

Sheil Land Associates Ltd

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JAMES ROOSE-EVANS, M.A. Oxon

‘One of the chief creative directors of the British Theatre’ THE
SUNDAY TIMES

James adapted for the stage Helene Hanff’s cult book, 84 CHARING CROSS ROAD, which he also directed in the West End and on Broadway, winning awards on both sides of the Atlantic for Best Play and Best Director. [In August 2016 he is to start rehearsals for a new production of 84 Charing Cross Road at the Cambridge Arts Theatre in association with Producer Lee Dean.](#) The last production at Salisbury Playhouse (with Janie Dee, Clive Francis was a critical and box office success).

He adapted for the stage Laurie Lee’s classic CIDER WITH ROSIE, which he also directed in the West End

Both adaptations are published by Samuel French Ltd.

He wrote for Maureen Lipman and directed RE:JOYCE! an entertainment about Joyce Grenfell, which had three successful runs in the West End. In addition he edited Joyce Grenfell’s letters to her mother, DARLING MA, as well as her war time journals, THE TIME OF MY LIFE, both published by Hodder. He has published more than 17 books and most recently OPENING DOORS AND WINDOWS, a memoir in four acts, and also FINDING SILENCE, with an introduction by Sir Mark Tully.

He directed Sir John Gielgud in his final performance in London’s West End in Hugh Whitemore’s THE BEST OF FRIENDS, and was subsequently invited by Edwige Feuillere to direct her in the French production, in Paris. This was the play based on the correspondence between Dame Laurentia McLachlan, Abbess of Stanbrook Abbey, George Bernard Shaw and Sir Sydney Cockerill, Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

James directed a new production of this play with Patricia Routledge, Roy Dotrice and Michael Pennington. For Michael Codron he directed a new play by Ian Curteis, THE BARGAIN, about Robert Maxwell and

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Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Recently James directed and adapted Marguerite Duras' THE LOVERS OF VIORNE starring Charlotte Cornwall.

His production of Noel Coward's PRIVATE LIVES, resulted in the Coward revival; while his production of Dylan Thomas's UNDER MILK WOOD, was described by The Observer as ' James Roose-Evans' celebrated production'; he directed an all star production of Oscar Wilde's AN IDEAL HUSBAND, Colin Spencer's SPITTING IMAGE, and other productions in the West End.

His other books include:

DIRECTING A PLAY, with an introduction by Vanessa Redgrave
EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE, which has become a standard text book
ONE FOOT ON THE STAGE, the biography of the actor Richard Wilson
LONDON THEATRE, from the Globe to the National
PASSAGES OF THE SOUL: Ritual Today
INNER JOURNEY: OUTER JOURNEY
THE COOK-A-STORY BOOK

And a sequence of seven children's books:

THE ADVENTURES OF ODD AND ELSEWHERE
THE SECRET OF THE SEVEN BRIGHT SHINERS
ODD AND THE GREAT BEAR
ELSEWHERE AND THE GATHERING OF THE CLOWNS
THE RETURN OF THE GREAT BEAR
THE SECRET OF TIPPITY-WITCHIT
THE LOST TREASURE OF WALES

James has also written articles and reviews for *The Times*, *the Telegraph*, *the Tablet*, *the Financial Times*, *Slightly Foxed*, *the Hampstead and Highgate Express*, etc. He is also the Founder in Wales of The Bleddfa Centre for the Creative Spirit, which also hosts the annual Bleddfa Lecture. Previous speakers have included: Neil MacGregor, Director of the British Museum; The Most Rev. Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Trust's chief patron; Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Master of the Queen's Music; Jonathon Porritt CBE, Lord Melvyn Bragg, Libby Purves and Sir Mark Tully.

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He recently launched a new venture, *Frontier Productions* – in association with Jake Murray as Associate Director- which is based at Frederick's Place in Cheapside, by courtesy of the Mercers Guild.

See <http://www.frontiertheatreproductions.co.uk/> for more detail.

His directing agent is Penny Wesson Management

He is a member of the Societe des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatiques