

**Jo Clifford C.V.: as at August 2011**

**This c.v. records my work as:**

- a writer of original scripts for theatre, radio, puppet theatre, young people's theatre, television, film, and opera.
- an adapter of classic and contemporary novels for radio and stage
- a translator of classic and contemporary work in Spanish, French, and Portuguese.
- a performer in poetry readings, lectures, theatre and films.
- an academic who eventually became Professor of Theatre at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.
- a hugely experienced leader of writers' workshops, and degree courses in creative writing, here in Scotland and abroad.
- journalist and broadcaster
- a parent. This, of course, hardly ever figures on c.v.'s. But it should do. My partner and myself shared childcare: and bringing up two daughters to adulthood is an achievement I am proud of.

## **MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN MY WORK:**

I have written over 70 performed scripts which encompass every dramatic form and my work has been performed all over the world.

Work I am especially proud of includes

**Losing Venice** (Traverse 1985; BBC Radio 3; festivals in Australia and Hong Kong; performed throughout USA)

**Ines de Castro** (Traverse 1989; BBC Radio 3; Riverside Studios, London; theatres in Portugal, Croatia, and USA. Filmed and transmitted on BBC 2 and Radio Televisao Portuguesa. Also an opera with music by James McMillan; Scottish Opera and the Edinburgh International Festival; revived twice and also performed in Portugal; filmed and shown on BBC 2; broadcast on BBC Radio 3))

**Light in the Village** (Traverse 1991; Norwegian radio; Oregon Shakespeare Festival; Theatreworks Singapore; in Tagalog in the Philippines; India, Australia, throughout USA)

**Great Expectations** (Theatre About Glasgow 1988; then Belfast, Baghdad, Cairo, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Dhaka and still being revived)

**Life is a Dream** (Edinburgh International Festival 1999; then Barbican Theatre, London, and Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York).

**Anna Karenina**; **Faust Part One**; **Faust Part Two**; **Every One**. All Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

**An Apple a Day** (Oran Mor and Traverse Theatre); **Spam Fritters** (BBC Radio Scotland);

**Leave to Remain** (also performer: Scottish Storytelling Centre, Citizens Theatre, and touring);

**Chrystal and the General** (also performer: to commemorate the 'Gude Cause' centenary); **The Gospel According To Jesus, Queen of Heaven** (also performer: Glasgay and Tron Theatre). All in 2009.

As a teacher, I took particular satisfaction in designing and teaching a three year Theatre History/Textual Analysis course on the BA Acting degree at QMU: and in teaching and designing the one year Masters Course in Playwriting at the same institution.

I am particularly proud, too, of the TRANSforming Arts Group which I led during 2008-9, and which was funded by the Scottish Transgender Alliance. This applied the work I have done in leading writers' groups for a very vulnerable client base with astonishing results.

The full list follows.

## 2012

“The Gospel According To Jesus Queen of Heaven. A personal history of a controversial play” in **Out of the Ordinary: Representations of LGBT Lives** edited by Ian Rivers and Richard Ward. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

**The Gospel According to Jesus, Queen of Heaven** performances at the Nightingale Theatre, Brighton as part of the 2012 Pink Fringe.

**Sex, Chips and The Holy Ghost** Opening play of 2012 “Play, Pie and a Pint” season at Oran Mor, Glasgow. Also performer. Averaged 80% attendance. Currently developing show for Channel 4.

## 2011

**The Tree of Knowledge** Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, as their Christmas show, with the final week entirely sold out and average attendance of 95% overall.

Using a grant from Creative Scotland to turn **God’s New Frock** and **Jesus Queen of Heaven** into a work of poetic fiction.

Devising **Sex, Chips and The Holy Ghost** with the actor David Walshe and the director Susan Worsfold for performance in Oran Mor, Glasgow, in February 2011.

New productions of **Ines de Castro** for Teatar Verat in Uzice, Serbia in Mid April and the Duke Energy Theatre in Charlotte, North Carolina, on 27th April.

New production of **Anna Karenina** at Dundee Rep in May.

Adapting **The Cherry Orchard** for Theatre Alba for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Translation of **The House of Bernarda Alba** by Lorca to be published by Nick Hern Books.

## 2010

**Traverse Creative Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Edinburgh University.** Creating a new commission, **The Tree of Knowledge**, based on the life and work of the philosopher David Hume for production during the 2011 tercentenary celebrations of his birth.

**The Tree of Life** entirely re-written for the Royal Lyceum. Designed to be performed as a companion piece for the play above.

**The Seagull** especially adapted for Theatre Alba; performed by them during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

**La Princesse de Cleves** adapted and translated from the novel by Madame de Lafayette for BBC Radio 3.

**Every One** new play, premiered at the Royal Lyceum Theatre in March

## 2009

**An Apple A Day**, Oran mor and the Traverse.

**Spam Fritters** BBC Radio Scotland.

Robert Louis Stevenson Writing Fellow at Grez-sur-Loing, France. Working on a new book with the working title “**Having a Heart**”.

**Leave to Remain**: (co-writer and performer with Suzanne Dance) revived at: Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh, Byre Theatre, Citizens Theatre, St John’s and St Mark’s churches.

**Chrystal & the General** (co-writer with Rachel Amey, Suzanne Dance, and Clunie Mackenzie) Scottish Storytelling Centre. In association with the “Gude Cause” commemorative march.

New poem for “**Hidden City**” written for, and performed in, a secret location in Glasgow.

**Jesus, Queen of Heaven** (also performer) in Tron Theatre, November 3rd, as part of Glasgay. 400 protesters in the street outside; plain clothes police people in the audience for my protection. Continues to provoke argument and discussion all over the world.

## 2008

**Yerma**,: new translation of the Lorca play published by Nick Hern Books.

**An Opera for St. Monan**, opera libretto for a private patron

**Queen Echinacea** for Boilerhouse Theatre Company.

**Blood Wedding** translated from the Spanish of Lorca; published by Nick Hern Books

**Great Expectations** New production by Prime Productions for tour of Scotland

**Life is a Dream** new production by Rough Magic Theatre Co. in Project Arts Centre, Dublin.

**The Gospel According To Jesus, Queen Of Heaven** for Teatro della Limonaia, Firenze.

Two Poems for the “**Hidden City**” project, in a secret location, Glasgow, on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

## 2007

**Leave to Remain** (co-written and performed with Suzanne Dance)

## 2006

**Faust Parts One and Two** (Goethe; Royal Lyceum) (Nominated for four Scottish Critics Awards: Best play, Best production, Best Actor, and Best technical presentation)

**The Force of Destiny** (Duque de Rivas) Runner up in Gate Theatre’s translation competition

## 2005

**The World** (co-production between the Byre Theatre, St. Andrews, and Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh).

**Great Expectations** (two new productions: one by Perth theatre, and the other by Northern Stage. Both open in Autumn. Northern Stage production then to tour English venues for 10 weeks in early 2006)

**God's New Frock** (translated into Italian and performed at Intercity festival, Florence, in June)

**Anna Karenina** (Tolstoy; Royal Lyceum Co., Edinburgh)

2004

**Celestina** (Fernando de Rojas; Edinburgh International Festival and Birmingham Rep.)

**Sitios** (Omar Lorenzo; Royal Court Theatre)

**God's New Frock** (Gateway Films; also actor)

2003

**The Chimes** (Dickens; BBC Radio 4)

**God's New Frock** (play; also performer; Traverse and Tron Theatres)

**Between Worlds** (Eric Emmanuel Schmidt; in **Schmidt Plays: One** by Methuen)

2002

**Tchaikovsky and the Queen of Spades** (Pitlochry Festival Theatre)

**Charles Dickens: The Haunted Man** (Pitlochry Festival Theatre)

**Madeleine** (BBC Radio 4)

**S.D.O** (Clarival; Royal Court Theatre)

2001

**Baltasar and Blimunda** (Saramago; BBC Radio 3)

**The Constant Prince** (Calderón; BBC Radio 3)

2000

**Bintou** (Kwahulé; Royal Court Theatre)

**Torquemada parts one and two** (Galdós; BBC Radio 4)

**Hansel and Gretel** (to music by Humperdinck; Blue Tiger Music Theatre)

**Inés de Castro** (music by Macmillan; BBC 2)

1999

**Ain't it Grand to be bloomin' well dead** (BBC Radio 4)

**Letters from a Strange Land** (BBC Radio 4)

**The Night Journey** (also performer; Lorca Festival at The Playhouse, Newcastle)

1998

**Life is a Dream** (Calderón; Edinburgh International Festival)

**The Magic Flute** (to music by Mozart; Blue Tiger Music Theatre)

1997

**The Leopard parts one and two** (Lampedusa; BBC Radio 3)

**Writing Home to Mother** (BBC Radio 4)

**Bazaar** (Planell; Royal Court Theatre)

1996

**An Opera for Terezin** (Atlan; Fondation Beaumarchais)

**Inés de Castro** (music James McMillan; Scottish Opera and Edinburgh International Festival)

**War in America** (Royal Lyceum) (“too offensive” to be performed)

1995

**Light in the Village** (Norwegian radio)

**Wuthering Heights** (Bronte; Pitlochry Festival Theatre)

1994

**La Vie de Boheme parts one and two** (BBC Radio 4)

**Visoes de Febre** (Locomotiva Theatre Co, Lisbon)

**Dreaming** (Edinburgh Puppet Co.)

1993

**Celestina** (BBC Radio 3)

**La Vie de Boheme** (Pitlochry Festival Theatre)

**Anna** (music by Craig Armstrong; Traverse Theatre and Edinburgh International Festival)

1992

**Inés de Castro** (BBC Radio 3)

**Don Duardos** (Gil Vicente; International Theatre Link)

**What’s in a Name** (Prithvi Theatre Co., Bombay)

1991

**Macbeth** (Shakespeare; Perth Theatre Co.)

**The Price of Everything** (BBC Radio 3)

**Ten Minute Play** (English Shakespeare Co.)

**Light in the Village** (Traverse Theatre)

**The Girl Who Fell to Earth or Shoot the Archduke!** (Great Eastern Stage)

1990

**Quevedo: The Soul's Dark Night** (BBC 2; broadcast 1993)

**Santiago** (Nile Pictures)

**Inés de Castro** (BBC2 and RTP of Portugal)

1989

**The Magic Theatre** (Cervantes; Winged Horse Theatre)

**Celestina** (De Rojas (first version) National Theatre)

**Inés de Castro** (Traverse Theatre)

**The House of Bernarda Alba** (Royal Lyceum)

1988

**Schism in England** (Calderón; National theatre and Edinburgh International Festival)

**Great Expectations** (Dickens; TAG Theatre Co.)

1987

**Playing with Fire** (Traverse Theatre)

**Heaven Bent, Hell Bound** (Actors Touring Co.)

1986

**Lucy's Play** (Traverse Theatre)

**Losing Venice** (BBC Radio 3)

1985

**Losing Venice** (Traverse Theatre)

1984

**Romeo and Juliet** (TAG Theatre Co.)

**Ending Time** (BBC Radio Three)

1983

**Desert Places** (BBC Radio Scotland)

**The Doctor of Honour** (Calderón; Crawford Arts Centre, St. Andrews)

1980

**The House with Two Doors** (Merlindene Theatre Co.)

**Awards**

Scottish Arts Council Writer's Bursary (1983)  
 Edinburgh Festival Fringe First (1985: **Losing Venice**)  
 Spirit of Mayfest (1988: **Great Expectations**)  
 Scotland on Sunday Critics Award (1996: **Inés de Castro**)  
 Herald Angel (1996: **Inés de Castro**)  
 European Community Translator's Scholarship: La casa del traductor,  
 Tarazona (1999, 2000); Colleege International des Traducteurs Littéraires,  
 Arles (2001).  
 Fellow in Hawthornden Castle (2004)  
 Robert Louis Stevenson Fellow (2009)

**Foreign Productions.** These include:

**Losing Venice:** London, Sweden, Australia, Hong Kong, New York, Los Angeles

**Lucy's Play:** Aspen Colorado, Los Angeles.

**Great Expectations:** Iraq, Egypt, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Belfast, Salisbury, Royal National Theatre, London (rehearsed readings).

**Inés de Castro:** London, Liverpool, Vancouver, South Carolina, Oporto, Coimbra, North and South Carolina, New York, and Sydney, Australia. Broadcast on BBC Radio 3, BBC TV Channel 2, Portuguese Television and Croatian Radio. Turned into an opera, with music by James McMillan, and produced by Scottish Opera. Translated into Croatian and broadcast on Croatian Radio (1999)

**Light in the Village:** London, Ashland Oregon, San Francisco, Singapore, Chicago, and Manila (in Tagalog) and France (2003)

**A Dark Night's Dawning:** Lisbon.

**Life is a Dream:** Barbican Theatre, London, then Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York. (1999) and Manila (in Tagalog)

**God's New Frock:** in Italian, Intercity festival, Florence 2005

**Published Work:**

LOSING VENICE (in **First Run 2**): Nick Hern Books 1990.

INES DE CASTRO (in **Scot-Free**): Nick Hern Books 1990.

LIGHT IN THE VILLAGE Nick Hern Books 1991.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (in **Frontline Drama**): Methuen 1996

INES DE CASTRO (Libretto) Boosey & Hawkes 1996.

"Translating the Spirit of the Play" in Stages of Translation, ed. David Johnston, Absolute Press 1996.

"The House of Bernarda Alba"- Guide for Teachers. Scottish Consultative Council on the Curriculum, 1998.

LIFE IS A DREAM by Calderón (newly translated, with an introduction). Nick Hern Books 1998.

"The Berdache Speaks" in New Writing Scotland 1998



BAZAAR. by David Planell (Royal Court 1997) published in Spanish Plays by Nick Hern Books 1999  
INES DE CASTRO (translated into Croatian by Ksenija Horvat), Zagreb 1999  
“The Night Journey” and “Love Wounds” in Fire, Blood and the Alphabet: One Hundred Years of Lorca, ed. Doggart and Thompson, Durham University Press 2000.  
"Translating Moments, Not Words" in In Other Words The Journal for Literary Translators, 2001.  
HANSEL AND GRETEL published in The Edinburgh Review, December 2001  
GOD’S NEW FROCK published in Chapman, May 2003.  
CELESTINA by De Rojas, Nick Hern Books, 2005.  
FAUST PARTS ONE AND TWO, adapted from Goethe, Nick Hern Books, 2006.  
LA NUOVA TONACA DI DIO (Italian translation of God’s New Frock) in Teatro scozzese, Intercity Festival and Ubulibri , Milano 2007.  
“GOD’S NEW FROCK” in The Sexual Theologian, Marcella Althaus-Reid and Lisa Isherwood, SCM Press 2007.  
LUCY’S PLAY, Fairplay Books, Edinburgh 2007  
BLOOD WEDDING, Nick Hern Books, 2008.  
EVERY ONE, Nick Hern Books 2010.  
YERMA, Nick Hern Books. 2010

### **Leader of Writer’s Workshops:**

Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh (1988)  
Traverse Theatre Schools Project (1992-4)  
Prithvi Theatre, Bombay (1992)  
Theatreworks, Singapore (1994)  
Glasgow University (1995)  
Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo, Valencia (1998 and 1999)  
Joint Course Leader of MA/MFA in Dramatic Writing, Queen Margaret University College; then Professor of Theatre (1999-2008)  
Associate Playwright, Playwrights’ Studio Scotland (2005/6)  
A series of workshops for transgendered writers, organised by the Scottish Transgendered Alliance, Autumn 2008.

### **Other teaching**

Tutor in Islamic History, and Islamic Law (St. Andrews University, 1973-4)  
Yoga Instructor (Various Scottish locations, 1974-8)  
Re-evaluation Co-counselling Teacher (1974-8)  
Lecturer in Spanish Literature (St. Andrews University, 1980)  
Lecturer in Theatre Studies (Glasgow University, 1995)  
Course Leader, Textual Studies (Acting Course, Queen Margaret University College, 1996-2003)  
Bill Findlay Fellow in Stage Translation and Research Professor of Theatre (Queen Margaret University, 2004-8)

### **Other Writing**

Drama Critic, and then Dance Critic, for The Scotsman (1981-87).

Regular contributor to: The Glasgow Herald, Scotland on Sunday, Plays and Players, Nursing Times, and The Observer.

### **Broadcast Experience**

Regular contributor to, and sometimes presenter of, numerous BBC Radio Arts programmes such as Tuesday Review, Kaleidoscope, and The Brian Morton Show.

### **Board Membership, etc.**

Traverse Theatre Playreading Panel (1986-1992)  
Scottish Society of Playwrights (1997-present)  
Stellar Quines Theatre Company (1995- 99)  
Suspect Culture Theatre Company (1996-2001)  
Tabula Rasa Dance Company (2002-present)

### **Other Work Experience**

Extensive work as a nurse, both as Nursing Assistant in psychiatric hospitals (including Dingleton Hospital, Royal Edinburgh Hospital, Royal Liff Hospital, Dundee) and as a student nurse (Fife College of Nursing, 1977-9)  
Bus Conductor (1976).  
Bringing up two young children (1980 -)

### **Educational Qualifications**

MA (1st Class Honours) in Spanish and Arabic (St. Andrews, 1973)  
PhD (on The Playwriting Art of Calderon: St. Andrews 1983)

### **Personal Information**

Born 22nd March 1950 in Derby, England.  
Resident in Scotland since 1968.  
Until her death in February 2005, married to Sue Innes, historian, journalist, illustrator, author of Making it Work (Chatto and Windus), and founding editor of The Biographical Dictionary of Scottish Women (Edinburgh University Press, 2006).  
With two beautiful children: Rebecca (born 1980) and Katie (born 1985).  
A transgendered person, formerly known as 'John Clifford' whose personal and professional name is now Jo. Underwent orchidectomy in August 2009. Achieved her Gender Recognition Certificate in 2010.

### **Web Page**

[www.teatrodomundo.com](http://www.teatrodomundo.com)

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