

Katrina Bryan — Actress, Singer & TV Presenter



Katrina Anne Bryan is proud to be a Gatehouse lass. She was born in Dumfries in 1980, daughter of Eddie and Elizabeth Bryan, and wee sister of Tanya.

She was educated at Gatehouse School and then Kirkcudbright Academy.

Katrina's first acting role was at the age of 10 or 11, when in Primary 7 at Gatehouse, she played the lead role in 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'.

She remembers *"I loved the experience of performing in front of people and believe that was when I caught the 'acting bug'"*.

She was not really into sports at school but Mrs Carol McQuistan was the teacher who influenced her the most and who *"..... was always a wonderful support at Kirkcudbright Academy. She organised and directed school shows each year which was my only chance to do any type of drama. This was all extra work for her, outside of the curriculum, without which I may not have had the confidence to apply for my Acting course at Queen Margaret."*

Katrina graduated with a B.A. in Acting from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh and has enjoyed a varied career in theatre and television.

Theatre work has included starring in various pantomimes over the years:

2004 - Jill in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh

2008 - Semolina Salamander in 'Mother Bruce', at the Tron Theatre, Glasgow

2011 - Beauty in Beauty and the Beast at DGOne, Dumfries. This was one of her favourite pantomime parts as this gave her a rare opportunity to spend Christmas with her family in Gatehouse.

2012 - The Good Fairy in Sleeping Beauty, at Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury

Katrina has also starred in a number of television series.

'Taggart' where she played Ellis Sinclair, a pathologist.

'Emmerdale' when she recently appeared as Eloise.

She has always had an interest in working with children, which is one of the reasons that she enjoys working in pantomimes.

In 2005 she starred as Tess Macauley, a tour guide in the Scottish Education programme 'See you, See me' where she always had a ponytail and wore a pink anorak.

She is probably best known for her work on the BBC Children's Channel, Cbeebies, having worked for them in many different guises over the years.

She played scientist **Nina**, in 'Nina and the Neurons', which began in 2006 and is now shown across the world including New Zealand, Canada and China. The show won a BAFTA Scotland Award for Best Children's TV programme in 2007. 'Nina' was very recognisable with her hair in bunches, wearing a white lab coat and talking to the cartoon 'Neurons' in her head. 'Nina' filmed its last series in 2015.

Katrina continued to appear on Cbeebies in many of their well-loved Christmas shows, including

Cinderella

Thumbelina

Justin's House

Swashbuckle



In 2018 Katrina found a new role on the channel as

Alice in 'Molly and Mack' - a light-hearted drama set in the fictional Scottish village of Bridgetown (which is really North Queensferry). Series 3 and 4 were due to be filmed in April 2020 but this has been postponed due to the Lockdown.

Other work has included appearing in 'Rab. C. Nesbit' and as Baby Fanny's mother in the slightly infamous Irn Bru advert.

In 2019 Katrina played the lead role in 'Local Hero' at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh. This is a musical version of the film with music by Mark Knopfler. Due to its success, the show's run in Edinburgh was extended and it was due, before lockdown restrictions, to transfer to the Old Vic in London in May 2020, with Katrina still taking the role of Stella.

Photo Album



Katrina, Elizabeth, Eddie & Tanya



Alice in 'Molly and Mack'



Thumbelina



Tinkerbell



Nina



Stella in Local Hero



Stella in Local Hero



Nina and the Neurons



Eloise in Emmerdale



Katrina with Mark Knopfler and the cast of Local Hero