

# Writers



## Jonathan Cooper

Jonathan was born and bred in the tiny town of Waltham Chase, where his links with the Ashcroft Arts Centre's Youth Theatre Programme allowed him to write and direct his first musical production **Fever**. Upon moving to university he began writing and directing with unabated passion and produced **Drunken Fields of Norway** (Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury), **Silence In C Minor** and **Wearing Scars** (an NSDF entrant). Since moving to London, Jonathan has begun developing a number of productions including a new full-length play, innumerable monologues and a television series. He was recently featured in **The Next Big Things** at the Wimbledon Theatre.



## Megan Ford

Megan Ford was born in Washington DC and grew up in South Florida. She graduated from the Central School of Speech & Drama with an MA in Classical Acting. She is a young writer at the Soho Theatre where her short play **Nantucket** was given a rehearsed reading, and her extremely short play **Futon** was performed for the 100 Words project in conjunction with the National Youth Theatre. She co-wrote and performed in **Garbage for Fuel** (Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2003).



## Joel Horwood

Joel's first play **Mikey the Pikey** premiered at the Gulbenkian Theatre and won the Cameron Mackintosh Award at the National Student Drama Festival. The production subsequently enjoyed a sell-out run at the 2005 Edinburgh Fringe Festival and earned Joel a place on the Royal Court and BBC 'The 50' initiative. His second play **Cattleprod Shakedown** was produced at The Stephen Joseph Theatre and **Food** (commissioned by The Imaginary Body) was awarded a Fringe First for its run at The Traverse Theatre during the 2006 Fringe and will shortly be touring the UK.



## Al Smith

Al has written four plays: **Chalk** (Edinburgh University Theatre Company), **Enola** (Edinburgh Fringe 2005) for which he won the Sunday Times Playwriting Award, **The Astronaut Wives' Club** (Soho Theatre) which was shortlisted for the Old Vic New Voices Award, and **Radio** (Edinburgh Fringe, Soho Theatre, 59E59 Theatre New York, and BBC Radio 4). Al is on attachment at Paines Plough; is the current Pearson playwright-in-residence at the Finborough Theatre; is a young writer at the Royal Court; is on the Writers' Academy at the BBC; and is currently under commission by the Bush Theatre.



## Jonathan Donahoe

Jonathan is a writer and performer. His first full length play **Working Title** was performed professionally when he was just 17. He has since co-written and performed three comedy plays at The Gilded Balloon Theatre as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe (the first of which was chosen by the Independent as part of their 2001 'Pick of the Fringe'). Jonathan read English Literature at Trinity College, Dublin and during his time there ended up directing the fourth worst feature film of all time.



## Martin Murphy

Martin trained in Drama & Creative Writing at Liverpool John Moores University, graduating in 2004. His first play **Manor** was developed by the Liverpool Everyman Theatre, premiering in June 2005. **Manor** was subsequently produced at the Liverpool Unity Theatre later that year. Martin has completed young writers' programmes at both the Liverpool Everyman Theatre and Soho Theatre. As an actor Martin has numerous credits, most recently appearing in a touring production of **An Evening with Gary Lineker**. Thanks to an Arts Council grant, Martin has been commissioned to write his second full length play, which will premiere this year.



## Jennifer Tuckett

Jennifer's plays include **Ways You Can Survive the World** and **George Bush Saved My Life Last Night**, which have both been invited to the Brits Off Broadway festival in 2008. She has developed work with the Hampstead, Theatre 503, Old Red Lion Theatre/nabokov, World Interplay, Menagerie Theatre Company, the Flea Theatre, Yale School of Drama and Yale Cabaret. Jennifer is currently a semi-finalist for the Eugene O'Neill Playwrights' Conference in the US. Other awards include the Clauder Prize for Connecticut, the International Student Playscript Competition, the International Playwriting Festival and the RSC's OTHER Prize (finalist). This year, she was writer in residence at New York Stage and Film and the recipient of both the Eldon Elder Fellowship and the Audrey Wood scholarship in the US, where she is studying for her MFA in Playwriting at Yale School of Drama. She has also been a member of the invitation group at the Royal Court Theatre. Jennifer currently divides her time between London and America and is represented by David Higham Associates.

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