

# CHRIS HARPER

P R O D U C T I O N S

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**GENERAL MANAGER**  
**JOB DESCRIPTION**

# CHRIS HARPER

PRODUCTIONS

## GENERAL MANAGER

Chris Harper is a Tony and Olivier Award-winning producer who has produced some of the most acclaimed theatrical successes of the last 15 years.

He was the founding Managing Director and Producer of National Theatre Productions in 2009. While at the National Theatre, Chris produced Michael Morpurgo's **War Horse** for 8 record-breaking years at the New London Theatre West End. In 2011, **War Horse** transferred to the Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center on Broadway where it was nominated for 5 Tony Awards and won 5, including Best Play. It was the longest-running play in Canada, where it played 368 performances at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto. **War Horse** toured extensively in the UK and America alongside separate productions in Holland, Australia, and Germany. Richard Bean's **One Man Two Guvnors** transferred to the Adelphi Theatre for a 16-week sellout season starring James Corden before moving to the Music Box Theatre on Broadway. The play also transferred to the Theatre Royal Haymarket where it ran for 2 years. Simon Stephen's adaption of Mark Haddon's **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time** transferred to the Apollo Theatre followed by the Gielgud Theatre in the West End where it ran for 4 years. It transferred to The Ethel Barrymore Theatre on Broadway where it ran for 2 years, earning 6 Tony nominations and winning 5, including Best Play. It toured extensively in the UK and North America. Duncan Macmillan's **People, Places and Things** transferred to Wyndham's Theatre in 2016. He was Executive Producer on the West End transfer of the Broadway production of **Beautiful: The Carole King Musical**.

In 2016, Chris founded Elliott and Harper Productions. He produced Stephen Sondheim and George Furth's musical **Company**, directed by Marianne Elliott which opened in the West End at the Gielgud Theatre in 2018, before transferring to the Bernard Jacobs Theatre on Broadway. **Company** earned 9 Tony Award nominations and 5 Tony Award wins including 'Best Revival of a Musical', and then embarked on a US tour in 2023. Other productions include the West End premiere of **Cock** by Mike Bartlett, directed by Marianne Elliott and starring Jonathan Bailey and Taron Egerton, Arthur Miller's **Death of a Salesman** directed by Marianne Elliott and Miranda Cromwell at the Young Vic Theatre before transferring to the Piccadilly Theatre in the West End and the Hudson Theatre on Broadway, **Heisenberg: The Uncertainty Principle** at Wyndham's Theatre, and **The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe**, directed by Sally Cookson at the Leeds Playhouse and Bridge Theatre in London.

Producer Tom O'Connell joined in 2024, his previous West End & International tour credits include **Burlesque** the musical, **Brokeback Mountain**, **Bonnie & Clyde** the musical, **Bake Off** the Musical, **Hairspray** the musical, **Priscilla Queen of the Desert**, **Trainspotting Live**, **Love Never Dies** & **Evita** in Concert, **Beautiful Thing**, **The Boys in the Band**, **This is Going to Hurt Live**, **Loot**, **Murder on the Orient Express**, **Someone Who'll Watch Over Me**, **Club Tropicana** the musical, **The Man in the White Suit**, **Single Spies**, **The Height of the Storm**, **Another Country**, **Ghost Stories**, **The Messiah**, **The King's Speech**, **Babe The Sheep-Pig**, **Out of Order**, **Million Dollar Quartet**, **White Christmas**, **The 39 Steps**, **The Ladykillers**, **Goodnight Mr Tom**, **Swallows & Amazons**, **Peppa Pig Live**, **The Miser**, **Quartet** and **The Winslow Boy**.

Lucy Woollatt was previously Executive Director at the Young Vic Theatre for 9 years (until 2017), where she and David Lan delivered multi-award winning productions including **A View from The Bridge**, **A Streetcar Named Desire** and **Yerma** at the Young Vic, in the West End and in the US. Prior to this she was Finance Director at ENO, and the National Theatre. Jacob Dorrell was previously Assistant to Adam Speers, Executive Producer at ATG Productions, working across a variety of shows on the West End and Broadway, including multi-award-winning **Cabaret** and **Sunset Boulevard**. Liam Cullen joins from the office of Sir Cameron Mackintosh.

A new production of **The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe** embarked on a critically acclaimed UK and Northern Ireland tour in 2022, followed by a successful run at the Gillian Lynne Theatre in the West End directed by Michael Fentiman. It has broken all box office records at the Birmingham Rep, Leeds Playhouse, Liverpool Empire and is on a UK & Ireland tour currently through to 2026.

CHP's recent productions include **The Roommate** on Broadway starring Mia Farrow & Patti LuPone, directed by Jack O'Brien, **Cat On A Hot Tin Roof** at Almeida Theatre starring Daisy Edgar-Jones and Kingsley Ben-Adir directed by Rebecca Frecknall, world premiere of new Passenger composed **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry** the musical at Chichester Festival Theatre starring Mark Addy & Jenna Russell, world premiere of Ibsen's **Ghosts** by Gary Owen at the Lyric Hammersmith starring Victoria Smurfit, Callum Scott Howells, Patricia Allison.

### TEAM

Chris Harper – Producer  
Tom O'Connell – Producer  
Lucy Woollatt – Finance Consultant  
Jacob Dorrell – Production Co-Ordinator  
Liam Cullen – PA to the Director  
Sophie Wells – Finance Assistant

Chris Harper Productions  
General Manager – Job Description

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PRODUCTIONS



**Othello** (Theatre Royal Haymarket), **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry** (Chichester Festival Theatre), **Ghosts** (Lyric Hammersmith)

## General Manager

**1 year fixed term contract starting ASAP.**

Responsible to: Producer  
Shared responsibility with Producer for: Production Co-Ordinator  
Salary: £47,500 per annum

**Duties and Responsibilities include but not limited to:**

### Contracts

- With the Production Co-ordinator and Producer, negotiate and oversee the preparation of contracts for productions in accordance with current union agreements, including actors, creatives, stage management and production teams and all other staff.
- Oversee the management of child licensing and scheduling matters, if applicable.
- Build and maintain relationships with agents, actors, creatives, investors, co-producers and venues.
- Create contracts, personnel templates, work with Producers on Code of Conduct Policies and working with Head of People & Culture on all HR matters.
- Keeping abreast of and advising on current union agreements and ensuring company adherence to current rates and regulations.
- Ensure that all productions have appropriate Health and Safety policies in place in conjunction with the Production Manager.

### Day to Day line management

- Oversee the smooth running of all productions, especially Othello West End 2025.
- Manage internal communications across the productions, including briefing Company Management, reporting to the Director and Producer, and liaising with external agencies.

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- Line manage show teams both in production and throughout the run. Oversee the resolution of any HR issues, ensuring pastoral care is of the highest standard and general wellbeing of the company is maintained.
- Be the first to deal with any problems as they might arise on the production, including for actor and creative team agents. Be the point of contact for the production manager for all financial contractual and budgetary matters.
- Act as liaison with the venue and performing company locally or whilst on tour, regularly attending the theatre in person.

## **Events and Travel**

- Oversee rehearsals and previews as necessary. This may include regional and international travel.
- Oversee the organisation of travel, visas, accommodation and per diems for all productions.

## **Marketing**

- Liaise with marketing, press and ticketing representatives, producers and creative teams as necessary to plan, launch and monitor campaigns and organise on-sales
- Manage production PR appearances and/or press events as required
- Manage, with the Production Coordinator, press and gala nights

## **Show Budgets**

- With the Producer and Finance Consultant monitor all areas of production budget income and expenditure and provide updates as required on total forecast capitalisation and running expenditure
- Check and approve weekly theatre contras.
- Work with the production accountant to ensure the weekly payroll is set up effectively
- Work with the in-house finance team to ensure financial processes are carried out efficiently and effectively, including swift and accurate authorisation of invoices and review of weekly payrolls

## **Other**

- Working with the Finance Consultant and the Producers, arrange appropriate insurance for the production and manage claims
- Carry out any other duties that may reasonably be required, including covering for members of the team during holiday and illness.
- Oversee and champion the production's equality, diversity and inclusion initiatives.
- Attend league of Independent Producers meetings with Producer, and any training provided by the company.
- Ensure, in conjunction with our broker, all productions have adequate and appropriate insurance and administration of any claims.

**Person Specification - Essential Skills and Experience**

- Significant experience working in a professional theatre environment, as a General Manager
- Experience of working within the requirements of the relevant union agreements.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to work with a wide range of people. Excellent face-to-face and written communication skills and a confident telephone manner.
- Strong negotiating and persuasion skills.
- Excellent numerical and budgetary skills.
- Excellent computer literacy including knowledge of Word, Excel and Outlook.
- Excellent time management skills and the ability to work under pressure, juggling multiple priorities.
- A willingness to work collaboratively as part of a supportive small team
- Self-motivated, with a methodical, logical and thorough approach to work and an ability to use initiative.
- An ability to respect confidentiality and use diplomacy and discretion.
- Enthusiasm and willingness to learn.
- A passion for theatre and the theatre-making process.

Email CV & Cover Letter to [jobs@chrisharperproductions.com](mailto:jobs@chrisharperproductions.com)