

TINA PEPLER - Writer

Tina Pepler was born in Baghdad and during her childhood lived in the Middle East, the States, and France. She now lives in Bristol.

Tina originally established her reputation as a top radio dramatist while she is now busier on television and film projects. She has a classy line in surrealist fantasy and a sharp eye for the human dilemma. She often uses fact as inspiration for her fiction, and has also written dramatisations and documentaries.

Projects on the development slate include: **OUTSIDE CHILD** - a feature film adaptation of June Goodfield's Caribbean-set memoir **RIVERS OF TIME** - with director Justin Hardy; **ONLY HUMAN**, a half-hour comedy drama series which takes a contemporary look at the myth of Cupid and Psyche; an original feature film project **THE SEX FACTOR**, inspired by a true story about a woman whose lover gives her a large wad of cash with instructions to use it to learn how to make love properly; **WINGS** a drama about women who were pilots in the Second World War (originally funded by Touch Films/SW Screen); and **LETTERS TO THE FUTURE** an interactive web-based project, with longer term potential for television and radio.

One of Tina's favourite projects - provisionally entitled **WILDE FIRE** - was born of her encounters with visionary engineers, aid workers and water specialists. Tina is thinking across several platforms and genres including a 90-minute film; the whole is based on character and stories, and as so often with her work, it is inspired by true stories and real characters.

Tina's PhD thesis on the early days at the BBC, with a particular focus on radio drama as the magnet for the most creative talent working in the infant broadcasting corporation, is due to be published by Kultura Press as a book entitled **RADIO DAYS**.

Television

DOWNTON ABBEY Series 1, Episode 6 (Carnival for ITV1, autumn 2010) – co-written with series creator Julian Fellowes, Tina's episode featured a political rally with potentially grave consequences for Lady Sybil.

THE PRINCES IN THE TOWER (RDF for C4, 2005) - two-hour historical drama-documentary, director Justin Hardy.

A MOST MYSTERIOUS MURDER (Touchpaper/BBC1) - Victorian/Edwardian investigative drama-documentary series created and presented by Julian Fellowes. Tina co-wrote three scripts for this series with Julian: **THE CASE OF CHARLES BRAVO** (2004), **THE CASE OF GEORGE HARRY STORRS** (September 2005) and **THE CASE OF THE EARL OF ERROLL** (December 2005).

SAY HELLO TO THE REAL DOCTOR SNIDE, (60-minute play for *4-Play*, Channel 4, 1991), produced by Liz Wood and directed by Peter Cattaneo

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Radio

DIRECT RED (BBC Radio 4, March 2011) Dramatisation of Gabriel Weston's bestselling no-holds barred memoir of life in the operating theatre.

GOODBYE TO BERLIN (BBC Radio 4/Somethin' Else, October 2010), two-part version of Christopher Isherwood's iconic novel, producer Polly Thomas

BEING BRAVE (BBC World Service, February 2010), drama/documentary about a horse whisperer and a troubled teenager, producer Marion Nancarrow

WRITING THE CENTURY (BBC Radio 4, February 2010), a week of drama for this classic slot with a focus on Welsh nationalism around the time of the Investiture of Princes Charles as Prince of Wales, producer Kate McAll

AFTERSHOCK (BBC Radio 4, 2009), a drama-documentary ten years on from the Istanbul earthquake, producer Sara Davies

THE PRESENCE (BBC Radio 4, 2009), a dramatisation of Dannie Abse's memoir following the death of his wife Joan, producer Kate McAll

FORGIVING (BBC Radio 4, 2008), a drama-documentary inspired by true stories and using interview material, producer Sara Davies

GYOKUSAI (BBC World Service, 2005), adaptation of Makoto Oda's novel **THE BREAKING JEWEL** for the commemorations for the 60th anniversary of Hiroshima, producer David Hitchinson

CHANGES (BBC World Service, 2003), dramatisation of Ghanaian poet Ama Ata Aidoo's novel, producer Rishi Sankar

THE GRASS IS SINGING (BBC Radio 4, August 2000), a two-part dramatisation of Doris Lessing's novel, producer Marion Nancarrow

YEAR OF THE TIGER (BBC Radio 4, 1999), a play about water set in Bangladesh and England, producer Marion Nancarrow

SISTERS (BBC Radio 4, 1997) three-part family saga set in Cold War Europe, Iran and France, producer Marion Nancarrow

BIRD WITH ONE WING (BBC Radio 4, *Saturday Night Theatre*, 1995) about the life of the nineteenth century explorer Sir Richard Burton

SONG OF THE FOREST (BBC Radio 4, *Monday Play*, 1990), *Giles Cooper Award* winner

Tina also enjoys teaching. She has tutored at the Arvon Foundation and was for two years Visiting Writer at the University of the West of England. Sponsored by the Royal Literary Fund, she is currently a Visiting Writer at Plymouth University and is a regular guest lecturer at other Universities. From 2001-2004 Tina also co-tutored a series of workshops in South Africa with Marion Nancarrow. This scheme for writers with very widely differing backgrounds and experience was set up and sponsored by the British Council, the Performing Arts Network of South Africa (PANSAs) and the BBC.

May 2012