

**DENNIS BAKER**  
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## **OBJECTIVE**

As an artist/educator-in-residence I want to use my skills as an actor, teacher and director to empower people to question and explore methods of artistic expression in theatrical form created by ensemble based artist-citizens whose work is born out of, and brings to life, the stories of the community.

## **ACADEMIC PREPARATION**

M.A. in Educational Theater, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, New York University, 2009. Concentration: Acting, Directing, Shakespeare, Applied Theater

B.A. in Communication/Theater, Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Azusa Pacific University, 2002

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Adjunct Professor, 2010-Present

Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

Teach Theatre Education, Civic Theater and Introduction to Theatre in Theater, Film and TV department; Acting for Opera students in the School of Music; Public Speaking for the Communication department. Faculty advisor for ensemble theater group made of up current students and alumni, who are focused on devising new work.

Adjunct Professor, 2010-Present

Biola University, La Mirada, CA

Teach Theater Appreciation and Public Speaking.

Adjunct Professor, 2009-2010

Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York, NY

Teach Public Speaking and Communication.

Teaching Artist, 2009-2010

The New Victory Theater, New York, NY

Facilitate in-classroom pre- & post-show workshops, talkbacks and studio sessions.

Teaching Artist, 2008-2010

New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark, NJ

Implementation of theater workshops and residencies.

Teaching Artist, 2009

Cape May Stage, Cape May, NJ

Two day original Shakespeare workshop based on using the concept of a treasure hunt to explore acting clues within Shakespeare's language. Class consisted of 27 students between 4th and 9th grade.

Teaching Artist, 2009

Folger Shakespeare Library

Exploring Shakespeare through a performance-based teaching approach. High School students explore Shakespeare's plays and poems through close readings of the texts through intellectual, physical and vocal engagement.

Resident Teaching Artist, 2008-2009

George Street Playhouse, New Brunswick, NJ

Development and implementation of theater workshops and residencies in public schools. Teaching staff for junior high, high school, and adult conservatory programs.

Associate Teaching Artist, 2009

NYU Shakespeare Youth Ensemble

Coached and directed youth company members during rehearsals for their production of The Two Noble Kinsmen. Fight Director for the production.

Associate Teaching Artist, 2009

MCC Theater Youth Company, New York, NY

Coached and directed youth company members during weekly activities and during rehearsal for their production Uncensored 2009.

Substitute Teacher, 2002-2006

Burbank Unified School District, Burbank, CA

Teaching all subjects in kindergarten through twelfth grade specializing in junior high and high school.

Producing Director, 2004-2006

Marmac Touring Group, Los Angeles, CA

Performed in touring original work and improv shows. Taught improvisation classes. Scheduled performances, ran day-to-day administration activities, grant writing and producing donor events.

Teaching Artist, 2004

Macker Entertainment, Glendale, CA

Teaching acting to junior high and high school students for commercials and television.

Teaching Artist, 2003

Long Beach Center for the Arts, Long Beach, CA

Teaching staff for high school and adult conservatory classes.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Eight Steps to a Solid Audition for an MFA Program, Backstage/Backstage West, November 2, 2006.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter. "A Method in the Madness: Exploration of Innovative Shakespearean Instruction Through the Perspectives of Classroom Teachers, Teaching Artists, Ensemble and Individual Performance-Based Work." AATE/ATHE National Conference. New York, NY. August 10, 2009.

#### **CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Ensemble based work within communities

Post-secondary pedagogy of acting for theatre and non-theatre majors

Curriculum development for teachers and artists seeking Theatre Education

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Screen Actors Guild

Actors' Equity Association

Society of American Fight Directors

Association of Theatre in Higher Education

American Association for Theatre and Education

#### **DIRECTING**

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Actors' Workout Studio

Much Ado About Nothing, Actors' Workout Studio

Echoes, Azusa Pacific University

A Bright Room Called Day, Azusa Pacific University

Producing Director, Marmac Touring Group

#### **FIGHT DIRECTING**

Lion In Winter, REP@NYU/Dori Robinson

Joan of Arc, Gorilla Repertory Theater/Christopher Carter Sanderson

Julius Caesar, Gorilla Repertory Theater/Stephen Fried

The Two Noble Kinsmen, New York University/Amy Cordileone

Cyrano De Bergerac, Warehouse Theater/Monica Ganas

The Miracle Worker, Warehouse Theater/Monica Ganas

Man of La Mancha, Warehouse Theater/Monica Ganas

## ACTING

### NEW YORK

JOAN OF ARC (World Premiere)	La Tremoille	Gorilla Rep/Christopher Carter Sanderson
HAMLET	Marcellus	Gorilla Rep/Christopher Carter Sanderson
TWELFTH NIGHT	Orsino	New York University/Erica Giglio
THE GIVER	Father	New York University/David Montgomery
ONE TENNIS SHOE	Harvey	Theatrix! Theater Festival/Ashleigh Hill

### REGIONAL

PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE	Picasso (u/s)	Two River Theater Co./Hal Brooks
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM	Theseus/Oberon (u/s)	Two River Theater Co./Aaron Posner
THE COUNTRY WIFE	Dorilant	New Theater/Cigdem Onat
MEASURE FOR MEASURE	Angelo	Actors' Workout Studio/Mick Montgomery
TESHUVAH (World Premiere)	Erich (Lead)	Write Act Repertory/Wendy Gough
ROMEO AND JULIET	Romeo	Amuse Theater/Tara Taylor
MOON OVER BUFFALO	Paul	Whittier Centre Theatre/Sandra Kennedy
DIARY OF ANNE FRANK	Peter	Curtis Theatre/Lisa Gary
I HATE HAMLET	Andrew Rally	Temple Theatre/Audrey Leibold
OUR TOWN	George Gibbs	Little Theatre/Pam McGee
THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN	Babbybobby	LBCC Theatre/David Herman
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM	Lysander	Amuse Theater/Tara Taylor
MERCHANT OF VENICE	Launcelot Gobbo	Knightsbridge Theatre/James Rice
EDWARD III	Villiers/Mariner	Knightsbridge Theatre/Jaz Davidson

### FILM

A FRAGRANCE IN THE NIGHT	Lead	dir. John Kauffman
WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE	Lead	dir. Astrid Phillips
NOSTALGIA	Supporting	dir. Armand Garabidian
SAVING NORAH	Supporting	dir. Sara Gordon
PERISH THE THOUGHT	Supporting	dir. John Schimke
WAXING OLD	Supporting	dir. Stephen McCurry

### TRAINING

Shakespeare: John Basil – American Globe Conservatory, New York

Acting: John Ruskin – Ruskin School of Acting, Los Angeles, Andrew J. Traister – Los Angeles

Speech: Anne James, Tom Burke – New York

Voice: Heather Rasche (Fitzmaurice), Greg Seal (Alexander) – New York, Sandra Massie (Linklater) – Los Angeles. Dialects: U.S.: New York, Chicago, Southern; Europe: RP, Irish, French, German

Stage Combat: SAFD Actor/Combatant

- J. Allen Suddeth: Recognized in Unarmed by the SAFD (Examiner's Award in Excellence)
- Joseph Travers: Recognized in Single Sword (Recommended), Broadsword & Shield (Recommended), Small Sword by the SAFD.
- Ray Rodriguez: Recognized in Broadsword (Recommended) by the SAFD.
- Robert Hamilton: Recognized in Quarterstaff by the SAFD.

Scene Study: Caryn West & Jessica Kubzansky – Los Angeles

Commercial: Stuart K. Robinson – Los Angeles

Monologue Workshop: Aaron Posner, Hal Brooks – New Jersey

### References

Edie Demas, Director of Education, New Victory Theater, 917-913-5228, edemas@me.com

Robert Young, Director of Education, Folger Shakespeare Library, 202.544.4600, ryoung@folger.edu

Joe Salvatore, Faculty, NYU, 212.998.5868, joe.salvatore@nyu.edu

David Montgomery, Ph.D, Director, *The Giver*, 212.998.5868, dm635@nyu.edu

Christopher Carter Sanderson, Artistic Director, Gorilla Repertory Theater, 203.530.8693,

kit.sanderson@gmail.com