

DANIKA SUDIK

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THEATRE MAKER

Ovation Award nominated director; actress, and arts educator. Co-Founder of Theatre & Dance Ensemble and Ground & Field Theatre Festival. Co-creator of the Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble's award winning WAR CYCLE plays. Playful interrogator of creative sustainability, collaborative research, and new works development.

EDUCATION

M.F.A. University of California, Davis, Dramatic Arts. Emphasis: Acting & Directing

B.A. University of California, Los Angeles, Theatre, Film & Television. Emphasis: Acting

WORK EXPERIENCE

Co-Artistic Director, Theatre and Dance Ensemble, Davis, 2016-Present

Great storytelling is the bedrock of any society and our mission is to find synergy between artists; joining storytellers, passions, and resources to expand the magic circle of sustainable theatre.

Co-Founder & Director, Ground & Field Theatre Festival, Davis, 2017-Present

GFTF is a theatre development program and festival introducing new plays and musicals onto the national stage. The festival is committed to sustainable production practices, and spotlighting urgent new narratives that engage problems of social, economic, and environmental justice. Co-Founded with Tom Burmester, Mindy Cooper, and Lisa Quorerisimo.

Dramaturgy Research Lead, Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles, 2014-2017

Responsible for research, aggregation, & creation of training materials for audience engagement teams at the Kirk Douglas Theatre and Mark Taper Forum. Productions include:

LUNA GALE by Rebecca Gilman

IMMEDIATE FAMILY by Paul Oakley Stovall

WOMEN LAUGHING ALONE WITH SALAD by Sheila Callaghan

GIRLFRIEND Book by Todd Almond. Lyrics by Matthew Sweet

WALKING THE TIGHTROPE Lyric Poem by Mike Kenny. Adapted by Debbie Devine

HOW TO BE A ROCK CRITIC by Eric Jenson & Jessica Blank

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STRAIGHT WHITE MEN by Young Jean Lee

CHAVEZ RAVINE by Culture Clash

KANSAS CITY CHOIR BOY, Music & Lyrics by Todd Almond. Directed by Kevin Newbury

Education Program Producer, The Broad Stage, Santa Monica, Sept 2011-Dec 2013

- Managed programs servicing over 20,000 participants over the course of the 11-12 and 12-13 seasons.
- Wrote, researched, edited and/or produced K-12 arts education curriculum across the disciplines of theater, music, and dance that supported CCSS and VAPA standards.
- Created and implemented Education & Outreach strategies for all K-12 programming. Secured partnerships with organizations such as P.S. ARTS, Partnerships for Los Angeles Schools, and UCLA TIE-INS.
- Worked with Marketing to produce Education & Outreach materials for the season. Hosted Q&As and talkbacks for student groups with artists that included Helen Hunt, Madrid's premiere classical company, Rakatá, and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre from London.
- Created Master Class and Lifelong Learning opportunities with artists such as Grammy nominated Antonio Lysy, Academy Award nominated Julian Sands, and award-winning dance company BODYTRAFFIC.
- Created and managed the Teaching Artist Program. Recruited and managed teaching artists, interns, and volunteers.
- Represented The Broad Stage at education and presenting conferences.
- Developed and wrote new program proposals, grant proposals, and represented the department and theater at Board meetings, with donors, and foundations.

Producer/Director, The Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble, Los Angeles Jan 2009-2015

- Ovation nominated Director/Producer.
- Key collaborator on award winning WAR CYCLE trilogy.
- Negotiated budgets, rentals, timelines and supervised all aspects of design and production.
- Ensured compliance with all AEA standards and codes.
- Liaison between Actor's Equity and production staff.
- Coordinated company involvement with Center Theatre Group's Middle School Playwriting Project at John Adam's Middle School.

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Study Guide Writer, Bonnie Franklin's Classic & Contemporary American Plays, 2014-2015

Created study guides for high school teachers and materials for advanced English students at inner city high schools. Developed and implemented artists in classrooms component.

Company Coordinator, Powerhouse Theatre, Santa Monica, 2008-2011

Responsible for the daily operations of a 99-seat Equity Waiver House. Coordinated theatre, office and deck usage between resident company and visiting companies including load in, strike, build days and rehearsals.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer, Representing Race in Performance: Latinx Theatre and Performance University of California, Davis, Fall '19.

Ensemble Intensive: Artistic Sustainability

Ground & Field Theatre Festival, University of California, Davis, Summer / Fall 2019

Associate Instructor, Introduction to Acting

University of California, Davis, 2015-2017

Guest Instructor, Intermediate Acting / Gateway: The Actor's Toolkit

University of California, Davis, Winter '16

Workshops: BREATH & BALANCE, CREATIVE SUSTAINABILITY

Theatre & Film Teaching Artist, Various programs (partial list): Theatre Arts for Children, Fostering Imagination & Fresh-i-Films, Southern CA, 2001-2010

Facilitated deep understanding of course material with a focus on individualized personal growth. Led students to research, write and produce performances based on their history curriculum. Developed theatre making curriculum to deepen understanding of current events, literature, and history while exploring social relevance. Facilitated exploration of different genres of film to influence story telling style and writing process. Mentored foster youth through creative development of performance making.

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DIRECTOR/DRAMATURG

BURST by Rachel Bublitz
Lab A Theatre, GFTF 2019

SUSTAIN ME by Sarah Vander Schaaff
Della Davidson Studio, GFTF 2019

THE BRIARS by Briandaniel Ogelsby
The Wyatt Theatre, GFTF 2017

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO FIRST SQUAD by Tom Burmester
University of California, Davis PFS Symposium, 2016

EXILES by Jonathan Redding,
Hollywood Fringe Festival, 2011

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO FIRST SQUAD by Tom Burmester
Powerhouse Theatre, 2011

NATION OF TWO by Tom Burmester
Powerhouse Theatre, 2010

STAGED READINGS AND WORKSHOPS

THE DEAD KID by Max Guttman
Ground & Field Theatre Festival (Workshop) 2018

SET IN PLAY by Dan Born
Ground & Field Theatre Festival (Workshop) 2018

WARIKIRU by Jon Rossini
Ground & Field Theatre Festival (Reading) 2018

LADIES by Kit Steinkellner
University of California, Davis (Reading) 2016

STUPID F*ING BIRD by Aron Posner
University of California, Davis (Reading) 2016

ELECTRICIDAD by Luis Alfaro
University of California, Davis (Reading) 2015

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I'LL BE WAITING by Adam Emperor Southard
The Kirk Douglas Theater, (Workshop) 2012

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO FIRST SQUAD by Tom Burmester
Powerhouse Theatre, Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble (Workshop) 2011

SURVIVED by Tom Burmester
Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble (Workshop) 2009

PRODUCER

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS dir. by Drew Shirley
Powerhouse Theatre, 2011

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO FIRST SQUAD by Tom Burmester
Powerhouse Theatre, 2011

THE NAKED ARMY by Matthew Weedman
Powerhouse Theatre, 2011

GROUP by Adam Emperor Southard
Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble, 2010

THE GOOD PRISONER by Kit Steinkellner
Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble, 2010

NATION OF TWO by Tom Burmester
Powerhouse Theatre, 2011

WOUNDED by Tom Burmester
Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble, 2011

A GIANT ARC IN THE SKYSPACE OF DIRECTIONS by Michael Vukadinovich
Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble, 2010

TROG & CLAY by Michael Vukadinovich
Powerhouse Theatre, 2010

MONKEY MADNESS by Daisuke Tsuji
Powerhouse Theatre, 2009

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SURVIVED by Tom Burmester
Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble, 2008

FANDO AND LIS by Fernando Arrabal
Powerhouse Theatre, 2008

SOCK AND SHOE by Daisuke Tsuji
Powerhouse Theatre, 2008

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2017 UCD & Humanities Graduate Research Award

2014 Director's Lab West

2012 LA SCENIE Award Best Production, Drama

2012 LA SCENIE Award Best Direction of a Drama

2011 Ovation Award Nominee: Best Director

2011 LA Weekly Award Nominee: Production of the Year

2011 LA Weekly Award: Best Fight Choreography (as producer/director)

2011 Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award: Best Fight Choreography (as producer/director)

2010 LA Weekly Award: Special Citation of Excellence for Technical Accomplishments and
Breadth of Vision

2009 LA Weekly Award Nominee: Best Ensemble (as producer/director)

2009 LA Weekly Award: Best Puppetry (as producer)

2010 LA Weekly Cover Story for *The War Cycle*.

2004 Best Actress Award for "Sylvia"