

JAMES DAVID BLUNDELL
Playwright | Director | Theatre Educator
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PROFILE

James David Blundell is a playwright, director, actor and theatre educator based in Rome. His work explores memory, identity, collective behaviour and theatrical form, often drawing on literary adaptation, historical events and ensemble-based performance. Alongside his writing, he serves as Artistic Director of the Performing Arts Company at John Cabot University and teaches British Actor Training and Shakespeare at Teatro Quirino – Scuola d'Arte Drammatica Officine Quirino.

EDUCATION

MA Drama & Theatre Studies (Directing Specialism), University of Kent
PGCE Drama & Theatre Education (QTS), Newman University
Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA)

SELECTED WRITING

G8 (2026)

Original full-length play inspired by the atmosphere surrounding the 2001 Genoa G8 Summit and the events leading up to the Diaz school raid.

Dante: A Memory Rehearsed (2025)

Original adaptation of Dante Alighieri's Divine Comedy. The third play in the Memory Trilogy.

Antony & Cleopatra: A Memory in Ruins (2025)

Original adaptation and reimagining of Shakespeare's tragedy, exploring memory, history and political collapse through a fractured narrative structure.

Spoon River: A Memory Unearthed (2024)

Adapted and devised from Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology. Staged in Rome through The English Theatre of Rome's Italy Reads programme and currently under consideration for publication.

Still Waters (2022)

Adapted and devised from Margaret Fuller's Summer on the Lakes.

Beetle Creek (2021)

Adapted and devised from William Demby's novel Beetle Creek.

PRODUCTIONS & PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT

2024 – Spoon River: A Memory Unearthed

Produced and performed in Rome as part of The English Theatre of Rome's Italy Reads programme.

2025 – Antony & Cleopatra: A Memory in Ruins

Faculty-led university production at John Cabot University, Rome.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

-Artistic Director, Performing Arts Company, John Cabot University (2023–Present)

-Adjunct Professor of Acting, The American University of Rome (2024–2025)

-Instructor in British Actor Training & Shakespeare, Teatro Quirino – Scuola d'Arte Drammatica Officine Quirino (2026–Present)