



DARREN RICHARD HAYWARD

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER | CREATIVE DIRECTOR | STAGE DIRECTOR |
SHOWRUNNER | SHOW CALLER

PERSONAL

B: 24th January 1972
N: British / South African

CONTACT

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ABOUT ME

I am a dedicated collaborator and team player who thrives on bringing together diverse talent and ideas to craft captivating experiences.

My passion is sculpting in a three-dimensional space, where performance and technology meet to take audiences on exhilarating journeys. With a theatrical background and extensive technical expertise, I focus on creating moments that evoke emotional responses, challenge perceptions, and inspire new ways of thinking.

I am a multi-award-winning Live Event and Broadcast Director, Showrunner, and Creative, who has had the privilege of working on numerous projects across Africa and the UAE.

REFERENCE LETTERS LINKS

[Anaïs Baker - Head of Global Formats at Amazon MGM Studios](#)

[Jan Du Plessis - President of Primedia Studios](#)

[Huub van Ballegooy - Senior Vice President ITV Studios](#)

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Live shows and broadcasts

Executive Producer, Director & Creative	RMB Starlight Classics	2015-2026
Executive Producer, Director & Creative	B20 South Africa Summit	2025
Stage Director & Show Caller	Earthshot Prize Awards South Africa	2024
Stage Director & Show Caller	Loeries Africa Middle East Creativity Awards	2011-2019 2024-2025
Executive Producer, Director & Creative	Africa Magic Viewer's Choice Awards Lagos	2022 2024 2025
Executive Producer & Director	FIFA Seychelles Beach Soccer Draw	2025
Executive Producer & Director	Global Citizen Now Summit JHB	2025
Executive Producer & Director	Dubai Marsa Al Arab Staff Launch	2025
Digital & Stage Takeover Lead	MDLBEAST Soundstorm Riyadh	2023-2025
Executive Producer & Director	Dubai Airports Employee Awards	2024
Executive Producer & Director	Trace Awards Rwanda	2023
Director, Creative & Show Caller	BRICS Cultural Show and State Banquet South Africa	2023
Executive Producer & Director	1 Night with Mzansi at the Dubai Opera House	2021
Director & Show Caller	South African Film and Television Awards	2016 2017 2021 2023
Director & Show Caller	DSTV Mzansi Viewers' Choice Awards	2017 2018 2020 2022
Director, Creative & Show Caller	Cricket South Africa Awards	2013-2018
Directed & Show Caller	M-Net 30th Birthday Celebration	2016
Directed & Show Caller	M-Net Galaxy of Stars	2015
TV SERIES		
Showrunner	Last One Laughing Naija Season 1	2022-2023
Series Director	The Voice Nigeria Season 3	2020-2021
Series Director	The Voice South Africa Season 1 – 3	2016-2019
Series Director	The Voice Afrique Francophone Season 2	2017