

MEREDITH MCDONOUGH

DIRECTOR, SSDC

WWW.MEREDITHMCDONOUGH.COM

◆ 847.452.4579 ◆

MEREDITHMCD@ATT.NET

EDUCATION

- 2004 M.F.A. Directing, University of California, San Diego
Studied under Les Waters, Kyle Donnelly, Tina Landau, Darko Tresnjak, Robert Egan, Loretta Greco, Andrei Belgrader
- 1998 B.S. Performance Studies, Northwestern University, *Cum Laude*
Studied under Mary Zimmerman, Anne Woodworth, Craig Kinzer, Dominic Missimi

NEW WORK DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

National Alliance for Musical Theatre, New Works Program Director, 2004 – 2006

- **Festival of New Musicals:** led a national committee in selecting the eight shows; worked with all 8 writing teams (including Andrew Lippa, David Kirschenbaum, Daniel Goldfarb and Cheri Coons) to help cut their pieces to 45 minutes for the festival presentations; created a Interest Database to track interest and aid writing teams in following up with producers and theatres; facilitated discussions and made recommendations for Next Steps in terms of co-productions and development tracks for each piece.
- **New Works Travel Fund:** with funder Ted Shen, created and administered a travel fund earmarked for member theatres traveling to see new work from the festival in an effort to foster co-productions.
- **Alumni Writers Network:** formalized programming to give Alumni writers access to each other with website bulletin boards; facilitated networking opportunities with bi-annual writers' gatherings and roundtables; programmed an Artistic Track for writers in the Fall Conference to allow writers and producers to educate each other in discussing production and process.
- **Producer/Writer Initiative:** managed re-granting program that gives opportunities for writing teams to be in residency at a regional theatre.

Actors Theatre of Louisville, Associate Director, Apprentice/Intern Company, 1999 – 2001

- **Humana Festival of New American Plays:** developed *Backstory* and *Heaven and Hell*, collaborating with over 32 writers, including Donald Margulies and Naomi Iizuka, to create original theatre pieces; worked closely with literary department to order the pieces with an eye toward cohesion; oversaw 3 person directing team as Artistic Producer.
- **Artistic Risk Task Force:** assessed season programming and polled both audiences and staff to identify areas of diversification that each group felt were necessary to the health and growth of the organization; with a group of 8 colleagues, created "Free Theatre" with an evening of Pinter one-acts which were open to the public and played to a sold-out run.

University of Missouri, Kansas City, Director, 2006 – 2007

- **New Play Festival:** working with playwright Megan Mostyn-Brown, developed *The Secret Lives of Losers* with MFA actors and designers over 2 one-week workshops geared towards a full production in February 2007.

University of California, San Diego, Director, 2001 – 2004

- **Baldwin New Play Festival:** worked closely with the MFA playwrights to develop 2nd year and thesis plays, from workshop through full production.

PRODUCING EXPERIENCE

365 Days / 365 Plays National Assistant, 2006

- Assisted Suzan-Lori Parks and producer Bonnie Metzgar in organizing and coordinating the largest national theatre project in the US. Also served as Lead Curator for the Minneapolis and Southeast Hubs, pulling together over 60 theatre companies to participate.

National Alliance for Musical Theatre, 2004 – 2006

- **Festival of New Musicals:** produced two-day festival of eight new musicals in staged readings at Dodger Stages in New York City; served as Artistic Producer for eight creative teams, guiding them through casting, negotiating all AEA contracts, and scheduling every element of all presentations.
- **New Works Summit:** produced a Songwriter Showcase of 10 teams at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre.

PRODUCING EXPERIENCE CON.

Women's Project and Productions (NYC), 2006

- **O'Henry, O'Blair, O'Benefit:** served as Line Producer for benefit evening at Julia Miles Theatre, directed by Blair Brown, featuring 5 premiere adaptations of O. Henry stories.

Actors Theatre of Louisville, 1999 – 2001

- **A/I Season:** produced and directed entire Apprentice/Intern Company Season, including Humana Festival, 10 Minute Play Festival, Solo Mio Festival, Children's Theatre Show and One Act Festival, as well as line producing one-week stock rehearsal room performances.

ADMINISTRATIVE / MANAGERIAL EXPERIENCE

National Alliance for Musical Theatre, New Works Program Director, 2004 – 2006

- Responsible for managing new works website and database; scouting new musicals and attending national festivals; writing grants and fundraising for new works programs; developing new funding and foundation support.

Actors Theatre of Louisville, Associate Director, Apprentice/Intern Company, 1999 – 2001

- Responsible for the administrative and artistic duties toward management, education and recruitment of 35 person Apprentice/Intern company; directed and produced all A/I scheduled events; developed curriculum and perform weekly teaching responsibilities; planned, organized and executed a 10 conference, 3 city recruitment tour.

Artistic Director, WAVE Productions, Northwestern University, 1996 - 1998

- Oversaw season selection; secured production rights; served as artistic resource for directors in six show season.

Surflight Theatre, Production Stage Manager, Beach Haven, NJ, 1995 - 1996

- Spent two consecutive summers stage managing and scheduling a three month, two-week stock season.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, San Diego, CA, 2001 – 2003

- Mentored by Kyle Donnelly to teach 1st Year MFA Acting track in Meisner Technique and Chekhov.
- Head Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Acting
- Teaching Assistant: Advanced Directing, Introduction to Theatre

Artsbridge Scholar, San Diego, CA, 2002

- Taught creative drama and developed a poetry performance with underprivileged 5th grade students.

Actors Theatre of Louisville, Louisville, KY, 1999 – 2001

- Taught 22 person Apprentice Company in weekly classes, including text analysis, composition work, & yoga.

Washington University, St. Louis, MO, 2000

- Taught 2-day workshop on Composition work to senior theatre majors.

National High School Institute, Theatre Arts Division, Evanston, IL, 1998 - 2003

- Taught acting core curriculum during a 5 week intensive with 200 high school seniors.

Irene Ryan Competition, Region VII, Adjudicator, Las Vegas, NV, 2000

- Observed, evaluated and gave feedback to semi-final round acting participants in Irene Ryan Competition; was part of a 6 person team that chose students to advance to the final round.

AWARDS

- 2006 Drama League, Fall Directing Fellowship
- 2004 Women's Project and Productions, Directors Forum Leader (Ongoing)
- 2004 New Georges Affiliated Artist (Ongoing)
- 2004 Boris Sagal Fellowship in Directing, Williamstown Theatre Festival
- 2004 Patte Award for Outstanding Ensemble, KPBS, for *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*
- 2003 UCSD Award for Teaching Excellence, Introduction to Acting

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND RESIDENCIES

- 2003 La Jolla Playhouse, Directing Residency.
- 2000 SITI Company Summer Training Intensive with Anne Bogart, Saratoga Springs, NY.
- 1998 Actors Theatre of Louisville, Directing Internship with Jon Jory.

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NEW YORK DIRECTING CREDITS

<i>The Wikipedia Plays</i> *	Mike Batistick, Liz Flahive	Ars Nova
<i>Half of Plenty</i>	Lisa Dillman	Summer Play Festival
<i>Authorial Intent</i>	Itamar Moses	The Drama League
<i>The Rest of Your Life</i> * (staged reading)	Megan Mostyn-Brown	LAByrinth Theatre Company (Public Theater)
<i>The Impotent General</i> *	Gary Winter	Sellout Festival – The Brick Theatre
<i>Members Only</i> *	Adam Rapp	CouchWorks – Slant Theatre Company
<i>Going After Alice</i> * (staged reading)	Megan Mostyn-Brown	Women’s Project & Productions
<i>The Hawk Has No Home</i> * (staged reading)	Megan Mostyn-Brown	Women’s Project & Productions
<i>Stab Me, Why Don’t You?</i> *	Adam Knight	Slant Theatre Company
<i>The Night Before the Thing</i> *	Kurt Hanke	24 Hour Plays (Atlantic Theatre Company)
<i>Again and Against</i> *	Betty Shamieh	New Georges

REGIONAL DIRECTING CREDITS

<i>Summer of '42</i>	David Kirshenbaum & Hunter Foster	Round House Theatre, MD
<i>Driving Miss Daisy</i>	Alfred Uhry	Delaware Theatre Company
<i>The Secret Lives of Losers</i> *	Megan Mostyn-Brown	UMKC Graduate Theatre
<i>Alice, Eat Your Words</i> * (regional premiere)	Alena Smith	Northwestern University / NHSI
<i>Hazard County</i> * (NNPN world premiere)	Allison Moore	Actors Express, GA
<i>Eurydice</i>	Sarah Ruhl	Williamstown Theatre Festival
<i>A Bone Close to my Brain</i> *	Dan Dietz	Humana Festival - Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Kuwait</i> *	Vincent Delaney	Humana Festival - Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Full Circle</i>	Charles L. Mee	University of California, San Diego
<i>The Dumbwaiter</i>	Harold Pinter	UCSD (Site Specific)
<i>Hand, Foot, Arm and Face</i> *	Mat Smart	UCSD, Baldwin New Play Festival
<i>Angels in America: Millennium Approaches</i> ** Critics' Pick: San Diego Reader ** Patte Award – Outstanding Ensemble	Tony Kushner	UCSD
<i>Balm in Gilead</i>	Lanford Wilson	UCSD
<i>Angels in America: Perestroika</i>	Tony Kushner	Northwestern University / NHSI
<i>Lonely Planet</i>	Steven Dietz	UCSD
<i>Heaven & Hell</i> *	Rebecca Gilman, Jane Martin, et al	Humana Festival - Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Spring</i>	Tanya Palmer	Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Back Story</i> *	Craig Lucas, Donald Margulies, et al	Humana Festival - Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Baltimore Waltz</i>	Paula Vogel	Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Seventy Scenes of Halloween</i>	Jeffery Jones	Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>A Bright Room Called Day</i>	Tony Kushner	Northwestern University

ASSISTANT DIRECTING CREDITS

<i>A Murder, A Mystery, A Marriage</i> *	Dir: Aaron Posner	Delaware Theatre Co. & Round House Theatre
<i>She Loves Me</i>	Dir: Kyle Donnelly	Arena Stage
<i>At the Vanishing Point</i> *	Dir: Les Waters	Humana Festival - Actors Theatre of Louisville
<i>Beauty</i> *	Dir: Tina Landau	La Jolla Playhouse

*denotes world premiere