

JENNA FINCKEN

| www.jennafincken.com | [press](#) | Represented by Leodis Talent Agency

Award winning actor and writer. Skilled in directing, producing and teaching. Previous Co-Executive Director of award-winning Wildcard Theatre Company. Trained at The Oxford School of Drama.

acting

Received Off West End nomination for "Lead Performance in a Play" and won a Lustrum Award for "unforgettable performance" for debut one woman play "Ruckus". For full acting CV, see [spotlight page](#).

writing

| <u>date</u> | <u>production</u> | <u>company</u> | <u>project details</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|--|--|
| 2026 | KNAPPER Short Film | Producer: Sam Roelandts | Debut short film about a devoted flintknapper sharing his world through the hands of a young apprentice. Director: Freddy Carter |
| 2025 | RUCKUS TV | Producer: Natalie Denton Samson Films | Renewal option for the development of the TV drama series, adaption from original debut play. |
| 2025 | FAULT Stage | Producer: Harlow Playhouse | Dramaturg support for Tom Ratcliffe's new play under Harlow Playhouse |
| 2024 | RUCKUS TV | Producer: Natalie Denton Samson Films | Optioned for the development of the TV drama series, adaption from original debut play. |
| 2024 | MOTHERHOOD Stage | Offbeat, Oxford Playhouse | Dramaturg for project. |
| 2024 | RUCKUS Stage | Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse Theatre | Performance rights purchased for the annual YEP Directors Festival. |
| 2024 | RUCKUS Online | Drama Online, award-winning digital library from Bloomsbury. | To celebrate Drama Online's 10th anniversary, they made 10 plays free to read - one outstanding play from each year since 2013. "Ruckus" was selected for 2022. |
| 2023 | Writing Competition | Phoebe Frances Brown Award with Hampstead Theatre and Nottingham Theatre | Final Five (out of 403 entries) |
| 2022-2024 | RUCKUS Stage | Summerhall, Edinburgh Festival Fringe Southwark Playhouse UK Tour including Mercury Theatre, North Wall, Harlow Playhouse, | WhatsOnStage Nomination for Best Off-West End Production First runner up Popcorn Writing Award with BBC Writers Room Shortlisted for The Filipa Bragança Award Recommended The Times |

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| | | MAST Southampton, Traverse Theatre, Nottingham Playhouse Playhouse Teater, Sweden | Best Shows to see at Fringe The Scotsman's 10 theatre shows to see at the Fringe 2022 The Stage's Fringe 2022 best shows of the year Theatre Weekly's Best of the Fest for New Writing Published by Methuen Highly recommended at the National Theatre bookshop Director: Georgia Green. Full creative team here . |
| 2024 | Writing Grant | Peggy Ramsay Foundation | Received for next play in development, "Either/Or". |
| 2023 | BEING Stage | Waterside Theatre, University of Northampton | Writer on project. |
| directing | | | |
| 2026 | POSH Stage | Royal & Derngate, University of Northampton | Director on project with Third Year Acting students. See full creative team here . |
| 2025 | EARTHQUAKES IN LONDON Stage | Royal & Derngate, University of Northampton | Director on project with Third Year Acting students. See full creative team here . |
| 2023 | BEING Stage | Waterside Theatre, University of Northampton | Director on project. |
| teaching | | | |
| <u>date</u> | <u>role</u> | | <u>details</u> |
| 2024 | Workshop Leader and Panel Speaker at The North Wall Theatre | | Created and led a workshop on "Creating Content: How to start writing with Jenna Fincken". This workshop provided practical tools on getting inspired to generate ideas, exploring Stephen Jeffrey's Left Vs Right Brain concepts and sharing insights on starting writing from an acting background. I also contributed to the "Panel Discussion: To Edinburgh or not to Edinburgh", where I shared my experience with "Ruckus" and offered advice to aspiring creatives attending the festival. |
| 2023 | Term Tutor at The Oxford School of Drama | | Created and taught a 10-session course titled "Creating Content" for 60 students. Students were equipped with a toolkit to create their own work, culminating in students writing and performing their own 90 second monologue. Students learn to craft rich and compelling characters, generate material efficiently, and build confidence in their creative abilities. Additionally, provided written reports for each student. |

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| 2023 | Workshop Leader at Central School of Speech and Drama | Created and led a 3-hour workshop for the Contemporary Acting, MA students on “Generating Ideas” for their solo writing project. Practical activities and group discussions on exploring idea vs theme, metaphors, poetic logics and image systems. |
| 2023 | Teacher at University of Northampton | Facilitated a month-long course for third years on “Devising an Original Show”. Leading students through group discussions on topics & themes, generating characters/scenes through improvisation and assigned additional creative roles for students to learn new skills e.g. Sound design, Assistant Director, Stage Manager. From the devised material, I wrote and directed the students in the original play, “Being”. Additionally, supported students with 1-2-1’s and provided written reports with grades from the university’s criteria. |
| 2023 | Speaker at Brit School | Three hour talk titled, “Running a Theatre Company & Producing your own work”. Sharing my experience from running Wildcard Theatre Company and producing the award winning show “Ruckus”. Q&A included. |
| 2022 | Speaker at The Oxford School of Drama | Three hour talk called, “Running a Theatre Company & Producing your own work”. |
| 2015 – 2020 | Drama Teacher at Stagecoach Dulwich & Tooting | Teaching and directing children between ages 6 -18 years. Additionally, I wrote a number of end of term shows. This would require creating up to 60 roles for all the students. |
| 2015 – 2021 | LAMDA Teacher at Stagecoach Dulwich & Tooting | Coaching and directing children for their LAMDA exams. |
| 2015 – 2016 | Drama Teacher at Stagecoach Oxford | Teaching and directing children between ages 6-18 years. |
| 2011 – 2013 | Early Stages Assistant to Early Stages Teacher | Teaching and directing children between ages 4-6 years. |

additional experience

| <u>date</u> | <u>role</u> | <u>details</u> |
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| 2015 – 2023 | Co-Founder & then Co-Executive Director (2021 – 2023) of Wildcard Theatre Company. Co-Producer for RUCKUS. | Part of the team in building theatre company from the ground up, creating systems and establishing a brand. Promoted to Co-Executive Director, overseeing artistic development, productions, our rehearsal space and reporting to Trustee’s and Co-Founders. Mentored emerging artists and provided dramaturgical support for productions internally and externally. Managed finances, including budgets, tax relief schemes, and co-productions. Championed new writing talent through producing initiatives like the FOUR OF A KIND. |
| 2020 – 2021 | Customer Experience Training Manger at Eve Sleep | Created the training plan for customer service department. Implemented various methods to engage learners and enhance skills. Monitored performance to ensure quality and effectiveness. |

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| 2019 | Co-Producer for CIRCA | Production transferred to The Old Red Lion. Writer: Tom Ratcliffe Director: Andy Twyman |
| 2018 | Co-Producer for VELVET | Production played at Pleasance, Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Writer: Tom Ratcliffe Director: Andy Twyman |
| 2017 | Co-Producer for CIRCA | Production played at The Vaults. Writer: Tom Ratcliffe Director: Joe Allen |

education

Three Year Acting Course | The Oxford School of Drama | Level 6 Diploma | 2012 - 2015
Frantic: Intermediate | Frantic Assembly | 2015
Foundation Course | The Oxford School of Drama | 2011- 2012