

ERIN McBRIDE AFRICA

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818-970-2820

CURRENT POSITIONS:

Adjunct Theatre Professor – College of the Canyons and CSUN

Associate Artistic Director – Santa Clarita Shakespeare Festival

Peer Group Leader – Los Angeles County Arts Commission Internship Program

Freelance Stage Director

EDUCATION

MFA IN DRAMA – DIRECTING

University of California, Irvine (UCI)

Thesis: *Collaborative Creation: Four Theatre Companies Reconceiving Production*

B.A. THEATRE ARTS

California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

Honors Thesis Project: Producer - *Acts of Diversity* – A festival of student-directed plays by diverse playwrights.

A.A. THEATRE ARTS

Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & LEADERSHIP

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR – *Theatre Department, California State University Northridge* 2017 - PRESENT

Currently teaching & directing **Touring Theatre** as a part time faculty member. Recently directed and choreographed a Theatre for Young Audiences musical production and have been offered the opportunity to teach an advanced Acting class.

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR – *Theatre Department, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA* 2014 - PRESENT

Currently teaching a variety of courses within the Theatre Department including:

Acting Fundamentals

Acting Shakespeare

Script Analysis

Theatre History

Understanding Theatre

Theatre Appreciation

as well as directing productions in the theatre season. Also working collaboratively with other members of the Theatre Department to perform Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) assessments, discuss teaching strategies, and to plan and participate in recruitment events. Utilizing digital technologies such as Canvas, Blackboard, and cloud computing to supplement classroom teaching.

Teaching Interests & Expertise: Acting, Directing, Shakespeare, Script Analysis, Theatre History, Devised Theatre, Community-Based Theatre, Viewpoints, Movement for Stage, Stage Management, Understanding Theatre, Stage Make-up, Theatre Appreciation, Theatre for Young Audiences, Creative Drama, Beginning Tap

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR – *Santa Clarita Shakespeare Festival, Santa Clarita, CA* 2014 - PRESENT

Assisting in the artistic operations of a theatre company producing summer Shakespeare-in-the-park productions, including casting, scheduling, hiring designers and staff, supervising interns, contributing to grant-writing efforts, and overseeing front-of-house operations.

TEACHER – *Teatro for Beginners, Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural, Pacoima, CA* 2013

Taught an introductory level theatre class covering basic acting, playwriting, and theatre topics and culminating in a presentation of original 10-minute plays.

DIRECTOR/EDUCATOR – *Dramatic Adventure Theatre, Ecuador* 2009

Led English Language and Acting classes to students in various villages and cities in Ecuador. Led accompanying American students in the development of an original theatre piece based on our experiences in Ecuador.

- PRESENTER - Osher Lifetime Learning Institute, University of California, Irvine Extension** **2007-2009**
 Led discussions with continuing education students on the process of developing theatrical productions from the first concept to the final performance; presented aspects of script analysis and how conceptual ideas are manifested through stage direction and design.
- DIRECTOR'S VOICE: Abstract Expression**
DIRECTOR'S VOICE: Still Life with Iris
- TEACHING ASSISTANT - University of California, Irvine** **2006-2009**
 Duties included meeting individually with students to provide mentorship and advisement; grading student essays with an emphasis on clear thesis statements, strongly supported arguments, and elegant grammar; administering and grading weekly quizzes and journal entries; and implementing classroom technology.
Courses: *Development of Theatre A, B, & C* (Assistant to Cliff Faulkner)
Acting Theory (Assistant to Robert Cohen)
- TEACHER - Collaborative Creation Workshops, The SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA** **2004**
 Led SOB Theatre Company members in exercises in devising original work.
- SUBSTITUTE TEACHER - Taconic High School, Pittsfield, MA** **2000**
 College preparatory high school courses, grades 9-12.
- ACTOR/EDUCATOR - Touring Shakespeare, LAUSD, Los Angeles, CA** **1998-1999**
 Toured Los Angeles Unified School District middle schools as a part of a Service Learning project, performing excerpts from Shakespeare plays and teaching Shakespearean language and verse.
- TUTOR - Reading From Scratch** **1995-2000**
 Trained by dyslexia expert Dorothy van den Honert
 Tutored individual elementary school students using science-based teaching techniques developed to train dyslexic individuals' brains to learn phonetic reading through the use of enhanced lateralization.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

PERFORMING ARTS

SHAKESPEARE & COMPANY - Lenox, MA

Shakespeare & Company's summer actor training program focusing on Linklater Voice Work, Shakespearean Text, Folio Work, Movement, Elizabethan Dance, & Stage Combat

DIRECTORS LAB WEST (West Coast version of the Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab)

A program for emerging directors that offers a series of workshops, seminars, readings, and productions that enables participants to learn and grow as artists and working professionals.

SITI Company (Formerly "Saratoga International Theater Institute")

"SITI in LA" Suzuki & Viewpoints training led by SITI Company members Ellen Lauren, J. Ed Araiza, & Stephen Webber

CORNERSTONE INSTITUTE INTENSIVE & COMMUNITY-BASED THEATER COURSE

Training in Cornerstone Theater Company's collaborative community-based methodology culminating in the creation of community-specific productions. Taught by Bill Rauch, Paula Donnelly, & Laurie Woolery

BEIJING OPERA MASTER CLASS

Classical Chinese Movement & Voice taught by Professor Fan Yisong of the Shanghai Theatre Academy

TERPSICHORE DANCE CENTER

Ballet, tap, & jazz classes.

EDUCATION/PEDAGOGY

Skilled Teacher Certificate (Certificate will be earned May 2018) – College of the Canyons

Two-semester workshop covering current research on teaching and learning, new approaches and techniques to enhance student success, with practice of these approaches and techniques in a learning community of fellow teachers.

Community-Based Learning and High Impact Practices Workshop – College of the Canyons

Faculty training in the primary pedagogy associated with Civic and Community Engagement used throughout college and university campuses nationwide, taught by nationally recognized CBL specialist, Gail Robinson.

Teaching Strategies Workshop – College of the Canyons Professional Development

Workshop on best practices in teaching with a focus is on self-reflection to enhance and develop authentic best practices for each participant. Topics covered: Core ideas and Principles of Effective Teaching; Developing Effective Course Syllabi; Effective Classroom Communication; Classroom Climate; Active Learning; Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment.

Online Teaching Certification

Certification to teach online courses through College of the Canyons Institute of Teaching and Learning.

CurricUNET Assessment Module Training

Training to use CurricUNET Assessment Module to record assessment plans and results to improve student learning and increase institutional effectiveness.

Canvas and Blackboard Learning Systems

Training to use both Canvas and Blackboard Learning Systems, including: designing new courses, navigating the learning environment, customizing settings, effectively utilizing discussion boards and collaboration tools, groups, web links, Grade Center, uploading syllabi and course documents, how to effectively use e-mail, messages, and assessments (exams & quizzes), and other Internet tools and products that can supplement the electronic learning systems experience.

PUBLICATIONS

Collaborative Creation: Four Theatre Companies Reconceiving Production. Thesis. (MFA Drama). University of California, Irvine, 2009.

Art as Metaphor for Society. 2008-2009 Season Playbill. Department of Drama, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, University of California, Irvine.

Spark the Passion. 2007-2008 Season Playbill. Department of Drama, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, University of California, Irvine.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, BOARD POSITIONS, & AFFILIATIONS

Peer Group Leader, Los Angeles County Arts Commission Internship Program (2018)

VP of Member Action (Executive Board) – Part-Time Faculty United, AFT Local 6262 (2016-current)

Building Power/Strategic Campaign Initiative Committees, College of the Canyons (2016-2017)

Santa Clarita Women’s Conference, Planning Committee Member (2014)

College of the Canyons, Professional Development Mentor Program, Program Participant (2014)

Company of Strangers (Los Angeles, CA), Production Manager & Company Member (2012-present)

Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights, Listed Director (2009-present)

University of California, Irvine Alumni Association, Member (2009-present)

The SOB Theatre Company (Hollywood, CA), Co-founder, Producer, Production Manager, & Director (2001-2005)

Arts for Equality (Los Angeles, CA), Artistic Associate (2008)

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

<i>The Mousetrap</i> by Agatha Christie (upcoming production to perform March 2019) College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA	2019
<i>The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales</i> by Kent Stephens California State University Northridge, CA	2018
<i>The Wise Ones</i> by Rochelle Perry Eclectic Company Theatre, North Hollywood, CA	2017
<i>A Piece of My Heart</i> by Shirley Lauro College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA	2017
<i>Operation</i> by Vanessa Stewart Fast & Loose, Sacred Fools, Hollywood CA	2017
<i>Time – A Devised Play</i> Ensemble Created (Currently in rehearsal) College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA	2017
<i>Friends & Fantasies</i> by Monica Green Fast & Loose, Sacred Fools, Hollywood CA	2016
<i>Bluebeard's Bride: A Gothic Opera</i> Book & Music by Enrique Acosta Short+Sweet Festival, Hollywood CA	2016
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> by William Shakespeare Santa Clarita Shakespeare Festival, Towsley Canyon Park, Santa Clarita, CA	2016
<i>Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead</i> by Bert V. Royal College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA	2016
<i>Save Our Marriage</i> by Rochelle Perry Annual Hollywood Performance Marathon at Theatre of NOTE, Hollywood, CA	2016
<i>Save Our Marriage</i> by Rochelle Perry Scripted & Staged at Eclectic Company Theatre, North Hollywood, CA	2015
<i>Twelfth Night: A Rock Musical</i> by William Shakespeare, Music by Jay Africa Santa Clarita Shakespeare Festival, Towsley Canyon Park, Santa Clarita, CA	2015
<i>Cymbeline</i> by William Shakespeare Santa Clarita Shakespeare Festival, Towsley Canyon Park, Santa Clarita, CA	2014
<i>As it is in Heaven</i> (staged reading) by Arlene Hutton The Spectrum Playhouse, Lee, MA	2011
<i>Abstract Expression</i> by Theresa Rebeck University of California, Irvine	2009
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> (scenes) by William Shakespeare Pegasus School, Huntington Beach, CA	2009
<i>Asterisk</i> by Erik Ehn World Premiere Weekend, Irvine, CA	2009
<i>The Emily Project</i> by Erin McBride Africa & Company World Premiere Weekend, Irvine, CA	2009
<i>Two Rooms</i> by Lee Blessing University of California, Irvine	2008
<i>BFE</i> by Julia Cho University of California, Irvine	2008
<i>Still Life with Iris</i> by Steven Dietz University of California, Irvine	2007
<i>29/12</i> by Annette Lee (world premiere staged reading) Upper Reaches Theatre, Long Beach, CA	2007
<i>As it is in Heaven</i> by Arlene Hutton University of California, Irvine	2007
<i>Desdemona, a Play about a Handkerchief</i> by Paula Vogel University of California, Irvine	2006
<i>29 Things To Do on a Rainy Day</i> by the SOB Theatre Co. SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA	2005
<i>Measure for Measure</i> by William Shakespeare SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA	2004
<i>Veronika Decides to Die</i> adaptation by Erin McBride Africa of the novel by Paulo Coelho	2003

SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA	
Italian Mothers adaptation by Erin McBride Africa	2000
CSUN Theatre Guild, Northridge, CA	
Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread by David Ives	1998
CSUN Theatre Guild, Northridge, CA	
My Corner of the Playground: Scenes & Staged Poems	1996
Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA	
The Boy Friend by Sandy Wilson	1995
Taconic High School, Pittsfield, MA	
The Bald Soprano by Eugene Ionesco	1994
Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA	
The Pirates of Penzance by Gilbert & Sullivan	1993
Taconic High School, Pittsfield, MA	

ASSISTANT DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

The Arsonists by Max Frisch – Assistant to Ron Sossi	2010
The Odyssey Theatre Koan Ensemble, Los Angeles, CA	
You, Nero by Amy Freed (World Premiere) - Assistant to Sharon Ott	2009
South Coast Repertory, Costa Mesa, CA	
Othello by William Shakespeare - Assistant to J.R. Sullivan	2008
Utah Shakespearean Festival	
Fiddler on the Roof by Bock, Harnick, & Stein - Assistant to Jim Christian	2008
Utah Shakespearean Festival	
A Little Night Music by Stephen Sondheim & Hugh Wheeler - Assistant to Stefan Novinski	2007
South Coast Repertory, Costa Mesa, CA	
Sunday in the Park with George by Sondheim & Lapine - Assistant to Eli Simon	2007
University of California, Irvine	
The Other Shore by Gao Xingjian - Assistant to Jeffrey Weinckowski	2003
SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA, Edge of the World Theatre Festival, BackStage West <i>Pick of the Week</i>	
Cymbeline by William Shakespeare - Assistant to Linda deVries	2000
California State University, Northridge	

CHOREOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

Spider Baby the Musical music by Enrique Acosta based on the screenplay by Harold Hill	2012
10 th Avenue Arts Center, San Diego, CA	
The Other Shore by Gao Xingjian – Tango & Abstract Mannequin Dance	2003
SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA	
Oedipus the King by Sophocles – Vaudeville Style Chorus, Musical Theatre, & Soft Shoe/Tap	2002
SOB Theatre Co, Hollywood, CA	
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum – Courtesans Solos (Various Styles)	1996
Taconic High School, Pittsfield, MA	
Ye Olde Madrigal Feast – Elizabethan Pavane	1995
Taconic High School, Pittsfield, MA	
The Pirates of Penzance by Gilbert & Sullivan	1993
Taconic High School, Pittsfield, MA	

PERFORMANCE/ACTING EXPERIENCE

Maria (understudy) – Twelfth Night: A Rock Musical by William Shakespeare (Santa Clarita Shakespeare Fest)	2015
Calavera – Lumbre by Joe Luis Cedillo (Highways Performance Space, Santa Monica, CA)	2005
Katrin – Mother Courage by Bertolt Brecht (S.O.B. Theatre Co., Hollywood, CA)	2005
Speaker #5 – Textbooks & Fences by Joe Luis Cedillo (Tres Chingasos Theatre Collective)	2002
5 th Annual Los Angeles History Project, Museum of the American West, Los Angeles, CA	
Juanie – El Colonel by Joe Luis Cedillo (Tres Chingasos Theatre Collective, Sylmar, CA)	2002

Jokasta – <i>Oedipus the King</i> (musical adaptation) by Sophocles (S.O.B. Theatre Co., Hollywood)	2002
Snug/Lion – <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> by William Shakespeare (Box & Co., Lenox, MA)	2000
Dancer – <i>Exodus Redundant</i> (modern dance) by Jennifer Seigle, (CSUN)	2000
Julia & Imogen – <i>Touring Shakespeare</i> scenes by William Shakespeare (LAUSD)	2000
Helen & Posthumus' Mother – <i>Cymbeline</i> by William Shakespeare (CSUN)	2000
Jesse (originated role) – <i>Shelter</i> by Erica Paley Stevens (CSUN)	1997
Betty – <i>Sure Thing</i> by David Ives (CSUN)	1998
Ensemble – <i>Tintypes</i> by Mary Kyte with Mel Marvin and Gary Pearle (CSUN)	1998
Annie – <i>The Real Thing</i> by Tom Stoppard (BCC)	1996
Horse – <i>Equus</i> by Peter Shaffer (BCC)	1995
Gert – <i>Par For the Corpse</i> by Jack Sharkey (BCC)	1995
Enid – <i>A Chorus of Disapproval</i> by Alan Ayckbourn (BCC)	1994
Hermione – <i>The Winter's Tale</i> by William Shakespeare (Shakespeare & Company)	1993
Rosalind – <i>As You Like It</i> by William Shakspeare (Fall Festival of Shakespeare, Pittsfield, MA)	1992

TECHNICAL THEATRE & DESIGN EXPERIENCE

Stage Management

7, EIGHT, 9... by Joe Luis Cedillo (world premiere), Company of Strangers, Hollywood, CA
Loveswell by John Fortson, Two Roads Theatre, Studio City, CA
The Greeks by Euripides, Aeschylus (4 productions), California State University, Northridge, CA
August 29th by The Latino Theatre Company, Festival of Chicano Theatre Classics, Los Angeles, CA
The Other Shore by Gao Xingjian, The S.O.B. Theatre Co., Hollywood, CA
Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett, The S.O.B. Theatre Co., N. Hollywood, CA
Talking With... by Jane Martin, Thespi, Williamstown, MA
The Real Inspector Hound by Tom Stoppard, The Riggs Theatre, Stockbridge, MA

Properties Crew/Design Assistance

Ragtime Terrence McNally, Lynn Ahrens, & Stephen Flaherty, CLO of South Bay Cities, Redondo Beach, CA
The Marvelous Wonderettes by Roger Bean, Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities, Redondo Beach, CA
Fall Festival of Shakespeare, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox, MA

Wardrobe

Love's Labours Lost by William Shakespeare, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox, MA
The Wiz by Charles Smalls & William F. Brown, California State University, Northridge, CA
Hamlet by William Shakespeare, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox, MA
Macbeth by William Shakespeare, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox, MA
The Winter's Tale by William Shakespeare, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox, MA

Costume Design

The Sound of a Voice by David Henry Hwang, California State University, Northridge, CA
Equus by Peter Shaffer, Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA

Scenic Painting & Construction

2003/2004 Season, The S.O.B. Theatre Co., Hollywood, CA
Frankenstein in Love by Clive Barker, Sacred Fools, Hollywood, CA
Acts of Diversity (Festival of Plays), California State University, Northridge, CA
All In the Timing by David Ives, California State University, Northridge, CA
Blythe Spirit by Noel Coward, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

Light Board Operator

The Pool/Hell's Kitchen by Jeffrey Wienckowski, California State University, Northridge, CA
Something's Afoot by David Vos, James McDonald, Robert Gerlach, BCC, Pittsfield, MA

Stage Crew

The Wizard of Oz by Edgar Harburg & Harold Arlen, Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities, Redondo Beach, CA
Working by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso, California State University, Northridge, CA

Postcard Graphic Designer

The Other Shore by Gao Xingjian, The S.O.B. Theatre Co., Hollywood, CA

Concessions Manager

Summer Season, Shakespeare & Co., Lenox, MA

Workshop Puppeteer

Brothers Grimm & Sisters Wilde by Mia Truxaw, California State University, Northridge, CA

Box Office Staff

BCC Players 1994-1996 Seasons, Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA

HONORS, AWARDS, & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Department of Drama Graduate Fellowship, UC Irvine

UC Irvine Scholarship Grant

Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement (CSUN, 2000)

National Society of Collegiate Scholars Membership (CSUN, 2000)

Arts Council Theatre Awards (CSUN, 1999 & 2000)

Dean's List (CSUN, 1998-2000)

Completion of the Theatre Honors Program (CSUN, 1998-2000)

ADDITIONAL CREATIVE ENDEAVORS

Keyboardist and singer for **The MOODS** rock band – Los Angeles/Orange County, CA.

www.themoods.net

Designer & seamstress for **Mod Mentality**, a shop on Etsy.com selling handmade handbags and art work.

www.modmentality.etsy.com