

## Curriculum Vitae

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**Communicator and facilitator.**  
**Extensive experience in public relations,**  
**education and the theatre.**  
**Now focused on conflict resolution**  
**and the transformation of people**  
**who dehumanise individuals.**

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### **1970-1979** *Education and Public Relations practice*

Attended Marist Brothers College in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Graduated BA from Rhodes University, Grahamstown (1971) in English, Drama, Afrikaans-Nederlands, Post Biblical Jewish Studies, History of Music, History of Art

In Cape Town, taught at Harold Cressy High School, and Battswood Training School (both Coloured schools\* in Cape Town), and worked in advertising and publicity (*CAPAB Opera*). Directed Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and formed the non-racial youth theatre group,

*Azzurro*, which performed at the Community Arts Project (Mowbray) and on tour to “non-white” areas.

In 1979 accepted an assignment at the Oranjemund Primary School (South West Africa/Namibia) to integrate children from Ovamboland into mainstream English medium classes. (They had previously been schooled in Afrikaans and Oshiwambo). Directed numerous theatrical productions, in the community and at school. Awarded a scholarship by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to study at the national drama school of Italy, Silvio D’Amico in Rome, where he directed Tennessee Williams’ *The Milk Train Doesn’t Stop Here Anymore*.

(\* Note: in pre-1994 South Africa, “Coloured” meant people classified as mixed race)

### **1980-1984 Theatre and Education**

Taught at Wittebome and Harold Cressy High Schools (English, Afrikaans and Latin), directed theatrical productions at the People’s Space Theatre, the Joseph Stone and Oude Libertas Amphitheatre. Productions included *Alice! (In Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass)*; Oscar Wilde’s *Salome*; Martin Sherman’s *Bent*; *Edward II*; *Godspell*; Lorca’s *Cachiporra*. Worked with Mavis Becker to establish the first South African multi-racial Spanish dance company, *Danza Lorca*.

### **1984-1996 Public Relations (Theatre & Broadcasting)**

Appointed Head of Public Relations for PACOFS (Performing Arts Council of the Orange Free State, in Bloemfontein), launched the new Sand du Plessis Theatre internationally. Founded the Observatory Foundation and presented Puccini’s opera *Sister Angelica*, with Black, White and Coloured singers on stage together for the first time.

Head-hunted for M-NET Television (South Africa’s first pay TV service) in Johannesburg and worked as Head of Public Relations from 1987-1996. Initially only available in Johannesburg, M-NET spread all over South Africa and up the continent, notably to Kenya, Ghana and then Cairo.

Worked to promote M-NET’s public image in every territory. (The company was revolutionary in many ways, notably with its policy of equal opportunities for all races.) Created numerous strategic PR programmes, such as the M-NET Book Prize (for novels in the country’s eleven official languages) and the M-NET All Africa Film Awards. Duties included the full range of Communications activities, as well as liaison with the current government and the government in waiting, later the government of national unity, promoting interaction and understanding.

### **1996-2000 Business and Film**

Continued to work on major M-NET projects from Cape Town, all over Africa, under the banner of own communications company, *Three Worlds Agency*. Appointed head of the international jury for the 1998 Cathage Film Festival (Tunisia, the Journées Cinématographiques de

Carthage), and subsequently a member of the jury at FESPACO (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso) and of the Tunisian Youth Film Festival in Kelibia. Researched, wrote, co-produced and directed the feature film, *Slavery of Love* (1999), and was awarded the prize for best newcomer director at the Sithengi Film Festival, in Cape Town.

The film is an original story about slaves and settlers at the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) in 1714, showing for the first time on film the brutal slavery at the Cape. Nigel Warden, Professor of History at the University of Cape Town, made the film required viewing for his students, at UCT and at the University of the Western Cape. He commented: "Apart from its artistic qualities, which are of the highest calibre, it gives a vivid understanding of the historical experience of slavery. It is based on sound historical research, and even my nit-picking academic mind could find no fault with its accuracy. Indeed, it conveyed to me the ambiguities and tensions inherent in slavery, and the impact of slavery on masters and slaves alike; with a vividness that no academic work has even approached."

### **2000-2012 *International Public Relations***

Based in London, continued to work in public relations, in England, Dubai, Riyadh and Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) and Kuwait. A multiplicity of assignments ranged from outreach and event management for the Human Rights Watch film festival in Brixton to the cornerstone laying of the Arab Open University's new campus in Amman. Opened the Saudi offices of Weber Shandwick in Riyadh and later headed up the PR operations of Ogilvy and Golin Harris.

### **2012-Present *Community and Theatre***

Back in Johannesburg, retired from corporate PR and returned to theatre and community work. For Wits University, staged his own play, *Hillbrow*, and presented an experimental version of *Macbeth* (from the vantage point of the witches) with senior students at AFDA. Developed the *Rehumanising* philosophy and the peace initiative *Make Peace Not War*.

Moved to Scotland in 2016, registering *Make Peace Not War* as a charity, prior to workshops in Scotland and internationally. Launched MPNW with a community production of Brecht's anti-war masterpiece, *Mother Courage*, at St Mary's Church, Arbroath; with a cast ranging from seasoned players to first-timers. Involved minority groups from the community.

On the board of the NPP (Network of Photographers for Palestine) and a member of an advisory committee on Palestine to the Scottish Parliament. Preparing to extend *Rehumanising* workshops to the United States.

Note: Detailed Business (PR) CV available on request.