

# STORYTELLING FOR TV SCREENWRITERS

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

4 – 8 May, 2020 and 22 – 26 June, 2020



## THE OPPORTUNITY:

A structured course that explores all the key components of writing for television. In thirty sessions over ten days, we'll explore how stories work, why we tell them 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 concrete application.

Armed with a detailed knowledge of all the key ingredients, the participants will put that into practise with the aim of creating perfect stories and perfectly structured shows. We'll give you all the tools you need to convey your vision to broadcasters and buyers.

*"Love storytelling? John Yorke dissects the structure of stories with a joyous enthusiasm allied to precise, encyclopaedic knowledge. Guaranteed to send you back to your writing desk with newfound excitement and drive"*

**Chris Chibnall, Creator of Broadchurch, The Great Train Robbery**

# CONTENT

## MODULE 1: Advanced Structure & Story Rules

Date: May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 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:

May 4<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

May 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

May 8<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

## MODULE 2: Advanced Character & Dialogue

*Participants must have completed module 1*

Date: June 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 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:

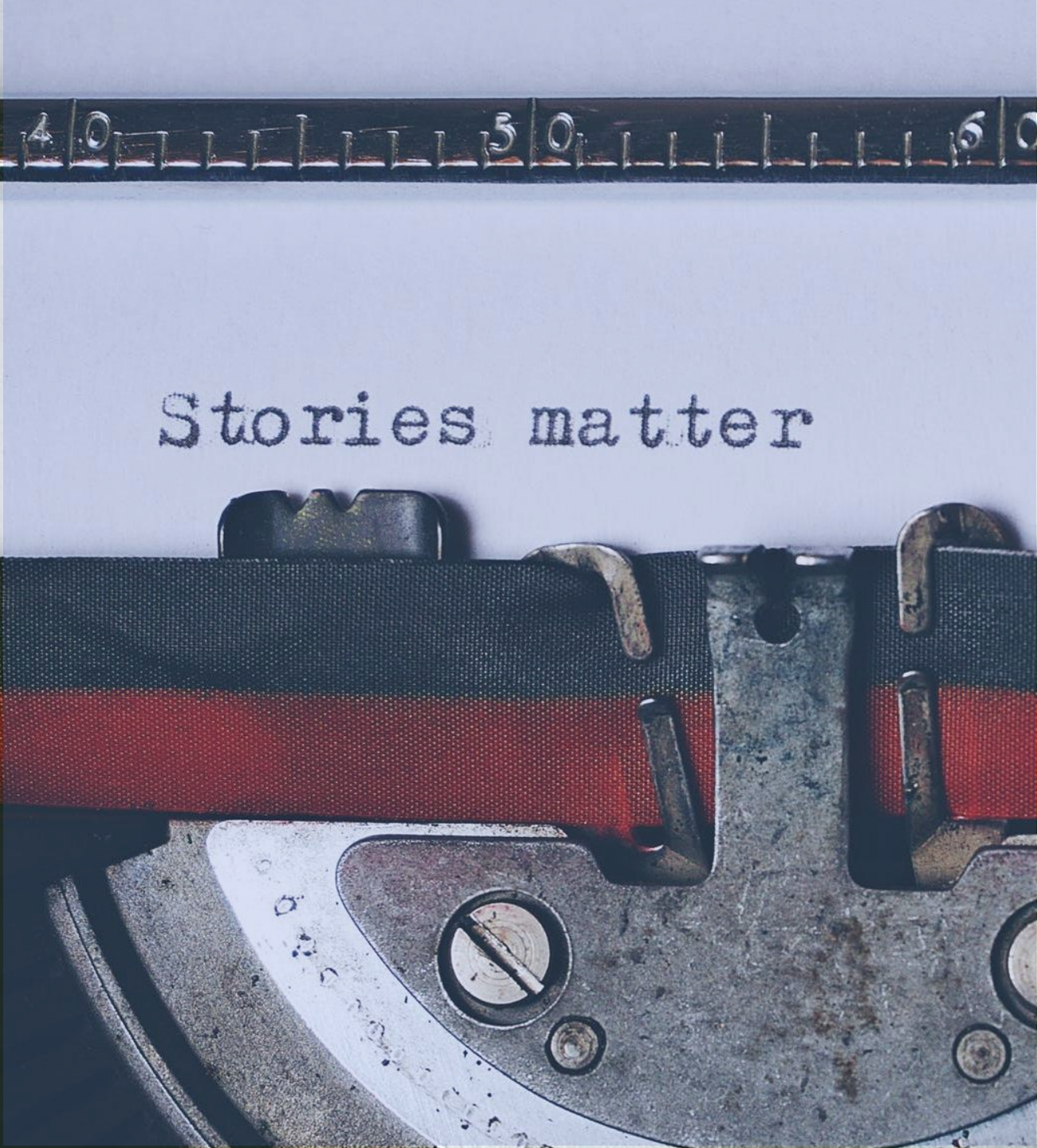
June 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

June 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

June 24<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

June 25<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)

June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (British Summer Time)



Stories matter

## 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](#)