

# ARIEL FRANCOEUR

## Theater Director

SDC Associate  
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### New Work

<i>From the Earth to the Moon</i> (musical)	Sean David DeMers	NYC Fringe Festival
<i>Shelter</i>	Jack Horton Gilbert	Otherworld Theater Co, Chicago
<i>MegJoBethAmy &amp; Louisa</i> (devised)	Ensemble	Tier5 Theater Ensemble, NYC
<i>Merch Girls</i>	Kate Bell	Alchemical Lab, NYC
<i>Postscript</i>	Janet Thielke	Samuel French OOB Festival, NYC
<i>Counting Backward</i> (musical)	Kate Bell	Park Avenue Armory Residency, NYC
<i>Encapsulated</i>	Sean David DeMers	The Navigators, Plaxall Gallery, NYC
<i>Homefront, ep. 2</i> (web series)	Lauren Cusker	Spirit Fox Productions, NYC
<i>Verlorene Heimat</i> (opera)	Dawn Sonntag	Hartford Opera Theater
<i>Stranger the Better</i> (opera)	Liam Wade	Hartford Opera Theater
<i>Strong Female Character</i> (musical)	Marianne Pillsbury	Port Fringe Festival
<i>Squeeze: A Motel Play</i>	Theresa Giacopasi	Iowa New Play Festival
<i>Faculty Portrait</i>	Sean David DeMers	Iowa New Play Festival
<i>Falls for Jodie</i>	Eric Micha Holmes	University of Iowa/Gallery Series
<i>Water Bound</i>	Sam Lahne	University of Iowa/Gallery Series
<i>Speed of Light</i>	Bella Poynton	Iowa New Play Festival
<i>Medusa Undone</i>	Bella Poynton	University of Iowa/Gallery Series
<i>Worth Fighting For</i> (devised)	Ensemble w/Liz Lerman	Hancher Performances
<i>The Suicide of Mark Twain</i>	Sean David DeMers	Harvest Theater Festival, NYC
<i>Lace Curtain Irish</i>	Carolyn Gage	Estrogenius Fest, NYC
<i>Who is Dan Schiller?</i>	Bella Poynton	Looking Glass Forum, NYC
<i>Solo Dive</i>	Tom Matthew Wolfe	Uptown Arts Stroll, NYC
<i>Leap Year</i>	Kate Marks	Looking Glass Forum, NYC
<i>Turtle Beach</i>	Aoise Stratford	Looking Glass Forum, NYC

### Established Work

<i>Arcadia</i>	Tom Stoppard	University of Iowa Main Stage
<i>Danny and the Deep Blue Sea</i> (Off-Broadway run)	John Patrick Shanley	The Seeing Place Theater, NYC
<i>Pvt. Wars</i>	James McLure	University of Iowa/Gallery Series
<i>Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol</i>	Tom Mula	Kentucky Repertory Theater
<i>The Santaland Diaries</i>	D. Sedaris/J. Mantello	Kentucky Repertory Theater
<i>The Lover</i>	Harold Pinter	The Seeing Place Theater, NYC
<i>Theatre du Grand Guignol</i>	Various	The Queens Players, NYC
<i>Power Grab: Shakespeare Scenes</i>	Shakespeare	Naked Shakespeare
<i>Lysistrata</i>	Adpt. Edward Einhorn	University of Southern Maine
<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i>	Edward Albee	University of Southern Maine
<i>Into the Woods Junior</i>	James Lapine	L/A Arts/Lewiston Maine
<i>Machinal</i>	Sophie Treadwell	University of Southern Maine

### Readings (selected)

<i>Faculty Portrait</i>	Sean David DeMers	Up Theater Co, NYC
<i>I am a Seahorse</i>	Judith Leora	NYMadness, Kraine Theater, NYC
<i>Shelter</i>	Jack Gilbert	The Navigators, NYC
<i>Daisy Violet the Bitch Beast King</i>	Sam Collier	Atlantic Stage 2, NYC

## Resume of Ariel Francoeur

*The Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat*  
*Still Quiet*  
*121° West*

Stephen Adly Guirgis  
Emily Dendinger  
Tanya Barfield

Riverside Theater  
The Navigators, NYC  
Primary Stages Studios, NYC

### Assistant Directing

*Suor Angelica & Gianni Schicchi*  
*Henry IV 1 & 2*  
*The Merry Wives of Windsor*  
*The Merry Wives of Windsor*  
*Makeover: A New Musical*  
*Three Sisters*  
*Othello*  
*Stairway to Heaven*

dir. Bill Theisen  
dir. Michael Goldberg  
dir. West Hyler  
dir. Seth Panitch  
dir. Nick Demos  
dir. Brandon Walker  
dir. Richard Mazda  
dir. Joshua Perlstein

University of Iowa Opera  
Shakespeare at Notre Dame  
Shakespeare at Notre Dame  
Colorado Shakespeare Festival  
UIOWA/Partnership in the Arts  
The Seeing Place Theater, NYC  
The Queens Players, NYC  
Kennedy Center College Festival

### Leadership & Associations

#### **Producing Artistic Director, The Navigators: A Feminist Sci-Fi Theater Co, 2014-2019**

The Navigator's mission is to produce Feminist Science Fiction Theater that engages new audiences, realizes new and daring realities, and expands the boundaries of what theater can achieve by fully exploring this genre on stage. Responsibilities include managing day-to-day operations, producing festivals and main stage productions, hiring guest artists, fundraising, and script selection. **Notable credits:** Executive Producer for The Lift-Off Series of new Sci-fi works in NYC, 2015-2017, The Aurora Project at Access Theater in 2017, and Executive Producer and director for Three Commissioned One-Acts in 2018 at The Navigators' residency at Plaxall Gallery.

#### **Director of Special Events, Assistant Managing Director, Planet Connections Festivity, 2018-**

Maintain company website; design and coding. Process paperwork, including applications and contracts. Plan and execute special events, assist with production duties during festival events, and direct and perform.

#### **SDC Observership Class – 2018-2019**

#### **Resident Director, New York Madness, 2018 Season**

Going from page to stage within one week with eight short plays written in response to a theme, Madness events create a unique cultural moment for diverse audiences. A resident director works several times a year to help develop and present these works.

#### **Resident Director, The Seeing Place Theater, 2012 Season**

Directed and co-produced two full-scale productions at a professional NYC theater company, one of which transferred to an off-Broadway run. Assistant directed *The Three Sisters*. Producing duties included season selection, hiring designers, editing press releases, managing ticketing, and social media marketing.

#### **Co-Founder and Producer, Prime Number Productions**

Co-produced a web series, The Little Apple, as well as the world premieres of two plays, *You Love Myself* and *The Suicide of Mark Twain*.

### Training

**University of Iowa:** MFA in Directing, degree received 2016. Summa Cum Laude. Focus on new play development, in collaboration with the Iowa MFA Playwrights Workshop.

Primary Instructors: Eric Forsythe, Alan MacVey.

Opera/Musical Theater Direction: Bill Theisen.

Shakespeare: Alan MacVey.

Devising: Liz Lerman, Careena Melia.

## Resume of Ariel Francoeur

Arts Leadership and Grant Writing: David McGraw.

Guest Seminars and Individual Feedback: Wendy Goldberg, Kimberly Senior, Jose Rivera, Liz Lerman, Steven Dietz, KJ Sanchez, Courtney Sale, Keith Joseph Atkins, Bryan Delaney.

**University of Southern Maine:** BA in Theatre, minor in History. Degree received 2005. Summa Cum Laude.

**Michael Chekhov Association:** Teacher training certificate in progress.

**Energize! A Holistic Approach to Acting:** Starlight Acting Institute, certified for Level 1 training.

**Rude Mechanicals:** Devising intensive, Creating Serendipity, with Artistic Director Kirk Lynn.

**Primary Stages:** Directing with Leigh Silverman, monologue training with Jackson Gay and Andrew Leynse.

## Teaching

### **College Theater Instructor, University of Iowa, 2013-2016**

**Basic Acting 1:** Primary instructor for non-major undergraduate class. Focused on Stanislavsky-based fundamentals of imagination, concentration, sensory awareness, and action, with activities centered on actor warm-up techniques, improvisation, and scene work.

**Acting 1:** Assisted professor in an intensive acting course for theater majors. Duties included leading activities during instructor's absence, coaching individual students outside of class, and basic administrative tasks.

**History of Theater:** In conjunction with a lecture given by head professor, led weekly group discussions about plays of Classical Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages. Guided students with paper writing. Graded papers, quizzes, and exams. Also served as the Writing Instructor for one semester, providing essay and research paper support and instruction for a class of 150 students.

**Advisor:** Advisor to the theater department's undergraduate directors. Provided guidance, feedback, and support to beginner directors during productions of the annual ten-minute play festival, the undergraduate director's festival, and black-box productions directed by graduate non-directing students.

**Teaching Artist:** Through the university program Artshare, which offers schools and communities throughout Iowa a variety of opportunities, including interactive performances, workshops, readings, residencies, master classes, and recitals.

## Awards and Grants

**Iowa Arts Fellowship:** Designed for the recruitment of highly talented artists to The University of Iowa, this prestigious scholarship provides free tuition and generous support for the full tenure of MFA study. Awarded to one director per graduate class.

**Graduate Student Senate Grant:** Funding awarded for international thesis research, 2015.

**Felton Grant:** Funding awarded for directorial research, 2015 and 2016.

**Strategic Initiative Fund:** Career funding awarded to select University of Iowa graduate students toward summer professional opportunities, awarded in 2014 and 2015.

**Variations Theatre Group:** Awarded Best Director at the Harvest Theatre Festival in NYC, 2012.

**Looking Glass Theater Spring 2011 Writer/Director Forum:** Forum Award for Best Direction- *Who is Dan Schiller?*

**Looking Glass Theater Spring 2010 Writer/Director Forum:** Forum Award for Best Production- *Leap Year*, Audience Award for Favorite Show, Forum Award for Best Design Element- Ariel Francoeur for projections.

**Looking Glass Theater Fall 2010 Writer/Director Forum:** Forum Award for Best Directorial Debut- *Turtle Beach*, Audience Award for Favorite Show of the Week, Forum Award for Best Design Element- Ariel Francoeur for costumes.

**Queens Players One-Act Festival audience award:** *Winners* voted into semi-finals, 2012.

**Bronwyn Millard Scholarship:** Awarded for excellence in Theatre Arts, University of Southern Maine, 2004.