

Recipient of the 16<sup>th</sup> annual

#OlwenWymarkAwards

For exceptional  
encouragement of theatre  
writing over the past year



**Léonie Scott-Matthews** was awarded the **Olwen Wymark Award** for Encouragement in theatre writing by the Writers' Guild of Great Britain on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

For Immediate Release

Léonie, for 50 years the artistic director of Pentameters Theatre in Hampstead, has received this prestigious national award. Writers Guild members were invited to nominate someone in the theatre sector, who has given them exceptional encouragement. Léonie was nominated by playwright Jan Woolf.

Jan says, *'This has been a difficult year for theatre makers. It was vital to keep in touch with our craft until theatres could open again. I can't thank Léonie enough for supporting my writing during lockdown, and with an eye to future performance. She has helped so many other writers, in giving a platform for new work. It is as if Pentameters is a petri dish of creativity.'*

Named after playwright Olwen Wymark, a passionate supporter of WGGB who died in 2013, the awards were developed by playwrights **Mark Ravenhill** and **David James** to give Guild members the opportunity to publicly thank those who have given them a positive experience in new writing.

Mark Ravenhill says, *'Good writers need champions, enablers, cheerleaders, door-openers if they are to reach an audience and to realise their potential. The awards are a fantastic opportunity to recognise, thank and celebrate the champions of new theatre writing across the country.'*

Léonie Scott-Matthews says, *'I'm particularly delighted to receive this award as I had long admired Olwen's work and commitment to the theatre. I'm looking forward very much to re-opening Pentameters with one-man shows on artists Kurt Schwitters and Francis Bacon and the late Michael Dickinson's play 'Keats' Elephant.'*

Available for further comment or photo:

Jan Woolf – 07967 161 291 / [janwoolf.com](http://janwoolf.com)

Léonie Scott-Matthews – 07840 285 592

12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Ends