



JENNIFER H. CAPRARU

Director Dramaturg Producer

BIO Originally from Montréal, Jen directs internationally and is Artistic Director of the award-winning Theatre Asylum www.theatreasylum.com <http://www.canadiantheatre.com/dict.pl?term=Capraru%2C%20Jennifer%20Herszman> jencapraru@gmail.com 514 445 5455 CAEA

SELECTED DIRECTING

YOU'LL GO LOOKING FOR HER- Guillaume Corbeil Director/Dramaturg

THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO Director/Dramaturg
FOR CHILDREN - Bruce Gibbons Fell

CITY3 - Kyle Croutch Director Staged Reading

* MY MOTHER'S COURAGE - George Tabori Director Romanian

THE KEY – Agóta Kristof Director/Adaptation

MUD + LIFE OF 3 – Maria Irene Fornés Director/Producer

NAPOLEON OF THE NILE –George Seremba Director/Dramaturg

LES BELLES SOEURS – Michel Tremblay Director/Producer Spanish

MANDELSTAM – Rafi Aaron Director

INCENDIOS – Wajdi Mouawad Director

MARKIT - Community Art Activism Curator

24 EXPOSURES - Serge Boucher Director Workshop Reading

THE SEVENTH SEAL - Bergman Director/Adaptation

* LITTORAL - Wajdi Mouawad Director/Producer French

* THE MONUMENT - Colleen Wagner Director/Producer Kinyarwanda

* LULLABY - Thelon Oeming Director/Dramaturg

* METAMORPHOSES - Mary Zimmerman Director

BéBé - The Women Behind Brecht Director/Co-Writer
w/ Madoc-Jones Stubel Thompson Loughran

* THE TRIALS OF JOHN DEMJANJUK Director/Dramaturg/Producer
- Jonathan Garfinkel

WALKING TO RUSSIA - Jonathan Garfinkel Director/Dramaturg/Producer

THE ILLUSION - Tony Kushner -Corneille Director

* THE GUT GIRLS - Sarah Daniels Director

DEAR ELENA SERGEVNA - Razumovskaya Director

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF TIME Director, German

Theatre Asylum, Première Kenya International
Theatre Festival 2018

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre Fall 2019
Rhubarb, Pride *World Premiere*

Infini/Centaur Montreal

Theatre Asylum Passe Muraille, Segal Centre, Ashkenaz
Romania 2017 *Canadian & Romanian Premieres*

DanzaTeatro Retazos Havana dance theatre

Theatre Asylum site specific Kensington Market

Brown University, Rhode Island USA

Teatro El Sótano Havana Cuban Première

Ampitheatre site specific Kensington Market

Semaine Théâtre Francophone Havana

Videofag Coman Poon Jordan Tanahill William Ellis

Canadian Stage Festival

DB Clarke Theatre Montreal

ISÔKO Theatre Rwanda *Rwanda Tour African Premiere*

ISÔKO Theatre Rwanda 2008 > 2013 *African Premiere*
Dialog Fest Poland, World Stage Toronto, MAI Montréal, Rwanda

Dark Horse Theatre Site Specific Parkdale *World Premiere*

Phoenix Theatre, Victoria BC

The Theatre Centre
Developed at Rhubarb & Nightwood *World Premiere*

Chutzpah Festival, Intrepid Theatre, Harbourfront
Banff, NAC, Rhubarb, Ashkenaz *World Premiere*

Theatre Asylum, Passe Muraille *World Premiere*

Acadia University Nova Scotia

Theatre Asylum, Theatre Centre *Canadian Premiere*

Theatre Asylum, Theatre Centre *Canadian Premiere*

Das Labor, Berlin

**Award Nominated*

AWARDS

John Hirsch Directors Prize Finalist 2017

Les Grand Prix de l'Afrique Francophone Mise en scène *Littoral* 2013

Freedom to Create International Prize Isôko Rwanda *The Monument* 2011
Dora Award nomination, Outstanding Production *Lullaby, Marat/Sade*
Theatre Asylum nominated for 8 Dora awards, winning 1
Victoria Critics' Choice Nomination Best Direction *Metamorphoses* 2005
Nominated, Pauline McGibbon Award, Canada Council Hirsch award, Conquergood Intercultural Performance Award PSi 2011

DRAMATURGY

Company Dramaturg Factory Theatre. Script Assessment Committee 2004/06
Dramaturg FRENEMIES- Playwrights Workshop Montreal
Dramaturg Banff Playwrights' Colony Maureen Labonté 2006, John Murrell 2004
Dramaturg THE TRIALS NAC *On the Verge*
Dramaturg GULAG AMERICA - K Gass Factory
Dramaturg THE VENTRILOQUIST - Larry Tremblay dir. Keith Turnbull, English Première, Factory
Dramaturg WHITE BITING DOG, INEXPRESSIBLE ISLAND dir. Herbert Olshock, Factory, Canadian Rep
Dramaturg Paprika Festival, Tarragon, SummerWorks Youth Festival

EDUCATION ~ TRAINING

MA in Theatre and Performance Studies York University 2011
Diploma in Director Training as Recipient of the Baden-Württemberg Residency, Germany
Diploma in Acting Training British American Academy, London England
Invited Director Lincoln Centre Directors Lab New York - Anne Cattaneo
Invited Director World Stage Master Class - John Barton, Mike Alfreds, Chris Newton, Kama Ginkas
York University Summer Institute: African Political Theatre - Femi Osofisan, Nigeria
Directing Intensive - Pierre Walter Politz Weimar National Theatre
German Language Certificate Goethe Institut Mannheim Germany
Mime - Naomi Tyrell, Tony Montenero. Modern Dance - Toronto Dance Theatre.
Workshops - Adrian Howells 1-to-1 theatre. Yael Farber biography theatre

LANGUAGES Fluent spoken and written French, German, basic Spanish. Some Yiddish, Swahili, Kinyarwanda

RESIDENCIES ~ FUNDING

Invited Artist Danza Teatro Retazos, Havana - Hans Seidel Foundation. Invited Director Tarmac des Auteurs, Kinshasa Congo
Metcalf Foundation Residency in Artistic Direction, Factory Theatre. Invited Fellow, Schloss Solitude Germany.
Theatre Asylum is funded by the Canada, Ontario, Toronto Arts Councils, Emerald, Jackman, Lunan, Flavelle, Green foundations.
Individual grants: Canada Council, Theatre Ontario, Laidlaw, Metcalf, Goethe Institut

PUBLICATIONS *Performance Studies in Motion* Methuen Drama. *Performance and the Global City* Palgrave Macmillan. *Critical Perspectives on Canadian Theatre* Playwrights Canada Press. *Theatre & Interculturalism* by Ric Knowles review for Theatre Survey. *Memory and Memorial* alt.theatre. *Mémoire, commémoration, mise en scène* Revue Liaison.

ACADEMIC TEACHING Course Director in French, Dramaturgy 3 and Performance 1 Glendon College
Performance 1 & 2 Acadia University. Teaching Assistant to Dr. Fothergill York University Origins of Theatre
Applied Theatre + Directing, University of Rwanda, l'Institut National des Arts, Kinshasa DRC + NGO's UniFem etc

CONFERENCES ~ PANELS Guest Speaker MagNorth, Isra-Drama Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem U, Brown, Macalester USA, Humber, Western, Brock, Laurier, Bishops, Glendon, York, Canadian Centre for Genocide. Panelist Ashkenaz, Holocaust Centre, Koffler

AFFILIATIONS Theatre Without Borders, Theatres Against War. CAEA Council, Directors Committee 2005/06.
Jury Member, SummerWorks 2004 under Franco Boni. Member PACT, TAPA. Theatre Assessor for the Canada Council.

ASSISTANT DIRECTING

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| Murx Den Europaer by Marthaler | Assisted Christoph Marthaler | Volksbühne Berlin Germany |
| 8 Songs for a Mad King, Miss Donithorne's Maggot | Associate Director (Maxwell-Davies) | Musica Festival Strasbourg France |
| La Bête by David Hirson | Assisted John Palmer | Centaur Theatre |

PRESS

Cuba "Performance is superlative." *Juventude Rebelde* "Well deserved success" *La Tribuna* "a master class of how to understand theatrical art in a contemporary way, with order and coherence. Capraru has managed to insert herself colossally into the Cuban theatre scene." *Cubaescena*

Mud & Life of 3 "NNNN Fierce Fornés...superb performances...chilling, tough to shake." *NOW* "A stroke of genius. Both plays exceptionally well written, well staged, well acted." *Mooney* "Capraru has done a formidable job in bringing to life these two different plays" *Slotkin* "Theatre Asylum's evening of Fornés' brilliant work...a world of startling vital theatre...no room for tedium in Asylum's wonderful mounting of two plays....Layered direction, monumentally mind-blowing freezes...brilliant triumvirate of actors" *Bateman Reviews*

Mandelstam "Creates a stunning atmosphere...plays with shadows and puppets brilliantly." *Theatre Reader* "...brilliant director who knows how to make poetic dialogue come alive through physicality... brilliant and moving tableaux." *Bateman* "Actors are singularly good." *Mooney*

The Seventh Seal "Inventive and triumphant staging...Capraru defies the odds with this small miracle...production is as inventive as it is fresh. Taking a feather from immersive theatre (*Sleep No More*)... gives a taste how exciting and bold theatre can be." *Cult Montréal* "Intense and flawless. Capraru has created an astonishing experience...passionate and poetic...innovative and imaginative." *The Rover*

The Monument International Freedom to Create Prize Nomination

***** We are watching an ancient, cathartic ritual...an act of resurrection and reclamation...Capraru's stark staging...acting is spare and intense...heart-rending." *Globe* "NNNN You're sure to be riveted by the last half hour of the performance and as affected as the performers clearly are." *NOW* "Capraru masterfully directs...unrelenting and disturbing, but also beautiful, powerful and brave." *The Scene* "***** Extremely worthwhile theatre experience...Will change the way you view Rwanda." *Theatremania*

Lullaby Dora Award Nominations for Outstanding Production, Performance

"Lullaby has all the dark humour you'd want from the best George F. Walker, and Capraru has an excellent sense of pacing." *Eye Magazine* "Capraru clearly lays out the play's emotional geography." *National Post*

Metamorphoses Victoria Critics' Choice Nomination for Direction, Award, Overall Production

***** Capraru is a good artistic ally for Zimmerman...she understands the playwright's vision and emphasizes the play's poetic physicality with irreverence that verges on bawdy." *Times Colonist* "Excellent and imaginative piece of theatrical magic. Capraru is an outstanding talent...not only by the performances but her fresh approach to the material ...worth catching for her work alone, sheer visual poetry." *Monday* "Capraru uses a distinctly physical approach to the staging that matches the youthful and striking cast." *CBC Radio*

Bébé "The stunning new play *Bébé*... portrays four fascinating muses, caught up in the Brecht machine....thrilling....run-don't-walk." *Citron, 96 FM* "***** Lively and poignant...the acting is strong" *Star* "***** An admirable profusion of female talent on & off stage" *Globe*

The Trials Dora Award Nominations for Outstanding Performance, Original Composition

***** There's nothing finer than cabaret that's the real thing...powerful cast." *Globe* "A blistering 90-minute production... Asylum assaults us with a clever, caustic event...beautifully bitter." *Vancouver Sun* "TRIALS THE SHOW OF THE YEAR...Capraru deserves credit for bringing *Trials* so ably to life with such a mix of drama, humour, and soul...gripping, highly entertaining" *Monday Magazine* "Like all good cabaret, the fun is on the surface but the undercurrents are deep, dark and disturbing." *Vancouver Courier* "*****.talented cast and the director's assured grip keep us enthralled." *Eye*

My Mother's Courage Dora Award Nominations for Outstanding Performance, Costume & Set Design

"One to Watch...Jennifer Capraru's Theatre of Contrasts" *Globe Profile* "The mise-en-scène is very alert and devoid of sentimentality... an audacious vision" *Le Devoir, Montreal* "***** The direction is spare and superb, both visually and emotionally." *Globe* "Capraru uses spare means to convey complex scenes...deeply moving and illuminating art" *Montreal Gazette* "Directed beautifully, given its switch between reality and surrealism...Not to be missed" *Citron, 96 FM*

The Gut Girls Dora Award for Outstanding Costume Design, Nomination for Performance

***** Admirably sure-footed direction...lovely directorial touches, striking...recalls the legendary Stratford *Les Belles Soeurs*...directed with a firm hand and a lot of confidence" *Globe* "***** Production serves the play well...a solid, engaging piece of work" *Star*