

MARK SMITH

Movement Director · Choreographer · Director

Bringing together British Sign Language, movement and storytelling.

OLIVIER AWARD NOMINEE — **Best Theatre Choreographer, 2024**

Showreel & filmed work: marksmithchoreographer.co.uk/videos

Representation: Chris Davis, Gavin Barker Associates Ltd · 020 7499 4777 · chris@gavinbarkerassociates.co.uk

Mark Smith is an Olivier-nominated Movement Director and Choreographer, and the Founder and Artistic Director of **Deaf Men Dancing** (DMD & DMD+). A Deaf artist trained at The Royal Ballet, he has built an internationally recognised body of work distinguished by a signature fusion of British Sign Language, movement and storytelling — a visual language that has reached audiences from the West End to the Paralympic stage. His choreography spans major producing houses, opera, musical theatre and large-scale ceremony, and he is increasingly sought as a director, having received the MGC Futures Bursary to develop this strand of his work. Mark most recently appeared as a performer in *A Life in Four Seasons* at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre (2026, dir. Tinuke Craig). He is a patron of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) and of Dance Live!.

WORKING WITH MARK Mark is Deaf and communicates through British Sign Language, lip-reading and spoken English. He warmly welcomes general meetings and creative conversations, and they are simple to arrange: Mark lip-reads fluently, his agent can join to support with conversational BSL, and a registered BSL interpreter can be booked on request. Access is never a barrier to collaboration — it is part of how Mark makes distinctive work.

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

Laurence Olivier Award — Best Theatre Choreographer, *The Little Big Things* (Nominee, 2024)

BroadwayWorld UK — nominations for *Hedwig & The Angry Inch*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Iolanthe*, *Ace of Clubs*, *Call Me Madam*

Off West End — nominations for *The Who's Tommy*, *Iolanthe*

British Theatre Guide Awards — The Last Five Years

SELECTED CHOREOGRAPHY & MOVEMENT DIRECTION

The Little Big Things — @sohoplace, London · dir. Luke Sheppard

Antony & Cleopatra — Shakespeare's Globe · dir. Blanche McIntyre

Paralympic Games Opening Ceremony 2012 — London · co-dirs Bradley Hemmings MBE & Jenny Sealey MBE

The Color Purple — Curve / Birmingham Hippodrome · dirs Tinuke Craig & Lakesha Arie-Angelo

The Hunchback of Notre Dame — Prince Edward Theatre, London

Falling in Love — Friedrichstadt-Palast, Berlin · dirs Oliver Hoppmann & Jean Paul Gaultier

Hedwig & The Angry Inch — Leeds Playhouse / HOME Manchester · dir. Jamie Fletcher

The Who's Tommy — Ramps on the Moon · dir. Kerry Michael

Shoes — Sadler's Wells · dir. Stephen Mear CBE

Die Fledermaus — Oslo Opera House (Den Norske Opera) · dir. Laurence Dale

Blood Wedding — Graeae / Derby Theatre & Dundee Rep · dir. Jenny Sealey MBE

Reasons To Be Cheerful — Graeae UK Tour · dir. Jenny Sealey MBE

The Threepenny Opera — Graeae / New Wolsey UK Tour · dirs Jenny Sealey & Peter Rowe

I Wish — Unicorn Theatre · dir. Rachel Bagshaw

The Meeting — Chichester Festival Theatre · dir. Natalie Abraham

A Marvellous Year for Plums — Chichester Festival Theatre · dir. Phillip Franks

Sherlock Holmes and The Poison Wood — The Watermill Theatre · dir. Poppy Burton-Morgan

My Silent World — BalletBoyz / Channel 4 Random Acts · dir. Luke Aherne

Further credits across opera, pantomime, youth and conservatoire productions available on request.

DEAF MEN DANCING & DMD+

Founder and Artistic Director of Deaf Men Dancing (DMD) and DMD+ — companies creating bold, visually-led dance theatre that places Deaf artists and sign movement at the heart of the work, performed nationally and internationally. The companies are a leading voice for Deaf-led creativity in UK dance and a hallmark of Mark's artistic signature.

DIRECTING & DEVELOPMENT

As Director: Our House (Sherman Theatre). Recipient of the MGC Futures Bursary, supporting his move into directing.

Selected R&D: Hut 8 – The Alan Turing Project · Isolation in the Dark (Mercury Theatre, Seeds Commission) · D-Clusivity (Arts Council England) · Synergy (Arts Council / Without Walls) · Integrated Choreolab (South East Dance / GDance).

TRAINING

The Royal Ballet, London (1983–1989) · Doreen Winkree Dance School, London (1978–1980) · Bridget Ep Studio Centre, London (1989–1990)

CHOREOGRAPHIC RANGE

Sign Movement (BSL-integrated) · Ballet · Tap · Contemporary · Physical Theatre · Musical Theatre · Commercial / Street · Freestyle & Lyrical Jazz · Matt Mattox / Jazz Isolation · Latin & Ballroom

SHOWREEL & CREDENTIALS

Showreel and recent filmed routines: marksmithchoreographer.co.uk/videos

Equity Member · Public Liability Insured · Full DBS Certificate · Patron of the ISTD and Dance Live!