

MARIJDA KAMPER

THEATRE MAKER (DIRECTOR | PRODUCER | ACTOR) |
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR | **PROJECT MANAGER** |
THEATRE MANAGER | **ARTS-BASED HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTITIONER**



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Marijda Kamper



Netherlands



Dutch & South African



About Me

I'm a passionate individual with 15+ years of work experience in numerous capacities within the creative industry. I am a passionate theatre maker and project manager whose work consistently centres on the belief that the arts are a powerful vehicle for education and social transformation.

Education

2025 | Master of Arts in Applied Human Rights *with distinction

Universität für Angewandte Kunst, Vienna, Austria

- Addresses challenges from digitalisation, globalisation, and neoliberalism by offering interdisciplinary training in human rights history, philosophy, and law, with a focus on practical application in legal, social, and cultural fields.
- Thesis Title: Acting Against Silence – Everyday Heroes in the Fight Against Bullying: The power of theatrical storytelling as a tool for human rights advocacy towards embracing action for change

2021 | Master of Arts in Drama and Theatre Arts

University of the Free State, South Africa

- Thesis Title: Augusto Boal's Simultaneous Dramaturgy theory and techniques to highlight themes of human trafficking: A Performance-Based Research Study

2014 | Management Development Programme *with distinction

Business School, University of the Free State, South Africa

- Management Development Prize for "Best Business Plan" & "Top Student"

2008 | Honours Degree in Drama and Theatre Arts *with distinction

University of the Free State, South Africa

- Best Post Graduate Student - "Ben De Koker Award"

2006 | Bachelor's Degree in Drama and Theatre Arts

University of the Free State, South Africa

- Most Talented & Promising Final Year Drama Student - "Elsa Krantz Award"

Work Experience

Festival Coordinator

2025 - Current

Vrystaat Kunstefees / Free State Arts Festival, South Africa

- Assist with festival preparations to deliver a high-quality, diverse, and inclusive event, with responsibilities in programme planning and development, marketing support, artist coordination, logistics, and reporting.

Theatre Manager

2011 - 2023

Wynand Mouton-, Scaena- & Rehearsal Room Theatre, University of the Free State, South Africa

- **Theatre Operations:** Oversaw all aspects of theatre operations, including scheduling, staff management, and budget oversight for three drama theatres and ensured smooth performance and event execution.
- **Theatre Maintenance:** Managed the theatre maintenance team and activities, ensuring timely procurement and maintenance.
- **Customer Relations:** Managed client relations by overseeing the entire booking process, from initial inquiries to contract finalisation, ensuring seamless event execution and customer satisfaction. Negotiated and administered contracts, provided ongoing support and maintained strong client relationships for repeat business.
- **Financial Operations:** Oversaw financial operations from contract management to invoicing, ensuring timely and accurate payments. Managed invoicing processes, tracked on-time payments, and handled ad hoc staff payments while maintaining detailed financial records and ensuring compliance with budgetary guidelines.
- **Team Leadership:** Collaborated with directors, producers, and technical teams to ensure seamless production processes from rehearsals to final performances, fostering a positive work environment and ensuring alignment with theatre goals.
- **People Management:** Led staffing efforts, including recruitment and scheduling, to ensure optimal team performance. Fostered effective collaboration among staff, promoting clear communication and teamwork to deliver seamless theatre operations and exceptional customer service.
- **Front-of-House Management:** Directed all front-of-house operations, including managing staff, overseeing ticketing, and ensuring a welcoming environment for patrons. Coordinated customer service efforts, handled any issues or inquiries promptly, and maintained high standards of cleanliness and safety throughout the venue.
- **Costume and Prop Shop Management:** Oversaw the organisation and maintenance of costumes and props, ensuring all items were readily available and in excellent condition for productions. Managed inventory, coordinated with designers and directors to meet production needs, and supervised the sourcing of costumes and props.
- **Marketing:** Led marketing efforts and audience engagement strategies to boost ticket sales.

Coffee Shop / Kiosk Manager

2011 - 2023

Wynand Mouton Theatre, University of the Free State, SA

- **Operational and Financial Management:** Responsible for daily operations, staff scheduling, stock control, budgeting, and cash management (transactions, cash withdrawals, and cash-ups).
- **Customer Relations and Quality Assurance:** Ensured a welcoming environment, high product quality, and prompt resolution of queries and complaints.
- **Compliance:** Oversaw adherence to health, safety, and hygiene standards.

Languages

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Afrikaans	C2
English	C2
Dutch	A2

Achievements

Served on the senior judging panels for the **ATKV Youth Theatre Festival (South Africa)**

- **2024 Regional Festival:** Gauteng, Free State, & Western Cape provinces.
- **2023 Regional Festival:** Free State & Western Cape provinces.
- **2022 National Festival Final:** Artscape Theatre, Cape Town.
- **2022 Regional Festival:** Gauteng, Free State, & Western Cape provinces.
- **2021 Regional Festival:** Free State province.

Guest Speaker

Arts & Culture Office, University of the Free State, South Africa

- 2022 Women's Month Table Talk discussion about critical issues affecting women in the creative industry.

Social Projects

- **2025 "H.E.R.O.E.S. - Empowered Against Bullying"**

Co-Director / Co-Production Manager / Co-Production Designer / Actor

- **2024 "THE JOY-ABILITY PROJECT"**

In collaboration with UNICEF Austria & Intergrative Lernwerkstatt Briggittenau
Co-Project Manager

- **2020 "HELP!"**

Director / Production Manager / Administrator

- **2015 "EMPTY PROMISES 2.0"**

Co-Director / Production Manager / Administrator / Producer

- **2013 "EMPTY PROMISES**

Movement against human trafficking"

Co-Director / Production Manager / Administrator / Producer

Skills

- Organisation & Team Leadership
- Project Management
- Planning and Coordination
- Customer Service
- Administration
- Attention to detail
- Dependable
- Flexible and Adaptable
- Creativity

Hobbies & Interests

- Philanthropy / Awareness Projects
- Arts and Human Rights Education
- Theatre for Young Audiences
- Children's Rights
- Advocacy
- Health & Well-being
- Gardening
- Costume Design / Period Pieces

Part-time Undergraduate Lecturer

2012 – 2023

University of the Free-State, South Africa

Historical Theatre Costume

- Instructed 1st and 2nd-year drama students on the evolution of theatre costumes from ancient times to the 1900s. Covered the history of clothing, how styles and materials changed over time, and the cultural and societal influences on costume design. Provided in-depth analysis of historical specifics regarding clothing, ensuring students gained a comprehensive understanding of historical costume in the context of theatre.

Arts Management

- Taught arts management to 3rd-year drama students, focusing on the essential principles of managing their careers as artists in the South African theatre industry. Guided students in developing professional materials such as CVs, websites, and LinkedIn profiles and organised master classes with industry professionals. Led the development of socially and community-engaged projects, including the compilation of fundraising proposals, to equip students with practical skills for navigating the industry.

Editorial Administrator:

Perspectives in Education (PiE)

2010 – 2013

Faculty of Education, University of the Free State, South Africa

The all-inclusive editorial administration of the professional, peer-reviewed journal, *Perspectives in Education*:

- **Article Management:** Received and processed all new, previously unpublished articles.
- **Reviewer Coordination:** Assisted in assigning 3 to 4 reviewers per article.
- **Feedback Processing:** Managed and processed feedback from reviewers.
- **Author Communication:** Informed authors of reviewer feedback and publication recommendations.
- **Editing Oversight:** Ensured all accepted articles underwent professional language editing.
- **Publication Assurance:** Oversaw the quarterly publication of the peer-reviewed journal.
- **Record Keeping:** Documented and archived all records related to received articles.

Administrator:

FREE STATE THEATRE ACTS (FACTS)

2010 – 2013

Drama and Theatre Arts Department, University of the Free State, South Africa

The all-inclusive administration of the professional theatre company, *FACTS*:

- **Contract Management:** Managed all contracts for the theatre company.
- **Documentation Collection:** Collected and processed the necessary documentation from relevant parties.
- **Salary Administration:** Ensured timely payment of all salaries.
- **Expense Management:** Handled finalisation, bookkeeping, and timely payment of travel costs, accommodation, daily allowances, decor, costumes, and property expenses.
- **Performance Rights:** Organised and paid for performance rights.
- **Bookkeeping and Reporting:** Managed bookkeeping tasks and prepared detailed reports.

Secretary

2009 – 2010

Drama and Theatre Arts Department, University of the Free State, South Africa

- **Filing Systems:** Created and maintained organised filing systems.
- **Appointment Scheduling:** Scheduled appointments and managed calendars.
- **Meeting Coordination:** Scheduled, attended, and took minutes at meetings.
- **Client Support:** Provided support and assistance to clients.
- **General Administration:** Handled general administrative tasks and routine clerical duties as requested.
- **Administrative Duties:** Performed additional administrative duties as needed

References

Michael Garbett

Festival Director: Vrystaat Arts Festival
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Dr. Chris Vorster

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Project Management

2010 – Current

Key responsibilities as a project/production manager for various theatre productions:

- **Conceptualisation and Planning:** Developed and executed the vision for the production, including detailed planning of all aspects.
- **Budget Management:** Created and managed the production budget, tracking expenses and ensuring cost efficiency.
- **Development and Management:** Oversaw all phases of production, from development through to performance, ensuring timely and budget-compliant delivery.
- **Scheduling:** Developed and maintained a detailed production schedule, including rehearsals, technical runs, and performance dates.
- **Team Coordination:** Led and coordinated the production team, including actors, designers, and technical staff, to ensure collaboration and effective communication.
- **Marketing:** Coordinated marketing strategies to promote theatre productions and maximise audience engagement.
- **Decor, Props, and Costumes:** Managed the design and acquisition of decor, props, and costumes, ensuring alignment with the production's artistic vision.
- **Execution:** Ensured the smooth execution of all elements to deliver a successful performance.
- **Stakeholder Communication:** Maintained communication with stakeholders, including sponsors, venue managers, and other partners.

MOST RECENT PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT UNDERTAKINGS:

2025 | "H.E.R.O.E.S. - EMPOWERED AGAINST BULLYING"

Co-Director / Co-Production Manager / Co-Production Designer / Actor

2023 | "HOW TO W.U.Z.ZZZ"

Co-Director / Co-Production Manager / Co-Production Designer

2023 | "WOELIGE WILLEMEN EN HAAR MAARTJIE, MERAAITJIE"

Director / Co-Production Manager / Production Designer

2022 | "ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE"

Co-Director / Co-Production Manager / Co-Production Designer

2022 | "AND STILL THE RAIN KEPT FALLING SOFTLY"

Production Manager

2021 | "FIVE WOMEN WEARING THE SAME DRESS"

Director / Production Manager / Production Designer

2020 | "HELP"

Director / Production Manager / Production Designer

2020 | "'N DAG VIR 'N OOMBLIK"

Production Coordinator

2020 | "DIE SONKYKERS"

Co-Writer / Co-Director / Co-Production Manager / Co-Producer / Co-Production Designer

2019 | "FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE/WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF"

Director / Producer / Production Manager / Production Designer

2019 | "THE WOLVES"

Co-Director / Production Manager / Co-Production Designer

2019 | "WOELIGE WILLEMEN EN HAAR MAARTJIE, MERAAITJIE"

Director / Co-Production Manager / Production Designer

2018 | "FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE/WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF"

Director / Production Manager / Production Designer

2017 | "BLOMMEFEETJIES"

Director / Production Manager / Production Designer

2016 | "COPPELIA EN DIE POPPEMAKER"

Director / Production Manager / Production Designer

2015 | "Empty Promises 2.0"

Co-Director / Co-Producer / Co-Production Manager / Co-Production Designer

2015 | "Swanemeer"

Co-Director / Producer / Production Manager / Co-Production Designer

**Details of more theatrical productions with various roles and functions are available on request.*