

JOHN J KING

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Playwright, filmmaker, & musician with deep background in community organizing and the arts.

PLAYS & SCREENPLAYS

MUSEUM PIECE – 2020

The new Director of an old Boston museum must re-imagine the institution's outdated policies, run-down facilities, and intimidating reputation, in order to welcome the young & diverse audiences of the city.

Commissioned by SpeakEasy Stage Company, 2020 Boston Project.

HOME OFFICE – 2020 (WEB SERIES – CO-CREATOR, WRITER, DIRECTOR, ACTOR)

A newly married couple navigates the obstacles of working from home, together.

Boston Globe, May 2020 <https://bit.ly/2VEquuj>

WBUR's The Artery, June 2020 <https://wbur.fm/2VzuOLu>

BLOOD FROM A STONE – 2020 (TV PILOT)

When a scholarship student joins an elite prep school, everyone expects her to join the ranks of vampires on the path to suck-cess. But with inspiration from a teacher, and the death-by-fang-gang of her mother fresh in her memory, she yearns to ditch the herd and forge her own future.

2ND PLACE: 89TH Annual Writer's Digest Competition: SCRIPT.

7 MINUTES – 2019

Harry Finn leads the Warriors through the 2002-03 wrestling season, chasing the National Championship, while battling his troubled past, his nemesis, and the looming question of his future amidst a country headed to war, after dedicating his life to a sport that ends with college.

HONORABLE MENTION: 88TH Annual Writer's Digest Competition: SCRIPT.

FINALIST: 2020 Shakespeare's New Contemporaries at the American Shakespeare Center.

FINALIST: 2020 National Playwrights Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center.

THE MEMENTI MORI OF EDWARD GOREY – 2019

A shuffle-play featuring 13 sketches of different styles – a puppet show, opera, ballet, TV sit-com – exploring the life and work of writer-illustrator Edward St. John Gorey.

Developed at the 2019 Wildacres Retreat, North Carolina.

BoMa-75 – 2019 (TV PILOT)

CO-WRITTEN WITH STEVEN BOGART.

When a sixteen-year-old gives birth to the first mixed species baby between a human and an Amphobe (amphibious homo sapiens), she must find a way to save it from the political and religious forces out to destroy them.

2019 Finalist, Orchard Project Episodic Lab.

MARTHA'S (B)RAINSTORM – 2018

Once upon a time, in 2072, rising temps and sea levels threaten to turn Boston into New England's own Venice. But some things in Boston never change: the population doubles in September, the Yankees suck, and nobody speaks to one another – they yell. A democratic, audience-elected travesty about climate change in Boston.

Commissioned by Fresh Ink Theatre and the Boston Public Library.

2019 Massachusetts Cultural Council Dramatic Writing Fellowship.

BLUESHIFT – 2016

As she takes her career and new relationship to the next level, Martha must confront the deep dark corners of mind. A black dramedy about Depression and time travel.

2016 Finalist: National Playwrights Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center.

2017 Finalist: Kitchen Dog Theatre New Play Series

2018: Semi-Finalist: Bay Area Playwrights' Conference

DER VAMPYR – 2014

The newest recruit to London's vampire coven must 'turn' 29 new brides over the lunar cycle to achieve immortality. Little did he suspect that some women bite back! A comic-opera satirizing misogyny and rape culture, adapted from the Gothic Opera by Heinrich Marschner.

Commissioned by OperaHub.

2014 OperaHub Production, Boston. Press: <http://www.j-rexplays.com/dervampyr.html>

2019 Massachusetts Cultural Council Dramatic Writing Fellowship.

FROM DENMARK WITH LOVE – 2013

Hamlet's father has died and his uncle took over the throne. As Hamlet investigate's his father's death, he uncovers a plot to destroy the world – but who's behind it? Claudius? Or...the Norwegians?! Ophelia Balzac and Horatio Q. Moneypenny team up with their super spy pal to track down what is rotten in the state of Denmark! A mash-up of James Bond and Hamlet.

2011 Premiere of 15-minute version as part of Something Rotten: Hamlet Remixed!

2013 Vaquero Playground Production, Boston. Press: <http://www.j-rexplays.com/denmark.html>

2013 Outside the Box Festival.

DIRECTING & COLLABORATIONS

The NanoTheatre Games – 2019, BEAVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL.

DIRECTOR / CO-CREATOR

Two teams create competing short plays inspired by the same object, and the audience votes for the winner.

INTERFERENCE – 2015, LIARS & BELIEVERS, AT THE AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE

CO-CREATOR & PERFORMER

Ensemble-devised performance about tragedy, grief, and recovery. Directed by Steve Bogart.

SubMerged – 2015, BEAVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

DIRECTOR / CO-CREATOR

When a murder occurs in a hotel on lockdown due to a virus outside, the guests (audience) must observe each other and solve the mystery. An immersive theatre piece that takes the audience through the school.

Lunar Labyrinth – 2014, LIARS & BELIEVERS, AT THE AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE

CO-CREATOR, MUSICAL SCORE, & PERFORMER

An ensemble-devised play about ghosts, nature, and lost love, inspired by an original story by Neil Gaiman.

MixTape – 2014, BEAVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

DIRECTOR / CO-CREATOR

Fourteen sketches of different styles including dance, puppetry, and silent film, exploring growing up and moving on.

PUBLICATIONS

Agatha Christie Heroine Responds to Trump’s Attempted Coup by Taking An Ample Breakfast, NOVEMBER 2020 – WEEKLY HUMORIST. <https://www.weeklyhumorist.com/agatha-christie-heroine-responds-to-trumps-attempted-coup-by-taking-an-ample-breakfast/>

Theatre Group Accidentally Raises \$1,347,256 With OnlyFans Production Of *The Vagina Monologues*, OCTOBER 2020 – THE BROADWAY BEAT. <https://bit.ly/32rrkjr>

Playwrights’ Guide To Self-Production, MARCH 2020 – HOWLROUND THEATRE COMMONS. <https://howlround.com/playwrights-guide-self-producing-part-i>

“M. RIVERSIDE.” The Boston Theatre Marathon XIII Anthology. MARCH 2012, SMITH & KRAUS, HANOVER, NH.

EDUCATION

B.A. THEATRE & ENGLISH, SUNY GENESEO – 2004

Dean’s List, President’s List, Member Alpha Psi Omega: National Theatre Honor Society. 3.9 GPA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HISTORICAL TOUR GUIDE CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL TOURS, BOSTON 2018 - 20

Custom and boutique tours of downtown Boston’s Freedom Trail, Harvard University, and Cambridge, covering pre-Colonial, English Colonial, and Revolutionary history to the present.

HOUSE MANAGER, PUBLIC PROGRAMS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON 2015 - 18

Oversaw logistics & front of house operations for 600 programs each year, including promotional and information copywriting and -editing; staff scheduling and management, venue stewardship, and all customer service operations.

STREET TEAM PROGRAM DIRECTOR COMPANY ONE THEATRE, BOSTON 2014 - 15

Coordinated events and marketing to promote shows and programming, and deepen ties to Boston’s high school and college age students. Oversaw all film and video, including conception, writing and production of promotional, documentary, and fundraising clips. Successfully increased youth audience (under 30) by 23% in first season.

ORGANIZATIONS

DRAMATISTS’ GUILD OF AMERICA, 2015 – PRESENT.

SMALL THEATRE ALLIANCE OF BOSTON FOUNDING MEMBER, 2013.

SKILLS

- Musician: Guitar, Violin, Percussion, Producing.
- Theatrical Set Design.
- Filmmaker: direction, editing, camera.
- Baking

REFERENCES

STEVEN BOGART, WRITER, DIRECTOR & PAINTER. STEVENBOGART@MAC.COM
COLLABORATOR ON BOMA-75, INTERFERENCE, LUNAR LABYRINTH. 978.501.0443

JENNIFER YOLLES, UPPER SCHOOL THEATRE PRODUCER, JYOLLES@BCDSCHOOL.ORG
BEAVER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL. PRODUCER: SUBMERGED, MIXTAPE, 617.738.2772
& THE NANOTHEATRE GAMES.

JESSIE BAXTER, LITERARY MANAGER, FRESH INK THEATRE. LITERARY@FRESHINKTHEATRE.ORG
COLLABORATOR IN DEVELOPING MARTHA'S (B)RAINSTORM.

CHARLES HAUGLAND, DIRECTOR OF NEW WORK, CHAUGLAND@HUNTINGONTHEATRE.ORG
HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY.

DANIEL BERGER-JONES, ACTOR & HISTORIAN. DBJ@CAMBRIDGEHISTORICALTOURS.ORG
SUPERVISOR AT CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL TOURS, 413.230.8729
COLLABORATOR ON FROM DENMARK WITH LOVE.