

# DANIEL BANKS

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## DANIEL BANKS

Director/Deviser

### REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTING

In Development:

<b>THE SECRET SHARER</b> , Ensemble devised dance-theatre work based on novella by Joseph Conrad.	Developmental residencies August 2019 (Amphibian Stage Productions, Fort Worth, TX) and March 2020 (Espace Tycheo, Moncton, Canada); Recipient 2019 MAP Fund Award, NEA Arts grant Fort Worth Modern Art Museum (Workshop/Staged Reading) Readings at McCarter Theatre Center, Washington University, St. Louis. Workshops/Staged Readings: PlayMakers Repertory Company, Fort Worth Modern Art Museum, and University of W. Georgia Concept and performance by Adam W. McKinney; Commissioned by Rimon Arts and Work-in-Progress, Capri Theatre, Minneapolis, MN
<b>DREAMING EMMETT</b> by Toni Morrison	
<b>DANCING THROUGH LOSS AND LOVE</b>	
<b>THE REAL JAMES BOND...WAS DOMINICAN</b>	Geva Theatre Center, Rochester, NY; National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM; Bishop Arts Theatre Center, Dallas, TX; Culture Shock/Miami Dade Auditorium; Visions & Voices, USC Bovard; ASU Kerr By and with Christopher Rivas. Developmental residency, Hi-Arts, NYC. Showcase: SubletSeries @ HERE: Co-op. Augmented reality dance-theatre work for NEIGHBORHOOD LEAP, Amphibian Stage Productions, Fort Worth, TX
<b>HALF IN TWO</b>	
<b>FORT WORTH LYNCHING TOUR: HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. FRED ROUSE</b>	Site-specific, augmented reality bike and car tour, Fort Worth and virtual. Nominee: Drama League Award
<b>HAMAPAH/THE MAP DANCE-ON-FILM</b>	Site-specific dance film adaptation of stage work (filmed in Benin, Poland, Arkansas, Missouri, Montana, Wisconsin). Screened at Denton Black Film Festival, kNOWBOX dance (Dallas-Filmmaker Spotlight), Teatron Festival, and others.
<b>REVOLVING SKY/GIZHIBAA GIIZHIG</b> by Ty Defoe/All My Relations Collective	Under the Radar/Public Theatre, Incoming!
<b>HOLLOW ROOTS</b> by Christina Anderson	Tricklock's Revolutions International Theatre Festival, Albuquerque, NM South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas, TX KC MeltingPot Theatre, Kansas City, MO Irma Lowe Theatre, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth National Dance Institute, Santa Fe, NM Tricklock's Revolutions International Theatre Festival, NM Devised with & choreographed by Adam McKinney. Toured to venues/festivals in New York; Boston; Memphis; Los Angeles; Saratoga Springs, NY; Boise; Szarvas, Hungary; Ourense, Spain; Belgrade, Serbia; Spoleto, Italy; Krakow, Poland; Cotonou, Benin. Poetic Theatre, NYC Devised with company of LGBTQ+ poets Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe. World Premiere Words Afire! Festival, University of New Mexico Beta Dance Troupe, Haifa, Israel Co-created with Adam McKinney and the Ensemble Playhouse Square, Cleveland Concept/Choreography Ayodele Casel & Sarah Savelli Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, NYC By and with Susana Lei'ataua, Composer: Gareth Farr
<b>HAMAPAH/THE MAP</b>	
<b>BREAKING OUR SILENCE</b>	
<b>CASCARONES</b> by Irma Mayorga	
<b>SEÑORA DE LA PINTA</b> by Law Chavez	
<b>WHAT ARE WE SAYING?</b>	
<b>TAP INTO PEACE</b>	
<b>BREAKING THE SURFACE</b>	

**BLURRING SHINE** by Zakiyyah Alexander

**ANNA IN THE TROPICS** by Nilo Cruz

**DEEP/AZURE** by Chadwick Boseman

**JITNEY** by August Wilson

**BEAUTIFUL WARRIOR**

**DETAINED**

**THE PRINCESS AND THE BLACK-EYED PEA**

**BOBOS**

**YANKEL DER SCHMID (YANKL THE SMITH)**

**GHETTO PUNCH** by and with Anthony Sparks

**HARD CORE/FROM THE HEART**

By and with Annie Sprinkle; World Tour

**DRAG KINGS AND SUBJECTS**

By and with Diane Torr; World tour

**BOSOMS AND NEGLECT** by John Guare.

UK Premiere. *Time Out* Critic's Choice; *Playbill* Recommended Shows

Academic:

**NATIONS OF THE MOON**

Devised ensemble piece created with Performing Arts Department students

**RE/RITES: A Devised Theatre Piece Celebrating Hip Hop Culture** Department of Drama, Mainstage, NYU

Devised with the company; with Utkarsh Ambudkar, Gina Rodriguez, and DeWanda Wise; Commendation Pittsburgh City Council

**AVENUE X** By John Jiler and Ray Leslee

**revelations::the outtakes** by Christina Anderson

New Plays Festival; with Daveed Diggs

**THE CRADLE WILL ROCK** by Marc Blitzstein

**CORPUS CHRISTI**

Devised solo performance with Daniel Sunjata

**BYWORD FOR EVIL** by Countee Cullen (adaptation of *The Medea*)

**ANDORRA** by Max Frisch

**CAN BE SAME**

Devised work with the students

**THE LADY FROM THE SEA** by Henrik Ibsen

Market Theatre Lab, Johannesburg, South Africa

Belarussian National Drama Theatre, Minsk, Belarus

Eastern European Premiere; In repertory

DC Hip Hop Theatre Festival, Folger Shakespeare Library

National Theatre of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda

African Premiere

Vineyard Theatre/Making Books Sing, Queens Theatre in the Park

By Jin Xiang and Barbara Krieger; World Premiere

Frederick Loewe Theatre, New York University

Adapted from Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's prison memoirs by Daniel Banks and the Ensemble

John Houseman Theatre

By Karole Foreman & Andy Chuckerman; Winner of Richard Rogers

Development Award; Showcase; with Lillias White

John Houseman Studio Theatre

By James McBride and Ed Shockley, Jr.; Showcase; Winner of Richard

Rogers Development Award

Folkbiene Yiddish Theatre

Adapted by Michal Greenstein from the play by David Pinski

Walker Space; Nuyorican Poets Café; HERE; Jamaica

Center for the Arts; Queens Theatre in the Park (NYC)

National Black Theatre Festival, Winston-Salem, NC

Premiere: Schmidt Theater, Hamburg, Germany

Oval House Theatre, London; Schmidt Theatre, Germany

Teatro Technis, London

Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM

Department of Drama, Mainstage, NYU

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Trinity Repertory Theatre/MFA Conservatory

Department of Drama, Mainstage, NYU

Graduate Acting, NYU, Freeplay

Williams College

Marymount Manhattan College

City College of New York

Denver Theatre Center/ National Theatre Conservatory

### **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

**PAL JOEY (BROADWAY REVIVAL)**, new book by Richard LaGravenese; Director: Tony Goldwyn; NY reading

**JAZZ** by Nambi E. Kelley, adapted from Toni Morrison; Baltimore Center Stage; Director: Kwame Kwei-Armah

**BOXIN'**, Directorial Consultant/Assoc. Director; Kompany Malakhi, Bristol; U.K Tour; Choreographer: Kwesi Johnson

**REALLY ROSIE**, Associate Director and Choreographer; SUNY Purchase Performing Arts Center, Director: Maurice Sendak

### **WORKSHOPS/NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT**

**BABALÚ** by Christopher Ramírez

Dallas Theatre Center

**WE THE MESSIAH** by Darian Dauchan, Curtis Stewart & PUBLIQuartet

InHEIRitance Project/St. James Presbyterian Church, Harlem, NY

**HOUSE OF JOY** by Madhuri Shekar

Bay Area Playwrights Festival

**TRIAL 9** by Jonathan Moises Olivares  
**AFTER ORLANDO**  
**WRITE OUT FORT WORTH!**

PlayMakers Repertory Theatre  
 Stage West Theatre, Fort Worth  
 Brik Venue, Fort Worth  
 Commissioned work by Clarence Coo, Edyka Chilomé, Ty Defoe,  
 Sentell Harper, Edwin Sanchez, Gary Sunshine, Nia Witherspoon,  
 and local community members in honor of National Coming Out Day;  
 Benefit LGBTQ SAVES

**HIEROGLYPHIC GRAFFITI** by Chadwick Boseman  
**SPARK** by Caridad Svich  
**UNMERCIFUL GOOD FORTUNE** by Edwin Sanchez  
**LOVE SICKNESS** by Reginald Jackson

Oregon Shakespeare Festival  
 Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe, NM  
 Teatro Paraguas, Santa Fe, NM  
 Public Theatre/Stella Adler Conservatory  
*With Peter Francis James, Billy Porter, and Kevin Carroll*  
 WOW Café

**MARIPOSA** by Lissandra Ramos

*With Daphne Ruben Vega, Paul Calderon, and Judy Reyes*  
 New World Theatre, UMass Amherst  
 New Dramatists  
 Tribeca Performing Arts Center

**KALEIDASOUL** by and with Rha Goddess  
**MOTHERHOUSE** by Victor Lodato  
**MOTHER DIRT** by Lidia Ramirez  
*With Novella Nelson and Paul Calderon*  
**TO JOE: A PROMISE KEPT**

Williamstown Theatre Festival, Other Stage  
 Staged reading of poetry by Mary Clare Judge, *with Betty Buckley,*  
*Anne Pitoniak, and Rodney Scott Hudson*

Commissioned work by Ty Defoe, Diane Glancy, Bruce King, and Jay Muscett for Institute of American Indian Arts

#### DRAMATURGY

**SHELTER IN PLACE**, gallery installation by Adam W. McKinney and Will Wilson; Bridge Projects (Los Angeles); Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Studies (Portland), Project Row Houses (Houston). Upcoming: Fenster Gallery, Toronto, Canada  
**THE WRONG MAN** by Ross Golan and Joshua Henry; Director: Camille A. Brown; Manhattan Class Co.; Workshop ink, Camille A. Brown and Dancers; World Premiere, Kennedy Center; Touring  
**BLACK GIRL: LINGUISTIC PLAY**, Camille A. Brown & Dancers; World Premiere, Joyce Theatre, NYC; Bessie Nominee; Touring  
**AT SUNSET**, choreography by Adam McKinney, for Dance Canvas, Atlanta Ballet 2, Ferst Center of the Arts, Atlanta, GA  
**THE BORDERS PROJECT**, DNAWORKS, residencies in Ciudad Juarez and El Paso; Israel and Palestine; and Centrum Center for the Arts, Port Townsend, WA  
**FIREROCK: THE MUSICAL**, Littlelobe, Santa Fe, NM; Touring  
**Dancing Earth: Indigenous Contemporary Dance Creations**, Artistic Director: Rulan Tangen, Santa Fe, NM

#### CHOREOGRAPHY/MOVEMENT

**TROILUS AND CRESSIDA**, NY Shakespeare Festival, Delacorte Theatre (dir. Mark Wing Davey)  
**ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL**, NY Shakespeare Festival Delacorte Theatre (dir. Richard Jones)  
**HAMLET**, Singapore Repertory Theatre, Fort Canning Park (dir. Barry Kyle)  
**THE MAGIC FLUTE**, La Monnaie/De Munt, Brussels & Landestheater, Salzburg (dir. Karl-Ernst & Ursel Herrmann)  
**REALLY ROSIE**, The Night Kitchen at SUNY Purchase (dir. Maurice Sendak).  
**MEASURE FOR MEASURE**, Theatre for a New Audience, St. Clement's Church, NY (dir. Barry Kyle)  
**HENRY VI CYCLE**, Theatre for a New Audience, St. Clement's Church, NY (dir. Barry Kyle)  
**MACBETH**, Falstaff Presents/Classic Stage Co. (dir. Jack Stehlin)  
**THE TEMPEST**, Tulane Summer Shakespeare Festival, New Orleans, LA (dir. Aimée Michel)  
**MACBETH**, Tulane Summer Shakespeare Festival, New Orleans, LA (dir. Aimée Michel)  
**WHO 'DAT WHO KILLED BETTER DAYS JONES**, Aaron Davis Hall, NY (dir. Carl Hancock Rux)  
**BURNED OUT CITY**, Housing Works Theatre Project, Theatre for a New City, NY

#### TEACHING

##### Faculty Positions:

**2010 – Present:** Associate Adjunct Professor, M.A in Applied Theatre, City University of New York  
**Spring 2018:** Guest Artist and Visiting Faculty, PlayMakers Repertory Theatre/Center for Dramatic Arts University of North Carolina  
**2014 – 2016:** Associate Professor and Chair, Performing Arts, Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe  
**1997 – 2009:** Undergraduate Drama, Tisch School of the Arts, NYU

**2005-2007:** Guest Faculty, MFA in Performance, Naropa University, Boulder, CO

**1995 – 1997:** Guest Artist and Founding Member, Professional Directors Company, Graduate Dramatic Writing Program, Tisch School of the Arts, NYU

**Guest Teaching/Workshops/Masterclasses:**

**US:** Northwestern University, Skidmore College; DePaul University Theatre School; American Musical and Dramatic Academy, NYC; Williamstown Theatre Festival; Trinity Repertory Conservatory; National Theatre Conservatory/Denver Center; Berkshire Theatre Festival; Marymount Manhattan College; Stella Adler Conservatory; Towson University; Rhodes College; University of Western Michigan; West Virginia State University; University of Florida, Gainesville; University of Central Florida; Brown University; University of California, Riverside; CalArts; University of Wisconsin, Madison; Hattiloo Theatre (Memphis); Black Theatre Network, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Network of Ensemble Theatres, and Southeastern Theatre Conferences.

**International:** UK: Oxford School of Drama; Cambridge University; City Lit. (London)

Mexico: Oaxaca City, Puerto Escondido, and Jose María Morelos (U.S. State Department Program)

South Africa: Market Theatre Lab, Actor's Center, University of Witwatersrand (Johannesburg); Sibikwa Community Theatre (East Rand); Hip Hop Connected/Guga S'Thebe Arts Center & Atlantis Township (Cape Town)

Ghana: University of Ghana, Legon/NYU in Ghana; Former UNHCR Buduburam Refugee Camp

Europe: La Monnaie (Brussels); Roma and Friends Camp, Balatonlelle, Hungary; Dah Teatar, Belgrade, Serbia; La MaMa International Symposium for Directors, Spoleto, Italy; Encounter International Festival, Brno, Czech Republic; Bakú, Azerbaijan (U.S. State Department Program); Ecole Eugène Ionesco, Paris; University of British Columbia, Vancouver; Free Theatre, Minsk, Belarus; Singer Academy, Stiftung Mozarteum, Salzburg, Austria.

**SELECT GRANTS AND AWARDS**

2021, 2022 400 Most Influential People in Fort Worth, Fort Worth, Inc

New England Foundation for the Arts-National Dance Project Award for *The Secret Sharer*

Alternate Roots Artistic Assistance Award for *The Secret Sharer*

2021 National Endowment for the Arts award for *The Secret Sharer*

2020 Alan Schneider Director Award, Theatre Communications Group

2019 MAP Fund Award for *The Secret Sharer*

New England Foundation for the Arts, Capacity Building Funds for *Dreaming Emmett*

Network of Ensemble Theatres Travel Grant

McCarter Theatre/Sallie B. Goodman Fellow

Ariane de Rothschild Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship

Santa Fe Art Institute Artist Residency

Presidential Pathfinder Award, Black Theatre Network (DNAWORKS)

NIA Center Excellence Award for service to the NYU community, Center for Multicultural Education and Programs

Proclamation Honoring NYU Production of *Re/Rites*, Hip Hop Theatre Initiative, Pittsburgh City Council

TCG/NEA Career Development Program for Directors

Drama League Special Interest Residency Grant

Trust for Mutual Understanding Grant (DNAWORKS)

Association Française d'Action Artistique Fellowship

Grants from US State Department for theatre and directing work in: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Ghana, Hungary, Israel, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, Uganda, and United Kingdom

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS**

***CASTING A MOVEMENT: THE WELCOME TABLE INITIATIVE***, Co-editor with Claire Syler. Routledge, 2019

**"Taking the Mic: Hip Hop's Call for Change"** in *Theatre, Performance, and Theories of Change*, Edited by Stephani Woodson and Tamara Underiner. Palgrave, 2017

**"The Hip Hop Theatre Initiative: We the Griot"** in *Black Acting Methods: Critical Approaches*. Routledge, 2016

**"Hip Hop as Pedagogy: The Hip Hop Theatre Initiative"** in *Theatre and Cultural Politics for a New World*. Routledge, 2016

**"Hip Hop as Pedagogy: Something from Something,"** *Theatre Topics*, September 2015

**"On Remixing the Classics and Directing Countee Cullen's *Medea* and Law Chavez's *Señora de la Pinta*: An Interview with Theatre Director Daniel Banks,"** with Patrice Rankine, in *Oxford Handbook of Greek Drama in the Americas*, Oxford University Press, 2015

**"The Welcome Table: Casting for an Integrated Society,"** *Theatre Topics*, March 2013

**“Youth Leading Youth: Hip Hop and Hiplife Theatre in Ghana and South Africa”** in *Acting Together on the World Stage: Performance and the Creative Transformation of Conflict* a project of Theatre Without Borders and the Coexistence Project, Brandeis University. New Village Press, December 2011

**“The Question of Cultural Diplomacy: Acting Ethically,”** *Theatre Topics*, John Hopkins Press, September 2011

***Say Word! Voices from Hip Hop Theatre***, Editor, University of Michigan Press, 2011

**“From Homer to Hip Hop,”** *Classical World*, Winter 2010

Featured in **“Mainstream Re-Mix: How We Talk About Casting, Training, and Presenting Actors and Works of Color,”** *American Theatre*, April 2008

Featured in **“Six World Practitioners,”** *American Theatre*, May/June 2002

Numerous articles, including interviews with Peter Brook, Ariane Mnouchkine, and William Forsythe: *Paris Passion (Time Out Publications)*, *Theatrecrafts International*, *Theatre Week*, *Paris Boulevard*, *Cross-Channels* (Paris, 1990-1991)

**“Transform 1012 N. Main Street: Repurposing Terror and Making it Freedom,”** *Extant Magazine*, 2023.

#### **EDUCATION**

Feldenkrais Professional Training Program, Certified Feldenkrais® Practitioner

M.A., Ph.D. in Performance Studies, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University

B.A., Harvard University, *magna cum laude*, English and Theatre (American Repertory Theatre)

Monika Pagneux Studio, Movement for the Actor, Pedagogy, Paris France

Philippe Gaulier Studio, Physical Theatre, Paris, France

Roy Hart Theatre, Experimental voice and movement workshops, Malérargues and Paris, France

British American Drama Academy, Oxford, England

#### **MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS:**

Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (since 1995), Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Black Theatre Association Focus Group, ATHE (Chair 2000-2002); Theatre Without Borders (Associate Director); NoPassport (Editorial Board, NoPassport Press); U.S Department of Arts and Culture (Cabinet Member); Black Theatre Network; Alternate Routes; Network of Ensemble Theatres; Board Chair and Co-Convener, Transform 1012 N. Main Street

#### **Direct Contact:**

**Daniel@dnaworks.org**

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