

## JOHN WAKEFIELD

*Audio Producer/Director Sound Designer*



Wakefieldaudio.com

Tel: +44 7751577191

Email: [johnpeterwakefield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johnpeterwakefield@yahoo.co.uk)

### ABOUT JOHN

John Wakefield is a London based sound designer, producer of audio documentary and a pioneer director and producer of audio drama. His production 'Wooden Overcoats' (Co-Director/Producer/Sound Designer) has been praised by the world's press. Described as 'perfectly produced' by the Guardian, recommended by TIME Magazine, The New York Times, NPR and described as "a podcast for people who think podcasts are for other people" by the Hindustan Times.

Other projects include BBC Audio Drama Award winning 'Rathband' (Co-Director/Sound Designer), Irish Podcast Award winning immersive horror thriller 'Below' for Audible (Director/Sound Designer), BBC Audio Drama Award nominated film noir- sitcom 'Trimble' (Director/Producer), and 'The Norwegian Hancock' for BBC Radio 4 as well as numerous plays, comedies and documentaries.

Sound design has been described by the Audio Production Awards as 'world class'. Work includes ARIA Award winning 'Algorithms' and Earphone Award winning 'The Man on the Mountaintop' for Audible Originals, 'Holy Sh!t' for Hat Trick Productions, recording and mixing for BBC R4, BBC World Service Documentaries and IDFA winning VR Film 'The Waiting Room'. He has produced and directed audiobooks for a range of international publishers.

He has also taught radio documentary production and sound design at UCL, appeared on podcast juries for the Prix Europa (Berlin), The Flyd International Radio Drama Festival (Copenhagen) and been invited to speak at a number of audio festivals and at the BBC.

John currently works as a Podcast Producer for Hat Trick Productions and HTM Television Ltd as well as freelance work.

### ACCOLADES

#### **British Podcast Awards**

Best Fiction Podcast Gold 2023, Silver 2021, Nomination 2020, Silver 2017 - Best Wellbeing Podcast Bronze 2021

#### **Irish Podcast Awards**

Best Fiction Podcast 2023

#### **BBC Audio Drama Awards**

Best Online or Non-Broadcast Audio Drama 2018, Best Podcast Audio Drama 2 Nominations 2023, Nomination 2014

#### **Audio Production Awards**

Best Sound Design Producer 2023, Nomination 2022.

#### **Audio and Radio Industry Awards**

Best Drama Silver 2023 (as Sound Designer), Best Fictional Storytelling Nomination 2017

#### **Prix Europa**

Digital Audio Nomination 2016

#### **iTunes**

Best of 2015

## SELECTED WORK

### Hat Trick Productions Ltd./HTM Television Ltd.

(2021 – present)

#### Producer/Director/Sound Designer

- Director and Sound Designer on award winning immersive horror 'Below' for Audible Originals. Directed performers, recorded the production and mixed in 7.1 surround sound using ambisonics.
- Responsible to developing and producing scripted and non-scripted productions for in-house and external clients.
- Co-producer of top 10 charting podcast 'Queen Bees with Jane Horrocks and Esther Coles'. (Scroobius Pip's 'guilty pleasure' podcast).
- Recording engineer, editor and sound designer for a variety of podcasts (interview formats, dramas and documentary).
- Sound Designer for comedy and drama productions.

### Wooden Overcoats (Wooden Overcoats Ltd.)

(January 2015 – March 2022)

#### Producer/ Director/ Sound Designer

- Lead a team responsible for making the first Podcast Drama to critically match the BBC's output.
- Developed four part series and 3 mini-series.
- Organised a team of roughly 50 people for the recording, casting and directing of full cast dramas for online distribution and 3 additional mini-series.
- Recorded, edited and sound designed the series on multiple DAWs, and formatting audio for upload to iTunes, Soundcloud and other podcast clients.
- Represented the production as a public face and presented the podcast for listeners during funding drives.
- Winner of a 2 British Podcast Awards, Multiple Audioverse Awards and was nominated for the Prix Europa.
- The series was featured on Time Magazines 'The 50 Best Podcasts to Listen to Right Now', 'Timeout World wide's top 26 podcasts 2021 and numerous other international publications including 'The Guardian', 'NPR', 'The New York Times' and 'The Hindu'.

### Freelance Audio Drama/Scripted Producer/Director

(2014 - present)

- **'Rathband' for Fifth Quarter Productions:** Co-Produced and Directed and Sound Designed with Prix Europa winner Jeremy Mortimer. Production won Best Online/Podcast Only Drama at the BBC Audio Drama Awards and was nominated for Best Storytelling in the ARIAS.
- **Sitcom 'Trimble':** Developed and Produced live audience genre sitcom, recorded with a full cast and live band. Nominated for the BBC Audio Drama Awards.
- **'Cassie and Corey' for Fifth Quarter Productions:** Produced and Sound Designed Children's drama/musical.
- Worked with production company **'Novel'**, to approach and develop audio drama projects with blockbuster game studios. Responsible for pitching to clients and drawing up series treatments and budgets.
- **'Driven' with Vault Festival and Fever Dream Theatre:** Ran new writing competition with Vault Festival and Fever Dream Theatre to produce a mini series featuring short dramas set and to be enjoyed on car journeys.
- Worked closely to produce independently released audio drama projects with a number of new writers, and book adaptations including on location shorts and feature length pieces.

### Freelance Sound Designer

(2014 – present)

- **'Holy Sh!t' for Hat Trick Productions:** Recorded and Sound Designed and Mastered turning a Covid-Friendly remotely recorded drama into realistic piece. Described as 'ingenious' by the Guardian.
- **'The Man on the Mountaintop' for Audible Originals/The Story Circle:** Sound Design and Mastering, working closely with composer to shape 5 hour drama starring Stanley Tucci and Toby Jones. Audie Award,

2019: Faith-Based Fiction and Nonfiction Winner, AudioFile Magazine 'Earphones Award Winner' and Audible International Top 10 bestseller.

- **'The Waiting Room' (Film) for East City Films:** Sound Design for BAFTA winner Victoria Mapplebeck's VR film of her experience battling breast cancer and relationship with her son. In competition at the Venice Biennale and winner at IDFA Doc Lab who pointed to the 'warm and heart wrenching audio'. (Also as documentary maker dramaturg, see below).
- **'28 Dates Later' for Novel/I ♥ Radio** – created opening sequence and mastered series to spec.
- **'Motherboard' (Film) for First Person Films:** Sound Design for Victoria Mapplebeck's upcoming feature.

#### Freelance Documentary Producer

(2014 - present)

- **Durga Puja with Amit Chaudhuri for BBC WS and Art and Adventure Productions:** Researched, Scripted, Edited and Sound designed documentary from location recorded sound in India for the Heart and Soul Strand working alongside Roger J Elsgood with whom I've developed and pitched further pieces.
- **'The Waiting Room' (Audio Piece) for Victoria Mapplebeck:** Worked closely with Victoria to dramaturg and create a 15 minute audio piece, exploring material she'd gathered to inform her film.
- **'Here, There and Back Again' for Age UK/The Wireless:** I worked with the charity to create an audio documentary piece highlighting the lives of residents of Pimlico that served their aims and brand. I aided in running workshops with local people and recording and interviewing for the production. Mixed and edited for DAB broadcast on 'The Wireless'.
- **'The Eighth Wonder of the World':** Scripted and produced an hour long drama feature on the history of Brunel's Thames Tunnel, with permission from TFL and the Brunel Museum interweaving location sound, interviews and dramatic recreation from historic sources.

#### Freelance Editing and Mastering Engineer

(2020 - present)

- Clients include **Novel, I Heart Radio, Hat Trick Productions** (Time Ghost, Queen Bees), **Rebel Book Club/M Gallery Hotels** (Bedroom Book Club), **The Storyfutures Academy** (Storyfutures Academy Podcast), **Rakkit Productions** Audiobook mastering), **Whistledown/Audible Originals** (Locked Together).
- 

#### RNIB Talking Book Studios

(July 2014 – present)

Audio Producer/Engineer/Sound Designer

- Responsible for rigging our studios for various setups for recording podcasts, audiobooks, dramas and commercial voiceovers.
- Edit audio in SADiE for a wide variety of commercial clients and formatting audio to their individual technical specifications.
- Directing and producing talent ranging from journalists, politicians, presenters and actors for in-house and commercial clients including Penguin, Harper Collins, Orion and independent productions for BBC Radio 4. These include JRR Tolkien's Unfinished Works, Alan Johnson MP reading his autobiography, and directing and sound designing Jonathan Pie's (Tom Walker) audiobook release for WF Howes.
- Producing documentary features about the history of the Talking Book Service (including sourcing archive).

## EDUCATION AND SKILLS

#### **Strange and Charmed – Course in Location Recording**

(2018)

- Trained in a variety of specialist location recording equipment and techniques by Jez Riley French

#### **Goldsmiths - Masters Degree in Radio Production**

(2013 – 2014 | Distinction)

- Trained in the use a number of Digital Audio Work Stations (inc. SADiE, Reaper, and ProTools).

- BJTC Accredited Journalist including comprehensive Media Law and Copyright Training.
- Trained in the use of Field and Studio Recording
- According to course director Tim Crook wrote and made: 'the very best drama-documentary produced by students in the history of the MA Radio Programme.