

## Lisa Haas

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U.S. Citizen

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### EDUCATION

M.F.A. Drama, University of Montana, Missoula, MT.  
Conferred – September 1992

B.F.A. Theatre, Loretto Heights College, Denver, CO. Concentration: Directing. Conferred – May 1987, MAGNA CUM LAUDE.

### ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Completed basic course of study in Long-Form Improv – Upright Citizens Brigade Training Center, NY, NY – 2018.
- Classroom Management Workshop through the Actors Work Program, taught by Howard Katzoff – Spring 2010.
- Member of the Safe Zone Program at New York University. A public identified ally to the LGBT student body. Available to provide various types of support upon request of students – 2005-06 AY.
- Artists Collaborating with Teachers Workshop, 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y, NY, NY – 2001.
- Teaching Artist Training Program, The Metropolitan Opera Guild, Creating Original Opera Program, NY, NY – 2000.
- Completed graduate courses in Family Therapy and Abnormal Psychology at the University of Denver and the University of Montana in conjunction with volunteering in the Psychiatric Occupational Therapy wing of St. Patrick's Hospital, Missoula, MT – 1992.
- Upper-division coursework in Gardner's Theories of Multiple Intelligences. Participated quarterly in Graduate Teaching Seminars during M.F.A. residency at the University of Montana – 1989-1992.
- Production Managing Internship, The Denver Center Theatre Company – 1987.

### FELLOWSHIPS, RESIDENCIES & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Artist-in-Residence at the Emerson Gallery Berlin, 2012
- Member of the National Academic Advising Association, 2006 – 2008
- Recipient of a Jerome Foundation Fellowship, 2001
- Artist-in-Residence at the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center, New York Mills, MN, 2001
- Dramatist's Guild of America, 1997 – 2009

### TEACHING POSITIONS

**Borough of Manhattan Community College**, Speech, Communications & Theatre Arts Dept., New York, NY, Fall 2017 – Present: *Adjunct Instructor*

- Teach Fundamentals of Speech (SPE-100): Students develop effective skills in speech communication for the public forum.
- Techniques for speaking with confidence and overcoming stage fright/anxiety are practiced.
- Ethics in public speaking, organizing and outlining, visual aids and elements of audience psychology are covered throughout the course.
- Students workshop and give final presentations of informative speeches, persuasive speeches and group presentations.

**Harlem Children's Zone, New York, NY**, May 2017 – present: *Writing Specialist*

- Build and teach an afterschool writing-centered curriculum interweaving academic skills with creative project-based learning for middle and high school students to:
  - Practice college-readiness writing
  - Develop confidence to view writing as an empowering mode of analysis and self-expression that will result in academic and professional success
  - Write personal statements for higher education applications
- Collaborate with staff, teachers and administrators on building interdisciplinary curricula that merges reading, writing, critical and creative thinking with other arts enrichment.

- Write observational notes, assessments and evaluations to help focus students' personal evolution and academic growth.
- Provide one-on-one support to students writing-centered critical thinking.
- Example of course designed and taught: **"Doodle: Writing & Drawing Your Story"**
  - Middle school students create short narratives using text and images. This course is designed to push student's abstract thinking and creative potential to express a narrative, with image and text. Comics/cartoons are a great medium for achieving this goal because comics inherently (and by a simple definition) are *juxtaposed images* (and in our case, *with text*) *in deliberate sequence, intended to convey information*. Drawing is used to aid cognition.

**Rutgers The State University of New Jersey**, New Brunswick, NJ, Fall 2010: *Part-Time Lecturer*

- Taught two sections of Expository Writing to incoming freshmen. Students read six essays from "The New Humanities Reader" and wrote five essays based on question prompts eliciting connective thinking between the essays.
- Through classroom assignments students learned developing a complex, independent thesis statement, which they would argue, analyze and support with textual evidence.
- Managed two classes of 22 students each; prepared in-class and outside writing assignments and graded weekly writing assignments according to departmental grading rubric.

**New York University**, General Studies Program, New York, NY, Spring 2009 and Spring 2010, *Guest Speaker, Writing II*

- Presented a unit on Dramatic Text with a focus on solo performance text.
- Students received an overview of traditional western drama and read texts of solo performers (from the U.S. the last 50 years).

**Charles Semper Elementary School**, Jefferson County Public Schools, CO, Spring 2010: *Guest Teaching Artist*

- Lead an acting workshop for 6<sup>th</sup> graders who were performers in their Creating Original Opera project. The focus was on projection/enunciation, character development and blocking.

**The Metropolitan Opera Guild's Education Department**, English as a Second Language After-School Script Writing Program, PS 189 New York, NY, Spring 2011: *Teaching Artist*

- Responsible for daily assessment reports addressing in detail instructional objectives and comprehension experiences.
- Assisted classroom teachers on developing a 10-week, 30 session curriculum for 50 students, grades 3-5 who participated in an after school English as a Second Language Program.
- Worked directly with students writing and re-writing a dramatic text in English to perform.
- Developed exercises to help native Spanish speakers enunciate the English language.

**Queens Theatre in the Park**, Cultural After School Adventure Program, PS 24, Flushing, NY, Spring '07: *Teaching Artist*

- Developed a 10-week curriculum and worked on-site with classroom coordinator for 20 sessions with participating students.
- Wrote bi-weekly progress and assessment reports.
- Coordinated final project presentation with Queens Theatre in the Park.
- Liaison between Queens Theatre in the Park's Artistic Director, Technical Director and PS 24's after school coordinator.

**Creative Pulse**, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, Summer 2006: *Guest Artist*

- Designed a presentation for first and second year students as a follow-up to their Narrative Intelligences unit. (The Creative Pulse is a graduate program for educators and education administrators where they study: Multiple Intelligences, Exploration in Cognitive Processes and Human Development, Leadership and Articulation, Integrated Learning, and Assessment in Arts.)

**New York Mills Regional Cultural Center and New York Mills High School & Jr. High**, New York Mills, MN, Winter 2001: *Artist-in-Residence*

- Worked with the local High School's 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade creative writing class to develop oral stories into written works (essays, novels, poems, song lyrics, etc.), Worked with Jr. High drama class teaching basic acting skills. Supervising Teachers: Kathy Dorholt & Peder Butenhoff.

**The Metropolitan Opera Guild's Creating Original Opera, IS 230Q** (Supervising Teacher: Maria Bonilla), Jackson Heights, NY, Spring 2001: *Technology & Design Residency Instructor*

- Supervised and facilitated 7<sup>th</sup> graders designing, constructing and cabling lights for their original opera. Special emphasis placed on light and color theory and a cohesive collaboration design process.

**University of Montana, Department of Drama/Dance, Missoula, MT, 1998-1992: *Acting Instructor***

- Instructor for the course Acting for Non-Majors, levels I & II. The approach used was from a Stanislavskian viewpoint. Designed curriculum for students to learn physical and vocal warm-ups, along with objective work, scene work, monologues, character development & improvisation.

**University of Montana, Department of Drama/Dance, Missoula, MT, 1990-1992: *Teaching Assistant***

- Graduate Teaching assistant for Introduction to Theatre. Students explored the origin of theatre through such things as primitive ritual, Aristotle's teachings and the modern western commercial producing venue.

**ACADEMIC RELATED POSITIONS**

**Mankato State University, Department of Theatre, Mankato, MN, 1994: *Production Manager***

- Supervised over 50 production staff employees.
- Responsible for leading daily production meetings with artistic staff.
- Oversaw scheduling for meetings, rehearsals, and related events. Composed monthly/weekly/daily schedules and reports.

**New York University, Graduate School of Arts and Science, Department of Comparative Literature, 1997 – 2006:**

***Graduate Secretary***

- Advised M.A. and Ph.D. candidates on academic matters concerning appropriate coursework distribution and GSAS Policies & Procedures.
- Coordinated the department's admissions process and acted as the liaison between department and Graduate Enrollment Services. Participated in recruitment of prospective students.
- Designed and maintained a database for tracking Ph.D. candidates' academic progress and a database for tracking alumni placement and publications.
- Revamped and maintained the Departmental Graduate Student Policies and Procedures Handbook.
- Administered the fall Dean's Dissertation Fellowships and spring Pre-Doctoral Fellowships.

**WRITING EXPERIENCE**

**Stage**

***UN-Bad***

A solo storytelling show about a family involved in an infamous police burglary scandal.

2016 Work-in-progress reading for Queer Art Organics at Dixon Place, NY, NY.

***In Heat: Is she hot under her collar or under her skirt?***

Comedy lampooning sexual desire, sexual orientation and gender self-identification.

2012 Production – New York International Fringe Festival

2011 Production – Emerging Artists Theatre – One Woman Standing festival

2009 Production – Left Out Festival, Stage Left Studio, NYC2008 Workshop Production – Artists of Tomorrow Festival, NYC

2005 Reading – Women's Performance Festival at the Brooklyn Arts Exchange, NYC. Director: Jocelyn Sawyer.

***Crown Hill Cemetery***

Story telling show about growing up near a cemetery and the resulting fear of death.

2009 Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver Fringe Theatre Festivals

2008 Halifax Theatre Festival, Nova Scotia

2008 Production – Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival. Director: Jocelyn Sawyer

2004 Production – Six Figure's Artists of Tomorrow Festival, NYC (winner of Best of the Fest award) Director: James McLaughlin

2003 Production – Piccolo Spoleto Festival, SC

2002 Workshop Production – WOW Café, NYC

2002 Reading – Mixed Grill, NYC

2001 Recipient of a Jerome Foundation Fellowship to develop this piece at the NY Mills Cultural Center, MN.

***In Heat: An Amusing Evening of Discomforting Essays***

A satire on King Herod, dachshunds, sex fiends and other things that go hump in the night.

2004 Queer@HERE, HERE Theatre, NYC. Director: Jocelyn Sawyer.

### ***I Sit in the Café***

A full-length campy psychological thriller of a novelist wanna-be who trolls around trendy cafes.

2002 Staged Reading – FUSE Festival, HERE Theatre, NYC. Director: Lisa Berger.

### ***Stacked: A Deviant Doctoral Dissertation***

A maverick solo comedy about a Ph.D. student who penetrates the “no food or drink” boundaries at the university library.

AKA *Master Class* meets *Bevis and Butthead*.

2003 Production – Vitalstatistix National Women’s Theatre, Australia, Director: Andrea O’Shea

2003 Reading – Vassar College

2001 Production – The Fourth Unity Theatre Company, Bank Street Theatre, NYC, Director: James McLaughlin

1998 Workshop Production – Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Brooklyn, NYC, Director: Judith Z. Miller

1998 Reading – The WOW Cafe’s Hersterical Festival, NYC.

### ***Rita & Inez: The True Queens of Femininity*** (co-author with Lisa Berger)

A sketch comedy and right-on-raunchy show for the empowerment of women, denouncing the definitive icons of feminine bondage.

2019 Production – Women’s International Theatre Festival 25 Year Reunion, Missoula, MT

1995 Production – Seattle Fringe Theatre Festival

1995 Production – Don’t Tell Mamma Cabaret, NYC

1996 Production – Toyota Comedy Festival, NYC

1993 Production – University of Utah

1993 Women’s International Theatre Festival, Denver, CO

1992 Edmonton Fringe Theatre Festival

1991-92 Reading and workshops at the University of Montana, Missoula, MT – Director: Matt Casado.

### **Film**

#### ***The Foxy Merkins*** (Co-writer with Jackie Monahan and Madeleine Olnek)

Feature-length film about two lesbian hookers wind their way through a world of bargain-hunting housewives and double-dealing conservative women in this buddy comedy, an homage to and riff on iconic male hustler films.

2014 World premiere at the Sundance Film Festival.

### **Publications (selections)**

2019 [The Turkey](#), Salon.com

2016 *Talking About Coffee in Brooklyn*, LocalExpeditions.com

2015 *Off the Beaten Path – Pedego, Take Me Away!*, FiftyistheNewFifty.com

2010 *A Brief History of Lesbian Theatre*, Curve Magazine, print edition

2010 *Lesbian Theatre Beyond the Coasts*, Curvemag.com, December 2010

2005 *In Heat*, Queer Ramblings Magazine

1995-96 Entertainment Editor and New York Correspondent for Hip Ink magazine

1995 *Cheryl-Ann*, a one-act work-in-progress published in Rag Mag