

# MICHAEL BARAKIVA

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## EDUCATION

The Juilliard School, New York City NY

- Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Directing, 1997-2000
- Three-year, graduate-level course of study in Directing under JoAnne Akalaitis, Michael Kahn & Garland Wright

Vassar College, Poughkeepsie NY

- BA in Drama and English, 1997

## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTING CREDITS (\* denotes premiere)

*Dégagé (disengage)* by Mimi Quilling

Hangar Theatre, Ithaca NY, 2017

*A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* by Stephen Sondheim

Hangar Theatre, 2017

*Third* by Wendy Wasserstein

Hangar Theatre, 2016

*I Loved, I Lost, I Made Spaghetti* by Jacques Lamarre

Hangar Theatre, 2016

*Perfect Arrangement* by Topher Payne

Primary Stages, New York City, 2015

*Was\** by Barry Kleinbort and Joseph Thalken (workshop)

Primary Stages, New York City, 2014

*Hee-Haw The Musical\** by Horn, McAnally and Clark (workshop)

Bespoke Theatrical, New York City, 2013

*Never Grimm\** by Neil Berg and Jonathan Feldman (workshop)

Leftfield Productions, New York City, 2013

*Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward

Syracuse Stage, 2013

*Ezekiel's World\** by Jenny Levison (workshop)

JCC Manhattan, 2013

*Farragut North* by Beau Willimon

Premiere Stages, 2012

*The Turn of the Screw* by Jeffrey Hatcher

Syracuse Stage, 2011

*The Clean House* by Sarah Ruhl

Syracuse Stage, 2011

*White People\** by Neil Cuthbert  
Ensemble Studio Theater, 2011  
EST, Octoberfest 2010 (workshop)  
EST, Southampton Writers Conference 2010 (reading)

*Rebel Girls\** by Tina Lear and Elise Fodier Edie (workshop)  
Collaborative Arts Project (CAP) 21, Professional Company, 2010

*They Float Up\** by Jacquelyn Reingold  
Ensemble Studio Theater, 2010

*The Usher's Ball\** by Fengar Gael  
Collaborative Arts Project (CAP) 21, Professional Company, 2010

*Degage\** by Mimi Quillin (workshop)  
MARS Theatricals at The Flea Theater, 2009

*Booksmart\** by Jennifer Joan Thompson  
Studio Tisch at NYU, 2009

*The Belle of Amherst* by William Luce  
Lake George Theater Lab at Sembrich Museum, 2009

*The Music Man* by Meredith Wilson  
Nevada Conservatory Theater, 2009  
Chosen for "Top 10" by the Las Vegas Sun

*Scrooge In Rouge* by Ricky Graham  
ReVision Theater, 2009

*Burn This* by Lanford Wilson  
Shakespeare Santa Cruz, 2008

*Save The World\** by Chris Kipiniak  
Roundtable Ensemble at American Theater of Actors, 2008

*The Exchange\** by Ursula Rani Sarma (workshop)  
O'Neill Theatre Conference, 2007

*Performances* by Brian Friel  
Lake George Theater Lab at Sembrich Museum 2007  
American premiere

*Gin! Jazz! Love! Drama!\** by Heather Whaley  
Lake George Theater Lab, 2007

*OTMA\** by Kate Moira Ryan  
Lake George Theater Lab, 2006

*psychoPharm\** by Shawn Nacol (workshop)  
MARS Theatricals at The Sage Theater, 2006

*UP* by Bridget Carpenter  
Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 2006

*The Kitchen Sink Play\** by Gabe McKinley  
Lake George Theater Lab, 2005

*The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov (original adaptation)  
Roundtable Ensemble at Blue Heron, 2005

*Dark Matter\** by Hugh Bush (workshop)  
Vineyard Playhouse, 2004

*25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee\** by William Finn  
Original Workshop  
Barrington Stage Company, 2004

*Welcome To My Rash\* & Third\** by Wendy Wasserstein  
Theatre J, 2004  
The Kennedy Center, First Ink Series, workshop, 2003  
Arena Stage, New Play Reading Series, reading, 2002

*Fatwa\** by Anuvab Pal  
Alter Ego at NY Fringe Festival, 2004  
Alter Ego at Blue Heron, 2004

*2B or Not 2B, Part II\** by Jacquelyn Reingold  
HB Playwrights Theater Ten-Minute Play Festival, 2004

*Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare (original adaptation)  
School Tour, Hangar Theater, 2003  
Lab Company, Hangar Theater, 2003

*A Free Man In Paris\* & Defusion\** by Brooke Berman  
Roundtable Ensemble at Mint Space, 2001

*The Pelican* by August Strindberg (original adaptation)  
The Wedge, Hangar Theatre, 2001

*Orilla del Mundo\** by Hillary Bell  
The Wedge, Hangar Theatre, 2001

*The Liddy Plays\** by Brooke Berman  
The Rattlestick Theater, workshop, 2001  
The Wedge, Hangar Theatre, 2001

*The Rabbit Project*, based on Beatrix Potter's life  
Hangar Theatre, 2001

*Through Fred/Steak Knife\** by Stephen Belber  
Urban Empire at Studio Theatre, 2000

*Animal Shelter\** by Emily Jenkins  
Soho Rep, Summer Camp Ten-Minute Play Festival, 1999

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE DIRECTING CREDITS**

*The First Wives Club* by Bloodwood-Thomason, Holland, Dozier & Holland  
The Oriental Theatre, Chicago, 2015  
Bespoke Theatrical (dir: Simon Phillips)

*Dirty Dancing: The Classic Story Onstage* by Eleanor Bergstein  
Theater am Potsdamerplatz, Berlin, 2009  
Resident Director, First National Tour, 2008-09  
Jacobsen Entertainment (dir: James Powell)  
*Seussical, The Musical* by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens  
First National Tour, 2003-04  
Networks Tours (dir: Christopher Ashley)

## **EDUCATIONAL DIRECTING CREDITS**

*Duchess of Malfi* by John Webster  
North Carolina School for the Arts, Winston-Salem NC, 2017  
*Spring Awakening* by Steven Sater and Duncan Sheik  
Syracuse Drama, Syracuse New York, 2013  
*Stage Blood* by Charles Ludlam  
Bard College, Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, 2012  
*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* by Tom Stoppard  
UC Davis, Main Theater, 2011  
*Zona Rosa\** by Michael Barakiva  
UC Davis, Wright Pavillion, 2011  
*String Theory\** by Michael Barakiva, Sarah Braunstein & Amy Boyce Holtcamp  
Vassar College, 2010  
The Studio at The Flamboyan, 2009  
*Romeo and Juliet, The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare  
McCarter Theater Summer Shakespeare, 2010  
*The Women* by Clare Boothe Luce  
Atlantic Theater Acting School at Atlantic Theater Stage 2, 2007  
*Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare  
The Academy for Classic Acting (ACA) at The Shakespeare Theatre, 2006  
*OTMA* by Kate Moira Ryan  
Vassar College, 2006  
*The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare  
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 2006  
*Six Characters in Search of An Author* by Luigi Pirandello (original adaptation)  
University of Rochester, 2002

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY (NYU), DEPARTMENT OF DRAMATIC WRITING**

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, Colloquium, Fall 2015 - Present

Taught the year-long practicum for all incoming writers, in which they would write, rehearse and present a play weekly.

**NATIONAL THEATER INSTITUTE (NTI), O'NEILL THEATER CENTER**

VISITING PROFESSOR, Advanced Directing, Spring 2013 & Fall 2014

Created and executed a semester-long curriculum focused on the director's process. The final third of the classes put the students in rehearsal scenarios with professional designers and actors, after which they'd receive feedback and criticism of the work.

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT DAVIS**

VISITING PROFESSOR, Theater Arts Department, Fall 2011

Taught "Performing Identities," a Core Class for the first year MFA students. Curriculum included plays exploring the nature of identity, as well as artist manifestos. Two 3-hour sessions/week.

**FORDHAM UNIVERSITY**

DIRECTING MENTOR, Theater Department, 2007 & 2009

*Self Torture And Strenuous Exercise* by Harry Kondoleon  
*Window* by Michael Hilton

Mentored undergraduate directors through rehearsal process.

**I.S. 231 & P.S. 19**

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, The Sports & Arts in School Program, 2008

*How Quezacotl Found The Sun*  
*Ananse The Tricky Spider*

Ran a bi-weekly after-school program culminating in a production performed and designed by the middle/high school students.

**UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER**

LECTURER, Theater Department, Fall 2002

Topics In Theater

Designed curriculum for and taught bi-weekly, ninety-minute, semester-long class. Topics included directorial vision, casting, modern adaptations, rehearsal technique and collaboration.

**OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

GUEST LECTURER, University of Nevada at Las Vegas, 2009

Led graduate-level design seminar on collaboration

GUEST LECTURER, Brooklyn College, 2006

Led graduate-level design seminar on *The Seagull*

PRIMARY COACH, MTV's *Made*, 2002

Mentored two high school students through the process of writing, directing and producing their first play.

GUEST LECTURER, State University of New York at Albany, 2001

Conducted three-hour seminar on life after college

## **WRITING**

### **HOLD MY HAND**

FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX: MACMILLAN PUBLISHING, 2018

A stand-alone sequel to One Man Guy, following the relationship of Alek and Ethan as they navigate issues of dating, betrayal, love and responsibility.

### **ONE MAN GUY**

FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX: MACMILLAN PUBLISHING, 2014

A gay young adult novel about coming of age and out in a suburban Armenian-American family, falling in love with New York City, the music of Rufus Wainwright, and for the first time.

### **THE NATURE OF THINGS**

COMMISSIONED BY SLOAN FOUNDATION, 2013

A full-length play, imagining the life of Lucretius, Ancient Roman philosopher/poet and author of DE RERUM NATURA (The Nature of Things).

### **ZONA ROSA**

UC DAVIS, WRIGHT PAVILLION, 2011

Inspired by the life of Dr. Francisco Estrada Valle, a Mexican HIV and AIDs activist who was murdered in 1989

### **STRING THEORY** (co-written with Sarah Braunstein and Amy Boyce Holtcamp)

PUBLISHED: CONNOTATION PRESS, NOVEMBER 2013

A collection of Ancient Greek myths featuring string, woven together into an evening of theater.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

### **THE HANGAR THEATRE, ITHACA NY**

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, September 2016 – Present

Serves as Artistic Director of the nationally acclaimed Hangar Theatre. Oversees artistic programming and hiring of our five-play summer season. Developed and runs original Artist In Residence Series (AIRS), programs year-long Cabaret series, commissioned and directs original *Christmas Carol* production, formed the Ithaca Theatre Consortium, organizes and programs two annual gala fundraisers, works with Managing Director to oversee 9 full-time and over 100 season employees, serves as mentor to the Hangar Drama League Directing Fellows, works with Marketing Department to brand and publicize each production, and expanded Education programming and Department.

INTERIM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, November 2015 – August 2016  
See Above.

**THE UPSTART CREATURES**

FOUNDER/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, 2012 – Present

A company of theater artists dedicated to creating epic theatrical events that feed bodies as well as souls. In May 2013, we presented a day-long concert reading of our adaptation of *Paradise Lost* with two meal breaks prepared and served by the ensemble.

**LAKE GEORGE THEATER LAB**

RESIDENT DIRECTOR, 2005 – 2010

Direct for and advise on the artistic aspect of this theatre company since its inception.

**WENDY WASSERSTEIN PRIZE**

SCRIPT READER, 2006

Read/recommend scripts for annual female playwright prize

**EUGENE O'NEILL NATIONAL PLAYWRITING CONFERENCE**

SCRIPT READER, 2005-2006

Read/recommend scripts for new play development forum.

**WENDY WASSERSTEIN**

FREELANCE ASSOCIATE, 2000 – 2005

Type and research for this multiple Award-winning writer. Projects included librettos, plays, novels, articles and movies.

**SOHO REP**

SUMMER CAMP V PRODUCER, 1999-2000

Produced a five-week, five-production festival of new plays featuring works by Neena Beber, Stephanie Fleischmann, Amy Boyce Holtcamp and Peter Morris. Directors included Jesse Berger, Steve Cosson, Will Pomeranz, Lindsay Firman and Suzanne Agins. Responsibilities included season selection, budget creation and running a comprehensive intern program.

**NEW YORK STAGE AND FILM**

READINGS AND WORKSHOP COORDINATOR, 1997

Produced 10 readings and three workshops over the course of the summer, featuring works by Chris Durang, James Lapine, John Patrick Shanely and Jane Anderson.

## **AWARDS, HONORS, MEMBERSHIPS**

- Granada Artist-In-Residence, UC Davis, 2011
- Artistic Advisor, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, 2008 - Present
- Society for Directors & Choreographers Member, 2006 - Present
- Phil Killian Directing Fellowship, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 2002
- Drama League Summer Fellowship, Hangar Theatre, 2001
- David Merrick Prize in Drama, 1999 & 1997
- Lincoln Center Directors' Lab, 1998