

**John J King**

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**Summary**

- Writer of Plays, Screenplays, Stories, Jokes, Songs, and Cartoons, sometimes all at once.
- Community activist and educator working with populations across Boston
- 4 years as Artistic Director and Managing Director of Boston's only green theatre company

**Full Length Plays**

**7 Minutes – 2019**

*Harry Finn leads the Warriors wrestling team through the 2002 – 03 season, chasing the National Championship, while battling his troubled past, his nemesis, and who is this woman who wants to know about his thoughts and feelings?*

*An adaptation of Henry V, exploring masculinity and nationalism in the lead up to the Iraq War.*

Honorable Mention: 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Writer's Digest Competition – Script.

Current Finalist for Shakespeare's New Contemporaries at the American Shakespeare Center.

**Oedipus T-Rex - 2019**

Book, Lyrics, and Music by John J King.

*Tyra the Seer has been advising Thebes for generations, but this new punk comes out of nowhere to take over and has the people on his side. Tyra must transform herself, gets the pop vote, and find the source of the plague in this Glam Rock musical adaptation of the Oedipus myth, exploding gender, white supremacy, pride.*

Developed in residence at the New York Mills Cultural Center, Fall 2019.

**The Memento Mori of Edward Gorey - 2019**

*A shuffle-play of thirteen sketches, jumbled and drawn Tarot-card-style at each performance, exploring the life, artistry, isolation, darkness, wit, camp, intellect and multitude of faces of the writer-illustrator Edward Gorey.*

Developed in Residence at the WildAcres Retreat

**Escape the Dark – 2019**

*The Boy Without Light wanders a fairy tale video game world of monsters, shadows, and his own psychological demons in this one-man show about depression, addiction and suicide. Development workshop May 2019 funded by the Boston Opportunity Fund.*

**Martha's (b)Rainstorm - 2018**

*A democratic, audience-elected travesty about climate change in Boston. 6W, 4M.*

Commissioned by Fresh Ink Theatre and the Boston Public Library, this play was developed in 2017 – 2018 through the BPL's Playwright in Residence program.

Workshop – Fresh Ink Theatre, November 2017 – May 2018

Staged Readings – Fresh Ink Theatre, June 2018

Awards: Massachusetts Cultural Council Dramatic Writing Fellowship, 2019

**BlueShift - 2016**

*A black dramedy about depression and time travel. 4W, 1M*

Reading – Breaking Ground Festival, Huntington Theatre Company, April 2016.

Finalist – 2016 National Playwrights Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center.

2017 Kitchen Dog Theatre New Play Festival, Dallas, Tx.

2017-18 In-Progress New Play Reading Series at Unicorn Theatre, Kansas City, MS.

Semi-Finalist – 2018 Bay Area Playwrights Festival

**Der Vampyr - 2014**

*Heinrich Marschner's Gothic vampire opera, updated and adapted into a darkly hilarious feminist tale, threading contemporary sexuality and vampire motifs, including references to Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Twilight. 7M, 4W, and chorus.*

Commissioned by OperaHub, Boston, 2013-14.

Productions:

OperaHub, Boston, June 2014

St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, October 2015

**From Denmark With Love - 2013**

*The story of Hamlet, told as a James Bond action thriller. 3W, 4M*

Productions:

Vaquero Playground, May 2013 at Boston Playwrights' Theatre

Vaquero Playground, July 2013 at Outside the Box Festival, Boston

IRNE Award Nominated for Best New Play – Fringe, 2014

Screenplays

**Sallad Daze – 2018**

*A pizza man-cum-graffiti artist, and a Muslim Harvard Law grad stuck in Dallas, organize against the city's plan to tear down a neighborhood to build a new stadium. Half-hour comedy-drama.*

2018 Orchard Project Episodic Lab – Finalist

**BoMa75 – 2019 (co-created with [Steven Bogart](#))**

*A sci-fi drama set in Boston in 2075. When a pregnant teen gives birth to the first mixed-species baby between a human and an Amphobe (a DNA-modified amphibious person), she must find a way to save the child from the political and religious forces out to destroy them.*

2019 Orchard Project Episodic Lab – Finalist

Collaborations & Education

**The NanoTheatre Games – 2019, Beaver Country Day School**

*Directed twenty high school students in creating and writing a full-length show made up of short plays, including comedy, drama, movement pieces, and musicals.*

**Interference – 2015, Liars & Believers at American Repertory Theatre's Club Oberon**

*Wrote and performed as part of an ensemble devised play about tragedy, grief, and recovery. Directed by Steven Bogart.*

**SubMerged – 2015, Beaver Country Day School**

*Directed fourteen high school students in creating and writing an immersive performance that led the audience on a murder mystery throughout the school*

**Lunar Labyrinth – 2014, Liars & Believers at American Repertory Theatre's Club Oberon**

*Wrote and performed text and music as part of an ensemble devised play inspired by a Neil Gaiman short story. Directed by Steven Bogart.*

## Honors

- SpeakEasy Stage's Boston Project Development Commission, 2019-2020.
- New York Mills Cultural Center Residency Fellow, November 2019.
- WildAcres Residency Fellow, October 2019.
- Massachusetts Cultural Council Dramatic Writing Fellow, 2019.
- Boston Public Library Playwright in Residence, 2017 – 2018  
Michael Colford, Program Manager
- Huntington Playwriting Fellow, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston. 2014 – 2016.  
Lisa Timmel, Literary Manager

## Work Experience

### **Museum of Fine Arts, Boston - House Manager, Public Programs** **August 2015 - present**

- Collaborate across departments to facilitate a wide variety of programs, including films, lectures, concerts, and panel conversations.
- Work with external partners for streamlined and clear communications and operations for third party events
- Work interdepartmentally to design and implement new programming to reach new audiences, including *Who Tells Your Story: Art & Hamilton at the MFA*, and *The Idea of North*, a conversation with co-curator Steve Martin.

### **Company One Theatre - Street Team Program Director** **March 2014 – August 2015**

- Scheduled and coordinated events in and around Boston to promote shows and programming, to deepen ties to the community, specifically to high school and college-age students.
- Event planning; filming and editing promotional videos; relationship building with community organizations.
- Designed interactive audience engagement activities including visual art, word art, and video
- Managed social media presence around engagement events specifically targeting young audiences
- Successfully increased youth audience (under 30) by 23% in first season.

### **Beaver Country Day School – Artist in Residence / Director** **November 2013 – February 2019**

- Created, Co-Wrote, and Directed original full-length play with students aged 15 – 18.
- Led students in story and character generation exercises, lessons on improv and story, and acting
- Worked with school faculty and staff to fulfill production needs of work in progress
- 2015 show *SubMerged* took place in locations around campus and required extreme coordination and planning with staff, faculty, and students.

### **CONSENSUS Project - Designer / Visioneer** **March – August 2014**

- Created gallery space inspired-by and displaying works by 7 other artists, including video, music, sculpture, 2D, and tea-maker.
- Designed to spec and travel for shows in Martha's Vineyard, Somerville, and Worcester.

Organizations

Member: Dramatists' Guild of America

Member: StageSource

Founding Member of Small Theatre Alliance of Boston

Education

SUNY Geneseo: B.A. in Theatre-English, December 2004

Dean's List, President's List Member, Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society

Other

Musician – guitar, violin, percussion, samples and producing, singing

Visual Artist – painter, sculptor, set design

Video Artist – shorts, videos, documentaries

## **References for John J King**

Steven Bogart  
Playwright, Director, and Artist

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