



## Faye Maughan

### Actor/dancer/ movement teacher

#### **How did you start off in theatre?**

As a child I loved creating stories, dancing to music and inventing my own scenarios. I attended ballet lessons from the age of three, then went on to train as a professional dancer at London Studio Centre and later as an actor at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire (formerly Birmingham School of Acting).

#### **Is it difficult to balance your performing work with teaching?**

I find that teaching informs my ongoing work as a dancer and actor and vice versa.

#### **What is your best advice for drama students and graduates today?**

Know the story you are telling and share it as well as you can. Take risks and make bold artistic choices in your work and keep pushing yourself to be out of your comfort zone. Never stop learning and making new discoveries.

#### **What would you change about the industry?**

I would ideally like the world today to be mirrored more accurately in the performing arts industry.

#### **What is the best part of your job?**

Working with committed, talented students who are open and giving. It's exciting to see how the students evolve and grow in confidence.

#### **And your least favourite?**

It's often challenging to grade students as there are many areas where potential can be seen.

#### **Who are the arts practitioners you admire/who should students find out more about?**

I often explore Stanislavski and Laban-based exercises in class, which I find particularly useful for character development. I would suggest researching a variety of practitioners and then using whatever works for you if you need some extra inspiration for a particular role.

#### **What is the one skill every successful theatre professional should have?**

I think a childlike curiosity allows you to be in the moment and to stay open to play, exploration and making new discoveries.

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**Faye Maughan teaches at various schools, including Drama Studio London, ArtsEd and RADA. She was talking to John Byrne**