

**Allegra Libonati**  
Curriculum Vitae

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**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT**

Resident Director, American Repertory Theater, Harvard University, 2013 – present

**EDUCATION**

**Post Graduate Fellowship**, January 2010  
Harvard University, American Repertory Theater

**Master of Fine Arts in Directing**, May 2009  
Carnegie Mellon University

**Post Graduate Certificate**, January 2005  
Accademia Dell'Arte, Arezzo, Italy  
Fields of study: Commedia dell'arte, Mask Making, Roy Heart Vocal Technique

**Bachelor of Arts**, May 2002  
New York University  
Majors: Drama  
Minors: Philosophy and Theatre in Education

**Study Abroad Experience**, June, 2000  
NYU Experimental Theater Wing, Amsterdam, Holland  
Fields of Study: Street Theater, Shakespeare, Roy Heart Vocal Technique, Site-Specific Theatre

**Theatre Training Program**, June 1999  
Acting Lab Company, Hangar Theater, Ithaca, NY  
Focus: Acting, Laban, Viewpoints

**Pre-College Certificate**, June 1997  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Focus: Musical Theater

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Harvard University Fall 2008 – Present  
*Faculty Advisor*

- Guided undergraduate directors in HRDC productions (4 semesters)
- Oversaw all aspects of rehearsals from pre-production through technical rehearsals

**Teaching Experience, Cont.**

- Outdoor Theater Festival Curator* (6 semesters)
- Developed the Common Spaces Performances program from inception
  - Produced, directed, curated over 200 performances in Harvard Yard
  - Reported to and collaborated with the Provost for Arts and Culture
  - Contributed significantly to the development of the outdoor venue in Science Center Plaza

- Wrote/ directed original sight specific shows and happenings with Harvard University undergraduates

*Street Theater Developer*

- Founded the *A.R.T. Instigators*, A.R.T.'s first street theater group
- Created 10 original sight-specific events with Harvard students
- Worked with Undergraduates to develop ideas into fully formed sight-specific happenings

American Repertory Theater Fall 2009 - Present

*Workshop Leader* – A.R.T. Great Shakes

- Developed and taught original Shakespeare workshop, ages 14-18

*Program Director* – A.R.T. Fairy Tale Theater

- Created and taught original theater class for ages 4-10 (4 years)
- Specialized in adaptations of fairytales

A.R.T./MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard University

Fall 2011 - Present

*Guest Speaker*

- Commedia Dell' Arte: Theater History, Prof. Ryan McKittrick
- Adaptation of a Fairytale: Dramaturgy, Prof. Ryan McKittrick

*Workshop Instructor*

- Mask Performance/Physical Theater Workshop (2 weeks)

Carnegie Mellon University

Fall 2005 – 2008

*Acting Teacher*

- Drama: Acting for Non-Majors (5 semesters)

Wayne Stage University

Fall 2012

*Workshop leader*

- Fairytale Adaptation: Applied Theater, Prof. Mary Anderson
- Developed sight specific adaptations of Hansel and Gretel with Undergraduates

Summer Theater of New Canaan, Apprentice Program

Summer 2010 – present

*Guest Faculty*

- Theater Directing
- Shakespeare performance Techniques
- Commedia Dell' Arte Performance

**Teaching Experience, Cont.**

Learning Spring Elementary School

September 2002-2004

*Music Teacher*

- Developed original curriculum for students on the autism spectrum

Wilton High School

Fall 2000

*Workshop Leader*

- Shakespeare Performance / Physical Theater Workshop

New Canaan Field Club

*Children's Theater Instructor*

Summer 1996-2005

- Choreographed/ directed /taught theater to children age 4 – 13
- Developed original adaptations of fairytales with students

**CREATIVE / SCHOLARLY**

**Directing Experience – Academic:**

Harvard University

Fall 2013

*Harvard Capital Campaign Launch* (Associate Director, dir. Diane Paulus)

- Directed 60 Harvard Undergraduates in original theatrical spectacle
- Collaborated on creative content with Harvard Development Office
- Successfully organized an evening which featured the Harvard University Band, Harvard Jazz Band, Harvard Bhangra, the Harvard University Choir, The Radcliffe Pitches, and the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra

*40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Associate Director, Dir. Diane Paulus)

- Produced by the Kennedy Center and the University Committee on Human Rights Studies
- Directed 40 Human Rights advocates in a celebratory reading
- Adapted the text from the original document and Eleanor Roosevelt quotes

A.R.T. / MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard University

2011-2013

*The Light Princess*, World premiere new musical

*Hansel and Gretel*, Original devised work with graduate students

*The Snow Queen*, Original devised work with graduate students

Wayne State University

Winter 2013

*The Snow Queen*, Re-created with undergraduate students

Carnegie Mellon University

Fall 2006-Spring 2009

*The Illusion* (MFA Thesis production)

*Accidental Death of an Anarchist*

*Eye of the Beholder*

*Chasing the Dragon*, world premiere

**Creative / Scholarly, Cont.**

*Past Perfect, Future Tense*, world premiere

New York University

Fall 1998 – Spring 2002

*Romeo and Juliet*

*Life's a Dream*

*Aria da Capo*

*The Island*

**Directing Experience – Professional:**

Broadway

*Hair* (Assistant Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, 2009)

- Winner of 2009 Tony Award for Best Revival of a Musical

Off-Broadway

*The Light Princess* (Opening February 2014 at the New Victory Theater, NYC)

*H4* (Resonance Theatre Ensemble, Theatre Row, NYC, 2012)

- Original Adaptation of Henry IV, Pt. 1 and 2

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Assistant Director, Dir. Robert Richmond, 2004)

American Repertory Theater, Cambridge, MA

*The Donkey Show* (Resident Director 2009 – Present)

*The Tempest* (Associate Director, 2014)

*Pippin* (Associate Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, Broadway Workshop, 2012)

- Winner of the 2013 Best Revival of a Musical and Best Direction  
*The Fisherman and his Wife* (Created for the inaugural Outside the Box Festival, Boston)
- Death and the Powers* (Assistant Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, 2011)
- Prometheus Bound* (Associate Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, 2010)
- Best of Both Worlds* (Assistant Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, 2009)
- Emerging America Parade* (Parade Curator, 2009)
  - Successfully organized 20 Boston performing organizations
  - Guided each institution in creating a street spectacle of their work
  - Directed the parade through Cambridge
  - Directed the culminating rally in Harvard Square for MayFair 2009

OBERON (A.R.T.'s second stage), Cambridge, MA

- Once in Hell: Dante's Inferno in 10 Dinner Courses* (2011, 2012)
- Matchmaker Matchmaker, I'm Willing to Settle: A Musical Guide to Internet Dating* (2012)
- Careless Love: A Downhome Musical* (2012)

Summer Theater of New Canaan, New Canaan, CT

- Hairspray* (2014)
- South Pacific* (Nominated for Broadway World, Best Director, 2013)
- The Cat in the Hat* (2013)
- My Fair Lady* (2012)

**Creative / Scholarly, Cont.**

- Carousel* (2011)
- H4*, Original Adaptation of Henry IV, pt.1 and 2 (2010)
- Taming of the Shrew* (2009)
- Twelfth Night* (2008)
- Romeo and Juliet* (2006)
- A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2005)
- A Muse in Love* (2004, 2007)
- The Music Man* (Assistant Director, Dir. Melody Meitrott, 2008)
- Peter Pan* (Assistant Director, Dir. Melody Meitrott, 2006)
- Sound of Music* (Assistant Director, Dir. Melody Meitrott, 2005)
- Cinderella* (Assistant Director, Dir. Melody Meitrott, 2004)

Filament Theater Ensemble, Chicago, IL

- The Snow Queen* (2013)

The Dallas Opera, Dallas, TX

- Death and the Powers: The Robot's Opera* (Assistant Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, 2013)

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami, FL

- The Donkey Show* (2012)

Chicago Opera Theater

- Death and the Powers: The Robot's Opera* (Assistant Director, Dir. Diane Paulus, 2012)

The Depot Theater, Westport, NY

- Careless Love: A Downhome Musical* (2012)

Aquila Theater Company, New York, NY

- A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Assistant Director, Dir. Robert Richmond, 2004)
- The Importance of Being Earnest* (Assistant Director, Dir. Robert Richmond, 2003)
- Comedy of Errors* (Assistant to the Director, Dir. Robert Richmond, 2002)

## **Related Experiences:**

- Resident Director, American Repertory Theater 2012-present
- Resident Director for A.R.T.'s long running show, The Donkey Show
  - Curator for Harvard Yard's theater festival: Common Spaces Performances
  - Contributed to the season planning for the following year
  - Program Director for Fairy Tale Theater
  - Find and direct the A.R.T. family Holiday show
  - View and read work and offer written commentary and analysis

## **Creative / Scholarly, Cont.**

- Artistic Associate American Repertory Theater 2010-2011
- Worked closely with Artistic Director as a creative and executive assistant
  - Worked closely with Producer and served
  - Worked closely with Marketing Department to promote productions through promotional appearances and street theater events.
  - Assisted as a writer and editor for Artistic Director
  - Organized creative meetings and offered analysis of work

- Artistic Fellow, American Repertory Theater 2010
- Assist the Artistic Office in all departments

- Artistic Intern, American Repertory Theater 2009
- Assist the Artistic Office in all departments

- Company Member, Tut' Zanni
- Perform, practice, teach and research traditional commedia dell' arte
  - Performed and taught at: Mississippi University for Women, Coastal Carolina University, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Fayetteville High School
  - *Love's Letter Lost*, Capital Fringe Festival, D.C., 2014
  - *Love's Letter Lost*, Filament Theatre Ensemble, Chicago, IL, 2013
  - *Art for Sale*, NYC Fringe Festival, 2013
  - *Art for Sale*, Mimoda Dance Studio, LA, California, 2012

- Production Assistant, Papermill Playhouse, Millburn, NJ
- Assisted the Director and Stage Management team on production

## **VOLUNTEER WORK**

- Theater director/consultant for Cuisine en Local
- Create/ Direct dinner shows with local chefs for the Boston community
  - Productions include 10 course dinners with seasonal/local food
  - Guide farmers, fishermen, and members of the community to find original characters
  - Developed/co-wrote *Once in Valhalla: a 10 course Viking Feast!* (2011, 2012, 2013)

## **REFERENCES**

Diane Paulus, Artistic Director

American Repertory Theater  
64 Brattle Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
[Diane\\_paulus@harvard.edu](mailto:Diane_paulus@harvard.edu)

**References, Cont.**

Ryan McKittrick, Director of Artistic Programming/Dramaturg  
American Repertory Theater  
64 Brattle Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
[Ryan\\_McKittrick@harvard.edu](mailto:Ryan_McKittrick@harvard.edu)

Julia Smeliansky, Executive Director  
A.R.T. / MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard University  
64 Brattle Street  
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[Julia\\_Smeliansky@harvard.edu](mailto:Julia_Smeliansky@harvard.edu)