

The Director's Background

Isabel established *The Isabel Fish Academy*, in 1997, and has since created an excellent track record with *Trinity Guildhall*, London, likewise with local and international academics, artists, business people, corporate managers, entertainers and lawyers.

From 1972 Isabel began developing an extensive background in studying, lecturing, teaching, directing and managing arts events. She holds qualifications from the *Trinity College, London, Auckland Teachers College*, and the *University of Auckland*.

Over the years Isabel staged many shows at *The Maidment Theatre, University of Auckland*. She established a reputation as a leading director in the arts creating and producing numerous highly acclaimed dance/dramas and multi-media shows, which professional critics described as: "visionary ... astounding ... visually stunning ... totally professional ... outstanding ... spectacular ... magic."

From the late 1970s until mid 1980s, Isabel worked in close association with the then highly acclaimed *Limbs Dance Company*, in Auckland.

In the 1980s to early 1990s Isabel intermittently studied performance in the USA and also worked as an acclaimed guest lecturer in association with many arts and educational organizations in California. She studied with and then produced for the avant-garde mime, Leonard Pitt, many time winner of *The Bay Area Critics Award* (for performance in San Francisco).

Isabel has also taught at a wide variety of public and private schools, such as Opononi Area School, Kadimah College, Kristin School, Albany, and Montessori Family Schools, Berkeley, California. She has lectured at many tertiary organizations and universities, such as the *Auckland College of Education, Unitec, Performing Arts School, the University of Auckland*. Since 1997 she has lectured with both lawyers and judges at *The Auckland District Law Society*.

Isabel has made many guest appearances on TV and radio. She has hosted and presented events for many high profile individuals and organizations including *Trinity College, London*.

Her hobbies include: yoga, running or swimming on the beach, gardening, cooking organic vegetarian food, the study of symbolic philosophies, advocacy for environmental and arts issues, property development and playing about with her two sons, Asa and Perrin, now in their twenties.



Faculty

Experts are brought in to teach groups and individuals as needed. The Isabel Fish Academy has wide networks of association and has contracted many arts professionals over the years, including:

Mary-Jane O'Reilly: Leading NZ Dance Manager / Choreographer
Master Han Xiang Ji: World Kung Fu Champion, 24 yrs Peking Opera
John Givins: TV director / producer, Livingstone Productions
David Blyth: award Winning Film & Television Director
Marie Dyhrberg: Courtroom presentations
Hugh Major: Butoh and Acting
James Littlewood: Acting
Elena Steiko: Stanislavsky and Chekov technique
Donald Trott: Presenting and Opera
Ilona Rodgers: Acting for camera
Grant Bridger: Musical Theatre and Acting
Mary Aston: Opera
Tessa Mitchell: Acting
Raymond Hawthorne: Shakespeare
Linn Lorkin: Musical Theatre
Robert Bruce, Stage combat
Marianne Schultz-McGlashan: Choreography

Designers and Computer Managers:

Nicholas Alexander: Web and brochure design, Starfish Software
Ian Fish: Academycasting web design and advert design
Phil O'Reilly: Icon and branding design, 2020 Design

Administrative Assistant:

Kath Holland

Student teachers have included:

Clare Harvey
Kirsten Leng
Asa Robinson
Phillipa Wintle
Brooke Whitaker
Anthea Ede

Junior trainee tutors appointed to date for 2007 include:

Anna Faber, Alex Scott, Isaac Robinson.



The Isabel Fish Academy



Mission Statement

To advance our students by working with a unique and creative combination of performance training methods, designed to prepare the performers of tomorrow with expanded horizons of their potential and a heightened ability to communicate with others.

To constantly achieve top Trinity Guildhall, London exam results with our students.

