

**JEREMIAH DOWNES**  
STAGE DIRECTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR  
*Musical Theatre Specialist*

c. (215) 667-5561  
jbd@jeremiahdownes.com  
jeremiahdownes.com

**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE as a professional singing actor, director, music director and educator in both the professional and educational worlds.

DIRECTED A VARIETY OF PLAYS including musical comedy, opera, musical revue, cabaret and concert work, drama, comedy, children's theatre; CONTEMPORARY MUSICAL THEATRE a particular specialty.

OVER A DECADE OF EXPERIENCE AS A THEATRE EDUCATOR with considerable teaching and coaching expertise in acting, musical theatre history and performance, vocal technique, performance and repertoire, music theory with administrative experience demonstrated as the head of musical theatre and B.F.A. Coordinator at Emory & Henry College; Founding Artistic Director of Philadelphia Music Theater Works; and music director and entertainment manager at the Walnut Street Supper Club, among many others.

SIGNIFICANT PRODUCING EXPERIENCE including the founding and operation of Philadelphia Music Theater Works and its sold-out inaugural season, the New Theater Collective (previously MiCO Philly), various concerts and cabaret performances in New York and Philadelphia.

EXTENSIVE MUSICAL BACKGROUND including study of piano, singing, conducting, music theory, opera, numerous engagements as music director and accompanist, plus significant experience as a composer and writing for the musical theatre.

**MEMBER**

Actors' Equity Association, ASCAP, Songwriters Hall of Fame, National Association of Teachers of Singing, Musical Theater Educators Alliance

**SELECTED DIRECTING WORK**

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA (also music director)

FENCES

Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA (also music director)

AFTER TIME: THE CYNDI LAUPER SONGBOOK

Original revue of music featuring the catalog of singer/songwriter Cyndi Lauper; The Duplex, NYC (also music director, original vocal arrangements, producer)

#### GOBLIN MARKET

New Theater Collective at the Laurie Beechman Cabaret Theatre, University of the Arts, Philadelphia PA (also music director)

#### ONCE UPON A MATTRESS

New Theater Collective at the Laurie Beechman Cabaret Theatre, the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA

#### ONE WAY TICKET: A MUSICAL JOURNEY

Original touring revue for the Choo-Choo Kids, an elite musical theatre ensemble; Chattanooga High School for the Creative Arts, Chattanooga, TN (also music director)

#### SAVE THIS

Major concert performance in conjunction with an extensive online development and fundraising campaign; Philadelphia Music Theater Works, Philadelphia, PA

#### THIS THING CALLED LOVE

World premiere of a new musical by composer/lyricist Joey Contreras; Philadelphia Music Theater Works, Philadelphia, PA

#### EDGES

Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, OK (also music director)

#### WATCH THE BIRDIE

A musical by composer/lyricist Charles Gilbert, book by Conrad Bishop and Elizabeth Fuller; Philadelphia Music Theater Works at Walnut Street Theater, Studio 5, Philadelphia, PA

#### NOT EXACTLY ROMEO

Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, OK

#### I AM NOT THE GIRL NEXT DOOR

One-woman show for Broadway actress Sarah Bolt; 1812 Productions, Philadelphia, PA (also music director, original book, music and lyrics)

#### SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ

University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA

### **SELECTED MUSIC DIRECTION**

THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND, Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA (2017)

THE GRAPES OF WRATH, Music Supervision & Original Vocal Arrangements, Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA

THE IMAGINARY INVALID, Music Supervision, Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA

THE SPITFIRE GRILL, Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA

RETURN TO PARADISE, Solo Show, Arts at St. John's, Miami, FL

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW, EXposed Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA

NEW VOICES CABARET SERIES, Society Hill Playhouse, Philadelphia, PA

ANNIE, Pennsylvania Youth Theatre, Bethlehem, PA

BABY, Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, OK

SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE, UArts Pre-College Musical Theater Summer Institute, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA

PERFECTLY MARVELOUS: AN 1812 CABARET FESTIVAL, 1812 Productions, Philadelphia, PA

Music Director and accompanist for several recording/studio projects, including work in commercial, choral and theater music.

## SELECTED PERFORMANCE WORK

GLAD TO BE UNHAPPY: THE LIFE & SONGS OF LORENZ HART, Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA

Solo show currently in development (also book writer)

MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG: THE SONGS, Franklin Shepard, New Theater Collective, Philadelphia, PA

HIGHWAYS & DAYDREAMS: THE SONGS OF JEREMIAH DOWNES, Self, Tavern On Camac, Philadelphia, PA

HIGHWAYS & DAYDREAMS: THE SONGS OF JEREMIAH DOWNES, Self, The Duplex, NYC  
BOLLYWOOD & VINE, Male Host/Ensemble, (Private Reading), NYC

with Ann Crumb & Robert Cuccioli, Dir: Daniel Neiden

SWEENEY TODD, Adolfo Pirelli, Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK

with Emily Skinner & Jeff McCarthy, Dir: Nick Corley

- "Jeremiah Downes brought distinct personality and flair to Pirelli..." - *The Edmond Sun*
- - "Jeremiah Downes... commanded the necessary falsetto and mock-Italian style as an exaggeratedly dandified, effeminate Pirelli." - *The Sondheim Review*

THE RYAN SCOTT OLIVER PROJECT, Featured, Philadelphia Music Theater Works, Philadelphia, PA

I'VE NEVER BEEN ON A REALITY SHOW, SO I GUESS I WON'T BE ON BROADWAY, Self, The Duplex, NYC

SEUSSICAL, Wickersham Brother/Cat in the Hat (u/s), Media Theatre, Media, PA  
Philadelphia Regional Premiere

ONE WAY TICKET, Self, The Duplex, NYC

with Sarah Bolt, Jillian Louis & Nicole Van Giesen

THE WIZARD OF OZ, Hunk/Scarecrow, Media Theatre, Media, PA

GEMINI, THE MUSICAL, Randy, Prince Music Theater, Philadelphia, PA

World Premiere with Linda Hart & Robert Picardo, Dir: Doug Wager

- "Jeremiah Downes conveys good-natured astonishment throughout as Randy..." - *Variety*
- "As the Harvard pals, Jillian Louis and Jeremiah Downes are the ideal mixture of puzzled-by-Francis and intrigued-by-South Philly." - *Philadelphia Inquirer*
- "Jillian Louis and Jeremiah Downes are convincing in their brother and sister preppie roles." - *Curtainup.com*

THE WILD PARTY (Lippa), Oscar d'Armano, Media Theatre, Media, PA  
Philadelphia Regional Premiere

FOREVER PLAID, Francis, Media Theatre, Media, PA

SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD, Man #1, Adrienne Theatre, Philadelphia, PA

- "... a fine six-member ensemble cast. Sharon Sampieri and Jeremiah Downes are especially good..." - *Philadelphia City Paper*
- "The most disquieting number in the show is the stunning 'King of the World.' Dressed in a military uniform, an effectively uncertain Jeremiah Downes symbolizes a man - and a nation - who's lost his way." - *Philadelphia Weekly*

THE LAST FIVE YEARS, Jamie (u/s), Philadelphia Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA  
Philadelphia Regional Premiere, Dir: Joe Calarco; Music Dir: Rob Melrose

SO YOU WANNA BE ON BROADWAY?, Featured, Off-Broadway, Lambs Theater, NYC  
Dir: Jonathan Cerullo; Music Dir: Peter Howard

## **SELECTED ARTISTIC & EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MUSICAL THEATRE, 2014-present  
*Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA*

B.F.A. Coordinator, Development and Head of B.F.A. Musical Theatre program; Liaison for Professional Affiliation with The Barter Theatre

MUSIC DIRECTOR & ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, 2011-14  
*Walnut Street Supper Club, Philadelphia, PA*

Integral in the creation and presence a live music and entertainment venue in the heart of center city Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts; Performance as vocalist, pianist, accompanist and personality. Management of 20-30 on staff singers and performers with a catalog of over 200 songs ranging from classic American songbook to contemporary commercial music; Direction/Production of nightly performances, vocal and music arrangements, vocal coaching; Artistic coordination with guest artists; Recruitment, casting and overall management of talent.

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, 2008-10  
*Philadelphia Music Theatre Works, Philadelphia, PA*

Founder and Artistic Director of a professional music theater company dedicated to the performance and development of new and traditional work.  
Accomplishments included: conceiving and instituting a new musicals initiative, producing and directing a sold out inaugural season, designing and implementing an extensive "online presence" campaign and fostering significant collaborative relationships with established producing theaters and higher educational institutions. Responsibilities included: season and program planning, casting, directing and music direction, education and outreach, development.

## **ORIGINAL MUSICAL THEATRE WORKS (MUSIC & LYRICS)**

HIGHWAYS & DAYDREAMS - 2011, 16 & 15; Biello Martin Studio, Philadelphia, PA and The Duplex, NYC

DANCING AS FAST AS WE CAN – in progress

The musical adaptation of Richard Donner's 1992 film, RADIO FLYER – in progress

SEVEN – in progress

## **EDUCATION**

M.M., Musical Theatre Performance and Pedagogy, Oklahoma City University

B.F.A., Musical Theatre, The University of the Arts, Philadelphia PA

Supplemental training at Circle In The Square, Manhattan Theatre Club, Penn State University, Musical Theatre Forum (NYC)

*References, video and audio samples available upon request.*