

# simon purse

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## Education:

*Kings College School, London*

12 O-Levels

*University of Durham*

A-Level Physics, Chemistry Maths

*Academy of Live and Recorded Arts*

BSc (Hons) Philosophy and Psychology

Scholarship on one year post graduate acting course

Having begun a degree in single honours Chemistry I quickly came to realise that science and I were not going to be friends. During my audition for the university revue company, I broke my arm falling over backwards pretending to change a car wheel in a hurricane. That made them laugh. In the following seven terms I produced, directed, lit, stage managed, or performed in twenty seven different productions, whilst not attending lectures and doing the minimum amount of academic work to avoid rustication. I switched degrees, and devised the ingenious process whereby all of my tutors were sent complimentary tickets to my shows; they seemed happy to know that I was, at least, busy at something other than drinking.

In my final year I was the director of the Durham Students' Union Theatre Company.

## Professional directing credits:

<i>Play</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Company</i>
The Cut	Baron's Court Theatre	Belle Theatre
London By Night	Uppark House	Bel Savage
The Old Red Barn	Uppark House	Bel Savage
Shoemakers Holiday	Southwark Playhouse	Comyns Carr
Midsummer Night's Dream	Jerash Festival, Jordan and Elmbridge Arts Festival	OSC
Twelfth Night	Jerash Festival, Jordan and The Barn, Walton	OSC
As You Like It,		
King John, and Cymbeline	Shakespeare's Globe, London	OSC
Romeo and Juliet	Jerash Festival, Jordan and Elmbridge Arts Festival	OSC

I have been working with Patrick Tucker and the Original Shakespeare Company for nine years; initially as an actor and most recently as a company "verse nurse" and director. I have taken the company on tour to Jordan and performed at Shakespeare's Globe. I train actors and English undergraduates at Drama Studio London, LAMDA, Stanford, Loyola Marymount University, Cambridge University, Oxbridge Academic Programs and Queen's University Belfast. I have also run training workshops using Shakespeare's plays in a variety of corporate environments.

I work extensively in the corporate world as a role player and facilitator, teaching appraisal, interviewing and communication skills for clients as varied as BP, Barclays, Andersen Consulting, and London Buses.