

# Tyler Michaels King

Director and Theatremaker

(612) 710-2032  
tylermichaelsking@gmail.com  
tylermichaelsking.com

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## *Artistic Summary*

Bold and imaginative theater director based in the Twin Cities, MN. Extensive background in musical theater, comedy/physical theater, and improvisation. Builds productions through use of strong visuals, physicality, and actor authenticity. Passion for creating works that find the epic in the intimate and the intimate in the epic. Recognized for strong leadership, collaborative communication, and compassionate work environments.

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## *Theater Direction, Creation, Choreography, and Producing Credits (selected)*

<i>The Reunion: A Murder Mystery*</i>	Director, Co-Creator	Trademark Theater
<i>25<sup>th</sup> Annual... Spelling Bee*</i>	Director	Artistry Theater
<i>5</i>	Producer	Jungle Theater/Trademark Theater
<i>What You Can't Keep Part 2</i>	Director	Trademark Theater
<i>Runestone: The Rock Musical</i>	Director	History Theater
<i>Stone Baby</i>	Producer	Kiss the Tiger/Trademark Theater
<i>5 (reading)</i>	Co-Director	Playwrights' Center/Trademark
<i>What You Can't Keep Part 1</i>	Director	Trademark Theater
<i>Four Measures (reading)</i>	Director	Playwright's Center/Trademark
<i>The Hollow</i>	Director, Co-Creator	Trademark Theater
<i>Understood</i>	Director	Trademark Theater
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Assistant Director	Guthrie Theater
<i>The Boy and Robin Hood</i>	Director	Trademark Theater
<i>To the Moon</i>	Ensemble Staging	Self-Produced/MN Fringe
<i>Jonah and the Whale</i>	Co-Director	7 <sup>th</sup> House Theater
<i>Once Upon a Chalkboard</i>	Director, Creator	Self-Produced/MN Fringe
<i>Kill Bill Treatéau</i>	Co-creator	Live Action Set
<i>Two Dead Boys</i>	Director, Fight Choreographer	Self-Produced/MN Fringe
<i>Altar Boyz</i>	Co-Choreographer	Straw Hat Players
<i>Nonsense!</i>	Co-Choreographer	Straw Hat Players
<i>The Music Man</i>	Asst. Choreographer	Straw Hat Players
<i>Pinocchio</i>	Director, Choreographer, Adaptation	MSUM Mainstage
<i>Seussical the Musical</i>	Asst. Choreographer	Straw Hat Players

*\*denotes upcoming production*

## *Artistic Direction*

### **Trademark Theater: Founding Artistic Director, new works focused non-profit (2017 – present)**

- Originate new works of theater as creator and/or producer
- Spearhead all season planning and execution; commission playwrights/theater makers to develop new works.
- Direct world premieres of new works and workshop commissioned projects; lead casting of shows and readings, build technical production teams; co-produce shows with mid-sized SPT companies.
- Collaborate with board of directors, staff of four, hired artists and technicians; maintain and review admin structures and production processes; maintain contracts, workplace policies and reporting guidelines; negotiate with AEA.

- Develop grassroots marketing campaigns; foster relationships with audience and arts community; host live events, fundraisers, house parties, and cultivation events.
- Craft and teach workshops on stage performance, methodologies, and audition techniques.
- Cultivate strong leadership skills including negotiation, effective communication, decision-making; champion compassionate and empathetic work environments.

### ***Related Experience***

#### **Theater Performance (2009 – present)**

- Professional theater performer with focus on musical theater, classical works, and physical theater.
- Award winning roles with Guthrie Theater, The Ordway, Theater Latte Da, Children's Theater Company, History Theater, and many others.
- Created new works of theater with various cohorts including Flying Foot Forum, Live Action Set, 7<sup>th</sup> House Theater, as well as several independent works.
- Specialization in vocal performance, physical theater and comedy, and text and character analysis.
- Learned best practices through observation and collaboration with seasoned directors, company executives, and staff members.

#### **Improvisation: The Bearded Company (2006 – present) Founding Company Member**

- Longform improv performer and producer.
- Co-create and produce genre-based productions for ongoing presentations at HUGE Theater.
- Engage with presenting partners/producers during festivals, private and corporate events.
- Direct casting process, rehearsals for shows, network and develop relationships with guest-artists.
- Generate contracts for artists and build project-specific budgets.
- Craft workshops and interactive learning opportunities for improv performance and creation.

### ***Relevant Theater Training***

**Voice (Singing):** Jerry Elsburn, Melissa Hart, Chris Laumann, Julie Adams

**Dance:** jazz, ballet, swing/partner, tap, contact improv

**Aerial Acrobatics:** Xelias Aerial Arts Studio (Spanish web, trapeze, silks, lyra, double point harness)

**Physical Theatre/Devising:** Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theater; Soma Studios (Joe Krienke), Studio 206 (Robert Rosen, Shawn McConneloug, Barbra Berlovitz)

**Improvisation:** Huge Theater, Jill Bernard, Splendid Things, Bill Bungeroth-Second City, Matt Donnelly, Rob Belushi/John Barinholtz

**Shakespeare:** Andrew Wade, Shelly Gaza, Jennifer Tuttle

### ***Teaching***

#### **Independent teaching artist (2012 – present)**

- Create and lead workshops and intensives focusing on physical theater techniques, visual storytelling, auditioning and monologue performance, musical theater performance, improvisation, and Shakespeare analysis.
- Previous and ongoing engagements with Guthrie Theater, Hennepin Theater Trust, Theater Latte Da, Huge Theater, Spotlight Education, PiM Arts, and various high school arts programs.

### ***Education***

Bachelor of Arts, Theatre – Minnesota State University Moorhead –Acting, Directing, Musical Theatre  
Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theater – Professional Training Program – attended

### ***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

"2014 Artist of the Year" City Pages

"Best Actor" Minnesota Monthly; Minneapolis' "Best Actor in a Musical" Broadwayworld.com

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