



Joëlle Richard

Playwright & Stage Director

Swiss playwright and stage director trained in London, with twenty years of theatre experience, four plays published in Paris and a body of professionally produced work in Switzerland and abroad. My actor-centred practice unites writing and directing, with a particular interest in complex female leads, precise, highly performative language where rawness and poetry collide, and a keen eye for visually striking images.

Selected Theatre

CLOSE(T) • Musical reading-performance - Writer & Director - Nucléo, Lausanne, 2026; Swiss tour (in French)
MÂNGATA • Theatre - Writer & Director - Nuithonie, Fribourg, 2022 (in French); Swiss tour; Milan & Turin, 2025 (in Italian)
La Servante • Storytelling performance - Co-writer & Director - Pitoëff, Geneva, 2020; Swiss tour, 2021 (in French)
Moïra • Theatre - Writer & Director - Nuithonie, Fribourg, 2019 (in French)
Plein Cœur • Theatre - Writer & Director - Nuithonie, Fribourg, 2017 (in French)
Ta Main • Theatre - Writer & Director - Nuithonie, Fribourg, 2015; Swiss tour (in French)
L'Idiote • Theatre - Director - Maison du Concert, Neuchâtel, 2012; Swiss tour (in French)
Der Bio-Adapter • Musical Theatre - Co-director - Rigiblick, Zürich, 2008; Swiss tour, 2009 (in German)
Macbeth • Theatre - Director & Translator - Théâtre 2.21, Lausanne, 2007; Swiss tour (in French)
Othello • Theatre - Director & Adapter - Théâtre Benno Besson, Yverdon, 2006; Swiss tour; RADA London (in English)

Training & Education

RADA & King's College London • MA in Text and Performance Studies, 2006 - Graduated with Distinction
University of Lausanne • Master's degree in English and German Languages and Literatures & Translation, 2004

Publications

Perdre des plumes, partir, les retrouver • Poetry - L'Echappée Belle Edition, Paris, 2024
MÂNGATA • Theatre - L'Echappée Belle Edition, Paris, 2022
Moïra • Theatre - L'Echappée Belle Edition, Paris, 2020
Plein Cœur • Theatre - L'Echappée Belle Edition, Paris, 2018
Ta Main • Theatre - L'Echappée Belle Edition, Paris, 2016

Grants & Scholarships

Jan Michalski Foundation for Writing and Literature • Playwriting - Awarded twice: 2026 & 2021
PRO HELVETIA - Swiss Arts Council • Fiction - 2024
State of Fribourg • Poetry - 2021
Swiss Society of Authors (SSA) • Playwriting - Awarded four times: 2021, 2018, 2016 & 2014
J.-J. van Walsem pro Universitate • Excellence scholarship - 2004
University of Lausanne • Excellence scholarship - 2004

Selected Assistantships & Production Experience

Concert Lighting Technician & Operator • Various unconventional venues, François Cattin, La Chaux-de-Fonds, 2018–2013
Rehearsal Observer • *A Flea in Her Ear*, Sir Richard Eyre, Old Vic, London, 2010
German-French Rehearsal Interpreter • *Life of Galileo*, Manfred Karge, Théâtre de Carouge, Geneva, 2008
Assistant Director & Sound Operator • *L'Orestie*, Gisèle Sallin, Théâtre des Osses, Fribourg, 2008