

DEBRIS STEVENSON – Curriculum Vitae

“One of the most exciting things I have seen all year and marks out writer/performer/lyricist/dancer Debris Stevenson as one of the brightest emerging talents around.”

★★★★★ Evening Standard (on *Poet in da Corner*)

Publications

- **Oberon:** **Playtext**, *Poet in da Corner*, '18
- **The University of Arkansas Press:** **poems in anthology**, “i. Cecil Park – High as the swings ii. Dutch Pot Dancing”, *The Golden Shovel Anthology*, '17
- **Eyewear:** **poem in anthology**, “Dutchpot Dancing”, *The Best New British and Irish Poets*, '16
- **Magma Poetry:** **poem in magazine**, “Stopping” *Magma 62 Violence*, '15
- **Flipped Eye:** **poetry pamphlet**, *Pigeon Party*, '14
- **Holland Park Press:** **What's you're History? Prize (1st place) poem online**, “Cecil Park: High as the Swings”, Feb '13
- **Jaybird Live Literature:** **postcard series**, “Power Dynamic of Slags and Virgins in East London”, Sept '12
- **NAWE:** **article**, “Poetry and Performance in Education and Community: a UK/US Comparison”, *Issue Number 57*, summer '12
- **Oxford University Poetry Society:** **poem in magazine**, “When the Lion Fell for a Springbok”, *Ash #12*, May '11
- **Jubilee Press:** **poem in anthology**, “The Arboretum”, *Out of the Fire*, June '11
- **Left Lion Magazine:** **poem in magazine**, “Love Poem”, *Issue 39*, Feb '11
- **Paragon Press:** **poem in art book**, “A Raves Romance”, *Paradise by Night*, Jan '11
- **World Freerunning Championships:** **poem on wall**, of The Roundhouse '09

Publication Projects

- **Poetry Foundation:** **Facilitator**, digital literary exchange of students between Chicago & Nottingham to create a collaborative anthology, '15
- **First Story:** **Writer in Residence**, working with groups of students to produce annual poetry anthologies '11-13

Education

- **Loughborough University:** **MA in Creative Writing**, Distinction. '11-12 (Full Fee Scholarship)
- **The University of Nottingham:** **BA Creative and Professional Writing**, First Class Hons, '08-11

Theatre

- **Royal Court:** **writer** attachment, 4-week RnD, '19
- **Royal Court:** **collaborative writer** as part of new works lead by Wende Snijders & Chloe Lamford, '19
- **Royal Court:** **playwright & performer**, *Poet in da Corner* full length theatre show, Jerwood Downstairs '18
- **Nottingham Playhouse:** **playwright & performer**, *Poet in da Corner* WIP sharings, Neville Studio, 16-'17
- **Curve Theatre:** **playwright & performer**, *Poet in da Corner* WIP sharing, Studio Theatre, Oct '17
- **James Cousins Dance Co:** **lyricist & performer** recorded for dance theatre show, *Rosalind*, Jan '17
- **Women of The World Festival:** **poet, lyricist, playwright & performer**, *Girl in da Corner*, Clore Ballroom, Southbank Centre, March '17
- **Last Word Festival, Roundhouse:** **Programmer, host, poet, lyricist, playwright & performer**, *Dirtee Verse* poetry music show, Sackler Space, '16
- **Royal Court:** **writer**, writers group with Mark Ravenhill '15
- **Curve Theatre Leicester:** **Breakthrough Artist**, commissions '14 – Present
- **Mouthy Poets UK Tour:** **writer & performer**, collaborative poem for theatre at Battersea Arts Centre, Curve Leicester, CAST Doncaster, MAC Birmingham, Mansfield Library, Worksop Library & Nottingham Playhouse '14-'15
- **Apples & Snakes:** **playwright**, 10min theatre piece for children based on the child migrant crises '13
- **Routes and Roots Academy, Europe:** **collaborative theatre maker**, Working in Holland & Germany '09-'11

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“Everyone needs to see this.” **Dizzee Rascal on *Poet in da Corner***

Teaching & Consultancy

- **Jerwood Poetry Fellowship:** **selector** ‘19
- **Royal Court:** **facilitator & Director**, for Insight & ReAct workshops in response to *Poet in da Corner*, ‘18
- **Nottingham UNESCO City of Literature:** **artistic consultant**, Young Poet Laureate ‘17
- **Roundhouse & British Council:** **facilitator**, Talking Doorsteps, (Trinidad, Beirut, London) poetry film collaborations with young poets, exploring home ‘14-18
- **British Council, South Africa:** **facilitator**, #Interverse exchange between Cape Town & Nottingham ‘16-17
- **Beirut Poetry Slam:** **Judge**, ‘16
- **Roundhouse Poetry Collective:** **Tutor**, ‘14-17
- **Roundhouse Poetry Slam:** **Judge**, ‘14-‘16
- **Staatstheater Braunschweig:** **curating & directing** a poetry collective of mixed cultures in Germany ‘13-16
- **University of Nottingham:** **Professional Tutor**, Creative & Professional Writing BA ‘11-14
- **Writing East Midlands:** **Writer in Residence**, Eight Arnold Primary Schools, ‘13
- **Royal and Derngate Northampton:** **facilitator**, Working with Charity Shop DJ to bring groups of young people together through poetry & music ‘11
- **New York Knicks Poetry Slam:** **Judge**, NYC, ‘11
- **Oxford University Poetry Society:** **guest tutor**, in 'performing your writing', Feb– June ‘11

Directing

- **Dirtee Verse – Poet in da Corner:** **director**, RnD, Poet in da Corner sharing’s across the country ‘14-‘16
- **Mouthy Poets:** **artistic director & founder**, poetry collective producing bi-annual shows & teaching thousands of young people across Nottingham, based at Nottingham Playhouse, ‘10-16

Contact Information

PA: admin@debrisstevenson.co.uk
Personal: me@debrisstevenson.co.uk
Non-scripted Agent: Vanessa.fogarty@Curtisbrown.co.uk
Scripted: alexrusher@independenttalent.com & patrickchild@independenttalent.com
Website: www.debrisstevenson.co.uk
Social Media: @debrisstevenson

Awards

- **Evening Standard:** ‘Emerging Talent of the Year’ Nomination ‘18
- **14/18 Now:** Represent, £75k commission, ‘18
- **Grant for the Arts:** £30k, £88k, £165k, Mouthy Poets, ‘11-15. £15k, *Poet in da Corner*, ‘18,
- **Jerwood/Arvon:** Mentoring Scheme ‘14/15
- **London Laureate:** shortlisted ‘14
- **Nottinghamshire US Roosevelt Travel Scholarship:** USA, ‘11-12
- **The British Council China & Chinese Youth Federation:** Creative Leader Delegate, Shanghai & Anhui, Sept ‘09
- **Roundhouse Poetry Slam:** 3rd Place, ‘07
- **Verb New Voices** mentoring scheme with BBC Radio 3, The Verb & Arts Council England, ‘11

Dance/ Movement

- **Royal Court:** **writer, dancer & movement director**, RnD of ideas around writing, feminism & movement, ‘19
- **Royal Court:** **movement direction**, ReAct workshops with 15 young women ‘18
- **The Heatwave:** **dancer**, National Hot Wuk Tour ‘16-18
- **Glastonbury Festival:** **dancer**, Jarvis Cocker ‘17
- **Red Bull Music Academy:** **dancer**, Notting Hill Carnival ‘17
- **Nottingham Pride:** **curator & dancer**, ‘17
- **Brixton o2 Academy:** **dancer**, Kurrupt FM ‘16

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“Debris is one of the brightest young voices of literature to emerge from our shores in over two decades”
Charlie Dark

Performer Writing Commissions

- **British Council:** poet & performer, poem for new British Council building in Stratford '18
- **Psi Caribbean:** lyricist & performer. Piece on gender-based violence performed in 10 Trinidad schools, '17
- **Farmyard Records:** poet & performer with Natalie Duncan at Nottingham Contemporary, Nov 2014
- **Staatstheater Karlsruhe:** poet & performer, sestina celebrating relationships between partner cities, '14
- **Parking in Progress Residency:** poet & performer, site performance at Nottingham Castle, September 2012
- **Urban Media Festival:** poet & playwright, weaving together a show collaboration between 50 international artists Köln, Germany, October 2011.

Performances Include

- **Glastonbury Festival** Poetry & Words Tent, '17
- **European Theatre Convention Bus Tour:** Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, Italy, '13
- **US Tour;** New York, Boston, Washington DC, New Orleans, Chicago, Miami, San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Minneapolis '11-'12

Producing

- **Apples & Snakes:** writer & facilitator, Inventing Room creating an EP with 3 poets & 3 MC's in 3 days, '17
- **Staatstheater Braunschweig:** producer, developing a poetry collective & EU poetry exchange for 44 poets, producing biannual shows, '13 – '16
- **World Event Young Artist:** Project Leader, curating a show with poets & musicians, Nottingham '12
- **Apples & Snakes:** East Midlands Slam Producer, Shake the Dust inter-school poetry slam, '11-'12
- **First Story:** Shadow Coordinator programme developing young poets to become facilitators, '13-'14
- **Roundhouse:** producer, Turning Point Festival, programming 200 unsigned artists, an outdoor market and panel with UK Youth Parliament '09

Interests

Additional Training in: Zumba, life coaching, print making and fine art.

General Interests; cycling, swimming, yoga, portraiture, fashion, travel, bachata, religion, and Italian food.

Speaking and Hosting

- **Maritime Museum:** host, Out at Sea LGTB history month event, '19
- **Commonwealth Parliament Association UK:** speaker, annual conference for MP's and Clarks in The Houses of Parliament, '18.
- **14/18Now:** chair for 'Grime and Legislation' panel, Royal Court Theatre '18.
- **Arts Marketing Association:** key note speaker, and regional and national conferences '17-'18
- **European Theatre Convention:** speaker, annual conference, Youth Theatre Zagreb, Oct '13
- **Roundhouse mainstage:** host, Turning Point Festival '09

TV, Radio & Film

- **BBC & Roundhouse:** poet & performer for poetry film about Dyslexia to be released on iPlayer, '19.
- **The Verb, BBC Radio 3:** lyricist & performer, grime-hymn written & performed for xmas special, dec '18
- **The Verb, BBC radio 3:** lyricist & performer, collaboration with MC Chiedu Oraka, Sept '17
- **1xtra Live Lounge:** lyricist & performer, song with Lady Leshurr about Notting Hill Carnival, Aug 2015
- **Apples & Snakes:** writer & actor, poetry film, Architects of our Republic '13
- **London Literature Festival:** host, for event with Saul Williams & Kate Tempest, Royal Festival Hall, July 2012.
- **Shnit International Short Film Festival:** poet & actor, for poetry film collaboration, Köln, Germany, Oct '11.
- **Roundhouse Mainspace:** host, Turning Point Festival, Saturday main stage, '09
- **So TV:** personality, Year Dot, '07-'09