

Exclusive interview with script writer Trevor Bentham



By Jack

The famous stage manager and script writer Trevor Bentham was kind enough to answer a few brief questions about himself and his career.

Trevor always wanted to be involved in theatre and screen he was “stage-struck from birth.”

His earliest memory of theatre was as a child being taken to the pantomime in Bristol, his parents loved the theatre and due to the fact that televisions weren’t in every households back when he was a child, the theatre was where they went for entertainment whenever they could.

He describes his job as “the person who literally runs the show from beginning to end, sitting in the prompt corner and pressing buttons to cue the curtains and lights.” Technology then advanced to change it all to headsets and consoles.

He liked both aspects of his job, the screen writing and the stage management, equally, however the writing took him more time, even though he had done it from childhood.

His favourite year of work was 1978 when he became company manager for the Lyric Theatre Company. In his words, it was “like a new outpost of The National Theatre, wonderful actors and directors which lasted three years.

He feels like he got as much recognition as the actors themselves, even though he was more based behind the scenes and the actors were the ones actually representing the shows that he wrote.

He is most proud of remaining sane throughout his long and difficult career, keeping a sense of proportion at all times and being prepared to make changes without resentment.