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EDUCATION & TRAINING

Columbia University, School of the Arts

MFA in Theater Directing

With Anne Bogart, Brian Kulick, Christian Parker, James Leverett, Arnold Aronson,
Gideon Lester, Robert Woodruff, Barney O'Hanlon & Tory Bailey

University of San Francisco, Center for Teaching Excellence & Social Justice

M.A. in Education, Emphasis on Arts in the Classroom

With Herb Kohl, Emma Fuentes, Miguel Lopez & Susan Katz

University of California, Santa Cruz

B.A. in Psychology, Emphasis on Social & Organizational Psychology

Awarded College Commendation

GUEST SPEAKING & FACILITATION ENGAGEMENTS (PARTIAL LIST)

- 2017 *Guest Professor*, storytelling series for students and staff, UC Santa Cruz
- 2016 *Facilitator*, communication & team building training for NUMA's accelerator program.
- 2016 *Guest Artist*, Commission by OuiShare Fest, Paris to create immersive performances that gave festivalgoers an alternate lens through which to interpret the festival content.
- 2014 *Panelist*, Rising Circle Theater Collective's end of season panel.
- 2014 *Delegate*, represented Azerbaijan at pUN, People's United Nations, Queens Museum.
- 2009 *Panelist*, Arts and Social Justice Summit at Stanford University.
- 2008 *Keynote Speech and Performance*, headRush, Downtown College Prep.
- 2008 *Facilitator*, panel with prominent American, Middle Eastern and Israeli hip-hop artists on their work and responsibility as artists, MACLA Arts Center.
- 2008 *Facilitator*, town hall at La Peña Cultural Center on non-violence alternatives for youth
- 2008 *Speaker*, DSN Panel on Censorship, Violence and Media at Montalvo Arts Center
- 2007 *Speaker*, the Futures Panels & Public Conversations on The Next Generation of the Arts at the Montalvo Arts Center.
- 2007 *Keynote Speech and Performance*, headRush, the annual Arts in Your Classroom conference at the Montalvo Arts Center.
- 2007 *Panel Presentation*, headRush, Art and Social Justice panel at 2007 Latino Congress.
- 2005 *Speaker*, Bioneers Conference panel on the Transformative Power of the Arts.
- 2002 *Speaker*, closing ceremonies of the 2002 Teach for America Summer Institute.
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ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP ROLES (PARTIAL LIST)

- 2015-Present Kaimera Productions, www.kaimeraproductions.com
Co-Artistic Director, Founder
Kaimera Productions [kai-mee-rah] creates original performances and live experiences that blend theater, music, dance, multimedia, visual arts and more. The mission of Kaimera is to invite audiences to examine and redefine the questions our global society faces through performances created collaboratively by experts in and outside of the arts. In addition to creating its own work, Kaimera produces the work of others whose mission, vision and aesthetic choices align with those of its own. The artistic team shares Kaimera's process of creating original performances by working with works with students at K-12, university and graduate levels, as well as by leading intensives at theaters and arts & community organizations. Finally, Kaimera's expert facilitators use time proven techniques taken from the fields of theatre, performance and story composition to consult and coach independent entrepreneurs and companies in a range of valuable skills.

ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP ROLES (CONTINUED)

- 2017-present World Theatre Map, www.worldtheatremap.org
Ambassador
The World Theatre Map is a user-generated directory and real time map of the global theatre community. It's a digital commons, free and open to all. The World Theatre Map aims to make the field visible to itself by providing a collectively-owned, people-powered infrastructure to connect isolated theatremakers to vital information resources and knowledge.
Selected to take part in the first cohort of twenty-eight World Theatre Map Ambassadors from twenty-four countries to direct outreach, community organizing, and feedback gathering.
- 2013-present Superhero Clubhouse, www.superheroclubhouse.org
Company Core Member
Superhero Clubhouse is a collective of artists and scientists working at the intersection of environmentalism and theater. SHC makes original performances via a collaborative, green and rigorous process.
Co-created, directed and served as a producer on two full-length productions, organized and executed a West Coast tour of *Flying Ace and the Storm of the Century*, and actively involved in the steering of the company vision and mission.
- 2012-2015 Phaedra's Cabaret, www.fluxind.com
Artistic Director
Phaedra's Cabaret is a quarterly event that showcases the work of up-and-coming New York-based performing artists. The wide range of presented talent includes dancers, musicians, comedians, actors, burlesque performers, puppeteer, etc. Directed, cast and co-produced four successful, and often sold-out, performance runs.
- 2012-2015 MassBliss Productions, www.massbliss.com
Performing Arts Curator
MassBliss produces events that promote mindfulness. In 2015 MassBliss launched its annual mindfulness incubator festival, bringing together the leading mindfulness experts and most creative teachers of our day.
In charge of curating all of the performing arts companies for the festival, as well as directing the opening and closing ceremonies.
- 2003-2009 Destiny Arts Center, www.destinyarts.org
Program Director & Co-Artistic Director, Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company
A para-professional teen dance theatre company, which combines hip-hop, modern, and aerial dance, theater, martial arts, song and rap.
Facilitated the coordination, support & training of 32 teaching artists on site, as well as at 10 local public schools.
Created and directed an annual full-length original production that the group toured throughout the US, performing to over 20,000 audience members each year.
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TEACHING & FACILITATION EXPERIENCE (PARTIAL LIST)

- 2015-Present *Theatre Instructor*, Collectif du Libre Acteur, Paris.
Facilitated four intensives organized by Collectif du Libre Acteur, a Paris-based training center for professional theatre and film actors. Courses focused on the essentials of creating Immersive Theatre, which takes the audience out of their seats and places them at the center of the playing space. It transforms the passive role of the spectator, into that of spect-actor and co-creator who is essential to the action and narrative of the performance. The courses introduced the participants to the ways that Immersive Theatre challenges traditional acting methods and calls for a new, more holistic, approach to acting. The courses also served as an introduction to the Viewpoints technique, a staple in American actor training, and as a window into methods of collective creation of interdisciplinary performance. Two of the intensives culminated with a public performance.
- 2017-present *Professor*, Sciences Po Reims. Course titles: *The Collaborative Process Through the Lens of Theatre Making* and *Act, Inform, Inspire: Using Theatre As A Tool For Dialogue & Social Change*
The Collaborative Process Through the Lens of Theatre Making course investigates models of collaboration across a wide range of disciplines through the lens of theatre in order to build practical skills in communication, cooperation, critical thinking and observation. Through a series of exercises & techniques, students examine the nature of collaboration and the challenges faced in different aspects of teamwork.
Act, Inform, Inspire: Using Theatre As A Tool For Dialogue & Social Change is a laboratory-style course, in which students are guided through a variety of theatre-based activities, and exercises that interrogate questions and dilemmas that we currently face individually and societally. Students learn about ways that theater has been used in social justice movements, while themselves creating performances in response to contemporary causes.
- 2013-2014 *Adjunct Professor*, Center for Worker Education, City College of New York, CUNY. Course titles: *The Collaborative Process Through the Lens of Theatre Making*, *Contemporary American Theatre*, and *Foundations of Speech Communication*.
The Collaborative Process Through the Lens of Theatre Making course investigates models of collaboration across a wide range of disciplines through the lens of theatre in order to build practical skills in communication, cooperation, critical thinking and observation. Through a series of exercises & techniques, students examine the nature of collaboration and the challenges faced in different aspects of teamwork.
The Contemporary American Theatre course explores both production and texts of Contemporary American Theatre, particularly plays and playwrights in current production or development in New York City. Students study the works by playwrights and see performances of their work as an exploration of the actor's process in realizing these texts for the stage. Students participate in acting exercises and scene presentations for critique.
Foundations of Speech Communication course focuses on the distinctive nature of spoken word and the ways in which it functions in the world. Students develop the speech skills required to express ideas and feelings with clarity, sensitivity and force, with particular consideration made to their audience.

TEACHING & FACILITATION EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

- 2014 *Adjunct Professor*, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY. Course titles: *Fundamentals of Speech*, *Fundamentals of Speech for the Non-Native Speaker*.
Foundations of Speech Communication course focuses on the distinctive nature of spoken word and the ways in which it functions in the world. Students develop the speech skills required to express ideas and feelings with clarity, sensitivity and force, with particular consideration made to their audience.
- 2013 *Guest Professor*, University of California, Santa Cruz. Course titles: *Interdisciplinary Composition for Artists and Activists* and *Using Theater as a Tool for Social Change*.
Interdisciplinary Composition for Artists and Activists (3-week intensive) explores contemporary social and personal issues through theater, and introduces students to methods for creating new performance work.
Using Theater as a Tool for Social Change (1-day, 7-hour intensive) is geared towards participants with no theater experience who are interested in group facilitation, teaching, community building, and social justice work.
- 2012, 2014 *Theater Collaboration Program Teaching Assistant*, Columbia University International Summer Program for High School Students.
A rigorous academic program that gives highly motivated high school students the opportunity to experience college life. Conducted acting and directing workshops, supervised the development of short plays written, directed, and acted by the students, and provided feedback in the play-creation process.
- 2011 *Viewpoints Class Teaching Assistant*, Columbia University.
This course was taught by master teacher Barney O'Hanlon. The class focused on Viewpoints techniques and vocabulary and was designed for MFA actors, directors and playwrights. The course provided the participants with the ways to apply Viewpoints to their respective disciplines as well as to use it as an ensemble-building tool.
- 2010 *Viewpoints and Theater of the Oppressed Instructor*, Carlos III University, Madrid, Spain.
Was invited by the UNITINERE Theater Collective of Carlos III University to teach an intensive course in Viewpoints and Theater of the Oppressed techniques to 34 actors and theater-makers. The participants were students of Carlos III University as well as professional Madrid-based theater artists.
- 2005-2009 *Teacher Trainer and Curriculum Development Advisor*, Independent Contractor
Facilitated over 20 teacher trainings and workshops for young teachers on curriculum development techniques, classroom management approaches, and the role of the arts in the classroom. Workshops included TEAMS/University of San Francisco, Cal State Monterey Bay, Aim High Summer Program.

TEACHING & FACILITATION EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

- 2004-2009 *Teaching Artist Residencies, Master Classes & Workshops*, headRush.
Over 50 residencies and workshops, ranging from 1 day to 3 months, which guided participants through a process of analyzing approaches to dialogue, mediation and community building through a range of individual and group physical exercises.
approaches to dialogue, mediation and community building through a range of individual and group physical exercises.
Universities Included: UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, Stanford University, San Jose State University, Cal State Monterey Bay, Chico State University, Sonoma State University, University of San Francisco, SF State University, Western Michigan University.
- 2003-2009 *Over 50 Master Theater & Education Workshops*, Destiny Arts Center.
Conducted over 50 workshops that focused on the use of the theater as a tool for social change and devising of new work based on group-generated content, as well as on Destiny Arts Center's award winning conflict mediation curriculum.
Universities Included: UC Berkeley, San Jose State University, Stanford University.
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TELEVISION, FILM AND RADIO

- 2014 *Individual Interview*, WGXC Morning Show
Discussed *JUPITER*, a production by Superhero Clubhouse & Kaimera Productions.
- 2007 *A Teatro is Born*, film by Patrick Wilkinson
The film follows members of headRush through an artist residency and through the creation of a performance, as well as a brand new theater group at the Downtown College Prep High School in San Jose, California.
The film was featured at the International Latino Film Festival in Boston, MA.
- 2006 headRush featured on SPARK (*KQED Television*)
Segment focus on "The Throwdown", a multi-media, psycho-political satire
6-minute video available from:
<http://www.kqed.org/arts/places/spark/profile.jsp?id=8641>
- 2005 *My People Are...*, film by Multiethnic Education Program
Creative Director and Actor
The film promotes positive racial & ethnic identity in all children, highlighting the multiracial experience. The DVD, accompanied with an action booklet, has been shown and distributed to educators and parents nationwide.
- 2003-2009 Various radio performances and interviews on KMEL San Francisco, KPFK Los Angeles, KKUP Cupertino, KPFA Berkeley & KALX Berkeley.
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PUBLISHED WORKS

- 2012 *HIAS @ 130: 1 +130, the Best of myStory* edited by Roberta Elliott. Features an autobiographical story entitled *One Glimpse at a Time*.
- 2007 *Army of None* by Aimee Allison and David Solnit. Features poetry.
- 2005 *Youth on the Move! A Teacher Guidebook To Co-Creating Original Movement/Theater Performance With Teens* by Sarah Crowell with Moura Wolf, Naomi Katz, and Simón Hanukai and has been distributed nationally to artists and educators. The guidebook documents the creative process of the Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company.

A W A R D S

- ON the ROAD Grant Recipient, Theatre Communications Group and the Mellon Foundation
- Deep Space Residency, NACL Theatre, Highland Lake, NY
- Artist Residency, Odin Theater, Denmark
- Artist Residency, Vestjyllands Hojskole, Ringkøbing, Denmark
- Recipient of Catwalk Arts Residency, Hudson, NY
- Recipient of New York Theatre Workshop's Emerging Artists Fellowship
- Recipient of the Earthdance E|MERGE Interdisciplinary Artist Residency
- Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University
- HIAS Scholar Fellowship
- Oracello Award from the Dean of Education, University of San Francisco
- Artist Residency, Sally and Don Lucas Arts Program at the Montalvo Arts Center
- Student Commendation & Merit Award for Community Development and Leadership, UCSC

◆ *REFERENCES UPON REQUEST* ◆