

# Jordan Li-Smith ARAM, PGDipRAM, ALCM - WRITING/COMPOSING CV

Composer, Lyricist & Writer | Arranger/Orchestrator | Music Director/Supervisor | [www.jordanli-smith.com](http://www.jordanli-smith.com)

Writing and Composing Representation: JBR @ JBR Creative Management ([info@jbragent.com](mailto:info@jbragent.com))

## Theatre Credits

### Music and Lyrics

#### • One Tiny Penguin

An original children's musical in 1 act for a cast of 5.

Book and Co-Lyrics by Julie Tsang

**Production history:** Birmingham Hippodrome (Dec 2026-Jan 2027), directed by Laura Ryder. Produced by Birmingham Hippodrome.

**Workshops:** Birmingham Hippodrome (January and June 2026)

More information: <https://www.jordanli-smith.com/one-tiny-penguin>

#### • Theo In Between

A non-binary narrative, inspired by *Albert Herring* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

A musical in 2 acts for a cast of 9 + ensemble.

Book and Co-Lyrics by Gareth Matthey

**Production history:** Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds (August 2025), directed by Dean Johnson, produced by British Youth Music Theatre in a shortened one-act version.

**Workshops:** Arts Ed and Leeds Conservatoire, organised by BYMT (2025).

More information and clips: <https://www.jordanli-smith.com/theo-in-between>

#### • 73 Seconds

Inspired by the 1986 NASA Challenger space shuttle disaster.

A musical in 1 act for a cast of 10

**Production History:** showcased at BEAM2025 Festival at Birmingham Hippodrome. Producer is now attached. In development.

**R&D:** Writing residency, Birmingham Hippodrome (2024)

More information and clips: <https://www.jordanli-smith.com/73-seconds>

### Book, Music and Lyrics

#### • The Boy who Sailed the Ocean in an Armchair

Based on the novel by Lara Williamson.

A through-composed musical in 2 acts for a cast of 10 + ensemble (incl. children)

**Production history:** Leicester Curve (August 2023), directed by Hannah Chissick, produced by the National Youth Music Theatre; showcased in BEAM2023 Festival at Oxford Playhouse.

**Workshops:** University of Chichester (2020), NYMT, University of Winchester (2022), NYMT (2024).

More information and clips: <https://www.jordanli-smith.com/theboywhosailedtheoceaninanarmchair>

### Book

#### • Rope Drop: The Unofficial Disney Parks Cabaret

An original autobiographical comedy show exploring nostalgia, identity, and the stories we grow up with.

Co-written and performed with Ayesha Patel, with a live band and guest performers.

**Production history:** The Crazy Coqs, London (March 2026)



Full Driving License

Enhanced DBS

UK Passport Holder

### AWARDS

#### WINS

- National Youth Music Theatre's Best New Writing Award for **The Boy Who Sailed the Ocean in an Armchair**
- The Drama League's Anthem for the Future of Theatre - "Better Day"

#### NOMINATIONS/SHORTLISTS

- BroadwayWorldUK Award, 12 nominations for **Armchair**, 4 for **Theo in Between**, both including Best New Musical
- Finalist, British Youth Music Theatre's New Music Theatre Award for **Theo In Between**
- Two-time Finalist, Stiles and Drewe Best New Song Prize in 2025 and 2023.

# Jordan Li-Smith PGDipRAM, ALCM - WRITING/COMPOSING CV

## Masterclasses and Mentors

- **Claude Michel Schoenberg** and **Stephen Flaherty Masterclasses** (produced by MMD)
- Jordan receives writing mentorship from Tony-Award winning composer, **Stephen Flaherty**

## Education/Training

- **PGDipRAM in Musical Direction & Coaching (Distinction), Sir Elton John Scholar - Royal Academy of Music** (Sept 2014 - July 2015) specialising in conducting, piano accompaniment, coaching, and orchestration/arranging.
- In 2025, Jordan was honoured with the title of **Associate of the Royal Academy of Music**, in recognition of his 'significant contribution' to musical theatre.
- **Associate of the London College of Music** (2012) - ALCM Diploma in Classical Piano Performance
- **Junior Royal Northern College of Music** (2011-2012) - Principal study in Piano & Voice

## Selected Testimonials

- "A fierce originality... emotionally layered lyrics and irresistibly catchy tunes that linger in the mind long after the curtain falls."
  - – **Emily Gray**, Chief Executive and Creative Director of British Youth Music Theatre
- "It had been a pleasure watching Jordan grow and mature as both a music director and a composer... he's only beginning."
  - – **Stephen Flaherty**, composer of *Ragtime*, *Once on This Island*, *Anastasia* and others
- "A strong creative instinct... a sharp wit and a heart full of empathy."
  - – **Dean Johnson**, director of *Theo in Between*

## References on request

## AFFILIATIONS

- Member of **Mercury Musical Developments**
- Member of **ASCAP**
- Member of MMD's **Advanced Lab II**