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Bishop May Down *they/them*

Emerging theatre maker and facilitator creating contemporary performance from a queer, post-human, and collaborative perspective, and bringing play work experience to performance-making with and for children and young people.

References available.

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bishopmaydown.com

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# PROJECTS

### dance for a saguaro, 2023 - Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

### Creator

Site-specific work at the Glasgow Botanic Gardens Cacti room, investigating memory and tangibility through music, poetry, and movement. Mentored by Thulani Rachia and Aya Kobayashi.

### People Dancing, 2023 - Platform

#### Performer and Dance Captain

Performed solo and as part of an ensemble in Eoin McKenzie's *People Dancing* at Platform, Easterhouse; 'a dance show for non-dancers'. Acted as a dance captain to provide responsive support to the diverse needs of the group, including those with additional support needs and learning disabilities.

### [Conversations with Eve](https://www.bishopmaydown.com/conversations-with-eve), 2023 - Tramway

#### Creator

A live conversation between human and computer written collaboratively with artificial intelligence software. With the artist's text written by themselves and Eve's text written entirely by AI chat-bots Replika, InferKit, and Eviebot, *Conversations with Eve*explores love, home, and existing in the end times, translating perspective between human and digital bodies through text and live motion capture.

Devised solo performance for the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Into the New 2023 at Tramway, Glasgow, with mentorship from Lucy Cash.

### [A La Carte](https://www.bishopmaydown.com/a-la-carte), 2022 - Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

#### Co-creator

Collaboratively devised visual and movement performance exploring contemporary greed and power through the lens of food and gluttony. Devised with Sam Vaherlehto, Margot Conde Arenas and Shona McKay, with mentorship from Mele Broomes. Performed at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Wallace Studios.

### [Building a Man](https://www.bishopmaydown.com/building-a-man), 2021 - Scottish Youth Theatre

#### Solo Resident Artist

An interactive, audience-led web performance using embedded chatrooms, Tumblr, Spotify, and livestream video to explore the reach for unattainable standards of masculinity through the characters of James Bond and Mr. Darcy. Comissioned by the Scottish Youth Theatre *Making Space* digital residencies, with mentorship from Jay Woods (Sound Theatre Company, Seattle).

AWARDS

**Mary Stuart Prize,** 2023

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Awarded the Mary Stuart Prize for Public Speaking in the School of Drama, Dance, Production and Film.

**National Theatre *“New Views” Young* Playwrighting Competition**, 2018

#### Longlisted

Submission of an untitled monologue work was among 100 works chosen for panel reading from submissions by high school students across the UK.

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# EDUCATION

# Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

# *BA (Hons) Contemporary Performance Practice,* 2019 – 2023

Graduated with Honours of the First Class in July 2023.

*Trans Student Association Founder and Chair since 2021*

*LGBTQIA+ Student Representative 2020-2021*

*Social Media Administrator @rcsbacpp*

# SKILLS AND TRAINING

# Member of the PVG Scheme in Scotland.

# Confident leader and facilitator, in child and adult groups alike.

# Experienced working with children with a range of neurodivergencies and adverse childhood experiences.

# Familiar with Wix, Microsoft products, Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Pro, basic skills in TouchDesigner.

# Suite of 20+ training certificates including NSPCC Child Protection 3.0, Duty of Candour, Food Safety and Hygiene Level 2, Health and Safety, Emergency First Aid, Safeguarding Children, Medication Awareness, Fire Awareness, Mental Health in Education, and Allergy, Asthma, and Epilepsy awareness.

# EXPERIENCE

## Imaginate – *Creative Engagement Assistant (FST Placement),* January – June 2024

Currently supported by the Federation of Scottish Theatre to assist project facilitator Lou Brodie to deliver Creative Encounters, a child-led performance commissioning process with Primary 5-7 students in North Edinburgh, focused on the incorporation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child. Duties include supporting lead facilitator and commissioned artists with workshop planning, delivery and evaluation, assisting with marketing and admin, and supporting delivery and engagement for young people in the context of the Edinburgh International Children’s Festival 2024.

**Woodland Outdoor Kindergarten** – *Practitioner,* September 2023 - Present

Supporting children aged 3-5yrs in an outdoor woodland nursery setting, upholding Forest School and risky play ethos and promoting holistic development across social relationships, emotional control, and practical skills such as toilet training and personal hygiene. Experienced using the Famly app to communicate with families and carers and tracking children’s learning and development, through observations and Glasgow council learning trackers.

**Broomhill Out of School Care Association** – *Playworker,* October 2020 - Present

Responsible for groups of primary school students P1-7 (ages 5-12) in an after school care and day trip setting. Role included facilitating active and creative activities for groups of 30+ children; managing groups in public day trip settings; observing to ensure safe and enriching play; supporting personal, social and emotional development; and working to proper health and safety procedures.

**Platform Monday Night Drama** – *Assistant Digital Artist,* May/June 2023

Assisting Eoin McKenzie and Platform’s Monday Night Drama (12-18yrs) on development of a new performance, following performance at the Platform & YTAS Emergence Work In Progress night. Responsible for AV operation, assistant facilitating, and covering sessions as Lead Artist.

## Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Trans Student Union - *Founder and Chair,* 2021 - 2023

Formed a new Trans Student Union at the Conservatoire, taking a leadership role in initiating conversations with Conservatoire Senior Management, Department Heads, and external top UK industry producing bodies. Liased with the Conservatoire’s EDI department to develop staff training, communications materials, and institutional policies, prioritising student wellbeing and productive change.

**Tenterhooks –** *Placement,* 2021

Completed a placement with Tenterhooks from October 2021 to January 2022. Assisted with the November 2021 school tour of *MESS* to ASN schools St. Crispins, Oaklands School, and Pilrig Park, and with the initial stages of an R&D at Southside Studios for a new children’s production.