

**Kate Wakeling is a writer who grew up in Yorkshire and Birmingham.**

**Although we at Friday Afternoons know Kate as a lyricist, Kate actually studied music at Cambridge University and holds a PhD in Balinese gamelan music.**

**Gamelan is a traditional ensemble music of Indonesia, made up of orchestras of metal, wood and bamboo percussion instruments.**

**Music forms an integral part of the daily life of the Balinese community. In fact, there is a greater concentration of orchestras and musicians in Bali than anywhere else in the world!**

**Kate writes poetry for children and adults, and her first collection of poems for children, Moon Juice won the 2017 CLiPPA (Centre for Literacy in Primary Poetry Award) Prize and was nominated for the 2018 Carnegie Medal.**

**Kate's second collection of children's poems, Cloud Soup, came out in summer 2020 and was a Guardian Book of the Month.**

**A great way to combine Kate's love of music with her skills as a writer is through collaborations with orchestras and composers.**

**As writer in residence with Aurora Orchestra, Kate is co-creator of the Far Far Away series of children's storytelling concerts, and her scripts and stories for the orchestra have been performed by many groups and in many venues across the UK and beyond.**

**Kate loves performing her work, particularly for family audiences, and she has performed her work at many amazing venues including the famous Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.**

**It is through this collaboration with composers that has led Kate to Friday Afternoons – writing the text for the fabulous song 'Shadow-Maker' by Cecelia McDowell. Watch the interview with Kate to find out more about their creative process as they developed this song together...**

**As well as all these things, Kate still has time to go and work in Primary Schools, as inspiring young people to write and find the same love for literature as she has, is one of Kate's greatest joys, and we at Friday Afternoons couldn't agree more..!**