



## SITKA FINE ARTS CAMP 2018 FACULTY

Middle School and High School Camp



**Krists Auznieks'** multi-media opera "NeoArctic," a collaboration with British techno producer Andy Stott was premiered at the Royal Danish Theatre (Denmark) and won the Danish Reumert Prize 2017 as the show of the year. His quintet "Piano" was featured in The New York Times as one the week's best classical music moments. Performed at The Walt Disney Concert Hall (LA), Beijing National Arts Centre, Shanghai City Theatre, Amsterdam's Muziekgebouw, The Kitchen (NYC), National Sawdust (NYC), Korzo theatre (Holland), Riga Russian Theatre (Latvia), Gaudeamus Muziekweek (Holland), American Music Festival (Albany, NY), MATA 2017 (NYC), Music from Angel Fire (NM), his music has also been played by Sandbox Percussion (NYC), Antico Moderno (Boston), Yale Philharmonia, and Orkest de Ereprijs (Holland). Commissions include works for Aspen Philharmonic Orchestra, Latvian Radio Choir, Albany Symphony musicians (NY), Yale Percussion Group, pianist David Fung, and two concert-length works for Contemporaneous (NYC) and Sinfonietta Riga (Latvia). Auznieks's "I Exist As I Am," broadcast on classical music radios worldwide, represented Latvia at the UNESCO International Rostrum of Composers in Finland. Currently pursuing a Doctoral degree at the Yale School of Music with David Lang and Aaron Kernis, his most recent recognitions include fellowships from American Academy of Fontainebleau and Bennington Chamber Music Conference, two nominations for the Latvian Grand Music Award, Yale's Frances E. Osborne Kellogg Memorial Prize, winning works at The Chicago Ensemble's Discover America XI and Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra competitions, and Aspen Music Festival's Jacob Druckman Prize.



**Harvey Benstein** brings to the podium a wealth of experience and artistry. His musical interpretations and artistic conducting style have won the praises of composers, conductors, musicians, and audiences. Benstein has conducted in all media from symphony orchestra to jazz ensemble and is well versed in the orchestral and wind band repertoire. Benstein has served as the music director and conductor of the Walnut Creek Concert Band since 1998, and was the conductor of the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra (1999-2007). He was the Director of Instrumental Music at Campolindo High School, where he established an instrumental music program that received a national and international reputation for excellence. Benstein served as Professor of Conducting and Ensemble Director at Butler University, Indiana; McNeese State University, Louisiana; and The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. He holds degrees from Michigan State University and taught at Grand Ledge (MI) and Ann Arbor Huron High Schools. He is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States, conducting and teaching; school, collegiate, community and professional ensembles.



**Matthew Berliner** is the former Principal horn of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra. He has played in a variety of ensembles including the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Opera, Seattle commercial recording studios, Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre, Hawaii Opera Theatre, Hawaii Ballet, Maui Pops Orchestra, Lancaster Festival Orchestra, and the New World Symphony. He studied with Roland Pandolfi at Oberlin College and Conservatory where he also earned a degree in Environmental Studies. He also studied with David Johnson at the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano, Switzerland, William VerMeulen at Rice University, and with members of the Toronto Symphony at the Glenn Gould School. His festival

attendance includes the Zermatt Festival Academy with members of the Berliner Philharmoniker, Lucerne Festival Academy, Banff Centre, National Repertory Orchestra, Music Academy of the West, and Round Top. He enjoys cycling and kitesurfing in his free time.



**Zeke Blackwell** has been involved in over 60 productions as a director, actor, writer, designer, and technician, and has had the joy of making theater in Sitka, Fort Worth, New Haven, New York, and Costa Rica, where he directed the world premiere of the Spanish-language version of *Once on this Island!* With over a decade of improv comedy experience, he's performed/taught improv around the country, and most recently at Improvaganza in Honolulu. His original play, *Still Life*, was produced in the 2013 New York International Fringe Festival. He graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in Cognitive Science. He served two years on the board of directors for Far Corners Community Musical Theatre, a non-profit dedicated to providing arts

opportunities for underserved youth in isolated regions of the world. Once, he beat-boxed for Lin-Manuel Miranda. This is his third season year-round at SFAC as the Young Performers Theater Director.



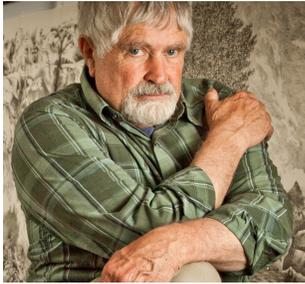
**Bona Bones** is a graduate of the California Institute of the Arts holding a B.F.A. in Experimental Animation and obtained an M.F.A. in Animation at the University of Edinburgh- Edinburgh College of Art. Her primary focus is stop motion animation and directing. While typically found in the animation department, she has also has experience as a seamstress, puppet/set fabricator and production designer. She currently works as a Special Instructor in the Film and Media Studies program at Dartmouth, College in Hanover, New Hampshire.



**Amy Butcher** is an award-winning essayist and author of *Visiting Hours* (Blue Rider Press/Penguin-Random House), a 2015 memoir that earned starred reviews and praise from *The New York Times Sunday Review of Books*, NPR, *The Star Tribune*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Glamour*, *Cosmopolitan*, and others. Most recently, her work was featured on National Public Radio and BBC, awarded grand prize in the 2016 Solas Awards' "Best of Travel Writing" series, selected for inclusion in *Best Travel Writing 2016*, earned notable distinctions in the 2015, 2016, and 2017 editions of the *Best American Essays* series, and awarded grand prize in the 2014 *Iowa Review Award* in nonfiction as judged by David Shields. Additional essays have appeared in *Harper's*, *The New*

*York Times "Modern Love,"* *The New York Times Sunday Review*, *The Washington Post*, *The Denver Post*, *The Iowa Review*, *Guernica*, *Gulf Coast*, *Fourth Genre*, *The Rumpus*, *The Paris Review online*, *Tin House online*, and *Brevity*, among others. Her work has additionally been anthologized in *The Best Travel*

Writing 2016, *The Soul Of A Great Traveler*, *Writing True: The Art and Craft of Creative Nonfiction*, *The Best Of Vela*, and *Beautiful Flesh: A Body of Essays*. She earned her MFA from the University of Iowa's Nonfiction Writing Program and is the 2012-2013 recipient of Colgate University's Olive B. O'Connor Creative Writing fellowship in nonfiction, as well as grants and awards from the Vermont Studio Center, the Virginia Center for Creative Arts, the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, the Academy of American Poets, Word Riot Inc., and the Stanley Foundation for International Research. She teaches writing at Ohio Wesleyan University and annually at the Iowa Summer Writing Festival and the Sitka Fine Arts Camp in Sitka, Alaska. She has two dogs, beautiful beasts.



**Norm Campbell** was born in Oregon in 1946. He received a degree in fine art from Southern Oregon College in 1968. In 1982 he moved to Alaska, first to Metlakatla, and then on to Sitka in 1987. Alaska has been not only a source of inspiration for his work but also the land and its trees have been a constant and abiding source of images and subject matter. Campbell works primarily with pen and ink on paper; color is added with both watercolor and colored pencil. He defines his work as invented landscape, meaning that he chooses images that one could easily encounter near Sitka and the many surrounding small islands but most of his works do not represent or exist in the real world. Campbell served on the board of the Alaska State Council of

the Arts from 2001 until 2008. In 2010 he completed a major drawing (4 feet by 30 feet) which is on permanent display at the Sitka Public Library. He has exhibited around the Pacific Northwest since 1968. Norman lives in Sitka with his wife Toby and has two grown children, Sarah and Graeme, who live in the Northwest.



**Laura Careless** is a freelance dancer, choreographer and educator who specializes in storytelling through dance. She was born in the U.K. and trained at the Royal Ballet School before coming to the States to attend Juilliard. Upon graduation, she became a founding member of Company XIV, an award-winning dance theatre and nightlife company based in NYC where she originated many principal roles over a decade-long career. She is currently a Guest Performer with Buglisi Dance Theater. Her one-woman performance *She-Wolves*, in collaboration with historian and BBC presenter Helen Castor, tells the stories of the women who ruled England before Elizabeth I; it will begin touring historic sites in the U.K. beginning in summer 2018. In addition to her performance career, Laura is a passionate educator;

she has been on faculty at Eliot Feld's Ballet Tech NY Public School for Dance since 2008, and she is a Visiting Artist for Juilliard Global Ventures, helping to bring high quality performing arts education to K-12 students all over the world. *Body Story*, her album of movement meditations for all, is available now on iTunes. When she is not indulging her nomadic tendencies, Laura lives in the woods of the Hudson Valley, NY, with her orchestra conductor husband and Sophie the cat.



**Paul Cox** is currently Dean of Creative Arts at Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland, Ohio, where he oversees eight academic programs in studio art, performing arts, new media and recording arts, as well as the performing arts series and summer JazzFest. He has taught percussion and music history at Oberlin and Case Western Reserve University. He earned a PhD in musicology from CWRU in 2011, and served as Assistant Curator of Music (1996-2004) and associate director of performing arts (2005) at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Born and raised in Sitka, Alaska, he attended the Sitka Fine Arts Camp in the 1980s and returned to teach percussion and music composition beginning in 2003.



**Kurt Domoney** is a professional actor, director, choreographer and educator who has been seen in the role of Don Kerr in the Broadway revival of A CHORUS LINE, the first national tour of the revival of 42ND STREET, and the St. Paul Company of Irving Berlin's WHITE CHRISTMAS. He has been seen Off-Broadway in the Jone's and Schmidt musical ROADSIDE at the York Theatre Company, ALL IS LOVE at the New York Musical Theatre Festival as well as performing with the Rockette's in the Radio City City Christmas Spectacular. Kurt has been seen at most of the country's top regional theatres including the Arena Stage and Ford's Theatre in Washington DC, Goodspeed Opera House, North Shore Music Theatre, Geva Theatre, Cape

Playhouse, Ogunquit Playhouse, Sacramento Music Circus and Houston's Theatre Under The Stars. He has been coaching young people professionally through his company, Broadway Kids Auditions, [www.broadwaykidsauditions.com](http://www.broadwaykidsauditions.com) in NYC and MTCA, Musical Theatre College Auditions for the past four years and is a passionate and active professional performance coach. He is thrilled that BKA has students working in all levels of the industry, from television, film, Broadway shows, national tours, regional theatre and community theatre. BKA students have been seen on Broadway in shows from LES MISERABLES to ANASTASIA to MATILDA, National Tours of ANNIE, DR. SUESS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS, ELF, SCHOOL OF ROCK, MATILDA and in almost every regional theatre in the country! His college preparatory students have been accepted to almost every musical theatre program in the country and Kurt has been on the forefront of the continued demands of navigating students through the rigorous college audition experience. Kurt's expert knowledge of musical theatre song repertoire has made him a sought-after consultant for both students and professional actors looking to build their audition books. As an educator he has taught tap, jazz, musical theatre, voice and song coaching through Front & Center Performing Arts in Springfield, NJ in addition to many private clients. Through his work as a freelance coach in all of these disciplines, he found his love and passion for teaching kids of all ages the skill of a successful audition. This heart centered process involves a creative, nurturing and solid audition technique that is both effective and fun. He has directed and choreographed PRINCESS DIANA, The Musical at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC and the musical PISTACHIO, THE BROOKLYN GIRL MADE FROM TRASH for the Brooklyn Arts Council. Choreography credits include EVITA, DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT and LA BELLE HELENE at Opera North, Hanover, NH and Off-Broadway's EVERYONE'S CAROL. In addition, Kurt performed, taught and choreographed for the Transcendence Theatre Company, Sonoma, CA in FLY ME TO THE MOON, FANTASTICAL FAMILY NIGHT and their Kids Fun Camp. Kurt has also been a casting associate for two seasons at the Cape Playhouse. This job gave him the privilege of working on the "other side" of the audition table and seeing hundreds of actors audition in New York. Marrying all of this professional experience together resulted in the desire to help children understand and develop the fundamentals of auditioning at an early age. It's also a blast! Upcoming directing and choreography projects include A CHORUS LINE at Northwestern University, THE TALES OF HOFFMAN at Opera North, NH and THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME at the Carnegie in Cincinnati, OH. Kurt holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM)



**Christian Fabian** was born in Sweden and grew up in Germany. It was there that he saw a Dizzy Gillespie concert when he was 12. He met Dizzy and was so inspired he decided to play jazz. He studied at Maastricht Conservatory and performed in Europe, then moved to Boston and attended Berklee College of Music on a full scholarship, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2000. Lionel Hampton selected him as bassist for the Lionel Hampton Big Band, and he then studied with Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter and Billy Taylor among other Jazz greats. He currently performs in New York with The Mike Longo Big Band and The Lionel Hampton Big Band among others. His compositions earned two awards and three nominations with Hollywood Music in Media in

2008 and 2009 for Best Jazz Artist. Christian Fabian co-founded The Native Jazz Quartet with Edward Littlefield in 2011 and the band was chosen by the US State Department as global Jazz Ambassadors in 2013 and 2014.



**Caroline Fermin** is a graduate of New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts and later, the Juilliard School. She has performed all over the world for a variety of ballet and modern companies including James Sewell Ballet, Chamber Dance Project, Sidra Bell, and Jeanette Stoner. She is a founding member of Gallim Dance where she was a company member for six years and served as Rehearsal Director and Education Chair. Caroline is primarily a collaborative artist, having worked with clowns, actors, sculptors, and fashion houses. She recently created work for actors at NYU Tisch and for the playwright Daniel Talbott. As an advocate for social justice, Caroline works extensively with community engagement programs. She brings her expertise in dance education and youth leadership to organizations such as New York City Center, Dancewave, and Artists Striving to End Poverty. Caroline also has run dance education programs at Snow College in Utah and in her hometown of New Orleans. This year will see Caroline teaching at Barnard College/Columbia University specializing in improvisation and classical modern. She has an upcoming new piece for Stockton University's dance program in 2019. Caroline lives in New York City with her cat Nell, and they both enjoy birdwatching.



**RC Fill** is a director, writer, and editor. He lives in Los Angeles where he recently completed and released his first feature film as a director entitled 'Paula & Jeff'. He has worked as an editor in both film and TV with credits including the recently released 'Overboard' other films such as, 'Sisters' and 'Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates' as well as tv shows 'Modern Family' and 'Bad Teacher'.



**Chloe French** is a Tlingit, Danish, English artist. She is Eagle moiety and Tsaagweidi clan, who taught middle and high school math, crafts, and set design for 15 years. Currently retired, her work may be seen at [www.stoningtongallery.com](http://www.stoningtongallery.com). She has work in the Sheldon Jackson Museum and the Museum of the North in Fairbanks, as well as in private collections. Chloe is a Chilkat and ravenstail weaver, button robe and story bib maker as well as jewelry maker. One of her Chilkat robes is at.woo (sacred object) for her clan.



**David Fryling** is Director of Choral Activities at Hofstra University, where he conducts both the select Hofstra Chorale and Hofstra Chamber Choir, teaches conducting, and supervises choral music education student teachers in the field. A 2014 inductee as "Educator of Note" into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame, he is also the winner of the 2017 American Prize in Conducting in two categories: community chorus and college & university. An energetic and engaging conductor, clinician, and adjudicator of professional, community, and high school choirs, David's recent invitations include various all-state and regional honor choirs, master classes, workshops, and adjudications in New

York, New Jersey, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Illinois, Mississippi, Michigan, Tennessee, Louisiana, Texas, Utah, and Alaska. He is also the founding conductor of the eVoco Voice Collective ([www.evoco.vc](http://www.evoco.vc)), a non-profit organization that presents a yearly concert series, a recital, and awards young artist scholarships to outstanding high school singers. David has served as a guest artist on the conducting faculty of the New York State Summer School of the Arts (NYSSSA) School of Choral Studies in Fredonia, NY since the summer of 2014. For the seven summers before that, he served as Coordinator of the Vocal Artists program at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan, where he was conductor and music director of the World Youth Honors Choir and Festival Choir & Orchestra.



**Amanda Galick** is a flutist and educator in the Houston area. A second-year Young Artist with Da Camera of Houston, she has performed in many concert venues including Carnegie Hall, Disney Hall, Shanghai Grand Theatre and Beijing's National Centre for the Performing Arts, as well as more unconventional settings such as art museums, hospitals and the Houston Independent School District. A past fellow of the Vermont Mozart, Sarasota, Aspen, Brevard, and Hot Springs Summer Music Festivals, Ms. Galick is an active orchestral and chamber musician. She has performed as guest principal flutist with the Fort Worth Symphony and the Texas Ballet Theater Orchestra and has appeared with the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra, Louisiana Philharmonic and The New World Symphony during their regular

concert seasons. Locally in Houston, Ms Galick has performed with Aperio - Music of the Americas, Musiq and WindSync, and will perform with the Texas New Music Ensemble and the Florida Grand Opera this spring. A passionate outreach advocate and educator, Ms. Galick was a guest artist lecture-recitalist at the Wright State University 2015 Double Reed Festival, where she discussed music outreach with the Trade Winds Quintet. Previously, she has held faculty positions at The British International School of Houston, Belvoir Terrace Summer Performing Arts Camp, The Village School and the Vivaldi Music Academy. Ms. Galick studied as a Brown Scholar at Rice University, where she taught elementary musicianship classes in the Young Children's Division and developed a similar kindergarten program at The Village School. In the 2016-17 school year, she taught K-3 general music at The British School, in collaboration with the Juilliard-Nord Anglia Performing Arts Program — a new program seeking to inspire and equip students with creativity, curiosity and cultural literacy in accordance with the Juilliard philosophy. Expanding on her education degree, Ms. Galick recently completed a certificate with the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, which sent her on teaching missions to Guanajuato, Mexico and St. Croix, of the US Virgin Islands. Originally from Pennsylvania, Ms. Galick completed her master's degree at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music. She holds a bachelor's degree in both music education and performance from the University of Michigan. Her principal teachers include Leone Buyse and Amy Porter.



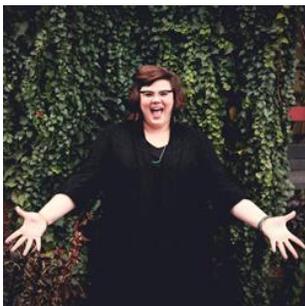
**Mary Goddard:** I am an Alaskan Native who is passionate about my Tlingit culture. I express myself through my jewelry and art. I find great joy in working in film. I spend my free time foraging for indigenous plants and using them in my cooking and medicine making. Currently I am carving silver, copper and gold. Many of my pieces have spruce root woven into them. I hand carve, shape and cut all of my materials to create my unique pieces, as well as harvesting and preparing the natural materials. All of my designs are unique. Although I may repeat certain designs, each piece of jewelry is a one of kind. My style is created mixing Tlingit form line and scroll work. Many of my inspirations come from local plants. I delight in creating heirloom pieces that are unique to an individual. I have learned most of my jewelry trade from

my mother Jennie Wheeler who is a skin and fur sewer, as well as a basket weaver and from Master

Tlingit Carver Dave Galanin. Plants are of high interest to me. I am self taught and still have so much to learn about our indigenous plants.



**Jon Gomez** is a Mexican-American multimedia artist and recent M.F.A. graduate from New York's School for Visual Arts. As an artist born in Los Angeles and raised in Mexico, his works travel freely between the universals of Southern California and the lived reality of Latin American communities. Landscapes that predate U.S. expansionism often feature in his recent installations—lands that frame the evolution of immigration, identity, and nationalism in 21st-century America. Jon lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.



**Kelly Greblo's** love affair with stage makeup began at an early age. She fondly remembers pouring over her mother's extensive eye shadow collection, while simultaneously discovering theater in the Mat-Su Valley. Kelly was raised in Big Lake until her family moved to Portland, Oregon shortly before middle school. Kelly received her BA in Theater Arts and Communication Arts From Linfield College in 2004. Kelly then worked for several years as a professional fashion makeup artist until her persistent passion for theater combined with her developing skill set for connecting with youth led her to pursue a career in secondary education. Kelly received her MAT with emphasis on High School English and Drama from Lewis and Clark College in 2007. Kelly returned to Alaska for the first two years of her teaching career in Metlakatla where she collaborated with local storytellers to create an original theatrical work entitled *Adaawx: True Tellings of the Ts'msyen*. Throughout graduate school and her teaching career, Kelly maintained her makeup skills with freelance events, weddings, photography and film as well as teaching stage makeup classes for grades 6-12 at Saturday Academy in Portland where she lives with her husband Todd and three year old son, Cecil.



**Rhiannon Guevin** graduated summa cum laude from University of Puget Sound's School of Music, where she received a BM in Vocal Performance with Honors in Music. During her time at Puget Sound she performed in opera scenes and full-scale productions, including the roles of Sophie in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Miss Titmouse in *Too Many Sopranos!*, and Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*. She was the fall 2011 winner of the University of Puget Sound's Concerto/Aria Competition. In summer 2011, she traveled to Kunming, China, where she played The Queen of the Night in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* for the China Yunnan Opera Festival. More recent roles include Zerlina in Juneau Lyric Opera's production of *Don Giovanni*, Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and Cathy Hyatt in *The Last Five Years*. Rhiannon has studied voice with Dr. Dawn Padula and Joseph Evans. In addition to her administrative duties with the camp, Rhiannon teaches opera at SFAC's High School Camp and provides vocal coaching for SFAC's Musical Theater Camp. During the year, Rhiannon serves as the Musical Director for SFAC's Young Performers Theater program and teaches private voice lessons. Rhiannon has served as an adjudicator for the classical voice sections at Alaska's State Solo and Ensemble Music Festival.



**Krista Halvorson** currently teaches orchestra at St. Charles North High School. Prior to teaching in St. Charles, she was the orchestra director at Neuqua Valley, Waubonsie Valley, Wheaton Warrenville South and Wheaton North High Schools in Chicago's western suburbs. She began her career teaching middle school orchestra in the Twin Cities of Minnesota. Over her thirteen years in the Chicago area, her orchestras have been chosen to perform at the Illinois Music Education All-State Conference three times. Krista has directed the ILMEA District III Senior Festival Orchestra, the ILMEA Districts II & VIII Junior Festival Orchestra as well as the NEISTA (Northeast Iowa String Teacher Association) Honors High School String Orchestra. Krista received her Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from St. Olaf College in

Northfield, Minnesota, and her Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting and Music Education (string pedagogy) at Northwestern University. Krista's music studies began with piano at age five and violin at age seven. She studied voice and viola after high school and currently is the principal violist of the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra. Outside of school, Krista enjoys photography, getting outside, listening to podcasts, and relaxing with a good book or TV show.



**Marjan Hormozi** was born to an Iranian family in Tehran. Her father and uncle were in the advertising industry and in her early life she grew up in a very busy house that was like an around-the-clock ad agency. This very free and creative environment gave Marjan her initial love and passion for making art and storytelling. In 1969 her family sent her to Switzerland and then to England where she went to boarding school and art school. Marjan received her MFA from Slade School of Fine Arts (UK), and her BFA (honors) from the university of North London (UK) and completed her foundation studies at Chelsea School of Art (UK). She studied with some of the most important artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. She is an international artist and her

work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in several countries including, Japan, Korea, England, Germany and the USA. Marjan Hormozi is the recipient of several awards and fellowships including the Cheltenham fellowship (UK), Artist in Residence at the Stroud Museum (UK) and Artist in Residence at the University of North London (UK). Her work has appeared in several publications and is included in private collections nationally and internationally. Since 1986 Marjan Hormozi has served educational institutions in the United Kingdom and the United States as a teacher, including lead faculty and program director in foundation Studies. Marjan Hormozi is a recognized expert in field of Figurative Art. She has designed and created drawing, painting and foundation curriculum for several colleges. Professor Marjan Hormozi is currently the program Director for 'Drawing Form' and 'Drawing Studio' at Otis College of Art and Design and teaches Drawing and Painting at Otis College of Art and Design and California Institute of the Arts, (CalArts). She lives and works in Los Angeles.



**Michael Hudock** studied painting and drawing at Delta Community College in Michigan and photography at Western Michigan University before moving to New Mexico 1978. He received a BS degree in education from the University of New Mexico in 1989. Hudock has worked with a variety of photographic processes including traditional black and white, Polaroid films, wet plate collodion, gum dichromate, liquid emulsions, and digital imaging, but he began painting again in 1996. His interest in timeworn objects and surfaces is a consistent theme in his digital and photographic work as well as being the subject of his paintings. Hudock's work is in collections at the Polaroid Corporation, the New Mexico Museum of Fine Arts, and Ohio

Wesleyan University, as well as numerous national and international private collections. He teaches photography at Sandia Preparatory School and is represented in Santa Fe by GF Contemporary.



**William Irwin** is an Associate Professor of Theatre Performance at the University of Michigan - Flint Department of Theatre & Dance. He is an active member of the Actors' Equity Association and has worked as a professional actor and director for the past twenty years with an emphasis in classical theatre, particularly the works of William Shakespeare, contemporary theatre and musical theatre. His concentration at UM-Flint is acting, voice, movement and directing with a special interest in comedic technique.



Born in Colorado, raised in Philadelphia, **Brendan Jones** moved to Sitka at the age of 19 to work in commercial fishing. He holds a B.A. and M.A. from Oxford University, and has written numerous articles for the New York Times, Smithsonian, Sierra Magazine, Seattle Times, Ploughshares, Narrative Magazine, Popular Woodworking, The Huffington Post, National Fisherman, and recorded commentaries for National Public Radio. The recipient of an Elizabeth George Foundation Grant, and a Stegner fellowship at Stanford University, he teaches creative writing at the Stanford School of Continuing Studies. His debut novel, *The Alaskan Laundry*, was nominated for the Center for Fiction debut novel prize, and picked by Oprah as a Book-of-the-month.

He lives in Sitka with his wife and two daughters.



**Jessica Krichels** has worked as an artist and teacher for seventeen years. Originally from Maine, Jessica lived in Mexico for 13 years until she relocated to Albuquerque, NM seven years ago. She received a B.A. in Visual Arts from Brown University and later, an M.A. in Education. While living in Mexico Jessica studied printmaking and pursued her photography work traveling to all corners of the country. In 2005, Jessica founded and started a collective gallery/workshop space, Colectivo Progreso 81 in Guadalajara, Mexico. As an artist, Jessica is always experimenting with a wide variety of media and techniques. Her interests range from darkroom photography, to Photogravure and Monotypes prints, to collage and papermaking and more. Jessica has

exhibited her work widely in Mexico and New Mexico and in 2012 she received a National Art Teacher Fellowship Grant, awarded to 22 arts teachers in the U.S. With her funds she furthered her printmaking skills and became a member of New Grounds Print Workshop in Albuquerque, NM, where she is still an active artist member today. Jessica loves teaching, and has worked with kids from ages 3 to 79. She currently works in public elementary schools, trying her hardest every day to give her students a space for creativity, messes and happiness.



**Alexandra Lacey** has worked for over twenty years as an independent director, editor, consultant, producer and educator in San Francisco. Over the years she has produced videos and films in many genres for a wide variety of organizations and businesses. Her films have screened and been recognized at multiple festivals, including the Arizona International Film Festival, the Noise Pop Festival, the Pacific Film Archive and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Currently she is a producer and video coordinator at the San Francisco Anti-Eviction Mapping Project working in collaboration with other artists on (Dis)location, a multi-media online zine about the African-American experience and outmigration in San Francisco. She is also in the rough-cut

stage of a feature length documentary, *Fiji Time*. In addition to her film production work, Alexandra is a

passionate educator and has worked as a classroom teacher at the Academy of Art University as well as other schools in the United States and abroad. In addition to these teaching positions, she has collaborated through the AEMP with media students at San Francisco's High School of the Arts and with college students at UC Berkeley and other Bay Area universities. Furthermore, she has acted as a mentor to a large number of interns over the years on various film projects. She received her BA in Film Production and Studies at UC Santa Cruz and her MFA in Film Production from San Francisco State University.



**Brandon Lake** is an animator and filmmaker who has worked on a variety of commercials and television shows during his career. Initially inspired by the works of Disney and Rankin-Bass, in 2013 he graduated with an MFA in Animation and the Digital Arts from the University of Southern California. Since then he has been involved with various projects, including Robot Chicken, Bratz, Honda, PES, and Arthur Christmas, to name a few. During his free time, he strives to bring his own stories to life by working on his own short films and other artistic endeavors.



**Nicole Lamartine** became Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wyoming in 2008. She conducts the Collegiate Chorale, Singing Statesmen, advises the male a cappella Happy Jacks, and teaches conducting and applied voice. Under her leadership, choirs of the University of Wyoming have performed at the 2015 NW National Association for Music Education (NAfME) conference, the 2012 Northwest American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) conference, the 2011 Northwest MENC conference in Bellevue, WA and at the 2011 National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) national conference. Her choirs at the University of Wyoming have enjoyed premiere performances and recordings of music by Pulitzer Prize and Grammy-winning composer Jennifer Higdon, Forrest Pierce, John Muehleisen, Gabriela Lena Frank, and Craig Hella Johnson. Lamartine is becoming a resource for men's choir singing in the US, having led The UW Singing Statesmen to prominence and with her research on female leaders of male choirs. She conducted a program of men's choir music at Lincoln Center in the spring of 2016. She is in demand as a conductor and clinician across the US and Europe and recently appeared as the NW ACDA Men's Honor Choir conductor at the 2014 conference as well as the conductor of the DoDDS All-Europe Honor Choir in Wiesbaden, Germany. She was the 2015 Wyoming All-State Mixed Choir conductor and conducted the Washington All-State Women's Choir and the Montana All-State Mixed Choir in 2016. Lamartine also serves as Associate Conductor of the semi-professional choir "Chor Anno," in the state of Washington. Dr. Lamartine has presented her research at national and regional conferences of ACDA, the National Collegiate Choral Organization, College Music Society, National Association of Teachers of Singing, and the National Association for Music Education. As a professional vocal musician, Lamartine has sung as a regular member of the Grammy®-nominated Conspirare, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the Colorado Bach Ensemble, and Chor Anno. While living in England she sang with the choruses of the London BBC and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestras, performing across Europe and the UK. She can be heard on six choral CDs on labels including Harmonia Mundi and Chandos. In 2014, Dr. Lamartine was chosen as one of seven conductors from the US to participate in the International Conductor Exchange program to China. She traveled to Beijing to conduct choirs and present conducting and vocal master classes with students from China Conservatory. In service to the American Choral Directors association, she has acted as Wyoming ACDA President, as chair of the 2011 National ACDA Women's Choir and as co-chair of the 2009 National ACDA Collegiate Chamber Choir. She is currently President-Elect for the Northwest division. She holds the BM degree in Vocal Performance from New Mexico State

University as well as an MM in Vocal Performance and the DMA in Choral Conducting from the University of Arizona.



**Ben Leddick** has been performing improv for ten years and teaching for over five. This last year he has taken his performing from the Los Angeles area and has expanded to performing in Rocklin, Las Vegas, Columbus, and Denver. With this year of travel and performing, he has discovered the diversity and unique qualities of a city and how to perform in a way that is both true to the performer and specific to the crowd.



**Edward Littlefield** attended the University of Idaho where he majored in instrumental and vocal music education with an emphasis in percussion, studying with Daniel Bukvich. He has played in the show band on various cruise ships for Carnival Cruise Lines in the Caribbean and the Bahamas. Ed was previously the music teacher at Sitka High School. He has toured throughout the country as the percussionist for the critically acclaimed Dallas Brass. He is currently a member of the percussion ensemble, Juxtapercussion, and a freelance musician and clinician in the Pacific Northwest. Ed is a former student of the Sitka Fine Arts Camp. Ed co-founded The Native Jazz Quartet with

Christian Fabian in 2011 and the band was chosen by the US State Department as global Jazz Ambassadors in 2013 and 2014.



**Colleen Macomber**, who originally is from southwestern Louisiana, moved to Colorado in 2000 where she obtained her BFA from Colorado State University. Although her degree is in art, she has danced on a competitive and professional level throughout high school and college. Dance has been a big part of her life and her focus has remained in modern jazz. Celebrate the Beat discovered her in Crested Butte in 2009. Colleen relocated to Vail where she trained to become a lead teaching artist. After 2 years she then set out to become program director of many of the rural communities throughout Colorado. In 2012, she had the opportunity to direct the very first show in the Adams 14 school district of Denver. The program has since flourished. Colleen

is currently the program director of Celebrate the Beat's program in Nayarit, Mexico. She has taught over 500 local Mexican students each year since 2011. She continues to grow the program and local support. In 2017 Colleen created her own program modeled after CTB called Creative Arts Momentum. She has flourished CAM in areas such as Central California and New Orleans, Louisiana. The empowerment of children through music and dance has given her an incredible new passion in life. Giving children the confidence and the positivity they need is exactly what she is meant to do.



**Cristy Maltese** is an artist who lives and works in the greater Los Angeles area. She graduated from Art Center College of Design with a degree in Fine Art and entered the animation industry as a traditional 2D background painter. Her work can be seen in classic Disney films such as The Little Mermaid, Beauty and the Beast, and Aladdin. She supervised the Background Painting Department on both Pocahontas and Home on the Range, and was the Art Director on Walt Disney's Dinosaur as well as smaller projects. Her most recent contribution to the Disney lineup was visual development for the 2013 feature "Planes." Cristy currently freelances for major studios and paints for

pleasure in her spare time.



Born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and raised in California, **Gustavo Martinez** now resides in Tacoma, Washington. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Spatial Art with a minor in Mexican American studies from San Jose State University, San Jose, California. He has been involved in the completion of public artworks for the city of San Jose. In 2007 Martinez spent six weeks exploring sacred archaeological sites in southern Mexico and Central America, where he also studied traditional indigenous pottery and techniques at Escuela Valentine Lopez (San Juan de Oriente, Nicaragua). He received a Masters of Fine Art from the University of Washington in the Ceramic / Glass / Sculpture program, and was the recipient of the Parnassus Teaching With Excellence

award. In the fall of 2012 Martinez worked as a ceramic water filter production consultant for Ecofiltro SA in Guatemala, where he also helped organize the first annual ceramic symposium and sculpture exhibition at Ecofiltro SA to raise funds for the donation of ceramic water filters to the rural Guatemalan communities in the most need. Martinez is part of the Fine Art Department at Green River College as adjunct faculty where he teaches Ceramics and Art Appreciation.



**WT McRae** disappointed all of his teachers and professors when at the end of his serious theater training he began to create a career centering around mime and clown. Growing up in Denver, CO and moving to New York in 1997, WT studied acting, scenic design, dance, and pre-med at Adelphi University. Since then he has made his living primarily touring with orchestras performing mime and clown based shows in Tri-State Schools. He spent 6 years teaching the arts in inner city schools, and funneled those two pursuits into the creation of his own clown based theater company Fool's Academy. Fool's Academy is now a running theater pursuit that blends education with clowning, bringing silly but educational performances to New York City

schools. In addition to teaching, WT leads the SFAC Teacher Training Institute and is the Director for Musical Theater Camp.



**Joe Montagna** has been playing guitar since 1984 and professionally for over 20 years in various bands. He toured the U.S. in the late 90's in an authentic KISS tribute band, "Dressed To Kill" playing the part of KISS frontman Paul Stanley, even taking them to Sitka in 2009. By day he is "Mr. Joe" to his Kindergarten P.E. students at Baranof Elementary School here in Sitka, on weekends he is an active founding member of local rock/ funk band 'SlackTide', performing everything from the Beatles to Zappa. He loves to improvise on his instrument and jam with new musicians, especially in his newest collaborations in Sitka with the 'Holland Tunnel Orchestra'. He is a die-hard Mets, Jets, and Knicks fan, born and raised in Queens, NYC. He

loves Van Halen and Phish.



**Gerard Morris** is the Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at the University of Puget Sound School of Music. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Western Michigan University, a Master of Music Education degree from University of Colorado at Boulder, and a Doctor of Music degree in conducting from Northwestern University. His primary conducting teachers include Allan McMurray (University of Colorado) and Mallory Thompson (Northwestern University). Morris serves as winds and percussion department chair and conducts the Wind Ensemble, Concert

Band, and both the opera and musical theatre orchestras. In addition, he teaches courses in conducting and music education, and coaches chamber ensembles performing wind repertory. In 2016 he was the recipient of the President's Award for Teaching Excellence. With passion for new music, Morris has commissioned wind compositions by Michael Colgrass, Carter Pann, Daniel Kellogg, Andrew Ardizzioia, and Puget Sound student composers. Under his direction and leadership, the Puget Sound Wind Ensemble has performed World Premieres of Das Bach Book (Carter Pann) and Glass House Concerto for Percussion and Wind Ensemble (Andrew Ardizzioia), as well as the North American Premiere of Argentinian composer Alejandro Rutty's A Future of Tango. Morris's professional conducting credits include appearances at The Midwest Clinic, Colorado Music Festival at Chautauqua, and Steamboat Strings Music in the Mountains Summer Music Festival. He has conducted the Lake Union Civic Orchestra, Octava Chamber Orchestra, Chicago's Sonic Inertia Performance Group, Tacoma Concert Band, Puget Brass, Boulder Brass, Illinois Brass Band, and Northwestern University's Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Contemporary Music Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, and Saxophone Ensemble. Dedicated to public school music education, Morris has extensive experience teaching junior and senior high school in Michigan and Colorado. His success has earned both national and international invitations to appear as a guest conductor and clinician for numerous public schools, honor ensembles, and festivals throughout Michigan, Hawai'i, North Carolina, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Virginia, Montana, Washington, and Canada. In service to his passion as a conductor and teacher, Morris hosts the Puget Sound Conductors Institute; an annual four-day workshop bringing together public school music teachers to hone conducting technique, deepen pedagogical knowledge, and strengthen professional relationships within the community. In addition, he currently serves as conductor of the Puget Sound Youth Wind Ensemble (PSYWE). With this organization he co-developed the PSYWE Teachers Workshop; a one-day event designed specifically for K-12 public school music teachers. Morris's conducting and teaching are informed by years of professional performing experience as principal euphonium with Boulder Brass and United States Marine Corps Band, Hawai'i. With these organizations he toured the United States, Australia, and Costa Rica as both an ensemble member and soloist.



**Brian Neal** played trumpet as a member of the internationally-celebrated Dallas Brass. Classically trained at the renowned Manhattan School of Music in New York City, during summers he was a fellow at Tanglewood, Waterloo, Fountainbleau conservatory in France and Norfolk Chamber music festival. He has performed as soloist and collaborator with Charles Dutoit, Yoel Levi, John Nelson, Seiji Ozawa, Simon Rattle, Stanislav Skorbachevsky, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Leon Fleischer. Brian is the Director of instrumental studies and professor of trumpet at the Kendall campus of Miami Dade College. He lives in Miami with his wife, Karen.



A familiar South Florida presence from performances with Seraphic Fire and the Miami Bach Society, soprano **Karen Neal** enjoys a multi-faceted career performing with internationally acclaimed ensembles and as soloist in venues across the nation and Europe. She has performed as guest soloist with the New World Symphony at the 25th Anniversary Gala under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas, the Tropical Baroque Festival, the Dallas Brass in the United States as well as recently at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, Russia, and in Märknerkirchen, Germany. Karen Neal's solo projects include "Wine, Women and Song" featuring art songs by women composers and "Sheherazade" at PAX, an evening of French Song in a club atmosphere. She has collaborated with members of the Cleveland Orchestra, San Francisco

Symphony Brass, Art Basel 2011, the Concert des Solistes de l'Académie International d'Etè de Nice,

France, as well as consistent engagements with several ensembles throughout South Florida, the San Francisco Bay area, and Alaska. Karen Neal holds a Vocal Performance degree from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. She was also awarded a Tanglewood fellowship and has studied French repertoire intensively in Nice, Paris, and the Abbé Royaumont in Asnières-sur-Oise, France. She has served as adjunct faculty at University of Miami and Florida International University, is a studio musician and commercial actress, and has partnered with Miami Light Project to teach poetry and diction to inner-city youth. She is currently Director of Vocal Arts at Gulliver Academy in Coral Gables, FL.



**Derek Nnuro** is a fiction writer based in Iowa City. He received his MFA in Fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where he was a Teaching Writing Fellow. He is working on an untitled novel set in Ghana, West Africa; Houston, Texas; and Alexandria, Virginia. On the first day of class, you will find out more about him through an activity he is very fond of. Until then, here's a little rundown of the activity. It involves three rounds. In the first round, he will let you in on a benign and general detail about himself, which will be followed by each of you letting the class in on a benign and general detail about yourself. The second round digs a little deeper into who he is, and, of course, the class will follow in a similar vein. The third and final round might get dark, within reason. How dark you choose to get will be entirely up to you. This is not two truths and a lie. This is three truths and no lies. Think of this activity as a demonstration of his philosophy on character development, which he finds most satisfying when it unravels with increasing tension.



**Donna Parkes** is an Australian trombonist who is currently Principal Trombone of the Louisville Orchestra and Principal Trombone of the Colorado Music Festival. She considers herself fortunate to have performed with many different orchestras around the world including the San Francisco Symphony, Sydney Symphony, Malaysia Philharmonic, National Symphony, Utah Symphony and even the Qatar Philharmonic in the Middle East. She has been teaching young musicians for over twenty years. She has loved visiting Sitka every Christmas to perform in the Annual Brass Holiday Concert.



**Brendan Pelsue** is a playwright, librettist, and translator whose work has been produced in New York and regionally. His play *Wellesley Girl* premiered at the 2016 Humana Festival of New American Plays. *Hagoromo*, a dance-opera piece for which he wrote the libretto, has appeared at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Pocantico Center. Other work includes *New Domestic Architecture* at the Yale Carlotta Festival, *Read to Me* at the 2015 Bay Area Playwrights Festival, *Lost Weekend* with the Actors Theatre of Louisville Professional Training Company, *Parking Lot*, *Riverbank: a Noh Play for Northerly Americans*, and a translation of Moliere's *Don Juan* at the Yale School of Drama, *Visitors* with the Corkscrew Theater Company, *Petra* and the *Saints* with the Telephonic Literary Union, and *Diagram of a Kidnapping* with the Brown University New Plays Festival. He has taught or mentored at Yale College, Wesleyan University, and Lesley University. Originally from Newburyport, Massachusetts, he received his B.A. from Brown University, where he received the Weston Prize in Playwriting, and his M.F.A. from Yale School of Drama.



**Rebecca Poulson** is a writer and artist who grew up reading and drawing in Sitka, Alaska. She worked for a decade as a shipwright (repairing wooden fishing boats) and commercial fishing before turning to art full time, earning an MFA from Tyler School of Art in 2000. She is a printmaker, and publishes *The Outer Coast*, a wall calendar of art and poetry. In 2017 she conducted historical research on Sitka during the first decade under American rule. This is part of a book project on the history of Sheldon Jackson School and College, founded as a Presbyterian mission in 1878. She has been exploring this history with video, oral history interviews, installation, presentations and articles, and in 2018 she is working with alumni and former staff on the multimedia interpretive project “Voices of Sheldon Jackson.” She is the recipient of a Rasmuson Foundation Individual Artist Award, and is a member of the Alaska Historical Commission. Rebecca is also active in managing historic preservation projects. She works with kids in the arts, which more than anything has deepened her understanding of what art is and what it can do. Her new hobby is creating scenery for theatrical productions.



**Jen Reid** is a professional vocalist who lives in Sitka. She has been singing since childhood with her earliest recordings beginning at age two. She got her start singing publicly as a teen where she was 1st chair in SE Alaska honor choirs, Alaska all state choirs, and was invited to sing in a choir touring Europe in the late 1990's. As an adult she has worked for the past 12 years as a professional rock and roll vocalist. She is also a sound engineer who believes understanding how voice, mic technique, and stage presence come together to create a performing vocalist who is ready for the music world. Jen also works as a 5th grade classroom teacher and loves sharing her love of music with students of all ages.



**Tim Ribner** is a pianist based out of Portland, Oregon, where he educates and performs with singers, instrumentalists, and dancers of all ages. He received a BFA in jazz performance from the New School, located in New York City. He is currently attaining a masters of social work degree from Pacific University. This is his second year at the Sitka Fine Arts Camp.



**George Rodriguez** hales from El Paso, Texas. He moved to Seattle to undertake an MFA at the University of WA, which he completed in 2009. Following this time of study he was granted a two year artist residency at Pottery Northwest. He took a year off from the residency to travel with his recently awarded Bonderman Fellowship through the University of Washington. With this fellowship he visited 26 countries while traveling for eight months! This was a life changing experience that still brings many adventures, people, and sights to mind. George currently teaches ceramics courses and community classes in the Seattle area. He also has a private studio at his home property in Seattle, WA. George's work draws from experience growing up in Texas, travels, interest in people and decoration. A sense of community and the inter-relations are themes within his humorous, narrative works. The heavily

embellished surfaces draw the onlooker closer while the large scale of the objects calls from afar. He also works with printmaking as another avenue to capture ideas and stories.



**Abel Ryan** was born in Ketchikan, Alaska in 1978. His home is in Metlakatla on the Annette Island Reserve in Southeast Alaska. Abel is half Tsimshian, a member of the Metlakatla Indian Community, and a member of the Wolf Clan. In May of 2006 Abel graduated from Sheldon Jackson College with a B.A. in Liberal Arts and a minor in Art. In May of 2009 he graduated from University of Alaska Fairbanks with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Native Arts Studio and Printmaking. Abel studied traditional Tsimshian art under master carver Jack Hudson of Metlakatla. He has carved in Metlakatla, Sitka, Juneau, and Fairbanks for over 24 years. Working in the medium of wood and metals, Abel produces masks, bowls, spoons, pipes, ladles, plaques, combs, bracelets, rings, pendants and other hand carved items. He is also proficient in two-dimensional graphic design using Northwest Coast formline art. In June 2013 Abel was invited to an international carving competition in Beijing China. Abel has also taught classes at Sheldon Jackson College and the University of Alaska in Sitka and Fairbanks, and the Alaska Native Heritage Foundation in Anchorage as well as done artist demonstrations at the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka, Museum of the North in Fairbanks, and the Alaska State Museum in Juneau, AK. Abel's work is sold in galleries collections in Juneau, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, and Sitka.



**Danny Ryan** began his professional training with Rafael Delgado in his hometown of Milwaukee, WI before moving to New York to further his studies with the Joffrey Ballet School. He went on to perform with the Louisville Ballet, Kansas City Ballet and Texas Ballet Theater, dancing in works by George Balanchine, Ben Stevenson, Val Caniparoli, Twyla Tharp, Adam Hougland and Trey McIntyre to name a few. Mr. Ryan has taught for the Kansas City Ballet School, Texas Ballet Theater School, Portland Festival Ballet as well as Louisiana Delta Ballet and has choreographed on dancers of the Louisville Ballet, Texas Ballet Theater School, Magnus Midwest Dance Intensive and Louisiana Delta Ballet. Danny was a company member of Wonderbound, a contemporary dance company in Denver, CO. He is currently the associate artistic director for the Colorado Conservatory of Dance.



**Erica Saben** is a TED (technology, entertainment, and design) presenter and a multi skilled circus artist who specializes in wire walking. Last year she was part of a trio of wire walkers who were the first and only people to rig a wire and perform on Easter Island, also known as Rapa Nui. This year Erica joined another talented team of wire walkers to attempt to break the world record for most plates of food delivered via high wire. In the last ten years Erica has performed with numerous circuses across the United States and abroad. Although her primary apparatus is tightwire, she has performed many circus skills including hand to hand, aerial silks, static trapeze, Chinese pole, juggling, and mime. Erica holds a BS in dance from Brockport state University, and a Certificate of Graduate Study in Caribbean Dance and Culture from Edna Manley College in Kingston Jamaica. Her training in hand balancing and acrobatics comes from Lin Junming of the Fujian acrobatics troupe of China and the coaches at the San Francisco Circus Center including Master Lu Yi, Kemina Xia, and Xiaohong Weng. Her training in wire walking comes from various teachers across the globe including Denis Josselin of Ecole De Cirque De Bruxelles. Erica has been teaching dance and other movement modalities since 1999. She began teaching circus at the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts in 2007. She eventually went on to open her own circus and dance

school in Baltimore MD. The school was the first of its kind in the region and offered numerous classes with an emphasis on hand balancing and wire walking. In 2012 Erica relocated to San Francisco Circus Center, where she not only worked as the school's outreach coordinator but also established their first tightwire program. Erica is now based in San Diego California but performs abroad quite frequently. She works as the Production Manager for Fern Street Circus and has choreographed and co directed their two most recent touring shows.



**Sayantee Sahoo** is currently in the final phase of her adventures at Yale School of Drama's Technical Design and Production (TD&P) program. Before joining the program, she was working in India as a freelance technical manager for various international theatre festivals and arts organizations, like the Bharat Rang Mahotsav, ITFoK, Vivadi Collective, Shadowmime, Eklavya, etc. Her training at the National School of Drama focused on creative direction and design. She has been a member of the theatre group Uhinee Kolkata, based in West Bengal, India, since 2008. With Uhinee, Sayantee has worked in various roles, including as technical manager for shows and touring festivals, workshop instructor on theatre education programs for

school children from marginalized communities and creative director & designer for several productions. She continues her consultation work with Uhinee and wishes to engage in international exchanges for technical education for theatre in the not-so-far future.



**Betty Sederquist** wasn't always interested in photography. Growing up in the Gold Rush town of Coloma, California, she took years of art classes before traveling the world in her early twenties and getting a few lucky snapshots with a point and shoot. Soon, she armed herself with a Nikon camera and moved from California to Alaska, where she honed her photography skills working for various photographers in Anchorage and found herself writing about and photographing the "Great Land" for various publications. She published several books and became associate editor of Alaska magazine before moving in 1979 to Sacramento, where she became managing editor and then editor of the city magazine, Sacramento. Moving to El Dorado

County in northern California in 1985, she began teaching photography and writing at Folsom Lake College (then part of American River College/Cosumnes River College) in 1989, and continued teaching there off and on until 2011. Since 1999 she has taught local photography workshops and led photography tours all over the world, including three trips to the Galapagos, Amazon and Tanzania, and more than twenty trips to Alaska. In September 2016 she took a group to Iceland and in October 2017, helped lead a small group to the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan. Near-future travels include Alaska and Ireland.



Pianist and composer **Christopher Staknys** is in his 4th year at The Juilliard School in New York City studying with Hung-Kuan Chen. He has appeared as performer and composer internationally in major cities such as New York, Boston, Los Angeles and Paris. In 2015, Allan Kozinn, former music critic for the New York Times, praised his playing for its "dexterity and dramatic phrase shaping". Christopher has won numerous competitions including first prize in the Steinway Society of Massachusetts Piano Competition and the Rivers School Concerto Competition. Artists he has studied with include; Sergei Babayan, Robert Levin, Peter Serkin, David Finckel, Joseph Kalichstein and Fred Sherry. In 2009, his work "Congo" was premiered and given two

performances by the Portland Symphony Orchestra. He has performed the music of Thomas Ades and Steve Reich with the composers present in the audience. Christopher frequently performs with Juilliard's contemporary ensembles, Axiom and NJE (New Juilliard Ensemble) in Peter Jay Sharp Theater and Alice

Tully Hall. This past summer his work for electronics, "Gulf" was presented at the 2017 Atlantic Music Festival.



**Skyler Sullivan** is an actor and arts educator recently transplanted from New York. While in NYC, he worked with The New Victory Theatre for ten years as a veteran teaching artist, where he honed his skills as a curriculum developer, and facilitator. He has also been a teacher and site director for Circus Minimus for the past 15 years and enjoyed three seasons on the faculty of the Sitka Fine Arts Camp in Sitka, AK. Other NYC teaching credits include: The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute, the Professional Performing Arts School, and on-set coaching on two P.B.S. shows: *Sesame Street* and *The Electric Company*. Skyler is thrilled to be working with

Diversionsary Theatre as it continues its tradition of arts education and outreach. Currently in San Diego he also teaches for Young Audiences, Fern Street Circus, San Diego Circus Center, and The La Jolla Playhouse. Education: B.F.A. in acting Emerson College, M.F.A. in Acting Brooklyn College.



**Marcus Tsutakawa** is a distinguished conductor and music educator based in Seattle, Washington. He was conductor of the nationally recognized Garfield High School Orchestra for 31 years, and taught music in Seattle Public Schools from 1979 to 2016. He also is serving in his 19th season as conductor of the Seattle Junior Symphony Orchestra. Guest conducting honors include the Indiana All-State Orchestra (Indianapolis, 2008), the Suzuki Youth Orchestra of America (Minneapolis, 2008), Texas Music Educators Association Region IX Middle School Honors Orchestra (San Antonio, 2013), California Orchestra Directors Association Honors String Orchestra (Los Angeles, upcoming in 2017), among others. Tsutakawa was the featured teacher in the 2003 and 2014 School Band and Orchestra

Magazines. Seattle Mayor Ed Murray proclaimed March 1, 2016, as Marcus Tsutakawa Day in honor of his contributions and service in the arts to the City of Seattle. Tsutakawa also is a member of the Lifetime Board of Directors for the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.



**Bijon Watson** is the lead trumpet for the Grammy-nominated Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, the Grammy-nominated John Daversa Progressive Big Band, the Grammy-nominated John Beasley's Monkestra, and many other jazz, salsa, and pop bands throughout the United States. Bijon has recorded and performed with Natalie Cole, Michael Bubl , Justin Timberlake, Harry Connick, Jr., Diana Krall, Michael Jackson, Lady Gaga, Mariah Carey, Queen Latifah, Earth, Wind & Fire, Stevie Wonder, Rosemary Clooney, Prince, Alicia Keys, The Temptations, and Gladys Knight. On television, Bijon has performed on episodes of "American Idol", as well as "The Tonight Show", Grammy Awards shows, The BET Music Awards, and "Dancing With The Stars". Bijon's film appearances include the film "La La

Land" and soundtracks with studios such as Paramount, Fox, and Disney, including most recently "Despicable Me 2", and "The Secret Life of Pets." As a classically trained musician, Bijon has appeared with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Los Angeles Opera, the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, and the San Francisco Symphony.



**Ellen Weinstein** was born and raised in New York City. She is a graduate of Pratt Institute and New York's High School of Art and Design. Awards include American Illustration, Society of Illustrators, Communication Arts Illustration Annual, Print's Regional Design Annual, Society of Publication Designers, Society of News Designers and the Art Directors Club. She has judged numerous illustration competitions including Communication Arts Illustration Annual 2016, 2016 National Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, AOI/World Illustration Awards, Society of Illustrators Annual exhibition, Society of Illustrators Student Scholarship and Society of Illustrators Zankel Scholarship. She's featured in an eight-page article in the March/April 2013 issue of Communication Arts. Ellen's work is also featured in Illustration Now 5! by Taschen. Ellen illustrated the children's book, "Yayoi Kusama: From

Here to Infinity" published by the Museum of Modern Art, October 2017. She is the author and illustrator of "Recipes for Good Luck: The Superstitions, Rituals and Practices of Extraordinary People" published April 2018 by Chronicle Books. She exhibits her work in local New York galleries as well as galleries in the US, Italy and China. She lectures and conducts workshops in various art schools and internationally including Illustratour in Madrid, Spain, Fig.o5 Congreso Internacional de Ilustracion in Bogota, Colombia, MFAS Study in Beijing, China, MiMaster Illustrazione in Milan, Italy, CEDRA Education in Moscow, Russia, Associazione Culturale Teatrio in Venice, Italy, Amarillo Design Space in Xalapa, Mexico and at ICON6 The Illustration Conference. Ellen was the President of ICON8 The Illustration Conference that was held July 9-12, 2014 in Portland Oregon. Ellen is on the Board of Directors of the Society of Illustrators and serves as Chairperson of the Museum Committee. She teaches at the Rhode Island School of design and is a visiting lecturer at the Brown Institute for Media Innovation at Columbia Journalism School. Website: [www.ellenweinstein.com](http://www.ellenweinstein.com) Featured Clients Include: MoMA, Chronicle Books, The Atlantic, GQ Magazine, The New York Times, Time Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, Simon & Schuster, Pentagram, Nautilus, Scholastic, PLANSPONSOR, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Master Card Advisors, Georges DuBoeuf wine.



Pianist **Susan Wingrove-Reed** enthusiastically embraces any and all opportunities to collaborate with singers and instrumentalists. She plays piano and harpsichord with the Anchorage Symphony, the Alaska All State Mixed Honor Choir and regularly works with the West High School and Romig Middle School choirs, the Hiland Women's prison orchestra, countless solo and ensemble festivals/competitions and on occasion with the Alaska Chamber Singers. She has been the resident music educator (pre-concert lectures and program notes) for the Sitka Summer Music Festival and the Anchorage Symphony for over thirty years, sharing stories about composers, music and history. Reed is a passionate advocate for performances by women composers. She earned a Bachelor's degree in

Piano Performance and a Master of Arts in Teaching at Indiana University before returning home to Alaska to work with Anchorage Opera and the Alaska Repertory Theatre. She also taught choir and drama at Bartlett High School. She has played in or directed over thirty operas and musicals throughout Alaska and received an Alaska Governor's Award for her contributions in arts education. Reed also does community outreach performances with cellist Zuill Bailey, Artistic Director of the Sitka Summer Music Festival. She performed in several works at the 2017 SSMF, including two works by iconic American composer Amy Beach and a collaboration with Zuill on his 2017 Grammy- award-winning "Tales of Hemingway" (by Michael Daugherty). She was the recipient of the 2016 Alaska Music Advocate of the Year award from the Alaska Music Educators Association.



**Julie Zhu** is an artist and composer working in New York City. Her work strives towards expressive synchronicities between disparate fields. Zhu began as a Presidential-Scholar painter and cartoonist for the Washington Post, then majored in both art and mathematics at Yale University and graduated from music conservatory in Belgium in carillon performance. She has since exhibited her work—paintings, murals, sculpture, photographs, music compositions, sound installations—in Belgium, Holland, and America. Currently Zhu is pursuing an MFA at Hunter College and is the carillonneur at St. Thomas Church Fifth Avenue.