

# Maria MacDonell



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

Actor and writer with forty years' experience in creative and performing arts, based in Edinburgh and in Glenesk, Angus.

## **ACTOR INCLUDES**

Spotlight <https://www.spotlight.com/9714-5648-3408> (screen showreel, stage showreel)

Training at Chipping Norton Theatre 1982 to 1984 main stage productions and touring - tutors Dudley Sutton, Stuart Barron (theatre workshop), Wendy Greenhill (RSC) and at Actors Studio London.

Estelle- *LIFE* (lead) Ed Fringe 2024

Ruth- *Ruth*. Short film. Dir Agnes Athley. 2024

Old Woman- *Tragedies of an Old Woman*. Short Film. Ben Kay 2023

Mabel - *Empty House*. Feature film. Dir Harry Aspinwall. 2023

Writer- *May Contain Nuts* by Skye Loneragan. Dir Robert S Gale. 2023

Amanda and various. *The Descent* by Ashley Braganza. Rehearsed reading. Dir Andy Corelli 2023

Maude (lead) - *The World That Was*, *The Proclaimers*. Prod Forest of Black. Dir Ciaran Lyons 2022

The Curator (lead)- *Miss Lindsay's Secret Fringe* 2021/2022, touring ongoing.

Mother Duck, -*The Not So Ugly Duckling* a Play For Grownups with Jo Clifford Made in Scotland 2022

Cottongrass -*Cottongrass* supp Andy Hunter Bursary and SISF commission

The Curator, *Miss Lindsay's Love in Lockdown*. Short film. Commission D and G Arts Festival. 2020

Mary, *The Motorist* Dir Ciaran Lyons, Forest of Black. Scottish Bafta nominated. Winner Berlin Short film

Various characters for *Angus Arts* events (details in Spotlight) 2000 onwards

1980s *Bristol Old Vic Theatre Company*, *Watford Palace Theatre*. *Riverside Studios* (details in Spotlight)

Film and TV include Goldcrest Films, Boniface Films, HTV, BBC, STV. (details in Spotlight)

Small scale touring and theatre in education with many companies including Live Wire Aldershot.

Theatre in Education with Tie Up Inverness.

Represented by: Allan Scott-Douglas **Linda French & APM Associates**

+44 (0) 208 953 7377 [www.apmassociates.net](http://www.apmassociates.net) @apmassociates

## **PERFORMANCE STORYTELLING**

'*A Many Splendoured Thing*' 2018, '*Incredible Journey*' 2019 North East Arts Touring performances

**Kamishibai Japanese mixed art form storytelling**

'*Cottongrass*' 2021. Adult show. SISF commission

'*Dagba's Forest Tales*'. Family show about climate emergency touring on public transport.

2019/2020 touring with Puppet Animation Scotland and ongoing

## **FILM PRODUCER/LOCATION MANAGER**

Boniface Films. Producer and actor. 1980/90s Numerous short films (drama and doc)

'All It Was' premiered at Edinburgh International Film festival 1996

Location Manager/props/costumes/casting 'Connections' TV drama-doc presented by James Burke. Discovery Channel 1996.

Training- screenplay writer/director. Two year part time course with Scottish Broadcast and Film Training, Glasgow. 1994 to 1996.

## **WRITER/ PRESENTER**

**Publication** Book- From the Burgh and Beyond. Performance stories. Co-editor, contributor 2022.

### **Theatre**

LIFE Writer/performer Ed Fringe 2024 (four and five star reviews)

Miss Lindsay's Secret, writer/performer 2021/2022 (four and five star reviews)

### **Journalism 1988 to 1992**

Column in 'Oxon' magazine

Profiles/features for The Daily Telegraph, The Scotsman, Scotland on Sunday, The Guardian, The Observer, Scottish Correspondent for The Museums Journal.

### **Television**

Research/script/presenter 'Return to Tutankhamun' 1x50min doc. BBC 1991

Research/script Clydebuilt 3x50min doc. history of Clyde shipbuilding. BBC Bafta nominated. 1990

Research/script/presenter 'Put It In writing' 3 series Grampian Television. 1990 – 95

Research/script/presenter 'Eikon' Scottish Television 1990/91

Research/script/presenter 'Walking back To Happiness' Grampian 1x 50 mins. 1996

### **Screenplays**

'Miss Lindsay's Love In Lockdown'. 16 min drama commissioned D and G Arts Festival 2020.

'Candy Floss' 15 min drama. Tartan Short. Edin Fest. 1997.

'A lovely Day Out' 6 min drama. SBFT.

1996 'Betsy Bell and Mary Gray' feature. Armac Films 1995

'Ride a Cock Horse' 30 min drama. selected for master class at Movie Makars 1997

**Research/script/Interpretation** for visitor centres including award winning New Lanark 1989/90.

**Ancestral research** for Scots Ancestral Research Society 1980s

**ANGUS ARTS Co-Artistic Director** Founded 2000. Closing down.

Scottish Charity 030699 [www.angusarts.org](http://www.angusarts.org).

Fundraising, Producing, Marketing, Leading, Administration

Providing arts activities of all kinds for all ages and abilities. Designing, scripting and leading a wide range of events in extensive variety of venues, indoors and out of doors.

Hosting touring theatre, music, dance. Promoter for North East Arts Touring.

Running two week annual festival within Puppet Animation Festival.

Creating installations; Writing and performing outdoor site-specific participatory theatre events

incl 'Search for the Wonderplant' at House of Dun, 'Seekers of the Tower' at Burn House, 'Curious Collectors' and 'Down The Rabbit Hole' at Glenesk Folk Museum.

**JABBERWOCKY THEATRE COMPANY.** 2003 to 2010. Scottish charity 030728

Founder, Administrator, Company Member.

'The White Cat' 2003 to 2010 touring, Puppet Animation Scotland

'The Mechanical Turk' Manipulate Festival, Traverse Theatre 2010

Touring with shows and workshops for children and families.

**GALLIMAUFRY INTERPRETATION** 2007 to 2010

Script for signs, exhibitions, leaflets including introductory panels at Glenesk Folk Museum

**DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE** 2008 to 2020

Teaching drama and Creative Arts. Supported Education Department. Adults with wide range of learning disabilities, some complex and profound.

**FREELANCE FACILITATION**

Indoors and out, exploring drama, story making, presentation, creative writing, environmental arts. Since 1980s as an actor and for Angus Arts, Dundee and Angus College, Glenesk Folk Museum, Scottish Birth Teachers Association.

**GLENESK MUSEUM**

Volunteer (part time Volunteer Curator 2018 to 2020). Fundraiser. Trustee. Ongoing

**PORTRAIT MODEL** since 2014

Sitting for award winning artist Aine Devine and for various tutors including Paul Mowat, Siri France, Christine Frew

**LISTINGS AND MEMBERSHIP:**

Scottish Storytelling Directory. <https://tracscotland.org/storytellers/maria-macdonnell/>  
Scottish Book Trust authors. <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/authors/maria-macdonnell>  
Member Federation Scottish Theatre, Scottish Society of Playwrights, Edinburgh Performing Arts Development. Board member Glenesk Folk Museum

**Shortlisted Outstanding Older Artist, Luminare Scotland 2022**

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**APM PERSONAL MANAGEMENT  
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**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

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