

BETH GARDINER

Curriculum Vitae

Email: beth@beth-gardiner.com

OBJECTIVE

Professional and educational employment in directing, acting, dramaturgy and theater history

QUALIFICATIONS

Creative theater professional with experience in directing, dramaturgy and acting.
Experienced working on new plays as well as classics.
Experienced working in commercial, not-for-profit and educational companies.
Engaging and empowering leader.
Committed to collaboration with strong interpersonal and written communication skills.
Detail-oriented and extremely organized.
Cool under pressure.
Can-do attitude with willingness to pitch in where needed to get the job done.

TEACHING/RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development of new theatrical work with high value placed on language, community relevance and involvement, or non-traditional use of space/environment.
Creating provocative and relevant theatrical productions of classic texts for contemporary audiences.
Development of collaborative techniques to establish vital and dynamic ensembles as part of the rehearsal process, as well as fruitful interaction between corporeal artists and technological artists.
Integration of physical rehearsal techniques as a means to illuminate text for the actor.
Exploring performer/audience dynamics through the manipulation of performance spaces and environments.

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

University of California, Irvine, MFA in Drama, 2010.

Concentration: Directing

Thesis: Directing *Cyrano*: An Analysis of Several Challenges in Rostand's Play and some Directorial Approaches to Solving Them

Advisor: Dr. Keith Fowler

Thesis Production: *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand, Translated by Ranjit Bolt (US Premiere)

Advisor: Robert Cohen

Wesleyan University, BA in Theater, 2002, Honors.

Concentration: Directing

Honors Production: *Generations of the Dead in the Abyss of Coney Island Madness* by Michael Henry Brown

Advisor: Claudia Nascimento

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Stage Director, Assistant Director and Dramaturg, 2002 – present.

Commercial, not-for-profit and educational theaters, USA

Conceived, organized and executed vision and storytelling for live theatrical productions.

Collaborated with actors, producers and designers to ensure quality of product and artistic consistency.

Assisted directors in the execution of their vision for live theatrical productions.

Performed necessary research and/or script development work in support of productions. Wrote and edited written materials associated with productions.

Literary Intern, 2002-2003.

Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee, WI

Served as assistant to the Literary Manager. Performed and reported on research for most shows in the season. Organized and augmented the company library. Composed and edited production-related materials including program notes, press releases, newsletter interviews and articles as well as access materials. Developed and presented pre-show informational lectures for audience members. Directed several productions and also produced a festival of one-act plays with the company of intern actors.

Electrics Intern, Summer 2001.

Connecticut Repertory Theater, Storrs, CT

Electrics crew and run crew for all shows in the company's summer season.

SELECTED THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE

We Were Here	University of California-Riverside	Director	2013
The Hamlet Project	The Exley	Director & Producer	2013
A Midsummer Night's Dream	Fugitive Kind Theatre	Director	2012
As You Like It	Burning Coal Theater Company Mark Sutch, Director	Stage Manager	2012
The Mousetrap	Summer Repertory Theater	Director	2012
Squalor	Independent Production	Director	2012
They Were Ours	Coyote Rep	Director	2011
The Medicine Show (premiere)	Independent Production	Director	2010
Salsa (premiere)	Brave New World Repertory Chip Brooks, Director	Stage Manager	2010
Dangerous Liaisons with Vampires (premiere)	Summer Repertory Theater	Director	2010
Far Away	University of California-Irvine	Director	2010
Cyrano de Bergerac	University of California-Irvine	Director	2010
The Winter's Tale	University of California-Irvine	Director	2009
The Little Dog Laughed	Theatre Out, University of California-Irvine Dennis Beasley, Director	Actor (Ellen)	2009

Henry V	Utah Shakespearean Festival J.R. Sullivan, Director	Assistant Director	2009
The Comedy of Errors	Utah Shakespearean Festival Kirk Boyd, Director	Assistant Director	2009
Goldfish (premiere)	South Coast Repertory Loretta Greco, Director	Assistant Director	2009
Twelfth Night	University of California-Irvine	Director	2009
West Side Story	University of California-Irvine Eli Simon, Director	Assistant Director	2008
Ubu Roi (premiere)	University of California-Irvine	Director & Translator/Adaptor	2008
Hamlet	University of California-Irvine Cliff Faulkner, Director	Assistant Director	2008
Uncle Vanya	University of California-Irvine Dr. Keith Fowler, Director	Assistant Director	2008
The Turn of the Screw	University of California-Irvine	Director	2007
Out at Sea	Bailiwick Repertory	Director	2007
The Adding Machine (premiere)	Next Theater David Cromer, Director	Composer's Assistant	2007
Fire Comes and Fire Runs (premiere)	Independent Production	Director & Co-Producer & Co-Author	2006
Matt and Ben	Bialystock and Bloom	Director	2006
The File (premiere)	Bad Soviet Habits	Director & Dramaturg	2005
Schoolhouse Rock Live!	Otteson Theater at Carroll College	Director	2005
Poona the F***Dog and Other Tales for Children	Bialystock and Bloom	Director	2005
The Merchant of Venice	Milwaukee Shakespeare David Chambers, Director	Assistant Director	2005
Julius Caesar	Milwaukee Shakespeare Eleanor Holderidge, Director	Assistant Director	2005
The Comedy of Errors	Milwaukee Shakespeare Susan Finque, Director	Assistant Director	2004
Titus Andronicus	Milwaukee Shakespeare Alec Wild, Director	Assistant Director	2004
The Tempest	Milwaukee Shakespeare Norma Saldivar, Director	Assistant Director	2004
The Odd Couple	Marcus Center for the Performing Arts Edward Morgan, Director	Assistant Director	2004
Fully Committed	Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Milwaukee Repertory Theater Edward Morgan, Director	Assistant Director	2003

Age of Consent	Milwaukee Repertory Intern Lab Project	Director	2003
Out at Sea	Milwaukee Repertory Intern Lab Project	Director	2003
Bash	Milwaukee Repertory Intern Lab Project	Director	2003
All My Sons	Milwaukee Repertory Theater Paul Barnes, Director	Production Dramaturg	2003
Proof	Milwaukee Repertory Theater J.R. Sullivan, Director	Production Dramaturg	2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Artist, University of California, Riverside, 2013

class size: *n/a* students: *BA* class format: *practical* duration: *five weeks*
Directed a production in residence. Created teachable moments with student actors and stage managers covering topics including collaborative techniques, text analysis and vocal technique.

Adjunct Faculty, Santa Rosa Jr. College, Summer 2010 and Summer 2012

class size: *n/a* students: *high school, BA, MFA* class format: *practical* duration: *five weeks*
Directed a production in residence. Created teachable moments with student actors and designers covering topics including collaborative techniques, audition techniques, text analysis and period movement.

Directing Assistant, University of California, Irvine, 2009-2010.

class size: *n/a* students: *BA, BFA, MFA* class format: *advisement* duration: *thirty weeks*
Served as line producer for a fifteen-show season of workshop drama performances. Supervised and advised undergraduate directors and designers in their productions. Coordinated rehearsal and performance schedules for several simultaneous projects in multiple spaces. Advised on all aspects of production including initial concepts, collaboration, rehearsal process and execution. Served as advocate and liaison between undergraduate students and University faculty. Assisted in both main stage and workshop season selection.

Instructor of Record, University of California, Irvine, 2009.

class size: *9* students: *BA, BFA* class format: *studio* duration: *ten weeks*
Developed and implemented curriculum for a new undergraduate drama course called Directorial Techniques. Partnering with another graduate student instructor, taught basic staging, script analysis, non-traditional source adaptation, musical theater directing and actor coaching techniques. Provided feedback on directing scene work. Lead class discussion on diverse topics including collaborative techniques and performance theory. Edited and graded student writing assignments.

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine, 2009.

class size: *8* students: *MFA* class format: *studio* duration: *ten weeks*
Assisted the professor in the organization and running of class sessions for a graduate level Acting for the Camera class. Duties included set-up and striking of a/v systems in a studio space, consultation on student performances with the professor and organization of lecture materials.

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine, 2008.

class size: *140/36* students: *BA, BFA* class format: *lecture/section* duration: *twenty weeks*
Oversaw the work of 36 undergraduate students in a large lecture-style theater history course called The Development of Theater. Advised students during one-on-one mentoring sessions on writing technique, active listening and observation skills and course material review and study techniques. Provided extensive written feedback on writing assignments and graded all tests and quizzes. Assisted with lectures, a/v presentations and classroom decorum during class sessions.

Guest Lecturer, University of California, Irvine, 2008, 2009, 2010.

class size: *25* students: *BA, BFA* class format: *studio* duration: *two hours*
Prepared and delivered a brief lecture on audition technique and scene work with acting partners in multiple introductory-level acting classes. Lead group exercises on breath and articulation, physical and vocal warm-up techniques, ensemble development and text analysis. Provided feedback on audition pieces and performances.

Guest Lecturer, University of California, Irvine, 2007.

class size: *10* students: *BA, BFA* class format: *studio* duration: *two hours*

Prepared and delivered a brief lecture and demonstration on rhythm and picturization techniques in an honors undergraduate directing class.

ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Founder & Producer, Plays & Pints, 2013

Planned, curated and implemented a monthly play reading series featuring new work by Brooklyn-based playwrights. Coordinated staffing, scheduling and promotion of the event through targeted email and social media campaigns. Directed the inaugural reading. Facilitated talk-backs with playwrights. Liaised with management of the performance venue.

Co-Founder & Co-Producer, World Premiere Weekend, 2009, 2010.

Planned and implemented a festival of one-act plays, all premieres, at the University of California, Irvine. Mobilized over one hundred student and faculty actors, directors, playwrights, designers and technicians to produce nearly forty pieces in various spaces on the University campus over the course of a weekend. Produced work by playwrights working locally, nationally and internationally, including pieces by Neil LaBute and Charles Mee. Coordinated all communication between artists, scheduling, publicity, website design and archival materials for the festival. Developed infrastructure to support the festival's continued life in future.

Collaborator and Performer, Crosswalk Theater Company, Milwaukee, WI, 2004.

Assisted in planning and execution of public art actions in and around the city of Milwaukee. Activities included "invisible" theatrical pieces performed in city crosswalks, instigation of flash mobs, creation of original clown, mime and movement pieces performed at public city festivals.

Producer & Director, One-Act Play Festival, Milwaukee Repertory Theater Intern Company, 2003.

Conceived and implemented a weekend festival of one-act plays produced and performed by the intern company of actors and directors at Milwaukee Repertory Theater. Coordinated scheduling, space allotment, publicity, props, costumes and sound design for all pieces. Directed two pieces.

RELEVANT TRAINING

Directing: Dr. Keith Fowler, Robert Cohen, Mihai Maniutiu, Mark Sussman, Bill Francisco
Movement: Annie Loui – Contact improv, basic mime, Eli Simon – Neutral mask
Acting/Voice and Speech: Phil Thompson, Cynthia Bassham
Theater Theory: Yvonne Rainer, Julia Bryan-Wilson

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English
Conversational in French

REFERENCES

James Newman
Artistic Director
Summer Repertory Theater

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Dr. Keith Fowler
Head of Directing, Emeritus
University of California, Irvine

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Irvine, CA 92697-2775
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Artistic Director
Pearl Theatre Company

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The most reliable way to make contact with these individuals is through email