



JENNIFER H. CAPRARU

Director Dramaturg Producer

BIO Originally from Montréal, Jen directs internationally and is Artistic Director of award-winning Theatre Asylum ~ <http://theatreasylum.com/jenc.html> <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	Theatre Asylum, Kenya Festival 18 In development
RW FASSBINDER - Collective	Co-Director	With Cabal Theatre Montreal In development
THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO FOR CHILDREN - Bruce Gibbons	Director/Dramaturg	Buddies in Bad Times Theatre
CITY3 - Kyle Crouch	Director Staged Reading	Infini/Centaur Montreal
*MY MOTHER'S COURAGE - George Tabori	Director Romanian	Theatre Asylum Passe Muraille, Segal Centre, Ashkenaz Romania 2017 <i>Canadian & Romanian Premieres</i>
NOS VEMOS 5 VISAGES - Guillaume Corbeil	Director/Producer Spanish	Ludi Havana ~ Spanish/Cuban Premiere
THE KEY – Agóta Kristof	Director/Adaptation	DanzaTeatro Retazos Havana dance/theatre
MUD + LIFE OF 3 – Maria Irene Fornés	Director/Producer	Theatre Asylum site specific Kensington Market
NAPOLEON OF THE NILE –George Seremba	Director/Dramaturg	Brown University, Rhode Island USA
LES BELLES SOEURS – Michel Tremblay	Director/Producer Spanish	Teatro El Sótano Havana Cuban Premiere
MANDELSTAM – Rafi Aaron	Director	Ampitheatre site specific Kensington Market
INCENDIOS – Wajdi Mouawad	Director	Semaine Théâtre Francophone Havana
MARKIT - Community Art Activism	Curator	Videofag Coman Poon Jordan Tanahill William Ellis
24 EXPOSURES - Serge Boucher	Director Workshop Reading	Canadian Stage Festival
THE SEVENTH SEAL - Ingmar Bergman	Director/Adaptation	DB Clarke Theatre Montreal
* LITTORAL - Wajdi Mouawad	Director/Producer French	ISÔKO Theatre Rwanda <i>Rwanda Tour African Premiere</i>
* THE MONUMENT - Colleen Wagner	Director/Producer Kinyarwanda	ISÔKO Theatre Rwanda 2008 > 2013 <i>African Premiere</i> Dialog Fest Poland, World Stage Toronto, MAI Montréal, Rwanda
* LULLABY - Thelon Oeming	Director/Dramaturg	Dark Horse Theatre Site Specific Parkdale <i>World Premiere</i>
* METAMORPHOSES - Mary Zimmerman	Director	Phoenix Theatre, Victoria BC
BéBé - The Women Behind Brecht w/ Madoc-Jones Stubel Thompson Loughran	Director/Co-Writer	The Theatre Centre <i>World Premiere</i> Developed at Rhubarb & Nightwood
* THE TRIALS OF JOHN DEMJANJUK - Jonathan Garfinkel	Director/Dramaturg/Producer	Chutzpah Festival, Intrepid Theatre, Harbourfront Banff, NAC, Rhubarb, Ashkenaz <i>World Premiere</i>
WALKING TO RUSSIA - Jonathan Garfinkel	Director/Dramaturg/Producer	Theatre Asylum, Passe Muraille <i>World Premiere</i>
THE ILLUSION - Tony Kushner -Corneille	Director	Acadia University Nova Scotia
* THE GUT GIRLS - Sarah Daniels	Director	Theatre Asylum, Theatre Centre <i>Canadian Premiere</i>
DEAR ELENA SERGEVNA - Razumovskaya	Director	Theatre Asylum, Theatre Centre <i>Canadian Premiere</i>
ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF TIME	Director, German	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 nominations, Outstanding Production *Lullaby*, *Marat/Sade*, *The Trials* 2 nom, *My Mothers Courage* 3 nom
Theatre Asylum nominated for 8 Dora awards, winning 1 for *The Gut Girls* (2 nom)
Victoria Critics' Choice Nomination Best Direction *Metamorphoses* 2005
Finalist Pauline McGibbon Award x2 Canada Council Hirsch Award, Conquergood Award Intercultural Performance PSI

DRAMATURGY

Company Dramaturg Factory Theatre 3 years new play development programs. 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, SummerWorks Youth New Play Development

EDUCATION ~ TRAINING

MA in Theatre & Performance Studies York University 2011
Diploma in Director Training as Recipient of the Baden-Württemberg Residency, Germany
Diploma in Actor 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, Hebrew, Swahili, Kinyarwanda

RESIDENCIES ~ FUNDING

Resident Director Danza-Teatro Retazos, Havana - Hans Seidel Foundation. Invited Director Tarmac des Auteurs, Kinshasa DRC
Metcalf Foundation Residency in Artistic Direction, Factory. 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

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, commemoration, 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

Murx Den Europaer! by Christoph 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

PRESS

Nos Vemos "The performance is superlative." *Juventude Rebelde* "Confuses and detonates the senses...well deserved success" *La Tribuna*
 "Nos Vemos is a master class of how to understand theatrical art in a renewed, 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*

