

Matt Standen - Producer
BA English with Philosophy (3rd Year)

Previous Experience -
Producing: A View From The Bridge, Old Times,
Orphans, King Lear (NNT)
Acting: The Tempest, Room 30, Letting Go (NNT)



Gus Herbert - Director
BA History (3rd Year)

Previous Experience -
Directing: A View From The Bridge, Old Times,
Orphans, King Lear, Blackbird,
Buried Child (NNT)
Acting: Skylight, The Toyland Murders (NNT)
Producing: Steady Rain (NNT)
Cheque Please (Edinburgh)



My first experience of possible worlds and multiverses came in my Philosophy studies. Now, normally they're concerned with what constitutes a "proper name", what makes me the same me in world x and necessity (it's actually pretty interesting stuff, if you're into that sort of thing). Marianne says:

"In the quantum multiverse, every choice, every decision you've ever and never made exists in an unimaginably vast ensemble of parallel universes."

When Gus told me about Constellations, I was more excited than I've been for any other producing job. It's a play that you hear about and you're sat thinking 'blimey, that's cool.' Nick Payne's writing is so interesting and the script is truly worthy of amazing productions. On that note, I have to give a massive thanks to Lakeside for allowing us to show off in their space. Shona, Lee-Ann and Richard, you have all been unbelievably accommodating of us and we're incredibly grateful.

Sophie and Ben, you're both rather talented. Gus and I struggled to cast this play. Not because of a lack of quality, but an abundance of it, but by the end of recalls, the two of you had established yourselves at the top of both of our lists, thank you for agreeing to work on this play with us. Both of you have worked tirelessly on what is a truly challenging script, and all 50 or so versions of your characters are amazing.

What to say of Gus. This, I think, will legitimately be the last time we work together at NNT and it's been a pleasure. You wouldn't know it, obviously, because I spend 50% of my time insulting those that I'm friends with, and the other 50% expressing my indifference to everything. The course of my New Theatre journey was set when I agreed to produce King Lear all those months ago and I wouldn't change it. It's comforting to know that in at least one of the many multiverses, my artistic ideas are taken on board by you too! Thank you.

It is nearly impossible to describe the task that Matt and I set ourselves when we chose to put this play on. A script unlike any other I've ever read, with so many beautiful nuances and tender dialogue that draws the audience in. Working on a play set in the quantum multiverse theory was a challenge in of itself, but the amazing plot and characters took it to another level.

To be frank however, this is an actor's script, and if I wasn't for the two unbelievable actors that I have been able to work with, I wouldn't see this play being what it is. From the first moment I saw these two read the script, their enthusiasm and joy to work on this project was unfathomable. Sophie, you bring incredible warmth and strength to a very complex character, your talent is astounding and I can't wait to see where you go from here. Ben, the growth I have seen in you from our first Fresher's Fringe rehearsal to now is fantastic. I delight in all your questions and dedication to giving the best performance you can. The pair of you have made this play your own, and this is an experience I'll never forget.

To those working behind the scenes, you have helped to enhance this production in an immeasurable way and your work has been so highly valued. Harry, Max, Omid, Sam and Tom you have created a superb publicity campaign and technical designs for which I am immensely grateful. Another big thank you to Jodie for her tireless work when dealing with a very excitable group of people.

Finally, to my amazing producer Matt. After five shows together, I am extremely honoured to have worked with you on so many occasions and this play owes you a great deal for all your support and hard work. For all of that you have my upmost gratitude and thanks.