

M E L I S S A F I R L I T

Associate Member SDC

www.melissafirlit.com

mjfirlit@gmail.com

917.439.1283

C U R R I C U L U M V I T A E

TRAINING

Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts, MFA Directing, May 2012
St. Petersburg State Theatre Arts Academy, Program Intensive, St. Petersburg, Russia Spring 2004
Royal Shakespeare Company, Program Intensive Stratford, England Fall 2003
Institute of Integrative Nutrition, Holistic Health Counselor, New York, NY 2006
University of Hartford, The Hartt School, BA Theatre, Music Minor West Hartford, CT 2003
National Theater Institute @ The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, Semester Intensive Waterford, CT 2001
Royal Shakespeare Company, Program Intensive Stratford, England Fall 2001

DIRECTING: Amy Saltz, Pam Berlin, Israel Hicks, William Carden, David Jaffe, Donny Levit
ACTING: Deborah Hedwall (Meisner), William Carden (Uta Hagen), Leonard Petit (Michael Chekhov),
Michael Cadman (Shakespeare), Dennis Turney (John Basil)
DESIGN: F. Mitch Dana (Lighting), R. Michael Miller (Set), G.W. Mercier (Set), Sabrina Notrafransisco (Costume),
Shane Rettig (Sound)
MOVEMENT: Jan Leys (Williamson Technique) Kathleen Baum (Biomechanics), Complicité, Rachel Jett (Droznin Method)
DANCE: Kathy Ryan, Michelle Bach-Coulibaly (West African), Michael Blake
VOICE: Heather Rasche (Fitzmaurice), Craig Bacon (Linklater), Jackie Presti (singing)
MASK: Per Brahe, Marya Ursin

TEACHING

Directing Artist, Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, Winter 2016
Directing Artist, Fort Lewis College, Colorado, Fall 2015-Present
Directing Artist, University of Montevallo, Alabama, Fall 2015
Teaching Artist, The Art of Auditioning, McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, New Jersey Winter 2015
Teaching Artist, Director & Choreographer, Musical Theatre Class, McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, New Jersey 2012-Present
Teaching Artist, Outreach Programs, McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, New Jersey 2012-Present
Private Lesson Instructor, Acting, Monologue Work & Audition Prep, 2007-Present
Guest Choreographer, Outreach Programs, McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, New Jersey 2012-Present
Director and Teaching Artist, Broadway Bootcamp, The College of St. Rose, Albany, New York, 2012-Present
Teaching Artist, CoLAB Arts New Brunswick, New Jersey, 2012-2015
Teaching Artist, Verbatim Theatre Workshop, National Theatre Institute, Waterford, CT Spring 2015
Teaching Artist, Dance Theatre Styles, The College of St. Rose, Albany, New York, 2012-Present
Teaching Artist, Shakespeare & Text, The College of St. Rose, Albany, New York, 2012
Teaching Artist, Improvisation, The College of St. Rose, Albany, New York, 2013-2015
Teaching Artist, Playwriting, The College of St. Rose, Albany, New York 2015-Present
Movement Teacher, National Theatre Institute, Waterford, CT, 2003-2008
Adjunct Professor, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 2011-2012
Teaching Artist, The School @ Columbia University, New York, New York Fall 2006-2009
Choreographer, Stonington Community Center, Stonington, CT, 2003-2005
Choreographer, Marcy-Deerfield Pop Warner Cheerleading, Marcy, New York, 1996-2000
Dance Teacher, Dance Etc., Herkimer, NY, 1996-2000

MELISSA FIRLIT

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DIRECTING WORK

DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>The Trojan Women (Remix)</i> | Charles Mee | Fort Lewis College | Durango, CO |
| <i>The Secret Garden</i> | Marsha Norman & Lucy Simon | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>25th Annual Putnam County...</i> | Finn & Sheinkin | The Princeton Festival | Princeton, NJ |
| <i>Futurity</i> | The Lisps | The Zipper Factory | New York, NY |
| <i>Under Construction</i> | Charles Mee | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |

REGIONAL

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|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>A Funny Thing Happened...Forum</i> | Sondheim, Shevelove, Gelbart | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>A Few Good Men</i> | Aaron Sorkin | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>Moon Over Buffalo</i> | Ken Ludwig | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>Spring Awakening</i> | Steven Sater & Duncan Sheik | Fort Lewis College | Durango, CO |
| <i>The Pillowman</i> | Martin McDonagh | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>A Picasso</i> | Jeffrey Hatcher | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>Misterman</i> | Enda Walsh | The Dairy Center | Boulder, CO |
| <i>Misterman</i> | Enda Walsh | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>Red</i> | John Logan | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>SIDD</i> | Michael Aguirre | New Light Theater Project | Chicago, IL |
| <i>C-</i> | Eric Jaffe | Orlando Fringe Festival | Orlando, FLA |
| <i>Precious Moments</i> | Erica Silberman | The Crossroads Theatre | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Thanksgiving</i> | Sara Farrington | Dragon's Egg Artist Residency | Mystic, CT |
| <i>The Rise and Fall of Miles and Milo</i> | Sara Farrington | The Pulse Theater | Bedford Hills, NY |
| <i>Murder Mystery Macbeth</i> | Ean Miles Kessler | Co-Lab Arts | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Murder Mystery Radio Play</i> | Ean Miles Kessler | Co-Lab Arts | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>NJ One Minute Play Festival</i> | Various | Miles Square Theatre | Hoboken, NJ |
| <i>Big League Chew</i> | Alex Gherardi | 7 TH Inning Stretch | Hoboken, NJ |
| <i>The Rise and Fall of Miles and Milo</i> | Sara Farrington | Connecticut College | New London, CT |
| <i>Stop Kiss</i> | Diana Son | Wagner College | Staten Island, NY |

NEW YORK

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|--|-----------------|---|--------------|
| <i>Bunting or Flags</i> | Frazer Flintman | New Light Theater Project | New York, NY |
| <i>A Short History of Weather</i> | Jonathan Yukich | The New Theatre at 45 th St. | New York, NY |
| <i>One Drop</i> | Andrea Fulton | Brownsville Centers | New York, NY |
| <i>5 Women Wearing the Same Dress</i> | William Ball | The Bridge Theatre | New York, NY |
| <i>The Squizzinator</i> | Robert Kerr | Project Y Theatre | New York, NY |
| <i>Third Ward Scandal</i> | Dano Madden | Project Y Theatre | New York, NY |
| <i>SIDD</i> | Michael Aguirre | New Light Theater Project | New York, NY |
| <i>Annabel Lee</i> | Don Nigro | Apothecary Theatre Company | New York, NY |
| <i>Someone To Buy It</i> | Martyna Majok | EST's Youngblood | New York, NY |
| <i>Play</i> | Alex Gherardi | Manhattan Repertory | New York, NY |
| <i>A Nasty Tempered Man</i> | Carolyn Moses | DreamUp Festival | New York, NY |
| <i>That Stays There</i> | Sara Farrington | Dixon Place | New York, NY |
| <i>The Death of Evie Avery</i> | Sara Farrington | New York International Fringe | New York, NY |
| <i>The Death of Evie Avery</i> | Sara Farrington | The Looking Glass Theatre | New York, NY |
| <i>A Nasty Story</i> | Sara Farrington | New York International Fringe | New York, NY |
| <i>By The Light Of The Silvery Moon</i> | Sara Farrington | MidTown Int'l Theater Festival | New York, NY |
| <i>A Nasty Story</i> | Sara Farrington | The Field's Far Space | New York, NY |
| <i>Svetlana</i> | Meghan Finn | The Tank | New York, NY |
| <i>The Rise and Fall of Miles and Milo</i> | Sara Farrington | New York International Fringe | New York, NY |
| <i>Genius Andronicus</i> | Lynda Green | Manhattan Theatre Source | New York, NY |

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| <i>Genius Andronicus</i> | Lynda Green | The Bridge Theatre | New York, NY |
| <i>The Sunshine Foundation for the Arts</i> | Sara Farrington | Manhattan Repertory | New York, NY |

NEW WORK DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE WRITER

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|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>BUBBA</i> | Michael Thomas Walker | New York International Fringe | New York, NY |
| <i>BUBBA</i> | Michael Thomas Walker | Theatre Tuscaloosa | Tuscaloosa, AL |
| <i>BUBBA</i> | Michael Thomas Walker | United Solo Festival | New York, NY |
| <i>BUBBA</i> | Michael Thomas Walker | Miles Square Theatre | Hoboken, NJ |
| <i>BUBBA</i> | Michael Thomas Walker | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |

EDUCATIONAL – ESTABLISHED WORK

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|--|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Fabulation, Or The Re-Education of Undine</i> | Lynn Nottage | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Machinal</i> | Sophie Treadwell | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>boom</i> | Peter Sinn Nachtrieb | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Any Place But Here</i> | Caridad Svich | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Lone Star</i> | James McLure | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |

EDUCATIONAL-NEW WORK

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|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Lost Persons</i> | Joshua Levine | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Three Patriotic Acts</i> | Nina Louise Morrison | Columbia University | New York, NY |
| <i>Fries with That?</i> | Mike Duffy | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Solitary</i> | Alex Gherardi | Rutgers University | New Brunswick, NJ |

STAGED READINGS

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>In Search of...Sasquatch</i> | Robert Kerr | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>Mary/Hunter</i> | Brian Quirk | Pagosa Springs Center for Arts | Pagosa Springs, CO |
| <i>Not Famous Failing Falling</i> | Dano Madden | id Theater | New York, NY |
| <i>I'm Right Here</i> | John R. Hagan | Voices Inside/Out | New York, NY |
| <i>Mr. Black</i> | Greg Paul | id Theater | New York, NY |
| <i>Snow</i> | Ashley Griffin | Talent on Tap | New York, NY |
| <i>Oakwoods</i> | Dano Madden | Project Y Theatre | New York, NY |
| <i>Bad Husband</i> | Dano Madden | id Theater | New York, NY |
| <i>Wetiko</i> | Greg Paul | id Theater | New York, NY |
| <i>Heathens</i> | Heidi Kraay | id Theater | New York, NY |
| <i>Oakwoods</i> | Dano Madden | Artful Conspirators | New York, NY |
| <i>The Way of Water</i> | Caridad Svich | Mile Square Theatre | Hoboken, NJ |
| <i>That Stays There</i> | Sara Farrington | The Bushwick Starr | Brooklyn, NY |
| <i>Thanksgiving</i> | Sara Farrington | Brooklyn College | Brooklyn, NY |

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> | Leah C. Gardiner | Rutgers Theatre Company | New Brunswick, NJ |
| <i>Holiday Jubilee</i> | Marshall Jones | Crossroads Theatre | New Brunswick, NJ |

TEACHING ARTIST & DIRECTOR

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|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Summer</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | July 2015 |
| <i>Our America</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | June 2015 |
| <i>Spring Musical Theater</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | May 2015 |
| <i>Putnam County Spelling Bee Scenes & Songs</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | December 2014 |
| <i>Musical Theater Broadway Bootcamp</i> | The College of St. Rose | August 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 |
| <i>Creating a Character</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | July 2015 |
| <i>The Women</i> | Stagedoor Manor | June 2014 |
| <i>Bye Bye Birdie</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | May 2014 |

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| <i>Dreams</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | May 2014 |
| Musical Theater Cabaret | McCarter Theatre Center Education | December 2014 |
| <i>Metamorphoses</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | July 2013 |
| <i>In the Mix</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | May 2014 |
| <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> | McCarter Theatre Center Education | July 2012 |

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

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|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>5 Women Wearing the Same Dress</i> | Georgeanne | The Bridge Theatre |
| <i>Clinically Negative</i> | Weird Subletter | Manhattan Theater Source |
| <i>Sunshine Foundation for the Arts</i> | Doris | Manhattan Repertory |
| <i>An Hour About An Hour</i> | Narrator | Edinburgh Fringe Festival |
| <i>An Hour About An Hour</i> | Narrator | Cunningham Studios |
| <i>Crossing: A Musical Intersection</i> | Hope | Gene Frankel Studio |
| <i>Congregation</i> | Mom | The Field |
| <i>Unraveling Diana</i> | Ambrosia | WOW Theater |
| <i>Then Let Them Eat Cake</i> | Ensemble | Edinburgh Fringe Festival |
| <i>Train Story</i> | Girl | Eugene O'Neill Theater Center |
| <i>Pullman Car Hiawatha</i> | Ensemble | Eugene O'Neill Theater Center |
| <i>Grease</i> | Rizzo | Rome Capitol Theater |
| <i>Cinderella</i> | Step-Sister | Grace Theater |
| <i>Meet Me In St. Louis</i> | Chorus | Petronella Productions |

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

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|--|-----------------|----------------------------|
| <i>The Trojan Women (Remix)</i> | Helen | National Theater Institute |
| <i>Women and Wallace</i> | Nina | Dramatis Personae |
| <i>The Laramie Project</i> | Reggie Fluty | University Players |
| <i>The Miss Firecracker Contest</i> | Elaine Rutledge | Dramatis Personae |
| <i>Uncle Vanya</i> | Yelena | Dramatis Personae |
| <i>Mad Forest</i> | Irina | University Players |
| <i>The Dream Project</i> | Ensemble | National Theater Institute |
| <i>Defying Gravity</i> | Donna | Dramatis Personae |
| <i>A Flea In Her Ear</i> | Olympia | University Players |
| <i>Lysistrata (Musical Adaptation)</i> | Ariadne | University Players |
| <i>Crazy For You</i> | Tess | Whitesboro Drama |
| <i>Hello Dolly</i> | Ernestina Money | Whitesboro Drama |

FILM

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|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| <i>Make-Up</i> | Girl Mime | 1915 Pictures |
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STAGE MANAGEMENT

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| <i>BUBBA</i> | Dir. Melissa Firlit | Theatre Tuscaloosa | Tuscaloosa, AL |
| <i>The Rise and Fall of Miles and Milo</i> | Dir. Melissa Firlit | The Pulse Theater | Bedford Hills, NY |
| <i>Blue Window</i> | Dir. Sally Porterfield | University Players | Hartford, CT |
| <i>The Adding Machine</i> | Dir. Brian Jennings | University Players | Hartford, CT |
| <i>The Cherry Orchard</i> | Dir. Sally Porterfield | University Players | Hartford, CT |

WORK EXPERIENCE

Artistic Director, Thingamajig Playwrights Festival, Pagosa Springs, CO 2015-Present
Resident Director, Thingamajig Theatre Company, Pagosa Springs, CO 2014-Present
Director of Program, Broadway Bootcamp, The College of St. Rose, Albany, NY, 2012-Present
Producer, Jameson Studio Theater, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 2010-2011
House Manager, Jameson Studio Theater, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 2009-2010

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Artistic Director & Co-Founder, Fine Feathered Friends Theatre Company, New York, NY 2007-2012
Company Manager, Tomorrow Mourning Productions, New York, NY, 2004-2006
Intern to Artistic Director, National Theater Institute, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Waterford, CT. 2003-2004
Sound Design, Variety of Productions, New York, NY 2007-Present

WORKSHOPS

Shakespeare, Tim Carroll, The Factory Theatre, London England, 2011
Poetry and Language Workshop, Glenis Redmond, The State Theatre, New Brunswick, NJ, 2013
Williamson Technique, Caitlin Rigney, New York, NY, 2014
Solo Work, All for One Theater Festival, New York, NY, 2012
Education and Development. McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, NJ, 2015
Anna Deveare Smith, Seminar, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 2010
Williamson Technique Retreat, Lloyd Williamson, Boonville, NY 2009

HONORS/AWARDS

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|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Best Director of a Play (nominee) | <i>Misterman</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Director of a Play (nominee) | <i>A Picasso</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Director of a Musical (nominee) | <i>The Secret Garden</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Dramatic Play (nominee) | <i>Misterman</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Dramatic Play (nominee) | <i>A Picasso</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Dramatic Musical (nominee) | <i>The Secret Garden</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Small Ensemble (nominee) | <i>A Picasso</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Director | <i>Red</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Dramatic Play | <i>Red</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Small Ensemble | <i>Red</i> | Broadway World Denver |
| Best Performance of a Solo Show | <i>BUBBA</i> | Planet Connections |
| Best Director of a Solo Show | <i>BUBBA</i> | Planet Connections |
| Best Variety Show | <i>BUBBA</i> | United Solo Festival |
| Philip J. Levin Scholar | Scholarship Recipient | 2009, 2010, 2011 |
| Best Direction, Best Overall Production | <i>A Nasty Story</i> | OffOffOffOnline.com |
| Top Ten FringeNYC shows to See | <i>A Nasty Story</i> | The New York Sun |
| Outstanding Overall Solo Show | <i>By Light Silvery Moon</i> | MidTown Intl Festival |
| The FAR Space Grant | Artist Residency | The Field |
| The Dragons Egg | Artist Residency | 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012 |

*References available upon request