

ARIEL STESS
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UPCOMING-----

AWARDS & EDUCATION-----

2013-14 Mabou Mines Suite Artist Resident
2013-14 Audrey Resident, New Georges
2013-14 Falcons Emerging Writer's Group, Clubbed Thumb
New Georges Affiliated Artist
MFA Playwriting Brooklyn College
BA Theatre/Playwriting Bard College

PLAYS-----

"I'M PRETTY FUCKED UP OR THE HOWLS AND SOUNDS PLAY"

Comedy-Drama, Full-length

4M, 3W

Flexible Set

Set in Santa Fe, New Mexico, this play looks at five teenager's interlocking experiences on the day of a shooting at their public high school.

Superlab at Playwrights Horizons, NYC, directed by Kip Fagan (Feb. 2014).

Workshop presented by New Georges' The Room, NYC, directed by Ariel Stess (June 2013). Reading presented at Dixon Place's Works in Progress Series (Feb. 2013).

"HE ATE QUIETLY INTO THE WALL"

One-Act Drama

4W, 2M

Flexible Set

A woman wanders into her living room in the middle of the night to find an old friend of her husband's asleep on the couch. They speak through the night about matters of consequence and matters of no importance. Interwoven with their conversation is the story of two eight-year-old children playing in a fort in the desert --- preparing for war.

Presented by New Georges at the New Ohio, NYC (Dec. 2013), directed by Morgan Green.

Produced and directed by Ariel Stess at Page 22's "Pop Up Theater" series curated by Tony Torn, NYC (Sept. 2012).

Excerpt at Foxy Films, Brooklyn (October 2011).

"HEARTBREAK"

One-Act Comedy-Drama

2W, 2M

Hallway

A man contemplates his life's work, his wife, his daughter, and his homes.

Workshop presented by New Georges as part of their 2013-14 Inaugural Audrey Residency Program, directed by Ariel Stess (July and August 2013).

"LARGER AND LARGER"

Comedy-Drama, Thirty-minute episodes; episode 2

2M, 1W

A play about the two men who are holding their high school sweetheart captive as they try to decide what to eat for dinner.

Produced and directed by Ariel Stess at Uncanny Valley, curated by Ben Gassman and Normandy Sherwood, Long Island City (July 2012).

"LARGER OBJECTS"

Comedy-Drama, Thirty-minute episodes; episode 1

2M, 1W

Flexible Set

A play about a woman being held captive by her high school sweethearts.

Produced by Ariel Stess; directed by Samuel Stonefield at The Observatory, Brooklyn (Dec. 2011)

"THE LOCK AND DOOR"

Comedy-Drama, Full-length

2M, 2W

Set in a small town in the Southwest, this play depicts a couple uninspired by the constraints of monogamy and in search of a deeper understanding of themselves. They bait their friends, Ronald and Julie, into enacting a social experiment to achieve a more complex romantic connection and, in doing so, unravel Ronald and Julie's marriage.

Reading at the Bushwick Starr directed by Meghan Finn (April 2012); Excerpt performed at Barbes, Brooklyn (Aug. 2010). Excerpt directed/produced by Ariel Stess at Little Theatre at Dixon Place, NYC (Dec. 2010). Excerpt performed at Jimmy's No. 43, NYC; Reading: Brooklyn College (Oct. 2010).

"HIGHLIGHTS IN HOLLYWOOD"

Comedy, Twenty-Minute Short

3M, 1W

Flexible Set

Inspired by Wittgenstein's *Tractatus Logico Philosophicus* and Wittgenstein's favorite 1940's detective novel, *Sally's in the Alley*. *Highlights in Hollywood* comes to life as the narrator re-imagines the first scene from the book through the framework of Wittgenstein's ideas about the interdependence of objects and their contexts. Two government men deliver a telegram to Doan, a private eye, and his sidekick Carstairs, a frighteningly large Great Dane. Orders from Washington say the detective team is to set out on a journey through the Mojave Desert to find a wanted man named Dust Mouth Haggarty.

Directed by Sarah Rasmussen in The Weasel Festival at East Thirteenth Street Theatre, NYC (Aug. 2011).

"THE ONLY GIRL IN THE HOT TUB"

Comedy-Drama, Full-length

4M, 4W

Flexible Set

On a still New Mexican morning, within the dim corridors of El Sangre Fitness, Swim and Racquet Club, the adolescent employees greet and check in their guests. Tenth-grader Annie soaks in the hot tub in her black bikini while Ray, who has just gotten out of jail on a DWI charge, keeps a friendly watch over her. And the lawyer and judge prepare for their workouts. This comedy-drama follows adults in power and the youth they are meant to look after. It ponders the implications of seemingly insignificant oversights by those in charge.

Directed by Barbara Harrison at the Page 22 Reading Series curated by Tony Torn and Elissa Middleton, NYC (Nov. 2011); Developed with Roundtable at the Lark (Feb. 2013).

"KOSONOM"

Comedy-Drama, 10 Minutes

1M, 1W

Flexible Set

Set in Eger, a small town in Northern Hungary, the play examines the relationship between traveller and local and the objects that define home. A young woman wanders into the office of the Hungarian railroad at 3 a.m. to ask when the next train will arrive. The railroad man offers the young woman his bed until the train comes at 6 a.m.

"PROWLERS IN THE NIGHT"

One-Act Drama

4M, 3W

Flexible Set

Girl, a senior in high school, finds herself romantically entangled with her next-door-neighbour's father, a disenchanted veteran who, due to a bullet wound, has lost all feeling in his left arm. Set in present-day, *Prowlers in the Night* charts *Girl's* coming of age in a sprawling desert town as her neighbour's dog goes missing and the summer heat rises.

Produced by Bard College Theatre Department; Directed by May Adrales (2008).

"THE WAITER"

One-Act Drama

2M, 2W

Flexible Set

Set in the studio apartment of a restless twenty-three year old server, this play follows *Waiter* as he bleaches the walls of his apartment to erase the smoke stains from the previous year. His visitors include the hostess, the bar regular, and his mother --- who comes by to drop off a carton of *American Spirits*.

Reading: Resnick Studio, Bard College (2005).

EMPLOYMENT (SELECTED)-----

Program in Dramatic Literature at NYU, NYC January 2014 – current

Adjunct Instructor; Drama in Performance in New York

- Lead a seminar focused on contemporary performance in NYC.
- Accompany students to NYC premieres.

Stern College for Women Yeshiva University, NYC September 2012 - current

Adjunct Instructor; Composition and Rhetoric

- Instruct students in introductory writing seminar focused on Chekhov short stories.
- Attend and contribute to faculty development workshops; implement pedagogy

City University of New York, NYC January 2011 - present

Adjunct Lecturer; Playwriting, Intro to Creative Writing, English Composition 1, English Composition 2, Literature and Film, STAR Early College High School, English Composition 101

- Teach at two major CUNY Campuses: Brooklyn College and Borough of Manhattan Community College.
- Create curriculum for courses listed above; maintain files for over 90 students.

- Develop and implement writing strategies to achieve the English Composition learning outcomes.
- Maintain weekly lesson plans for up to 4 different courses per semester.

Bard Prison Initiative, NYC

September 2011 – January 2013

Academic Advisor; Writing Tutor

- Scheduled and conducted academic advising meetings with Bard students within the Bayview Correctional Facility; acted as sounding board for students' academic and personal challenges.
- Conducted one-on-one writing tutoring sessions with Bard students at Bayview; maintained student files.

REFERENCES-----

Upon Request.