

# STORYTELLING FOR SCRIPT EDITORS, EXECUTIVES AND COMMISSIONERS



## Virtual Workshop with John Yorke (EP: *Wolf Hall*, *Shameless*, *Life on Mars*)

11– 21 May, 2020 and 8 – 18 June, 2020



### THE OPPORTUNITY:

Understanding the nature and make up of storytelling is essential developing TV programming. John Yorke has been behind some of the biggest hits in television and has distilled that knowledge into a detailed step by step course.

In thirty sessions over four weeks we'll explore all the key components of storytelling and how they apply to every format of scripted drama. We'll examine the reasons why they resonate and go into concrete detail about the history and application of the theories of narrative structure.

We'll explore technique, the role of the method of consumption in dictating structure, but more importantly we will apply that knowledge into contemporary analysis and application.

How do you develop original material? How do you decide whether an idea is best suited to single, a mini-series or Closed Season Serial? All of these questions and more will be explored in a comprehensive guide to developing stories for the modern television market.

*“This is a marvellous analysis of screenwriting and, with any luck, should help a great many people achieve their dreams”*

**Julian Fellowes, Creator of *Downton Abbey***

# CONTENT

## INTERMEDIATE MODULE

**Dates:** 11<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May, 2020

**Total Course Duration:** 17.5 hours

**Venue:** Virtual ZOOM Workshop

### **Course Topics:**

- Essential ingredients of story
- Story structure and its application to screenwriting
- Structural rules of storytelling formats (episodic/serialised, long-running/closed-ended)
- Creative materials – treatments, bibles, pitchbooks
- Archetypes and the ‘essential rules’
- Pitching

### **Schedule:**

11<sup>th</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

12<sup>th</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

14<sup>th</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

15<sup>th</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

18<sup>th</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

19<sup>th</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

21<sup>st</sup> May @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

## ADVANCED MODULE

*Participants must have completed the intermediate module*

**Dates:** 8<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

**Total Course Duration:** 17.5 hours

**Venue:** Virtual ZOOM Workshop

### **Course Topics:**

- Character: creating interesting characters and the relationship with structure
- Dialogue: creating subtext and managing exposition
- Multiprotagonism: the rules and how to manage structure
- The art of compelling narrative: suspense and surprise
- Dramatic Irony, Tragic Irony, Foreshadow, retardation

### **Schedule:**

8<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

9<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

11<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

12<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

15<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

16<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)

28<sup>th</sup> June @ 11.30am-1pm & 3pm-4pm (British Summer Time)



## John Yorke, Biography

John is a drama producer, author and teacher who has spent 30 years studying our insatiable appetite for stories. His long career in TV drama has given him the tools to identify the underlying shape common to all successful narratives – from drama to political speeches. He is the author of the UK's bestselling book on narrative structure – Into The Woods – How Stories Work and Why We Tell Them.

As former Head of Channel Four Drama, Controller of BBC Drama Production and MD of Company Pictures, John has shaped stories that have attracted some of the biggest audiences for drama in UK TV history. He has overseen some of the UK's most enduring and popular programmes, from Shameless and Life On Mars to EastEnders and Holby City, alongside award-winners like Bodies and the internationally acclaimed Wolf Hall.

John has worked with a vast array of talent, from Paul Greengrass and Paul Abbott to Debbie Horsfield and Jimmy McGovern, making him uniquely placed to watch, learn and analyse the work of the finest writers in television.

## How to Register

Please follow the links below:

[Registration Form](#)

[Terms & Condition](#)

