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## HELENA PALMER

Helena is a casting director with over 20 years' experience, specialising in theatre.

She began her casting career at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester and then with the National Theatre. She was most recently Casting Director at the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) where she worked for twelve years on a variety of classical and contemporary plays.

For the RSC she cast 22 Shakespeare plays including: **As You Like It** directed by Maria Aberg (Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford), **The Taming of the Shrew** directed by Lucy Bailey (RST, Stratford and tour), **The Merry Wives of Windsor** directed by Phillip Breen (RST), **Richard II** directed by Gregory Doran (RST), **Henry IV parts I and II and Henry V** directed by Gregory Doran (RST/Barbican Theatre/Brooklyn Academy of Music), **Hamlet** directed by David Farr (RST), **Timon of Athens** directed by Simon Godwin (Swan Theatre, Stratford), **The Merchant of Venice**, directed by Rupert Goold (RST), **Much Ado About Nothing** directed by Iqbal Khan (Courtyard Theatre, Stratford/Noel Coward Theatre), **Love's Labour's Lost/Love's Labour's Won** directed by Christopher Luscombe (RST) and **Titus Andronicus** directed by Blanche McIntyre (RST).

Her additional RSC credits include: **Wolf Hall/Bring Up the Bodies** by Hilary Mantel directed by Jeremy Herrin (Swan Theatre/Aldwych Theatre, London/ Winter Gardens, New York), **Queen Anne** by Helen Edmundson directed by Natalie Abrahami (Swan Theatre and Haymarket Theatre London), **Tamburlaine** by Christopher Marlowe, directed by Michael Boyd (Swan Theatre), **The Alchemist** by Ben Jonson directed by Polly Findlay (Swan Theatre/Barbican Theatre), **Crooked Dances** by Robin French directed by Elizabeth Freestone (The Other Place, Stratford), **Don Quixote** by James Fenton directed by Angus Jackson (co-casting – Swan Theatre/Garrick Theatre), **A Christmas Carol** in a new version by David Edgar directed by Rachel Kavanaugh (RST), **The Heresy of Love** by Helen

Edmundson directed by Nancy Meckler (Swan Theatre), **Venice Preserved** by Thomas Otway, directed by Prasanna Puwanarajah (Swan Theatre) and **Dunsinane** by David Greig, directed by Roxana Silbert (Hampstead Theatre and tour).

She has also worked throughout the UK as a freelance casting director for a number of theatre companies including the Northcott, Exeter, the Nuffield, Southampton, Bath Theatre Royal and the Glasgow Tramway, with directors including Christopher Morahan, Rachel O'Riordan and Patrick Sandford.

Her screen credits include over 30 episodes of ITV's long-running police series *The Bill*, in addition to many US and European films and mini-series as an Associate at Cannon, Dudley and Associates.

Helena is a member of the Casting Directors' Guild.