DEREK R. HERMAN

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As an artist/educator with over 20 years of experience in the field and who benefited from the impact of the arts at a young age, I aim to become a leader in the Theatre for Young Audiences field. My mission is to pass the torch to the next generation of artists by uplifting and amplifying their unique voices and experiences through community-centric performances to spark dialogue, create change, and make lasting memories.

EDUCATION

New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York, NY.

M.A, Educational Theatre in Colleges & Communities. August 2022 Concentration: Theatre for Young Audiences

Roosevelt University, Chicago College of Performing Arts, Chicago, IL. B.F.A., Acting. May 2013

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Fearless Theatre, (2013-2016) co-founder of a theatre company in Chicago, Illinois, dedicated to highlighting the joys and perils of the teenage odyssey. Using theatre for advocacy and awareness by pairing themes of the production with local and national charities.

Productions as Artistic Director:

Scream (a live reading) (2015) The Charnel House, Chicago, IL. **Spring Awakening** (2015) The Charnel House, Chicago, IL. (Youth Empowerment Performance Project.)

The Stonewater Rapture

(2014) The Frontier, Chicago, IL. (Rape Victims Advocates of Chicago.) (2014) Acorn Theatre, Three Oaks, MI.

Dog Sees God

(2013) Riverdell Theatre, Chicago, IL. (The Trevor Project.) (2013) Acorn Theatre, Three Oaks, MI.

DIRECTING

National High School Institute: Musical Theatre Showcase (2022) <u>Ride the Cyclone</u> & <u>"Song of Purple Summer"</u> from Spring Awakening, Northwestern University, Louis Theatre, Evanston, IL. (2018) <u>Carrie: the musical</u>, Northwestern University, Barber Stage, Evanston, IL. *** Also served as choreographer for the above productions

KEYS: a new musical (2022) New Plays for Young Audiences at New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, Provincetown Playhouse, New York, NY. (Stage Reading, Assistant Dir.)

Chem Class: a walking play (2022) NYU Steinhardt Youth Acting Ensemble, New York, NY.

Dear Mr. Zinn (2021) in association with NYU's Tamiment Library & Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives for the book launch of *Rethinking America's Past* by Robert Cohen and Sonia Murrow, NYU Steinhardt, New York, NY.

<u>Under Pressure: our stories from lockdown</u> (2021, Devised) Acting Out Teen Ensemble, Virtual Stage, Brooklyn, NY.

Junior Ensemble, Scene Study Showcase (2021) Acting Out, Virtual Stage, Brooklyn, NY.

A Charlie Brown Christmas: a radio play (2020) Acting Out, Virtual Stage, Brooklyn, NY.

Junie B. Jones in ... Jingle Bells Batman Smells (2020) Acting Out Youth Ensemble, Virtual Stage, Brooklyn, NY.

Just Jack: A Virtual Fairytale Talkshow (2020) Acting Out Fifth Grade, Virtual Stage, Brooklyn, NY.

The Game (2020, Devised) Acting Out Sixth Grade, Virtual Stage, Brooklyn, NY.

National High School Institute at Northwestern University:

- (2019) Anon(ymous), Northwestern University, Louis Theatre, Evanston, IL.
- (2018) Girls Like That, Northwestern University, Barber Stage, Evanston, IL.
- (2012) **Yentl**, Northwestern University, Louis Theatre, Evanston, IL. (Assistant Dir.)

Gone in 60 Seconds, Youth Cast (2018, 2019) Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY.

Scream (a live reading) (2015) Fearless Theatre, The Charnel House, Chicago, IL.

Dog Sees God (A Fundraiser for the Trevor Project.)

(2013) Fearless Theatre, The Acorn Theatre, Three Oaks, MI. (remount)

(2013) Fearless Theatre, Rivendell Theatre, Chicago, IL.

DIRECTING (continued)

Welcome to the Laborhood (2013) Northlight Theatre Education Outreach, Chicago, IL. (Assistant Dir.)

Portland Actors Conservatory, Summer Stage

(2010) A Midsummer Night's Dream, Portland, OR. (Assistant Dir.) (2010) The Tempest, Portland, OR. (Assistant Dir.)

The Laramie Project, (2009) A Fundraiser for the Matthew Shepard foundation. Parkrose High School (Staged Reading), Portland, OR.

TEACHING

Northwestern University, National High School Institute "cherubs" program, Evanston, IL. (2012 - 2022)

- Acting for the Musical Stage, Musical Theatre Dramaturgy (required course)
- Text Analysis, Performance Theory (required course)
- Uta Hagen Technique, Acting Methods and their Teachers (elective)
- Performance Art, Mastering the Cold Read (masterclass)
- Faculty Associate (2012)

Professional Performing Arts School, New York, NY. (2022 - current)

• Substitute Acting Instructor for one of the top NYC Performing Arts HS.

Private Acting Coach, New York, NY. (2018 - current)

- High school and middle school audition preparation
- Specialty in working with students on the autism spectrum to help with their verbal and non-verbal communication skills through acting
- Clients include young actors working professionally in film, TV, and Broadway

Lead Instructor, Acting Out, Brooklyn, NY. (2016 - 2021)

- Private Acting Coach (5th, 8th, and professional stage/film auditions
- Cold Reading (5th-grade audition prep)
- Beyond Basics I & II (ages 7-9)
- Acting I (ages 11-12)
- High School Audition Prep (ages 13-14)
- Teen Acting (ages 14-18)

Parker-Anderson Enrichment, New York, NY. (2020 - 2022)

- Public Speaking and Debate at Leman Preparatory School (NY) and Roosevelt (NJ) (virtually and hybrid instruction, ages 8-11)
- Healthy Kids/Yoga, (virtually, ages 5-7)

TEACHING (continued)

Chicago High School for the Arts, Chicago, IL. (2014 - 2015)

- Substitute Instructor for the Theatre and Music Conservatory
- Substitute Instructor (English and P.E.)
- Teaching Assistant (Math and Science)

Portland Actors Conservatory, Portland, OR. (2010)

• Summer Stage Teaching Internship

The Young Players, Assistant Teacher, Portland, OR. (2008)

• Taught ages 5-10 for a summer residency program.

Northwest Children's Theatre and School, Assistant Teacher,

Portland, OR. (2004-2005)

• Taught and assistant-directed "playlabs" for ages 4-11 (Winney the Pooh, Free to be You and Me, and The Little Mermaid.)

ACTING

NEW YORK THEATRE

Medea, Jason's Attendant, Lenfest/Columbia University, New York, NY. (2023) dir: Tiffany Swalley

Patchworked: a play, Bigtown, ART/New York, New York, NY. (2022, Staged Reading) dir: Daniel Leeman Smith

Soundscapes, Ensemble, New Plays for Young Audiences, Provincetown Playhouse, New York, NY. (2022, Development Workshop Reading) dir: Nan Smithner

The Witch of Boggy Depot, Reverend Sam Samuels/Albert, Seeing Ourselves on Stage, NYU/New Plays for Young Audiences, New York, NY. (2022, Staged Reading) dir: Tammie Swopes

Doble Vida, Jessye, Seeing Ourselves on Stage, NYU/New Plays for Young Audiences, New York, NY. (2022, Staged Reading) dir: Tammie Swopes

Seen: the series, Matt, The Asylum, New York, NY. (2021, Staged Reading) dir: Colin Murphy

Turnstyle Eulogy, Actor, The Midnight Factory, New York, NY. (2019, Staged Reading) dir: Anna Lloyd Bradshaw

ACTING (continued)

Some Sort of Greek Tragedy, Narcissus, The Tank, New York, NY. (2018) dir: Anna Llyod Bradshaw

Troilus & Cressida, Patroclus/Helen of Troy, Under St. Marks, New York, NY. (2018) dir: Calvin Atkinson

Spice Rack, Salt, The Living Room Theatre, New York, NY. (2018, Staged Reading) dir: Marcus Yi

<u>Sleepy Hollow, a new musical.</u> (The New York New Works Theatre Festival) Thomas/Ensemble, The Duke on 42nd, New York, NY. (2016) dir: Nicola Royston

REGIONAL THEATRE

The History Boys, Rudge, Eclectic Full Contact Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2016) dir: Katherine Seigle

The House of Blue Leaves, Ronnie Shaughnessy, Raven Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2016) dir: JoAnne Montemurro (*Jeff Recommended*)

A Miracle on 34th Street: Radio Show, Announcer, The Artistic Home, Chicago, IL. (2015) dir: Jack Bourgeois

Spring Awakening, Hans, Fearless Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2015) dir. Jeremy Ohringer

<u>Macbeth</u>, Donalbain, Young Siward, Murderer 2, The Artistic Home, Chicago, IL. (2015) dir: Scott Westerman (*Jeff Recommended*)

The Whole World is Watching, Yippie/McCarther Kid/Percussionist, Dog & Pony Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2015) dir: Devon DeMayo

<u>Beyond the Score's® A Pierre Dream: A Portrait of Pierre Boulez,</u> Actor, Ojai Music Festival with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Ojai, and Berkley, CA. (west coast premiere, 2015) dir: Gerard McBurney

The Stonewater Rapture, Whitney, Fearless Theatre, Chicago IL. (Chicago premier, 2014) dir: Ray Frewen

The Snow Geese, Arnold, Raven Theatre, Chicago, IL. (Staged Reading 2014) dir: Cody Estle

Since I Suppose, Duke/Swing, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Chicago, IL. (world premiere, 2014) dir/created by: one step at a time like this from Melbourne, Australia.

ACTING (continued)

Good Boys & True, Justin Simmons, Raven Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2014) dir: Cody Estle (*Jeff Recommended*)

Sweetwater, Major Reeves, Pride Arts, Chicago, IL. (Staged Reading, 2013) dir: Jude Hansen

Aloha, Say the Pretty Girls, Pete, Brown Paper Box Theatre Co., Chicago, IL. (2013) dir: M. William Panek

Rabbit Hole, Jason Willette, Artist Repertory Theatre, in association with Mothers Against Drunk Driving National Conference, Portland, OR. (2009) dir: Allan Nause

Dog Sees God, Male Swing / Performed Matt, CoHo Theatre, Portland, OR. (2009) dir: Brian Allard

Prepared Fresh, Actor, CoHo Theatre, Portland, OR. (2009) dir: Nolan Kennedy

Sleeping Beauty: the musical, Prince Albert, Broadway Rose Theatre, Tigard, OR. (2009) dir: Annie Kaiser

Biloxi Blues, James J. Hennessey, Profile Theatre, Portland, OR. (2009) dir: Pat Patton

Speech & Debate, Howie, Artists Repertory Theatre, Portland, OR. (west coast premiere, 2008) dir: Jon Kretzu

Disney's High School Musical, Ryan Evans, Blue Monkey Theatre Co., Portland, OR. (2007, 2008 remount) dir: John Monteverde

Thoroughly Modern Millie, Ensemble/Muzzy Waiter, Lakewood Theatre Co., Lake Oswego, OR., (2007) dir: Milli Hoelscher

You're A Good Man Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Blue Monkey Theatre Co., Portland, OR., (2007) dir: John Monteverde

Landscape of the Body, Bert Yearn, Profile Theatre, Portland, OR., (2007) dir: Jane Unger

Gossamer, Toby/Strapping, Oregon Children's Theatre, Portland, OR., (Development Workshop, 2007) dir: Stan Foote

The Ghosts of Treasure Island, Pirate, Oregon Children's Theatre Portland, OR., (Staged Reading, 2007) dir: Stan Foote

ACTING (continued)

Salad Days: 5 Stories from Teenage Youth, Nathan, Oregon Children's Theatre Young Professional Stage, Portland, OR., (2006, devised show) dir: Chris Harder

Disney's Aladdin, Ensemble, Blue Monkey Theatre Co., Portland, OR., (2006) dir: John Monteverde

Night of the Living Dead, Boyfriend Zombie, Blue Monkey Theatre, Portland, OR. (2006, 2007) dir: John Monteverde

Seussical, the musical, Ensemble, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2006) dir: Sarah Jane Hardy

Peter Pan, John Darling/Peter Pan Understudy, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2005) dir: John Monteverde

The Legend of Redwall Abbey, Chickenhound/Percussionist, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2005) dir: Carolyn Newsome

Narnia, the musical, Small Faun, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2004) dir. Sarah Jane Hardy

Kids Company Touring: Babes in Toyland Review (Cowboy) & You're A Good Man Charlie Brown (Charlie Brown) Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2003) dir. Kelly Stewart and Carolyn Newsome

Peter Pan, Nibs, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2002) dir. John Monteverde

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Adam/Young Rip Van Winkle, Portland, OR. (world premiere, 2002) dir: Sarah Jane Hardy

A Christmas Story, Ralphie Parker, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland, OR. (2001) dir: Diane Englert

EDUCATIONAL THEATRE

Morphin' Time, (original solo show) Derek, NYU Tisch, New York, NY. (2022) dir: Anna Devere Smith

Love & Information, Actor, Provincetown Playhouse, New York, NY. (2022) dir: Nan Smithner

Almost, Maine, Chad, CCPA O'Malley Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2013) dir: Ray Frewen

ACTING (continued)

The Cradle Will Rock, Cop, CCPA O'Malley Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2012) dir: Joel Fink

A Streetcar Named Desire, Young Collector, CCPA O'Malley Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2012) dir: Steve Scott

Circus of Chalk, Magic Kid, CCPA Miller Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2012, devised circus show) dir: David Kersnar/Lookingglass Theatre

Execution of Justice, Edward Erdelatz, and others, CCPA O'Malley Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2011) dir: Steve Scott

FILM/TV/NEW MEDIA

New York Homicide, Co-Star, Oxygen (2023)

Bodies in the Basement, Co-Star, Discovery+ (2023)

The Food that Built America, Co-Star, History Channel, (2022) dir: Drew Painter

Devil in the Web: "Cyber Stalker", Co-Star, RedFin/Discovery+ (2022) dir: James Callahan

Oh, the Shame!, Multiple, sketch comedy, (2021 - 2022) dir: Peter Nabil

Evil: "C is for Cannibal", Seminarian, CBS, (2021) dir: Aletha Jones

Manifest "Mayday: part 1 & 2", Photo Double for Josh Dallas/Flight 787 Passanger, NBC (2021) dir: Dean White, Romeo Tirone

Working for the Weekend, Lead, music video with MAX & BBNO\$. (2020) dir: MAX/Andrew Zenn

How to Catch a Criminal, Lead Columbia College MFA Thesis Film (2012) dir: Robin Carnilius

Teacher, Co-Star, (2017) dir: Adam Dick

Taking A Risk: a documentary. Self, (2006) a co-production with NW Film Center Young Filmmakers Program and Oregon Children's Theatre Young Professionals. Premiered at the Portland Art Museum.

PRINT & COMMERCIAL

Harper's Bazaar (feat. Katie Holmes), RoMind, Cross Country Mortgage, Hubble Frames, 1000 Dean Street, Gravity Blanket, RedBox, As Seen on TV, Plant Caddy Shelf, Power Swab Teeth Whitener, and Clue Chaser.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Television:

WNIT "Experience Michiana" (PBS affiliate, Michigan/Indiana). Interview for *Dog Sees God* at Acorn Theatre, September 13, 2013.

Newspaper/Blog:

<u>The Social Justice Blog at Roosevelt University.</u> "CCPA alumnus" theatre company focuses on teenage issues." Interview, June 4, 2015.

Herald Palladium. "Five Questions with Derek Herman." Interview, June 20, 2014.

<u>South Bend Tribune.</u> "Teens grapple with sex, religion, in 'Rapture." Interview, June 19, 2014.

<u>South Bend Tribune.</u> "Teen Years tough on 'Peanuts' characters." Interview, September 12, 2013.

The Oregonian. "Film Freak Spotlight" Interview, December 14, 2001.

Radio:

Mental Health Monday, XYZ with Erik Zachary. "Balance and Awareness." May 24. 2022.

Think Out Loud, OPB (NPR affiliate, Portland, OR.) "The Inner Lives of Boys." September 28, 2009. Interview on mental health affecting teenage boys.

Stage and Studio, KBOO (Portland, OR.) "Cast of Artist Repertory Theatre's Speech & Debate." October 27, 2008.

Radio Disney, Kids Fest NW: High School Musical Live performance. June 2006.

Podcast:

The Nourished Actor, "Episode 8: Kismet, the Derek Herman Story." April 29, 2019.

PUBLISHED

The Youth Theatre Journal, (Released Fall, 2023)

DRAMATURGY

SHEELA and the Amazons, (2022) New Plays for Young Audiences at New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, Provincetown Playhouse, New York, NY. (Assistant Dramaturg)

Love and Information, (2022), New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, Provincetown Playhouse, New York, NY.

PLAYWRITING / ADAPTATION

Morphin' Time (2022) Original Onne Person Show (taught by Anna Deveare Smith), New York University Tisch School for the Arts, New York, NY.

Dear Mr. Zinn (2021) Co-wrote with Daniel Kenner and Stelle Salsbury by adapting text from letters high school students wrote to Howard Zinn after studying "A People's History of the United States" to put a lens on historical pedagogy within schools. This project was in for the Applied Theatre I course at Steinhardt and was in association with NYU's Tamiment Library & Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives for the book launch of "Rethinking America's Past" by Robert Cohen and Sonia Murrow, NYU Steinhardt, New York, NY.

The Game (2020) Devised script for virtual production with sixth grade, Acting Out, Brooklyn, NY.

Just Jack: A Virtual Fairytale Talk Show (2020) script for virtual production with fifth grade, Acting Out, Brooklyn, NY.

Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots (2020, Work in progress) is an unproduced adaptation of the Bailey School Kid book series by Debbie Dadey and Marcia Jones. Workshop reading held in August 2021.

ARTS & EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Company Manager, (2022) New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, NYU Youth Theatre Ensemble, New York, NY.

Education Manager, (2018 - 2022) Acting Out, Brooklyn, NY.

- Select and adapt scripts for the end-of-year showcases
- Re-Structured the Jr. High and High School audition classes.
- Served as liaison between teachers and management.

Dorm Director, National High School Institute "Cherub" program at

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. (2016 - 2019)

- One of three directors of the program
- Point of contact for all safety and wellness of 130 students
- Supervised dorm staff, move-in/out days, activities in the dorm, assignments for rooms, casting, and classes

Admissions Assistant, Bard High School Early College Manhattan Campus, New York, NY. (2017 - 2018)

- Read and rank applicant essays
- Interviewed potential students
- Communicate with school counselors and parents

One Fund Manager & Social Media Manager, Emerald City Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2016-2017)

- Tour Managed the premiere of *Dragon's Love Tacos* and *School House Rock*.
- Facilitated the giving away of a free book and Live Stream of Magic Tree

 House, a night in New Orleans in association with Will and Mary Pope
 Osborne, Random House, and KPMG, to all Chicago Public School 2nd graders to tackle the literature crisis in public schools.
- The main point of contact and representative of ECT at schools and field trips.
- Update and manage all <u>social media</u> content as "the voice" of the company

Administrative, Development, & Operations Coordinator, Emerald City Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2015-2016)

- Donor Research and Acknowledgement Letters.
- Communicate with Board Members and schedule board meetings.
- Execute and plan opening day celebrations and bi-annual galas.
- Coordinate and execute donor events such as a walk-on role or backstage tour.
- Served as daily business operations and IT support.

ARTS & EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Recruitment Ambassador, Chicago High School for the Arts, Chicago, IL. (2012 - 2015)

- Attended admissions events at middle Schools and other admission fairs.
- Proctor and administer entry auditions
- Served as general support in school-wide events and fundraisers.

Admissions Assistant, Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL. (2012-2013)

- Led tours for prospective and admitted students
- Serve as a point of contact for incoming or auditioning students with questions
- Assist in auditions for the Acting/Musical Theatre Conservatory

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The New Victory Professional Learning Lab: "Reframing the Classics", "Exploring Puppetry," "Come to your Senses" New York, NY. (2023)

Attended the TYA/USA Conference, Imagination Stages (2022)

AWARDS & HONORS

Artistic Merit Scholarship Recipient, Music and Performing Arts Professions, NYU Steinhardt, New York, NY. (2022)

Scholarship Recipient for future Arts Educators, OSAC, Parkrose High School, Portland, OR. (2009)

Regional Finalist, Oregon Thespian Conference, Musical Theatre Experienced, Medford, OR. "I'm not that Smart" from Putnam County Spelling Bee. (2009)

Historian, International Thespian Troupe #1783, Parkrose High School, Portland, OR. (2008-2009)

Student Body President, Parkrose High School, Portland, OR. (2008-2009)

- Launched new initiatives at school for "Winter Wishes", granting students with holiday requests,
- Raising funds for Doernbecher Children's Hospital through Battle of the Bands which was highlighted on local news (KPTV-12) for the initiative.
- Organized Special Olympic school-wide event.

All State Jazz Choir, Oregon Music Educator Association, Eugene, OR. (2008)

AWARDS & HONORS (continued)

Regional Finalist, North East Regional Acting Competition. Solo Acting Experienced "The Laramie Project" and "Pounding Nails into the Floor with my Forehead", Duo Dramatic Experienced, "Album" Portland, OR. (2007)

WORKSHOPS / MASTERCLASSES / PANELS

Adjudicator, NY Thespian Competition (2023)

<u>Living Newspaper Virtual Workshop</u>, Acting Out/NYU Steinhardt, (2022, Virtual) Using the model of the Living Newspapers from the 1930s, teens ages 12-17 explored the mental health/news cycle's depiction of young people during the COVID-19 crisis.

Jr. High & High School Auditions Informational Session Leader, Acting Out, Brooklyn, NY. (2017-2022)

High School Monologue Selection, Acting Out, Brooklyn, NY. (2020, 2021)

Speaker, "The Working Actor" class at Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL. (2013, 2014, 2016)

Speaker, College Informational Session, Parkrose High School, Portland, OR. (2010)

BOARD MEMBER

Advisor, The Florence Belsky Charitable Foundation, New York, NY. (2021 - current)

Community Board, Emerald City Theatre, Chicago, IL. (2016-2017)

Student Advisor, Parkrose Superintendent's Advisory Board, Portland, OR. (2008-2009)

Student Representative, Board of Education, Parkrose High School School, Portland, OR. (2008-2009)

Youth Representative, Blue Monkey Theatre, Portland, OR. (2007)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Actor's Equity & SAG-Eligible

TYA/USA & Theatre Communications Group (2020 - current)

Young Professionals at Oregon Children's Theatre (2006-2009)

REPRESENTATION

Ally Taylor Artists, Ally Taylor, Manager

Bella Agency, Tom LaSala, Agent (commercial, print)

SW Artists, Sue Winik & Margaret Emory, Agents (film, tv, stage)