



## Polly Wright

### Curriculum Vitae

I am the manager of an Arts in Health centre – The Hearth Centre. [www.thehearthcentre.org.uk](http://www.thehearthcentre.org.uk). The centre specialises in the use of the arts in health, education and the humanities but my primary focus is on the use of theatre to address issues of mental and sexual health. I also specialise in the use of creative writing in professional and personal development and I have pioneered the use of the arts as a research methodology.

I have been a member of the Tindal Street Fiction Group since 1999 and work closely with the Tindal Street Press on community initiatives in reading and creative writing.

### Creative Achievements:

#### Prose

- Short story *Tutte Bene* published in Tindal St. anthology *Her Majesty* in May 2002.
- Short story *Looking For Aimee* published in Diva book of short stories- *Groundswell*. (Published Nov 2002)
- *Looking For Aimee* published in Tindal St. anthology *Going the Distance*. Launch in Birmingham Book Festival 2003
- Two short stories *Finding Alteration* and *Shropshire Gold* to the showcase anthology *Are You She*, edited by Lesley Glaister. Published Tindal St. Press November 2004.

### Reviews for *Are You She*

#### The Observer

Polly Wright's "*Finding Alteration*" is the most affecting story, a heart breaking, yet heart warming tale of a recent divorcee unshackling herself forever from the inexplicable power that a first love has held over her throughout her 20 year marriage. Its economical prose and valiant protagonist speak volumes about teenage love."

## Time Out

Among *Are You She's* many delights is "*Finding Alteration*" by Polly Wright, a well handled cautionary tale about getting too close to old flames.

## Drama

Sole author of four plays about mental and sexual health for *Hearth*.: *Paperchase* *When Time Collapses*; *Revolving Door*; *Straight Talking*; *Unsent Letters*. All the plays have been professionally produced and performed nationally in small and medium scale touring venues. For details log onto [www.thehearthcentre.org.uk](http://www.thehearthcentre.org.uk)

- Short tour of *Revolving Door* about young male suicide in Northern Ireland was short listed for a national media award in October 2007
- Script development and direction of Mandy Ross's *Cradle to Grave*
- Script development of Jimmy Whitaker's *Knife Act* and Lorna Laidlaw's *Other*
- 2007 Heart of Birmingham PCT commissioned me to script and produce a DVD in partnership with a media organisation of my stage play *Straight Talking*.

## Poetry

- Short listed for the Birmingham Poet Laureate 2007

## Academic Achievements

- Head of humanities at Fircroft College of Adult Education (1995-2003)
- Teaching fellow in the Medical School of the University of Birmingham (2003-present day)
- Visiting lecturer at Christchurch College Canterbury
- Arts in Health presentations at 10 conferences in the last 5 years including Royal College of Psychiatrists; Humanities in Medicine; ASME ( Association of medical educators)
- Member of editorial board of new Arts and Health journal ( Routledge)  
[www.informaworld.com/artsandhealth](http://www.informaworld.com/artsandhealth)

## Academic Publications

- Wright, P. (Between 1995-1999) Needs Assessment reports *Maternity Services*; *Transport Services for the Elderly*; *Perceptions of CHD*; *Breast Health*; and *Parenting*

*skills and Primary Care*. Commissioned by North Birmingham Community Health Trust and Dudley Castle and Beacon PCT

- Field, S. Jeffery, D. and Wright, P. (1995). *The Use of Drama to improve communication and consultation skills of trainee general practitioners*. *Education for General Practice*.
- Wright, P. (1996). *Barring a Thousand Harms*. Article on the use of theatre to address health issues in *Animated Community Dance Magazine*.
- Wright, P. (1999). *The Play's the Thing*. Article discussing the project model in *The Adult Learner*
- Wright, P. (2002). *Making a Drama out of a Learning Barrier*. *The Adult Learner* 2002 Requested publication by the IAC. (International Adult Learning Council.)
- Bowl, M. and Wright, P. (2002). *Flexible Friendships*. *Journal of Access and Credit Studies*. Vol. 4, No.2. Spring 2003. NIACE.
- Wright, P. (2003). Poster Presentation of *The Play's the Thing* for Faculty of Public Health Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting, 2003, Eastbourne

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