

NICK TROTTER

CURRICULUM VITAE

MULTIMEDIA
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TRAINING & EDUCATION

- 2009** **M.F.A., Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre**
Focus in Commedia dell'Arte, Melodrama, Clown, Bouffon, and Maskmaking. Also: Alexander Technique and Taiji quan.
Faculty: Joan Schirle, Ronlin Foreman, Giovanni Fusetti, Michael Fields, Bruce Marrs, Stephanie Thompson, Joe Krienke, Philip Gerstner, Evamarii Johnson, Jackie Dandeneau
Internships: Parade and pageant performance, **Corpos Percussivos**, Recife, Brazil; *Cavalo Marinho* performance, street performance and production **LUME Teatro** (Campinas, Brazil); leather Commedia maskmaking, **Stefano Perocco** (Paris)
- 1996** **B.A., Geography, University of Colorado at Boulder**
Focus in Cartography, Alpine Geomorphology, Urban Geography, Environmental History
• Includes 2 years' study (before transfer) in **B.F.A. Drama, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University (studio: Playwrights Horizons Theatre School)**
Faculty: Robert Moss, Travis Preston, Marleen Pennison, Christine Farrell, Royston Coppenger, David Bucknam, Helen Gregory, Susan Finch, Chuck Jones, Damyan Popchristov, Sharon Mazer, Jan Cohen-Cruz, Todd London, Hovey Burgess
- 1990** **Graduate, George Washington High School, Denver**
International Baccalaureate Program
- 1986** **Graduate, St. Anne's Episcopal School, Denver**
- 1981-1985** **Denver International School**

OTHER TRAINING

- 2012–present** Various improvisation workshops with Christian Capozzoli, Jill Bernard, Kerstin Caldwell, Alex Berg.
- 2010–2011** Improvisation classes (complete course), **Bovine School of Improv, Denver**
- 2002–2008** **Maracatu** (Brazilian processional drumming) classes with **Scott Kettner and Maracatu New York**, and **Jorge Martins, Corpos Percussivos, Recife, Brazil**
- 2004–2005** Improvisation classes, **Upright Citizens Brigade, New York**
- 2003–2004** Introductory clown workshops with **Moshe Cohen**, One Arm Red Theatre, Brooklyn
- 2001** Introduction to Lecoq Techniques, **Lake Simons** (instructor), HB Studios, New York
- 1998–1999** Flamenco guitar, private study with **Miguel Espinoza**
- 1996–1998** Ballet, Modern, Hip hop, African dance, **Cleo Parker Robinson Dance**, Denver
- 1995–1996** Actor training workshops with **Gardzienice Theatre**, Boulder, CO and Lublin, Poland
- 1995** Blues performance workshop with **Taj Mahal**, **Naropa Institute**, Boulder, CO
- 1994–1996** Ballet and Modern dance, various studios, Boulder, CO
- 1994** Trinity College Summer Institute: Chekhov and Shakespeare, **Nikitski Gates Theatre, Moscow** (instructors: Mark Rozovski and Arkady Katz); puppetry and folk dance, **National Academy of Theatre and Film Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria**
- 1994** Introduction to Viewpoints with **Ann Bogart**. Playwrights Horizons Theatre School
- 1988-1989** **Young Playwrights' Summer Conference**, The Playwrights' Center and College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN. Instructors included August Wilson, Steve Dietz, Marion McClinton, Patty Lynch, Stephen DiMenna

SUMMARY OF WORK

- 2015-present** Stand-up comedy, various venues, Denver.
- 2014-present** Freelance improv comedy instruction. Various clients and venues, Colorado and California.
- 2014-present** Solo Commedia dell'Arte performance. Original scripts include *Three Bottles of Wine*.
- 2014-present** Street musician. Classic country, blues, and folk styles. Denver and Boulder.
- 2013-present** Comedy and improv, *The Dinner Detectives* murder mystery dinner shows. Roles include Detective, Host (manager) and various "seated" roles.
- 2013-present** Tutoring in the Writing Center, Community College of Denver.
- 2012-present** Freelance mask, movement and Commedia dell'Arte instruction, including Neutral Mask, Larval Mask, Face Masks, Character Mask, Emotion Mask.
- 2011-present** Development and production of *Henry Four*, an adaptation of Henry the 4th parts I & II with Amy Driesler. Acting (Falstaff and King Henry IV) and shadow-puppet design.
- 2010-present** Freelance improv comedy. At Bovine Metropolis Theater (Denver) shows include *On The Spot*, *Denver's Next Improv Star 2012* and *The Mistletoes Present: a Miracle on Champa Street*. House teams: **Platypus Surprise** (short-form), **Alpha Squad** and **F'Actors** (long-form.) Also, various appearances by **Ferdinand the Magnificent** and **Circo de Nada**. At the Voodoo Comedy Playhouse: **CREEP** (long-form) and various appearances by **Ferdinand the Magnificent** and **Circo de Nada**. At the Deer Pile: **Circo de Nada**.
- 2009-present** Freelance woodcut poster design. Clients include Mad River Grange, Jerry Lee Wallace and Circo de Nada.
- 2007-present** Freelance clown work. Characters: **Ferdinand the Magnificent** and **François**. Fundraising events, gallery openings, street/festival walkaround, cabarets.
- 2007-present** Founder, **Circo de Nada**, an ongoing theatre/puppetry/music project, which serves as a producing entity and multimedia performance group. Circo de Nada is a Fiscally Sponsored project

of Fractured Atlas.

1999-present Freelance cartography. Clients include John Wiley & Sons (Frommer's Travel Guides, Travel For Dummies, Unofficial Guides), The Denver Convention and Visitors' Bureau, Cinnabar of California, Not For Tourists Guides, Globe Pequot Press (Insider's Guides), Lohnes + Wright Cartography, Notchcode Creative Services LLC, Crosbie Real Estate Group.

1999-present Freelance digital graphic design. Clients include: Leila Ghaznavi, Bovine Metropolis Theater, CenterArts, HSU Associated Students, Denver Improv Festival, Arcata Playhouse, Dell'Arte International, Looking for Lilith Theatre Company.

1990-present Freelance musician. Guitar, mandolin, voice, percussion.

2015 Workshop presentation: *Improvisation in the Writing Center: Play, Status, and Status Games*. 2015 Colorado & Wyoming Writing Tutors' Conference, Boulder.

2015 Performer (Henry IV and Falstaff) and scenic, lighting and shadow-puppetry design. *Henry Four*, a new adaptation of Shakespeare's *Henry IV parts 1 & 2*. A Circo de Nada production. Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Brooklyn, NY.

2014-2015 Design and production of a full-scale model (foam, papier-mâché, paint and paper lettering) of *The Honor Bell*, a 37-inch bell intended for use at military funerals. Client: The Honor Bell Foundation, Denver.

2012-2014 Instructor, improvisation classes, Bovine Metropolis Theatre, Denver.

2014 Employee training improv Comedy, *Readytalk*, Denver. Via *Bovine Metropolis Theater*.

2014 Walkaround comedy street promotions, Way To Go marketing campaign, *Amelie Company*, Denver.

2014 Actor, *What You See Is What You Get (WSIWYG)*, a new musical by Glenn Alsup and Evan Duggan, Crossroads Theatre, Denver.

- 2014** Workshop presentation: *Tutoring Writing for Visual Learners*. 2014 Colorado & Wyoming Writing Tutors' Conference, Denver.
- 2014** Performer and Creator, *Three Bottles of Wine*, a new, original one-man Commedia dell'Arte show, Carnivale 2014, The Savoy at Curtis Park, Denver.
- 2014** Performer and Creator, *Myths of the Plastic Age*, a new edition of the Third Base! show, Arcata Playhouse, Arcata, CA.
- 2014** Sketch comedy video production (writing, directing, editing) of satirical website videos ("Better Call Paul") for Clicks and Clients.
- 2013-2014** Sketch comedy video production (writing, directing, editing) of a Holiday/New Year's video for Convercent.
- 2013-2014** Shadow puppetry workshops, Arts Street Boo-ga-loo, McNichols Building, Denver.
- 2013** Sketch comedy video production (writing, directing, editing) of an April Fool's Day video for Clicks and Clients.
- 2013** *Murder Mystery Company*. Comedy and improv.
- 2012** Mask design and construction for the film *John Burrows* (2013).
- 2012** Commedia dell'Arte workshop, Moab Community Theatre, Moab, UT.
- 2012** *Third Base! presents Emperor Norton and Ferdinand the Magnificent*, Arcata Playhouse, Arcata, CA.
- 2012** Coach, Platypus Surprise (short-form improv team), Bovine Metropolis Theater, Denver.
- 2012** Substitute instructor, Summer Mask Intensive, Dell'Arte International, Blue Lake, CA. Mask design, construction and performance.
- 2012** Creator/sculptor, The Prize of Hope, Dell'Arte International, Blue Lake, CA.
- 2011-2012** Teaching Artist, Noel Community Arts School, Denver Public Schools. Graphic design and performance instruction for ecology/ publicity project.
- 2005-2012** *Elemental*, an outdoor giant-puppet spectacle created by **David Ferney and Jackie Dandeneau**. Responsibilities include clown performance and crowd wrangling; shadow-puppet design and performance; giant puppet operation; candle-lantern design and

construction; vocal score composition; junk percussion creation and performance. Performances in Cloverdale CA, Pender Island (British Columbia), and annual performances in Blue Lake. Director of shadow puppetry for the 2010 edition, a special performance in honor of the Centennial of the City of Blue Lake.

- 2011** Ferdinand the Magnificent in Lo-lo Flamingo's *The Girl Next Dork*. Lannie's Clocktower Cabaret, Denver.
- 2011** Creator, director, puppeteer, *The Book of Jonah*, shadow puppetry, voiceover narration and original score composition. A Circo de Nada project. World premiere at the International Animated Objects Festival in Calgary, Alberta, March, 2011.
- 2011** Creator, director, puppeteer, *Very Like a Whale*, abstract shadow puppetry and street performance. A Circo de Nada project. Performed at the Center for Visual Arts, Denver.
- 2011** Writer and actor, *Deadliest Sketch!*, sketch and improv comedy. Graduation show at the Bovine School of Improv.
- 2011** Instructor, *Envisioning the Story: Turning Narrative Into Shadow Puppetry*, Storytelling and puppetry workshop in Denver Public Schools. Arts Street education project. Skills taught: stroytelling (based on an Arapaho folk tale); shadow puppet design and construction, playmaking and performance; audience skills.
- 2009-2010** *Third Base!*, a comedy and clown duo with Jerry Lee Wallace, including various walkarounds and performances of the original full-length show *Myths of the Plastic Age*.
- 2010** *Ferdinand the Magnificent*, New York Clown Theatre Festival, The Brick Theatre, New York.
- 2010** Lighting design, *Same Time Next Year*, Ferndale Repertory Theatre, Ferndale CA.
- 2010** Voice actor, *Pelican Bay Speaks*, live broadcast radio drama) KHSU-FM Dell'Arte MFA student community project.
- 2010** Foley sound effects design and conductor, *The Day the Radio Stood Still* (live broadcast radio drama) KHSU-FM.
- 2010** Lighting design, *Wait Until Dark*, Ferndale Repertory Theatre, Ferndale, CA.
- 2003-2010** Private instructor, beginning guitar.

- 2008-2009** Co-writer and Director of *The Misunderstood Badger*, a one-man show featuring **David Ferney**. Arcata Playhouse, Arcata, CA and Ko Festival of Performance, Amherst MA. Includes multimedia design and original score composition and performance.
- 2008-2009** Fat Suit designer and production design assistant to **Xstine Cook**, *Crawdaddy's Odditorium*, Arcata Playhouse, Arcata.
- 2008-2009** Faculty and Assistant Director, Dell'Arte Summer Youth Academy. Classes taught: Advanced Teen Ensemble--Commedia (grades 8-12); Physical Comedy (grades 6-8); Standup and Sketch Comedy (grades 8-12).
- 2008-2009** Faculty and School Director, Ferndale Repertory Theater Summer School. Classes taught: Improvisation (grades 8-12); scene study (grades 8-12); playmaking (grades 1-6).
- 2009** Named one of **2009's best directors and designers** by the **Eureka Times Standard**.
- 2009** Lighting design, *Little Did They Know*, Dell'Arte MFA student production.
- 2009** Lighting design, *Oliver!*, Ferndale Repertory Theatre, Ferndale, CA.
- 2008** **Ferdinand the Magnificent** in a **Clowns Without Borders** tour with **Rudi Galindo**, Chiapas and Tabasco, Mexico.
- 2008** Shadow-puppet design, construction and performance, *The Fable of Profitt the Fox*, a film by Anthony Lucero based on the children's book by Bill Sokol.
- 2003-2008** Solo wedding guitarist; music by **Turloch O'Carolan** (fingerstyle guitar).
- 2005-2008** **MFA Student work at Dell'Arte International:**
- A Commedia adaptation of *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*
 - *In the Shadow of Crow Mountain* (Melodrama)
 - *Clown Laughter* directed by Ronlin Foreman
 - *Sandworld* (Commedia)
 - Rural Residency in Forks of Salmon, CA (Commedia and Clown)

- *Mu* (character project directed by Ronlin Foreman)
- *A Mind That Never Wanders* (adaptation of Isabel Allende's "Simple Maria")
- Forum Theatre (Boal-based community project) with homeless teens in Eureka, CA. Teaching and directing included instruction in songwriting and autobiography in theatre, and forum theatre techniques.
- *Pax Americana* (Bouffon show directed by Giovanni Fusetti)
- Thesis Projects (actor and rubber-duckie nose designer)
- Vocal Ensemble: performances of *Gamelan* by R. Murray Schafer and "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen (including electric lead guitar)
- Thesis: *Necropolis*, an original shadow puppetry/bouffon play
- *The Hunting of the Snark* (2007 Dell'Arte Holiday Show Tour)

2007	Puppetry and effects operator, <i>The Greatest Story Never Told</i> , Mad River Festival, Blue Lake.
2006	Chorus, <i>Big Fat Liar</i> , Dell'Arte Company, Mad River Festival, Blue Lake, CA.
2005	Carnaval parades, Recife and Olinda (Brazil) with Maracatu New York and Corpos Percussivos .
2003–2005	Maracatu performance with Maracatu New York , including performances at S.O.B.'s, Joe's Pub, One Arm Red and the NYC Halloween Parade; parades in Brooklyn neighborhoods, festivals and the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens. Also: performances with Cyro Baptista/Beat the Donkey , and Frank London's Klezmer Brass All-Stars ; recording with Frank London. Instruments played: Alfaia (bass drum), Caixa (snare), Gongue, Agogo, Abé (bells and shakers). Some mask performance included.
2004–2005	Staff Cartographer, Frommer's Travel Guides, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ.
2004–2005	<i>Obscurity Knocks</i> with Bonejesters . Mask performance and music, various venues.
2002–2005	Traditional Irish band The Crooked Road (guitar, mandolin,

- bodhrán Performances around Brooklyn and Manhattan, and the 2003 World Music Festival at Wesleyan University.
- 2004** Author, *Colorado and the Rockies for Dummies, 2nd ed.*, John Wiley & Sons.
- 2003–2004** Co-creator and performer, *Round* (silent puppet/mask performance) by **Bonejesters**, Spoke The Hub, Brooklyn.
- 1999–2004** Comedy/Cabaret Performances with **David Leicht** and **Bonejesters**.
- 2003** Chorus, *Kaspar Hauser* written and directed by **Elizabeth Swados**. Playwrights Horizons Theatre School student production.
- 2002** Co-director, **The Bonejesters Chamber Orchestra**; music/theatre performance at The American Living Room, HERE Arts Center, New York.
- 2002** Co-director, **Salon New York**, a performance salon for new works, Brooklyn Several performances.
- 2001** Writer and performer, *Brooklyn Part I. Bonejesters, The Theatre Uprising*, Trilogy Theatre, New York. Original show with song and juggling. Included building Junkyard musical instruments.
- 2001** Performer and music director, *C.T. Bernam's Greatest Triumph*, **John Brown Theatre Company**, **Eric Davis**, director. Present Company Theatorium. Included design and building of masks and junkyard instruments.
- 2000** Music director, composer, pit band guitarist, *The Nose* and *2+2*, HERE Arts Center. Directed by **Lake Simons** and **Harold Lehmann**.
- 2000** Creator and Performer, *Bonejesters*, LaMama ETC, New York.
- 1999** Creator and performer (with David Leicht) *We're Fine, How are You?* The Piano Store, New York.
- 1999** Various roles, *The Birth of a League*, (live-broadcast radio drama) *Black Radio Days*, KUVU-FM, Denver.
- 1998** *We're Fine, How are You?* Original show with David Leicht, LIDA Project Theatre, Denver.
- 1998–1999** Tenor, **Assumption Greek Orthodox Cathedral Choir**, Denver.
- 1997** Ensemble, Trinity College Summer Theatre Institute, **La Mama Umbria** and **La Mama ETC**, New York

- 1997** Finishing services specialist, Robert Waxman Camera and Video. Included photography training, videography training, and sales training.
- 1996–1999** Rhythm guitarist for National Champion mandolinist **Charlie Provenza**, Denver.
- 1996** Music director, composer and performer, *The Sins of Virtue* (an adaptation of the *Ramayana* by Choreographer Robin Shandas) **No-Name Dance Company**, Boulder.
- 1990–1994** Ensemble member; stage manager; literary manager, **Industrial Arts Theatre**, Denver.
- 1993** Abel, *The Creation of the World and other Business*, Industrial Arts Theatre, Denver.
- 1992** Doctor, *Waiting for Lefty*, Industrial Arts Theatre, Denver.
- 1991** Co-creator, writer and actor, *Flight Into Time*, Industrial Arts Theatre, Denver.

YOUTH WORK

- Young Playwrights workshop at the **Denver Center Theatre Company**, 1989
- High school theatre, including the Thane in the Scottish Play, Stan in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, Richard in *The Lion in Winter*, Mordcha in *Fiddler on the Roof* and Kenickie in *Grease*; directed *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, 1990.
- **Colorado Children's Chorale**, including performances with the **Denver and Colorado Symphonies**, and the children's chorus of *Otello* and *Turandot* with **Opera Colorado**. Notable performances include *Noye's Fludde* and the *Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten, Handel's *Messiah* and Berlioz' *Te Deum*.
- Ballet study and performance with **The Children's Performing Ballet Company** and **David Taylor Dance Theatre**.
- Rock band **The Effect**. Performances at Lakewood On Parade 1988 and 1989, Lakewood, CO, and other venues.

SKILLS

- **Theatre:** Acting, directing, writing, lighting and set design, sewing
- **Music:** Voice and Guitar (fingerstyle and flatpicking; Blues, Ragtime, Irish, Old-Time, Bluegrass, Country) 27 years' experience. Also: banjo, mandolin, ukulele, percussion, junk percussion, composition
- **Juggling & Circus:** 4 balls, 3 clubs; basic club passing. Unicycle with 3-club cascade. Stick balancing, plate spinning, basic acrobatics
- **Maskmaking** (leather, Neoprene, papier maché) and latex clown noses; also foam body prosthetics
- **Other Skills:** driving (standard); basic carpentry & woodworking; woodcut printing.
- **Languages:** French (fluent), Portuguese and Spanish (limited)
- **Digital cartography & graphic design**
- **Tutoring** (English and writing) and **teaching** (Acting, Mask Work, Improvisation, Guitar, Voice)