Declan Donnellan is a stage director, dramatist and writer. He and his partner, Nick Ormerod, formed Cheek by Jowl in 1981 and he has since directed over 30 productions for the company, touring to nearly 400 cities, spanning six continents. In 1989, Donnellan was made Associate Director of the Royal National Theatre in and in 2000, he formed a company of actors in Moscow, under the auspices of The Chekhov International Theatre Festival. He has directed the Royal Shakespeare Company, the English National Opera, the Old Vic, the Bolshoi Ballet or the Maly Drama Theatre of St Petersburg, among others. Donnellan has received awards in London, Moscow, Paris and New York, including four Olivier Awards for Director of the Year (1987), Best Director of a Musical (1994), Best Director of a Play (1995), and Outstanding Achievement (1990). In February of 2004 he was made a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres for his work in France, and in 2009 he shared the Charlemagne award with Craig Venter and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.