CHRIS DONOVAN

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EDUCATION

MFA - ACTING: CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, BROOKLYN COLLEGE, 2014
Thesis Production: *Clybourne Park* by Bruce Norris, Dir. Mary Beth Easley

MA - DIRECTING: CHICAGO COLLEGE OF THE PERFORMING ARTS, ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY, 2023

Thesis Production: Passage by Christopher Chen

BA - THEATRE PERFORMANCE: WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY, 2010

Portfolio Production: Shakespeare's Villains by Steven Berkoff, Dir. Josh Wagner

MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY/ARTS EDUCATION: CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATER SCHOOL, 2001

Final Productions: *Into The Woods* by Stephan Sondheim, Dir. Theodore Man *The Children's Hour* by Lillian Hellman, Dir. Stephan Porter

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY POST, 2023 - PRESENT

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER, DANCE, & ARTS MANAGEMENT

THE 280 CONTEMPORARY MUSICAL THEATRE PRACTICES II

This studio-based course is a practicum in musical theatre performance techniques with emphasis on developing a clear process for performing in musical theatre. Musical theatre repertoire and movement are also included in the course work. Students can expect to gain a working understanding of the vocabulary of musical theatre performance.

THE 227 MEISNER TECHNIQUE

A practice-based acting class based on the technique of Sanford Meisner. This method is an offshoot of the Stanislavski Technique, focusing on the reality of doing, and behaving truthfully in imaginary circumstances. Students will leave with an understanding of how to respond to their part.

DIRECTOR - PROPS/MAKEUP/PUPPET DESIGNER

PETER AND THE STARCATCHER BY RICK ELICE

POST THEATRE COMPANY - FALL 2024 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing. Students set specific goals for the semester with their instructor and carry out their project responsibilities within their own schedule.

THE 221 BASIC ACTING I

Basic Acting I is an introductory studio course focused on acting exercises, improvisations, and basic scene work. Through practical explorations, the course intends to develop the student's imagination and ability to identify intentions and given circumstances. Students can expect to leave with the necessary vocabulary and practical skills to undertake the work of the actor working with contemporary material.

THE 222 BASIC ACTING II

Introduction to scene study and basic character development; continuation of THE 221. Basic Acting II is a practice-based studio course. Students can expect to leave with the necessary vocabulary and practical skills to undertake the work of the actor working with contemporary material.

MANHATTANVILLE UNIVERSITY, 2025 - PRESENT ADJUNCT PROFESSOR.

MUA 4228 ACTING THE SONG III

Advanced studies in acting the song, dealing primarily with material from the last 25 years. The class will synthesize material learned in Acting I and II, Acting the Song I and II, and Music Theory I and II.

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY, 2017 - 2021

**2019 OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARD - WINNER

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

THR 402: SPECIAL TOPICS - THE MEISNER TECHNIQUE

An introduction to Sanford Meisner's approach to acting technique and his acting exercises that develop the actor's ability to work organically, creating truthful, expressive behavior in acting.

THR 387: DEVISED THEATER WORKSHOP

PRODUCTION: THE DEVILS MISCHIEF BY ED MARQUAND

An exploration of the collaborative process to develop and perform original work created by the group. Utilizing Improvisation, Viewpoints, Suzuki, Lecoq, Mask, spontaneous group writing, solo performance, transformation exercises, and story-telling, participants will focus on ensemble building, theatrical design and production, storytelling, music, media, art, movement, voice, and problem solving.

THR 201: PLAYMAKING FOR CHILDREN

A study of the various techniques and skills associated with the practice of creative drama. Utilizing activity-based work, literature-based work/story drama, and situation-based work/process drama and through the use of informal dramatic forms incorporating art, music, stories, games, poetry and improvisation, students will develop a practical understanding of the various skills and techniques needed to use creative drama strategies as an art form and as a teaching tool in a variety of contexts.

THR 181: ACTING I - CHARACTER STUDY

The foundations for playing a character explored through theater games, improvisation, and scene study. The course will explore The Stanislavsky Method for actors. Emphasis will be on script analysis, performance and discussion within a laboratory environment.

THR 180: Introduction to Theater Arts

A study of the basic practical and theoretical elements of the theatre arts. Topics include: acting, directing, playwriting, genre, dramatic structure, design, and theatre spaces. These elements will be studied and discussed from the standpoint of both the audience and the participants. Emphasis will also be placed on the various non performance jobs in theater and the opportunity that are available within the entertainment industry.

SUNY WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 2023 - PRESENT

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

THEAT 111 ACTING 1

An introduction to the craft of acting. Acting skills are explored and developed through both structured and improvised classroom activities. The emphasis of this course is on liberating the student's creative energy and expression.

THEAT 101 Introduction to the Theatre

An overview of theatre and its many facets, including the art of the actor, director, designer, and playwright. Students are involved in the reading of plays, the writing of scenes, and the viewing of live performances.

DIRECTOR - SET/PROPS DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN, LIGHTING DESIGN

PASSAGE BY CHRISTOPHER CHEN

FALL 2023 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing. Students set specific goals for the semester with their instructor and carry out their project responsibilities within their own schedule.

DIRECTOR - SET/PROPS DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN, LIGHTING DESIGN, SOUND DESIGN A COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA ABRIDGED BY ADAM LONG, REED MARTIN, & AUSTIN TICHENOR

SPRING 2025 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing. Students set specific goals for the semester with their instructor and carry out their project responsibilities within their own schedule.

CUNY MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE/THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK, 2016 - 2025

ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

THTR 13100 (HONORS): INTRODUCTION TO THEATER ARTS

A study of the basic practical and theoretical elements of the theatre arts. Topics include: acting, directing, playwriting, genre, dramatic structure, design, and theatre spaces. These elements will be studied and discussed from the standpoint of both the audience and the participants. Emphasis will also be placed on the various non performance jobs in theater and the opportunity that are available within the entertainment industry.

FACULTY DIRECTING ADVISOR:

FIRES IN THE MIRROR BY ANNA DEAVERE SMITH

SPRING 2018 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

Provides the opportunity for practical experience in all elements of theatre production, from set construction to acting to stage managing.

CUNY BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 2015 - 2023

**2020 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD - NOMINEE

ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH, COMMUNICATION AND THEATER

THE 100 INTRODUCTION TO THEATER ARTS

A study of the basic practical and theoretical elements of the theatre arts. Topics include: acting, directing, playwriting, genre, dramatic structure, design, and theatre spaces. These elements will be studied and discussed from the standpoint of both the audience and the participants. Emphasis will also be placed on the various non performance jobs in theater and the opportunity that are available within the entertainment industry.

UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT ST. VINCENT, 2025

GUEST ARTIST, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

NEW YORK ACTOR BY JOHN GUARE

FIGHT DIRECTOR

SPRING 2025 CAHILL THEATRE (BLACK BOX PRODUCTION)

Instructor: Unarmed Combat Workshops

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO, 2022

GUEST ARTIST, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

SWEAT BY LYNN NOTTAGE

FIGHT DIRECTOR & ROLE OF STAN:

SPRING 2022 SPRINKLE THEATRE (BLACK BOX PRODUCTION)

Instructor: Meisner Technique Workshops, Unarmed Combat Workshops

GUILFORD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 2021

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF THEATER

DRA 211: THEATER HISTORY I

The development of theatre from its origin to the closing of the European Theatre of the 1800's. Topics include the history, aesthetics, and representative dramatic literature of the period.

ONLINE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY, Spring 2020-Fall 2021

Acting I, Playmaking with Children

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK - CUNY, Spring 2020- Summer 2024

Intro to Theatre, Public Speaking

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE - CUNY, Spring 2020- Spring 2022

Intro to Theatre, Public Speaking

ALIGN ACTORS STUDIO, 2021

Meisner Intensive, Business of Acting Seminar

WORKSHOPS

UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT ST. VINCENT, 2025

Unarmed Stage Combat Workshop

CLASSICAL SINGER MAGAZINE - CS MUSIC PANEL AUDITIONS, 2025

Musical Theatre Adjudicator

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO, 2022

Meisner Workshop

Unarmed Stage Combat Workshop

ALIGN ACTORS STUDIO, 2021

Meisner Intensive

Business of Acting Seminar

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK - CUNY THEATER FESTIVAL, 2017 - 2019

Physical Acting Workshop Business of Acting Seminar

ELEMENTARY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

WCSU ACADEMY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, DANBURY CT

Playmaking with Children: Master Teacher 2017-2019, 3rd Grade

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK - CUNY EXPLORERS WORKSHOPS, 2017 - 2019

Acting Workshop: Master Teacher 2016-2019, 7th Grade

MILL RIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, DANBURY CT

Playmaking with Children: Master Teacher 2017-2019, 2nd Grade

MAINSTAGES/CAMP TWELVE TRAILS

Acting/Improvisation: Teaching Artist 2017, K-6th Grade

CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATER SCHOOL, 2016

Circle in The Square Theater School at PS 11Chelsea NYC

Playmaking with Children with Daniel Judah Sklar: Residency Assistant: 2016, 3rd Grade

SUMMER ON STAGE - MUSICALS AT RICHTER, DANBURY, CT

Acting/Improvisation: 1997-2000, K-6th Grade

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL TOURS

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas Mayor/Senator (u/s Melvin Thorpe) US/Canada Tour, Dir. Jeffery B. Moss

REGIONAL THEATRE

Come From Away Oz and others (u/s Claude) The Engeman Theatre, Dir. Scott Weinstein

Newsies Seitz/Snyder (u/s Pulitzer) The Argyle Theatre, Dir. Tommy Rainieri

The Music Man Charlie Cowell (u/s Harold Hill) The Argyle Theatre, Dir. Evan Pappas

Fiddler on the Roof Constable The Argyle Theatre, Dir. Evan Pappas

Finding Neverland Cromer/Ensemble White Plains Performing Arts, Dir. M. Tuminelli

Hairspray Male Authority (u/s Edna, Wilbur) White Plains Performing Arts, Dir. F. Portanova

Jersey Boys Tommy DeVito Winnipesaukee Playhouse, Dir. Teisha Duncan

A Midnight Clear Elias Tompkins The Riverside Theatre, Dir. Allen D. Cornell

Mamma Mia! Harry Bright Plaza Theatrical, Dir. Kevin Harrington

Damn Yankees Dell/Ensemble (u/s Joe/Applegate) The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Jenn Thompson

A Flea in Her Ear Guest (u/s Chandabise, Poche, Finache) The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Owen Thompson

Lost in Yonkers u/s Eddie, Louie The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Evan Thompson

Bus Stop u/s Bo Decker, Will Masters The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Julia Kiely

Art u/s Marc, Serge, Ivan The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Warren Kelley

Annie and Bill Frank Butler The Ivoryton Playhouse, Dir. Joan Shepard

Kaleidoscope Ring Master Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Dir. Sal Trapani

NYC THEATRE

Macbeth Banquo (/u/s MacBeth, MacDuff) Edin. Fringe/Judith Anderson NYC, Dir. S.

Trapani

The Cherry Orchard Lopahin The Raw Space, Dir. S. Trapani

The American Girls Review Uncle Gard/Jiggy Nye The American Girls Place, NYC, Dir. Mea Hack

Shakespeare in Space Joseph Stalin The Mint Theatre, Dir. Annie Ward

Pride and Prejudice: A New Musical Mr. Bingley Theatre for a New City

Cymbeline Belarius The Brick Theatre, Dir. Jeannie-Marie Brown

Delilah: A New Musical David/Ya'ir Midtown Festival/The Chain, Dir. Seth Duerr

Assassins Leon Czolgosz The Gallery Players, Dir. Noel McDuffie

King John The Bastard of Falconbrigde The Producers Club, Dir. Emily Whittaker

Twelfth Night Toby Belch TODO Con Nada 45, Dir. Mick Mellamphy

Will of Love Benedict The Shell Theatre NYC, Dir. Pam McDaniel

The Man Who Hated Shakespeare Bone Crusher The Producers Club NYC, Dir. Sam Kellerman

The Velveteen Rabbit Narrator Circle In the Square, Dir. Larry Crabtree

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Into The Woods Rapunzel's Prince (u/s Baker) Circle In The Square, Dir. Theodore Mann

The Children's Hour Dr. Joseph Cardin Circle In The Square, Dir. Stephen Porter

Sweat UNC Greensboro (Guest Artist)

A Midsummer's Night Dream Theseus Ives Concert Park, WCSU (Guest Artist)

The Seagull Shamryev Columbia University (Guest Artist)

Clybourne Park Russ/Dan CUNY Brooklyn College

The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek Chas Weaver CUNY Brooklyn College

The Rimers of Eldrich Judge/Preecher CUNY Brooklyn College

City of Angels Stine Western Connecticut State University

Fiddler on the Roof Constable (u/s Tevye, Lazar) Western Connecticut State University

A Flea in Her Ear Dr. Finache Western Connecticut State University

Shakespeares Villains Various Western Connecticut State University

Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory Mr. Salt Western Connecticut State University

James and the Giant Peach Mysterious Man Western Connecticut State University

FILM & TV

How We Look Lead TBD Festivals '26/Dir. Sofiya Cheyanne

The Iceman and the Psychiatrist Supporting HBO/Dir. Arthur Ginsberg

Rescue Me Supporting FX/Dir. Peter Tolan

Under New Management Supporting NBC/Dir. Joe Otting

Law and Order: Criminal Intent Featured NBC/Jean de Segonzac

30 Rock Featured NBC/Dir. Don Scardino

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

REGIONAL THEATRE

The Music Man Assistant Director The Argyle Theatre, 2025

NEW YORK THEATRE

Gi60: International 1 Minute Play Director/Assoc. Prod. The Tank, NYC 2025

Festival

Gi60: International 1 Minute Play Director/Assoc. Prod. The Tank, NYC 2024

Festival

Gi60: International 1 Minute Play Director/Assoc. Prod. New Workshop Theatre 2018

Festival

Child Playwrights: A One Act Festival Director Circle in the Square Theater, 2016

Twelfth Night Artistic Director/Producer Todo 45 NYC, 2004

King John Artistic Director/Producer The Producers Club II NYC, 2003

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

The Complete History of America Director/Designer SUNY WCC Hankin Arts Center, 2025

Abridged

Peter and the Starcatcher Director/Designer LIU Post Theatre Company, 2024

Passage Director/Designer SUNY WCC Hankin Arts Center, 2023

Sweat Fight Director UNCG Sprinkle Theater, 2022

New York Actor Fight Director University of Mount Saint Vincent, 2025

The Devils's Mischief: A Devised Director/Playwright WCSU Studio A Theater, 2019

Project

Cleo Director/Assoc. Prod. WCSU Rich Reimold Theater, 2002

Extremities Assistant Director WCSU Rich Reimold Theater, 2002

A Stye of the Eye Director WCSU Rich Reimold Theater, 1998

COMMUNITY THEATRE

The Mystery of Edwin Drood Director Musicals at Richter, 2020 (*canceled)

Seussical: The Musical Jr Director Musicals at Richter, 2020 (*canceled)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FIGHT DIRECTORS:

SAFD Master Michael G. Chin (1yr Unarmed) 2014
Cartified Taggler Neil Massay (2 Week Unarmed & Short Sw

Certified Teacher Neil Massey - (2 Week Unarmed & Short Sword) 2022

STAGE COMBAT TRAINING:

B.H. Barry (2yrs Unarmed, Rapier/Dagger, Quarterstaff, Short Sword)1999-2001

PHYSICAL THEATER INSTITUTE:

Lecoq Technique: Movement Theater Studio, NYC, Summer 2013

THEATRICAL INTIMACY TRAINING: Greg Geffrard (2 Week Workshop) 2023

INTIMACY IN THEATER - THEATRICAL INTIMACY EDUCATION: Kim Shively, 2022

BEST PRACTICES IN INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKPLACES: AEA Diversity & Inclusion Workshop, 2022

INTIMACY IN THEATRE: AEA Diversity & Inclusion Workshop: Chelsea Pace/Laura Rikard, 2021

BUILDING INCLUSIVE REHEARSALS: Artists Breaking Limits & Expectations, 2023

STORYTELLING PRACTICES: Maggie Andersen, 2023 ACTOR COACHING PEDAGOGY: Barbara Zahora, 2023

LIZ LERMAN'S CRITICAL RESPONSE PROCESS: Nathan King, 2023

CONTROVERSY/CENSORSHIP IN SCHOOLS: Kristen Mackie, 2023

BLOCKING AND STAGING ENSEMBLES: Timothy Ortmann, 2022

WAYS TO "RESET" YOUR POST-PANDEMIC THEATRE PROGRAM: Andy Sinclair, 2022

MULTICULTURALISM MEETS POLYCULTURALISM: Jamil Khoury, 2021 IMPROV/ENSEMBLE BUILDING TECHNIQUES: Scott Shallenbarger, 2021

STORYTELLING AND PUPPETRY FOR CHILDREN: Spellbound Theater, 2017 THEATER GAMES THAT STICK: Paul Brewster & Renata Townsend, 2017

MUSICAL THEATER: YOUNG PERFORMER EFFICIENT AUDITIONS: Disney Theatrical Group 2017

PRE AND POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT: WT McRae, 2017

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER: Rita Gendelman, 2017

COLLABORATION AND TEAM TEACHING: Renata Townsend, 2017

STUDENT ASSESSMENT: Gail Winar, 2016

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT: Leese Walker, 2016 SPEAKING SHAKESPEARE: Andrew Wade, 2013/2014

AUDITION: Heidi Griffiths 2013, 2014 **ACTING AS A BUSINESS:** Brian O'Neil, 2001

RELATED EXPERIENCE

HR ARTIST MANAGEMENT - NYC

Talent Scout (Showcases, Audition Panels, Theatre Productions) 2024-Present

Gi60: International One-Minute Play Festival - Brooklyn, & NYC

Associate Producer/Director/Actor 2013-Present

OWTAVA HAT ENSEMBLE - NYC

Artistic Director/Producer. 2003-2005

THE RIVER REP - IVORYTON, CT

Acting/Technical Intern, 2001

ACADEMIC SERVICE

ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY - CHICAGO, IL

Graduate Assistant to Program Coordinator 2023-2024

BROOKLYN COLLEGE, CUNY - BROOKLYN, NY

Assistant Artistic Director 2012-2014

Assistant Producer: MFA Industry Showcase, 2012-2014

BFA Audition Panel, 2015

CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE THEATER SCHOOL, NYC

Administrative Assistant, 1999-2001

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY - DANBURY, CT

Student Center Building Manager/Venue Coordinator: Black Box Theater, 1998-1999

GRADUATE THEATER ORGANIZATION - BROOKLYN COLLEGE, CUNY

Graduate Liaison, 2012-2013

CENTER STAGE, WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Vice-President/Festival Producer, 2001-2002 Sargent at Arms, 1997-1998

CLICK ANY OF THE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO VIEW

Performance Projects

Directing Projects

Thesis Documentation

Sample Syllabi

Courses of Study

Reconmendation Letters/Observation Reports

Transcripts

REFERENCES

VALERIE CLAYMAN-PYE - Long Island University at Post - Department of Theatre

Professor/Chair of Theatre Department

valerie.pye@liu.edu or (516) 299-2114

EVAN PAPPAS - The Argyle Theatre - Babylon, NY

Artistic Director/Director at The Argyle Theatre

Former Broadway & National Touring Performer

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