affects people, and how we can deal with it.

I'd like to thank the cast for being so engaged with the text and passionate to work with it, and also for doing the incredibly ego-stroking job of performing my writing far better than I ever wrote it. The play would be nothing without you all. The play would also be far more boring without the wonderful tech team, Jo, Joe, and Roh. Above all I'd like to thank Amy 'Stick it on the budget' Crighton. Putting up with me rambling about the play over wine-soaked nights and encouraging me to finally propose it is a role in itself, yet you've done far more with your proficiency in Excel and uncanny ability to organise me, the cast, and everything else. Thank you.

I hope you enjoy the show!