

Derek Rowland is a New York based writer, choreographer, director, teacher and performer. He recently returned to the U.S. from the University of Edinburgh's Master's Playwriting program in Scotland, where he was awarded the William Hunter Sharpe Memorial Scholarship for playwriting. He is currently the resident playwright with Road Less Traveled Productions for development of his play *Waist Deep*, which is also the recipient of a grant from the Global Warming Arts Fund.

Derek is a long-standing company member of 3-time Drama Desk nominated Parallel Exit Theater Company in New York City (www.parallelexit.com). He co-created and co-choreographed numerous productions with the company, including their original Off-Broadway show *Time Step*, about which the New York Times said "It's a reminder of how eloquently the body can speak and of how little it takes to create entertainment." Derek joined Parallel Exit for a 12 month tour of Germany with their show *Exit*, and is currently one of the creators of their online video series *Elevator Pitch*.

Originally from Rochester NY, Derek's performance credits include National Tours of *Kiss Me Kate* (playing Bill Calhoun), *Showboat*, *Cinderella* and *Funny Girl*, as well as the Italian Tour of *West Side Story*. His New York credits include numerous Off-Broadway productions, as well as performances at NY City Center, Town Hall, Lincoln Center, the Alvin Ailey Theater, NY Fringe Festival, American Theater of Actors, The York Theater, The Actors Playground, Merkin Concert Hall, and the New York Musical Theater Festival. Derek is a proud member of Actors Equity Association.