

Dylan Southard

dylansouthard@gmail.com • 510.541.8686
www.dylansouthard.com

THEATER EXPERIENCE

The Robey Theatre Company *dedicated to plays written about the Global Black Experience* 2006—2020
Resident Dramaturg/Playwriting Instructor

- Led the company's Playwrights Lab, meeting weekly to provide editorial and creative support for writers; designed lab's curriculum, including writing exercises, and guided feedback.
- Oversaw continued script development on plays developed in the Playwright's Lab, including workshops, readings and full productions.
- Managed online publication of select plays, including contract negotiations, formatting and design.

Needtheater *an award-winning non-profit theater company dedicated to new play development* 2008—2014
Artistic Director (2011—2014)

Literary Manager & Dramaturg (2008—2011)

- **Creative Development & Production:** Read and assessed submitted scripts, and selected plays for production; coordinated ongoing development of new work through readings and workshops; built and maintained writer and director lists; produced, directed and dramaturged full productions.
- **Brand Identity:** Conceived, developed and designed company's identity through season planning as well as outreach events, and all consumer-facing content.
- **Financial & Business Management:** Led all organizational planning; grew and maintained relationships with stakeholders; managed the company's donor database; executed fundraising events; oversaw budgets; identified and maintained grants.

PRODUCTION DRAMATURGY 2003—

- **New Play Development:** Evaluate and edit scripts, lead workshops, and produce notes for writers and directors.
- **Text Analysis:** Facilitate public and internal discussions, including post-show talkbacks; write program notes.
- **Research Coordination:** Conduct research and analyze material related to production history, themes, context and intentions; organize and present material to production teams in a clear and concise manner.

credits on over fifty productions and developmental workshops in Southern California.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute 2024—
Guest Faculty

- Teach courses in theatre history and text analysis.

California State University 2020—
Lecturer, Department of Theatre and New Dance, Cal Poly Pomona (2022—)
Guest Artist, CSU Summer Arts (2021)

Lecturer, Department of Theatre Arts, CSU-Long Beach (2020)

- Teach undergraduate courses in dramaturgy, film history and interactive VR storytelling.
- Prepare and deliver lectures; develop, assign and evaluate coursework; implement assessments.
- Adapted syllabus for remote learning and learned online teaching tools following pandemic.

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

VR Playhouse a creative agency specializing in 360° video and XR experiences

2014—2018

Creative Director

- **Artistic Leadership:** Wrote and edited scripts, decks and design documents; identified talent and sourced material; led editorial briefings and ideation; responded to RFPs; designed visual and textual assets; organized reference material; oversaw casting and rehearsals, delivered pitch presentations.
- **Public Relations & Market Development:** Created content for social media; wrote marketing copy; represented company at industry events in order to establish presence and align brand vision.
- **Project Management:** Led production teams; served as point of contact for clients; prepared and maintained project-planning and user-experience documentation.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Speaking Engagements:** 2017 Youtube VR Creators Lab; Digital Hollywood, “VR: The Director’s Cut,” 2017; Open Innovations Forum, “AR/VR Tech: Fantasies Become Real,” Moscow, 2016; USC Marshall School of Business, “Storytelling, World-building & the Business Of Fun: Gaming & Interactive Entertainment,” 2016
- **Critical Writing:**
 - [“Theatre on the Small Screen” *American Theatre*, 2017](#)
 - [“Writing for VR: The Definitive Guide” *VR Scout*, 2017](#)
 - [“The Peculiar Joys of a Bad Script” *Howlround*, 2012](#)

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts, Theater and Italian Studies; Wesleyan University; Middletown, CT

SKILLS

- Experienced with Macs and PCs, WordPress, Final Draft, Slack, G Suite, Adobe creative suite
- Fluent in Italian, proficient in Spanish

SELECT THEATRE CREDITS

* = world premiere production

Production Dramaturg

- *Lavender Men*, by Roger Q. Mason, Skylight Theater, 2022 *
- *Safe Harbor*, by Tira Palmquist, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, 2019 *
- *Native Son*, by Nambi E. Kelley, Antaeus Theatre, 2018
 - winner: Best Adaptation, 2018 Stage Raw Awards
- *Her Portmanteau*, by Mfoniso Udofia, Boston Court Pasadena, 2018
- *The Kaidan Project*, an immersive experience by Chelsea Sutton & Lisa Dring, Rogue Artists Ensemble, 2017 *
 - nominated: Best Production of the Year (Intimate), 2018 Ovation Awards
- *Pure Confidence*, by Carlyle Brown, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, 2017
- *Sideways Fences*, by Oscar Arguello, Casa 0101, 2017 *
- *Dontrelle, Who Kissed The Sea*, by Nathan Alan Davis, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, 2015 *
- *Wood Boy Dog Fish*, by Chelsea Sutton, Rogue Artists Ensemble, 2015 *
 - nominated: Best Adaptation, 2016 Stage Raw Awards
- *Bulrusher*, by Eisa Davis, directed by Nataki Garrett, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, 2014
- *Elmina’s Kitchen*, by Kwame Kwei-Armah, Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, 2012
- *The Web*, by Michael John Garces, Needtheater, 2010 *
- *Fatboy*, by Tom Clancy, Needtheater, 2008
 - Winner: 3 L.A. Weekly Theater Awards
- *Speed-The-Plow*, by David Mamet, dir: Daniel Fish, Centerstage, 2004

Full credit list available at www.dylansouthard.com/theater