

bari newport

bari@barinewport.com

AEA – SDC

Artistic Director/Producer

(678) 525-4114

www.barinewport.com

POSITIONS HELD

PENOBSCOT THEATRE COMPANY, Bangor, ME. 2012-Present

Producing Artistic Director

Responsible for artistic and fiscal stability/growth of 43-year-old, \$1.2 million organization.

Artistic: provides overriding vision; season selection of 6-7 plays and musicals; casting and hiring actors, musicians, directors, designers; directing two or more productions each season; cultivates/maintains relationships with licensing houses, agents, unions and playwrights; develops and supports community of local artists; oversees vibrant education program; makes certain all work is approached with depth and is distinctive

Fiscal: works with executive director, business manager and board of ten to appropriate all financial decisions; responsible for bringing in nearly 70% of operating budget; successful at implementing fiscal management techniques including building significant reserves, keeping credit lines open and paying off all debts; company has been operating completely debt-free for over three years; theatre has increased income from \$750,000 to \$1.2million in four years

Community Engagement: has created programs and built bridges with the Penobscot Nation, Acadia National Park, Smithsonian Abbe Museum, Maine Science Festival, Bangor Humane Society, Maine Jewish Film Festival, Bangor Area Realtors Association and many others.

Education: influential in growth of longstanding "Dramatic Academy" to include year-round, multi-faceted training for youth, teens and adults on site and in schools around the state.

Leadership: leads staff of twelve full-time employees, two interns and over 150 artists each season; maintains working partnership with executive directors

Facilities: shares in responsibility in operating and owning 120 year old opera house and off-site scene shop.

ALLIANCE THEATRE, Atlanta, GA . 2010 -2012

Artistic Associate

TCG New Generations: Future Leaders grant recipient funded by the Doris Duke and Carnegie Foundations

Leadership: supported, observed and was given access to all meetings and decisions pertaining to the running of a large, LORT B+, \$13m, Tony Award Winning Regional Theatre - as mentored by Susan Booth.

Producing: worked closely with Education Department to reimagine and create The 10th Anniversary of The Collision Project, with renowned playwright and author, Pearl Cleage; expanded project by finding funding which created unified summer programming for teens around the project and included forty teens from The High Museum of Art, The Atlanta Symphony and the Alliance;

Dramaturgy: Acted as lead dramaturge on main stage productions; worked with Woodruff Center for Performing Arts to create hands on gallery space for Alliance productions; created programming and worked with Development Department and Group Sales departments, which involved a series of private dramaturgical parties before main stage shows; assisted Literary Manager, Celise Kalke with Kendeda New Play Festival.

PASADENA PLAYHOUSE, Pasadena, CA, 2009 – 2010

Artistic Associate / Literary Manager

TCG New Generations: Future Leaders grant recipient funded by the Doris Duke and Carnegie Foundations

Hothouse: produced Pasadena's new play development program; cultivated relationships with established and emerging playwrights to build nationally recognized, locally celebrated play reading series. *see "Projects Developed" pg. 7

Conversations with: created pre-show audience enrichment programs for each mainstage production; moderated creative conversations with artistic teams including director, David Lee and playwright, Charles Randolph Wright.

Literary Manager: sought plays for Playhouse mainstage and Hothouse. fostered connections with writers, actors, directors, literary agents, television and film executives and other literary managers; attended readings, performances and festivals (Humana, JAW, Ojai, Pacific Playwrights Festival); participated in local playwright organizations such as ALAP; nurtured relationships with new play funders; developed marketing strategies, budgets and strategically built mailing lists; systemized administration of literary office; conducted audience talk-backs for mainstage plays; taught master classes at area colleges; dramaturged Hothouse and mainstage plays; solicited and received in-kind donations; hosted receptions; mentored interns; recruited volunteers; read a ton of plays.

Artistic Associate: served as Playhouse artistic liaison for new musical about first female record executive, Florence Greenberg. worked with executive producers from Warner Brothers Theatricals and Universal Music, to develop and mount \$3 million production

HORIZON THEATRE COMPANY, Atlanta, GA. 2008 - 2009

Associate Producer / Associate Artist

Produced first "Family Theatre" production for 25-year-old theatre company in heart of Atlanta. worked with development director to bring in \$20,000 in new sponsorships; organized 24 families; created community partnerships (Zoo Atlanta, Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, ImagineIt Children's Museum) and marketed show which brought in \$40,000 additional revenue. taught six-week advanced acting course for apprentice company. Directed and developed with playwrights, three short one acts. acted, under the direction of producing artistic director, Lisa Adler in season production.

FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE, Fort Myers, FL. 2002-2007

Associate Director

Supported producing artistic director, Robert Cacioppo in running \$2 million, year-round LOA/LORT D; directed seven main stage plays and five children's touring productions; acquired corporate gifts and major sponsorships from Publix supermarkets, Gannett newspapers, Lee County Electric, JetBlue and Starbucks; developed new programming such as the "congress jewelers" new play reading festival; commissioned the development of new plays; structured post college intern program; cast main stage productions; attended New York and Florida AEA auditions; hired staff members; managed staff; secured rights for plays including Florida and national premieres; revitalized education programs, literary and development programs; maintained personal/professional relationships with playwrights and publishing houses including David Lindsay Abaire, A.R Gurney, Eric Coble, Samuel French and dramatists play service; created partnerships with city and other organizations; wrote all press releases, dramaturgical newsletters, related theatre stories + several grants; worked with newspapers, magazines, radio and television; produced special events; performed in mainstage productions; acted as community leader/speaker; organized benefit events.

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PLAYS DIRECTED

PENOBSCOT THEATRE COMPANY

Murder for Two, by Kellen Blair and Joe Kinosian - 2016

Duck Hunter Shoots Angel, by Mitch Albom - 2016

Doctor Cerberus, by Roberto Anguirre Sacasa - 2015

August Osage County, by Tracy Letts - 2015

End Days, by Deborah Zoe Laufer - 2015

Our Town, by Thornton Wilder - 2014

The Woman in Black, adapted by Stephen Mallatrat - 2013

The Sugar Bean Sisters, by Nathan Sanders - 2013

Annie, by Martin Charnin and Charles Strouse - 2012

Becky's New Car, by Stephen Dietz - 2012

Boeing, Boeing, by Marc Camoletti - 2012

AMERICAN STAGE

Frankie and Johnny in the Claire De Lune, 2011.

PASADENA PLAYHOUSE

Baby, It's You (associate director), 2009. LORT B served as Playhouse artistic liaison and dramaturge through extended rehearsal period. ran complicated, multi-faceted tech; blocked numbers; gave notes to artistic and production teams.

GREENBRIER VALLEY THEATRE

The Underpants, 2008.

"*Hilarious and fast-paced live comedy... so over the top, it makes one ache with laughter.*"

Margo Oxendine, The Recorder

CUMBERLAND COUNTY PLAYHOUSE

Flight of The Lawnchair Man, 2008.

"...seeing such a wonderful mounting of my show reminds me why I write for the theatre... Thank you for lavishing such creativity and joy on LAWNCHAIR MAN. It was a thrill to see it."

Robert Lindsey-Nassif, composer

First Baptist of Ivy Gap, 2008.

"...thank you for an outstanding job of directing my play."

Ron Osbourne, playwright

WILLIAMSTOWN THEATRE FESTIVAL

Present Laughter, (assistant director) 1996.

Director: David Schweitzer. Starring Amy Brenneman.

Williamstown Goes Solo, Williamstown Theatre Festival, 1996.

Directed twelve original pieces selected from thirty pieces that were developed and written in workshops led by Bari over the course of a month.

2 in 1 Bogosian, Williamstown Theatre Festival, 1996.

Verbal montage from Eric Bogosian's Pounding Nails in the Floor With My Forehead.

Murder at The Misty Moon, (co-writer), Williamstown Theatre Festival, 1996. Starring: Kate Hudson

No Exit, Williamstown Theatre Festival, 1995

FLORIDA REPERTORY THEATRE

Scapino, 2007.

"*Newport has blocked and choreographed the show minutely: the many entrances and exits; slaps, hits and punches; and pratfalls executed with almost military precision.*" Naples Daily News

Enchanted, April 2007.

"*The script has a capable helmsman in director Bari Newport, who has evidenced her sure hand with comedy.*" Naples Daily News

Sherlock Holmes and The West End Horror, 2006.

"*Sherlock Holmes is wacky, wild fun... It's something quite original. It's dead funny, too. The staging cleverly layers the action on a turn-table set that constantly reconfigures itself like a kid's Transformer toy. The show's arch concept wouldn't work if all the actors weren't on the same page. Thanks to Newport they are.*" News-Press

The Middle Ages, 2006.

"*The show never makes a misstep. What makes the oft-told tale work so beautifully in this production is Newport's careful orchestration of every detail, from the grounded, utterly real performances of her four cast members to the upper-middle-class bastion of male domination that is the men's-club setting, to the clipping pace and perfectly underplayed humor. Gurney understands people, and Newport understands Gurney.*" Naples Daily News

The Sugar Bean Sisters, 2005.

Rewritten with Bari for Florida Rep production. Published with Bari's additions and revisions by Dramatic Publishing. "*Newport creates truly magical world that's tacky and wacky*" Naples Daily News

Pecos Bill and The Ghost Stampede, 2004.

Florida premiere of interactive tall tale by Eric Coble.

Fools, Florida Repertory Theatre, 2004.

"*This is the freshest, most fun work Florida Rep has ever produced... Newport has created a living comic strip on stage... Neil Simon would be amazed and fond of this eccentric, family friendly, good time! You have to see it...*" Naples Daily News

The Quick and Easy Guide to Thomas Edison, 2004.

Wrote, directed and conceived original children's play with music that toured to forty schools throughout 2003-04 season.

The Underpants, 2003.

National Regional Theatre Premiere; First production outside of New York of Steve Martin's rewriting of the classic 1910 German farce. "*Florida Rep has never been so silly so successfully... a hyperactive circus of sexual slapstick, political satire and the occasional visual pun.*" The Fort Myers News-Press

The Guys, Florida Repertory Theatre, 2002.

Florida premiere of Anne Nelson's Off-Broadway sensation about September 11th.

Hedwig and The Angry Inch, 2002.

Southwest Florida premiere.

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PROJECTS DEVELOPED

Pasadena Playhouse

Hothouse at the Playhouse, 2009 – 2010

Curated season and provided developmental support for new plays by Joshua Ravetch, Lee Blessing, Frank Tangredi, Stephen Metcalfe, Allison Moore, Jason Aaron Goldberg, Theresa Rebeck, Nilo Cruz and a new musical by Blake Edwards; designed season to include performances by Angela Bassett, Beau Bridges, Annette O'Toole, Loretta Swit, Robert Forster, Holland Taylor and other veteran actors; cast plays; nurtured local community of new play enthusiasts, ensuring full houses for each Hothouse performance; created popular on-line audience surveys for continued play development; gained national recognition through targeted marketing campaign; oversaw and maintained fiscal responsibility of generous Steinberg Foundation grant, which supported all Hothouse activities.

Horizon Theatre Company

Madeline's Christmas, 2008

Produced first "family theatre" production for 25-year-old theatre company in heart of Atlanta. Worked with development director to bring in \$20,000 in new sponsorships; organized 24 families; created community partnerships (Zoo Atlanta, Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, ImagineIt Children's Museum) and marketed show which brought in \$40,000 additional revenue.

Florida Repertory Theatre

Commission of bold new works, 2006, 2007

Developed partnerships with Edison & Ford Winter Estates and the Lee County Electric Co-op by commissioning playwrights Katherine Schultz Miller and Eric Coble to write original, topical plays which each toured to over eighty schools.

Congress Jewelers New Play Reading Series, 2002- 2004

Produced subscription series of brand new plays; selected six best plays each year; cast plays, hired directors and conducted forum for audience feedback

Camp Florida Rep, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Conceived and executed six summers of well attended, fun and educational theatre day camps for young people 5-18 years old; hired teachers, created curriculums, marketed and promoted camps; in 2006 the camp served 350 children and grossed \$30,000.

Children's touring productions, 2002-2007

Chose plays, executed production, and booked two plays each season; each play performed eighty tours a year at schools in three counties.

University of Southern California

Artistic Director/Founder USC Theatre Library Project, 1996, 1997

Conceived, organized and directed two large-scale, fundraising cabarets to benefit the creation of a much needed USC theatre library; the success of these cabarets led to the creation of the Bill White Memorial Library, which is now in its ninth year as a functioning library.

Artistic Director/Founder, USC children's theatre in the park, 1995, 1996

Conceived and directed two, full scale children's theatre productions for over 5,000 inner city children; wrote grants to fund program; original costumes and scripts. performances were FREE. *James and the Giant Peach* (1995); *The Stories of Dr. Seuss* (1996).

Founder, Bill'sville, 1996-1997

Created a popular once a month forum for professors and students to share performance work.

Williamstown Theatre Festival

Founder, Drama in Day Care Program, 1996

Developed program at day care facility where young children learned about Williamstown by meeting artists-in-residence; created a curriculum that culminated in a presentation of their work for invited audience.

Co-Founder/Director, Williamstown Goes Solo, 1996

Co-developed month-long workshop where thirty young people wrote original pieces of solo performance; twelve pieces were chosen and produced.

Producer/Director, Cabarets at the Williams Inn, 1995, 1996

Organized + conceived cabaret events starring celebrities: and the world goes 'round, 1995; a Kurt Weill cabaret, 1996. (Kurt Weill cabaret a successful benefit for the American Cancer Society).

RELATED EXPERIENCE

2009 Center for Puppetry Arts – Atlanta, GA: Observership with Jon Ludwig. Observed artistic director Jon Ludwig as he directed and developed an original marionette musical: *The Little Pirate Mermaid*.

1994, 1995 Williamstown Theatre Festival, *directing assistant, acting apprentice*

Assisted David Schweitzer on main stage production; produced and directed five large projects in 1995, including a benefit for the American Cancer Society; initiated, conceived and produced two projects in 1994, including the resurrection of the Williamstown Cabaret Series.

1994-1996; 2001 Back Stage West, newspaper, Los Angeles: *Editorial intern, theatre reviewer*. First intern at Back Stage West (self-initiated creation of internship program); edited and researched stories; wrote over thirty reviews; helped organize first west coast "actorfest".

1992, 1993 Westport Country Playhouse – Westport, CT: *Intern*. Built sets; maintained costumes; hung lights; ran sound for national and east coast tours; published and created self-initiated newsletter, which located and documented every intern at Westport, since beginning of playhouse.

1991-1993 Stamford Theatre Works – Stamford, CT: *Artistic intern*. Assisted office staff of small professional company; maintained casting files; house managed and helped organize benefit events.

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SELECTED ACTING CREDITS

13th of Paris by Matt Smart Dir. Lisa Adler
Horizon Theatre Co
"As Annie, she is lovely and vibrant." – AtlantaTheatreReview.com

Greetings by Tom Dudzick Dir. Robert Cacioppo
Florida Rep

Veronica's Room by Ira Levin Dir. Robert Cacioppo
Florida Rep
"Bari Newport as Susan transforms over the course of the play. In the beginning she is wide-eyed and innocent... She bounces around the stage, dressed as Veronica, cheerfully practicing her fake tuberculosis cough... By the second act, she becomes completely unleashed as she tries to escape the room that has become a surreal prison to her..." -Naples Daily News

Millennium Monologues by Velina Hasu Houston et al. Dir. Sheldon Deckelbaum
Sacramento Theatre Company
"It's marvelous writing, and actress Bari Newport brings her saucy character to vivid life." -Sacramento News

Cinderella: A New Telling of an Old Tale by Kate Hawley, Dir. Peggy Shannon
Sacramento Theatre Co
"A politically astute Little Bo Peep (Bari Newport) wanders through this fairy tale forever tracking down her "baaad" sheep... adorable." -Sacramento Bee

A Delicate Balance by Edward Albee Dir. Susan Gregg
Iowa Summer Rep
"Bari Newport's chic Julia... loses control publicly and it's clear that her pride and self-worth are long gone. Newport shows Julia crack, but also recover, somewhat - no easy feat. Her retreat into little-girlish behavior was a defense mechanism quite disturbing to watch." -Iowa Press-Citizen

Bedroom Farce by Alan Ayckbourn Dir. Mary Beth Easley
Iowa Summer Rep
"Newport is more entertainingly neurotic than Mia Farrow would be on Woody Allen's worst days... Together, their timing is impeccable and their chemistry dynamite." - Iowa Press-Citizen

A...My Name Is Alice Dir. Michael Sokoloff
Riverside Theatre
"Bari Newport plays Charlotte with gleeful ferocity... absolutely hilarious."
-Iowa Press-Citizen

Beyond Therapy by Christopher Durang Dir. Ron Clark
Riverside Theatre

The Seagull Dir. Michael Greif
Williamstown Theatre Festival

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2011 Adjunct Professor
Kennesaw State University
Taught 90 students an intro to theatre class which resulted in the creation and production of 5 short plays

2010 Guest Lecturer
University of Southern California
"Literary Management in Regional Theatre" – MFA playwriting, Velina Hasu Houston, instructor

2009 Guest Lecturer
Occidental College
"Producing in Regional Theatre" – advanced theatre survey – Alexis Charnow, instructor

2008 Instructor
Horizon Theatre Company
Taught six-week master class on audition technique to Horizon apprentice company. Students built confidence, increased monologue and song repertoire and worked on cold readings.

2002-2007 Associate
Director
Florida Repertory Theatre
In charge of all educational programming including intern program, summer camp, classes and touring shows for LOA/LORT D theatre.

2000 Education Supervisor
Sacramento Theatre Company
Developed and organized classes for children (K-6) for LORT-D theatre.

2000 Guest Artist
Belin-Blank Program for Gifted Art Kids
Created curriculum for rural seventh graders to create their own piece of theatre using the experimental study of clowning.

1997-2000 Instructor
University of Iowa
Basic Acting 1, Basic Acting 2
Taught 15 classes of non-major undergraduates the basics of acting technique. Developed a program where, for their final, each class would perform a children's play for area hospitals and public schools. Combined, the Basic Acting classes brought their plays to over 2,000 children in Iowa.
Voice For the Actor 2
Filled the place of faculty instructor and taught undergraduate majors advanced vocal work in the styles of Menzies, Berry, and Linklater.

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EDUCATION

MFA – University of Iowa

BFA – University of Southern California

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art
Shakespeare Intensive

Dell'arte International School of Physical Theatre
Commedia Intensive

Commercial Theatre Institute
West Coast Intensive

AFFILIATIONS

Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

Actor's Equity Association

HONORS

TCG New Generations: Future Leaders Grant, 2009 – 2012.

Florida Professional Theatre Association, Outstanding Achievement in Live Theatre, 2006.

Outstanding Teacher Award, University of Iowa, 1999.

Iowa Center for the Arts Fellowship, 1999.

University of Southern California Award for Service in the Arts, 1997.

James Pendelton Award for Outstanding Contribution to Theatre (USC), 1996.

Brown University Book Award, 1992.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

High Holy Days Sermon, Temple Beth El - Bangor, Maine
2015

Graduation Speaker, University of Iowa,
2000