

Carrie Cracknell

Director

Carrie became Artistic Director of the Gate Theatre London in 2007 at the age of 26. In 2012 she moved on to become Associate Director at the Young Vic and was then Associate Director at The Royal Court from 2013-14.

In 2019 Carrie directed **Seawall/A Life** in a double bill at The Hudson Theatre, Broadway after transferring from The Public Theatre in New York, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Tom Sturridge, respectively. It received four Tony nominations in total, including for Best Play and for both Gyllenhaal and Sturridge's performances. She works regularly at the National Theatre where her work includes, **Julie** starring Vanessa Kirby, **The Deep Blue Sea** and **Medea** starring Helen McCrory and **Blurred Lines** which she created with Nick Payne. Her productions of **Julie**, **The Deep Blue Sea** and **Medea** have all played in cinemas worldwide through NT Live. Her iconic production of **A Doll's House** transferred from the Young Vic to the Westend and BAM and was nominated for the Evening Standard Best Director Award. Her first opera, **Wozzeck** at ENO was nominated for an Olivier award; recently she directed **Carmen** at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Carrie's recent theatre productions include **Portia Coughlan**, starring Alison Oliver, at the Almeida, and **Grapes of Wrath** at the National Theatre.

Her debut feature, an adaptation of Jane Austen's **Persuasion** for Netflix / MRC starring Dakota Johnson, premieres on Netflix on the 15th July, and she has two further feature films in development.



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Credits

Film

Production	Company	Notes
PERSUASION 2022	Netflix, MRC	Feature adaptation of Jane Austen novel, starring Dakota Johnson and Cosmo Jarvis.

Theatre

Production	Company	Notes
GRAPES OF WRATH 2024	National Theatre	Adapted by Frank Galati. "refreshingly unsentimental" - The Stage; "Carrie Cracknell's epic adaptation of John Steinbeck's modern classic imbues the story with a universal resonance" - inews
PORTIA COUGHLAN 2023	Almeida Theatre	By Marina Carr. "Beautifully bleak" - The Guardian
SEAWALL / A LIFE 2019	Hudson Theatre, New York	Broadway transfer of Simon Stephen's SEA WALL, starring Jake Gyllenhaal, and Nick Payne's A LIFE starring Tom Sturridge presented in a double bill
SEAWALL / A LIFE 2019	The Public Theater, New York	Simon Stephen's SEA WALL, starring Jake Gyllenhaal, and Nick Payne's A LIFE starring Tom Sturridge presented in a double bill at The Public Theater.
JULIE 2018	National Theatre	By Polly Stenham after Strindberg, World Premiere "Cracknell's direction is astonishing." - The Stage
OIL 2016	Almeida Theatre	By Ella Hickson, World Premiere "bold, playful and scorchingly ambitious...very well directed by Carrie Cracknell" - The Guardian; "directed with great tonal dexterity by Carrie Cracknell" - The Independent.
THE DEEP BLUE SEA 2016	National Theatre and NT Live	by Terence Rattigan "Carrie Cracknell directs with total assurance..."The Times "this splendid new production from Carrie Cracknell is intoxicating..." The Telegraph
MACBETH 2015	A Young Vic, Birmingham Repertory Theatre and HOME co-production	Dir: Carrie Cracknell and Lucy Guerin "Bold, visceral and topical" - Financial Times; "Stylish and daring" - Evening Standard
MEDEA 2014	National Theatre and NT Live	By Euripides in a version by Ben Power "Carrie Cracknell's version is a tragic force to be reckoned with...avoids quasi-operatic grandeur to present us with a recognisable human being who is alive with contradictions" - The Guardian; "This thrilling and merciless production leaves you feeling both appalled and strangely elated" - The Telegraph

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BIRDLAND 2014	Royal Court (Downstairs)	By Simon Stephens, World Premiere "Carrie Cracknell's production is ceaselessly inventive" - The Guardian; "Carrie Cracknell's smart production create[s] a world both repellent and seductive in this glittering moral fable for our celebrity-obsessed times" - WhatsOnStage; "There's a sharp visual language, courtesy of director Carrie Cracknell." - The Evening Standard
BLURRED LINES 2014	National Theatre	Created by Nick Payne and Carrie Cracknell, World Premiere "Carrie Cracknell's show cunningly exposes gender inequality [with]...explosive scenes...niftily staged" - The Guardian "Has a visceral kick which makes you sit up and think, or rethink." New York Times
A DOLL'S HOUSE 2014	Brooklyn Academy of Music	New York transfer "a harrowing account, directed with breathless momentum by Carrie Cracknell." - New York Times Critic's Pick
A DOLL'S HOUSE 2013	Duke of York's Theatre	West End transfer "A shattering production of a classic play...thrilling [and] often savagely funny." - The Metro
PIGEONS 2013	Royal Court (Downstairs)	By Suhalya El-Bushra in Weekly Rep, World Premiere
SEARCHED 2013	Royal Court: Rough Cuts work in progress	By E.V. Crowe
A DOLL'S HOUSE 2012 - 2013	Young Vic	A new version by Simon Stephens, opening in 2012 and revived in 2013. Nominated for the Evening Standard Best Director Award 2012 "If you ever see a production of the play, see this one." - Sunday Telegraph*****; 'An intense emotional thriller.' - Sunday Express*****; "I have never seen a more gripping and emotionally truthful account of Ibsen's brilliantly plotted and still disturbing play" - Daily Telegraph*****; "A stunning production" - The Stage; "Carrie Cracknell's fantastically assured production...loyally serves Ibsen's stark vision" - The Telegraph****; "Carrie Cracknell's deft production [is] a bracing vision of sacrifice and conscience" - The Evening Standard****
ELECTRA 2011	Gate Theatre/Young Vic	A new version by Nick Payne; "Nick Payne's urgent new version of Sophocles's Electra is another in a long line of boundary-breaking offerings and thus an apt farewell production from Cracknell. For this is not Greek tragedy as Aristotle knew it but an astute study of a deeply disturbed family." The Evening Standard.

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ELEKTRA 2010	Young Vic/Headlong	"an inventive fusion of movement, music and text, creating haunting dreamscapes and evocative imagery that really capture the overwhelming aura of grief permeating this play" - oughttobeclowns.blogspot.co.uk
BREATHING IRREGULAR 2010	Gate Theatre	"deeply -moving" - The Guardian
HEDDA 2008	Gate Theatre	A new version by Lucy Kirkwood"a Hedda for our times" - The Guardian
I AM FALLING 2008	Gate Theatre then transferred Sadler's Wells	Nominated for a South Bank Show Award (Dance) "This exquisite miniature is intensely alive, even as it deals in the currency of death." "...absorbing... [Carrie Cracknell] creates a geometry that's rich but uncluttered" - The Independent
THE SEXUAL NEUROSES OF OUR PARENTS by Lukas Barfuss 2007	Gate Theatre	by Lukas Barfuss, British Premiere "This knotty piece, at once brutal and clinical, is the first under the Gate's new duo of artistic directors, Carrie Cracknell and Natalie Abrahami. Brave, unsettling and given an inventive, highly physical production by Cracknell, it makes a promising star to the pair's regime." - The Times
DEATH AND THE CITY 2005	The Tron Theatre	by Renato Gabrielli, British Premiere
STACY 2005	The National Theatre of Scotland	by Jack Thorne, World Premiere
BROKEN ROAD 2005	Hush / British Council Showcase, BAC	by Ryan Craig, World Premiere Fringe First Award "Exceptional stuff, that like the best theatre makes you see the world in a slightly different way." Metro
A MOBILE THRILLER 2004	Hush / Site Specific for The Traverse, BAC, Harbourfront Toronto, Bristol Old Vic, National Tour & British Council showcase	by Renato Gabrielli, British Premiere Herald Angel Award "Delivers a dramatic punch that takes the breath away. An experience too disturbing to forget." The Scotsman
THE HUSH 2002	Hush / C Venues, Steven Joseph Theatre, BAC, Ohio Theatre New York	

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Opera

Production	Company	Notes
CARMEN 2023 - 2024	Met Opera	"2024's first unmissable opera" - Observer
WOZZECK 2013	ENO	Olivier nomination for Best New Opera Production Conducted by Edward Gardner "Cracknell's concept is realised with terrific theatrical flair and filled with rich naturalistic detail" - The Daily Telegraph; "This is Carrie Cracknell's operatic debut; she must be invited back at the earliest opportunity" - Evening Standard; "...[Cracknell's] staging seeps into your consciousness and won't let go...an outstanding achievement to which no one can remain indifferent" - The Guardian

Short Films

Production	Company	Notes
NORA 2012	Guardian/Young Vic/The Space	Directed and co-written with Nick Payne