

CV - KEN WEITZMAN

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego

Master of Fine Arts in Playwriting, June 2003.

Studied under Allan Havis and Adele Edling Shank, as well as Les Waters (Joint Stock/devised theatre), Erik Ehn, Athol Fugard, Jose Rivera, Anthony Davis (music theater), Raymond Hardie (1-hour TV), Mindy Glazer (Sitcom), Stephen Metcalfe (TV, Screenwriting).

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

BA 1991. Self-designed major in American Cultures and Theatre.

CREATIVE WORK

PLAYS AND OTHER DRAMATIC WRITING:

In progress:

HALFTIME WITH DON (full-length play in-progress)

Workshops and readings:

National Playwrights Festival, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, director Giovanna Sardelli
PlayLabs at the Playwrights Center of Minneapolis, director Jeremy Cohn.

City Theatre's Momentum Festival, director Christian Parker

Premiere Stages, director John Wooten

Playwrights Horizons, director Kent Nicholson

Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre, director Christian Parker

Theatre Lab, Boca Raton Florida, director Lou Terrell

Lark Play Development Center, director Lou Jacob

Indiana Repertory Theatre, director Ken Weitzman

“ARTSCENTER AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM OF MODERN ART”

An original script commissioned by the San Francisco Museum of Modern for their new and groundbreaking audio content. Script uses sports as a lens through which to look at art.

A LICENSE FOR SEAL BOY (full length play in-progress)

Developed with:

Keen Company's Writer's Lab and the Lark Play Development Center's "Monthly Meeting of the Minds".

Reading:

Keen Company, April 2016, director Mark Armstrong

SPIN MOVES

Workshops and readings:

Arena Stage, October 2003, Dir. Wendy Goldberg.

Bay Area Playwrights Festival, August 2003, Dir. Larissa Kokernot.

Summer Play Festival, July 2004, Dir. Suzanne Agins.

RECLAMATION (full length play in-progress)

Workshops and readings:

Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, July 2012, director Lisa Peterson.

Lark Play Development Center, Roundtable, April 2012, director Lisa Rothe

Produced work:

THE CATCH

Productions:

Denver Center Theatre Company, Jan. 2011, director Lou Jacob

National Awards:

TCG Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award

(Also nominated for the Harold and Mimi Steinberg/American Theater Critics

Association New Play Award and the William Inge Festival Otis Guernsey New

Voices Playwriting Award.)

Regional Awards:

Henry Award for The Best New Play in Denver.

Westword "best of" award for Best Premiere of a Play.

Workshops and readings:

Denver Center's Colorado New Play Summit, Feb. 2010, Dir. Michael Garces

Atlantic Theater Company, Dec. 2009, Dir. Christian Parker

Hartford Stage's Brand:NEW Festival, October 2009, Dir. Lou Jacob

New Harmony Project, May 2009

FIRE IN THE GARDEN

Productions:

Indiana Repertory Theatre, Feb. 2011, Dir. Larissa Kokernot

National Award:

Co-winner of the Mario Fratti-Frederick Newman Political Playwriting Contest.

Workshops and readings:

Castillo Theatre, August 2009, Dir. Woody King Jr.
ArtsWeek: Politics and Theatre, Bloomington, IN, Feb, 2009
Geva Theatre, October 2008, Dir. Skip Greer
P73 Productions Summer Residency at Yale University, August 2007
Alliance Theatre, October 2007

HOMINID

(A devised play, created with Out of Hand Theater Company. Commissioned by Theatre Emory to create a play based on the work of internationally-renowned primatologist Frans De Waal and the Yerkes Primate Center)

Productions:

Theatre Emory/Out of Hand Theater, November 2009, Dir. Ariel De Man
University of Illinois, February 2011, Dir. Ariel De Man
The Lunatics (*Netherlands*) May-July 2010
 Oerol International Festival - Terschelling, Netherlands
 Detmold European Street Theatre Festival - Detmold, Germany
 Amersfoort Theater Teras - Amersfoort, Netherlands
 Luna Lab - Utrecht, Netherlands June 29, 30 1, 2, 3 July

Play profiled on NPR (Studio 360) and the Chronicle of Higher Education.

THE AS IF BODY LOOP

Productions:

The 2007 Humana Festival of New American Plays, Dir. Susan Booth

Awards:

The McDonald Playwriting Award: for the best new play in San Diego.
Finalist for the Princess Grace Award (national new play award).

Publication:

Playscripts, Inc.

Workshops and readings:

New York Stage & Film, June 2006, Dir. Wendy Goldberg
Steppenwolf Theatre Company, July 2006, Dir. Ed Sobel
Black Dahlia Theatre, July 2006, Dir. Larissa Kokernot
Playwrights Horizons, October 2006, Dir. Wendy Goldberg
Arena Stage, April 2005, Dir. Rebecca Bayla Taichman
UCSD Baldwin New Play Festival, April 2006, Dir. Amy Cook

Originally commissioned by Arena Stage.

ARRANGEMENTS

Productions:

Atlantic Theater Company, Jan. 2005, Dir. Christian Parker.
Pavement Group, Nov. 2008, Dir. Megan Beals McCarthy

National Awards:

Winner of the 2003 L. Arnold Weissberger Award for Playwriting

Publication:

Samuel French

Workshops and readings:

Mark Taper Forum's New Work Festival, October 2002. Dir. Mark Rucker.
Arena Stage, April 2003. Dir. Tom Prewitt.
Florida Stage, November 2002. Dir. Des Gallant.
Atlantic Theater Company, May 2003. Dir. Christian Parker.
Cherry Lane Alternative, Feb. 2003, Dir. Suzanne Agins.
Williamstown Theatre Festival, July 2004, Dir. Suzanne Agins.

STADIUM 360

(a devised play, created with Out of Hand Theater Company)

Productions:

Out of Hand Theater Company, March 2009, Dir. Adam Fristoe.

MEMORABILIA (COLLISION PROJECT 2007)

(A commission from the Alliance Theatre to devise a young-adult play in collaboration with a company of Atlanta high school students.)

Productions:

Alliance Theatre Company, October 2008, Dir. Rosemary Newcott.
Atlanta high schools tour, spring 2009. Dir. Rosemary Newcott.

THE ENVIRONMENTS PROJECT

Workshop:

Stony Brook University.

Commissioned to collaborate with composer John Moran, movement specialist, Adrienne Kapstein, and the students of Stony Brook on the creation of a devised theatre piece.

RICHARD AIKEN (a free adaptation of Tartuffe)

Workshop production:

Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre, Directors/Playwrights Lab, March 2004, Dir. Suzanne Agins

Musical in progress:

CONEY ISLAND WEDDING (musical in-progress)

Originally commissioned by South Coast Repertory.

National Award: The Elizabeth George Commission for an Outstanding Emerging Playwright.

Produced one-act plays:

COVENANT (or Bagels and Butchery)

Presentation:

Pew-ish - artists responding to the new Jewish identity, Judson Memorial Church.

Honors:

Finalist for Actors Theatre of Louisville's Heideman Award as part of the National 10-minute play contest.

WELCOME TO THE LIFE and I HATE LACROSSE!

Productions:

Humana Festival of New American Plays, Anthology Project, 2008, Dir. Will McAdams.
Miami University Dept. of Theatre, Oct. 2010, Dir. Andy Gibb

Publication:

Playscripts, Inc.

Originally commissioned by Actors Theatre of Louisville.

THE PUJOLS PLAN (one-act)

Production:

Milesquare Theatre, June 2012, Dir Charles McCarty

NUDE IN FRONT OF THE GARDEN (one-act)

Productions:

Dad's Garage, January 2007, Dir. Lauren Gundarson
Williamstown Theatre Festival After-Hours, August 2003, Dir. Suzanne Agins

Honors:

Finalist for Actors Theatre of Louisville's Heideman Award as part of the National 10-minute play contest.

Television:

RECLAMATION – an original television pilot (adapted from full-length play of the same name).

In-progress, developed with TV and Screenwriter Karl Gajdusek (writer of Last Resort and Oblivion).

SWAPPIN' PAINT

Co-wrote nationally syndicated, one-hour television special on the history of NASCAR. Aired on WABC, 1998.

TOTALLY KIDS SPORTS

Assistant writer for Ace Award-winning half-hour television show. Aired on Nickelodeon, 1993.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION ENTERTAINMENT

Freelance writer for home video projects, 1993-1996.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

L. Arnold Weissberger Award

TCG Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award

Co-winner of the Mario Fratti-Frederick Newman Political Playwriting Contest.

Selected for the 2012 and 2015 Eugene O'Neill Theatre National Playwrights Conference.

Selected as a 2009 and 2016 New Harmony Project Playwright-in-Residence.

Playwright-in-Residence for Out of Hand Theatre Company, 2009-11.

Chosen as a founding member of the Alliance Theatre's Atlanta Playwrights Lab. 2007-8

Selected for Page-73 Production's Summer Writer's Fellowship, Yale University, Summer 2007

University of California Faculty Fellowship for exceptional promise in research and teaching.

Finalist for: the Princess Grace Award, the Heideman Award (four times), and the Otis Guernsey New Voices Playwriting Award.

TEACHING

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF DRAMATIC WRITING, Dept. of Theatre Arts and Program in Writing and Rhetoric (Fall 2014-Spring 2015).

Playwriting, (Writing and Rhetoric and Theatre Arts), Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016)

Introduction to principles of playwriting: structure, character, dialogue, conflict.

Documentary Theatre Writing, Fall 2015

Creating ensemble-generated plays using interview-based, documentary theatre techniques.

The Theatre of Baseball, Spring 2016

Looking at the American Pastime through the lens of theatre and performance.

Text Analysis, Fall 2015

A close reading of plays of different periods and styles and a general examination of the elements out of which plays are made and performed.

Introduction to Theatre, Spring 2015

An exploration of theatre and what's unique about it, who works in it, and how it's made; explore the variety in form and content of theatrical process and performances; learn to experience theatre in a more knowledgeable, more engaged, and more gratifying way.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR of PLAYWRITING, Dept. of Theatre and Drama (2011-current)

Restarted and redesigned IU's Graduate Playwriting Program.

Graduate:

Graduate Playwriting Seminar (new courses):

Spring 2013: *Beyond boundaries. Stretching the aesthetic.*

Fall, 2012: *Revising the full-length play.*

Spring, 2012: *New Play Process*; theory and practice of new full-length play creation.

Fall, 2011: *Creating a Professional Profile.*

Writing for Television:

Spring, 2013: A writing for television survey, including ½-hr sitcom, hour-long episodic, spec scripts, spec pilots, as well as the practical workings of the industry.

Graduate Playwriting Topics (new courses):

Fall, 2011: *Teaching Playwriting* (guided mentorship and readings on practice and theory of teaching introductory playwriting to undergraduates.)

Spring 2012: *New Play Workshop* (Collaboration with MFA Directors on an original one-act in production and with BFA Musical Theatre Students on short plays with music and dance.)

Spring 2012: *Teaching Playwriting* (guided mentorship and readings on practice and theory of teaching intermediate playwriting to undergraduates.)

Undergraduate:

Playwriting I, T453, Fall 2011

Introduction to principles of playwriting: structure, character, dialogue, conflict.

Playwriting II, T454, Spring 2012

Writing one-acts; workshop on writing and revising companion one-act plays.

Screenwriting, T458, Fall 2012

Introduction to the principles of screenwriting and story design.

VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, IU Dept. of Theatre and Drama, 2008-2010

Playwriting I, TH453, Fall 2008, '09, '10, Spring 2009, '10.

Playwriting II, TH454, Spring 2010

Devised Theatre (Joint Stock method), TH483, Spring 2009, Fall 2010 (awarded an IU Themester grant)

Creating ensemble-generated plays using interview-based, documentary theatre techniques.

Introduction to Screenwriting, TH458, Fall 2008, '09

Introduction to the principles of screenwriting and story design.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

VISITING INSTRUCTOR, Dept. of English / Dept. of Theatre Studies, 2007-8

Intermediate Playwriting, THEA 372/ENGLISH 372, Spring 2007, Fall 2007

Intermediate Screenwriting, ENGLISH 378/FILM 402, Spring 2008

Analysis and creation of the feature length screenplay.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

LECTURER/VISITING INSTRUCTOR, Dept. of Theatre and Dance, 2005-2006

Joint Stock Method, THPW 108/THAC 108, Fall 2005

Documentary theatre technique/creating devised theatre. Students received upper division credit in playwriting and acting.

Intermediate Playwriting, THPW 101, Winter 2006

Included supervising four sections and three graduate student Teaching Assistants (TAs).

Writing for Television (One-Hour Drama), THPW 105, Spring 2006

Course emphasized concepts, craft, and the creation of original spec scripts. Supervised four sections and three graduate student TAs.

FACULTY FELLOW, Dept. of Theatre and Dance, UCSD, Spring 2003-Spring 2005

The UC Faculty Fellowship is a two-year University of California teaching and research fellowship (one of six Fellows chosen campus-wide.) Faculty Fellows are chosen on promise for excellence in both teaching and research.

Great Performances on Film, THGE 11, Spring 2005

Designed new version of existing course. The course looked at great acting performances in sports films as well as the “performance” of the sport itself and its societal implications. Gave weekly lectures to a 300-student class. Managed three graduate student readers.

Intermediate Playwriting, THPW 101, Winter 2005

Supervised four sections and three graduate student Teaching Assistants.

Introduction to Playwriting, THPW1, Fall 2003, Fall 2004

Supervised nine sections and four graduate student TAs.

Writing for Television, the One-Hour Drama, THPW 105, Spring 2004

Supervised four sections and supervised two graduate student Teaching Assistants.

Joint Stock Method, THPW 108, Winter 2004

Documentary theatre technique/creating devised theatre. Students received upper division credit in playwriting and acting.

Introduction to Screenwriting, THPW 104, Summer 2003

Guest Lectures:

Warren College Senior Seminar. Topic: Chaos and Order in Plays and Playwriting.
Introduction to Theatre. Topic: New Play Creation, From Page to Stage.

TEACHING ASSISTANT, Dept. of Theatre and Dance, UCSD, Fall 2000-Spring 2003

Received the Teaching Achievement Award for Outstanding Contribution to Undergraduate Instruction awarded by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. (*taught as an autonomous TA, working within the syllabus created by the Professor.*)

Introduction to Television Writing (Sitcom), THPW 105, Spring 2003
Intermediate Playwriting, THPW 101, Winter 2003.
Advanced Playwriting Seminar, THPW 102, Fall 2002
Introduction to Playwriting, THPW 1, Fall 2000, Fall 2001, Fall 2002
Introduction to Theatre, THGE 1, Spring 2002
Introduction to Screenwriting, THPW 104, Spring 2002
Cult Films, THGE 124, Winter 2001, 2002, Summer 2001, 2002
The Films of Woody Allen, THE 125, Summer 2002, 2003

GUEST ARTIST AND MASTER CLASSES:

Notre Dame University
Stony Brook University (prior to hire)
Butler University
Kennesaw State University
University of West Georgia
Indiana Repertory Theatre Conservatory
National Theatre Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center,
Heartland Theatre Company
Horizon Theatre
Actors Express Theatre
Playwrights Project of San Diego
La Jolla Playhouse
Old Globe Theatre
Young Playwrights, Inc.

SERVICE

National:

The New Harmony Project: Board Member and Chair of Script Selection, Aug. 2009 - 2015.

Artistic Council for the National Playwrights Conference selection process.

Script evaluator/consultant for:

Lark Play Development Center.

Fratti/Newman Political Play Contest Award.

Advisory Board Member, Bloomington Playwrights Project, June 2009 - 2012.

Board Member, The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington, Aug. 2009 - 2013.

Judge and Visiting Playwright, Midwest Play Competition, Heartland Theatre, May 2009.

Stony Brook University Committees

FAHSS Visiting Artist Committee.

Department of Theatre Arts Curriculum Committee.
Department of Theatre Arts Production Committee.

Indiana University Committees:

Theatre and Drama Faculty Search Committee (3 separate searches).
Theatre and Drama Faculty Advisory Committee.
Theatre and Drama Awards Committee.

OTHER THEATRE POSITIONS

Education Director: Young Playwrights Inc. (YPI): June 1999 - September 2000

YPI is the only professional theater company in the United States devoted solely to the work of writers aged eighteen or younger.

Oversaw and managed YPI's National Playwriting Contest and New York City Playwriting Contest, which included: hiring and overseeing a twenty-person freelance staff of script readers; soliciting and managing over one thousand plays from across the United States; leading an evaluation committee made up of top New York theatre professionals.

Led Teacher Training Institute - intensive workshops training high school teachers, playwrights, and theatre educators to teach playwriting and to incorporate it into a multidisciplinary curriculum.

Taught Advanced Playwriting Workshop comprised of New York City area college students and advanced high-school students.

Taught playwriting to grades 4-12 in New York City public and private schools.

Marketed, planned, and coordinated all YPI residencies in NYC and regionally.

The Non-Traditional Casting Project - Dir., Artist Files Online: 1998 – 1999

(Organization now called Alliance for Inclusion in the Arts.)

Not-for-profit advocacy organization established to address and seek solutions to the problems of racism and exclusion in theatre, film, and television.

Managed, edited, and expanded the scope of national online talent bank of artists of color and artists with disabilities.

Actor

Voice work for several books on tape, including CASINO (Simon and Schuster) by Nick Pileggi, with Ron Leibman and Joe Grifasi.

Training: Atlantic Theater Company.