

Steve Sherman

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Personal Website - www.SteveMSherman.com

Link to Award Winning Short Film that I wrote - www.soulfeatherstudios.com/theplanoloveaffair

Objective

Apply my experience, training and creativity to help students expand their skills and reach their highest level of talent and success as performing artists. While my training focused on Stanislavsky and the Alexander Technique, I also teach Meisner Technique, and help actors tap into the playwright's vision by focusing on the words, punctuation, and rhythm of the script. In addition to acting, I enjoy teaching improvisation and writing for the stage and screen.

Teaching Experience

University of Tennessee - Knoxville, Lecturer; August 2018 – Current

Theatre 100 (Introduction to Theatre) – Basic understanding of the jobs and components of play production, as well as an understanding of dramatic structure and theatrical production through viewing of live theatre, and an understand of basic theatre history and the importance of theatre today. Writing emphasis course.

Theatre 107 (Honors Introduction to Theatre) – Theatre 100 with more attention to analyzing productions and a final project of producing a ten-minute play.

Theatre 220 (Acting I) - Introduction to basic acting technique through use of the Sanford Meisner's approach and attention to dramatic text.

Theatre 221 (Acting II) - Further develops and understands the actor's craft through exercises and scene work, including textual analysis, character development and analysis, objectives and actions.

Theatre 410: Special Studies in Playwriting – Learns and understands the craft of playwriting through writing prompts and the new work process by listening and discussing the work.

Capstone Thesis Project Playwriting Mentor for several BA students' new plays as honors projects and senior projects.

Improvisation instructor at Haslam College of Business

Diversity and Inclusion

- Directed and edited two videos for STRIDE (Strategies and Tactics for Recruiting to Improve Diversity). A training video in regards to the importance of recruiting a faculty made up of diverse voices in a department; and another for recruiting a staff made up of diverse voices. Videos has been used at institutions such as Yale University, University of Tennessee, and CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research).
- Commission from the University of Tennessee Faculty Senate to write a show for *Play it Out*, (April, 2018), a socially engaged performance piece with sketches that address issues related to unconscious bias, stereotypes, and micro-aggressions, and provides a model of communication between groups of people from different backgrounds.

Education and Training

MFA in Acting; University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN; Class of 2016

- Graduated with 3.96 GPA
- Program ranked #8 in the USA & UK by *The Hollywood Reporter* (2020)
- Worked with the Clarence Brown Theatre as a leading or principal actor in 11 plays and musicals in three seasons.
- Taught *Acting I (TH 220)* to undergraduates with a focus on the Meisner technique, cold reading, and partnering. Students worked on scenes, monologues, and open scenes as well as reading dialogue and understanding playwrights/screenwriters. Received superior instructor evaluations.
- Taught an on-camera acting workshop to the Knoxville film club.
- Created the University of Tennessee improvisation performing ensemble *inVOLuntary Sports Party* and taught weekly improvisation workshops to both graduate and undergraduate students for three years.
- Taught Clarence Brown Theatre's Summer Acting Workshop for high school students who excel in the performing arts. Directed scenes, and specifically taught cold reading and improvisation.
- Collaborated with the UT College of Nursing on the project, "Communicating about End of Life through Digital Storytelling."
- Studied Acting in studio. Alexander Technique. Voice and Speech including vocal production, dialects, and Linklater. Movement including Laban, Suzuki, corporeal mime, and dance (*ballroom and period*). Stage combat (*hand to hand, quarter-staff*). Shakespeare, including the first folio.
- Studied Acting for the Camera with L.A. producer/director Paul Kampf.
- Worked each year with former Voice & Text coach at the *Royal Shakespeare Co.*, Barbara Houseman.
- Weekly singing lessons for three years with Katy Wolfe.
- Wrote full length play *Restore!*, a parody on Restoration Comedy after studying Restoration Theatre with Misty Anderson, Ph.D. Reading of my original play *Restore!* performed at the Clarence Brown Lab Theatre.
- Project in lieu of thesis: George in *Of Mice and Men*, included writing and research component.

BA in Theatre Arts, concentration in Acting; Western WA University Bellingham, WA, December, Graduated Dec. 2006.

- Awarded *Outstanding Contribution to the Theatre Arts*
- Studied Stanislavski. Shakespeare. Auditioning. Physicality, voice, and character work.
- Nationally recognized by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (KCACTF) for acting and writing; awarded the *Davey Marlin Jones Award for Best Performance of a One-Act Play*; writer and lead actor of *Brian and Joe*. Attended national festival in at the Kennedy Center in DC.
- Awarded acting fellowship to Tony Award-winning Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center; awarded by The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (ACTF).
- Three time Irene Ryan nominee for excellence in acting.
- Taught improvisation at WWU Arts & Science camp.
- Taught and directed show for WWU Summer Youth Theatre Institute.
- Acted in seventeen University productions and four community productions.
- Wrote and directed numerous short plays for the undergraduate club *Plays 4 Us*.
- Performed in the *Dead Parrots Society* improvisation troupe, winner of the National College Improv festival and recognized as a top ten collegiate Improvisation ensemble.

Teaching Certification in Secondary Ed. endorsed in Theatre Arts;

Woodring School. Western Washington University. Bellingham, WA; June, 2007.

- Student taught at Bellingham High School. Taught two courses of Acting I, and courses in Acting II and Acting III.
- Directed *An Actor's Nightmare*.
- Co-directed *Scapino!*

Other Training

- Studied improvisation with Rob Janas of *Second City*. Karen Maruyama of *Whose Line is it Anyway?* and *Groundlings*. James Mastraieni of *UCB & iO West*. F. Tyler Burnett of *Second City*.
- Studied stand up comedy with Matt Taylor, MC at *The Comedy Store*.
- Comedic performance venues include *ioWest*, *The Hollywood Improv*, and *The Comedy Store* in Los Angeles, and *The Laughing Skull* in Atlanta.

Awards & Honors

- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Nationally recognized for Acting & Playwriting.
- Eugene O'Neill Theater Center fellowship for Acting. (*Worked on new plays by Rebecca Gilman, Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, and Deborah Zoe Lauffer*)
- Davey Marlin Jones Respondent's Choice Award for Best One Act. (Lead Actor & Playwright)
- Selected to Kennedy Center Summer Playwriting Intensive. (*Instructors included Gary Garrison, Marsha Norman, Lee Blessing, Michael Weller, Marc Bly, Caleen Sinnette Jennings*)
- *The Piano Love Affair* (written by) winner of Knoxville Film Festival *Audience Favorite Short Film*, *Audience Favorite Tennessee made film*, Olympus Film Festival *Best War Short*
- Selected to Kennedy Center Alumni Summer Playwriting Intensive.
- Finalist for The Network One-act festival in NYC. (Lead Actor & Playwright)
- Best Actor nominee for Planet Connections Theater Festival in NYC.
- KCACTF Region VII Irene Ryan nomination (3 times)
- Best New Actor to the Bellingham Theatre Guild.
- WWU Outstanding Contribution to the Theatre Arts.

Other Relevant Employment

- Artistic Director at Knoxville Children's Theatre (2021-2023); wrote one play (*The Carol!*); edited adaptation of *Romeo & Juliet*, and directed six productions: *The Scarlet Letter*, *Disney's Frozen Jr*, *The Reluctant Dragon*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Carol!*, *Disney's Beauty & the Beast Jr*. Fight choreographer on *Romeo & Juliet* and *The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe*
- Family Theatre Productions, Internship (2012)
- Administrative Assistant at Western Washington University Theatre Department (2005-2006)

Other Teaching Experience

- Improvisation instructor for *Leadership Knoxville, Intro Knoxville, Teen Leadership Knoxville, Univ. of Tennessee Leadership Knoxville, and Haslam School of Business*
- Acting and improvisation class for the hosts and artistic team of the television show *Tennessee Uncharted*
- Privately coached adults and young actors for on-camera auditions.
- St. Benedict Episcopal School Drama Teacher; Smyrna, GA (2017-2018)
- Substitute and IT Support, St. Benedict's Episcopal Day School; Smyrna, GA
- Taught improvisation workshop to WWU improvisation troupe as an alumnus.
- Summit High School Theatre (Bend, OR) ZOOM Sketch Comedy Instructor; January 2021

REFERENCES

Jed Diamond

Head of MFA Acting; University of Tennessee (865) 742-8667

Dr. Misty Anderson

English Professor, Theatre Adjunct; University of Tennessee (865) 386-6050

Gregg Henry

Artistic Director, Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (202) 276-7571

Marc Santa Maria

Freelance Director & Choreographer (917) 566-4516

Tom Cervone

Managing Director, Clarence Brown Theatre (865) 414-6590

Acting/Directing

AEA Member since 2007, SAG -Eligible

2023

Trouble in Mind, Al Manners u/s and Bill O'Wray u/s, Dir. Marti Gobel, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

Tennessee Lottery – VO for Holiday Radio Ad, Buntin Group

2021-2023

Artistic Director of the Knoxville Children's Theatre

Disney's Beauty & the Beast Jr - **Director**

The Carol! – **Writer & Director**

Romeo & Juliet – **Director & Fight Choreographer**

The Reluctant Dragon – **Director & Fight Choreographer**

Disney's Frozen Jr - **Director**

The Scarlett Letter – **Director**

2022

The Provoked Wife, Constant, Dir. Phillip Breen, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

2021

Airness, Clarence Brown Theatre – Virtual Production – **Director & Air Guitar choreographer**

2020

Airness, Clarence Brown Lab Theatre, Knoxville, TN – **Director & Air Guitar choreographer**

2019

King Charles III, Mark Stevens, Dir. John Sipes, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

Wizard of Oz.....Abridged, all characters except Dorothy, Dir. Cal MacLean, Knoxville, TN

2018

Alias Grace, Thomas Kinnear u/s, Dir. Karen Kessler, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

Urinetown, Officer Lockstock u/s, Dir. Terry Silver-Alford, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville

Horizon Theatre New Works Festival, Atlanta, GA

Commercial - *BB&T Bank* – lead actor on three ads

2017

A Tempest, Trinculo, Dir. Paul Carter Harrison, Theatre Emory, Atlanta, GA

Bloomsday, Robbie, Elizabeth Nunziato, B Street Theatre, Sacramento, CA

Horizon Theatre New Works Festival, Atlanta GA

Short Film - *Wreck*

2016

The Open Hand, Jack, Dir. Cal MacLean, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

Titus Andronicus, Demetrius, Dir. John Sipes, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

Television - *Murder Chose Me*, Speculative Murderer, Investigation Discovery

Short Film – *Ubermensch*, Dir. Paxton Willis, UTK Student Film

2015

Of Mice and Men, George, Dir. Paul Barnes, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN
A Christmas Carol, Jacob Marley, Dir. Micah-Shane Brewer, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

The Threepenny Opera, Filch, Dir. Cal MacLean, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Lysander, Dir. John Sipes, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville
Against the Hillside, Jared, Bryan Fonseca, Kennedy Center-MFA PW Workshop, Wash. DC
Found Dog Ribbon Dance, Colt/Harrison, Dir. Chip Decker- Kennedy Center- MFA PW Workshop, Wash. DC

2014

4000 Miles (with Carol Mayo Jenkins), Leo, Dir. Lise Bruneau, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

Hank Williams: Lost Highway, Jimmie, Dir. Karen Kessler, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville
Monty Python's Spamalot!, Patsy, Dir. Bill Jenkins, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN
The Whipping Man (with Tramell Tillman), Caleb, Dir. John Sipes, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville, TN

The Relapse, Lord Foppington; Staged Reading at Theatre Knoxville Downtown

2013

Our Country's Good, Ketch/Major Ross, Dir. Cal MacLean, Clarence Brown Theatre, Knoxville
Short Film – *David's Reverie* (with Brandon Fobbs), Dir. Neil Williams, USC MFA Thesis Film
Short Film – *PHOD*, Dir. Wednesday Stanley

2012

Improvisation and Stand-up comedy. Venues include *io West*, *The Hollywood Improv*, *The Comedy Store*

Commercial - *Cyberlink Power Director* – lead actor

Short Film – *Popcorn Trick*, USC Student Film

Film Recreation – *In the Valley of Elah*, USC Student Film

2011

Blue Man Group, Blue Man, Astor Place, Off Broadway, NYC

The Odd Couple, Felix., Dir. Tom Gressler, Mt. Baker Theatre, Bellingham, WA

Our Town, Stage Manager, Dir. Mark Kuntz, Mt. Baker Theatre, Bellingham, WA

On Campus, Nathan, Dir. Marc Santa Maria, LABA Theatre, NYC

Feature Film – *Placebo*, Jason, Dir. Justin Ho, Amazon

Short Film – *I Love You*, Dir. John Gallagher

2010

Remembering Kimberly, Dir. Eva Shelbaum, Barrow Group Theatre, NYC

Down Range, CAO Officer, Dir. Trish Minskoff, Mint Theatre, NYC

Hole, Dir. Hamilton Clancy, The Drilling Company, NYC

Bitten, Primary Stages, ESPA Reading, NYC

No Telling, One-act festival, NYC

Breeders, Rick, 13th St. Rep., Dir. Mark Finley, NYC

2009

Home of the Great Pecan, Deputy Diggity, Dir. Hamilton Clancy, The Drilling Company, NYC
Instant Happy, Tim, Planet Connections, Dir. Richard Butler, One-act festival, NYC
A Glass of Water, FACT Theatre, NYC
Jybernean, Delcimore Holler, Dir. Alex Ladd, HB Studios, NYC

2008

Harry the Dirty Dog, Dad & others, Dir. Anthony Frissina, Arts Power National Tours
Short Film – *Dinner Part at the End of the World*, NYU Student Film

2007

Good Boys and True, Narrator, Dir. Peter Dubois, O'Neill Theatre Center Playwright's Conf., Waterford, CT
The Crowd You're in With, Narrator, Dir. Wendy Goldberg, O'Neill Theatre Center Playwright's Conf., Waterford, CT
365 Days/365 Plays, O'Neill Theatre Center, Waterford, CT
Hot n' Cole, Dir. Mark Kuntz, Mt. Baker Theatre, Bellingham, WA
Brian and Joe, Brian, Dir. Emily Harvey, Firehouse Theatre & WWU, Bellingham, WA
The Importance of Being Earnest, Algernon, Dir. Kate Muchmore, WWU, Bellingham, WA

2006

Convention (by Dan Erickson), Dir. Dan Erickson, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Hamlet, Hamlet, Dir. Dammond Morris, Shakespeare Northwest, Mt. Vernon, WA
Antigone, Creon, Dir. Emily Harvey, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Hedda Gabler, Eilert Loveborg, Dir. Maureen O'Reilly, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Working, UPS Man and other solos, Dir. Jeremy Flygare, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Romeo & Juliet, ***Fight Choreographer***, Dir. Kate Muchmore, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Commercial/VO – Bellingham Pregnancy Center, Dir. Rob Hull, BlackDog Prod.

2005

If Dreams Came True, Mid, Dir. Mark Kuntz WWU, Bellingham, WA
A Funny Thing Happened... Forum, Hysterium, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Putting it Together, Man 3, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Anne of Green Gables, Mr. Phillips, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Oklahoma!, Will Parker, Dir. Judith Lancaster, Bellingham Theatre Guild, Bellingham, WA

2004

Assassins, Balladeer, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Big River, Tom Sawyer, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Some Enchanted Evening, Dir. Mark Anders, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Rimers of Eldrich, Josh Johnson, Dir. Mark Kuntz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
The Happy Prince, Mayor, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA

2003

Sweeney Todd, Ensemble, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
West Side Story, Baby John, Dir. Jim Lortz, WWU, Bellingham, WA
Boy Meets Girl, Mr. Green, Dir. Mark Kuntz, WWU, Bellingham, WA

FILM

Joe's Surrender (Working title)
The Piano Love Affair
The Piano Love Affair Short
Green Lake Love Story
Skip This!

In development with *Soul Feather Studios*
In development with *Soul Feather Studios*
Soul Feather Studios - 2019
In development
Dir. Dan Erickson, WWU Short Film - 2006

NEW YORK THEATRE

On Campus
Brian and Joe
Remembering Kimberly

Dir. Marc Santa Maria, LABA Theater - 2011
Dir. Luke Harlan, American Theater of Actors - 2010
Dir. Eva Schelbaum, Barrow Group Theater - 2010

REGIONAL THEATRE

Stained Glass Windows
Stained Glass Windows
Brian and Joe
Time of Your Life

Dir. Julie Woods-Robinson, Orlando Shakes.- 2012
Dir. Julie Woods-Robinson, Orlando Fringe Fest - 2012
Dir. Emily Harvey, Firehouse Theatre & WWU - 2007
Dir. Bryan Willis, Tacoma Actors Guild - 2007

EDUCATIONAL THEATRE

Hoot
Number the Stars
Play it Out
**Readings & Productions of 12 short plays at Western Washington University; 2002-2007*

Adaptation for Great Schools Partnership - 2017
Adaptation for Great Schools Partnership - 2016
Dir. Ian Paul Messersmith, Univ. of Tennessee - 2017

CHILDREN'S THEATRE

The Carol!

Knoxville Children's Theatre - 2022

READINGS

Grief
A Fly in November
Restore!
The Ones You Can't See
Brian and Joe

Theatre Knoxville Downtown – 2024
The Word Players - 2021
Clarence Brown Lab Theatre - 2014
Payan Theatre; New York, NY - 2009
Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center - 2007
Family Theatre; Los Angeles, CA - 2012
CAC Organization; Malibu, CA - 2012
Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center - 2007
WWU - 2007

Scarred

AWARDS & HONORS

Brian and Joe: Davy Marlin Jones Award for Outstanding Production of a One-Act. KCACTF National Festival invitee (2007)

The Piano Love Affair (short) Winner of Knoxville Film Festival *Audience Favorite Short Film*, *Audience Favorite Tennessee made Film*, Olympus Film Festival *Best War Short*

A Fly in November: John Cullum Award Finalist, Kennedy Center/NNPN Workshop Finalist

The Ones You Can't See: Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference Semi-Finalist

Remembering Kimberly: The Network Short Play Festival Finalist

Kennedy Center National invitee for playwriting, Kennedy Center Summer Intensive (2007)
Kennedy Center Alumni Weekend Intensive, Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center Fellowship (2008 & 2009)
Kennedy Center workshop instructors include: Edward Albee, Marsha Norman, Lee Blessing, Karen Zacarias, Michael Weller, Gary Garrison, Marc Bly, Calleen Sinnette Jennings, Noah Haidle