

# ELENA YIANNI

## THEATRE + FILM DIRECTOR | FOUNDER OF AMDA (ARTISTS' MOVEMENT FOR DEVELOPING ARTISTRY)

Elena Yianni is a London-based Greek Cypriot Theatre and Film Director working with bold new writing and overlooked stories by and about underrepresented voices, particularly those connected to communities like her own. She is drawn to stories about people - their identity, culture, politics and the realities of life today - often seeking out narratives that carry a thread of hope. Her practice is grounded in care, curiosity and collaboration.

She is also the Founder of AMDA (Artists' Movement for Developing Artistry), a multidisciplinary company dedicated to nurturing artists aged 13–30.

## EDUCATION

### APPLIED THEATRE BA(HONS) - 1ST CLASS

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire | 2018 - 2021

## EXPERIENCE

### THEATRE

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR — THE OPHIOLITE (PLAY) BY PHILLIP DE VONI**  
*Theatro Technis* | DIR. Kerry Kyriagos Michael MBE | Nov 25 – Feb 26

**DIRECTOR — SWEDISH MEATBALLS (PLAY) BY ALICE ONWARDI**  
*Theatre503* | (*Rapid Write Response to by their fruits by DK Fashola*) | 24

**DIRECTOR — GHOST LIGHT (MUSICAL) BY MOLLY O'GORMAN**  
*The Hope Theatre* - Jul 2023 (3 weeks) | Also developed at *The Golden Goose* - Feb 2023 (1 week) | OFFCOMM Commendation - OFFIES 2023

**DIRECTOR — REVELATIONS (PLAY) BY SAOIRSE D BYRNE**  
*Brighton Fringe* / *Rose Theatre Kingston* (sold out) | Dec 21 - Jul 22

### FILM

**1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR — UNTITLED (FILM SERIES) BY MARION GITHEGI AND TOBY CLARKE**  
*dir. Toby Clarke* | *Post-Production*, 2025

**DIRECTOR — WAITING (SHORT FILM) BY MOLLY O'GORMAN**  
*Theatre Deli* / *Delivision* | August 23 - October 2024


## LEADERSHIP & INITIATIVES

**FOUNDER — AMDA (ARTISTS' MOVEMENT FOR DEVELOPING ARTISTRY)**  
*A multidisciplinary CIC nurturing artists aged 13–30.* | Jan 2022 - Ongoing

**FOUNDER / LEAD FACILITATOR — THE DIRECTORS CLUB (MONTHLY CLUB)**  
*A development space for early-career directors.* | Jan 2025 - Ongoing

**CREATOR + MENTOR — DIRECTING UNFILTERED (MENTORING INITIATIVE)**  
*Mentoring initiative supporting young + emerging directors.* | Oct 2025 Ongoing



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## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

**Devising Intensive** - Theatre 503 with Billy Bartlett | Nov 2025

**Young Creatives Programme** - Harrow Arts Centre | Sep 2024 – Jun 2025

**Young Associate Programme** - Lyric Hammersmith | Oct 2023 – Oct 2024

**Fresh Direction & Creators Programme** - Young Vic | Nov 2022 – Jun 2023

**ALT B Intensive Directors Course** - With Toby Clarke | Jul 2024

**'DirectYourFirstPlay' Course** - With Kalungi Ssebandeke | Jul 2024 + Ongoing mentoring | Jan – Mar 2025

**Short Courses in Directing & Writing** - National Youth Theatre | 2021

## SHADOWING & MASTERCLASSES

### Shadowing

- Rachel Chavkin — HADESTOWN (Lyric Theatre)
- Lynette Linton — SHIFTERS (Bush Theatre)
- Daniel Bailey — YV UNWRAPPED (Young Vic)
- Max Webster & Jo Tyabji — ANTIGONE (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre)
- Rachel O'Riordan — FAITH HEALER (Lyric Hammersmith)

### Masterclasses

- Rebecca Frecknall, Bruce Goodison, Phillip J. Morris, Matthew Xia, Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Ned Bennett.