



### **Alex Taylor: Biography**

Alex Taylor has worked extensively in the UK, USA and SE Asia as a director, an actor and as a voice specialist. In 1983 his passion for Musical Theatre led him to submit his Master's thesis on the works of Stephen Sondheim. From 1984-1990 he was the Director of the School of Theatre, Manchester Metropolitan University and, at thirty, was the youngest drama school principal in the UK. He created one of the first honours degrees for intending actors in the UK. Subsequently, he became one of the Master Teachers at the Juilliard School, New York. In 1993 he joined the School of Drama at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. At HKAPA he collaborated with Mohamed Drissi on productions of the musicals *Pippin* and *Merrily We Roll Along*. Also in Hong Kong Alex starred as Sweeney Todd in Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* for McAlister Productions at the Arts Centre and as Albin in Jerry Herman's *The Birdcage* at City Hall. During his time in SE Asia he has directed productions for the National Theatre of Korea and led masterclasses in Acting and Voice at Shanghai Theatre Academy and the University of Korea.

Now living and working in the UK at Birmingham School of Acting, he has directed over thirty productions. He is currently the External Examiner for the Acting and Musical Theatre programmes at Lasalle College of the Arts, Singapore, and has recently worked for the Royal Shakespeare Company as a voice coach on a range of productions. He has just created a new Masters degree with the support of the RSC for Birmingham City University.