

JONATHAN K. BECKER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

TEACHING

- Success in curriculum development and implementation in both Europe and the United States.
- Ability to team, teach and collaborate with colleagues.
- Extensive experience in the creation of original work.
- Experience in work with students of different cultures.
- Proven ability to nurture a creative and supportive classroom environment.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- 18 years of co-directing an intensive summer institute.
- Owner of a small international arts related business.

STAGE DIRECTION

- Professional experience in Europe and the United States.
- Proven ability to put together a production that is exciting and vibrant with creative intelligence.
- Excellent understanding of the actor's temperament and psychology.
- Ability to nurture strong creative relationships.
- Experience with playwrights on new script development.
- Knowledge of the twentieth century theatre techniques and history.
- Co-founder and director of Company Les Scenokrates, Luzern, Switzerland.
- Co-founder and director of The Brouduer Brothers Touring Ensemble, Paris, France.

PERFORMANCE

- Touring experience throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia.
- Performance experience with the major symphony orchestras in the United States and Canada. Including The Little Orchestra Society at Lincoln Center.

EDUCATION

M.F.A., 2005, Theatre Pedagogy emphasis in movement and voice, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Grade point Average 4.0. Thesis: *The Body is Text; Movement Training as Applies to the Dramatic Act.*

M. A., 1997, Acting and Directing, University of Akron.

Thesis: *The Actor, Architect of the Empty Space; The Pedagogy of École Jacques Lecoq*

Conservatory Certificate, 1988, International School of Theatre Jacques Lecoq, Paris, France.

B.A., 1986, Theatre, College of Wooster.

Departmental Honors

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Physical Comedy

Twenty-five years training and experience in development of personal clown, slapstick, farce, comedy acrobatics, scoring and sketch development.

Mask Work and Commedia dell'Arté

Twenty years of training and experience in physical improvisation, movement styles, physical characterization, history, scene and story development and mask making.

Voice

Ten years of training and experience in singing and speaking vocal techniques including belle conté, Roy Hart, Linklater and Rodenberg.

Improvisation

Fifteen years of training and experience in physical improvisation and story based, character improvisational techniques.

Dance

Five years training and experience in ballet and modern dance.

Circus Skills and Magic

Eight years training experience in juggling balls, clubs, rings, fire, and hats. Five years fire eating and ten years of comedy and dramatic acrobatics.

Mime

Five years Training and experience in illusionary and corporeal mime techniques

(professional training cont.)

Puppetry

Ten years training and experience in puppet design and manipulation including, rod, Turkish rod, shadow, hand, Bunraku and the application to contemporary theatre.

TEACHING AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Physical Acting

Breath, thought, gesture and physical scoring of action-oriented scene work.
Improvisation, movement analysis, understanding of style and period movement.

Period Styles

Physical support of classical text (the body for Shakespeare, the body for commedia...), gestural response in a given style, the voice body connection as relates to style, honest response in a world of highly stylized performance, manners of the time (Elizabethan, Restoration, Edwardian, Comedy of Manners, Commedia)

Rapier Dagger

The principles and techniques of stage combat as relates to rapier and dagger

Unarmed Stage Combat

Basic and advance techniques of unarmed stage combat and the techniques of stage fighting as relate to the style of contemporary stage violence.

Basic and Advanced Acting Techniques

Approach to text and personal process concerning character development.

Movement for the Actor

The approaches of Lecoq, Grotowski, Alexander and Laban for the understanding of a dynamic presence, a free body, organic impulses, and the active connection to the performance space and the audience. Movement analysis and alignment work.

Physical training for the Actor

Strength training, flexibility, alignment and anatomy for the actor.

Movement Laboratory

Advanced impulse, release and ensemble work based in the Grotowski approach.
Plastiques, the corporals, dramatic acrobatics, stick work and plateau exercises.

(teaching areas of specialization cont.)

Clown

In depth personal analysis, development of personal clown, sketch development physical comedy. The clown as virtuoso, the clown as everyman, the clown as character.

Neutral and Character Mask

Development of an economy of movement, the understanding of a neutral physical and internal state. Understanding the body as gesture and the body as text. Physical and emotional gesture. Playing in the style of masked theatre.

Commedia dell'Arté

Physical presence of the commedia, use of voice in the mask, understanding of the comedic style and how it effects the organic impulses of the actor.

Physical Comedy

Technical skills, comedy acrobatics, stage combat techniques, prat falls, and sketch creation. Physical scoring of scenes and situation oriented improvisation.

Voice for Actors

Fundamentals of voice production: breath support, articulation and voice dynamics. Understanding of the vocal instrument and its connections physicality and emotional response. Text as action. Techniques of Rodenberg and Roy Hart.

Mask Making

Practical work in learning to work with a variety of materials. Understanding the process of creating a mask specifically for the theatre. Creating a living sculpture.

Puppetry

Hand, rod , shadow, back pack puppets, marionettes, and Bunraku puppets. Animating inanimate objects. Application of puppets to theatre.

CERTIFICATIONS

Recognized Advanced Actor Combatant The Society of American Fight Directors

Unarmed Combat, Rapier/Dagger, Broadsword , Sword and Shield, Quarterstaff, Single Sword, Knife

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Full Time Teaching and Long Term Residencies:

Ball State University 2006 – (current position) Assistant Professor of Movement and Acting

BFA degree in Acting and Musical Theatre
Teacher of Movement for freshman
Teacher of Mask and Movement for Sophomore Sequence
Teacher of Combat and Ethnic World Styles for Junior Advanced Acting Studios
Movement Coach for University productions
Fight Choreographer for University Productions

Webster University 2005 – 2006, Visiting Assistant Professor

BFA Conservatory degree program for actors and designers.
Teacher of movement one for incoming freshman
Teacher of advanced movement period styles (rapier dagger included) for juniors
Teacher of acting for designers
Movement Coach and Fight Choreographer for Conservatory productions

Naropa University 2002 – 2003, Instructor

MFA degree program in Actor Created Physical Theatre based on the Lecoq pedagogy.
Teacher of the movement and architecture lab, movement analysis course, acrobatics, mask making and puppetry

The University of Colorado BFA program 2001, Guest Artist, Residency

BFA degree program.
Teacher of senior movement for the actor with an emphasis on acting with masks.

Workshops, Short Term Residencies, Invited Teaching Artist Positions:

National:

The Houston School for the Performing and Visual Arts 2001 – 2010

Performing Arts High School
Teacher of physical comedy and mask work

Tennessee Arts Academy 2010, Guest Artist

High school teacher training workshop
Teacher of Actor Training through mask

(teaching experience cont.)

Denison University 2009, Guest Artist

BA degree in Theatre
Lecturer on masks as living sculpture
Teacher of mask making

Northwestern University 1990 – 2009, Core Faculty

The National High School Institute
Teacher of voice and movement, mask, physical comedy, clown and Commedia.
Director of one of ten shows produced each summer.
Associate Director of Theatre Arts Division.

Virginia Commonwealth University 2003 – 2005, Adjunct, Graduate Assistant

MFA and BFA degree program for actors and teachers.
Teacher of the graduate movement lab, graduate level Lecoq style personal clown class and the undergraduate advanced movement for the actor.

San Diego High School Magnet Program for The Performing Arts 2004 - 2005

Performing Arts High School
Teacher of physical comedy, physical acting and mask work

University of Lincoln, Nebraska 2004, Guest Artist, Residency

BA degree program in theatre.
Teacher of mask making and acting with masks with an emphasis on Greek Tragedy.

The University of Virginia 2004, Guest Artist, Workshop

BA degree program in theater.
Teacher of Masks and Commedia dell'Arte.

Rhode Island School of Design 2003, Guest Artist, Workshop

BFA in Visual arts.
Teacher of movement analysis geared toward animating sculpture specifically related to the creature creation classes.

Theatre Conservatory College of the performing Arts at Roosevelt University 2002

BFA degree program in theatre.
Teacher of physical comedy and Commedia dell'Arte

(teaching experience cont.)

The Boston School for the Performing Arts 2002, Guest Artist, Workshop

Performing Arts High School
Teacher of physical comedy and mask work

The Cleveland School for The Arts 2002, Guest Artist, Workshop

Performing Arts High School
Teacher of physical comedy and mask work

The New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts 2001 – 2002, Guest Artist, Workshop

Performing Arts High School
Teacher of physical comedy and mask work

BRAVO Cable Network 2000, Teaching Artist

On With the Show National Teaching Tour to promote theater education.
Teacher of physical comedy, storytelling and acting with masks.

Disney Theatrical 1999, Teaching Artist

The Lion King Pride Rock Project New York City
Teacher of mask making, African dance, storytelling and teacher training.

The Milton Hershey School 1997, Guest Artist, Workshop

Private school for underprivileged children, foster children and orphans.
Teacher of mask making and acting with masks.

Beginnings 1991 – 1997, Guest Artist, Workshop

A Professional resident arts workshop for young professional actors
culminating in Off Broadway showcases. New York City.
Teacher of physical comedy and scene study.

The Chestnut Hill Academy 1997, Guest Artist, Workshop

Private School for boys K-12
Teacher of new works development and playwrighting.

The Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park 1992, Guest Artist, Workshop

LORT Theatre Apprentice Program
Teacher of movement analysis and mask work.

The University of Akron 1993, Graduate Assistant

BA and MA degree program
Graduate Teaching assistant for the undergraduate acting one and acting
four.

(teaching experience cont.)

Miami University 1991, Guest Artist, Workshop

BA degree program in theatre.
Teacher of masks and physical character development through solo improvisation.

The College of Wooster 1990, Guest Artist, Workshop

BA degree program in theatre.
Teacher of movement analysis and physical character development through solo improvisation.

Hiram College 1990, Guest Artist, Workshop

BA degree program in theatre.
Teacher of combat mime.

International:

Oslo University College 2008, 2010 Guest Artist/Lecturer

International Acting with Masks Program
Teacher of Mask Making
Teacher of Mask Performance

The Company Les Scenokrates, Luzern, Switzerland 1988 - 1990

International Theatre Company
Acting and Movement Instructor

The Réy Schüle, Ebikon, Switzerland 1989 – 1990, Instructor

Private School for boys K-12
Teacher of physical comedy, circus skills and physical improvisation.

Zwischenbüne Théâtre, Luzern Switzerland 1989, Instructor

Teacher of improvisation, movement and mask work and circus skills.

Le Céntré des Arts, Sevrans, France 1988, Guest Artist, Workshop

Regional Center for the Arts
Teacher of movement improvisation.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate Assistantship, 2004 - 2005

Virginia Commonwealth University. Teaching in the graduate and undergraduate BFA and MFA degree programs.

Teacher Recognition Certificate, 2002

The National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts.

(Honors, Awards cont.)

Graduate Assistantship, 1993-1994
The University of Akron.

Cummings-Rumbaugh Speech and Dramatics Prize, 1986
Outstanding contributions to the Department of Theater at The College of Wooster.

Joyce Foundation Grant, 1986
Awarded for research and performance of undergraduate thesis, And Now For Something Completely...; an exploration of mime as dramatic movement.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Associate Director for Theatre Arts Division of The National High School Institute at Northwestern University, 1991 – 2009

- Responsible for the health, safety and supervision of 160 theatre arts students and 27 dance students.
- Facilitate communication between a faculty of 50 and the Theatre Arts Division Director.
- Supervise a dorm staff of 25 resident assistants
- Assist communication between the theatre arts division and the offices of residential life, summer conferences, dorms and commons, student health and risk management.
- Consult on the marketing of the institute and the design of the marketing materials.
- Act in the recruiting of students through a guest artist teaching program nationwide.
- Direct one of the ten shows produced by the institute.

Owner/Operator of Theater-Masks.com, a full service production shop for Theatre Masks and Puppets serving the international community, 1998 – present.

- Mask and puppet design and construction.
- Making estimates and the buying of supplies.
- Client correspondence
- Bookkeeping
- Shipping
- Marketing
- Maintaining a working knowledge of the latest materials and techniques

Masks have been created for hundreds of training institutions, professional producing organizations and individual artists in 34 countries including: The United States, Scotland, the Netherlands, Finland, England, Greece, Canada, South Africa, China, Chile, Israel, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Brazil, Italy, Iceland, Denmark, Portugal, Spain, Mexico, Belgium, Norway, Italy,

(administrative cont.)

Luxembourg, Philippines, Austria, France, Peru, The United Arab Emirates,
India, Singapore and Korea

Some Past Clients of Note Include:

Theatres and Companies.

Lincoln Center, New York, NY
International Vocal Arts Institute, Paris, France
Disney Theatrical, New York, NY
Bravo, The Arts and Entertainment Cable Network, New York, NY

Schools, Colleges and Universities

The Julliard School Drama Division, New York City
The New School, New York City
The Yale School of Drama
Rhode Island School of Design
York University, Toronto, Canada
The Conservatory at Roosevelt University in Chicago

For a comprehensive client list visit www.theater-masks.com/clients

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Institutional Service

Ball State University

University

Advisor to Men of Color Domestic Violence Project, 2010
Narrator Muncie Symphony Orchestra, *Arts Fusion* concert, 2007

Department of Theatre and Dance

Member Production Committee. 2006- 2007, 2008-2009
Member Recruitment Committee, 2007 – 2008, 2010 – 2011
Member Technology Committee, 2006 – 2007, 2008 – 2009
Member Production Stage Manager Search Committee 2007 - 2008
Member Acting Search Committee 2007 – 2008
Co-Advisor Alpha Psi Omega 2008 – 2011

University/Departmental Recruitment:

BFA Acting and Musical Theatre Option Auditions: Unified Auditions in Chicago and Los Angeles with Bill Jenkins, Chair, 2010

Audition Workshop North Side High School, Indianapolis 2010

Movement Theatre Workshop Roncoli High School, Indianapolis 2008, 2010

Adjudicator Monologues and Scenes Festival Warren Central High School, Indianapolis 2008

Attended Illinois State Theatre Conference Auditions with Bill Jenkins, Chair, 2007

International

Oslo University College

Liaison between Oslo university College and Ball State University in the developing of a relationship between the International Acting With Masks Program and the BFA Acting Program. Guest Artist exchanges organized in 2008 and 2010.

CONFERENCES/PRESENTATIONS

Southeaster Theatre Conference 2009

Lecture Performance: Masks as Living Sculpture

Southeastern Theatre Conference 2005

Presentation of paper titled: *The Body as Text; The Essentials of Movement Training for the Actor*

The Masks of Transformation Conference at SIUC 2005

Workshop given: *Masks in Actor Training*

Masks selected for an international exhibit of masks at the SIUC Museum

Illinois Theatre Conference 2000 – 2004

Workshop given: *The Audition and Its Physical Score.*

Virginia Theatre Conference 2003

Workshop Given: *Personal Presence and Audition Technique*

DIRECTORS WORKED WITH

David Leong, Fight Master and Fight Choreographer, Broadway, film and television.

Leslie Reidel, Director at PTTU University of Delaware.

(directors worked with cont.)

Peter Brossious, Resident Director, Mark Taper Forum.

Gary Gisselman, Artistic Director, CTC Minneapolis.

Jan Borna, Artistic Director of The National Conservatory of The New Czech Republic.

Cory Anderson, 7 time Emmy award winner.

Worked with most of the major symphony orchestras in the U.S. and Canada as an actor.

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

<u>The Three Cuckolds</u>	Ball State University, 2007
<u>The Little Prince</u>	The Touchstone Theatre in Bethlehem, PA. 2000
<u>A Bridge To All Seasons</u>	The Cleveland Public Theatre. 1994
<u>Moribonds</u>	Zwischenbühne Theatre, Luzern, Switzerland. 1990
<u>Zältag</u>	Zwischenbühne Theatre, Luzern, Switzerland. 1989
<u>Quel Que Chose de Different</u>	Fête L'Été de Vaour, Vaour, France. 1988
<u>Romeo and Juliet</u>	Fête Le Puy en Valey, Le Puy, France. 1987

FIGHT/MOVEMENT CHOREOGRAPHY

<u>Metamorphoses</u>	Virginia Commonwealth University. 2005
<u>Our Countries Good</u>	Webster University, 2005
<u>Polaroid Stories</u>	Ball State University, 2006
<u>Twilight Los Angels</u>	Ball State University, 2006
<u>Colored Museum</u>	Ball State University, 2006
<u>Thoroughly Modern Millie</u>	Ball State University, 2006
<u>Urinetown</u>	Ball State University, 2007
<u>Human Faustus Project</u>	Ball State University, 2007
<u>Going to St. Ives</u>	Ball State University, 2007
<u>Loves Labors Lost</u>	Ball State University, 2008
<u>Quake</u>	Ball State University, 2008
<u>Into The Woods</u>	Ball State University, 2008
<u>West Side Story</u>	Indianapolis Civic Theatre, 2008
<u>Violet</u>	Ball State University, 2008
<u>Camino Real</u>	Ball State University, 2008
<u>Catastrophe: Evening of Beckett</u>	Ball State University, 2009
<u>Noises Off</u>	Ball State University, 2009
<u>My Fair Lady</u>	Ball State University, 2009
<u>Angels in America</u>	Ball State University, 2010
<u>Almost Maine</u>	Ball State University, 2010

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Margolis Method Workshop with Kari Margolis, 2010

Personal Training and Fitness Taining , Brad Warner, 2009, 2010

(professional growth cont.)

Alexander Technique, Jeff Tessler, 2009, 2010

Slow tempo Workshop led by NYC Modern Dancer Peter Kyle, 2009

Society of American Fight Directors Workshop for advanced actor combatant status
broad sword, rapier, rapier dagger, hand to hand, sword and shield, quarterstaff, Adam
McClean, CT, 2007

Injury Prevention for the Performing Artist Seminar St. Louis, MO, 2006

MEMBERSHIPS IN ORGANIZATIONS

South Eastern Theater Conference (SETC)

Theatre Communications Group (TCG)

Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD)

Association of Theatre Movement Educators (ATME)

PROFESSIONAL ACTING CREDITS

THEATRE CREDITS

MAGIK VAUDEVILLE	Max (Lead)	Enchantment Theatre, National Tour
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST	Father/Puppeteer/Pan	Enchantment Theatre, National Tour
THE SORCERERS APPRENTICE	Apprentice (Lead)	Enchantment Theatre, Asian Tour
THE SYMPHONY AND THE SORCERER	Gorky	Enchantment Theatre, U.S., Canadian Tour
42ND AND BROADWAY (a musical revue)	Tenor	Pritchard Productions
MORIBONDS	Alfred	Les Senokrates, Switzerland
ZÄLTAG	Pantelone	Les Senokrates, Switzerland
ROMEO AND JULIET	Romeo	The Brodeur Brothers, France
AN EVENING OF INTELLECTUAL MUSIC	Robert	The Brodeur Brothers, France
WELCOME HOME (a Vietnam story)	Eric/Billy	ArtReach, National Tour
ONE FLEW OVER THE COO COO'S NEST	Billy	Stage Right Repertory
THE SEAGULL	Medvidenko	New World Performance Lab.
TANGO	Eugene	University of Akron
THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD	Durdles	Miami University Summer Theatre
THE DINING ROOM	Third Actor	Huron Playhouse
WAITING FOR GODOT	Lucky	Bates Theatre
THE BUFFOONS	Homeless man	Theatre Grottesco, Nat. Showcase
ACTING ENSEMBLE	Reader	Sundance Inst. Playwright's Lab

TELEVISION AND FILM

HEAD OF THE CLASS, THE LION KING.	Directed by George Nierenberg	The Bravo Channel
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INDUSTRIALS

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Promo Video	Directed by Cory Anderson	Enchantment Theatre
CINDERELLA Promo Video	7 time Emmy Award Winner Directed by Cory Anderson	Enchantment Theatre

REFERENCES

David Leong, Chair
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Kari Margolis
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Wendy Mortimer
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