

Meridith C. Grundei

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

A. Degrees

M.F.A. Naropa University: Contemporary Performance
B.A. Colorado State University: Liberal Arts. Minor in Theatre

B. Specific Education and Training (starting with most recent):

Master Viewpoints Workshop with Mary Overlie, NYC
Master Workshop for Directors with Anne Bogart of SITI CO., NYC
The Theatricians a training collective for actors, Boulder CO.
Roy Hart Technique: Ethie Friend
Viewpoints and Suzuki: Wendell Beavers,
The SITI Company; Leon Ingulsrud, Akiko Aizawa, Barney O'Hanlon
Moment Work: Moises Kaufman and Leigh Fondakowski
Grotowski: Stephen Wangh
Lecoq: Jon Sherman
Dance: Dan Safer, Onye Ozuzu
Dance: Jazz, Modern and Hip-hop
Body Mind Centering: Erika Berland and Wendell Beavers
Pedagogical Training in Theatre: Stephen Wangh
Improv Training: iO Chicago, The Second City, Chicago
Michael Chekhov Technique: Dawn Arnold and Jessica Cerullo
On-Camera training for film, Jane Alderman
On-Camera and Improv, Adam McKay
Completed training, iO Chicago: Improvisation
Suzuki Training, Jeffrey Bihl
Commedia Dell'Arte, Daniel Stein
Biomechanics: Gennadi Bogdanav
Moliere Intensive: Margot Whitcomb, A.C.T.
Stanislavsky Method: Morris Burns and Wendy Ishii
Experimental and Devised Theatre: Helen Richardson

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Director, (contract) *Out of The Blue*, Eli Hans solo performance, San Miguel De Allende, MX. Spring 2022

Founder and owner of Meridith Grundei Coaching
Presentation Skills, Public Speaking and Team Building, New York, NY
2010- Present

The Peoples Improv Theater (The PIT) Current faculty. Improv classes for various levels with a focus on scene work and character. New York City, NY

AWARDS AND GRANTS

SDCF Observership Class of 2019/20, NYC

Recipient of the 2017 True West Award, Denver CO

Denver Henry Nomination for: Outstanding Direction of a Musical for Beowulf: A Thousand Years of Baggage, The Catamounts Boulder CO

Recognized as top 100 Colorado Creatives by the Westword, February 16, 2017, Denver, CO.

Nominated for Best Actress in a Comedy as Messenger #3, Messenger #1 (Jackson) by 2012 True West Awards, The Catamounts, Boulder CO

Best Actress in a Drama as Mel in God's Ear (Schwartz) by the Boulder Daily Camera, 2011.

Nominated for Best Actress in a Comedy as Leslie in The House of Yes (MacCleod) by Boulder Daily Camera, 2008

Awarded \$1000.00 from Boulder County Arts Alliance to attend the 2013 Americans for the Arts Conference in Pittsburgh PA

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

A. Artistic and Teaching (starting with most recent):

Actor, *Banished*/ staged reading with Co-Lab Arts, NJ
Actor, *Animal Farm*/ staged reading with Fellowship of the Performing Arts, NYC
Guest collaborator, *Casa Cushman*/ play in development with Leigh Fondakowski, NYC
Guest Artist, The Improv People, San Miguel De Allende, MX
Guest Improv Teacher, Florida State University: *No Bears Allowed* Tallahassee, FL
Presentation skills coach and team facilitator for Red Ball Speaks, LLC
Associate Company Member, LOCAL Theatre Co., Boulder CO
Resident Actor and Director, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Guest Artist, Naropa University M.F.A., Boulder CO
Guest Artist, The Omega Institute, Upstate NY
Guest Artist, ConterPulse and ECHO SUITCASE, San Francisco CA
Resident performer with Playback Theatre West, Boulder/Denver CO
Adjunct Faculty, Naropa University B.A., Boulder CO
Teaching Artist, Creative Spaces, University of Northern Colorado
Visiting Teaching Artist, The Denver Center and The Second City, Denver CO
Improv Coach, Colorado State University: *Clown Box Comedy*
Teaching Artist, The Arvada Center, Arvada CO
Associate Faculty, The Second City Training Center, Chicago, IL
Team facilitator and creative coach, Center for Executive Presence, Chicago IL
Resident Acting Teacher, Prologue Theatre Company, Chicago IL

Resident Acting Teacher, Live Bait Theatre Company, Chicago IL
Teaching Artist, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, San Francisco CA
Resident Teaching Artist, Leap Arts in Education, San Francisco CA
Resident Teaching Artist, MARSH Theatre, San Francisco CA

B. Unions and Affiliations

Actor's Equity Association: Member
Screen Actor's Guild: Eligible
Stage Directors and Choreographers Society: Associate Member
StaterArts Member

CREATIVE WORK

A. Direction, Devised Work: professional

Words Unspoken (Marie, Bristoll):
New York Music Festival staged reading
NYMF fellow, January 2020 NYC

The Father Project (Grundeil):
A work in progress staged reading
52nd St. Project, NYC

Bite-Size, An evening of microtheatre (various):
Off-Center at The Denver Center for the Performing Arts

MOVE (ensemble created):
Naropa University, M.F.A. in Contemporary Performance,
1st Year Class, Boulder CO

Under Construction (Mee):
Naropa University, M.F.A. in Contemporary Performance,
2nd Year class, Boulder CO

BEOWULF: A Thousand Years of Baggage (Craig, Malloy):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO

FUTURA (Harrison):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO

There is A Happiness That Morning Is (Maher):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO

A Christmas Carol (Barlow):
co-director with Len Matheo
regional premiere, Miners Alley Playhouse, Golden CO

Moulin Scrooge (Gwinn):
Co- produced by The Band of Toughs and
WreckingBall Theater Lab, Boulder CO

Moulin Scrooge (Gwinn):
production previously seen in 2012 and now mounted for
The Bug Theatre in Denver CO. Co- produced by
The Band of Toughs and The Catamounts

One Act: A Fully Improvised One Act Play:
production previously seen at the 2012
Boulder International Fringe Festival
9 mo. season at The Dairy Arts Center, Boulder CO
Chicago Improv Festival, Chicago IL

Normal Heights (Grundeir, Walker):
world premiere, performances: International Boulder Fringe
Festival, Brighton England Fringe Festival,
City of Lafayette, Gay and Lesbian Alliance Choruses,
Out Boulder, University of Redlands and CU Boulder

One Act: A fully improvised one act play:
2012 Boulder International Fringe Festival

Escanaba in da Moonlight (Daniels)
The Evergreen Players, Evergreen CO

Paul Sill's Story Theatre (Sills):
The Evergreen Players, Evergreen CO

365 Plays/365 Days (Parks) July 30-August 5:
Bas Bleu Theatre Company, Fort Collins CO

B. Acting and Ensemble Performance: professional

Memory Home (Zoe Lasden-Lyman):
Workshop in residency at HB Studio, NYC
Role: Nurse

SWEAT, Improv on Bikes:
Off-Center at The Denver Center for the Performing Arts

On the U.S.S. Fortitude (Carlson):
Motherhood Out Loud,
Stories on Stage, Denver CO

The Taming of The Shrew (Shakespeare):
Colorado Shakespeare Festival
Role: Curtis/Understudy Kate

Sweet & Lucky (Morris and co-created with cast):
world premiere, The Denver Center for the Performing Arts
and Third Rail Projects co-production
workshop: the Colorado New Play Summit.
Role: "Grandma" and ensemble

FRANKENSTEIN (Dear):
director, *Tony and Olivier nominee*: Sam Buntrock
U.S. premier, The Denver Center for the Performing Arts
Role: servant, ensemble, understudy for Elizabeth

Spirits to Enforce (Maher):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Role: Ariel

FAITH (McLindon):
world premiere, LOCAL Theatre Company, Boulder CO
Role: Theresa

Mr. Burns, A post Electric Play (Washburn):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Role: Susanna, Lisa, Marge

Failure, A Love Story (Dawkins):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Role: Jenny June

Messenger #1 (Jackson):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Role: Messenger #3

The Three Faces of Dr. Crippen (Schwartz):
regional premiere, The Catamounts at
Buntport Theatre in Denver CO
Role: Cora

God's Ear (Schwartz):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Role: Mel

Mr. Spacky: The Man Who Was Continuously Followed by Wolves (Schwartz):
regional premiere, The Catamounts, Boulder CO
Role: Edwina

Songs of Meat and Cake:
world premiere, square product theatre, Boulder CO
Role: Ms. Bacon

Good Girls Don't, But I Do (Bruemmer-Holden):
square product theatre in co-production with
WreckingBall Theater Lab, Denver CO
Role: Ensemble

Sixteen Wounded (Kraiem):
regional premiere, Evergreen Players, Evergreen CO
Role: Nora

The House of Yes (MacCleod):
square product theatre, Boulder CO
Role: Lesley

Abound (Sherman):
world premiere, The Chopin Theatre Chicago IL
Sprung Movement Theatre, director Jon Sherman
Role: ensemble

Wireless I & II:
world premiere, Strawdog Theatre Company, Chicago IL
Role: Marcey Wade

Moulin Scrooge (Gwinn):
world premiere, iO Theatre, Chicago IL
Role: Ghost, Cabaret girl, Stage Manager

Air Tact Light (Scott):
world premiere, PAC Edge, Chicago IL
Role: various

The Dark Eyed Strangers: sketch comedy group,
performances: Donny Sky Box @The Second City,
Chicago Sketch Fest and various other locations

Airland (Scott):
world premiere, performance for the
Rhino Festival, Chicago IL
Role: Mary

Variety of shows with iO Chicago house teams (improvisation):
Miss Texas, Concept Album, Shuttle Cock

Better Days (Chadsey):
director Kent Nicholson,
world premiere, The Exit Theatre, San Francisco, CA
Role: Pearl/Peggy

The Misanthrope (Moliere, Congdon adaptation):
director, Carey Perloff
The American Conservatory Theatre, San Francisco CA

Breton's Dream:
world premiere for San Francisco Fringe Festival
Role: Dancing ballerina, Meret Oppenheim

Bits and Pieces of Ionesco (Ionesco, Owen adaptation):
world premiere, The Exit Theatre, San Francisco CA
Role: Jacqueline

RESEARCH/WRITING

A. In Process

Ongoing research in using improvisational and immersive theatre forms to devise work using source material, story structure, moment work and the viewpoints. The research has resulted in several workshops utilizing the tools of the stage to develop work. Through the above methodologies of theatre I have been investigating the intersection of individual stories, identity and cultural perception:

NOTHING FURTHER. *On-going*

is a work in progress focusing on perception and performance identity. My focus on source material is inspired by the life of my deceased father, veterans of war and sexual identity. **Public work-in-progress showing on September 26, 2019**

B. Previous

Bite-Size, An Evening of Microtheatre 2018; One Act: A fully improvised play 2012; SWEAT: improv on bikes, 2013; Normal Heights 2013.

Bite-Size, An Evening of Micro Theater (Creator/Director) Off-Center at The Denver Center Theater Company: creator and director in a sight specific, micro-theatre experience. This was a proposal I submitted to the Denver Center in the Spring of 2017. It was a series of 15 minute plays written by local playwrights inspired by The BookBar. A sight-specific local business in Denver where the event happened.

One Act (Creator/ Director) was a fully improvised one act play with 9 actors. Using the structure of a story, movement and live accompaniment. This show was a success at the Boulder International Fringe Festival and went on to performing a 9 month season at The Dairy Arts Center in Boulder, CO.

SWEAT, Improv on bikes (Actor) was a piece I pitched to The Denver Center for the Performing Arts and their Off-Center program. Myself, another actor and a musician on a tricked-out musical bike performed a 60min. structured improvisational show on bikes with projections and limited audience participation.

Normal Heights (Creator/ Director) is a musical about a gay man growing up in the 50's and 60's. Inspired by one man's journal this piece was developed using movement, song and improvisation. Myself, the actor and the composer used moment work as a structure for creating work. This piece was a success with rave reviews for The Boulder International Fringe Festival, The Brighton Fringe Festival in England, University of Redlands and The University of Colorado, Boulder

SERVICE

A. Professional

NYC Regional Coordinator and Founder: StateraArts Mentorship Program
Presenter, StaterArts Conference, Milwaukee, WI, 2018
Actor, Local Theatre Lab's New Play Festival
Student Mentor, Naropa University
Presenter, STATERA Conference, Denver CO, 2016
Actor, Local Theatre Lab's New Play Festival
Actor, Denver Stories: Curious Theatre Company
Actor, Local Theatre Lab's New Play Festival
Actor, Denver Stories: Curious Theatre Company
Performer, Balls A Holiday Spectacular, Fundraiser
Company member, Playback Theatre West
Director, Curious New Voices, Curious Theatre Company
Presenter, University/Resident Theatre Association
Playwright competition w/ Dean Goodman, San Francisco: Judge

B. Community

2017	Teacher for Lafayette Peer Empowerment Program
2016	Mentor, MADE Life accelerator program, Boulder CO
2016	Teacher, Lafayette Youth Services career program
2015	Presenter, Ignite Denver
2013	Adjudicator, The Next Denver Improv Star
2011-2012	Board Member, Lafayette Arts Commission
2011, 2013	Teacher, and adjudicator for Jeffco Improv Festival
2002	Volunteer, Somalian refugees, Chicago IL

TEACHING

A. Meridith Grundeil Coaching

2010-ongoing: **Lead facilitator** for 50+ workshops in creative team collaboration, global. Clients include: CU LEEDS School of Business, Hayes Lemmerz (global), Johnson & Johnson, DePuy, SurveyGizmo, CEAVCO. Mercer and many others.

B. Naropa University, Boulder CO

2018/19	Fall:	Guest Director , <u>MOVE</u> , an evening of unique theatre (devised) M.F.A. 1st year fall performance.
	Fall:	Guest Professor , <u>The Business of Acting</u> M.F.A. in Contemporary Performance.
2017/18	Fall:	Guest Director , <u>Under Construction</u> (Mee) M.F.A. 2nd year fall performance.
	Fall/Spring:	Guest Professor , <u>The Business of Acting</u> M.F.A. in Contemporary Performance.
2015	Fall:	Guest Artist , Long form improvisation basics -working with Stephen Wangh leading to final, devised M.F.A. performance.

2013	Fall:	Guest Artist , Improvisation and script development for original showing of Siddhartha, Naropa M.F.A. performance.
2009	Spring:	Adjunct Professor , Improvisation and Theatre Games (PFAR250)
2010	Spring:	Adjunct Professor , Improvisation and Theatre Games (PFAR250)

C. The Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Denver CO

2016-2018	Year round:	Presentation and public speaking skills
2009	Summer:	The Viewpoints and Improvisation

D. The Arvada Center, Arvada CO

2006-2008	Spring:	Improv Theatre Forms
	Summer:	Yes And! Intermediate Improv
	Fall:	Beginning Improvisation
	Winter:	Beginning Improvisation

E. The Second City Training Center, Chicago IL and Denver, CO

2007	Spring:	Beginning Improvisation
2003-2005	Fall:	Levels A-D
	Winter:	Performance Level

**Instrumental in developing youth program, has grown to be one of their largest grossing programs.*