### **EDUCATION**

Master of Fine Arts, Acting UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE Irvine, CA, May 2005

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre Arts - Acting Emphasis UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO Greeley, CO, May 2000

Improv and Sketch Comedy Program Graduate THE GROUNDLINGS SCHOOL OF IMPROVISATION Los Angeles, CA, Program completed March 2010

### **CERTIFICATIONS**

#### NATIONAL MICHAEL CHEKHOV ASSOCIATION CERTIFIED TEACHER

ACADEMY OF THEATRICAL COMBAT

Stage Combat - Cutlass, Broadsword, Quarterstaff, and Hand-to-Hand: Certified in level I of IV

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

## Areas of Special Competence

Acting: Psycho-Physical: Michael Chekhov, Stanislavski; Robert Cohen

Improv: Games, Short & Long form, Character development, Sketch writing,

Movement: Contact Improvisation, Physical Characterization, Psycho-Physical Exercises

Mask: Full-face, Clown, Bag, Pongsan (Korean Mask Dance)

Voice and Speech: Fitzmaurice Voicework (three years of extensive graduate training), IPA and

Dialects (Knight-Thompson), Anatomy

Stage Combat: Hand-to-Hand, Cutlass, Broadsword, Quarterstaff

Period Acting Styles: Shakespeare, Greek, Ibsen, Chekhov, Shaw

# Teaching

## UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS (UArts); Philadelphia, PA

2015 – present

Ira Brind School of Theatre, BFA Acting Program

### **Assistant Professor of Acting**

Lead the development and instruction of the curriculum for the sophomore Acting Studio along with adjunct faculty. Substitute courses while faculty is involved in professional engagements and fill in instruction where needed. Advise students through their semester-to-semester scheduling and mentor student groups and projects.

Sample List of Courses Taught:

**Acting Studio: Technique I & II** (Psycho-Physical: Stanislavski and Chekhov)

**Movement for Actors III & IV** (partner work: counterbalance and lifts, contact improv and text work)

**Movement for Actors VII** (physical characterization, masking, and text work)

## Teaching (continued)

### NEW YORK FILM ACADEMY (NYFA); Los Angeles, CA

2012 - 2015

Acting for Film Department: AFA, BFA, and MFA programs (accreditation through the National Association of Schools of Art and Design: NASAD)

## **Acting Instructor**

Instructed acting, voice and speech, and movement courses at in the BFA, AFA, and MFA programs. Provided individualized coaching for course work as well as audition coaching and accent reduction.

Sample List of Courses Taught:

Technique & Scene Study I (Script analysis, Stanislavski and Chekhov Technique)

**Improvisation** (Spolin, generating information, short form games)

Comedy Improv I (short form, character development)

Comedy Improv II (long form, character development)

Movement I (Chekhov Technique, partnered lifts, Contact Improvisation)

Movement II (Chekhov Technique, Contact Improv, masking)

Voice & Movement II (Fitzmaurice Voicework, Linklater, Laban Efforts, Contact Improv)

**Advanced Voice & Movement: Designing the Thesis** (facilitate development of vocal and physical characterization for MFA Thesis

Voice & Speech I (Fitzmaurice Voicework, Linklater, anatomy, IPA, text)

Voice & Speech II (Fitzmaurice Voicework, Linklater, IPA transcription)

Voice III: Dialects (General American, Brooklyn, Southern, RP, Cockney)

**Speech I** (Anatomy, IPA, text)

**Speech II** (IPA transcription and text)

### THE ACADEMY OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS (AVPA); Culver City, CA

2009 - 2014

Conservatory program at Culver City High School (CCHS)

### **Acting Instructor**

Developed and instructed curriculum for courses in acting, movement for the actor, and voice and speech in a conservatory setting while setting and measuring goals for student progress (students received college credit through an exchange with West LA College).

Sample List of Courses Taught:

Scene Study (improvisation, script analysis, GOTE, and characterization exercises)

**Shakespeare** (monologue, and scenes, script analysis, text and pentameter exercises)

Movement for the Actor (Laban Efforts, weight sharing, partnering, contact improvisation)

Voice & Speech (Fitzmaurice Voicework, Linklater, anatomy and IPA)

**Improv Comedy** (improvisation exercises, short form improv technique, and character building)

**Physical & Vocal Characterization** (vocal and physical anatomy, contact improv, Laban Efforts, text work, and mask work: full-face, paper, and bag masks)

## Teaching (continued)

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE; Irvine, CA

Claire Trevor School of the Arts

### **Acting Instructor - Introductory Acting Series**

2003 - 2005

Instructed scene study for undergraduates, serving as sole instructor responsible for all aspects of the classes. Created curriculum and syllabi based on department standards, required reading, and area of focus. Assessed student achievement for accurate grading. Created challenging and supportive learning environment which allowed students to learn the fundamentals of script analysis and character development and grow to become more emotionally available and confident as performers.

### Teaching Assistant - Development of Drama Series

2003 - 2005

Mentored and scholastically evaluated over 30 students per quarter. Graded quizzes, essays, and class projects as well as facilitated the instruction of classes.

### Administration

## UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS (UArts); Philadelphia, PA

2015 – present

Ira Brind School of Theatre, BFA Acting Program

### Head: Acting Program

2016 – present

Work directly with the Director of the Brind School along with the other Program Heads on curriculum development (changes to programs, new courses, special topics and electives), productions season planning (advising what productions might best serve our students), and instituting school procedures and protocol (for both students and faculty). Assess incoming transfer students with credit transfer and placement, and current student placement in courses within the major. Assign students with faculty advisors. Sensitively handling student issues, such as attendance and course failures, in a timely fashion. Assist the Director with hiring new instructors through interviewing and evaluation of credentials. Lead new instructors through current Brind procedures and protocol.

### NEW YORK FILM ACADEMY (NYFA); Los Angeles, CA

2012 - 2015

Acting for Film Department with AFA, BFA, and MFA degree granting programs: accreditation through the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)

### Associate Chair of Voice, Speech & Movement

2014 - 2015

Worked directly with the Chair of Acting for Film Department and with other Associate Chairs on program and curriculum development. Elected and led Voice and Movement curriculum development committees to restructure courses and re-write syllabi accordingly. Served as liaison between Voice and Movement faculty and the department Chair to report issues and organize faculty meetings. Assisted in the hiring of new instructors through interviewing and evaluating mock classes. Led orientation for new hires. Served on Thesis and Greenlight committees for the BFA and MFA Thesis.

## Administration (continued)

## THE ACADEMY OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS (AVPA); Culver City, CA

2009 - 2014

Conservatory program at Culver City High School (CCHS)

### Creative Director of Theatre, AVPA

2011 - 2012

Planned theatre curriculum for AVPA, which included scheduling studio and technical classes, hiring qualified teachers in accordance with district standards. Curriculum provides conservatory-style instruction to high school students who plan to pursue further theatre education at the university level or a professional career in the field.

Conducted student auditions for acceptance into AVPA's theatre program and main stage productions. Directed and produced for the main stage production season of 2011/12.

Worked directly with the Executive Directors of the Academy and administration of CCHS to schedule and coordinate theatre curriculum and the AVPA performance season within budgetary guidelines.

Served as AVPA representative on Front and Center, an arts collaborative between Center Theatre Group, The Actor's Gang, The Young Story Tellers Foundation, and We Tell Stories which provides community outreach and enhances AVPA curriculum through additional class instruction, teaching artists, and programming.

Planned and led educational field trips and participation in California Educational Theatre Association's High School Theatre Festival (CETA HSTF) and the Drama Teachers Association of Southern California's Fall Festival (DTASC).

## Coaching/Workshops

### **Private Acting Coach**

2005-present

Los Angeles, CA; Denver, CO; Philadelphia, PA

Private coaching includes: acting, voice, audition technique, and accent reduction.

### Acting, Voice, and Movement Coach

2012-2015

**NEW YORK FILM ACADEMY;** Los Angeles, CA

Work with students individually on acting, voice and movement technique, as well as accent reduction in private consultations.

### **Chekhov Technique**

2014

**IMPRO THEATRE;** Los Feliz, CA

Instructed Chekhov's psycho-physical exercises from the Chart of Inspired Acting to professional film and television actors. Led actors through exploring the application of the tools to text.

### Dialect/Vocal Coach

2013

**AVPA, CCHS;** Culver City, CA

Served as dialect coach and worked with the cast on New York dialects for AVPA's production of 12 Angry Jurors.

## Coaching/Workshops (continued)

## Movement/Vocal Coach and Characterization Workshop

2010

AVPA, CCHS; Culver City, CA

Served as movement/vocal coach and led physical and vocal characterization workshop for the AVPA cast of *The Laramie Project*.

### **Acting Workshop**

2005

### VISIONARY VOICES FOR YOUTH; Pomona, CA

Created and led acting workshop for young adults dealing with text interpretation and emotional expression.

## Masking Workshop: Commedia and Clowning

2004

## KOREAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS; Seoul, Korea

Served as guest artist teaching masking, commedia, and clowning to KNUA graduate acting students.

## Directing & Choreography

### **Director:** *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder

2012

AVPA's Blurred Vision Theatre Company, SONY Black Box; Culver City, CA

### Director: West Moon Street by Rob Urbinati

2011

AVPA's Blurred Vision Theatre Company, SONY Black Box; Culver City, CA

**Director:** *THE CYCLE* by Justin Lujan, Derek "Chopp-Devise" Forsythe, Aeron "A-Rocc" Ross 2005 Directed, co-wrote and acted in one-man hip hop show with performances in Denver, Irvine, and Los Angeles. Accepted into *REDCAT Studio* performance series at the Los Angeles Disney Concert Hall and *15 Minutes of Him* Los Angeles showcase.

### **Director:** *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder

2012

AVPA's Blurred Vision Theatre Company, SONY Black Box; Culver City, CA

### **Director:** West Moon Street by Rob Urbinati

2011

AVPA's Blurred Vision Theatre Company, SONY Black Box; Culver City, CA

### Choreographer: All You Can Eat by Vanessa Mizzone

2010

Acme Comedy Theatre; Los Angeles, CA

Choreographed original step routine and hip hop dance for the sketch *Steppin' Wolves* in *All You Can Eat.* 

## Assistant Fight Choreographer: Romeo & Juliet

2004

UC Irvine, Claire Trevor Theatre; Irvine, CA

Co-created the fight choreography for the Mercutio and Tybalt fight in Act III Scene I. Created dynamic hand-to-hand combat based in martial arts and street fighting and weapon combat using kali knife work.

2000

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

# Directing & Choreography (continued)

### Fight Choreographer: Blind Execution

Silhouette Pictures; Greeley, CO

Created fight choreography for the short film about a detective hunting a serial killer.

Choreographed hand-to-hand and weapon combat using martial arts and street fighting techniques.

### **Performance**

### One-Man Show Performances

Show	Theatre	Producer
THE CYCLE	Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, CA	REDCAT Studio
THE CYCLE	Egyptian Theatre, L.A., CA	Steve Silverman
THE CYCLE	Cal Poly Theatre, Pomona, CA	Visionary Voices for Youth
My Love 4 Hip Hop	Impulse Theatre, Denver, CO	Self-produced

### Professional Stage

Show	Role	Director	Theatre
Save Me (Hedda Gabler adaptation)	Evan Lessing	Valerie Rachelle	The Complex, L.A.
Why I Didn't Make It to B'way	Featured Dancer	Sarah Jane Hale	Elephant Theatre, L.A.
Steppin' Wovles	Stepper/ Writer	Will Pellegrini	BAM Comedy Theatre, LA
All You Can Eat (original sketch)	Various	Will Pellegrini	Acme Comedy Theatre, L.A.
The Groundlings	Improv Performer	Kevin Kirkpatrick	The Groundlings, L.A.
Taming of the Shrew	Baptista & Grumio	Matt Levin	Next Stage, L.A.
Impulse Theatre	Improv Player/M.C.	John Bauers	Impulse Theatre, Denver
Another Antigone	David Appleton	Stephen R. Kramer	Germinal Stage, Denver
The Eight: Reindeer Monologues	s Hollywood	Christopher Tabb	Nomad Theatre, Boulder
Miracle on 34 <sup>th</sup> Street	Dr. Pierce	Christopher Tabb	Nomad Theatre, Boulder
Best Little Whorehouse in Texas	Texas Agee #4	Vance Fulkerson	Little Theatre of the Rockies
1940's Radio Hour	Stanley	John Leonard	Little Theatre of the Rockies
The Man Who Came to Dinner	Sandy	Tom McNally	Little Theatre of the Rockies
The Nutcracker	Dr. Drosselmeyer	Jeffery Rockland	Union Colony Civic Ctr., CO
The Hairy Ape	Second Engineer	David Kelley	This Isn't Brain Surgery, CO

# Performance (continued)

## New Media

Project	Role	Producer
Engaged Encounters	Lead	comediva.com
Publisher's Clearinghouse	Lead	VanessaMizzoneComedy.com
My Butt is on Fire	Featured	Lisbug Productions
Pansy Warrior Princess TV	Guest Host	Lolo Productions – stickam.com
At the Reservoir	Supporting	Riegal & Blatt – atom.com
Men for Hire	Supporting	Darren/Noel Productions - GuerillaWorks
Gullible Gil	Supporting	Comedytime.tv

## Film/Television

Project	Role	Producer
Blind Execution (short)	Lead	Silhouette Pictures
Hand of God	Co-Star	Amazon Studios (Exec. Producer: Mark Forster)
Disappear Here	Supporting	An 11:11 Experiment
Night (short)	Supporting	University of Southern California
5ive	Featured	Mobile Magic

## Commercial, Print, Industrial

Project	Role	Producer
Puente Hills Toyota	Sales Person	Johnston Ad Group (Commercial)
Puente Hills Toyota	Sales Person	Johnston Ad Group (Print)
BP: "The Gusher"	Supporting	Anonymous Content (Industrial)

## Unique Performance Projects

### Front and Center Speaking Series

2011-2012

Special guests: Oscar Winner Tim Robbins, film producers Donna Roth & Susan Arnold, and Center Theatre Group/Geffen Playhouse casting directors Erika Sellin and Phyllis Schuringa

Interviewed and moderated Q&A for AVPA Theatre and Film students with industry professionals. SONY Black Box Theatre, Culver City, CA

### ADVANCED IS NOT FOR EVERYONE AND MAY CAUSE SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, INCLUDING:

Sketch and Improv

The Groundlings, Los Angeles, CA

Director: Steven Pierce

### Advanced: Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire

2010

2010

Sketch and Improv

The Groundlings, Los Angeles, CA

Director: Steven Pierce

### Reading: 5/4 Love (pilot)

2009

Podunk Productions, Burbank, CA

Director: Kristoffer Polaha

## Chickenhead Soup for the Soul: A Writing Lab performance

2009

Sketch and improv

The Groundlings, Los Angeles, CA

Director: Steven Pierce

### Reading: Of Mice and Mannequin (feature film)

2008

Cubanju Productions, Los Angeles, CA

Director: Traci Weintraub

#### REVELATIONS 2006

Dance: Shackles, Lyrical Hip Hop

Movement of Agape, Los Angeles, CA

Choreographer: Jasmine Guy

### Pan-Pacific Players present THE BIRDS PROJECT

2004

Performance of original adaptation of Aristophanes' *The Birds*. Collaboration between UCI and Korean National University of the Arts MFA students using Clowning, Commedia and Pongson mask dance drama.

KNUA, Seoul, Korea

Directors: Professors Eli Simon & Suk-man Kim

### Korean Commedia Enchilada presents THE BIRDS

2003

Live performance of an excerpt from original adaptation of Aristophanes' *The Birds*. Devised from master classes in Pongson mask dance drama and Commedia masking and mask making.

UCI, Irvine, CA

Directors: Professors Eli Simon & Suk-man Kim

### SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

## LGBTQ Faculty/Staff Advisory Committee Member

2016 – present

Ira Brind School of Theatre, University of the Arts; Philadelphia, PA

### College of Performing Arts College Curriculum Committee Member

2017

Ira Brind School of Theatre, University of the Arts; Philadelphia, PA

### Search Committee Chair for Head of Directing, Playwriting, & Production position

2016 - 2017

Ira Brind School of Theatre, University of the Arts; Philadelphia, PA

### Thesis Advisor for New York Film Academy BFA and MFA candidates

2012 - 2015

New York Film Academy (NASAD accreditation), Universal Studios; Los Angeles, CA

### Head of Curriculum Development Committee for Voice, Speech and Movement

2012 - 2014

New York Film Academy (NASAD accreditation), Universal Studios; Los Angeles, CA

## SAG (eligible) 2009 Eligibility

Screen Actors Guild, professional actors union

### RUDY!, Co-founder

2007 – 2008

A musical improv & sketch group; Los Angeles, CA

### Movement of Agape, Member/Dancer

2005 - 2007

Dance Ministry at Agape International Spiritual Center performing dances set by visiting and member choreographers; Culver City, CA

### Yurt Jam, President

2003 - 2005

Group of artists creating live music and movement pieces using guitars, drums, and contact improv; Irvine, CA

#### 9 Shades of Cool, Member/Writer

2003

Sketch comedy group performing original sketches written by members; Irvine, CA

### Impulse Theatre, Company Member: Player & MC

2000 - 2002

Professional short-form improv company performing every weekend in the basement of the Wynkoop Brewery and private road shows; Denver, CO

### Alpha Psi Omega, Honorary Theatre Society, President

1999 - 2000

Ran society promoting student body involvement in theatre department. Planned and produced events such as annual departmental Award Ceremony; Greeley, CO

### Special Forces, Agent Low-Phat, Member

1998

Short-form improv group, games and scene work; Greeley, CO

### HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

## Minority Talent Scholarship

2002 - 2005

University of California, Irvine; Irvine, CA

### Talent Fellowship

2002 - 2003

University of California, Irvine; Irvine, CA

### Best Actor in a Main Stage

1999

The Tommy Awards, '98/'99 UNC Performing Arts season

The Boys Next Door, Role: Lucien P. Smith

### Best Supporting Actor in a Main Stage

1998

The Tommy Awards, '97/'98 UNC Performing Arts season

Cheese, Role: Rick Rollins

### Minority Talent Scholarship

1996 - 2000

University of Northern Colorado; Greeley, CO

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Frantic Assembly

2016

Physical storytelling and development workshop taught by Frantic Assembly company member, *Jess Williams*. UArts, Philadelphia, PA

### Flying Trapeze

2014-2015

Learned basics tricks of high-flying trapeze. Trapeze School of New York, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, CA

### Scene Study

2009

Cold reading and audition technique for television and film taught by *Jack Plotnick*. Hollywood, CA

### Casting Director Workshops (10)

2006 - 2008

Cold reading audition technique for television and film. Hosted by One-on-One and Connect Studios LA. Los Angeles, CA

### National Association of Latino Independent Producers, Actorfest

2008

Participant in NALIP Actorfest meetings with agents, casting directors, and studio executives. San Diego, CA

### **Audition Technique**

2008

Cold reading and prepared sides acting classes held by Talent Manager and Producer, *Jeffery Brooks*, Actors Creative Workshop. Burbank, CA

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

## T.V./Film Technique Workshop

2008

Acting technique workshop for television and film held by film director *John Swanbeck* (director of The Big Kahuna), Actors Creative Workshop. Burbank, CA

**Bookin'** 2007

Commercial audition technique class held by actor *Boise Thomas*. Santa Monica, CA

## **Image Design Process**

2007

Marketing and product identity for the actor taught by *Sam Christensen*, Sam Christensen Studios. North Hollywood, CA

### Fitzmaurice Voicework Master Classes

2005

Destructuring and Structuring for Voice and Speech master classes held by *Catherine Fitzmaurice* and *Dudley Knight*, UCI. Irvine, CA

### Korean Mask Dance Drama Master Class Intensive

2004

Pongson mask dance classes held by Korean National University of the Arts faculty and guest artists, KNUA. Seoul, Korea

### Korean Mask Dance Drama Master Class Series

2003

Pongson mask dance classes held by visiting Professor Suk-man Kim, UCI. Irvine, CA

#### **Movement Master Class**

2002

Miming and movement story telling workshop held by actor Steven Berkoff, UCI. Irvine, CA

## JUSTIN LUJAN

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## **REFERENCES**

Available upon request