

RACHEL BELLMAN
Playwright, book writer and lyricist
www.rachelbellman.com

I'm a London-based writer, lyricist and playwright. I'm drawn to unique stories that are challenging, meaningful and strange, whether about students stealing endangered flowers, Jewish exorcisms, or an imagined love story between two telepaths.

Writing Projects

These Demons – a dark comedy-horror play exploring Jewish demonology (playwright)

- Produced at Theatre503 for a 3 week run in September and October 2023
- Published and licensed by Concord Theatricals
- Developed through two ACE-funded R&D processes in July 2021 and October 2022
- Longlisted for the 2021 Women's Prize for Playwriting

How to Escape – a large-scale speculative musical (book writer and lyricist)

- In development with the Liverpool Empire's Creative Learning department
- Part of a six-month 2023 project to R&D the show with young people at the Liverpool Empire

90 Seconds to Midnight - a collaboratively written and devised piece of musical (co-book writer and lyricist)

- In development with Timelapse Theatre from 2023, written and devised through collaborative process with a team of four other writers and director Adam Lenson

Game Theory – a coming-of-age crime thriller musical (book writer and lyricist)

- In development with Perfect Pitch Musicals Ltd
- Presented in concert at The Lowry for the June 2021 Rewrites Festival, directed by Julie Atherton
- Produced by University of Central Lancashire in 2019, directed by Bruce Guthrie
- Songs performed in 'Musical Bites' at The Other Palace, by the London Musical Theatre Orchestra, and in the Stiles + Drewe Best New Song Prize, 'SIGNAL – Redefining New British Music Theatre' and Page to Stage Gala Concert

Tooting Bec Asylum – a short horror play (playwright and co-director)

- Produced by Danse Macabre in 'The Fright Before Christmas' at The Space in December 2021

ISOLATED at JW3 – a short horror commission by JW3 (playwright)

- A site-specific commission, working alongside five other artists
- Produced at JW3 in May 2021

The Dickens Girls – a feminist historical musical (book writer and lyricist)

- Winner of the 2019 New Music Theatre Award and commissioned by British Youth Music Theatre
- Produced by BYMT at the New Wolsey Theatre in 2019, directed by Charlotte Westenra

- 2020 finalist for the Rhinebeck Writers' Retreat
- 2020 finalist for the Stiles + Drew Best New Song Prize for the song 'Two Ways to Australia'

So-Called Gen Z – a contemporary concept musical (book writer and lyricist)

- Produced by Pauline Quirke Academy at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe, directed by Grace Taylor
- Selected for Historical Preservation by Fringe Performance Archive, National Library of Scotland
- Developed with teenagers at PQA Sutton throughout summer 2019

Peanut Butter – a short comedic play (playwright)

- Produced by Black Cat Theatre in 'Millennials: Disconnected' at the Pleasance Theatre in 2018

Otherworld – a dark fantasy musical (book writer and lyricist)

- Developed with the BOOK Music & Lyrics writers workshop in 2016
- Showcased at Crazy Coqs in February 2017

The Art of Being Brilliant – song cycle for primary schools (lyricist)

- Commissioned by Nottingham City Council and based on the book by Andy Cope
- Performed at Royal Concert Hall Nottingham in March 2017

Elf Spies & The Knights Before Christmas – two short children's musicals (bookwriter and lyricist)

- Commissioned by Perfect Pitch Musicals in 2016 to be performed by schools and drama groups
- Originally performed by Ickleford Drama in December 2016. Subsequently performed in Dublin.

Barry the Penguin's Black and White Christmas – a musical children's book and CD (co-writer)

- Based on the musical by John-Victor and Lesley Ross
- Published in December 2015 by Troubador in association with Perfect Pitch Musicals
- CD narrated by Christopher Eccleston and performed by a West End cast

Member of the Mercury Musical Developments Advanced Writers Lab (2018 – present)

Member of the Soho Theatre Young Writers' Lab (2018)

Member of BOOK Music & Lyrics composer/lyricist advanced group (2017)