

Ursula Holden Gill..... is an award winning Actress but now she has walked into the limelight as a highly gifted Storyteller. An insightful Comedienne and a skilled Singer/ Songwriter, Ursula has that rare gift of authenticity in her humour. Her style is largely influenced by her love of home and heritage; namely her native Lancashire, her beloved West Yorkshire, and with the various folk and music hall roots associated with them.

Alongside her performance ventures, Ursula facilitates a range of Storytelling and Drama workshops. She also offers regular one to one tuition in Singing, Speech and Drama for children, young people and adults of all abilities, who are keen to build their confidence, improve their communication skills or further enhance their performance techniques.

Ursula is a Master of Arts, holds Qualified Teacher Status, a Licentiate in Speech and Drama Education and an Advanced Certificate in Singing from the Royal School of Music.

To date, Ursula has attained three awards for her work. In 2000 she was presented with a 'Women to Watch' Award by Blackburn with Darwen Council for her services to the voluntary sector in the field of Children's Rights. In 2006 she was presented with the TV Choice Award of Best Actress for her portrayal of Alice Dingle on ITV's Emmerdale, for which she was further shortlisted for a National Television Award. In 2012 Ursula was voted Best Newcomer at The British Awards for Storytelling Excellence.

Ursula is a member of The Hebden Bridge Hill Millie Morris Side, The LAMDA Teachers Association, The Oaken Hoof Cloggers, The Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids, Patrick Hambleton Personal Management and The Shaggy Dog Storytellers. She is currently serving as Storyteller in Residence at Bamford Academy in Rochdale.



*"Very dynamic and fun, theatrical yet natural, at the same time daft as a brush yet poignant – light flowing on water, ever changing, sparkling."
(Cape Clear Storytelling Festival Directors 2013)*

*"One of the best female voices I've heard in years. Full of power and passion."
(Alan Surtees, Shrewsbury Folk Festival)*

*"Ursula is a brave and audacious performer who, through her agile and heart-felt songs and stories, manages to combine the stark realities of life with the bitter-sweet mixture of wonder and yearning that are the life-blood of the folksong and the fairy-story."
(Society for Storytelling)*

*"I have been going to Festival at the Edge a good few years now and I can honestly say that it was the first time I have seen a standing ovation. You truly deserved it. I came away feeling all blessed."
(Audience Member, FATE 2012)*



<http://www.ursulaholdengill.com>