# WENDY WASDAHL 67 HUDSON STREET, #5A NEW YORK, N.Y. 10013 (212) 941-6164

wendywasdahl@aol.com

# Summary Teaching Artist/Theater Work

Over thirty years experience as a theatre practitioner including Founder/Artistic Director and Lead Actress of The Shared Forms Theatre, member Board of Directors of The Talking Band Theatre Company, ongoing collaboration as dramaturg/director with playwright Alvin Eng and numerous independent projects and teaching workshops in New York, Paris, Hong Kong and Guangzhou, China. Recipient of 2017 Lower Manhattan Cultural Foundation/SU-CASA grant. New York University, Bachelor of Science, School of Education, Educational Theatre.

# TEACHING ARTIST/EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

# HUDSON GUILD NEIBORHOOD SENIOR CENTER, NYC

Current – Teaching on-going program in theater games and improvisational theater techniques. Seniors meet once a week for a two-hour session beginning with a gentle warm-up, leading to movement exercises structured to stimulate creativity and group interaction.

# LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL

2017 SU-CASA (January- June) resident artist, conducting weekly Theater Games/Storytelling workshop at Hudson Guild Senior Center, Manhattan, New York. SU-CASA is community engagement grant that places teaching artists in residence at senior centers across the five boroughs of New York City.

# ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

#### MOVEMENT SPECIALIST & DIRECTOR

Conceived and taught *OUR TOWN: CHINA/USA*, a devised theater/oral history workshop course with playwright Alvin Eng. Students wrote and performed English language plays in response to Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," which itself is influenced by Chinese culture and theater. The students also conducted their own historical Hong Kong and family research for these plays. The curriculum explored western and Chinese movement and narrative techniques. The workshop culminated in the performance of the students' original theater production: HONG KONG TIME CAPSULE: 2011/ Wei Hing Theatre, City University Of Hong Kong.

# SHARED FORMS THEATRE

Conducted performance workshops based on its collaborative ensemble techniques, incorporating improvisation, impulse and breathing exercises.

In conjunction with the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, taught theater game techniques in NYC public schools.

# THEATRE PROJECTS

# THE SHARED FORMS THEATRE - Founding Artistic Director

#### **PRODUCTIONS:**

**THE SHARED FORMS THEATRE** Conceived, Directed, Choreographed, Designed and Performed in the following original works with Co-Artistic Director Rob McBrien.

THE WASTELAND PERFORMED text by T.S. Elliot

MEMORIES OF THE SALTIMBANQUES based on Picasso's painting series

THE RAG AND BONES CAFÉ inspired by William Butler Yeats poem

THE ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL based on G. Gurdjieff's Meetings With Remarkable Men

MINIMUM DAILY REQUIREMENT devised from writings of diet gurus

CULTIVATING PARADISE written in collaboration with Janet Sternburg

RESIDENT COMPANY PRODUCTIONS: Wooster Group's Performing Garage

EPIC OF GILGAMESH text by N.K. Sanders (*The Villager* Award Best Small Ensemble) IN THE CAGE text by Henry James (Maharan Award nominee for Costumes/*The Villager* Award Original Music)

# SELECTED INDEPENDENT PROJECTS

DRAMATURG / DIRECTOR/ ACTOR as indicated

PORTRAIT PLAYS playwright Alvin Eng's cycle of Historical Dramas about Artists

THREE TREES: A Philosopher's Portrait of Alberto Giacometti

Pan Asian Repertory Theatre at West End Theatre, NYC (Dramaturg)

Moving Parts Group, Staged Reading (in English), Paris, France (Director)

&Now 2012 /conference presentation Sorbonne, Paris (Director)

33 & 1/3 CORNELIA STREET: Tracing the Lines & Times of Alice Neel & Joe Gould

Director/Dramaturg of Staged Readings:

Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, MD

Goucher College, Baltimore, MD performance and panel discussion

City Lore, NYC, with Kathleen Chalfant and Bob Holman

NYU Fales Library, NYC, with Martha Wilson and Bob Holman

Howl! Festival, Howl Gallery, with Mink Stole and Bob Holman

THE IMPERIAL IMAGE: The Rise of Portraits as Power Bearers (Dramaturg)

Mughal Court Painters & Emperors (16<sup>th</sup> century India)

Élisabeth Vigée LeBrun & Marie Antoinette (18th century France)

Shepard Fairey & Barack Obama (21st century USA)

Reading: Howl Gallery, NYC, Actors Fund Benefit (Director)

LAST EMPEROR OF FLUSHING/ Solo Performance/Alvin Eng playwright and performer Dixon Place, NYC (Director)

Xiazhou People's Hall, presented by U.S. Consulate, Guangzhou, China (Director)

OUR LAUNDRY, OUR TOWN/ Solo Performance/Alvin Eng playwright and performer (Director)

Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD City Lore Urban Folklore Institute, NYC

SHE IS IN TANGIER by Millicent Dillon. Directed by Bob Holman.

Danspace Project, NYC

(Actor) Character: Jane Bowles

BANG BANG by Rob McBride. Directed by Tom Hope.

Not So Loud Theater Company

Hong Kong Fringe Club, HK

(Actor) Character: Chief Petty Officer Sandra Doyle

# **GRANTS & AWARDS as Co-Artistic Director**

SHARED FORMS THEATRE, INC.

**New York State Council on the Arts**/Professional Theater Company (12 consecutive years) **National Endowment for the Arts**/ Professional Theater Company (12 consecutive years)

The Soho News - Best Experimental Theatre Ensemble

The Villager – Best Small Theatre Ensemble

IN THE CAGE text by Henry James

Maharan Award nominee for Costumes

The Villager Award Original Music)

# INDIVIDUAL GRANTS/HONORS

# 2017 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) SU-CASA

Resident artist grantee, conducting weekly Theater Games/Storytelling workshop at Hudson Guild Senior Center, Manhattan, New York

#### **2017 Lifetime Arts Teaching Roster**

The roster is a national online directory of teaching artists who are peer reviewed and qualified to design and deliver instructional arts programs for older adults.

2017 Elders Share the Arts/recipient of training program scholarship

# 2018 The Creative Center at University Settlement Training Institute for Artists and Administrators in Creative Aging

Presenter and Panelist

# **CERTIFICATIONS** in evidence-based programs

Tai Chi for Arthritis

Staying Indpendent for Life (SAIL)

A Matter of Balance (AMOB)

#### **EDUCATION**

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, Bachelor of Science, School of Education, Educational Theatre magna cum laude