

Dylan Southard

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INSTITUTIONAL 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 lab, including workshops, and full productions.
- Created the company's Amazon Publishing Project, and managed online publication of twelve plays, including contract negotiations 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; executed fundraising events; oversaw budgets; identified and maintained grants.

Center Theatre Group · The Geffen Playhouse · Sundance Institute 2005—
Script Analyst

- Read submitted scripts and write detailed evaluation reports.

Baltimore Centerstage 2003—2005
Dramaturgy Fellow

- Coordinated the theater's First Look reading series devoted to emerging playwrights.
- Assisted Artistic Director and Literary Manager with season planning process, including attending artistic meetings, reading submitted scripts, writing reports and responding to inquiries.

PRODUCTION DRAMATURGY

- **New Play Development:** Evaluate 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

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute 2024—
Guest Faculty

- Fall, 2025, "History of TV" & "Script Analysis"
- Fall, 2024 & Winter, 2025, "Pulitzer Prize Plays"
- Winter, 2024, "Playwright Spotlight: Tony Kushner & María Irene Fornés"

The California State University 2020—
Lecturer, Department of Theatre & New Dance, Cal Poly Pomona

- 2022—, TH 208 "Introduction to Film and American Culture"

Guest Artist, CSU Summer Arts

- Summer, 2021 "Storytelling for Virtual Reality"

Lecturer, Department of Theatre Arts, CSU-Long Beach

- Spring, 2020, THEA 103: "Introduction to Dramaturgy"
- Fall, 2020, THEA 103: "Text Analysis"

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](#)
[“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 ^ = workshop

Dramaturg

- Night Cities*, by Roger Q. Mason, NAMBAM Festival - CTG, 2024 ^
- Mira and The Whale*, by Jacob Surovsky, Ensemble Studio Theater LA, 2023 ^
- The Merchant of Venice (Annotated)...*, by Aaron Henne, Theatre Dybbuk, 2023 *
- Lavender Men*, by Roger Q. Mason, Skylight Theater, 2022 *
- Measure Still For Measure*, by Jessica Kubzansky, Cygnet Theatre, 2020 ^
- 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
- 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
- Bulrushes*, 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 Garcés, 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