

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.

Web Series

Home Office – 2020

Following the comedic struggles of a couple learning to work from home, together.

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

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

Full Length Plays

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The new Director of an Old Boston Museum must re-imagine the institution's outdated policies, run-down facilities, and intimidating reputation, in order to welcome the young and diverse audiences of the city they serve.

Commissioned by SpeakEasy Stage Company for the 2020 Boston Project. Workshop and staged reading June 2020.

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: 88th Annual Writer's Digest Competition – Script.

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

Finalist: 2020 National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center.

The Rise and Fall of Oedipus T-Rex and the Goat Song of Thebes (Musical) – 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.

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

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.

Mixtape – 2014, Beaver Country Day School

Directed fourteen high school students in creating and writing an devised show of scenes in different styles – including noir, dance, puppetry, and “silent film” – exploring memory, growing up, and the breaking apart of youthful friendships.

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

Professional Experience

Cambridge Historical Tours

October 2018 – March 2020

Tour Guide

- Gave custom boutique tours of downtown Boston’s Freedom Trail, Boston and Massachusetts founding and Revolutionary history.
- Led 90-minute ghost tours detailing the history and mystery of Cambridge, Harvard Square, and Harvard University.
- Appeared various events, interacting with guests in character as John Hancock and Sam Adams.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

August 2015 - 2018

House Manager, Public Programs

- Collaborate across departments to ensure the best possible programming and audience experience
- Oversee and manage all front of house operations for 15 – 20 public programs each week, including staff scheduling and management, venue stewardship, and managing all ticketing operations for programs
- Facilitate the set up and operation of a wide variety of programs, including films, lectures, concerts, and panel conversations.
- Provide customer service for the hundreds of museum guests attending public programs each day
- 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.

Education

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

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

Skills

Boston Tour Guide – Cambridge Historical Tours: Freedom Trail, Cambridge Ghost Tours

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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