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yler Michaels King

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Passionate and experienced arts leader with an emphasis on musical theater, new works, and physical theater/devising. Extensive experience with the creative process as a professional actor for 12+ years, as an independent director for Twin Cities-based productions, and as a creator/producer of new works. Builds productions through the use of striking visuals, actor authenticity, and physicality. Strives to find "the epic in the intimate, and the intimate in the epic" when directing. Committed to strong leadership skills, artistic excellence, and a philosophy of compassionate communication.

## ARTISTIC DIRECTION

#### Trademark Theater Founder and Artistic Director

- Founded organization; established Board of Directors and non-profit status; managed volunteers and hired staff.
- Curated and spearheaded six seasons of new works programming; launched a commissioning platform to support a diversity of artists investing in new works.
- Directed and/or produced seven world premiere productions; conceived and developed many new works of theater as creator and/or producer.
- Obtained multiple individual production sponsorships of \$15k+; cultivated multi-year relationships with major donors.
- Created artistic partnerships with Jungle Theater and Playwrights' Center and educational partnerships with PiM Arts High School and Hennepin Theater Trust.
- Navigated through the COVID-19 pandemic with fiscal soundness and artistic integrity.
- Developed successful grassroots marketing campaigns for productions; hosted live events, fundraisers, house parties, and donor and audience cultivation events; fostered on-going relationships with audience and arts community through productions, and social engagement events.
- On-going responsibilities for building and managing operating budgets and fundraising campaigns (annual and project-specific), maintaining and reviewing admin structures and production processes, drafting and maintaining contracts, workplace policies and reporting guidelines, and negotiating with AEA.
- On-going collaboration with board of directors, staff of four, contracted artists, and technicians.

# RELATED EXPERIENCE

#### Independent Theater Director

- Directing credits with several Twin Cities-based companies including History Theater, Playwrights' Center, 7th House Theater, Trademark Theater, and many self-produced works.
- Directed critically acclaimed productions with passion and eye for artistic excellence and innovation.
- Ushered forward new works alongside playwrights/composers through multi-year development timelines, offering critical feedback, dramaturgy, and producing insights; lead workshops/readings of new works.
- Engaged with Artistic Directors on show selection, vision for productions, executability of concepts, and artistic and personnel needs.
- Built artistic and technical teams, cast shows, developed project specific rehearsal and production outlines and schedules; lead production teams.
- Led artists, designers, technicians and staff with compassion, empathy, and artistic rigor.

# EXPERIENCE

#### 2016 - Present

#### 2010 - Present

#### **Theater Performance**

- Award-winning professional theater performer with focus on musical theater, Shakespeare, and physical theater.
- Credits with Theater Latte Da, Guthrie Theater, The Ordway, Children's Theater Company, History Theater, and many others.
- Specialization in vocal performance, physical theater/comedy, and text and character analysis.
- Created and devised new works of theater with various cohorts including Flying Foot Forum, Live Action Set, 7th House Theater, as well as several independently produced works.
- Learned best practices for directing and leadership through observation and collaboration with seasoned directors, company executives, and non-profit staff members.

### The Bearded Company

#### Founding Company Member

- Award-winning longform improv performer and producer.
- The first serialized longform improvisation company to produce in the Twin Cities.
- Co-created and produced multiple genre-based productions for ongoing presentations at HUGE Theater.
- Co-created "Break the Dice," a longform improvised podcast; six campaigns/seasons.
- Engaged with presenting partners/producers during festivals, private and corporate events including Wizards of the Coast/Magic the Gathering.
- Led casting processes and rehearsals; developed on-going relationships with guest-artists.
- Crafted workshops and interactive learning opportunities for improv performance and creation for many national improv festivals and college theater programs.

# TEACHING

#### **Independent Teaching Artist**

- Created and led workshops and intensives in artistic, educational, and corporate settings.
- Previous and ongoing engagements with Guthrie Theater, Hennepin Theater Trust, Huge Theater, Spotlight Showcase, PiM Arts High School, and various high school arts programs.
- Created and taught masterclasses focusing on musical theater performance, auditioning and monologue performance, physical theater techniques, visual storytelling, improvisation, and text analysis.

# RELEVANT THEATER TRAINING

Voice (Singing): Jerry Elsburnd, Melissa Hart, Julie Adams
Dance: jazz, ballet, modern, swing/partner, tap, contact improv
Shakespeare: Andrew Wade, Shelly Gaza, Jennifer Tuttle
Improvisation: Huge Theater, Jill Bernard, Splendid Things, Bill Bungeroth-Second City, Matt Donnelly, Rob Belushi/John Barinholtz
Aerial Acrobatics: Xelias Aerial Arts Studio (Spanish web, trapeze, silks, straps, double point harness)
Tumbling/Acrobatics: Soma Studios (Joe Krienke)
Physical Theatre/Devising: Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theater, Soma Studios (Joe Krienke), Studio 206 (Robert Rosen, Shawn McConneloug, Barbra Berlovitz)
Film: Cathy Reinking

#### 2010 - Present

# 2006 - Present

## 2012 - Present

## **EDUCATION**

Minnesota State University Moorhead

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre Empahsis in Acting, Directing, and Musical Theater; Minor in Dance

**Dell'Arte School of Physical Theater** Professional Training Program Attended

## **KEY COMPETENCIES**

Creative Collaboration and Negotiation Art Direction (marketing/promotional) Public Speaking Advanced Communication Styles Excel, Canva, Quickbooks, Google Drive Social Media Platforming Project Management Creative and Promotional Writing

# AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Ivey Award: Emerging Artist - 2014
Ivey Award: Overall Excellence in a Production for Cabaret (Emcee), Theater Latté Da - 2014
Ivey Award: Overall Excellence in a Production for Spring Awakening (Moritz), Theater Latté Da - 2012
Resident Artist - Ordway Theater
"2014 Artist of the Year" City Pages
"Best Actor" Minnesota Monthly
Minneapolis' "Best Actor in a Musical" Broadwayworld.com
Featured on PBS/TPT Minnesota Original
Multiple "Best of Fringe/Audience Pick/Staff Pick" awards for Minnesota Fringe Festival
Mark Twain Comedic Performance Award - KCACTF National Festival - 2010
Dell'Arte School of Physical Theater Scholarship Award at KCACTF National Convention - 2010
KCACTF Region 5 Irene Ryan Winner - 2010; Best Musical Theatre Performance Award - 2008 and 2009
Member of Actor's Equity and SAG-AFTRA

Directing, producing, and performing credits are listed on the following pages.

## DIRECTING, PRODUCING, CREATION & CHOREOGRAPHY CREDITS

The Reunion: A Murder Mystery\* 25th Annual... Spelling Bee\* 5 What You Can't Keep Part 2 Runestone: The Rock Musical Stone Baby 5 (reading) What You Can't Keep Part 1 Four Measures (reading) The Hollow Immortal Understood A Christmas Carol The Boy and Robin Hood To the Moon Jonah and the Whale Once Upon a Chalkboard Kill Bill Treatéau Two Dead Boys Altar Boyz Nunsense! The Music Man Seussical the Musical

Director, Co-Creator Director Producer Director Director Producer, Collaborator **Co-Director** Director Director Director, Co-Creator Director, Creator Director Assistant Director Director **Ensemble Staging Co-Director** Director, Creator Co-creator Director, Fight Choreographer Co-Choreographer Co-Choreographer Asst. Choreographer Asst. Choreographer

Trademark Theater Artistry Theater Jungle Theater/Trademark Theater Trademark Theater **History Theater** Kiss the Tiger/Trademark Theater Playwrights' Center/Trademark Trademark Theater Playwrights' Center/Trademark Trademark Theater Trademark Theater Trademark Theater **Guthrie Theater** Trademark Theater Self-Produced/MN Fringe 7th House Theater Self-Produced/MN Fringe Live Action Set Self-Produced/MN Fringe Straw Hat Players Straw Hat Players Straw Hat Players Straw Hat Players

\* denotes upcoming production

## THEATER PERFORMANCE CREDITS

A Brittle Glory (Richard II, Henry IV, and Henry V)\* Murder... Orient Express The Tempest A Christmas Carol ('21-'22) 42nd Street To Let Go and Fall Hedwig and the Angry Inch West Side Story Assassins West Side Story Peter and The Star Catcher The Bobby Vee Story ('17-'18) A Midsummer Night's Dream My Fair Lady A Christmas Carol ('16-'18) Sweeney Todd Gypsy Peter Pan the Musical A Night in Olympus Disney's The Little Mermaid Cabaret Fiddler on the Roof Spring Awakening Joseph and the ... Dreamcoat Bye Bye Birdie 20th Anniversary Show Kill Bill Treatéau ...Good Man, Charlie Brown Bat Boy: The Musical Oklahoma! Flanagan's Wake

Richard II, Lancaster, Bedford Hector MacOueen Ariel Collector/Dick Wilkins Bert Barry Todd – 25 Hedwig Snow Boy/Tony u/s Balladeer/Oswald Tony Boy/Peter Bobby Vee Puck Freddy Eynsford-Hill Topper/Dick Wilkins Tobias Tulsa Peter Pan Harry Prince Eric Emcee Fyedka Moritz Benjamin Hugo Peabody Various Roles Various Roles Snoopy Bat Boy (Edgar) Will Parker Brian Ballybunion

**Guthrie Theater Guthrie Theater** Guthrie Theater **Guthrie Theater** Ordway Theater Latté Da Theater Latté Da Guthrie Theater Theater Latté Da Ordway Theater Latté Da **History Theater Guthrie Theater Guthrie Theater Guthrie Theater** Theater Latté Da Theater Latté Da Children's Theater Co. Illusion Theater Chanhassen Dinner Theat. Theater Latté Da Chanhassen Dinner Theat. Theater Latté Da Chanhassen Dinner Theat. Chanhassen Dinner Theat. Flying Foot Forum Live Action Set Bloomington Civic Theat. Mpls. Musical Theater Bloomington Civic Theat. Actor's Theater of MN

Joseph Haj Risa Brainin Joe Dowling Joseph Haj Michael Heitzman Sherri Eden Barber Peter Rothstein Joseph Haj Peter Rothstein Bob Richard Joel Sass Ron Peluso Joe Dowling Joe Dowling Joe Chvala Peter Rothstein Peter Rothstein Peter Rothstein Michael Robins Michael Brindisi Peter Rothstein Michael Brindisi Peter Rothstein Michael Brindisi Michael Brindisi Joe Chvala Ryan Underbakke Joe Chvala Steven Meerdink Gary Gisselman John Haynes

\* denotes upcoming production