

SARA HOLDREN DIRECTOR | WRITER | TEACHER



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I am a director, writer, and teacher originally from Charlottesville, Virginia. I like to make *big* plays — expansive stories characterized by striking visual worlds, physical and verbal dexterity, a sense of humor and of the other-worldly. I am also the theater critic for *New York* magazine/Vulture.com and the winner of the 2016-17 George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism. Currently I live in Brooklyn, where I balance directing projects with my work as a critic. My work reflects an enduring love of classical texts combined with a deep interest in adaptation and ensemble-driven theater. As a director and a theater educator, I strive for both intellectual rigor and physical ferocity, informed irreverence, and a spirit of joy, collaboration, and play.

DIRECTING (selected)

Macbeth (upcoming)	William Shakespeare, adpt. Sara Holdren	Two River Theater / Red Bank, NJ
The Comedy of Errors	William Shakespeare, adpt. Sara Holdren	Two River Theater / Red Bank, NJ
The Diary of One Who Vanished	Leos Janacek	Cantata Profana / NYC
MIDSUMMER	adpt. Sara Holdren & Rachel Carpman	Tiltyard / NYC
Orlando	Virginia Woolf, adpt. Sarah Ruhl	Yale Summer Cabaret / New Haven, CT
MIDSUMMER	adpt. Sara Holdren & Rachel Carpman from Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night Dream	Yale Summer Cabaret / New Haven, CT
Deer and the Lovers	Emily Zemba	Yale School of Drama / New Haven, CT
The Zero Scenario	Ryan Campbell	Yale Cabaret / New Haven, CT
The Master & Margarita	Mikhail Bulgakov, adpt. Edward Kemp	Yale School of Drama / New Haven, CT
A New Saint for a New World	Ryan Campbell	Yale Cabaret / New Haven, CT
Measure for Measure	William Shakespeare	Yale School of Drama / New Haven, CT
He Who Gets Slapped	Leonid Andreyev, adpt. Sara Holdren	Live Arts / Charlottesville, VA
The Tempest	William Shakespeare	Four County Players / Barboursville, VA
Henry IV, Parts 1 & 2	William Shakespeare, adpt. Sara Holdren	Live Arts / Charlottesville, VA

ASSISTANT DIRECTING

Carmen	dir. Louisa Proske	Heartbeat Opera, NYC
Love's Labour's Lost	dir. Kathleen Marshall	The Old Globe, San Diego, CA
Macbeth	dir. Brian Kulick	The Old Globe, San Diego, CA
A Streetcar Named Desire	dir. Mark Rucker	Yale Repertory Theater / New Haven, CT

TEACHING

The New School Graduate Acting Program (NYC) — Taught acting based in the late-Stanislavsky technique of Analysis Through Action.
Primary Stages, Einhorn School of Performing Arts (NYC) — Taught three semesters of Analysis Through Action at ESPA.
Shakespeare Academy @ Stratford (Stratford, CT) — Led ensemble/physical theater workshops in SA@S's inaugural season, summer 2014.
American Shakespeare Center (Staunton, VA) — Adapted and directed *Romeo & Juliet* for an ensemble of young actors and led workshops.
Live Arts (Charlottesville, VA) — Adapted and directed *Twelfth Night* for young actors; led classes in Shakespeare's text and physical theater.

- I have also been invited to discuss theater and theater criticism in classes at Yale, Columbia, New York University, and (upcoming) Cornell, as well as at the Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, D.C., and conferences with the American Theatre Critics Association and (upcoming) the National Alliance for Musical Theatre.

ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CO-FOUNDER — Tiltyard, NYC (www.tiltyard.org)

- In the summer of 2016 I co-founded Tiltyard, a Brooklyn-based theater company devoted to reimagining classic texts.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR — Yale Summer Cabaret, New Haven, CT

- In the summer of 2015 I served as Artistic Director of the Yale Summer Cabaret, an independent, student-run non-profit theater with a 40-year history where I and my collaborators programmed and produced a full summer season of plays and special events.

ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR — Shakespeare Academy @ Stratford, Stratford, CT

- In the summer of 2014 I assisted in the creation and administration of this intensive training program for college students.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Yale School of Drama — MFA in Directing, 2015

Yale University — BA, magna cum laude, Theater Studies, 2008

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art — Acting Shakespeare Program, 2006

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

2016-17 George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism

Classical Directing Fellowship — The Drama League, 2016

Julian Milton Kaufman Memorial Prize — Yale School of Drama, 2015