

# Jonathan Ziese

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Alfred University Performing Arts Division ♦ (607) 871-2571 ♦ ziese@alfred.edu

## Professional Appointments

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August 2022-present	<p>Alfred University, Performing Arts Division Assistant Professor of Theatre</p> <p>Courses taught: Introduction to Theatre, Acting I, Theatre Production, Theatre History I, Theatre History II, Playwriting, Improv, Acting II, Acting Styles</p> <p>Developed plan for new BFA curriculum for theatre majors</p>
Fall 2018 – Spring 2022	<p>Estrella Mountain Community College Adjunct Professor of Theatre</p> <p>Courses taught: Acting I, Theatre Production I, Introduction to Theatre, Contemporary Cinema</p>
Fall 2019 – Spring 2020	<p>Arizona State University Faculty Associate</p> <p>Courses taught: Acting I Fundamentals</p>
Fall 2018 – Spring 2020	<p>South Mountain Community College Adjunct Professor of Theatre</p> <p>Courses taught: Acting I, Introduction to Theatre</p>

## Education

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2011	MFA in Acting – The New School for Drama
2006	BA in Theatre – St. Olaf College
2006	BA in Asian Studies – St. Olaf College

## Memberships and Affiliations

2016 – present

SAG-AFTRA member in good standing

## Creative Work in Academia

<i>Machinal</i> by Sophie Treadwell Director	Alfred University	Spring 2025
<i>Divorce Diaries</i> by THEA 242 Producer	Alfred University	Fall 2023
<i>Rich B*tch*</i> by Rachel Lynett <sup>1</sup> Director	Alfred University	Spring 2023
<i>Fefu and Her Friends</i> by Maria Irene Fornés Producer	Estrella Mountain Community College	Spring 2022
<i>Look Back in Anger</i> by John Osborne Director	Estrella Mountain Community College	Fall 2021
<i>No Exit</i> by Jean-Paul Sartre Producer, Dramaturg	Estrella Mountain Community College	Fall 2021
<i>Burying the Lede*</i> devised by the company Producer	Estrella Mountain Community College	Spring 2020

## Presentations

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### Content Warnings in Theatre: A Dialectic

Presentation consecutively arguing for standardizing the practice of theatrical content warnings, and against such standardization.

April 13, 2023 Bergren Forum, Alfred University

### Devising with Light and Sound

Workshop where prospective students explored Iterative Improvisation, and learning a technique geared toward generating theatrical, though not necessarily word-based, text.

Feb 17, 2025, President's Day Admissions Event

Apr 5, 2024, NY Thespians Festival, Long Island University

Feb 19, 2024, President's Day Admissions Event

Feb 20, 2023, President's Day Admissions Event

### Theatre of the Oppressed Workshop

Workshop where incoming School of Art and Design first-years explored stress and impact upon peers coming into their college experience

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<sup>1</sup> An asterisk (\*) next to a play denotes a world premiere

Aug 23, 2025, CD Smith III Theatre, Alfred University

#### Blank Scenes and Making Choices

Workshop where students explored making strong choices within contentless scenes.

Apr 5, 2024, NY Thespians Festival, Long Island University

#### Using Pop Music to Get Shakespeare

Presentation outlining ways to use examples from artists creating popular music (e.g. The Weeknd, Nirvana, Billie Eilish) to understand poetic meters such as iambic pentameter.

Sept 28, 2022, Wednesday Arts Speaker Series, Alfred University

#### Existentialism in No Exit

Talk to the company of the EMCC production of Jean-Paul Sartre's No Exit showing how an understanding of his philosophical book Being and Nothingness can illuminate the play.

Mar 6, 2021, Dramaturgical Presentation, Estrella Mountain Community College

## Selected Acting Experience

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### Feature Film

The Judge	Warner Bros.	Blackwell's Brother
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### Television

Deadbeat	Hulu	Most Bearded Amish Man
Fatal Encounters	Discovery ID	Randall Lee Smith

### NY Theatre

Cereal by Ming Peiffer	New Perspectives	Michael
Little Man by Bekah Brunstetter	New Visions Festival	Jed
Fool for Love	Rising Sun Theatre	Martin
Waiting for Lefty	The Cell	Agate Keller
Snow Gray	Young Playwrights Inc.	White Sleepy
New Island*	Dutch New Island Festival	Ensemble

### Commercials

Evergreen Health		Husband
Symrise		Principal Voice-over

### Webseries

Romeo & Juliet	Ready Set Go!	Abraham
Our Studio	OMF Film Group	Professor Barkoff

### Music Videos

The Fire	The Roots	James
Nothing On Me	Camille Corazon	Juggler

### Independent Short Film

Recoil <sup>2</sup>	Straphanger Productions	
This is Felipe's House	Illium Pictures	Angry Man
Welcome to America Gabi	Agnishka Aga	Mr. Stuart
First Step	New York University	Julian
The One	New York Film Academy	Sam

### Regional Theatre

The Merchant of Venice	The Guthrie Theatre	Ensemble
My Three Angels	Theatre in the Round Players	Lieutenant
Martin Luther: The Musical	Manna Festival	Charles V
Closer	The Uninvited Company	Larry

## Other Experience

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12:37	Short Film	Writer/Producer
Misses His Mom	Short Film	Writer/Producer/Actor
Girl Friend	Theatre	Writer/Director
Mourning Breadth	Theatre	Director

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<sup>2</sup> WINNER – Best Acting Duo, The Brightside Film Festival

The Devil and Daniel Webster  
James and the Giant Peach

Theatre  
Theatre

Director  
Sound Designer



Production photos of Machinal courtesy of Nkanyiso Dlamini  
Set design by Michael Mehler  
Costume design by Izzy Wachtel



Sets, Costumes, and Projections designed by Maureen Weiss