

# MASON BEGGS

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## HIGHER EDUCATION INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Part time Lecturer - The New School / School of Drama, New York, NY**

*The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dramatic Arts*

#### ***TDRU 2511 - Intermediate Directing 1: Visual Perception and the Stage***

September 2017-Current

- Introduced students to the correlation between perception of two dimensional images and the three dimensional space of the theatre.
- Multi-week lecture on two dimensional design focusing on the utilization of visual manipulation when pertaining to story and emotional experience,
- Lead critical feedback sessions on three assigned projects: Realism, Style, Transition

#### ***TDRU 2805 - Portfolio 4 - World Building***

January 2016-Current

- Created a reflective learning environment that focused on conceptualization and construction of cohesive worlds.
- Lead exercises that instructed students how to think across modalities and explore parallels between different artistic mediums.
- Transitioned work into theatrical practice through incorporation of theatrical text and facilitation of designer talkbacks.

### **Part Time Lecturer - The New School Summer Intensive, New York, NY**

April 2017- August 2017

#### ***Devised Theatre***

- Introduced students to devised rehearsal techniques
- Lead student explorations of symbolism and metaphor, poetic expression in devised work. Generative elements included lighting, movement, media, music, and visual art.

### **Lecturer - St Peter's University, Jersey City, NJ**

*The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts*

#### ***AR 175, AR 176 - Acting Workshop***

September 2017-Current

- Introduced students to the history of acting technique and its implementation in modern performance
- Lead exercises in relaxation and focus
- Instructed and guided a multi-week exploration of improvisational technique
- Lead critical feedback sessions on monologues and short scene assignments

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## HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

### **Co-Chair of Curriculum Committee - The New School / School of Drama, New York, NY**

May 2018- Current

*The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts*

- Scheduled, organized and lead faculty discussions on state of current BFA curriculum
- Reported to Dean of Drama to advise on committee suggestions

### **Junior Coordinator - The New School / School of Drama, New York, NY**

May 2018- Current

*The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts*

- Advised students and acted as a liaison between Program Director and Junior class
- Advised curriculum committee on impact of curricular changes on student experience
- Lead two workshops focused on staging technique in musical theatre

- Structured curriculum for Summer Acting Intensive
- Produced series of Workshops
- Planned off site visits
- Hired and guided faculty

## **SELECTED LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

### **Guest Lecturer - The New School / School of Drama, New York, NY**

#### **Visual Perception Workshop**

January 2015

Course focus was on strengthening directors visual vocabulary and their ability to perceive, reflect, and repurpose visual information for use in their own work. It explored how we, as directors and artists, connect and perceive through our own realities, and how that perception manifests into our personal aesthetic.

#### **Emerging Directors**

January 2013

Course focus was on how to market your brand as a creative artist. Students were challenged to explore their perception of their individual artistic strengths, as well as define their current aesthetic interests. Geared towards directors residing in the NYC area, the course also explored postgraduate opportunities and resources available to help build your business and brand as a freelance artist.

#### **Sculpting the Scene**

January 2012

Course focus was on rehearsal techniques aimed at altering the emotional temperature and trajectory of the scene, as well as collaborating with actors to achieve synthesis in storytelling. It explored the evolution of material throughout the rehearsal process and how to navigate changes as the work progresses.

### **Guest Lecturer - Art House Productions of Jersey City**

#### **Capacity: Devised Theatre for Youth**

August 2015

Workshop focused on introducing the process of devised theatre to youth. Over the course of the day students explored the devising process through a series of exercises and guided conversations, and then broke into groups to create a new piece of work based on a series of prompts from instructor. Students then presented their work to the group and learned about healthy and productive feedback.

#### **Capacity: Deciphering the Song**

September 2016

Workshop focused on deciphering the work of lyricists and composers with the intent of discovering and understanding character, defining motivation, and tracking the trajectory of a character's emotional temperature as indicated by the score.

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## **OTHER EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Production Director -TED X, Jersey City, NJ**

Organized and produced as an independent TED event under the larger entity, TED X Jersey City combined live Ted Talks with previously produced video as well as musical performance and theatrical performance.

### **Assistant Producer/Guest Director -Under the Great Wide Open - 2012**

Sponsored by Parsons New School for Design and The New School for Drama. A cross-departmental collaborative workshop, which explored the intersection between technology and identity. The program was spearheaded by Drama program director Pippin Parker and Parsons' Ethan Silverman. The work-in-progress performance and installation was presented at The New School for Drama, as well as Abrons Centre for the Arts, and developed for performance and exhibition at the Old Vic Tunnels in London.

## DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

Ted X Jersey City	Landmark Loew's Theatre
Cabaret	St Peter's University
The House of Yes	St Peter's University
The Handless Maiden	Art House Productions
The Drowsy Chaperon	St. Peter's University
Medea	St. Peter's University
What Lurks	St. Peter's University
The Addams Family	Landmark Loew's Theatre
James and the Giant Peach	Art House Productions
The House of Atreus	Art House Productions
The Wild Party	St. Peter's University
Dracula	St. Peter's University
Into the Woods	St. Peter's University
Commit	Art House Productions
Little Black Dots	Landmark Loew's Theatre
Putnam County Spelling Bee	St. Peter's University
R/evolution	Tisch School of the Arts
Font of Knowledge	Art House Productions
The Other Millay (reading)	New York Theatre Workshop
Ripple Effect	Abrons Art Center
Fast in Fire	Theatre for a New City
Show Me Real	PTC Performance Space (NYMF)
The Adventures of Jesus Jackson (reading)	The Tank
Document in Madness (reading)	Schetler Studios
Forbidden Longings (reading)	Gay and Lesbian Center of NYC
Psalms 4:Japan (selected works)	Theatre 80
Mourning Breadth	The New School for Drama
The Sisters Millay	NY Theatre Workshop
The Black Swans Sing (selected works)	Theresa Lang Auditorium
Hamlet – Laboratory Adaptation (reading)	Theatre Han
Stranger in my Body	Gay and Lesbian Center of NYC
The Bear: A Tragedy	The Lion Theatre (Sam French)
What Dies Inside Us	The Lion Theatre (Sam French)
4.48 Psychosis	Bank Street Theatre
Pop! The Andy Warhol Musical (concert)	The Duplex (NYTB)
A New Shade of Red	Playwrights Horizons (Sam French)

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## EDUCATION

### MFA Directing

Conferred May 2010

*The New School / School of Drama, New York, NY*

Directing: Austin Pendleton, Lou Jacob, Dorothy Lyman, Jim Simpson, Casey Biggs, Elinor Renfield

### BFA Media Arts/Film Production (Minor in Music)

Conferred in Month 05

*Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA*

Assistantship - Mark Brokaw, Yale Musical Theatre Inst. (*Pop* by Anna Jacobs and Maggie Coleman) June 2009

Observership - Connor Doyle, (*Sleep No More*) June 2012

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References Available Upon Request