

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Roel Twijnstra

is theatre director, dramaturge, drama lecturer and writer. After studying at the university of Nijmegen and Amsterdam, he started his carrier as an assistant of Peter Brook in 1975 and assisted later Peter Stein in Berlin. He was the artistic director of “Het Waterhuis” and the CEO of “Theatre company Siberia”, both in Rotterdam. Since 1996 he managed several international exchange projects between The Netherlands, USA, Russia, Morocco, Nepal and South-Africa. Currently he is directing in SA, lecturing on the drama department of UKZN and working for TWIST projects. In the summer of 2012 his first novel was launched “Zulu crush.” Currently he is living and working in South Africa.

[www.roeltwijnstra.nl](http://www.roeltwijnstra.nl)

### Recent work

#### PACOFs (2012 – 2014)

He adapted with Kobus Moolman in 2012 Zakes Mda's novel “Madonna of Excelsior” Together with Jerry Pooe he directed the show. In 2013 it was part of the main program of the National arts festival. In April 2014 the show is programmed on the HAIFA festival in Harare (Zimbabwe) Besides that it toured to Jo'burg (Windybrow) and Pretoria (State theatre)

<http://www.roeltwijnstra.nl/madonna-of-excelcior/>

#### Windybrow/Eager artists (2013)

Adaptation and codirecting with Jerry Pooe, “Famished road” the booker prize winning novel from Ben Okri. It had its first night in Windybrow theatre in 2013 and is part of the novel adaptation programme that Pooe and Twijnstra are presenting the coming years.

<http://www.roeltwijnstra.nl/famished-raod/>

#### TWIST Theatre Development Projects 2010 - now

Founder and adviser to the project manager.

TWIST projects is a network organisation with partners like festivals (NAF, Musho, Phambili and Icighawu), drama departments (DUT, UKZN) and theatre companies (Eager Artists a.o.)

TWIST project focuses on a sustainable infrastructure for theatre in KZN with an international exchange link to the Netherlands. All the partners focus on the capacity building of community theatre in KZN and the Netherlands.

[www.twistprojects.org](http://www.twistprojects.org)

#### UKZN university Durban (2013 – 2014)

Lecturing the honours students in theatre directing. Based on his lectures he is writing a book about theatre directing in SA. Called Skills and inspirations. Planned publishing date in July 2015.

## **Previous work.**

### **Theatergroep Siberia 2009 - 2012**

Business manager/general director Theatergroep Siberia.

Founder of the company in 2009, before he was general manager and artistic director of Theatergroep "Het Waterhuis". Siberia combines theatre for young audiences with developmental programmes on acting and scriptwriting and international exchange programmes.

[www.theatergroepsiberia.nl](http://www.theatergroepsiberia.nl)

### **1996 – 2008 Het Waterhuis, Rotterdam**

Founder, director and set designer. The company made theaterproductions and shows for young audiences in The Netherlands and Belgium. Roel Twijnstra directed shows like: De Kruik, Meisjes van Aboke, Hassan en paars krijtje, Sorry voor m'n zus, Scheppingskabaal, Leugens, Vrijvogels, Mijn Sarie Mareis, Duizend en een nacht, Harteklop and the international exchange projects:

|                   |                  |                      |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Bjeniee Cjerdsa   | Samara           | Rusland (1996)       |
| The Secret Window | Philadelphia     | U.S.A. (1998)        |
| Scheppingskabaal  | KKKF (Outshoorn) | Zuid-Afrika (1999)   |
| Freebirds         | Johannesburg     | Zuid-Afrika (2002)   |
| Landingsgestel    | Conakry          | Guinee (2003)        |
| De Kruik          | Casablanca       | Marokko (1998, 2000) |
| The Aboke girls   | Kampala          | Uganda (2001)        |
| Vuka Vuka         | Durban           | Zuid-Afrika (2005)   |
| De Kruik          | Grahamstown      | Zuid-Afrika (2007)   |
| Man's world       | Grahamstown      | Zuid-Afrika (2009)   |
| Love and Respect  | Durban           | Zuid Afrika (2011)   |

### **1988 – 1995 Free-lance director**

*He directed more than 80 show's, award winning were:*

Theater Terra (Zwanendons, Hemellief, De zeven vadertjes)

Speeltheater Holland (Nina Bobo, Baljarende buidels)

Kalebas (De bruine prins)

Speeltheater Gent (Odyssees)

Productiehuis Rotterdamse Schouwburg (Na de maden)

Jeugdtheater Hofplein (De weglopers).

Stuffed Puppet Theater (Kaspar Hauser).

Rotterdams Lef (Maja Bradaric, Seizoen van de Machetes)

Camaretten (annual comedy festival sinds 1991)

### **1982 – 1987 Het Nederlandstalig Repertoire Gezelschap Amsterdam**

*Founder and director*, he made shows like Halte Noordstad

(Bordewijk), J.P.Coen (Slauerhoff), Ines De Castro (Rhijnvisch Feith), De Heks van Haarlem

(Van Eeden), De Woonschuit (Defresne), De Bezoeker (Ed. Hoornik)

### **1983-2011 (Guest lecturer, Drama departments)**

Regie-opleiding Bijlmerparktheater, Amsterdam

Guest workshops Theaterschool HKU, Utrecht

Theaterschool Ekatharinaburg, Rusland.

T.I.M. Theaterschool Jakarta, Indonesië  
Toneelschool Amsterdam  
Toneelschool Arnhem

#### **AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS.**

1000 Watt Prijs, 2000 nomination (De Meisjes van Aboke bij Het Waterhuis)  
Theaterprijs Midden Wolga District, Rusland 1996(direction and script Bjenie Cjerdsa)  
Puck Prijs, 1993 nominatie (direction and script De Zeven Vadertjes bij Theater Terra)  
Puck Prijs, 1992 (direction and co-writer Nina Bobo bij Speeltheater Holland)  
Hans Snoek Prijs, 1992 nominatie (direction and script Hemellief bij Theater Terra)  
Hans Snoek Prijs, 1988 (direction and script Zwanendons bij Theater Terra)  
Hans Snoek Prijs, 1983 (direction Lucas Goudszwaard)

#### **EDUCATION AND TRANEES.**

1974 – 1979 Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen/Amsterdam.  
1980 – 1981 Workshops on directing Theater Schule Berlin  
1980 Schaubuhne Berlin, directing assistent with Peter Stein  
1980 Open Theatre Los Angeles, with Viola Spolin  
1981 Theatergroep Baal, with Lodewijk de Boer  
1981 Theatergroep De Appel, with Erik Vos

#### **PUBLICATIONS.**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Een Zulu op mijn bank                   | Twijnstra, Roelof R., IT&FB, Amsterdam 2011 (novel)) |
| Zulu crush                              | Twijnstra, Roelof R., IT&FB, Amsterdam 2012 (novel)  |
| Een Chinees in Goeree                   | Twijnstra, R., Theaterbookshop Amsterdam, 2002       |
| Poppen-, Object- en<br>Beeldend Theater | Twijnstra, R., Stafleu, Bohn & van Loghum, 1994      |
| Betekenis van Drama                     | Twijnstra, R., Theaterbookshop Amsterdam, 1991       |
| Dramatiseren                            | Twijnstra, R. e.a., Theaterbookshop Amsterdam, 1985  |