

Genesee Spridco

THEATRE CREATION EDUCATOR & PRACTITIONER

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She/her/they/them

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Facilitating new impactful theatre creation through dynamic practices that embody text with the inner workings of character into the embodiment of outward expression, resulting in resonant timeless storytelling, regardless of genre.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018-PRESENT LECTURER - THEATRE DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA/CHAMPAIGN, IL

- ✦ Explore character & scene analysis through Viewpoints, Laban, Michael Chekhov & Mask (Neutral, Larval and Character)
- ✦ Assisted productions for Illinois Theatre and for Lyric @Illinois as movement director and providing individual coaching
- ✦ Teach and facilitate devised theatre processes for Illinois Theatre and individual student projects. (*See productions in Devised Theatre*)
- ✦ Integrated techniques toward radical inclusion in practice including intersection of race, abilities, and sexuality/identity
- ✦ Collaborative designed dynamic daily practices for graduates and undergraduate acting students exploring spinal engagement, poise, endurance, grounding, and range of movement while also engaging the Linklater progression.
- ✦ Provided Alexander Technique coaching.
- ✦ Created new pedagogical practices for COVID safe movement studies, including a collaboration with lighting design students through shadow for maskless neutrality/character

2011-2013 ADJUNCT - THEATRE/DANCE DEPARTMENT ALVERNO UNIVERSITY - MILWAUKEE, WI

- ✦ Voice/Movement for Actors & Non-Actors
- ✦ Improvisation for Dance & Theatre (Introductory to Short form, Long form, & Contact Improvisation)
- ✦ Yoga physical practices & philosophy

ASSOCIATIONS / AFFILIATIONS

2016-Present: Theatre Communications Group	Member
2018-Present: Non-Tenure Faculty Coalition: Local 6546	Member
2019-Present: Alexander Technique International	Member
2019-Present: Yoga Alliance	Member
2016-Present: Association for Theatre Movement Educators	Member

PROMINENT SKILLS

Actor Education

Director/Deviser

Movement Coaching

Writing/Producing



PROJECTS

Book:

*Demystifying Devised Theatre:
Empowering New Voices & Stories*
-currently writing-



CERTIFICATIONS

Alexander Technique Teacher
Training from Soma Studios
-Est. completion 2024-

200 hr Registered Yoga Teacher
from Asheville Yoga Center



RECENT AWARDS

#1 Comedy in America
Washing Well Wenches
Renaissance Festival Podcast
2018 & 2019

#2 Overall Most Attended Show
Take Flight:
An Adventure in Cirque
Kansas City Fringe Festival

EDUCATION

2007-2010 MASTER OF FINE ARTS: ENSEMBLE BASED PHYSICAL THEATRE DELL'ARTE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PHYSICAL THEATRE BLUE LAKE , CALIFORNIA

- ◆ Playwriting, Adaptation and Devising processes, Story Structures and Text Analysis
- ◆ Alexander Technique, Archery, Tai Chi, Human Anatomy and Physiology
- ◆ Contact Improvisation, Partner Acrobatics, and Counterbalance
- ◆ Michael Chekhov, Viewpoints, Grotowski, Lecoq, Laban, Rasaboxes
- ◆ Theatre Creation Genres/Styles: Tragedy, Adaptation, Community Based Arts, Immersive Arts, Dance Theatre, Clown, Commedia, Melodrama, Acrodrama

1999-2004 BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS: DIRECTING BACHELOR OF SCIENCE: THEATRE EDUCATION (GRADES 6-12) MINOR IN ENGLISH EDUCATION (GRADES 6-12) VITERBO UNIVERSITY LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN

- ◆ Actor training: Stanislavski, Meisner
- ◆ Dance training: Ballet, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Tap, Modern, Dance History, Choreography
- ◆ Musical theatre, Dance Theatre, Show Choir
- ◆ Directing capstone: Helen Edmundson's *Anna Karenina*

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Co-Vice Chair of National Playwriting Program	KC/ACTF Region 3	2020 - present
Co-Coordinator of Devised Theatre Initiative	KC/ACTF Region 3	2018 - present
Interim Executive Director	Sheboygan Theatre Company	2020 - 2021
Co-Founding Artistic Director	Imaginez Ensemble	2012 - 2020
Entertainment Director	Custer Fair	2013 - 2018
Assistant to the Executive Director	Optimist Theatre	2016 - 2018
Founding Artistic Director	Suitcase Shakespeare Company	2008 - 2012

PRODUCTION DIRECTION

Director	Varslaren: The Whistleblower		Illinois Theatre	2022
Movement Director	Origin Story	Dir: Lisa Dixon	Illinois Theatre	2021
Director	Curse of the Starving Class		Illinois Theatre	2021
Associate Director	PSHITTER!	Dir: Lisa Dixon	Illinois Theatre	2021
Movement Director	PSHITTER!	Dir: Lisa Dixon	Illinois Theatre	2020
Movement Director	Adventures of Little Sharp Ears	Dir: Sarah Wigley	Lyric Theatre @ Illinois	2019
Movement Director	Curious Incident of the Dog..	Dir: Latrelle Bright	Illinois Theatre	2019
Playwright/Director	Miranda: One Woman's Tempest		Imaginez Ensemble	2018
Guest Co Director	Crow and Weasel	Dir: Rick Walters	Viterbo University	2018
Movement Director	Much Ado About Nothing	Dir: Tom Reed	Optimist Theatre	2017
Movement Director	Midsummer Night's Dream	Dir: Ron Scot Fry	Optimist Theatre	2015
Movement Director	The Winter's Tale	Dir: ML Cogar	Optimist Theatre	2014
Movement Director	As You Like It	Dir: Tom Reed	Optimist Theatre	2013

Director	Taming of the Shrew	Suitcase Shakespeare Co	2011
Adapter/Director	TELMAH/HAMLET	Suitcase Shakespeare Co.	2011
Co - Director	Othello's Furies	Suitcase Shakespeare Co.	2011
Adapter/Director	Twelfth Night	Suitcase Shakespeare Co.	2008
Director	Anna Karenina	Viterbo University	2003
Assistant Director	Good Person of Setzuan	Dir: David Gardiner	Viterbo University 2003
Assistant Director	The Crucible	Dir: David Gardiner	Viterbo University 2002

DEvised & ORIGINAL WORKS

<i>Reasons to Go to Space</i>	Devising Director	Armory Theatre	2022
A five person clown show that is looking into all of the romance and escape of going into space, only to find we can manifest those far flung desires and create space within ourselves. Currently in rehearsal, to be performed in early May 2022 as part of the Armory Free Theatre Series.			
<i>Varslaren: The Whistleblower</i>	Adapter/Devising Director	Illinois Theatre	2022
This adaptation of Ibsen's <i>Enemy of the People</i> looks at the dynamics of Science, Politics and Press that mimics our current COVID pandemic in the fictional Norwegian town of Bronnen (translated: The Well). The ensemble of 13 actors co-created an adaptation that blended their own words with Ibsen's and looks into the complex nuances in a public health situation that undermines the town's economy and survival.			
<i>Take Flight: An Adventure in Cirque</i>	Writer/Fink/Sound Design	Imaginez	2013-2020
This critically acclaimed three person clown performance explores the deep fear and exhilaration of flight. The Head (Fink), Heart (Kiki) and Body (Bumbles) come to odds when time stops aboard a flight that would take them into a new chapter in their lives. It is a story of resiliency, friendship and lots and lots of baggage. Take Flight performed at various fringe festivals throughout the midwest and into Canada, as well as unique performance audiences such as a camp for children growing and fighting with heart disease.			
<i>Pyro & Penumbra Fire Performance</i>	Devisor/Fire Performer	Imaginez	2012-2020
<i>Miranda: One Woman's Tempest</i>	Adapter/Devising Director	Imaginez	2018
This two person show is inspired by Shakespeare's <i>The Tempest</i> , told from lonely Miranda's perspective growing up on a deserted island, her desire to connect with others, her trauma with Caliban, and troublesome relationship with her father who seems to speak to invisible beings. The production premiered at the Kansas City Fringe Festival and featured dance theatre, aerial silks, mask work, and shadow performance with a mix of contemporary and the Bard's own text.			
<i>Spinning Starlight</i>	Devisor/Performer	Imaginez	2016
Created a commissioned glow flow performance for the Science North Museum in Sudbury, Canada. The 30 minute performance was performed by two artists exploring constellations and the joy of space.			
<i>The Weaver's Tale Series</i>	Devisor/Costume Design	Fifth House Ensemble	2010-2011
- Of Cinderella and the Devil (Bianca)			
- Of Debt and Maidens (Chelsea)			

Each installation of the Weaver's Tales was a physical theatre performance inspired by a weaving of folktales with a twist. All of the performances were non-verbal, with the music from chamber orchestra of the Fifth House Ensemble. These productions toured from the Chicago Cultural Center, to the Mayne Stage in Chicago and Carthage College in Kenosha, WI.

The MisAdventures of Sir Edward the Brave Dell'Arte International 2010

A Commedia Christmas Carol Dell'Arte International 2010

Bag A' Bones Devisor/Jezabelle Dell'Arte International 2010
A haunting storytelling adapted from the Russian tale of 'Jack and his Giant Sack'. Reset into post Civil War New Orleans, Jezebel the fortune teller, the Devil and even Death himself tell the story while trapped within Jack's sack through song and words.

The Writer's Block Devisor/Herman Melville Dell'Arte International 2009
A skewed adaptation of Herman Melville's short story, "Bartleby the Scrivener". Bartleby was written after Melville's opus, *Moby Dick*, was poorly (read: abysmally) received. He saw himself as Bartleby in the world of publishing and other characters were based on other contemporaries, Edgar Allan Poe and Cornelius Matthews. We created a character clown adaptation where these three writer's are subject to the oppressive expectations of the Printing Industry, with varying levels of success. And in Melville's case, the only way to win, is not to play along.

The Blind Albatross Devisor/Lilly/Costume Design Dell'Arte International 2009
A fictional original tragedy centered in a now abandoned island in Scotland.

TRADITIONAL ACTING ROLES

Voices of the New Belarus	Marina Zolotova	Dir: Nisi Sturgis	Illinois Theatre	2022
The Winter's Tale	Emilia/Dorcas	Dir: ML Cogar	Optimist Theatre	2014
As You Like It	Audrey	Dir: Tom Reed	Optimist Theatre	2013
Blithe Spirit	Edith	Dir: Christopher Marino	Piccolo Theatre	2013
Bah Humbug: The Panto!	Tiny Tim	Dir: John Szostek	Piccolo Theatre	2012
Taming of the Shrew	Baptista/Grumio		Suitcase Shakespeare Co	2012
TELMAH/HAMLET	Ophelia/Horatio		Suitcase Shakespeare Co	2012
Death and the Powers	Misery	Dir: Allegra Libonati	Chicago Opera Theatre	2011
Much Ado About Nothing	Beatrice		Suitcase Shakespeare Co	2010
Twelfth Night	U/S Maria		Suitcase Shakespeare Co	2009
Love Labours Lost	Mote	Dir: Chris McGahan	Bad Attitude Productions	2007
No, No, Nanette	Lucille	Dir: Susan Rush	Viterbo University	2003
O Pioneers!	Alexandra	Dir: Janet McLean	Viterbo University	2001
Equus	Horse	Dir: Chance Michaels	First Banana Productions	1998
Very Last Green Thing	Ensemble	Dir: Terri Kiss-Frank	Madison Opera	1996

NON TRADITIONAL ACTING EXPERIENCE

Washing Well Wenches	Corky	Bristol Renaissance Faire	2019-2022
Washing Well Wenches	Corky	Carolina Renaissance Faire	2014-2018
Washing Well Wenches	Corky	Sherwood Forest Faire, TX	2014-2018

Washing Well Wenches	Corky	Michigan Renaissance Festival	2014-2018
Washing Well Wenches	Corky	St. Louis Renaissance Festival	2016
Washing Well Wenches	Corky	Arizona Renaissance Festival	2013
Washing Well Wenches	Corky	Oregon Renaissance Festival of Hillsboro	2012-2013
At Your Service Commedia	Director/Columbina	Bristol Renaissance Faire	2013
At Your Service Commedia	Creator/Stupino	Bristol Renaissance Faire	2012
Fantastikals	Director/Autumn Fairy	Renaissance Pleasure Faire, Los Angeles	2012
Secret Shopper	Various	RD Associates	2016-2018
Medical Training	Standardized Patient	National University of Natural Medicine	2014-2016
Event Entertainment	Various	Imaginez	2012-2020
Event Entertainment	Various	Seelie Players	2014
Streetmosphere	Character Actor	Six Flags Great America	2005-2006
Fantastikals	Autumn Fairy	Bristol Renaissance Faire	2008-2010
XOTHOLO Presentation	Mexican Mask Dancer	Mask and Puppet Museum in Bali, Indonesia	2010
Teaching Company	Team Lead, Various	CLIMB Theatre	2005-2007

WORKSHOPS & RESIDENCIES TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Amara Yoga and Arts	Vinyasa, Yin, Hot Vinyasa	Resident Teacher	2019-Present
Evalasco Yoga	Mindful Movement and Slow Flow	Resident Teacher	2020-Present
KC/ACTF Region 3	UnZooming Your Body	Workshop	2021
Illinois Theatre Level 21	Yoga for Stage Managers	Workshop	2019
KC/ACTF Region 8	Inner Conflict/Outer Expression	Guest Artist Workshop	2016, 2019
KC/ACTF Region 3	Demystifying Devised Theatre	Workshop	2016-2021
KC/ACTF Region 3	Devised Theatre Roundtable	Round Table Facilitation	2017-2021
Cincinnati Fringe Festival	Inner Conflict/Outer Expression	Workshop	2018
Kansas City Fringe Festival	Zing & Boom: Articulate & Resonant	Workshop	2018
UW - Parkside	Intro to Devised Theatre	Workshop	2018
Kansas City Fringe Festival	Inner Conflict/Outer Expression	Workshop	2017
First Stage Academy	Commedia Archetypes	Workshop	2016
Viterbo University	Physical Theatre	Guest Artist Residency	2015-2016
King Arts School Chicago	Found Object Puppetry	Guest Artist Residency	2015
Academy @ Citadel Theatre	Youth Ensemble Co: Brecht	Style Coach	2013
Academy @ Citadel Theatre	Youth Ensemble Co: Grand Gesture	Style Coach	2012
Academy @ Citadel Theatre	Improvisation - Age 7-10	Part Time Faculty	2012
Suitcase Shakespeare	Physical Theatre Intensive	Workshop	2011
Bristol Renaissance Faire	Character Development	Workshop	2005-2012
Bristol Renaissance Faire	Puppet Construction & Performance	Workshop	2006
Bristol Renaissance Faire	Performer Health & Maintenance	Workshop	2006-2010
Bristol Renaissance Faire	Mask and Movement	Workshop	2003-2010
Emma Center for Survivors	Into the Light: Resiliency	Residency	2010
CLIMB Theatre	Teaching Company	Writer/Team Lead	2005-2007
Central High School	Speech, Stagecraft	Student Teacher	2004
Lincoln Middle School	Literature, School TV	Student Teacher	2004
Longfellow Middle School	Acting and Production	Drama Club Director	2002-2003
Karate America	Americanized Tae Kwon Do	Instructor	1995-2001

TRAINING, RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Anti Racist Theatre	Dr. Nicole Brewer	2021
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	Magnolia Consultation	2021
Clown	Christopher Bayes - Yale School of Drama	2020
De-Colonizing the Curriculum	Willa Taylor - Goodman Theatre	2020
Intro to Intimacy Direction/Consent	Dr. Jessica Steinrock	2019
Moment Work	Barbara Pitts McAdams - Techonic Theatre	2018
Physical Theatre	David Gaines	2015
Physical Theatre	Shoe String Productions, Portugal/UK	2015
Maskmaking	Jeff Semmerling	2014
Stage Combat	MACE Winter Wonderland	2012-2014
First Folio Shakespeare	T. Stacy Hicks	2013
British Pantomime Style	John Szostek	2012
Mexican Dancing Masks	Alicia Martinez-Alvarez, Mexico	2010
European Clown	Lorenzo, Spain	2010
Commedia Mask Making	Newman, Bali & Oregon	2010
Balinese Shadow Puppetry & Gamalan	Wayan Mardika, Bali	2010
Balinese Mask Making	I.B. Anom Suryawan, Bali	2010
Clown	Jeff Razz - Cirque du Soliel	2009
Improvisation	Lauren Anderson - Brave New Workshop	2005-2007
Improvisation	Brian Posen - Second City	2001-2007
Augusto Boal Processes	James Rone - CLIMB Theatre	2005-2006