

ARIEL LAURYN

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PROFESIONAL PROFILE

- Professional Theater Maker since 2008, working in most departments of theater: Technical (Carpenter, Scenic Artist, Props Artisan, Puppet Builder, Stage Management), Creative (Actor, Puppeteer, Clown, Mask performer, Writer, Director), Consultant/Teacher (Puppetry, Movement, Ensemble Development, Devising, Construction/Painting).
- Full time freelance artist since 2014 in New York City, demonstrating consistent success in self-starting projects, communication across disciplines and departments, fulfilling multiple roles (both as a leader and a team member) on simultaneous projects.
- Seasoned in conceiving, building, and leading workshops, rehearsals, and productions.
- Proven competencies in creating and leading an ensemble, and developing and empowering a creative design team.

EDUCATION

- **MFA Ensemble Based Physical Theater**—Dell’Arte International School of Physical Theatre, Blue Lake, CA, 2014
 - THESIS:
 - Paper—*Devising with Puppets*; Wove together the study of creating a show with puppets from research and interviews with puppeteers in NYC, specifically The Puppet Kitchen
 - Original One Act Play— *‘Night Mother the Comedy* explored The Inherent Life of Objects - Ensemble Creation with Props, Set, and Costumes as Characters and The Feminine Comedy (This show was further developed into a full-length show titled *Whether We Like It Or Not*)
- **BA Theater and Dance** - Knox College- Galesburg, IL, 2008
- **Morgan Park Academy High School** - Chicago, IL, 2004

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

Knox College

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Summa Cum Laude
- Van Clute Prize - Greatest Strides Made in the Department of Theater and Dance
- Highest GPA in the Department of Theater and Dance

Morgan Park Academy

- Valedictorian
- National Honors Society
- Spanish National Honors Society

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Carpentry Apprentice- Steppenwolf Theater, Chicago, IL 2008-2009
- Carpentry Intern- Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts (PCPA) Santa Maria, CA 2009-2010
- Props Artisan- Intiman Theater, Seattle, WA, 2010
- Scenic Painter - PCPA Summer 2011
- Props Master and Artisan - PCPA Summer 2012
- Stage Manager - Redwood Curtain Theater and Arcata Playhouse, Arcata, CA 2013-2014
- Puppet Builder - The Puppet Kitchen, New York, NY, 2013-Present
- Freelance Builder/Painter/Props Designer (2014-Present) - NYU Tisch, Columbia University, Trusty Sidekick Co., Imagine Exhibitions (Interactive Museum Exhibits of *Downton Abbey*, *The Hunger Games*, *Angry Birds*), The Connelly Theater, Molloy College, Tom Fruin (Water Tower Art Installations), Jerard Studio with Mary Creede (*Hamilton* Tour Props), Standard Toy Kraft, Photoville Studios, Fictionville Studio, SinkingShip Productions (*The Hunger Artist*)
- Freelance Performer - See “Performer Highlights” below
- Freelance Creative Consultant:
 - Puppetry Director of *Oedipus El Rey* - directed by Chay Yew - The Public, 2017
 - Directing and Writing Consultant of *Yay America!* - Original one-woman clown show by Kaitlin Kaufman - Premier at the NY Clown Festival 2018
 - Movement and Ensemble Development—*Antigone*—LES Shakespeare Company, Under St. Mark’s, 2015
 - Writing and Comedy Consultant of *Pretty Hurts* - Original one-woman show by Lucy Shelby- Premiere at The Pit Loft, 2017

ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS

- The Last Rat of Theresienstadt*—Head Puppeteer/Collaborator - A three person ensemble with two puppeteers using bunraku-style puppet, shadow puppets, and live over-head projection puppetry - Warsaw (Festiwal Lalka Tez Czlowiek - Awarded “Best of the Festival” and “Most Poignant Moment”) and Kwidzdyn (Animo Festival), Poland 2018 - NYC International Puppet Festival 2018 - Celebration Barn and KO Festival Residencies 2017-18
- Whether We Like It Or Not*—Creator/Performer - A two-woman slapstick dark comedy in high heels - Dell’Arte MFA Thesis Project 2014 - New Orleans Fringe Festival 2014 - The Tank NYC, Mad River Festival in Blue Lake, CA and California State Summer School for the Arts, CalArts University - 2016
- Illuminutty*—Co-Creator/Lead Performer - 13 episode screwball comedic web series - YouTube/Fake Geek Girl Productions - 2016
- Untold Stories from the War with the Newts*— Performer/Puppeteer/Collaborator - Object, Marionette, and Shadow Puppetry - Created/Written by Sam Gold - NY Puppet Festival, Object Movement Festival - 2018
- Puppet Playlist* — Creator/Performer - Created 5 short pieces as a part of a semi-regular curated puppet cabaret a common musical theme. —Ongoing NYC

- Rule Of* — Writer and Performer— Created 4 short pieces as a part of a semi-regular sketch show with original works written and rehearsed in one week —Ongoing NYC
- My Vaudeville* —Collaborator/Performer — Vaudeville Comedy Sketch for The Bindlestiff Variety Show at Dixon Place, NYC - 2016

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

• Puppetry

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show* - One and two-person operated large (over 1'x1') foam rubber puppets - Narrator/Puppeteer - Original NY Cast - Off Broadway at The Acorn Theater at Theater Row - Rockefeller Production - Puppets by Puppet Kitchen - Drama Desk Nomination
- Feathers of Fire* - Shadow Puppets and Shadow Mask - Mehrab/Handmaiden/Scribe/Puppeteer - National and International Tour (including Paris, Shanghai, Beijing, NYC, LA) - Fictionville Studios and Shadow Light Productions - 2017-18
- Buenos Dairies** - Object and rod puppets - Development Workshop at the Jim Henson Carriage House Puppeteer - Puppet Kitchen Productions - Puppets by Eric Wright -2016
- Berry Pie** - Red ball puppet - Red Ball Puppeteer - Triskelion Arts and Sinkingship presents Puppet Playlist - Puppets by ensemble - 2016
- Just Dance** - Bunraku style paper puppet, TRex blow up suit - TRex - Triskelion Arts and Sinking Ship presents Puppet Playlist - Puppets by ensemble - 2017

• Acting

- We Are All Tourists* - Alpha - Trusty Sidekick - Governor's Island walk around exploratory theater piece for kids ages 6-12 - 2016
- Romeo and Juliet* - Mercutio - LES Shakespeare Co. NYC - 2015
- The Golden Toad Part IV* - MC - The Talking Band/Paul Zimet - 2014
- The Firebugs* - Babette - STAGERight, Seattle - 2010

• Mask/Clown

- Paddle Bits* - Social Media Maven - Masked - The Rubin Museum Gala - dir. Tony Fuemmeler - 2015
- Babes in Toyland** - Gorgonzola - Zanni - Dell'Arte Company - dir. Michael Fields -2013
- Commedia Tonight** - Pulcinella - Masked - Dell'Arte School - dir. Ronlin Foreman - 2012
- La Vie En Nose** - Franklin - Red-nose clown - Dell'Arte School - dir. Ronlin Foreman - 2012

• Media/Voice Over

- Birkenstock Commercial* - Puppeteer - Full-body muppet-style puppet with green screen -2018
- Jurassic World Exhibition* - Virtual Tour Guide - Direct to camera address with a teleprompter and green screen - Imagine Exhibitions - 2016
- Archive 81 Podcast Season 3* - Voice for Busby (ep. 3) Poor Soul (ep.7) - Dead Signals - 2018
- Quaker Oats Commercial* - Woman's Hands - Vaynermedia - 2014

TEACHING

- **Puppetry** - The Puppet Kitchen (2014-Present), Private Coaching (2013-Present), Workshops with *Feathers of Fire* (2017-2018)
- **Puppet Building** - Workshops with Puppet Kitchen (2013-Present), Workshops with *Feathers of Fire* (2017-2018)
- **Construction:** Carpentry, Props, Painting- PCPA (2010-2013)
- **Basic Acrobatics** - Gym Stars (2016, NYC)
- **Movement**- The Ume Group, Private Coaching (2014-Present)
- **Slapstick/Movement** - The Physical Comedy Lab (2015-Present)
- **Community Based Arts: Personally conceived and developed workshops**
 - *Grounding and Growing* - A Creativity and Yoga Weekend Retreat - Developed with 3 other women, we created a series of yoga workshops interspersed with theater games to teach the value of play, journaling exercises to free the mind, and movement to enrich the spirit- Orcas Island, WA 2011
 - *How We Encounter Our World* - Girl Scouts of Northern CA - 5 weekly workshops designed to fulfill their “Tell Your Story” Journey (the new bench marker in place of badges) that culminated in a final performance the girls created and performed themselves - Workshops included journaling, play, movement, character creation and exploration, yoga, meditation, and improvisation - Eureka, CA 2014
 - *Physical Theater and Puppetry Master Class* — Zimmerman High School — Specifically designed curriculum for a group of 25 high school students to use in their upcoming production of *The Hobbit*. At the end of the school week, I will lead them in teaching open workshops to their community what they learned. Zimmerman, MN March 2019 (upcoming)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Balinese Dance, Mask, and Shadow Puppetry (construction and performance) One Month Bali Intensive, Dell’Arte 2014
- Theater Communications Group Conference -San Diego, CA- 2014
- Classes in NYC:
 - Clown Master Class by Aitor Basauri of Spy Monkeys 2015, 2016
 - Shakespeare Clown by Zachary Fine of Fiasco Theater 2015
 - Shakespeare Intensive by Red Bull Theater 2018
 - Heidi Marshall Studios— Acting for the Camera Parts 1 and 2 and brush-up sessions
 - Play in Scene Work by Gabe Levy of Christopher Bayes’ Funny School of Good Acting
 - Improvisation 101 by UCB, 2017
- Yoga Teacher Certification, Maui Yoga Shala, January 2019