

STORYTELLING FOR WRITERS, EXECUTIVES AND COMMISSIONERS

Virtual Workshop with John Yorke

(EP: *Wolf Hall*, *Shameless*, *Life on Mars*)

7 – 11 September 2020 and 5 -9 October 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 two modules, 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 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: Structure & Story Rules

Date: 7 –11 September 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:

Sept. 7th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Sept. 8th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Sept. 9th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Sept. 10th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Sept. 11th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-5.30 (GMT)

MODULE 2: Character & Dialogue

Participants must have completed module 1

Date: 5 -9 October 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:

Oct. 5th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Oct. 6th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Oct. 7th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Oct. 8th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-4.30 (GMT)

Oct. 9th @ 11-12.30 / 1.30-2.30 / 3.30-5.30 (GMT)



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*](#)

(to download)

[Terms & Condition](#)

“John Yorke is a joy to listen to and backs up theory with a lot of examples. He is very clear in what structure can do in order to fix a broken script and was generous when offering solutions. Very useful for anyone in Scripted Television”

Lars Beckung – CEO, Nexiko (Sweden)

**If you'd like to participate, but you've been financially affected by Covid19, please contact London@mediaxchange.com*