

## Artistic Statement

As a British playwright, now living in the US, I often feel like a bird in the wrong nest. That sense of not belonging is also a recurring theme in my plays. From the outsider at the birthday party (*When We Fall*) to the woman alone on the International Space Station (*If nobody does remarkable things*). I am drawn to stories about the loneliness of introverts and the conflict that arises when they have to connect to other people, to the world or to something more divine or magical.

I am interested in exploring these aspects of the human condition and juxtaposing the intimacy of these investigations with bold design, poetic language, and the wonder of magic realism. I am interested in the relationship between instinct and intentionality. I enjoy the trance like state of reflection and dreaming, and then the precision and science of forming those images and ideas into something cohesive. I like messy, complicated structures and characters that we can connect with, even if we don't like them. I am also interested in the intersection of comedy and tragedy and how they support and improve each other.

I believe that theatre should be a place where we can gather and witness stories that connect us to the world around us and yet also figure out our own place in that world. I strive to bring hope to my stories, no matter how harrowing the telling.