1627 S. 10th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148 917.969.8339 • <u>jmberns@gmail.com</u> • <u>iamjessebernstein.com</u>

EDUCATION

B.S. in Speech, Northwestern University (2000)

- Theatre Major
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude

DIRECTING

DIRECTING	
PETER AND THE STARCATCHER (winter 2020)	Drexel University (Philadelphia, PA)
THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
THE BULLY-BUSTER BEGINS (outreach show)	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
THE LITTLE MERMAID, JR.	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL	Penn Players/U. Penn (Philadelphia, PA)
ALADDIN, JR.	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
IVY & BEAN: THE MUSICAL	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF COMEDY (ABRIDGED)	Cardinal Stage Company (Bloomington, IN)
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A Live Radio Play	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
HONK, JR.	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
THE RETURN OF NICK NUTRITION (outreach show)	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
THE BOY WHO CRIED BULLY (outreach show)	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
THE HARD WOO (one-act)	Primary Stages (Philadelphia, PA)
MEMBER OF THE WEDDING	Rutgers-Camden University (Camden, NJ)
SHIPWRECKED!	Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)
SECRET IN THE WINGS	National High School Institute (Evanston, IL)
ALLERGY (short film) • Official Selection: LA Shorts Fest, Audience Awards	2616 Productions (Los Angeles, CA)
MARY'S WEDDING	National High School Institute (Evanston, IL)
ACHILLES IN SPARTA	National High School Institute (Evanston, IL)
YOUNG VOICES	PYPF/InterAct Theatre Co. (Philadelphia, PA)
PETER PAN (Trevor Nunn adaptation) IL)	WAVE Productions/Northwestern (Evanston,
BLUE WINDOW	WAVE Productions/Northwestern (Evanston, IL)

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ASSISTANT DIRECTING/DRAMATURGY

CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG... Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)

• Assistant Director Bill Van Horn, Director

COMEDY OF TENORS Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia, PA)

• Assistant Director Frank Ferrante, Director

STUPID FUCKING BIRD Arden Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)

• Assistant Director Aaron Posner, Director

THE JUNGLE BOOK Arden Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)

• Assistant Director Aaron Posner, Director

HENRY V Arden Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)

• Assistant Director Aaron Posner, Director

SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER

• Assistant Dramaturg

OF FLEET STREET Arts Alliance/Northwestern (Evanston, IL)

• Assistant Director Mitchell Schwartz, Director

THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH WAVE Productions/NU (Evanston, IL)

• Assistant Director Mitchell Schwartz, Director

Dramaturg

WRITING

THE BULLY BUSTER BEGINS (one-act outreach show)

- Commissioned by Walnut Street Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)
- Touring Greater Philadelphia Area schools 2019 2020

SOMETHING LIKE A WAR (full-length musical; book-writer)

• Commissioned by 11th Hour Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)

ALLERGY (short film)

• Official selection: LA Shorts Fest

POWER AND THE GLORY: The Adventures of Phil Ochs (American) (full-length musical; bookwriter)

• Staged reading at Open Fist Theatre (Los Angeles, CA)

AT THE EDGE OF A PROMISED LAND (full-length play)

• Development and staged reading at PlayPenn (Philadelphia, PA)

eBAY CLASSIFIEDS (web commercials)

• Created 10 30-second spots for eBay

US ONE NIGHT (short film)

• Official selection: Philadelphia Independent Film Festival, Berkshire Film Festival,

NewFilmmakers

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LA.

BULLY FOR YOU (one-act play)

- Commissioned by Amaryllis Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)
- Also created study guide

FRIENDS OF SHADOWS (one-act play)

- Commissioned by Amaryllis Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)
- Also created study guide

MAINSTREAMED (one-act musical; book and co-lyrics)

• Commissioned by Amaryllis Theatre Company (Philadelphia, PA)

HEALING ELECTRA (full-length play)

- Staged reading: Hedgerow Theatre Company (Rose Valley, PA)
- Developed through a Fellowship in the Arts grant from the Independence Foundation of Philadelphia. Culminated in a reading at InterAct Theatre Company (Seth Rozin, director.)
- 2000. Semi-finalist, InterAct Theatre Company's New Plays Festival

THE EIGHTH DAY (full-length play)

- Produced at Northwestern University (Evanston, IL)
- Produced at Montgomery Theatre Project (Souderton, PA)

PRODUCTION/ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

PHILADELPHIA YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS (2017 - 2019, Philadelphia, PA)

Resident Producer

- Responsible for overseeing several productions each year, including: *SaturPLAY!* (outdoor children's showcase), *Young Voices* (new play performances in association with Temple University) and *Mouthful Monologue Festival* (professional monologue performances at the Bluver Theatre)
- Duties included reading pieces and serving on final committees, casting, hiring designers and directors, overseeing budgets, coordinating with other organizations/rental spaces, overseeing house and stage management.
- Created new budgeting templates for all events; created welcome sheets for participants; began quantifying and actively championing diversity in hiring of directors, performers and designers.

ALLIANCE FOR JEWISH THEATRE CONFERENCE (2018, Philadelphia, PA)

Event Coordinator

• Responsible for overseeing every aspect of conference including: working with local and national

organization leader, managing volunteers, contributing to conference guide, greeting and orienting speakers, coordinating with multiple venues, securing and arranging conference eeting

spaces, coordinating with vendors for meals and A/V equipment, producing event showcase.

• Event organizers and attendees widely praised conference as one of the "smoothest" and "most well-

run" AJT conferences.

[&]quot;ALLERGY" (short film, 2014; 2616 Productions; Los Angeles, CA)

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Producer, Writer, Director

- Official selection: Audience Awards, LA Comedy Shorts Fest
- Duties included creating and managing budget, equipment rental, hiring crew, marketing

"US ONE NIGHT" (short film, 2010; Wildstar Pictures, Los Angeles, CA)

Producer, Writer

- Official selection: Berkshire Film Festival, Philadelphia Independent Film Festival, New Filmmakers LA
- Duties included creating and managing budget, corresponding with union, casting, hiring crew, location rental, overseeing post-production, marketing

HORSE COUNTRY (full-length play, 2007; Needtheatre Company, Los Angeles, CA)

Producer

• Duties included managing budget, overseeing production, correspondence with press, marketing

FAREWELL, MISS COTTON (full-length play, 2007; Black Dahlia Theatre Co., Los Angeles, CA)

Assistant Producer

• Duties included assisting producer in all aspects of production, including contacting press and acquiring props

LA/NU '06 (theatre showcase, 2006; Northwestern University Entertainment Alliance, Los Angeles, CA)

Producer

 Duties included hiring writers, directors, actors and crew; creating and managing budget; overseeing all aspects of production; catering event; marketing; corresponding with agents/managers

NEW DRAMATISTS (2002, New York, NY)

Intern/Assistant to Artistic Director

• Duties included answering phones, interacting with writers, managing artistic director's schedule

PROPAGANDA FILMS (1996, Los Angeles, CA)

Intern/Assistant to Artistic Director

• Duties included handling phones, scheduling, handling courier services, organizing meetings, reading trades and marking articles of interest, researching background information for feature film projects, finding talent information.

WAVE PRODUCTIONS (1996 – 1998, Evanston, IL)

Marketing Director, Artistic Board Member

• Duties included overseeing marketing for shows/season, overseeing theatrical season

ARDEN THEATRE COMPANY (1995 – 1996, Philadelphia, PA)

Intern for Box Office Sales, Marketing Director, Managing Director

• Duties included managing phones, ticket sales, subscriber communication and exchanges, building management, creating press releases, overseeing marketing design, data entry

SKILLS/ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mac/PC Literate: Word, Excel, Publisher, Google Suite

Final Cut

Experience stage managing/organizing various events, readings, etc.