

MIKE KENNY

Mike Kenny is one of the England's leading writers, specialising in young people's theatre. He is the recipient of numerous awards, was included in the Independent on Sunday's list of Top Ten Living UK Playwrights and his plays are performed regularly throughout the UK and all over the world.

His adaptation of ***The Railway Children*** for the York Theatre Royal in association with the National Railway and directed by Damian Cruden, played for 2 sell-out seasons in York before opening at a purpose built theatre in July 2010 at Waterloo Station in London. It returns to London in 2011 and opens in Toronto in May 2011. It is the recipient of the Olivier Award for Best Entertainment and the Broadway World UK Award for Best Revival.

Current productions and commissions include original play **Cartoon** for Polka Theatre, London; **Great Gran's Great Games** for Pied Piper; **Peter Pan** (directed by Damian Cruden) for York Theatre Royal 2011; **Passing On** for Claudette Bryanston/Warwick University; **Stig of The Dump** for Mind the Gap; **A Murder of Crows** for Barnstorm, Eire.

Credits include:

Scarecrow for AJTC; radio play adapted from Marilynne Robinson's **Gilead** for Catherine Bailey Productions/BBC Radio 3; new adaptations of **Wind in the Willows** for York Theatre Royal and **Aladdin** for West Yorkshire Playhouse; **Boo** for Mind...the Gap; **Wild Dreams** for Theatre du Rond-Point, Paris; **The Railway Children** for the York Theatre Royal in association with the National Railway; **Straw Headed Peter** for NTC; original play **Twin Stars** for Unicorn Theatre, London; original piece **La Nuit Electrique (Electric Darkness)** for Comédie de Valence (France); **Who Cares?** – a contemporary version of As You Like It (Region Theatre, Vaxjo, Sweden); **Whose afraid of the Bogeyman?** – part of the Playhouse Project (York Theatre Royal, Polka and Plymouth); **Whiter Than Snow** (Graeae and national tour); **Flat Stanley** (West Yorkshire Playhouse and Polka, London); **The Snow Queen** – new version for Cork City of Culture (Graffiti, Ireland); **Beauty & the Beast** (Oxford Touring Theatre Company); **The Little Mermaid** (York Theatre Royal and Polka Theatre); **Cloud Pictures** (Polka Theatre); **Swan Songs** (Sherman Theatre and National tour); **Boy With a Suitcase** (SNAP theatre Company and national tour); **On the Verge** (Mind the...Gap and national tour); **Caitlin** – one woman show about Dylan Thomas's wife (Sherman Theatre, York Theatre Royal, New York); **The Gardener** (AJTC

and Nottingham Roundabout); ***Flesh 'n Steel*** (Manchester Royal Exchange and national tour); ***Diary of an Action Man*** (Graeae and Unicorn Theatre, London); ***Walking the Tightrope*** (New Perspectives, Nottingham Roundabout, Travelling Light); ***Fittings – A Freak Show for the Millennium*** (Graeae Theatre Co); ***Of Mice and Men*** (Mind....the Gap); ***Big Sister, Little Brother*** (Blah Blah Blah, Oxford Touring Company and Nottingham Roundabout); ***The Elves & The Shoemakers*** (Polka, Sherman, Barnstorm Eire, West Yorkshire Playhouse); ***Matilda*** (Sherman Theatre, Cardiff)

AWARDS and NOMINATIONS

- 2011 WINNER: Best Entertainment (Olivier Awards) – “*The Railway Children*”**
- 2010 NOMINATION: Best Play for Children and Young People (Writers’ Guild Awards) – ‘*Scarecrow*’**
WINNER: Best Revival (Broadway World UK Awards) – ‘*The Railway Children*’
- 2009 WINNER: Outstanding Production for Theatre for Young Audiences (Theatre Direct, Canada) – DORA Awards, Canada – ‘*Walking The Tightrope*’**
WINNER: Outstanding Performance for Theatre for Young Audiences – Wayne Robson – DORA Awards, Canada – ‘*Walking The Tightrope*’
- 2008 WINNER: Best Play for Children and Young People (Writers’ Guild Awards) – ‘*Nuit Electrique*’ (‘*Electric Darkness*’)**
- 2006 NOMINATION: Deutschen Kindertheaterpreis - ‘*The Gardener*’**
- 2003 Independent on Sunday - Included on list of Top Ten living UK playwrights**
- 2003 WINNER: Best Children’s Play (Time Out Critics Choice) - ‘*Diary of an Action Man*’**
- 2002 WINNER: (with Mind the ...Gap) - Barclays TMA Award for Special Achievement in Regional Theatre**
- 2001 NOMINATION: Edinburgh Festival Pick of the Fringe and Manchester Evening News for Best Fringe Show - ‘*The Last Freak Show*’**
- 2000 Arts Council of England – first recipient of The Children’s Award for Playwriting for Children & Young People**

1997 WINNER: Best Children's Play (Writers' Guild of Great Britain) -
'Stepping Stones'

1996 NOMINATION: Writers' Guild Best Children's Play - *'Stuck'*

1994 WINNER: Best Children's Play (Time Out) - *'Sink or Swim'*

1986 WINNER: Best Children's Play (British Theatre Institute) - *'Flags and Bandages'*

Agent: Toby Moorcroft