

DANIEL LEE WHITE, M.F.A. | FREELANCE DIRECTOR

CURRICULUM VITAE - 2024

ARTIST STATEMENT

As an artist working in theatre, my primary focus is on building a pragmatic and accessible approach to comedy and farce. Since childhood, I have been passionate about comedy in all its forms. Professionally, I find it inspiring and powerful to conceive, write, and direct work that makes others laugh and allows the audience to temporarily escape from their everyday concerns. I greatly respect drama and can successfully direct it, but I find comedy and farce to be more personally challenging and rewarding. I have developed a strong understanding of comedic timing and build work that speaks to various senses of humor.

I believe that theatre should be accessible to all. Shakespeare wrote plays filled with lust, blood, comedy, and romance in a way that enraptured the entire audience--from royalty to the groundlings. At the time, his productions were competing with brothels and bear fights. Today we have different forms of entertainment competing with the experience of sitting in a theatre and being immersed in a story for an entire performance, but my goal remains the same--directing productions that are relatable and accessible to anyone and that does not exclude people from being entertained and inspired.

HIGHER EDUCATION

2023, MFA - Theatrical Directing - Comedy & Farce, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID

2000, BA - Major: Mass Communications - Minor: Theater Arts, Franklin Pierce University, Rindge, NH

THEATRICAL DIRECTOR (Fully Produced Productions)

2024, Lend Me A Soprano, by Ken Ludwig, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2024, Run For Your Wife, by Ray Cooney, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2024, The Foursome, by Norm Foster, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2023, Miracle on South Division St., by Tom Dudzick, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2023, Run For Your Wife, by Ray Cooney, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2022, A Christmas for Carol, by Daniel Lee White, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2022, Social Security, by Andrew Bergman, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2022, Murder at the Howard Johnsons, by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2022, The Carol Burnett Show, by Carol Burnett & Company, Wyndham Hotel, Newport, RI

2021, Santa's Murder Mystery, by Matt Siravo, Wyndham Hotel, Newport, RI

2021, Whatever I Want, by Mark Harvey Levine, Orange Players, Orange, CT

2021, The Birds Are Feeding Me, by Rex McGregor, Orange Players, Orange, CT

2021, Murder at the Howard Johnsons, by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2021, Masks On/Masks Off, by The Blue Cow Group, Fringe•PVD Festival, Providence, RI

2021, A Rhode Island Valentine, by Newport Playhouse Company, Youtube, Newport, RI

2020, A Plays The Thing, by The Blue Cow Group, Fringe•PVD Festival, Providence, RI

2019, Boeing, Boeing, by Marc Camoletti, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2019, Funny Money, by Ray Cooney, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2019, A Midsummer Night's Musical, by William Shakespeare/Adapted by Daniel Lee White, Sara Azriel, and Avi David, TAPA, Providence, RI

2019, Love Star Love Potion, by Michael Parker, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2018, Amor, Pérdida y Expectativas of Jack and Jill, by Daniel Lee White & Ensemble, TAPA, Prov, RI

2018, The No Tell Motel, by Michael G. Wilmot, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2018, Remember Me?, by Sam Bobrick, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI

2017, Pals, by David L. Perkins, TAPA, Providence, RI

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2017, Push, by George Cameron Grant, TAPA, Providence, RI
2017, Baggage, by Sam Bobrick, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2017, The Foursome, by Norm Foster, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2017, The Invisible Play, by Daniel Lee White & Ensemble, TAPA, Providence, RI
2016, The Odd Couple (Female Version), by Neil Simon, TAPA, Providence, RI
2016, Nana's Naughty Knickers, by Katherine DiSavino, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2016, Cheatin', by Del Shores, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2016, One Slight Hitch, by Lewis Black, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2016, The Foursome, by Norm Foster, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2015, Prospect High: Brooklyn, by Daniel Robert Sullivan and the 46th St. Collective, TAPA, Prov, RI
2015, Flamingo Court, by Luigi Creatore, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2015, Killjoy, by Jerry Mayer, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2015, The Glass Menagerie, by Tennessee Williams, TAPA, Providence, RI
2015, When the Cat's Away, by Johnnie Mortimer & Brian Cooke, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2014, Lie, Cheat & Genuflect, by Billy Van Zandt & Jane Milmore, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI
2014, Hay Fever, by Noël Coward, Rhode Island Stage Ensemble, The Assembly Theater, Burrillville, RI
2014, Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott, Adapted by Marisha Chamberlain, WMS, Woonsocket, RI
2013, Miracle on 34th Street in Black & White, by George Seaton, Adapted by Christian O'Neill, Rhode Island Stage Ensemble, The Assembly Theater, Burrillville, RI
2013, My Son Pinocchio, Jr., by David Stern and Stephen Schwart, Stadium Theater, Woonsocket, RI
2013, Midsummer Night's Midterm, by Robert Lavohn, WMS, Woonsocket, RI
2012, Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr., by Richard Morris and Dick Scanlan, WMS, Woonsocket, RI
2011, Anne of Green Gables, by L. M. Montgomery, Adapted by Peter DeLaurier, WMS, Woonsocket, RI
2010, Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott, Adapted by Marisha Chamberlain, WMS, Woonsocket, RI
2009, Midsummer Night's Midterm, by Robert Lavohn, WMS, Woonsocket, RI
1997 to 2011, Reality Check, Franklin Pierce University, Rindge, NH

THEATRICAL DIRECTOR (Staged Readings & Play Development Workshops)

2022, A Haunted Pyromaniac Extravaganza, by Kendra Philips, Zoom
2022, Money Talks Too Loud, by Rex McGregor, Orange Players, Orange, CT
2022, Rescue Me, by Peter Story & Tara Sissom, B Street Theatre, Sacramento, CA
2016, Every 28 Hours, by Joe Wilson Jr., Trinity Rep, Providence, RI
2015, The Narraganset Bay Plays, Manton Avenue Project, Providence, RI
2015, Every 28 Hours, by Joe Wilson Jr., Trinity Rep, Providence, RI
2009, Placeholder, Rhode Island International Film Festival, Providence, RI
2008, 5 Award-Winning Screenplays, Rhode Island International Film Festival, Providence, RI

FILM DIRECTOR

2013, By The Book, Love Thy Job, New London, CT
2013, The In-Between, Love Thy Job, Narraganset, RI
2011, Cost of the Living: A Zom Rom Com, Love Thy Job, New London, CT
2011, The Rookie, ImprovBoston, Boston, MA
2010, The Book Barn Commercial, The Book Barn, Love Thy Job, Niantic, CT
2009, The Best Part of Staying Up, Love Thy Job, Fall River, MA
2009, Lake Shore, Two Bedroom, Love Thy Job, Wrentham, MA
2009, Bitch Magazine Commercial, Bitch Magazine, Love Thy Job, Providence, RI
2009, Half-Written, Love Thy Job, Warren, RI
2009, Rashomon, Love Thy Job, Pawtucket, RI
2008, West Elmwood Industrial, West Elmwood Housing, Love Thy Job, Providence, RI
2008, Folded in Two, Love Thy Job, North Kingstown, RI
2008, RI Welcome Back Center, Dorcas Place, Love Thy Job, Providence, RI

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2007, NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley Industrial, NWBRV, Love Thy Job, Woonsocket, RI
2007, The Pitch, Love Thy Job, Providence, RI
2006, Used Books, Love Thy Job, Niantic, CT

IMPROV DIRECTOR

2008 to Present, Bring Your Own Improv, Warwick Center for the Arts, Warwick, RI

WRITING (Full-Length Works Produced)

2021, A Christmas for Carol
2019, A Midsummer Night's Musical
2018, Amor, Pérdida y Expectativas of Jack and Jill
2011, Cost of the Living: A Zom Rom Com

HONORS & AWARDS

2020, Winner for Best Event in West Bay, Bring Your Own Improv, Rhode Island Magazine
2018, Winner for Best Event in West Bay, Bring Your Own Improv, Rhode Island Magazine
2018, Winner for Best Comedy Show, Bring Your Own Improv, Motif Magazine
2017, Winner for Best Comedy Show, Bring Your Own Improv, Motif Magazine
2016, Winner for Best Comedy Show, Bring Your Own Improv, Motif Magazine
2015, Winner for Best Comedy Show, Bring Your Own Improv, Motif Magazine
2013, Winner for Best Comedy Show, Bring Your Own Improv, Motif Magazine
2013, Official Selection, Cost of the Living, The Israeli Annual Sci-Fi & Fantasy Convention
2012, Audience Award & Best Regional Feature, Cost of the Living, SENE Music & Arts Festival RI
2012, Best Comedy, Cost of the Living, Detroit Windsor International Film Festival
2012, Best Feature, Cost of the Living, ZED Fest LA
2012, Official Selection, Cost of the Living, Rhode Island Comic Con
2012, Official Selection, Cost of the Living, Boston International Film Festival
2012, Official Selection, Cost of the Living, Late Night Horror Film Festival, Long Beach, CA
2011-Present, Official State Approved RI Teaching Artist, Rhode Island State Council of the Arts
2009, Leadership Award, Reality Check, The Jenzabar Foundation
2008, Presidents Award, Reality Check, Campus Compact of New Hampshire
2007, Official Selection, Used Books, Rhode Island International Film Festival
2007, Audience Favorite & Second Runner Up, The Pitch, 48 Hour Film Project, Providence
2006, Audience Favorite and Best Screenplay, And They Lived..., 48 Hour Film Project, Providence

CRITICAL ACCLAIM/QUOTES

2019, Boeing, Boeing, Newport Playhouse, Newport, RI - Broadway World
"Director White keeps that fun and entertainment value ratcheted up, going for quick pace and big, broad comedy. ...White builds the momentum and energy steadily over the run time, heading towards the inevitable and well-staged climactic craziness. White's cast is clearly having fun with that craziness that they're asked to create onstage."
2011, Cost of the Living: A Zom Rom Com - Mail Order Zombie
"A lot more people need to see this movie!"
2011, Cost of the Living: A Zom Rom Com - Motif Magazine
"...at times funny, frightening, touching or simply surreal."
2011, Cost of the Living: A Zom Rom Com - Film Threat
"The opening minutes are incredible..."

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EDUCATOR STATEMENT

I have extensive experience in theatrical education and thrive at collaborating with my students to build work that embodies their cultures, identities, politics, voices, and experiences and brings them a deep sense of pride. From performing arts high schools and improvisational comedy troupes to after-school programming and social awareness performances, my work is deeply rooted in my passion for making theatre accessible for all. My students learn the foundation of the theatrical arts in both theory and practice. I have led them in producing both large-scale productions and more individual projects. These experiences have opened my eyes to new ways of making my work accessible to more diverse audiences. Finally, in seeking new experiences for my students, I have developed strong partnerships with surrounding theatre communities.

EDUCATOR

2023, Improv Workshop Facilitator, Catawba College, Salisbury, NC
2023, Performance Educator, The Gamm Theatre, Warwick, RI
2022, ETA – Alabama Theatre Conference, Vestavia Hills High School, Birmingham, AL
Dramatic Improv, Introduction to Commedia dell'Arte and Accessible Shakespeare
2017, ETA – Rhode Island Theatre Conference, Saint Raphael Academy, Pawtucket, RI
Dramatic Improv, Introduction to Commedia dell'Arte and Accessible Shakespeare
2016, ETA – Rhode Island Theatre Conference, Saint Raphael Academy, Pawtucket, RI
Dramatic Improv, Introduction to Commedia dell'Arte and Accessible Shakespeare
2014-present, Improv Instructor, Bring Your Own Improv's Youth Collective, Warwick, RI
2014-2020, Theatre Artist in Residence, Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts, Providence, RI
Introduction to Acting, Shakespeare, Improv, Stage Combat, Script Writing and Directing
2012-2014, Improv & Acting Classes, Warwick Center for the Arts, Warwick, RI
2011-present, Official State Approved Rhode Island Teaching Artist, RISCA, State of Rhode Island
2010, Film Instructor, ¡City Arts! Providence, RI
2009-2014, Instructor, Connecting for Children & Families, Woonsocket, RI
Acting, Improv, Filmmaking & Photography
2008-2010, Acting Instructor, The Academy of Cinema & Television, Providence, RI
2007-2015, Acting Instructor, Performing Arts Programs, South Windsor, CT
2007-2009, The Bushnell Youth Acting Program, The Bushnell, Hartford, CT

EDUCATOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2018, Student won Rhode Island Poetry Out Loud Champion
2018, Student won Rhode Island State Shakespeare Champion
2017, Student won Rhode Island State Shakespeare Champion
2016, Student won Rhode Island State Shakespeare Champion

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023, Comedia Dell'Arte, Mask Commedia, Virginia Scott, Wilbury Group, Providence, RI
2023, Red Nose Clown, Down to Clown, Mycah Hogan, Wilbury Group, Providence, RI
2023, Improv Training, Being A Dream Partner, Jill Bernard, OIF @ CTC, Wakefield, RI
2019, Improv Training, The Dollhouse, TJ Mannix, PIF, Providence, RI
2019, Improv Training, Improv S.O.S., Andel Sudik, PIF, Providence, RI
2018, Improv Training, Less Talk, More Play, Frédéric Barbusci, PIF, Providence, RI

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2018, Improv Training, Slow Down, Objects at Work, Chris Moody, PIF, Providence, RI
2017, Improv Training, Sell It!, Craig Cackowski, PIF, Providence, RI
2017, Improv Training, The New Movement, Chris Trew, PIF, Providence, RI
2016, Teaching Shakespeare, English Speaking Union, New York, NY
2015, Improv Training, Jules Munns & Katy Schutte, The Nursery, London, England
2015, Improv Training, The Art of Slow Improv, Jimmy Carrane, PIF, Providence, RI
2011 - 2012, Improv Training, Will Luera & Erik Volkert, ImprovBoston, Boston, MA
1999, Acting for the Stage, Murray Woodfield, London, England
1999, Stage Combat, Brett Yount, London, England

SERVICE

2021-Present, Vice President of the Board, Warwick Center for the Arts, Warwick, RI
2020-Present, Board Member, Warwick Center for the Arts, Warwick, RI
2014-2020, BYOI Performer, Hasbro Children's Hospital, Izzy Room, Providence, RI
2007-2011, Honorary Capstone Film Judge, Beacon Charter High School, Woonsocket, RI
2005-2008, Founding Board Member, Rhode Island Film Collaborative, Providence, RI