

Mike Czuba

czuba.mike@gmail.com

Theatre Instructor, Writer, Dramaturg, Artist.

** Eligible to work legally in Canada – Canadian Citizen.

RESEARCH

Founding member and lead (S)cientist at **Dancing Monkey Laboratories**.

<http://dancingmonkeylab.com/>

Writer/Author: Book.

NO SHORTCUTS. The Five Chambers: A Practical Guide to Finding Your Own Creative Process.

Based on the courses I teach on Creative Process and Performance Creation.

EDUCATION:

M.F.A. in Playwriting

University of Calgary (Alberta) 2009 – June 2011

B.F.A. Playwriting Major

Concordia University (Montreal) 2005 – 2009

2017

Mask workshop with Sonia Norris. FOOT Conference, University of Toronto.

2009

Intensive LABAN acting/movement workshop with Bryan Doubt, Concordia University.

2008 - 2007

Intensive Voice and Breath workshops with Ann Skinner, former voice coach at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival. Organized and participated.

2002

Certificate in Journalism. Concordia University/Continuing Education.

CREATION WORK

FILM:

2024

A GOOD NIGHT SLEEPS

Writer

2024 – Feature in development - TBD

2019 - Proof of concept short film. Produced. by Siobhan Cooney and Spencer Streichert ***Multiple international award winner**

2022 – 2025 (shoot TBD):

THE GIRL WHO CRIED FLYING SAUCER

Writer

**Optioned by *Be Collective* - with Producer Dan Turoff and Dir. Jason Perlman
Based on my TYA play *BOY SEES FLYING SAUCER*.

2019

THE VOID

Director/Writer/Editor

Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories. Short film based on “Humanoid – A Love Supreme”

***Official selection**, Calgary Comics Expo.

2017

Dark Dispatches

Story Editor (Feature Film – TBD)

Writer: Brandy Green

Sci-Fi based on underground comic series

THE VOID

Director/Writer/Editor

Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories. Short film based on “Humanoid – A Love Supreme”

***Official selection**, 5th annual Philip K. Dick Science Fiction Film Festival. New York

2015

GOOD FORTUNE DRINKS TOO MUCH

Writer/Director/Editor: Short Film

Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories

***Official selection** CinéDance, as part of the Bouge D’ici dance festival, Montreal, Qc

2014

(IN) VISIBLE COLLISIONS

Writer/Director/Editor: Short Film

Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories, based WE MUST COLLIDE

2013

SATELLITES CAPTURED

Writer/Director: Short Film

Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories, based on SATELLITES.

***Official selection** CinéDance, as part of the Bouge D’ici dance festival, Montreal, Qc

2012

The Highland Heist

Story Editor (re-writes): Feature Film
Produced by Samuel Miller Films, New Zealand,
Written by Samuel Miller, Directed by Terry Winsor

2002

Blocked

Writer: Short Film
Dir. Gordon Currie, Starring: Andrew Kenneth Martin.

THEATRE:

2025

AFTER MOURNING

Writer: Full Length Play
March 2025 – Shadow Theatre - Full Production. Dir. John Hudson
Edmonton. AB.

2024

AFTER MOURNING

Writer: Full Length Play
May 2024 – Script Salon, Staged Reading. Dir. John Hudson
Edmonton. AB.

2023

AFTER MOURNING

Writer: Full Length Play
April 2023 – Her Story Theatre. Staged Reading. Dir. Elayne LeTraunik.
Chicago, Ill.

SUBLIMITY (formerly Humanoid – A LOVE SUPREME)

* **Writer/Director/Co-Design:** Inter-disciplinary Performance
March 2023 – Received a *Canada Council Digital Now* grant to finish development and
continue to explore Live/Digital hybrid productions.
(Multiple award winner)

2021

***Digby and Glass* (by David Ellis Heyman)**

Performance Coach, Assistant Director, Production support.

September 2021 – One-Act, Site Specific Digital Performance produced and directed by
Wil Knoll.

AFTER MOURNING

Writer: Full Length Play
March 2021 – South Simcoe Theatre. Staged Reading. Cookstown, Ontario. Dir. Diana
Poulsen.

2020

NuMb – with interruption.**Writer/Performer:** 10-minute performance.

November 2020 – Collaborative Dance project with Meghann Michalsky for the Fluid Festival, On-line.

Like Tom Cruise Loves Running**Writer/Director:** One Act play.

September 2020 – Explorations in digital theatre and on-line performance.

Calgary Arts Development Grant project. On-line.

Nominated for a Stinger Award in ‘New Media’**Boy Sees Flying Saucer*****Writer:** Full Length TYA play.

June 2020 – On-Line Reading – Chicago Actors. Dir. Elayne Letraunik

Clean Up On Aisle Go F#@k Yourself (cancelled due to COVID-19)**Writer:** One-Act Play.

August 2020 – Calgary Fringe Festival, Calgary, Alberta.

AFTER MOURNING**Writer:** Full Length Play

- February 2020 – The Art Studio Inc. Staged Reading. Dir. Elayne Letraunik. Beaumont, Texas.
- January 2020 – Red Deer Players – Staged Reading. Dir. Ashley Mercia. Red Deer, Alberta.

PLAY DEAD**Writer/Director:** ScreenplayCafé Koi, Calgary, Alberta. Staged Reading. *Le Salon Des Refuses #4*

2019

AFTER MOURNING**Writer:** Full Length Play

In Participation with the Glenbow Museum – Staged reading. Alberta.

Waiting on the Thunder**Writer:** One-Act play.

DIY Theatre – Alberta One-Act play festival.

Like Tom Cruise Loves Running**Writer:** One-Act play

Nickel & Dime Theatre, University of Calgary. Dir. Haley Petrowich

Shaniqua and the Space Queen**Writer/Director:** ScreenplayCafé Koi, Calgary, Alberta. Staged Reading. *Le Salon Des Refuses #3*

2018

REPRISE**Writer:** Full Length playLunchbox Theatre – Official selection in the Suncor Stage One Festival of New Canadian Work. Professional Development Workshop and Staged Reading.
Dir. Valerie Planche***Karl Nimeni is not Dead – I Killed Karl Nimeni*****Writer/Director:** One-Act Interdisciplinary playTheatre Junction Grand's NEXT STAGE series, Calgary, Alberta
Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories and Theatre Junction Grand.***Boy Sees Flying Saucer*****Writer:** Full Length TYA play.Growing Stage Children's Theatre of New Jersey. World Premiere
*Laurie Award winner. Dir. Danny Campos***Waiting for Gordo*****Writer/Director:** ScreenplayCafé Koi, Calgary, Alberta. Staged Reading. *Le Salon Des Refuses #2*

2017

Karl Nimeni / Dreams Redux.**Writer/Director:** One-Act Interdisciplinary/Site Specific performance.
Theatre Junction Grand, La Nuit Sauvage,

2016

Satie et Cocteau: A Rehearsal of a Play of a Composer by a Poet**Writer:** Full length play

Genesis Theatrical Productions, Chicago, Ill. American Premiere. Dir. Elayne LeTraunik

Boy Sees Flying Saucer**Writer:** Full Length TYA playGrowing Stage Children's Theatre of New Jersey. Staged reading.
Laurie award winner.***Humanoid – A LOVE SUPREME*****Writer/Director/Co-Design:** Inter-disciplinary Performance

Theatre Junction Grand, Calgary, Alberta. Artist in Residence.

A two week 'incubation' session to explore and develop the work.

After Us The Savage God**Writer/Director:** Full length playWine O's bar, Calgary, Alberta. Staged Reading – *Le Salon Des Refuses #1****After Us The Savage God*****Writer/Director:** Full length play

Mainline Theatre. Montreal, Qc. Staged Reading

Resistance by James Wade

Director. Master's degree thesis play presentation
University of Calgary. Staged Reading

WE MUST COLLIDE

Writer/Co-Director: Dance production
Theatre Junction Grand, Calgary, Alberta. Artist in Residence

2015

REPRISE

Writer: Full length play
The Blank Theatre. Los Angeles, CA. Staged Reading

2014

WE MUST COLLIDE

Writer/Co-Director: Dance production
Springboard Movement Fluid Festival, Calgary, Alberta

2013

I AM I

Writer: Full length play

- Amsterdam Fringe festival. Orange Tea Theatre. Netherlands
Dir. Lora Randolph Mander
- Taking Flight, University of Calgary's Student Works Theatre festival
Dir. Joe Rino

SATELLITES

Writer/Director/Designer: One Act interdisciplinary performance
The Big Secret Theatre, Calgary, Alberta
Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories

Karl Nimeni is not Dead – I Killed Karl Nimeni

Writer/Director: One-Act Interdisciplinary play
Arts Commons – Motel space. Calgary, Alberta
Workshop/Inter-disciplinary production

Satie et Cocteau: A Rehearsal of a Play of a Composer by a Poet

Writer: Full length play
English Theatre Berlin, Berlin, Germany. Staged Reading

Satie et Cocteau: A Rehearsal of a Play of a Composer by a Poet

Writer: Full length play
Genesis Theatrical Productions, Chicago, Ill. Staged Reading

2012

Satie et Cocteau: A Rehearsal of a Play of a Composer by a Poet

Writer: Full length play
International Mountain View Music Festival in Calgary, Alberta
World Premiere. Dir. Barry Yzereef

I AM I

Writer: Full length play
Orange Tea Theatre Company, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Dir. Sam Morris

SATELLITES

Writer/Director/Designer: One Act interdisciplinary performance
Sage Theatre's IGNITE! festival

Boy Sees Flying Saucer

Writer: Full Length TYA play
Arts Commons – Motel space. Calgary Alberta. Staged Reading

2011

REPRISE

Writer: Full Length play.
Lunchbox Theatre in Calgary, Alberta. Dir. Gail Hanrahan
Staged Reading as part of the Alberta Playwrights Network reading series

The Adventures of Don Marcos Sebastian Guevara Fantastico.

Writer: Full Length TYA play
Wagon Stage series (a collaboration between the City of Calgary and the University of Calgary). Dir. Braden Griffiths.

I AM I

Writer: Full Length play

- Theatre Transit, Calgary, Alberta. Dir. Valmai Goggin.
- Centaur Theatre's Wildside festival, Montreal, Qc. Dir. Larry Lamont

Hope is Dead

Writer: One-Act play
Walterdale theatre in Edmonton.
*Won "Cradle to Stage" one-act play competition

2010

Hope is Dead

Writer: One-Act play
Nickel & Dime Theatre, University of Calgary. Dir. Claudia Serbanescu

Waiting on the Thunder

Writer/Director: One-Act play
Sage Theatre's IGNITE! Festival, Calgary, Alberta

2009

I AM I

Writer: Full Length play
Players' Theatre, Montreal, QC. Dancing Monkey Laboratories. Dir. Larry Lamont
Produced by Dancing Monkey Laboratories

2008

The Elusive**Writer:** Full length play

Tableau D'Hote Theatre. Dir. Murray Napier

Won "Best of Montreal" as voted by the readers of the Montreal Mirror*PUBLICATIONS:**

2023

Writer/Author: Book.

NO SHORTCUTS. The Five Chambers: A Practical Guide to Finding Your Own Creative Process.

Based on the course I teach on Creative Process and Performance Creation.

The Adventures of Don Marcos Sebastian Guevara Fantastico.

Drama Notebook (On-line). TYA play

2021

Intermission Magazine – Article "**A (sort of) Manifesto: Running Between Theatre and Film, Reimagining the Live Experience**".

2020

Playwrights Canada Press' anthology ***Refractions: Scenes***, edited by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard and Yvette Nolan. A scene from ***REPRISE***

2019

Intermission Magazine – Article "**How Prince Made me a Better Playwright**" as part of their 'Artist Perspective' series.

2018

Intermission Magazine – Article "**Forever Emerging**" as part of their 'Artist Perspective' series.

2011

Original Works Publishing. Full Length play "***I AM I***"**AWARDS/GRANTS/COMPETITIONS****Professional**

2024

The Young-Howze Theatre Journal (New Jersey)
 SUBLIMITY – a love supreme (winner)
 Show of the Year
 Livestream of the Year
 Movement/Dancer

2022

Canada Council for the Arts – Digital Now Grant to create a Live/Digital hybrid of a multi-disciplinary original work.

2020

Rozsa Foundation and Calgary Arts Development Authority.
 On-Line Programming Grant.
 To explore and experiment with Digital Theatre: Creation and Performance

2017

Official selection of the 5th annual Philip K. Dick Science Fiction Film Festival. May 2017, New York. "THE VOID"

"Laurie Award" from Growing Stage Children's Theatre of New Jersey – Boy Sees Flying Saucer

2016

Canada Council for The Arts Travel Grant to attend a production of *Satie et Cocteau* in Chicago

2015

Canada Council for The Arts Travel Grant to attend a staged reading of *REPRISE* in Los Angeles

Runner-up in Red Theatre's playwriting competition – Chicago, Ill. *REPRISE*
 *Top three out of 500 international submissions

2013

Alberta Foundation for the Arts production grant for remount of original work *SATELLITES*

2012

Alberta Playwriting Competition, honourable mention. *REPRISE*

2011

Runner-up for the Pam Dunn award at Infnitheatre in Montreal. *REPRISE*

Academic

2017

University of Calgary Faculty Association Travel Grant. FOOT conference in Toronto
 Only 3 annually distributed university wide

2012

Nominated for a Students' Union Teaching Excellence Award

2010

SSHRC grant (Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship).
Research and develop of thesis play *Satie et Cocteau: A Rehearsal of a Play of a Composer by a Poet*

Queen Elizabeth Graduate Scholarship, University of Calgary

2009

Queen Elizabeth Graduate Scholarship, University of Calgary

2008

The Lou Gordon Award in playwriting, Concordia University.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY:

2023

Dramaturg/Outside Eye for Megahnn Michalsky's dance film ODEON. To be premiered in 2024.

2022

Dramaturg/Mentor for Dancer's Studio West's Quick&Dirty festival of filmed works.

Dramaturg/Outside Eye for Megahnn Michalsky's dance film HAVEN, for Jobel Art For Earth.

2020 – On Going

Dramaturg/Mentor/Outside Eye for *Project InTandem*, a contemporary dance production of new choreography by Meghann Michalsky and Sylvie Moquin.

2017 - 2018

Dramaturg for The Grand Theatre's TJLAB artist residencies, 8 sessions - theatre, dance, devised performance.

2013 - 2018

Monologue and performance workshop for the 'Coming-out Monologues' 2013 – 2018

2016

Monologue and performance workshop for the 'Coming-out in Faith'

Presence workshop for University of Calgary student recruiting officers

2015

Facilitated multiple acting workshops for the Soaring Indigenous Youth conference

2014

Dramaturg for the USAY (Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth) project “Family” by Olivia Brooks

2013 -2015

Presence workshops for the University of Calgary Student Leadership Exchange

2012-2017

Mentor for the Emerging Leaders Program, University of Calgary
Providing incoming students with a support system as they navigate their first year of university. A staff mentor in the Emerging Leaders Program has the unique opportunity to help shape the university experience of the mentees

2010

Acting workshop for “Empowering Women” (Support Group) through Calgary Family Services

LANGUAGES:

English (fluent reading, writing, speaking and comprehension)

French (moderate level reading, writing, speaking and comprehension)

TEACHING:

(Instructor)

2024

July – YouthWrite – Theatre Camp – Elbow River I and II. Playwriting

April - Calgary High School Theatre Festival – Teaching Playwriting.

University of Calgary

2025

Winter, DRAMA 243, Introduction to the Practice of Drama.

2024

Fall, Drama 242, Introduction to the Study of Drama.

Winter, DRAMA 243, Introduction to the Practice of Drama.

2023

Fall, Drama 242, Introduction to the Study of Drama.

Spring, DRAMA 358, Performance Creation in Applied Practice.

Winter, DRAMA 243, Introduction to the Practice of Drama.

2022

Fall, Drama 242, Introduction to the Study of Drama.

Spring, DRAMA 358, Performance Creation in Applied Practice.

Winter, DRAMA 243, Introduction to the Practice of Drama.

2021

Fall, DRAMA 242, Introduction to the Study of Drama.

Summer, DRAMA 358, Performance Creation in Applied Practice.

Spring, DRAMA 358, Performance Creation in Applied Practice. (Synchronous)

Winter, DRAMA 243, Introduction to the Practice of Drama. (Asynchronous)

2020

Fall, DRAMA 242, Introduction to the Study of Drama. (Asynchronous)

**(Drama 360) Spring and Summer courses cancelled due to COVID 19.

Winter, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation

Winter, DRAMA 210, Introduction to Acting II.

2019

Fall, DRAMA 242, Introduction to the Study of Drama.

Fall. DRAMA 209, Introduction to Acting I.

Spring/Summer, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation. (2 separate courses)

Winter, DRAMA 243, Introduction to the Practice of Drama.

Winter, DRAMA 210, Acting II.

*Replacement appointment (3 weeks)

Winter, DRAMA 673, Selected Problems in Playwriting II (Masters Level)

Winter, DRAMA 471, Advanced Playwriting (Undergraduate)

Winter, DRAMA 455, Advanced Topics in Canadian Theatre and Drama (Canadian Playwriting).

Marianopolis College: (Montreal)

2018

Fall, Theatre Explorations 1 and Theatre 1. (An introduction to theatre techniques and devised elements.)

University of Calgary

2018

Spring/Summer, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation. (2 separate courses)

Winter, DRAMA 673, Selected Problems in Playwriting II. (Master's level course investigating dialogue and thesis play development.)

2017

Fall, DRAMA 355, Introduction to Canadian Theatre and Drama. (Lecture course exploring contemporary Canadian Theatre.)

Winter, DRAMA 460, Performance Creation II. (Advance course building on the creation and development techniques acquired in DRAMA 360.)

Spring/Summer, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation. (2 separate courses)

2016/17

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

Spring, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

2015/16

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

Spring, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

2014/15

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 460, Performance Creation II.

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

'One Day @ University of Calgary' Continuing Education. FIF 601 *Your Everyday Presence*. One day workshop on re-connecting to presence taught through acting techniques.

Spring, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

2013/14

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

Fall, Continuing Education, HUM 520-001 Drama Theory and *Acting for everyday Presence*.

Spring, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

2012/13

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 360, Performance Creation.

Spring, DRAMA 571, Effective Communication Through Performance. (Designed and Instructed. A course open to entire University using acting techniques to develop a stronger presence when public speaking)

2011/12

Fall and Winter, DRAMA 200, Introduction to Acting. (First year acting course open to the entire University)

TEACHING:

(Workshop Leader – Instructor)

Concordia University: (Montreal)

(TPER 201/202 and TDEV 298 classes usually consist of about 60 to 120 students broken down into weekly four, 4-hour studio workshops of 14 to 18 students)

2009

Winter, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting I.

Winter, TPER 202, Introduction to Acting II.

Summer, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting.

2008

Winter, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting.

Winter, TDEV 298, Telling Tales.

Summer, TPER 201 and TPER 202, Introduction to Acting.

Summer, TPER 202, Introduction to Acting II.

Fall, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting.

2007

Winter, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting.

Winter, TDEV 298, Telling Tales.

Summer, TDEV 298, Telling Tales.

Summer, TPER 202, Introduction to Acting II

Fall, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting.

Fall, TDEV 298, Telling Tales.

2006

Fall, TPER 201, Introduction to Acting

Fall, TDEV 298, Telling

CONFERENCES/PAPERS:

2020

“A Thr(3)e Dimensional Text: Playwriting for an Alt-traditional Structure” – Imagining Differently, Centre for Imaginative Ethnography Symposium, York University. (**Cancelled due to COVID-19**)

2018

“Our Own Witnesses” – Plenary Session address at the Puppet Power conference (theme: story), University of Calgary.

2017

“A Thr(3)e Dimensional Text – Writing as Sound”, FOOT 2017. Festival of Original Theatre at the University of Toronto, Centre for Drama.

2014

“Art! A Philosophy for Everyone, Not an Object for the Few”, Last Lecture Series, University of Calgary’s Student Union

2010

“Behave Yourself a Monkey is Watching You”. “Confounding Expectations” Graduate Student Conference, University of Calgary