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## GUY SLATER - Director/Writer/Producer

Guy began his career as an actor while he was reading English at Cambridge University in the mid-Sixties. He worked in repertory, in the West End and extensively in television. At the same time he began writing and his first television play **NO EASY WALK** starring Michael Pennington, was produced by Thames Television and transmitted in the Armchair Theatre strand in 1969.

In 1974 he founded a regional/repertory company, the Horseshoe Theatre Company at the Haymarket Theatre, Basingstoke and remained as Artistic Director until 1980. During this time he attracted actors such as Peter Cushing, Timothy West, Gwen Watford, Derek Jacobi, Helen Ryan, Anita Dobson, Tessa Wyatt, Polly James and many others to work there. Guy remains on the Board of Directors.

In 1980 Guy returned to television to create and produce **NANNY** starring Wendy Craig (BBC). He later went on to produce the very successful **MISS MARPLE** series (BBC) in which he cast Joan Hickson.

From 1981-1985, he served on the Arts Council Drama Panel, and continued to direct in the theatre whenever he could. He also served for many years on the board of the Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond.

Between 1985-1990, Guy was predominantly a freelance television director, mostly working for the BBC directing single plays. He also found time to write and direct for the stage, and was twice Visiting Professor of Drama at the University of California (1986/1990). During this time he worked with actors such as Paul Scofield, Wendy Hiller, Julian Glover, Timothy West, Kenneth Cranham and Stephen Rea.

Writers Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran then invited him to return to drama series with their pilot script of **LOVE HURTS** from which he developed the first series (Alomo Productions/BBC). Guy cast Adam Faith and Zoe Wanamaker, and directed four of the first ten episodes.

Guy's 90-minute radio play **AT SEA ON INYA LAKE** was broadcast on Radio 4 in December 1992, and was the *BBC nomination for the Morishega Award*, for which it was shortlisted.

Guy produced Lynda La Plante's **FRAMED** for Anglia in 1992, and was employed as a Drama Executive at Anglia Films during 1993.

In 1994, he was a Founder Director of the Teddington Arts Performance Showcase (TAPS), set up to discover and showcase writers new to television.

In December 1995 he directed the opening production of the new Norwich Playhouse - **JUMPERS** starring Timothy West and Angharad Rees.

## GUY SLATER - Director/Writer/Producer - page 2

Guy was subsequently Head of Drama at Witzend Productions for whom he executive produced the four-hour mini-series **MOSLEY** (Channel 4, 1998). He also created **SUNNY'S EARS** a children's drama series about a deaf girl and her guide dog for Film & General Productions/Carlton TV, scripted by Graham Alborough. This won the *Royal Television Society Award for Best Children's Drama of 1997*.

Guy co-produced the second series of Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran's **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** for Pearson/BBC TV (1999). He directed Joss Ackland in **BARABBAS**, a 15-minute mini-drama for BBC Scotland/1A Productions (2000). Guy's radio play **YOU'RE BREAKING UP** directed for BBC Radio 4 by Janet Whittaker, was broadcast in the *Afternoon Theatre* slot in spring, 2003. Projects in development include: a tv film set in Pakistan and England **FAIR EXCHANGE**, a novel set in Cold War Russia **THE CEILING ROSE** and a stage play set in contemporary Cuba **SEÑOR HARRIS**.

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