

Robbie Bellekom

(they/them)

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Robbie is an experienced workshop facilitator and is available to run workshops in puppet making and performance. They have experience working with children and adults as well as those with SEND. Workshops can be tailored to suit the needs of the group or to tie in with a production or area of study.

Previous workshop topics have covered:

- Basic principles of puppetry (breath, weight, focus etc.).
- Different forms of puppetry, such as shadow puppetry, table top puppets and marionettes.
- Making puppets from recycled materials. .
- Puppet design and prototyping.
- Writing for puppetry.

Past Experience Includes:

- **2019 Real Ideas Workshops.** Puppet making and puppetry performance workshops for SEN teenagers and young adults. The workshops consisted of performance techniques, puppet making, devising with puppets and adding music to a performance.

- **2019 The Shearing Gang.** Working in collaboration with Dogwood Productions' show. Puppetry building and performance workshop with KS2 children in schools and community spaces. The workshops involved a building and puppetry workshop leading to short performance.

- **2022 When Seagulls Saved the World.** Outdoor theatre production with workshops alongside. The set up varied from puppet making workshops in community space to making and performance workshops for Cornwall Neighbourhood For Change.

- **2022 Another Winter's Tale.** Workshops in storytelling for KS2 alongside a touring theatre production. Exploring different techniques including shadow puppetry, kamishibai and music to create short performances.

- **2024 Facing the Waves.** Reminiscence recordings and workshops with community groups and individuals across North Yorkshire and Teesside.

- **2025/26 Open Doors: Artist in Residence** at The National Civil War Centre, working with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Residency includes workshops and community projects across the county.

- **2025/26 Transported** Puppetry, puppet and lantern making workshops with Transported in Boston as part of the Illuminate Festival and the Hanse Day celebrations.

- **2026 North Yorkshire Libraries and Whitby Museums** Puppet making workshops in schools and on site during the Fish and Ship Festival. The project culminated in a giant walkabout crab puppet built and operated with the help of the children of schools around Whitby.

References available on request