Ed Madden

Director / Writer

Represented by:
Jessica Stewart

Ed Madden is a director and dramaturg, working primarily with new writing. He is from Bristol and based in London. His production of Sarah Power's new play, Welcome to Pemfort recently completed its run at Soho Theatre to excellent reviews. He is also the dramaturg on Ava Pickett's new play, Bloodsport which is running at Theatre Royal Stratford East. His work also includes the premieres of Jack Bradfield's play The Habits (2025) at Hampstead Theatre; Sophia Chetin-Leuner's play This Might Not Be It (2024); Marek Horn's plays Octopolis (2023) and Yellowfin (2021); and Sam Steiner's plays A Table Tennis Play (2019) and Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons (2015-17), and his dance-theatre and opera work has been seen at the Royal Ballet and Welsh National Opera.

Ed is Associate Dramaturg at the National Theatre, having previously been Resident Director at the NT Studio in 2024.

For screen, he is co-writing original feature drama The Endling, with Tessa Ross and Sarah Esberg producing.

THEATRE - AS DIRECTOR

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2026	WELCOME TO PEMFORT	Soho Theatre	by Sarah Power Cast: Sean Delaney, Debra Gillett, Ali Hadji-Heshmati, Lydia Larson "Power's shattering new play uses a living history event to grapple with the stories we tell about - and to - ourselves, and question what happens when the past cannot be shaken off... Madden lets the scripts silences sit, laying out the revelations and their consequences and waiting as we make our minds up about them." - The Guardian "Madden has a strong track record for stewarding thrilling new work, and this is no exception. His sensitive production features four excellent performances... This may not be the play I thought I was getting, but it's certainly one I won't soon forget." - WhatsOnStage "Madden's production is nuanced and sensitive... On the surface Welcome to Pemfort is a a naturalistic drama about quirky rural folks. And it's a good example of that! But scratch that surface and it's got a core of steel - an unflinching look at the human condition that's only cosplaying as cute." - Time Out "The nerdy atmosphere is brilliantly and subtly evoked in Madden's wonderful production, and the script by Sarah Power is full of deft, realistic touches... The writer and the director are destined to hit the heights." - The Spectator

INDEPENDENT TALENT GROUP LTD

40 WHITFIELD STREET LONDON W1T 2RH
TEL: +44 (0)20 7636 6565 FAX: +44 (0)20 7323 0101

REGISTERED IN ENGLAND NUMBER 4338525 EMPLOYMENT AGENCY,
REGISTERED OFFICE 40 WHITFIELD STREET LONDON W1T 2RH

2025	THE HABITS	Hampstead Theatre	by Jack Bradfield Cast: Debra Baker, Jamie Bisping, Sara Hazemi, Ruby Stokes, Paul Thornley "Never having played Dungeons & Dragons, I can't vouch for the accuracy of Jack Bradfield's play... But it's genuinely entertaining... The performances are superb too. The characters don extravagant costumes towards the end, but long before that Ed Madden's tightly drilled production has presented us with the tics and grievances of a group who find meaning in stories governed by flights of imagination and rolls of the dice." - The Times "Madden's excellent production is both entertaining and gripping, proving how acting, as well as game-playing, is a collective activity. On designer Alys Whitehead's table-and-chairs set, where Laura Howard's lighting and Max Pappenheim's cinematicmusic evoke steep mountain sides and deep caverns, the actors reign supreme... Theresult is a funny, tender and quietly inspiring evening. I left the theatre imagining otherways of life." - Arts Desk "The production has incredible timing - both comic and dramatic... It's just bloody good theatre" - Broadway World
2024	COSI FAN TUTTE	Da Ponte Festival	Music by Mozart Libretto by Da Ponte
2024	THIS MIGHT NOT BE IT	Bush Theatre	by Sophia Chetin-Leuner Cast: Denzel Baidoo, Debra Baker, and Dolly Webb "Set against the backdrop of the UK's deepening mental health crisis, this timely character piece focuses on the resilient, exhausted workers keeping our underfunded NHS functioning... Madden's measured staging handles the play's serious subject matter with finesse, while teasing out every bit of its dry gallows humour." - The Stage "The relationship between [Angela, played by Debra Baker] and Denzel Baidoo's naive, hot headed, increasingly-disillusioned Jay is beautifully drawn in Ed Madden's subtly directed production. Each tentative step they take towards each other is observed with a quiet, touching truth." - The Telegraph "The setting is an NHS mental health clinic, but the beauty of this piece is that it speaks in a universal language about the way people find ways of co-existing in an office where space is tight and time is short. Small gestures are magnificed, resentments fester." - The Times
2023	THE LIMIT	Royal Opera House, Linbury Theatre	Adapted from Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Lemons Choreography by Kristen McNally Music by Isobel Waller-Bridge Text by Sam Steiner * Nominated for the National Dance Award for Best Modern Choreography "Beg, steal and borrow to get a ticket... The manner in which the movement and text interpreted and interpenetrated one another was itself a revelation. I have never before witnessed anything of that kind and at that level of intensity." - Dance Europe "Sam Steiner's play, set in a world of rationed speech, lends itself to movement, and the dancers here also retain the dialogue, fusing the forms with quiet grace" - The Guardian "A deft, witty staging." - Independent "Dialogue, dance and music fuse effortlessly as the couple ride the changes in life and love... Hayward and Campbell as you have never seen them... A super 70 minutes of theatre, dance theatre, call it what you will" - Seeing Dance

2023	OCTOPOLIS	Hampstead Theatre	by Marek Horn Cast: Jemma Redgrave, Ewan Miller "Ed Madden's superb production is sensitive to both the thrilling ideas and shifting emotions of the play." - The Arts Desk "Marek Horn's brilliant, intellectually demanding play... Madden's production is energised... Redgrave fascinates as the bereaved academic, Miller brings fierce intelligence to his role." - The Mail "Horn's cerebral writing is fascinating to listen to... An engrossing night with some superbly observed performances from Redgrave and Miller." - WhatsOnStage "It can be funny, touching, and surprising, but fascination, here, is the priority...Madden directs the piece with an intellectual creativity, turning a very on-the-pagescript into something living and breathing." - Broadway World "Where better than Hampstead to watch the interplay of cutting-edge science with emotional intensity and philosophical unanswerables?" - Libby Purves
2021	YELLOWFIN	Jessie Anand Productions / Walrus / Southwark Playhouse	by Marek Horn Cast: Nancy Crane, Nicholas Day, Joshua James, Beruce Khan * Nominated for five Off-West End Awards, including for Best New Play and Best Director. "Ed Madden's traverse staging of Horn's interval-free text swims by beautifully... This world premiere run of the play is urgent, astute and persuasive." - The Times "Madden's tidy production allows Horn's skilful wordplay to take centre stage... The climactic moments are superbly well constructed, leading to a delicious denouement. I guarantee you'll never look at a tin of tuna in quite the same way" - WhatsOnStage - "A rare glimpse of that vanishing species: the play of ideas." - The Telegraph "Sharp, tangy and truly hilarious... Much credit goes to director Ed Madden for showcasing and framing these performances with finesse, [finding] dynamism in exquisite pacing and in Pappenheim's sound world." - Exeunt "Smart, funny, scary: an absolute bream of a play. An ace cast in a diamond production." - David Jays
2019	A TABLE TENNIS PLAY	Walrus / Underbelly Cowgate, Edinburgh Festival Fringe	by Sam Steiner Cast: Beth Holmes, Euan Kitson and Rosa Robson "Heartsore drama, vivid theatricality... In Ed Madden's production, every minute feels beautifully considered, and his cast smash it out of the park. " - Sunday Times "Madden's production remains largely abstract; a perfect counter for characters that are so vividly drawn... An absolute ace." - WhatsOnStage "In Ed Madden's beautifully judged, brilliantly acted production, a play that takes its time comes up like a bruise." - Fest "You want to hang on to every last word." - Telegraph

2018	A NUMBER	The Other Room, Cardiff	by Caryl Churchill Welsh premiere Cast: Brendan Charleson and Stevie Raine "Madden's subtle production... Deftly directed and performed." - The Stage "A poised presentation of this beautifully thoughtful tale" - British Theatre Guide "More pertinent, more perceptive, and more powerful than ever." - The Reviews Hub
2017	THE WORLD'S WIFE	Welsh National Opera / Taliesin Arts Centre / Mavron Quartet	Music by Tom Green Libretto by Carol Ann Duffy Cast: Amanda Forbes and the Mavron Quartet "This stunning one-woman show... Skilfully directed by Ed Madden." - The Arts Desk "Simply staged... Amanda Forbes brilliantly turns from Medusa's fury to Anne Hathaway's tenderness to Salome's vampy vacuum cleaner cabaret." - The Times "An intimate experience, painting the sharp wit and emotional push-me-pull-you of Duffys' poetry... Sensitively wrought." - The Stage
2015-2017	LEMONS LEMONS LEMONS LEMONS LEMONS	Warwick Arts Centre / Zoo Southside, Edinburgh Festival Fringe / Roundabout at Summerhall / UK Tour	by Sam Steiner Cast: Beth Holmes and Euan Kitson "I don't even want to think about how young this company is... About as promising as debuts get." - Time Out "Beautifully choreographed by director Ed Madden." - The Guardian "An intelligent, confident, beautifully formed piece of theatrical metaphor... Madden's subtle, effective production." - Fest

THEATRE - AS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2022	LEOPOLDSTADT	Sonia Friedman Productions / Longacre Theatre, Broadway	By Tom Stoppard Dir. Patrick Marber
2021	HABEAS CORPUS	Menier Chocolate Factory	By Alan Bennett Dir. Patrick Marber
2021	LEOPOLDSTADT	Sonia Friedman Productions / Wyndham's Theatre	By Tom Stoppard Dir. Patrick Marber
2019	TARTUFFE	National Theatre	By Molière adapt. John Donnelly Dir. Blanche McIntyre
2018	THE WINTER'S TALE	Shakespeare's Globe	By William Shakespeare Dir. Blanche McIntyre
2016	THE CHILDREN	Royal Court	By Lucy Kirkwood Dir. James Macdonald

2016	THE RIVALS	Bristol Old Vic / Glasgow Citizens / Liverpool Everyman	By Richard Brinsley Sheridan Dir. Dominic Hill
2016	THE IPHIGENIA QUARTET: AGAMEMNON/CHORUS	Gate Theatre, Notting Hill	By Caroline Bird / Chris Thorpe Dir. Christopher Haydon / Elayce Ismail

FEATURE FILM

PRODUCTION (ROLE)	PROJECT DETAILS
THE ENDLING	Co-writer In development